

# THE TAPPET CLATTER

## THE PUGET SOUND REGION VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA NEWSLETTER

January 2010

Volume 43 Number 1

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### Christmas Potluck

*By Glenn Landguth*

Don and Sallie Comstock hosted a wonderful Christmas potluck gathering for us at their home on December 13. It was a perfect setting for a Christmas party, with light snow starting to decorate the grounds just as people were arriving. Decorations around the house lent to the Christmas atmosphere.



Judy Landguth asked if she could sit on the (dummy) Santa's lap. Santa later greeted people while sitting in a vintage car parked near the front door.



Don soon gave a garage tour for everyone wanting to see his latest projects.

Part of the garage tour entertainment was the removal of the hood from one of Don's project cars. As some people held the hood, others demonstrated the use of "spring stretchers" to aid in the removal of the hood counterbalance springs. Then, with the hood still supported by guests, and the springs removed, the hinges could be unbolted, facilitating removal of the hood. It is great fun to learn how to do something on someone else's car.



Back in the house, food was being arranged for efficient distribution. Everything looked so good, it

*(Continued on page 4)*

### January 25, 2010 Membership Meeting

The regular monthly meeting will again be at the Tillicum Middle School. The program will center on discussions relating to the question of creating a "Modified Division" within VCCA. A consensus opinion will be sent to the Area 3 Director. Bob & MG Stamnes are signed up to bring treats.



## 1967 - Puget Sound Region VCCA - 2010



*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 1985 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 . WA. 7:30PM to 9:30PM**. 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 "Tappet Clatter." You can find the PS-VCCA website on the **World Wide Web** at <http://pugetsoundvintagechevrolet.org/>*

### 2010 Puget Sound Region Officers and Board

<u>DIRECTOR</u>	Al Howe	273155chevy@comcast.net
<u>ASST. DIRECTOR</u>	Dave Haddock	chevydave@gmail.com
<u>TREASURER</u>	Sallie Comstock	d.comstock@att.net
<u>SECRETARY</u>	Don Comstock	d.comstock@att.net
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	(and other members who supply copy)	

### Editor's Note

Some subjects that can be the basis of wonderful articles to share are: first-car, remember-when, restorations, Chevrolets and your families, history, trivia, little-known facts, and many others. Either current or vintage old-car stories and snapshots are also welcome. We reserve the right to edit material as necessary for space available and clarity.

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. The monthly deadline is about the 5th of the month.

Glenn Landguth, [gklandguth@msn.com](mailto:gklandguth@msn.com)

## *Director's Corner*

*"From The Drivers Seat"*



By Al Howe  
Puget Sound Region Director

I would like to thank everyone for all the work and fun you have put into club activities during 2009. We have had an active year with lots of tours, shows and food throughout the year. Everyone has been so supportive in all the club duties and grunt work, which has made my job much easier.

We closed out 2009 with a wonderful potluck and gift exchange at Don and Sallie Comstock's. Even though we had a little snow on the ground it didn't dampen anyone's spirits. The food was delicious and the exchange was lots of fun. I was glad I had driven my truck with four-wheel drive because on the way home we saw three or four cars that had slid off the road.

One, closer to our house, was in a deep ditch and needed a tow truck. The rest would be able to drive away after the snow melted a little.

Don and Sallie are most generous hosts and I want them to know they are appreciated. Thank you very much.

Now Christmas is over and as is the case every year we spent too much and ate too much but we had fun doing it. Now it is time to pay the fiddler by losing the pounds all that good food caused me to gain!

I hope you have all read the President's Message in the December issue of the Generator & Distributor. The National Board members want to know our feelings about allowing all Chevrolets to be eligible for a touring passport. I plan on discussing this subject at the our regular meeting January 25th.

If you have not read this article I hope you do before the meeting and if you have a strong opinion or any opinion, please come to the January meeting. This is your chance to be heard.

I also look forward to seeing everyone January 23rd at the installation banquet. The Golden Steer always puts on a good dinner.

*Thought for today: Birds of a feather flock together...then target your car.*

### New Area Three Director

Ken Scott is the new Area Three Director. He may be reached at [Kenscott62@juno.com](mailto:Kenscott62@juno.com)

### Next Membership Meeting On January 25, 2010

Our next general membership meeting will be Monday, January 25, 2010. In the December 2009 G & D, VCCA President Don Williams asked for help on a pressing matter facing our club. How should the VCCA deal with inclusion of "modified/altered, non-stock cars"?

The question deserves our careful thoughts and council at this juncture as the VCCA attempts to stabilize or even increase membership while maintaining much of the fundamental structure and values that brought us together in the first place. As Don put it, "for 48 years the VCCA has been about Preservation and Restoration" of Chevrolets. Should we embrace a "Modified Division" and, if so, what should "modified" mean? This is your chance to be heard!! Read the "Message from the President" in the December G & D and come prepared to discuss this timely issue facing our hobby.

We plan to develop a consensus opinion from the Puget Sound Region that will be passed to our new Region Three Director Ken Scott for delivery at the upcoming National Board Meeting.

### PSR-VCCA Board Meeting February 25, 7 - 9 PM

Meet at the Fairwood Library, 17009 140th Ave SE, Renton, WA. Puget Sound Region VCCA officers and committee chairs are asked to attend. Other members are cordially welcome. Al Howe, Director, PS-VCCA



*Christmas Potluck (Continued from page 1)*

was a shame to have to mess it up. But that was what it was there for, so what else could we do? Everything tasted great. Thanks to everyone who brought their favorite holiday recipe. Eating a holiday meal is always a great time for socializing. And that is just what we always do at the Christmas potluck.



As people finished eating, Don began handing out the cards that would be used to determine the order in which people would take presents.

When everyone participating in the gift exchange had received a card, the opening of presents could begin. Cards were drawn from a second deck, and the person with a matching card took a turn selecting from the many wrapped presents under the tree.



*Christmas Potluck (Continued from page 4)*

According to the rules, the first person would have the opportunity to choose a gift from any of the previously opened gifts, unless they had already changed hands the maximum number of times allowed. So the first card drawn had special significance.

When opening a gift, the person sat on the chair of honor so that everyone could see what the gift was when they opened it. Each successive person had the option of taking a previously opened gift, or opening a new gift.



*(Continued on page 10)*

## Annual Banquet Reminder (Reservations Required)

Golden Steer Steak & Rib House  
23826 104th Ave SE, Kent, WA

Saturday, January 23, 2010

Social: 6:00 PM—Dinner: 7:00 PM

**(Last day to register was January 12, 2010. See December Tappet Clatter)**

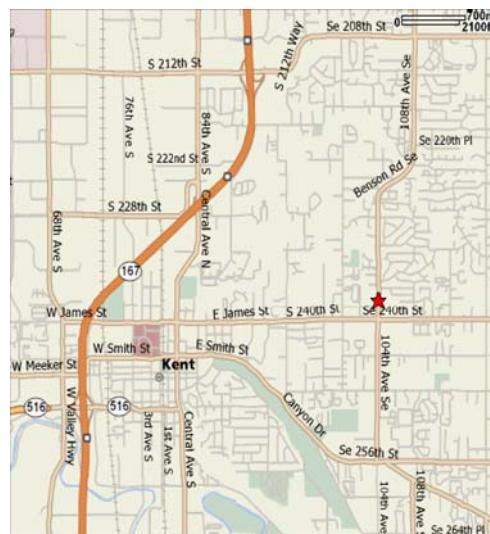
### Driving Directions

#### **From the North**

1. Take WA-167 South. [ 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. 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





## Keeler's Korner

By Glenn K. Landguth

In the December Tappet Clatter I gave a brief description of the status of this historic building on old Highway 99. This time I will share some more treasures. On July 25, 2009, current owners, Al and Robin Jackson, cordially invited my wife Judy and me into the building to talk about some of the building history, and to look at some of the treasures that they have collected. They treated us to ice cream and rhubarb pie as we basked in some of the history.

They are living part of the year in the upper level, which fronts on the back side of the building, facilitated by the building's being sited on the side of the hill. It retains a lived-in feeling with the texture and fragrance of its heyday. I did not take pictures upstairs this time, except for one picture of Al and Robin.



Downstairs I was less restrained. It is filled with a variety of collectable automobile and other miscellaneous items. On one wall I found this large print of the original owner and the merchandise available in the store. I did not see a date on the picture.

A number of vintage items hang from the ceiling and walls, including this tricycle, a model airplane, thermometer, and a ventriloquist's dummy. Old pumps and other gas station equipment fill another room that used to be the service bay.



(Continued on page 9)

## Future Club Events Calendar

From Activities Coordinator Matt Dickinson

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Activity Organizer</u>
January 23, 2010	Annual Banquet	George & Phyllis Kowats
Feb. 27 or Mar. 6, 2010	Seattle Circle Tour (Part 5)	Jim Farris
February 25, 2010	Board Meeting at Fairwood Library, Renton	
April 1/2/3/4, 2010	Portland Swap Meet	
April 17, 2010	Vashon Island Tour	Matt Dickinson
May 2, 2010	HCCA Breakfast & Tour	Jim Farris
May 17, 2010	Ballard Parade	Rod Schein
May 14/15/16, 2010	Monroe Swap Meet	Ana Haley
Late May/Early June, 2010	South Tour - ?????	Matt Dickinson/Roger Orness
June 20, 2010	GM Picnic in Graham	
June 21/22/23/24/25, 2010	4 Cylinder Tour in Glacier Park, MT	Jim Farris
June 26, 2010	Greenwood Auto Show	Matt Dickinson
June 28, 2010	Strawberry Picnic at Perrigo Park	Club Meeting
July 4, 2010	Folsom's Picnic/Pot Luck	Lee & Carol Folsom
July 17, 2010	GEAA Car Show in Tacoma, tour to show from the Kent Kmart	Email Matt Dickinson if interested in Tour
July ????, 2010	Tour to Jerry Yoder's Car Collection	Don Boltz
TBD	Board Meeting	
July 28, 2010	Greenwood Seafair Parade	Rod Schein
August 11-15, 2010	NW VCCA Meet, Silverdale, WA.	PSR VCCA
August 23, 2010	XXX Drive-In, Issaquah	Club Meeting
September 11, 2010 ??	John Strampher's Pot Luck Picnic	John Strampher
Sept. 13/14/15/16/17, 2010	6 Cylinder Tour at Carson City, NV	Jim Farris
Late Sept./early Oct., 2010	Weekend Tour	Jim Farris/Dick Olson
Mid to late October, 2010	Newcastle-Issaquah XXX Lunch Tour	Matt Dickinson
TBD	Board Meeting	
Early December, 2010	Christmas Party	

## New Member (Welcome Back)

By Donna Onat

We welcome back Dave Parker of Bellevue, who joins us again with a '46 1/2 ton pickup, a '55 1/2 ton Cameo, and a '55 1/2 ton 3200 pickup. If the name sounds familiar it's because Dave was a member of our club back in 1999; you may remember him from that time. We look forward to seeing him again.

You can contact Dave via email at [at parkerside@msn.com](mailto:at parkerside@msn.com).

## Help Wanted for 2010 Northwest Meet

Volunteers are still needed for the 2010 Northwest Meet. Several committees have positions available. Call now and avoid the "DRAFT"! Respond to George Kowats, 253-852-8178, [zanygeophyl@msn.com](mailto:zanygeophyl@msn.com).

## February Celebrations

### ANNIVERSARIES

Dennis and Gerri Johnson  
Jim Lewis & Linda Wheeler  
George and Phyllis Kowats

2/14  
2/14  
2/22

### BIRTHDAYS

Wally Martin  
Don Boltz  
Bill Barker  
Kathy Currie  
Lee Folsom

2/1  
2/1  
2/1  
2/4  
2/14

## Impala Lights Out

(Continued from the December 2009 Tappet Clatter)

By Glenn K. Landguth

As you may recall, in 1990 my wife and I and my mother drove to Minneapolis, MN in my mother's 1966 Impala to attend my son's graduation from a two-year Bible college. We had just driven into the parking lot at the school in Minneapolis (actually Medicine Lake, just north of Minneapolis) and I had looked under the front of the car to see coolant dripping from the radiator.

We were about a half hour early for the graduation, so I told my wife and mother to walk in and I would see what I could do about the leak.

I put the pan under the radiator to catch the coolant, loosened the radiator cap to relieve the pressure, and contemplated the drip. I decided to let enough coolant out so that the drip stopped. Then I filled the core around the leak with silicone sealant, covered the sealant with paper, put more silicone over the paper, and ran wire through the core to hold the repair in place against pressure. Letting the silicone rubber harden, I went in to the graduation ceremony.

By the time the ceremony and reception were over, the rubber had hardened. I put the coolant in the pan back into the radiator, replaced the cap, and started the engine. As the engine came up to temperature I checked for a leak. No leak. I loosened the radiator cap just in case, betting that it would not overheat in the cool night air as we drove to our motel. I thought that the repair would probably last for the trip home, but decided to not take the chance.

The next day we found a radiator repair shop and had the radiator core replaced.

On the return trip, we had planned to stop and visit a friend on their family's 360-acre farm near Anselmo, Nebraska. We drove down from Minneapolis through Minnesota and Iowa farm country, then west into Nebraska and Anselmo.

At the farm, we followed people about the farm like kids on an outing. I drove the cultivator one day, giving our friend Shannon a chance to make some repairs to other equipment. We went to town to get more anhydrous ammonia to fertilize the corn. On the way back, the trailer nearly came loose. If it had gotten loose it could have killed us all. Leaking anhydrous ammonia can be deadly.

Then on another trip, the wheel came off of our friend's car that I was driving on a sandy farm road. The axle got stuck in the sand, and I learned how to shore up a jack in the sand using boards. The lug nuts had come loose. I think my friend could have used another day to check farm equipment, including the cars.

Then at last, we headed home, going west out of Anselmo, through Nebraska and into Wyoming. After stopping for gas at a gas station in the middle of nowhere in Wyoming, we headed west into the sunset. We intended to eventually swing around to the north into Montana, then west again through the Idaho panhandle and into Washington and home.

As we headed west through Wyoming, the sun gradually set in front of us and we found ourselves alone on the blackened highway. I took a deep breath and leaned back to relax for the long trip ahead.

*(To be continued next month.)*



### Bill Damm's January SAFETY CORNER

Head lights and tail lights,  
Turn signals and brakes,  
A moment to check them,  
Is all that it takes.

All the bulbs working,  
During this time of year,  
Just might save you,  
From being hit in the rear.

License plate lights,  
Believe it or not,  
Need to be lit,  
Or you'll get stopped by a  
cop.

With darker days,  
And longer nights,  
Be real safe,  
Show all of your lights.



## From the Glove Box



January 2010 Tappet Clatter

**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](mailto:rstamnes@yahoo.com) with your information.

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## Garage Floors and Moisture –Another Solution

By Don Boltz

I recently purchased the rubber floor covers from Costco. Seemed like the way to go. After they were down for a while I had an opportunity to lift one up. Guess what, I found moisture on the floor beneath the rubber liner. I quickly determined that the moisture was coming through the concrete floor in my garage. Concrete is porous. This is also the reason that Radon gas can come into houses through concrete floors. Now what do I do?

I researched on the web and found solutions that would penetrate concrete floors and fill the voids. These solutions are used to control porosity of concrete floors, thereby reducing the migration of moisture up through a concrete floor. I settled on RadonSeal, which is a deep-penetrating concrete sealer. Penetrates up to 4 inch deep. Works on new or old concrete, indoor or outdoor. This is suitable for paints and adhesives. This is a do-it-yourself product. It took one 5-gallon pail of sealer to finish the floor in my double garage. It is advertised online for \$149 per 5-gallon pail. This is a rather messy job and you have to keep moving quickly to complete it before it thickens up.

I have added a top finish and now I will test for moisture by laying down a piece of the rubber floor cover from Costco to see if it still collects moisture.

Give me a call if you have questions, or you can try the web at Radon Mitigation and Waterproofing Concrete Sealer (<http://www.radonseal.com/radonseal-mitigation.htm>).

If you are considering painting your garage floor, I encourage you to first test for moisture coming through the concrete floor. Take any type of rubber backed material like a rug with rubber backing, lay it on the garage floor for 4 to 5 days, then lift it up and check for moisture under it. If moisture is present, your floor is not ready for painting without first addressing the moisture problem. Almost always, this will draw out moisture, especially in older homes without a vapor barrier under a concrete garage floor.

Bob Stamnes also found vendors of similar sealing products at the home show recently. One claimed a penetration of 16 inches. I find this questionable.

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### Keeler's Korner (Continued from page 6)



Some of the pumps and domes are reproductions. In most cases, originals are available in protective storage.

The buggy belonged to a doctor.

More on Keeler's Korner to come next month.



## Puget Sound News Bits

By Jim Farris

- **Mike Voris** was the ticket seller for the MEHVA Christmas Light Tour. This event features trips through the neighborhoods of Seattle on vintage Seattle trackless trolleys to see the Christmas Lights. **Jim Farris** took his daughter and two grandchildren on the trip the night of December 12. Even Santa Claus boarded the bus for a while to wish everyone Merry Christmas.
- **Matt Dickinson's** 1936 Coupe was the Golden Era vehicle of the December 2009 Vehicle of The Month.
- **Dan Johnson's** new sewing job was reported to be an inflated snail. That was not altogether accurate. The project in Montreal was a turtle.
- **Matt Mathis and son Jason** visited Bill Barker during the Christmas Season. Some of you may remember him as a member the early part of the decade. He has a '31 Sedan.
- **Dick Olson and Bill Barker** followed up on a lead phoned into the breakfast gathering during the holidays. They went all the way to Big Lake in search of a '31 engine which turned out to be a '35.
- **Gerri Johnson** purchased a new Impala late in 2009 and it's red. She says she loves it!
- **Bob Stamnes** found an original '33 Sedan in Bellingham. He looked at it on January 5 but decided there were already enough projects in his garage.
- **Glenn Landguth** found the roads to be more treacherous than he expected on the way home from the Christmas Potluck. Approaching the four-way stop at the intersection of White-Christmas and Death-by-Snow, he tapped the brakes ever-so-lightly at dead-slow while going down a slight grade approaching the intersection. There was no sense of even the slightest chance of slowing down and the car started sliding. It was obvious that the stop sign meant nothing at that point. Glenn was wondering what the car waiting at its stop sign to Glenn's left was going to do. If it came through the intersection or turned left in front of Glenn, there was going to be a small collision. Glenn was hoping that the other car would stay stopped or turn right. It turned right, and Glenn coasted through the intersection and on home without incident.

Glenn and Judy arrived at the Comstock's a few minutes early, and were given a quick tour of the house decorations. The Santa Claus dummy (that Don puts in a vintage car parked near the front door every year) was still in the room just off of the living room. Judy jokingly asked if she could sit on Santa's lap, and Sallie said that it would be fine. So she did. Glenn took Judy's picture on Santa's lap. It occurred to Glenn afterward that maybe that Santa wasn't such a dummy after all.

### *Christmas Potluck (Continued from page 5)*



We want to express our sincere thanks to Don and Sallie for graciously opening their home for the Christmas Potluck. We hope that they enjoyed it as much as we did.

(See one more picture on page 12.)



## 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

**1933** Chevrolet Sedan, original and complete, asking \$8500 Bruce Sjoquist, bdsjoquist@comcast.net phone 360 920-4167

**1950** Chevy Fender Skirts, \$80, Bob Stamnes, rstamnes@yahoo.com

**1951** Special Deluxe 2-Door Sedan, 63,000+ original miles, no rust, and clean. Don Comstock, 253-863-0420, d.comstock@att.net.

**1922** Chevy Engine, runs

**1926** Chevy Engine, doesn't run

**1925** Chevy Engine, will not turn over

**Transmission** Two (2) 3 speed trans

**Transmission** Two (2) 4 speed trans

**Dash Panels** Some dash panels and gauges.

Contact Jerry Carr 775-772-8466

### WANTED

**1929** 20-in. Wire Spoke Wheels for Chevrolet Coupe, Tyler Gotschalk, 425-483-1733, TNSGottschalk@verizon.net.

**1948 to 1953** - 1/2 ton pick-up (Chevrolet of course) 3 speed, drivable, don't want a restored one just a decent driver, something I can work on while using it. Gary Barquist, 509-636-2133, send pictures to ggary017@centurytel.net.

**Johnson Over Gear (overdrive)** for a 4-cylinder Chev. Bob Stamnes rstamnes@yahoo.com

### Help Wanted for 2010 Northwest Meet

Volunteers are still needed for the 2010 Northwest Meet. Several committees have positions available. Call now and avoid the "DRAFT"! Respond to George Kowats, 253-852-8178, zanygeophyl@msn.com

### Wanted - First Car Stories for Tappet Clatter

We would love to have you share your story about your first car, if you know what I mean.

Just in case you don't, your first car might be the first car that you owned. But it might also be the first car that you drove regularly and thus became a part of your life. It could have been your parent's car, the family car that you learned to drive, or a car that someone let you use for dates, commute, or trips.

The important thing is that it bring back memories that you can share, both about the car and about your life at that time.

### Paint Booth for Rent

Pacific Auto Machine, 333a Sunset Blvd. N., Renton, WA 98057, 425-226-0930. Fully equipped paint booth is available to rent for 48 hours (M-W or W-F), 72 hours (weekends) or monthly (week days only M-F).

### Web Site Shows Chevy Convertibles

This web site purports to show scenes from a private car collection consisting of all convertible Chevrolets made since 1912. See:

<http://yourbadneighbor.posterous.com/every-chevy-convertible-since-1912>

From the site: This collection belongs to Dennis Albaugh in Ankeny, Iowa, just north of Des Moines. The personal and private collection consists of 110 + Chevrolet convertibles from 1912 to 1975 and Corvette convertibles from 1953 to 1975.

Thanks to Steve Grissom for calling the site to our attention.

### Puget Sound Region Jackets Still Available

Jim Farris is still taking orders for jackets (see April 2009 Tappet Clatter, page 5). They are a blue denim jacket made in the U.S.A. and are available in Men's sizes small to 7X large and women's sizes small to 3X large. The cost including shipping is \$36.50 each. A local seamstress embroiders names for those who want them on their jackets. That adds an extra five dollars to the price. Shirts are also available with the same logo.

If you would like to order one of these jackets or shirts, contact Jim Farris at farrismej@aol.com



## January 2010 Issue

Don and Sallie Comstock hosted the Christmas Potluck at their home.

