

THE TAPPET CLATTER



THE PUGET SOUND REGION VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA

May 2015

Volume 48 Number 5

Gears & Gardens Tour

Text by Rod Schein and Photos by Evie Schein



The weather was sunny with an early morning sailboat race in progress as we pulled into the Golden Gardens parking lot in our '40 Coupe. Arriving shortly were Jerry & Mary Brownell in their modern truck (later to play an important role in the tour) Jim Lewis & Linda Wheeler in their '30 Coupe, Bob & Florence Helgeson in their Corvette Roadster, and Dave & Betty Roberts in their '65 Convertible.



Out of the parking lot we ascended up the switchbacks toward 85th St, turning off on View Ave. We could look out at North Beach shoreline and north past Carkeek Park. Then we wound down through North Beach to almost sea level following as close to the shoreline as possible. To avoid construction near the Blue Ridge Country Club we went back up a hill and then down again near the shoreline. Winding through Blue Ridge, Mary remarked later how beautiful the plantings and flowers were. Near the top of the hill we pulled off on a small loop road to take pictures of the group and cars. As we headed toward the exit of Blue Ridge we went past some elegant older brick homes that looked like they were built in the 20's & 30's. From there we



descended down a long hill toward 3rd Ave NW to head north to Dunn Gardens. On the radio we heard that Dave & Betty Roberts' car had stalled at the traffic signal. After a while we decided to leave the Roberts' car and have Jerry & Mary take them in their truck's extended cab to the Gardens. Later on in the Gardens, Jim Lewis and I agreed that 2nd gear had been the preferred choice for our pre-war cars. Mary Brownell will describe the gardens:

The Dunn Gardens are rather exclusive. They have no signs. Even when we were parked and had met the volunteer docent, there was no evidence to tell us the location of the gardens. Our guide took us past some houses and down a long, unmarked driveway to the beautiful Dunn Gardens. Linda Wheeler

was the only one of our group who had been to the gardens before. In 1914 Arthur Dunn bought this 10 acres for a summer home. After his death in 1945 his sons sold 3 acres.

(continued on Page 4)



1967 - Puget Sound Region VCCA - 2015



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 1990 may be registered with the Region.

General meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month, except the 3rd Monday in May, at **Tillicum Middle School, 16020 SE 16th St., Bellevue**, 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM. No meetings are held in June, July, August, and 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/>

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Publication Information

The deadline for receiving articles for the Tappet Clatter is normally by the **5th** of the month.

The Editor reserves the right to edit material in any way as appropriate for wording, clarity, grammar, punctuation and available space. We can accept most electronic formats and hardcopy.

Email copy to tappetclatter@outlook.com

Director's Corner

"From The Driver's Seat"



By Director, Jim Darby

Spring is here and I have enjoyed the weather already. Today was the Horseless Carriage Breakfast in Puyallup. After a great breakfast Al Howe led us on a tour to Roland Klix's house, about 44 miles, with a stop in Black Diamond. We'd been to Roland's for a Garage Nite before but it was good to see his Rickenbacker collection again. Best guess is there were about 70 cars of all different varieties in the collection.

The Northwest Meet prospectus is available and can be printed or let me know if you need a copy. The due date for registrations is not until July 17th, but that will be here before we know it.

I have a letter from National (Bill Barker had mentioned in his update at the meeting that they had been sent) asking for our help and sponsorship at the 2016 National Meet. We'll plan on having this discussion at our May meeting.

I received a letter from Ken Scott reminding us of the judging class he is putting on Monday June 1st at his house. The seminar is from 11:00 to 4:00, and the fee is \$10.00 which includes lunch. If you're interested more information can be found on Page 7 of this month's Tappet Clatter.

Happy touring!

Jim

May PS-VCCA Meeting

We don't have a program for the May 18th general meeting. We will spend some time talking about the tour our Region is responsible for at the 2016 Anniversary Meet. That will not take very long so if anyone has something they would like to share please give me a call.

Al Howe 360-625-8233

JUNE GARAGE NITE

June 10th GARAGE NITE will be at Bob Stamnes' in Seattle, 7 PM. *(address and phone number removed)*

(directions removed)

We will check out Bob's 1927 project and continue the body work demo.

(continued from Page 1)



The Olmstead Brothers designed the gardens in 1915 using many native plants - Vine Maples, Rhododendrons, Maidenhair Fern, Trillium, etc. The gardens have outdoor “rooms”, each featuring a group of plants. One room features

Iris. As Arthur had grown up in the East, he had trees brought in that reminded him of his childhood home. These trees are very old and large now. The Sugar

Maple has cables to strengthen it as it grew bigger and faster, but not as strong in our mild climate. Our docent (guide), Gretchen Lambert, was very knowledgeable about the plants and the history of the garden, so I was excited to be able to ID the Money Plant bloom that she missed. When it is through blooming it forms seed pods that resemble silver dollars but, sorry guys, they can't be used



to buy fuel for your beautiful vintage cars. Gretchen showed us a picture of Arthur Dunn and

his early 1900s Packard. Arthur got his start in Seattle selling salmon from a cart. The seven-acre garden contains three houses. The main house is located in the same place as the original house, and is regaining the sweeping view of Puget Sound and the Olympics, as neighbors

to the West are removing Douglas Firs. Arthur built a house for his daughter Dorothy when she married and she

lived in that house the rest of her life. These homes are now occupied by descendants of the Dunn family. Another ID I made was the Mouse Plant. Gretchen retrieved a cute little brown mouse with a long tail from under the plant and handed it to Florence Helgeson to carry. Later Florence returned the mouse to Gretchen, so Bob didn't have to worry about it eating the upholstery of his Corvette. It is nice that this seven-acre garden has been beautifully maintained and is available to the public.



As we left the Gardens, we had our only brief rain shower of the day. We went back to Dave's car. Bob & Florence went home so Bob could return in his truck with tools and tow rope. Thanks Bob. In the meantime, Jim Lewis & Dave used roadside repair techniques.

With the aid of a discarded beer can, some gas from the fuel filter was poured down the carburetor and the car started and ran successfully. Then on to our home in Ballard where we enjoyed lunch together.



2015 Activities

May	15-17	Monroe Swap Meet
	17	Ballard Parade
	18	PS-VCCA Club Meeting at Tillicum Middle School
June	TBD	Gail Darby Memorial Strawberry Social at Perrigo Park
	22-26	4-Cylinder Tour- Jim Farris lead
July	4	BBQ/Picnic at Haddocks- Dave Haddock lead
	18 or 25	Skykomish Trains Tour- Rod Schein lead (date depending on weather),
August	13-16	NW Meet at Wilsonville, OR - Columbia River Region host
	24	PS-VCCA Club Meeting at Issaquah XXX
September	28	PS-VCCA Club Meeting at Tillicum Middle School
October	3-4	Possible overnight tour to Lake Chelan, Mahogany & Merlot Vintage Hydros & Cars
	26	PS-VCCA Club Meeting at Tillicum Middle School
November	23	PS-VCCA Club Meeting at Tillicum Middle School-Election of Officers
December	TBD	Christmas Party
	TBD	Narnia Train Event- Rod Schein to lead

Bill Damm's SAFETY CORNER

Get out the Chevy
And get out a map
To plan a trip
From where you're at.

Over back roads
And through a glen
Go some place
You've never been.

This wonderful state
Has places to go
With many little towns
To get to know.

Maybe it's a short trip
Or maybe it's long
To discover something new
You can't go wrong.

But when checking your map
Or making a call
Please pull over
For the safety of all.

PS-VCCA 2015 Meeting Treats

May-Glenn & Judy Landguth
October-Bob & MG Stamnes
November-Bill & Sis Barker

Columbia River Region invites you to join us in celebrating
GOLDEN DAYS OF CHEVROLETS
44TH NORTHWEST MEET
AUGUST 13-16, 2015

★ Judging ★ Tours ★ Birthday Party ★ BBQ ★ Banquet ★ Women's Brunch ★
and more!

Renewing Friendships ★ Meeting New Friends ★ Having a Great Time
Columbia River Region will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary
as a Region of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America

Accommodations

Holiday Inn
25425 SW 95th Avenue
Wilsonville, OR 97070
503-682-2211
888-465-4329
Discounted Room Rate \$119—\$129 plus tax
Discount Code: 44th Northwest Chevrolet Meet
Pets Welcome at Additional Daily Charge

Pheasant Ridge RV Park
8275 SW Elligsen Road
Wilsonville, OR 97070
800-532-7829 or 503-682-7829
Discounted Standard Rate \$39.00 plus tax
Discounted Premium Rate \$43.00 plus tax
Complete hook-ups — Good Sam Discount
Less than 5 minutes to hotel (.7 miles)

The hotel is located in the Willamette Valley with close proximity to shopping, local parks and restaurants
Trailer parking is available at the Holiday Inn Parking lot

Website information:

ColumbiaRiverRegion.org



Registration Information:

Osa Whiteley:
360-254-6088
or nwmeet44@gmail.com

General Information:

Mary Nell Mahler: 503-524-1835
or mnmahler01@frontier.com
Bruce S DeFord: 360-695-3070
or dechevy32@gmail.com

Save the Date!

Prospectus and Registration forms will be available in early April, 2015

Puget Sound Region VCCA General Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2015

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at Tillicum Middle School at 7:30 By Director Jim Darby

Welcome: There were 30 members present with 2 guests, Rolf and Michelle Luche. They have a 1931 Coach. Rolf would like some help forming the trim and installing a new canvas top on the car.

Minutes: The minutes from the March meeting were approved as written .

Treasury: Sallie Comstock gave a very brief accounting, with balance declining as expected. The Tappet Clatter costs \$158 to print each month.

Needs and Leads: Ads for the Tappet Clatter are to be emailed to: tappet clatter@outlook.com. The deadline is the 5th of the month.

National News: Bill Barker showed us a variety of changes he has made to the National website and a pitch he created promoting the 2016 Meet at Lake Tahoe. The new G&D has information on the Meet. Everyone needs to decide if they are going to attend by the first of September because the Meet hotel opens reservations for rooms on September 9th. There are only 300+ rooms. They will be filled up fast. Our club responsibility is the main tour around Lake Tahoe.

Garage Nite: The first Garage Nite of the year will be May 13th at Kent Sullivan's shop. See the April TC for details The June Garage night will be at Bob Stamnes' home to follow up the meeting on welding in patch panels.

Activities: Rod Schein gave a recap of the Dunn Gardens tour featuring Mary Brownell, expert gardener.

Horseless Carriage Breakfast Tour is May 3rd at the Puyallup Elks for breakfast at 9 A.M. followed by a tour to Roland Klix collection featuring Rickenbacker cars. Ballard Parade is on Sunday, May 17th. Those participating need to sign up with Rod and take a Hold Harmless form. Contact Rod Schein if you haven't sent him the paperwork. This year meet at Rod's at 3:00 then tour to the parade. There is a smorgasbord at Shein's after the parade. There is a train tour planned for Skykomish in July and continued discussion of an overnight tour to Chelan in September for the "Mahogany and Merlot" festival.

Monroe Swap Meet: Jim Darby will attend the orientation meeting April 30 but he reported that we are only needed for Friday afternoon and evening and Saturday afternoon for two hours for traffic control. We still need to fill a two-hour position on Saturday.

Break: A break was held at several times so we could bid on the Auction items. Delicious homemade cookies, fresh fruit and candy were prepared by Mary and brought in by Jerry Brownell.

Program: This year the auction was a silent auction so each donation was accompanied by bid sheet. Folks entered bid amounts during breaks in the meeting and for 10 minutes following the meeting. When the auction ended winning bidders paid a total of \$175 for their items. The auction went smoothly with only two items receiving no bids.

Respectfully submitted by Don Comstock

11AM to 4PM at Ken's home in Tacoma

There have been several members asking if or when there will be another judging clinic. I am very glad to put the effort into it if I can get at least 20 participants or more to pre-commit. A \$10.00 prepaid class fee will include an afternoon lunch and beverage.

Topics covered:

Judges etiquette.

Explanation of how to use certification sheets, (CDPC, and HPOCF) and points judging.

Portions of the judging manual will be discussed

Hands on with certifications and points judged cars.

(RV spots on site and other sleeping accommodations available on request at no charge)

If interested please contact:

Ken Scott 253-531-5266 kenscott62@juno.com

April PS-VCCA Auction Meeting

Photos by Glenn Landguth



June Celebrations

ANNIVERSARIES

Bill and Sis Barker	6/6
Jerry and Mary Brownell	6/10

BIRTHDAYS

Rod Schein	6/2
Kent Sullivan	6/5
Gerri Johnson	6/20
David White	6/25
Glenn Landguth	6/27
Lynn Anderson	6/27
Sheri Johnson	6/27

Member News

(Removed per request)



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.

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

Bias ply or Radial Tires?

Text by Bob Stamnes

Which style of tire should a person purchase for their car trailer or for their old car?

When I purchased my trailer, I had to decide if I was going to stick with bias ply tires, since two were already bias, or if I should change all three tires out for radial tires. Since I was just getting into this car hobby stuff, I decided to go cheap and stick with bias tires.

Recently I purchased a 1953 Chevrolet with bias tires and have received advice from several people that I should change them out for radial tires, which they say will really improve the handling characteristics of the car. With the bias tires the car tends to move side to side with slight irregularities (indentations or ripples) in the road.

Bill Damm also has questions about which tire is better and how each type of tire wears when over or under inflated. You hear all sorts of opinions about each of these types of tires, like one has fewer flats than the other, the wear pattern changes from one to the other when under or over inflated, etc. (Bill has low profile tires on his El Camino and wondered how they might wear.)

I checked with a couple of tire shops (Les Schwab and Discount Tire) and the result is: Les Schwab and Discount Tire appear to agree on most questions.

Q: Do radial tires get fewer flats than bias tires?

A: They seem to agree that radial tires do not get fewer flats, but Les Schwab thought the steel reinforcement in radial tires might prevent some flats.

Q: Do radial and bias tires both wear the outside tread if underinflated?

A: Yes this is the case. This was a surprise to me as I always thought radial and bias tires would wear differently when underinflated.

Q: Do Low profile tires wear just like any other radial tire?

A: The answers were a consistent Yes!

Q: Do Radial tires give you a better ride?

A: A clear Yes! I received the most straightforward response to this question. Radial tires prevent the side-to-side motion of the car when it hits irregular surfaces on the roadway. This was also proved out when I changed from bias to radial tires on my '53 Chev. The '53 now handles very nicely.

Q: Is it better to overinflate tires or slightly underinflate them?

A: It is best to inflate car tires to the pressure recommended on the driver door. It is best to inflate trailer tires to the maximum pressure stated on the tires. Underinflating can lead to tire failure, so it is better to slightly overinflate than to underinflate tires. Again, it is best to follow the recommendation on the driver's door or on the tire as appropriate. Always follow the vehicle's tire placard, commonly found on the driver's door on later vehicles.

Note: it is recommended, when checking your tire's pressure, to do so when the tire is cold (before being driven on it, as a tire heats when driven on, which increases the pressure).

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>



Tires (Continued from previous page)

Although there is not a recommended pressure on my 1926 Chev driver door and no pressure specified on the tires from Vietnam, I have been encouraged to inflate the tires to 60 psi to prevent the tires from turning on the rims. I have done this for 5 years now without an issue.

I have maintained 32 psi in my '95 GMC van (15 inch tires) and the tires have worn on the inside and outside edges. I just checked the manual and it recommended inflating tires to 35 psi. Manuals recommend checking tire pressures when tire is cold (sat for 3 hours or driven less than a mile).

When I purchased my 2004 Chev van (16 inch tires) from a transit company, there was a sticker on the dash inside stating to pressurize the tires to 38 psi. I have seen very little wear on these tires. I checked the manual on this vehicle and it recommended inflating the tires to 38 psi also. It is amazing what you can find in your Owner's Manual. This is also in agreement with the sticker on the driver's door.

I also found some interesting information in the Owner's Manual for my 2004 Astro Van.

-Tire terminology and definitions---lots of them!

Bias tire: "Pneumatic tire in which the plies are laid at alternate angles less than 90 degrees to the centerline of the tread."

Radial tire: "Pneumatic tire in which the ply cords that extend to the beads are laid at 90 degrees to the centerline of the tread."

-My 2004 vehicle Owner's Manual states; "Don't let anyone tell you that underinflating or overinflating is all right. It's not.

Underinflating can result in:

- Too much flex
- Too much heat
- Tire overloading
- Bad wear
- Bad handling
- Bad fuel economy

Overinflating can result in:

- Unusual wear
- Bad handling
- Rough ride
- Needless damage from road hazards "

I want to thank Dave Folsom for keeping me out of trouble by checking this article for stupid remarks.

TAPPET CLATTER *Classifieds*

Ads will be posted for a minimum of three months (longer on a space-available basis). Please notify the Tappet Clatter Editor at tappetclatter@outlook.com when your listing no longer needs to be published.

FOR SALE

1926 Engine Head, \$100 Dick Olson 425-222-5798

1939 Chevrolet 2dr Sedan, "JB" model. It's in good driving condition. I drove it to the movies a few days ago. It's a good daily driver. Original paint and interior. Drive it home! \$8,950.



Don Hatley
(253) 941-5674.

5/15

1936 4dr sedan parts:

Rear Doors-good restorable condition \$75 ea.
Front fenders-left side \$35, right side \$20
Front fender braces-good condition \$25 ea.
Left side headlight bucket with mounting bracket-good condition \$50
Radiator support-good condition \$20
Frame-good condition \$100

Contact Phil Christensen
509-636-2163
philip082@centurytel.net

2/15

7.50 X 15 Bias wide whitewall tires, 95% tread remaining, 4 for \$100.
5.50 X 17 one tire on 17 inch wire wheel with small cap, holds air \$25.
Two 23 inch wood spoke rear wheels with brake drums and rims, \$40.
Roger Orness 253-312-6561 or r.orness@comcast.net

2/15

One pair used axle shafts with bearings for the 1957/ 1958 Chevrolet passenger cars. \$ 50.00
Gary Barquist Ggary017@centurytel.net 509-636-2133

2/15

1949-50 Chevrolet Many small new parts including tune-up parts, motor mounts, wiper motor & transmission, door rubber, rear fender guards, too many to list here. Roger Orness 253-312-6561 or r.orness@comcast.net

WANTED

1929-30 Roadster left rear quarter panel and trunk lid. Also 1930 LR fender, headlight bar and rear bumperette.
Dick Olson 425-222-5798

3/15

1964 Chevelle SS - any condition. Dave White 206-999-8138 davidcwhite@comcast.net

Set of 4 wheels, 6-lug Chevy pickup, 15", or set of garage dollies. Ken Hovda 509-863-3450. khovda@yahoo.com

FREE STUFF

1942 3/4 Ton Chev. flat bed - 4 speed trans. - rear end- mid 1950. 235 engine. Paul 425-891-8344

From: **Bill Barker** <bbarkerjr@gmail.com>

Subject: VCCA 2016 Anniversary Meet Presentation

The **55th Anniversary Meet Committee** would like to announce some early information about the **2016 Meet** which will be held at **Lake Tahoe in August 2016**.

On this web page you can download a presentation in two formats - ppsx and pdf.

<http://vcca.org/2016/>

It is a short 20-page overview of the upcoming Meet.

It can be viewed from any personal computer.

It will be the official web communication location beginning approximately July 1st.

We hope to see everyone at Lake Tahoe in August next year.

---Dave Cufr, Meet Chair

---Bill Barker, Asst. Chair