

THE TAPPET CLATTER



THE PUGET SOUND REGION VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA NEWSLETTER

December 2012

Volume 45 Number 12

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Christmas Potluck at Comstock's

For Christmas in 1949, Gene Autry's recording of "If it Doesn't Snow on Christmas" (How will Santa get around to us?) was on the flip side of the number 1 hit recording of "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer". With Rudolph leading the team I suppose that no one seriously worried about how Santa would get around to us. But if anyone did, Don Comstock has the obvious answer. Santa would drive a 1940 Chevrolet!

Of course, this Santa is not real, but the "real" Santa would no doubt come to the same conclusion if he happened to spot Don's car on December 1st.



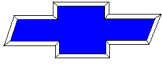
In any case, even if not pressed into emergency service on Christmas Eve, Don's annual Christmas car has always been a special attraction in recent years as Don and Sallie host the Club's Christmas Potluck.



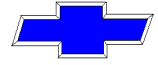
Back inside, folks were discussing the latest projects. Don Boltz brought pictures of

(Continued on page 4)

Reminder: Our January 28 Club membership meeting will be 7:30 PM at the Tillicum Middle School in Bellevue. No one is signed up to bring treats. (The meeting announcement is on page 3.)



1967 - Puget Sound Region VCCA - 2012



*The **Puget Sound Region** of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America (PS-VCCA) is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, fun and enjoyment of vintage Chevrolet cars and trucks. Members are not required to own a Chevrolet. Regional membership is open to all Chevrolet enthusiasts who are members of the **Vintage Chevrolet Club of America (VCCA)**. All Chevrolets from 1912 through 1987 may be registered with the Region.*

*General meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month at **Tillicum Middle School, 16020 SE 16th St., Bellevue,** 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM. No meetings are held in July or December. You can learn more about the club by visiting the website where you can see color photos of previous tours, parts for sale, wanted, etc., and there is a link to view our monthly newsletter, "The Tappet Clatter."*

*You can find the PS-VCCA website on the **World Wide Web** at <http://pugetsoundvintagechevrolet.org/>*

2012 Puget Sound Region Officers and Board

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<u>Safety Corner</u>	Bill Damm	billdamm@msn.com
	(and other members who supply copy)	

Garage Nite - by Dick Olson

There will not be any more Garage Nites until next spring. Thanks to everyone who hosted or came to a Garage Nite in 2012.

Editor's Note

The monthly deadline for receiving input is the 5th of the month. We reserve the right to edit material in any way as appropriate for wording, clarity, grammar, punctuation, and space available. We can accept most electronic formats and hardcopy. Photographs can be scanned and returned. We will take reasonable care of copy provided, however we cannot take responsibility for lost or damaged material. Send copy to *Glenn Landguth at gklandguth@msn.com*

Director's Corner

"The Sunday Driver"



By Director Dave Haddock

As I leave this position in Al's able hands for 2013 I want to take this time to thank those in our club that have served with me or volunteered their valuable time to help make our club what it is. No, I'm not going to list you all here by name. You know who you are. Many of you have served for many years in many positions. You took meeting minutes, you collected dues, recruited new members, balanced our checkbook, edited the newsletter, planned tours, took photographs, planned a meet, helped raise funds, or solved a technical problem.

But for those who haven't served or haven't served recently, I present an opportunity and a challenge. For a club like ours to continue we always need fresh perspectives and new ideas. I challenge you to make this an even better club by donating some of your time and providing those fresh perspectives and new ideas. This, of course, will take a little extra work on your part. But I promise each of you that you will get more out of your time investment than you put into it, and I know this from my own experience.

When I first joined in 2003 I did not know any of the members, and within a year or maybe two, I was cajoled into becoming the editor of the Tappet Clatter. I had no idea how I would be able to do a good job and was worried that since I was such a new member, I would not be able to get enough information to even fill an issue. I soon found out how supportive everyone is this club really is. Through this experience, I got to know the great people who make up this club. Since then, I have been an activities coordinator, an assistant director and director, and will soon take on the assistant director position again. Diane and I also helped with the organization of the NW Meet in Bellingham. I can honestly say, getting involved with club positions is a great way to 'break in' and get to know this fantastic group of people.

So, take the first half of 2013 to think about what special perspective or new idea you can bring to the table. Maybe talk to some of the people who currently hold the 'elected' positions about what they do. You could even offer to help them out to find out how the position works. Be an apprentice, then when we meet next fall and ask for volunteers, raise your hand. You'll be glad you did!!

Have a wonderful Christmas everyone and I'll see you at the banquet in January!!

Membership Meeting January 28

We don't have a December Club meeting at the school; the wonderful Christmas potluck at Don and Sallie Comstock's was it. And it was the best meeting of the year.

Our January meeting program will be a presentation of how to plan a successful tour, by Jim Farris and Al Howe. They will cover planning for both long tours and short tours.

Here is a look-ahead for coming month's programs:

- Jan: Program on Planning Tours
- Feb: Show and Tell by Bob & MG Stamnes, about their wonderful vacation
- March: open
- April: Club Auction
- May: open
- June: Gail Darby Memorial Strawberry Social

We need someone to bring treats. We forgot to circulate the treat sign-up list at the November meeting.

Al Howe

Christmas Potluck (Continued from page 1)

the work being done to repair his 2005 SSR Chevy. (We hope to get a complete report to share when the repair is complete.) Don had pictures showing the parts that are being replaced and progress on the paint. He has been able to find just the right people to do the work too.

Judy Landguth and Ana Maria Haley share the same December 10 birthday, so they always look forward to exchanging birthday greetings at the Christmas party.



As always, people brought wonderful tasty dishes to share. There was plenty, so even the last person in line did not go hungry.

The gift exchange game is always a big hit. Don hands out playing cards, then cards are drawn from an identical deck to determine the order in which people may take their turns selecting gifts. Each person either picks a new package from under the tree, or “steals” an opened gift from somebody. Limits on the number of steals keeps the game from going on too long.



Glenn holds the record for having had the most gifts stolen (three, count them). But it was all in good fun. Don and Sallie seemed to survive the event in good spirits. They put on Santa hats and smiled for a final picture (see page 12).

A big THANK YOU to Don and Sallie. It was wonderful!

The State of Washington "Blue Dot" Law

The Blue Dot Law, Substitute Senate Bill 5425, became effective as of June 11, 1992. This is an act relating to taillights on old vehicles. Basic provisions are as follows:

- (1) Front clearance lamps and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the front or on the side near the front of a vehicle shall display or reflect an amber color.
- (2) Rear clearance lamps and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the rear or on the sides near the rear of a vehicle shall display or reflect a red color.
- (3) All lighting devices and reflectors mounted on the rear of any vehicle shall display or reflect a red color, except the stop lamp or other signal device, which may be red, amber, or yellow, and except that on any vehicle forty or more years old, the taillight may also contain a blue or purple insert of not more than one inch in diameter, and except that the light illuminating the license plate shall be white and the light emitted by a back-up lamp shall be white or amber.

This information was taken from the JUNE/JULY 1992 issue of CruZIN magazine. Thanks to Bill Barker for bringing it to our attention.

Overnight Tossed Salad

Barbara Reich brought this salad to the Christmas potluck at Don and Sallie Comstock's house. Sallie suggested that Barbara share it with people in the Tappet Clatter.

Salad Ingredients:

6 cups chopped lettuce
½ tsp salt
½ tsp sugar
1/8 tsp pepper
6 hard cooked eggs, sliced
1 (10 oz) package frozen peas, thawed
½ lb bacon, crisp-cooked and crumbled
½ cup sliced green onions and tops
½ cup sliced celery
2 cup shredded Swiss cheese (8 oz)
1 ¼ cup mayonnaise or salad dressing

Barbara wrote, "Here is the recipe for the overnight tossed salad from the Christmas party. I'm glad you liked the salad. It goes way back - someone brought it to a party at work years ago, and I've been making it ever since. It's a hit with my family and friends."

"Place half the lettuce in a large bowl. Sprinkle with salt, sugar and pepper. Top with layer of eggs, then peas, bacon, remaining lettuce, green onion, celery and cheese.

Spread mayonnaise evenly over the top to cover. Place tight cover on bowl and refrigerate 24 hours. Toss just before serving. Makes 8 servings as a main dish, 12 as a side dish in a meal. There is a comment at the top of the recipe about substituting cauliflower for the peas, but I have never done this."

Bill Damm's SAFETY CORNER

For that special someone
On your Christmas list,
You haven't quite figured
What to get for a gift,

There are safety items
That makes good gifts,
Even if they duplicate
What already exists.

Fire extinguishers,
Or rubber gloves,
Or a hand cleaner,
That everyone loves.

Even safety glasses,
An extra pair,
For a shop helper,
To wear while there.

Be careful with dry Xmas trees,
And wrapping that burns.
Preventing a fire
Is the biggest concern.

So have a safe Christmas.
Enjoy the big day.
See you in the New Year.
Be happy! Hooray!

Christmas Model Train Event, December 15

Rod and Evie Schein would like to invite all of you who like model trains with Christmas trees, treats, and snow, to come to a "Neighborhood Christmas Party". It is a great event for adults, children, and grandchildren. It takes place in the multipurpose room, i.e. gym, at University Presbyterian Church in the U-District on Dec 15th between 10 AM and 2 PM.

The theme is Trains & Narnia. Rod will be showing his expansion of his "Christmas Train Tree" that he has been working on the last two months. This is a multi-tiered train track with higher tiers making smaller circles, so as to be in the overall shape of a Christmas tree. He is adding two more trains around the base of the train tree, which features a passing siding and 28.5 feet of elevated steel girder trestle train line for his newly acquired 1947 Great Northern Empire Builder passenger train.

On the other track, he will be running a 2-8-8-2 articulated locomotive and freight cars which he purchased at last year's Monroe Model Train Swap Meet.

For more information, go to <http://www.upc.org/>.

December 2012 Tappet Clatter

November Garage Nite at Bill Barker's

The Wednesday, November 14th, GARAGE NITE was held at Bill Barker's in Issaquah starting at 7 PM.



Safe Driving Courses Save Money

By Bill Damm

Here is some money saving information about safe driving courses for those of you 55 years old and older. From time to time notices appear in local newspapers for nearby one-day safe-driving courses. Successful completion of the safe-driving course may qualify you for a discount on your car insurance premium.

The discounts can vary between 2% to 15% depending on the insurance company and the type of coverage carried. Call your agent to verify what your discount might be. The discount is good for 3 years at which time the course will need to be repeated to continue to receive the discount.

Several WSDOL approved online sites tailored for Washington state drivers can be found by searching "Washington Mature Driver". The courses cost \$19.95, or for AAA members a Washington state "I DRIVE SAFELY" course is \$15.95. Be sure to select the mature driver course for those 55 and over, as the site also offers court-ordered courses for people with driving infractions.

I preferred the online version as it allows one to take the course at his/her own pace. One can do a chapter or two and then log off for a day, or week, or month. Progress is monitored so that when one logs back on it will start up right where it left off. The course doesn't even have to be paid for until one is ready to take the simple final test.

People failing the test are allowed to take it again. When the test is passed a certificate of completion is sent to you, which can be provided to the insurance agent to receive an insurance discount. With a spouse completing the course too there is an additional discount. I receive a \$40 per year discount from my insurance for just my participation.

My personal opinion is that there isn't really anything in the course that will greatly change a person's driving habits. But just by taking the course it shows the insurance carrier that one is conscientious about driving safely. With that attitude the insurance company identifies you as likely to already be a safer driver and worthy of the discount.

Future Club Events Calendar

From Activities Coordinator Matt Dickinson

Dates	Activity	Activity Organizer
January 26, 2013	Annual Banquet at The Golden Steer Restaurant	George Kowats, Sallie Comstock
The future events calendar will be updated in the January Tappet Clatter.		

Wanted - Winter Snow Scenes for G&D Covers

Winter snow scenes for G&D covers are needed! If you're brave enough to get your Chevy out in the snow for a cover shot, we're looking for you! We need cover photos taken this winter for use on next year's December and January covers.

If you have a pickup truck and can get a shot with a cut Christmas tree in the back, that's the ultimate December cover.

Photos of Chevys in the snow are scarce and we're hoping some VCCA members will answer the challenge to submit some snow scenes. The G&D needs vertical shots with lots of space on top and the highest resolution. Go for it!

Jim Seiber would be happy to help with some ideas about how and where to take some good winter shots.

January Celebrations

<u>ANNIVERSARIES</u>		<u>BIRTHDAYS</u>	
Glenn and Judy Landguth	1/11	Sis Barker	1/5
Gary and Joanne Barquist	1/18	George Kowats	1/6
Myron and Resa Gabelein	1/23	Gisela Jones	1/16
		Cecil Mullins	1/11
		Betty Yoder	1/15



Puget Sound Region VCCA General Meeting Minutes

November 26, 2012



Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at Tillicum Middle School at 7:30 PM by Director Dave Haddock after Bill Barker shared some videos to get us started. Dave Haddock also brought some problem parts for advice from members.

Welcome: Twenty-eight members were present. Member Jerry Yoder introduced his lifelong friend Don Chapman who has worked on Chevys for a very long time. Matt Dickinson was given a color copy of the Tappet Clatter for his article on the trip to Jose Enciso's family farm. Needs and Leads sheet was circulated.



Secretary: Diane Haddock filled in for Don who was home recuperating from eye surgery. October minutes were accepted as printed in the Tapped Clatter.



Membership: Donna Onat reported that membership renewals are at 76 members. Only 4 members have not renewed. Donna reported that Don was doing well and could already see better.

Treasurer: Sallie was absent, no report.

National: Bill Barker reported elections are done and the new Region 3 Director will be Gene Gowan from Portland. He starts Jan 1, 2013. All requests should go to Ken Scott until Jan 1. The national Board has been looking at whether the National President and Vice President should also be serving as regional officers during their National terms. A rule that requires both officers to step down from regional offices will take effect on Jan 1, 2013. This means they will not serve their entire regional term of office and will not return to that office when their national term is over. This is similar to the US Constitutional requirement (when a US Senator is elected President, he/she must relinquish his/her Senate seat and cannot return to the Senate after the presidential term ends unless they are re-elected.) This has been a highly debated topic.



Glove Box: Article will discuss restricting flow through radiators. Dave Haddock showed side trim from his '62 Impala SS project car and asked for advice about refurbishing. Look for recommendations in the December Tappet Clatter.



Activities: Matt Dickinson reminded people that the Christmas Party is December 1 at the Comstock's. The Annual Banquet is January 26, 2013. Matt is updating the 2013 activities template. He needs about two more tours to fill the slate.

Programs: We need ideas for next year. Matt offered to present a slide show.

Announcements: Rod Schein invited people to a train display on December 15 from 10 AM until 2 PM at University Presbyterian Church.



Election of Officers: Dave Haddock read the slate of nominees, all unopposed. Director - Al Howe, Assistant Director - Dave Haddock, Secretary - Don Comstock, Treasurer - Sallie Comstock, Membership - Donna Onat, Activities - Matt Dickinson, Newsletter - Glenn Landguth. (Glenn is still looking for a replacement in the near future.) It was moved and seconded that the slate be approved as presented. Members present voted unanimously to approve, with a question about the storekeeper. It was determined that position did not require a vote. Bill Damn volunteered to retain that position.

Bill Barker said the LeMay museum needs remodeling because many visitors miss about 1/3 of the displays.

Portland Visit: The Portland Region mentioned their trip to Seattle in the Royal Mail, noting that they 'had a blast.'

Refreshments: Bob Stamnes was thanked for providing treats.



After a break to enjoy treats, meeting was reconvened. Al Howe said that the planning for the 2014 NW Meet is going well. He displayed the prototype for the logo. Next planning meeting will be in February.

Jim Seiber and Bill Barker presented a video of the 6-cylinder tour to Logan Canyon, Utah, which included the Oregon Trail Museum, Montpelier, Idaho, Promontory Point and Hill Air Force Base.



Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 PM after two more short videos: "Rusty Chevrolet", and a documentary on the celebration of the 50-millionth GM car (a '55 Chevrolet Bel Air) on November 23, 1954, in Flint, Michigan.

Respectively Submitted by Acting Secretary Diane Haddock.



Annual Banquet

Golden Steer Steak & Rib House
23826 104th Ave SE, Kent, WA
Saturday, January 26, 2013

This year George Kowats and Sallie Comstock have teamed up to arrange the banquet facilities and plan the menu. The banquet will be held at the Golden Steer Steak & Rib House in Kent. Social time will start at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner being served at 7:00 PM. Drinks will be available via server from the restaurant bar throughout the evening.

Thanks to the hard work of all club members, our financial position is such that the club can afford to subsidize our dinners to the tune of \$12.00 each. As usual, there will be three dinner choices. All dinners come with bread, baby red potato with a seasoning, Caesar Salad, and the Golden Steer's legendary carrot cake for dessert. Coffee, tea or soft drink is also included. Prices shown reflect the club subsidies.

Filet Mignon—Tenderloin.	\$24.00
Salmon Filet	\$20.00
Chicken Dijon	\$17.00

Vegetarian or vegan meal options are also available. Contact George Kowats at 253-852-8178 to make arrangements.

January 26, 2013, Annual PS-VCCA Banquet Registration Form

(Place an X under the corresponding dinner choice for each name.)

	Filet Mignon	Salmon	Chicken
Name: _____	_____	_____	_____
Name: _____	_____	_____	_____
Name: _____	_____	_____	_____
Name: _____	_____	_____	_____
Phone: _ (____) _____	E-mail: _____		

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Registration forms must be returned to Sallie by January 15, 2013. Make checks payable to PS-VCCA.

Mail this form with payment to: Sallie Comstock
Email: d.comstock@att.net

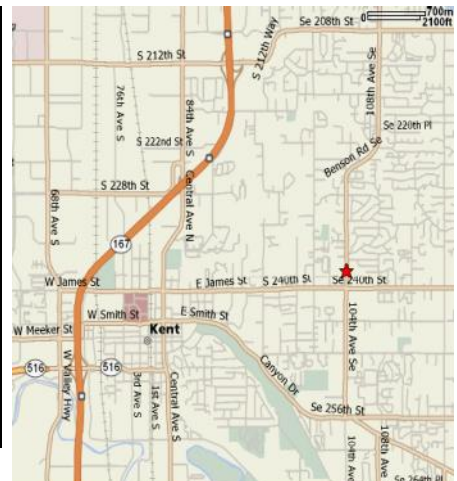
Directions to Golden Steer:

From the North

1. Take WA-167 So. (Valley Freeway)
2. Take the So. 212 St Exit, then turn left onto 212 St. So.
3. Turn right on 108th Ave SE. Changes to Benson Rd SE, changes again to 104th Ave SE.
4. Golden Steer is on your left.

From the South

1. Take WA 167 [valley Freeway]
2. Go right on WA -516 continue on Willis to Central
3. Left on Central Ave S. Changes to Central Ave N.
4. Right on E. James Street, changes to S 240th, and continues on SE 240th St.
5. Left on 104th Ave East.
6. Golden Steer is on your right.



From the Glove Box



From the Glove Box is devoted to sharing technical information, technical problems and solutions to problems related to the restoration and preservation of vintage Chevrolets. Please share your knowledge, experiences and recommendations with your fellow members.

Call the Glove Box Coordinator, Bob Stamnes, via email at rstamnes@yahoo.com with your information.

Errant Thermostat Myth Debunked

By Lee and Dave Folsom

There is a persistent notion that if water flows through an automobile radiator too rapidly, the water will not have time to cool in the radiator and overheating will result. This is completely false.

The water pump pumps water from the bottom of the radiator through passageways in the block and head where it **ABSORBS** heat produced in the combustion chambers.

The water then circulates to the top of the radiator and then down through the radiator. As the water travels through the radiator the heat is transferred to the radiator core. From the core the heat is **RADIATED** into the air with the help of the fan.

Every time 1000 calories of heat are **ABSORBED** by the water in the engine, 1000 calories of heat must be **RADIATED** from the radiator, or overheating will occur.

The amount of heat radiated by the radiator depends on the average temperature of the radiator which is somewhat warmer at the top than at the bottom. If the water is flowing rapidly, the bottom and the top of the radiator are close to the same temperature and the amount of heat radiated is at a maximum.

If the flow of water is restricted, the bottom of the radiator is considerably cooler than the top. This reduces the average temperature of the radiator and therefore less heat will be radiated from the radiator and engine temperature will increase.

It is tempting to think that to cool the engine, very cool water must come from the bottom of the radiator to the engine, but if we get that very cool water, less heat will be radiated from the radiator and that is contrary to what is really needed. A larger amount of warmer water does a better job than a smaller amount of cooler water.

If water is allowed to run through the system with no limitation, the temperature will generally be too **LOW**, not too **HIGH**. This is why we use thermostats to selectively limit the flow so that the temperature in the cylinder head will reach a desired level, typically 160 or 180 degrees. The thermostat controls the flow of water through the system so that at 160 or 180 degrees the amount of heat absorbed in the engine is equal to the amount of heat radiated from the radiator, and the temperature stays quite constant.

Limiting the flow of water can only **RAISE** the temperature above what it would be without the limitation. Limiting the flow can never **LOWER** the temperature.

Trim Straightening Services

By Bob Stamnes

Dave Haddock brought a piece of anodized aluminum side trim from his '62 Chevrolet to our November membership meeting and wanted to know if anyone could restore the bent-up piece of metal or if it was necessary to buy a new piece, which is available. Dave said replacing the three pieces of trim for one side of his car would cost about \$400.

George Kowats said he has used Proflections Metal Polishing Inc., 131 30th St. N.E. #20A, Auburn, WA, 253-735-6111. Michael Gotowka is the contact. George has found them to be very good. They only work on trim pieces (taking out dings, restoring and polishing etc.), and do no body work. They also do chrome plating via Mastercraft. They are the best there is according to George. Their work is perfect, but expensive. George has used them for years and has never been disappointed.

Matt Dickinson also said he has used Brass Art and found the work to be very satisfactory. He said they will take the restoration of the piece to any level, i.e. driver, medium, or extreme show. Each level requires more work and that costs you more money - your choice on the amount you want to spend.

TAPPET CLATTER *Classifieds*

Ads will be carried up to three months on a space-available basis, unless withdrawn sooner or an extension is requested. Please notify the Tappet Clatter Editor when your ad is answered or you need an extension. gklandguth@msn.com

FOR SALE

1928 Tire Rack, \$40/offer, Bob Stamnes, rstamnes@yahoo.com

1933 Pickup Project. Has all new cab wood. Rust free. Asking \$5,900. Dick Olson, 425-222-5798, ROLSON82@comcast.net

1934 Chev 1 1/2 Ton Truck. Asking \$17,000, Bill Johnson, 425-255-6325, snkshk@comcast.net

1940 Master 85 Business Coupe. Almost a #2 car. Straight, rust-free. Great paint, upholstery, glass, chrome. Runs good, 235 & 3:55 gears. Also 12 volt. I have everything to go back to stock. Asking \$14,000. Don Comstock, 252-863-0420, d.comstock@att.net.

1947 Chev Stylemaster. This is a really nice car and it runs perfectly. Asking \$16,500. Mike McLaughlin, email is mgmclaughlin007@gmail.com and cell 253-335-6312.



1955,'56,'57 Radiator (Used) for stick-shift V8, \$80, Dick Olson, 425-222-5798, rolson82@comcast.net.

Floor Creeper (The Bone), \$10, George Kowats, 253-852-8178.

Come-Along, Two available, \$10.00 each, George Kowats, 253-852-8178.

FOR SALE

1956 Chevrolet Bel Air Sport Coupe. Original family since new, with 68K miles. Has been garaged and not driven since 1996. It is all complete and original, with 235 six-cylinder, standard 3-speed transmission. Some damage on right front corner at the bumper level. Minor rust in 2 small areas at the rear wheel wells. Really solid and in decent shape overall, with original Matador Red & Dune Beige paint. A great restoration project for someone. Will entertain fair market offers. Contact: Gary at word0982@gmail.com or 206-353-4844.

1962 Chevrolet Impala Sport Sedan. California car, no rust, under 100,000 miles. Great driver. Asking \$5,995. Jim Seiber, 425-765-8195, sueandjim4069@comcast.net.

WANTED

1928 Washington License Plates. Jim Farris, 206-937-5636, farrismej@aol.com

1928 Windshield Wiper Control (switch), Dick Jones, 425-736-8798, dick10051@comcast.net.

1950 3100 1/2 Ton Pickup Rear End Assembly (complete). Should be the same from 1947 to 1953. Gary Barquist 509-636-2133 or ggary017@centurytel.net



Packages under the tree at the Christmas Potluck at Comstock's

Web Links Of Interest

Capital City Region, VCCA: None

Colombia River Region, VCCA: <http://www.vccacolumbiariverregion.org/>

Mt. Rainier Region, VCCA: None

North Cascade Region, VCCA: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/northcascadevcca>

Puget Sound Region, VCCA: <http://pugetsoundvintagechevrolet.org/>

Willamette Valley Region, VCCA: <http://www.wvrcca.org/>

Dave Folsom Blog, www.chev235guy.blogspot.com/

Gas stations without ethanol, <http://pure-gas.org/index.jsp?stateprov=WA>

December 2012



Don and Sallie Comstock at the end of the Christmas Potluck at their house