

# THE **TAPPET** **CLATTER**

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

July 2011

Volume 44 Number 7

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### July 4th Picnic at Folsom's

What a day for a picnic! Especially an Independence Day picnic at the Folsom's in Woodinville. Sitting in the picnic shed is like being in a National Park. Surrounded by trees, and with an open grass field for the cars, people could easily get the feeling that they are hundreds of miles from the city.



In reality they are just a few minutes outside of Maltby, off of SR-522. It is a short drive from I-405 headed toward Monroe. Only as one goes down the long single-lane driveway, down past the house, through the trees and toward the back of the property, does one begin to enter a world of peace and tranquility.



Lee and Carol provided hot dogs, chili, and soft drinks. The rest of the table was spread with potluck treats.

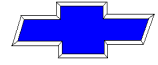
(Continued on page 4)

### No Club Meeting in July

In July we take a break from club meetings. There are many other activities in which to participate. The next monthly membership meeting will be August 22 at the XXX Root Beer Drive-In in Issaquah.



## 1967 - Puget Sound Region VCCA - 2011



*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 1986 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, "The Tappet Clatter."*

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

### 2011 Puget Sound Region Officers and Board

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### 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***

## ***"The Sunday Driver"***



By Dave Haddock  
Puget Sound Region Director

### **What is Common in Both Washington and California?**

What does Washington have in common with California? Well...we don't have their long stretches of sandy beaches. We never had a governor who was a movie star. And, we don't have Disneyland or Universal Studios. However, we do share a few things with them other than high tech and good wines. In fact I read about one thing last week that isn't a statistic that I like sharing with them. They can keep it.

It is vehicle theft!!! While nationally, auto theft rates have dropped in each of the last seven years and are at their lowest levels since 1967, they continue to climb in California and Washington. According to the latest National Insurance Crime Bureau data, eight California cities are among the ten U.S. cities with the highest vehicle theft rates.

And guess which state has the distinction of having the other two cities in the top ten? You guessed it; good old Washington State. Spokane ranks fourth and Yakima ranks tenth in vehicle theft rates. And high rates of vehicle thefts aren't just limited to Eastern Washington either. The Seattle area comes in number thirteen on the list. This is not good news for us.

So, what can we do to make sure our prized vehicles don't become insurance company statistics?

First and foremost, use our heads! Take the key out of the car when you are not driving it. And close the windows and lock the doors when you leave it parked (yes, even when it is hot outside). If you can, park in a well-lit area.

And for those of us who don't have On-Star or another system with GPS tracking capability we can also consider installing warning devices and/or immobilizing devices on our cars.

Popular warning devices include audible alarms, steering column collars, steering wheel locks, wheel locks, theft deterrent decals, and microdot marking.

Popular immobilizing devices include fuse cut-offs, kill switches, starter/ignition/fuel pump disablers, and wireless ignition authentication.

And, it goes without saying that if you have either warning devices or immobilizing devices, use them when you leave your car.

And if all of this seems to be just too much to think about there is one other approach to fighting vehicle theft. Yes, you can always move to another city or state. I hear the strawberries in Oregon are almost as good as they are here. Much better than those hard, partially green, California-grown berries!! And there appear to be fewer car thefts.

So, don't forget about how much these thieves want your cars. Stay alert and have a great summer everyone!



### **Pick Up New Red Club Shirts**

Our new RED club shirts are now available to be picked up by those who ordered them.

They can be picked up from Sallie Comstock. Call or email her at [d.comstock@att.net](mailto:d.comstock@att.net). They are \$15 dollars a shirt.

We also have 3 Large and 1 X-Large available to the first members requesting them.

Note that Sallie will be at the Anniversary Meet at Flint, Michigan, and so not available a few weeks in July.

Thanks, Jim Farris



*July 4 Picnic at Folsom's (Continued from page 1)*

Jim Lewis brought his banjo. He led in singing some favorite songs and entertained by playing the banjo and singing "Chevrolet" ballads. Can't you just hear that banjo right now!



Lee is downsizing some of his car parts inventory and to this end had laid out a selection of parts free for the taking. There were also some surplus supplies from a science program for the Seattle School district that Lee helps with as a volunteer.



The open field lent itself to a game of catch. Not too close to the vintage cars though!



Just in case a person might wonder what purpose a tree or foliage might have there,

Lee has put up signs to explain everything. This spruce tree was there to "spruce things up a bit".

Everyone had a wonderful time.

Thanks to Lee and Carol for hosting this wonderful afternoon.



July 2011 Tappet Clatter

## The 2011 Gail Darby Memorial Strawberry Shortcake Social

By G. Landguth

This annual event was renamed in honor of Gail Darby who passed away last December. Gail always brought the shortcake, without which the strawberry shortcake social would be "short" cake. While we are saddened by Gail's sudden passing, the strawberry shortcake social is a time to be glad, enjoy the dessert, meet with friends, and make more fond memories.

Jim Darby and son made the shortcake this year, and Don and Sallie Comstock brought the strawberries. Their granddaughter, Sarah, helped with the serving. Everyone enjoyed the strawberry shortcake.

The day fell right on Glenn Landguth's 70th birthday. Sallie Comstock presented Glenn a strawberry shortcake with "70" candles and everyone sang Happy Birthday. Turning 70 isn't so bad when one gets to do it with so many friends. Don Comstock even added the whipped cream topping without drowning the candles.

Dave Haddock conducted the "business" part of the meeting.



Jim Farris brought red Club shirts for those who had ordered them. Those people who did not get their shirts at the meeting will have to make arrangements with Sallie Comstock to pick up their shirts.

Dave Haddock presented Jim Farris with a color copy of the June Tappet Clatter featuring Jim's article on the May Breakfast Tour.

George Kowats presented Jim Seiber with the "repaired" Best-of-Show trophy that had

been damaged from the Northwest Meet last year in Silverdale. And Bill Barker displayed the poster that is being made available showing every G & D cover.



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## Garage Nite, June 8th, at Denny Akers'

By G. Landguth

Denny Akers has a wonderful collection of cars and other memorabilia. He graciously opened the doors to Puget Sound Region on June 8th. Denny's special interest is in Porsches, but a quick glance around the place reveals a passion for a wide variety of other cars, toys, model airplanes, motorcycles, and even a 1941 Pratt & Whitney 3,500 horsepower aircraft engine. (The propeller had to be trimmed to get it into the garage.) He started collecting in 1969 with a single Rolls-Royce. His collection grew to the point that in 2002 he completed a 9,000 square-foot steel building on a three-acre parcel of land to safely house the collection. As with any "museum" of this size, one evening is hardly enough to take in everything. Here is a look at some of the cars and displays. Also, there is a nice article in the Jan/Feb issue of Vintage Motorsport Magazine.



## Future Club Events Calendar

From Activities Coordinator Matt Dickinson

Date	Event	Person Responsible
July 17-23	VCCA 50th Anniversary, Flint, Michigan	
July 23	Lee Johnson Dealership Car Show	Dave Haddock
August 18-20	NW Mini Meet, Silverton, OR	Willamette Valley VCCA
August 22	XXX Drive-In, Issaquah, WA	Club Meeting
August 28	GEAA Tour & Picnic, Orting, WA	Ana Maria Haley
September, date to be confirmed	Potluck Barbeque at the Haddock's, including a Tour to their home	Dave & Diane Haddock Matt Dickinson
Sept 12-16	Early 6 Cylinder Tour, Tulare, CA	Jim Farris/Tom Meleo
October 15	Weekend Tour	Jim Farris/Dick Olson
TBD	Board Meeting	Dave Haddock
Early December	Christmas Party	Don & Sallie Comstock

### Jerry and Mary Brownell Celebrate 50 Years

By G. Landguth

Jerry and Mary Brownell celebrated their 50th year anniversary in June. We give them congratulations and wish them many more years of married bliss.

They remembered the day at a gathering of family and friends. They shared in serving each other a piece of wedding cake, in fond remembrance, and just to show that they could still do it. They look just as happy now as in their wedding pictures.



### Bill Damm's SAFETY CORNER

Look out for crazy drivers  
They're not all that rare.  
They shouldn't be driving.  
But still they are there.

Maybe they're drunk,  
Or smoking some weed.  
And usually are driving,  
With way too much speed.

Some weave back and forth.  
They can't stay in their lane.  
They either are side tracked,  
Or not using their brain.

We hope your encounters,  
With these drivers are few,  
And that you pass safely,  
Whenever you do.



## Greenwood Car Show

By Glenn Landguth

June 25 was another perfect day for the Greenwood Car Show. How do they always manage to pick a day with perfect weather? Crowds again filled Greenwood Avenue for miles as cars and vendors lined the street.

One of the first cars we stopped to see was Matt Dickinson's '36 Two Door Town Sedan. Matt and Jim Lewis were talking as we walked by. We stopped to say hello, and Matt showed me his new steering wheel and interior door panels. Final touches on a beautiful car. Jim did not bring his '30. He may have had a problem with it. Matt also called my attention to an



outstanding 1941 Chevrolet at the end of the block. So off we headed. Another special treat we came upon on the way was the restored Oh Boy! Oberto hydroplane. They were test running the engine as we walked by. And you thought that street

*(Continued on page 9)*

## August Celebrations

### ANNIVERSARIES

Conrad and Judy Green	8/4
Wally and Judy Martin	8/4
Dan and Karen Young	8/15
Lee and Carol Folsom	8/18
Dennis and Janice Dynes	8/26
Jim and Roberta Martoza	8/31

### BIRTHDAYS

Janice Dynes	8/4
Roger Orness	8/10
Cathy Johnson	8/11
Sallie Comstock	8/29
Tom Lauderback	8/30
Al Anderson	8/31



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

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## Overhauled 1952 Chevy Bucks at Low Speeds

By Bob Stamnes

An owner of a 1952 Chevrolet with a 235 engine brought his car to Dave Folsom for a re-ring and valve job. The car ran smoothly when first brought to Dave.

During the rebuild, a new carburetor base gasket was installed because an incorrect gasket was on the car. The incorrect gasket blocked the power valve port/hole in the carburetor base, (blocking this hole has a negative effect on gas mileage). Most gasket kits sold now for 1950 to early 1960s Rochester (235 cu.-in. engines) carburetors provide a carburetor base gaskets that are for later cars and that block a small hole in the base of the carburetor. This is likely why this car had a gasket that blocked the vacuum hole. This hole delivers vacuum to the power valve.

Blocking the power valve vacuum port/hole keeps the power valve open all of the time, resulting in excess fuel being delivered to the carburetor and engine under all conditions. The power valve should only open on hard acceleration when the manifold vacuum drops. When open, the power valve provides a richer mixture for hard acceleration.

The car was then tested after installing the new carburetor base gasket. The car bucked during cruise and light acceleration, but was smooth on hard acceleration.

In troubleshooting the problem, it was found that the spark plug gaps were set too close at .018" instead of the recommended .035". Once the spark plug gap was corrected it fixed the problem. (It is important to note that the spark plugs had not been changed or gaps set during the overhaul work, as upon initial inspection they looked like new plugs.)

The reason the car was not bucking before the job was done was because with the power valve port/hole blocked and the spark plug's gap set at .018", the plugs were able to fire the rich fuel mixture. By changing to the right gasket with the slot in the correct place, the power valve was working correctly, but with the plugs still set at 0.018", the spark plugs were unable to fire the leaner (correct) mixture. On hard acceleration when the power valve was open they fired the rich mixture fine.

In conclusion, when one problem is corrected, in this case the carburetor base gasket, other problems can arise, like bucking from an incorrect plug gap.

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*Greenwood (Continued from page 8)*

rods were loud!

A few minutes later we found the '41. It belonged to Jim Lesniak, of Seattle.



Of the hundreds of exhibits, these were my favorites.



*Strawberry Shortcake (Continued from page 5)*

More pictures from the Strawberry Shortcake Social:





## 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](mailto:gklandguth@msn.com)

### FOR SALE

**1934** 1 1/2 T Chevrolet, \$17,000, Bill Johnson, 425-255-6325, [snkshk@comcast.net](mailto:snkshk@comcast.net)

**1952** Bel Air 2 Dr Hardtop. Black with silver top. Show quality. W/w radial tires, dual exhaust, 235 engine, stick shift. Suspension recently rebuilt front and rear including new springs. \$23,500 obo. 206-650-4884. (Previously owned by Gene Gooding.)

**1957** Chevrolet Bel Air Sport Coupe. \$45,000 Firm. Don Boltz, 360-893-5305, [Donnys32@aol.com](mailto:Donnys32@aol.com)

**1962** Corvette. 2 Tops. Completely restored, 327 cu.-in. 340HP, 4-speed, Tan, \$65,000 Firm. Jerry Yoder, 253-307-1910, [jerryoder@hotmail.com](mailto:jerryoder@hotmail.com).

**1967** Chevelle 4-Dr Sedan, all original, 67,000 miles. Asking \$7,500. Jake Jacobs, [JakeLila@comcast.net](mailto:JakeLila@comcast.net), 206-243-7327.

**1972** Blazer. Nice looking, driving and sounding. 350 V-8, auto trans, 2 wheel drive, lowered, A/C, vintage plates, all manuals. Red and ready to run. Pictures available. \$14,000 Tom Lauderback, 360-668-7799, [tslback@frontier.com](mailto:tslback@frontier.com)

**Puget Sound Region VCCA** Embroidered Jacket Back Patches, pristine (never used). There are a total of 3 patches. \$25 for all 3. Jake Jacobs, [JakeLila@comcast.net](mailto:JakeLila@comcast.net), 206-243-7327.

### WANTED

**1926** Touring, Fuel Tank, Bob Starnes, [rstarnes@yahoo.com](mailto:rstarnes@yahoo.com).

**1926** Touring, Tail Light with Aluminum Rim, Bob Starnes, [rstarnes@yahoo.com](mailto:rstarnes@yahoo.com).

**1939** Chevy Coupe Trunk Lid, or '39-'40 Pontiac, Buick, Oldsmobile. Bob Reller, 253-922-2709, [RLRELLER@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:RLRELLER@HOTMAIL.COM)

**1948 to 1955 [1955 1st series ] 1/2 ton Chevrolet pickup** Differential Assembly. Need an extra to set up with highway gears. Gary Barquist 509-636-2133 or [ggary017@centurytel.net](mailto:ggary017@centurytel.net)



### Garage Nite - by Dick Olson

August 10th Garage Nite will be at our friend Tony Zimmerman's in Kirkland at 7 pm.

See your mailed copy of the Tappet Clatter for directions and contact information.

### Microdots

MicroDots, manufactured by MicroDot US, are one-millimeter identification tags made from a high-tech polymer substrate. Every MicroDot manufactured is laser etched with unique information that covertly links assets or parts of an asset to its rightful owner.

For more information, see [http://www.microdotus.com/dyna\\_pages/Products.aspx](http://www.microdotus.com/dyna_pages/Products.aspx).

### Web Links for Area 3 VCCA Regions

Capital City Region, VCCA: None

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

Mt. Rainier Region, VCCA: <http://www.mtrainiercarclub.com>

North Cascade Region, VCCA: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/frameset.cfm?club=northcascadevcca>

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

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

