

March went by very fast and we are already cruising through April. We had a regular scheduled club meeting and a 50's Cruise Meeting.

Past President Doug Gillies and I just got back from the swap meet at Portland International Raceway. It was preceded by a week of vehicle stress. I had warranty work to be completed on my truck and didn't get it back from the dealership until March 31. Just two days before I needed to be loaded and ready to go. Doug's truck also needed repairs and was not available to tow one of my trailers. Thankfully, another member and great friend loaned us his truck and we were able to make the event with a 5th wheel trailer and a cargo trailer. We set up and had a great time hanging out with old friends, selling parts and buying some too. The weather was 50/50, some sun and some showers. Overall, I came home with less stuff and more money. I call that a successful swap meet.

As I continue on the topic of car maintenance, the weather is changing and the daylight hours are getting longer. We will be pulling our classics out of storage and driving to more events. Make sure to check your cars out carefully prior to hitting the highways. Check fluids, tire tread and air pressure, inspect belts and hoses and check batteries and charging systems. Seek professional help if you need to. Being over prepared is better than being on the back of a wrecker!

Our annual Swap Meet at Clatsop County Fair Grounds on April 9th was another great success that allows us to do our charitable work supporting automotive programs at the local High Schools and Clatsop Community College.

Our 50's Cruise is our next important function and is progressing. we have been soliciting businesses



for support with trophies and the sponsor's contributions continue to flow. The artwork is complete and T-shirts have been ordered and trophies are being ordered. There are still many tasks that we need help with, please reach out to Doug Gillies or myself if you can help.

Please let Linda Uphoff know of any members who are feeling ill or could use a boost with a card or call.

Please visit our website and Facebook sites for upcoming events. If you send Robi Nelson photos or your cars along with descriptions, she can add them to our gallery.

<https://lowercolumbiaclassicscarclub.tripod.com>

Facebook----- Lower Columbia Classics Car Club

We have copies of the 2024 NW Car Events Calendar (The Yellow Book) and it is a great source for upcoming car shows and swap meets. The books are free to our members and you can pick one up when you attend our meetings.

Dorothy Gillies will be taking orders for Club Jackets at our next meeting at Steve Jordan's shop on April 18th at 7P.M.

Find an excuse to attend our monthly meetings, soon they will include slide shows from our events and history archives.

Some of us have trouble driving at night and this makes it difficult to attend meetings. Reach out to other members for ride sharing opportunities, we want to see you at our meetings and participate in attendance drawings and snacks!

Thank you for your continued support, Jim Purdy, President LCCCC 2024-2025

March 21, 2024

The March 21, 2024 meeting of the Lower Columbia Classic car club was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Jim Purdy. Introduction of club officers - President Jim Purdy, Vice President Chuck Loesch, Treasurer Burt Young, and Secretary Nicki Andrews. Visitors - none. New members present - none. Charter members present - none. Life members present - 2. Past President present - 2

President Jim Purdy read the minutes of the February meeting. Mike Matthews made a motion to accept the February minutes. Motion seconded and passed.

Treasurer Burt Young gave the club financial report of the income and expenses for February. He also gave a report of the income and expenses of the Swap Meet. With a few more bills to come in, we made approximately \$6,000. Steve Jordan made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion seconded and passed.

Communications; We received an invitation from the Yakima High School who are sponsoring a car show May 4th. All the proceeds will be donated to a community project.

We received an email from John Lende who has a 1978 Trans Am project car for sale - price \$25,000 to \$30,000.

At our swap meet President Jim Purdy met with officers of the Test of Time car club from Shelton, Wa. Their car show will be August 24th

May 18th - car show in Aberdeen.

Community reports- Membership - Jo Loesch reported that we have a new member.

Sunshine - Ross Getchell had back surgery, Fred Mestrich also had back surgery and is doing much better. Barbara Niemi passed away.

Website - no report. Backfire - no report.

Swap Meet - Charlie Clayton thank everyone who helped at the swap meet. It was suggested that the swap meet stay open until 4:00 pm. There were people coming in after we closed at 2:00 pm.

Educational Outreach - Mark Eide and Wadsworth Electric will be working on the welding ventilation system at the Warrenton High School.

50's Cruise - Doug Gillies reported on the progress of the show. There will be a meeting directly after tonight's member meeting. Nicki Andrews reported that we have 20 preregistered. We have a high school student registered but he is related to a club member. It is the understanding that no club member may enter our car show.

The question was asked does this include children of a club member? After discussion it was decided to allow the student to enter our show. Charlie Clayton made a motion that should questions arise about entries to our show we will address them on a case by case basis. Motion seconded and passed.

Facebook - Chuck Loesch gave a report.

Photographer - Mike Matthews reported taking lots of pictures at the swap meet.

Interclub picnic - Diane Matthews reported looking a several different parks. The only ones that had good parking and cooking facilities were Bruceport and Vista Park in Skamokawa. There was concern expressed about the clubs that come a distance if we had the picnic at Vista Park. Jim Purdy will contact those clubs to get their thoughts on a longer drive.

Club Jackets - Dorothy Gillies reported that she has several people interested in purchasing jackets. A note will be put in next month's BackFire to contact her if you want a jacket. She will be placing an order.

Old Business:

Laptop for the club photos - Mike Matthews reported on the research that he had done on Apple vs PC. After much discussion Jo Loesch made a motion that we purchase a computer for the club from Astoria Best Computers. Motion seconded. The question was asked if we could use a seconded computer? No vote. Mike will do more research on getting a good deal if we purchased two computers.

New Business:

No new business

Next month's meeting will be April 18th at Steve Jordan's garage at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Nicki Andrews

Secretary

The drawing for the evening was won by Dick Pedersen. He rolled it over.

FROM THE BACK SEAT "THE GAL'S PAGE"

I was invited to write for the April issue and decided to talk about my first car.

Coming from a large family of ten kids, we always had station wagons to accommodate all of us. I remember most were Ford, don't ask me the brands because the only thing I remember is that they always had problems. The one station wagon I do remember was a Pontiac Catalina. This wagon did not break down like the Ford wagons did and my Dad would say how reliable it was. Of course, when I was able to buy my first car, I went to a Pontiac dealership. I did not have a driver's license and my experience driving was minimal. My oldest brother tried to teach me how to drive one time. He got mad at me because I was taking off too fast and stopping fast. Not surprising, the salesman told me he could not sell me a car unless I had a license. So, I had to find someone willing to help me learn to drive. A friend that was a student doing his practicum at my place of work agreed to take me out to practice my driving. In return I was to cut his hair. He spent about half an hour with me and said he had to go study. I went back to the dealership and told the salesman that I was ready to take the test but needed a car. He said he would take me. I passed the written test and only missed one question. The driving test was a different story. When I tried to park the humongous car, a Pontiac Grand Lamans, the DMV guy said, "Ok let's go". I thought I had done so good that he figured I didn't need to park the car. To my surprise when we got back to the DMV he recited a long list of mistakes I made and also that when I was going to park the car I had not angled the car correctly to be able to park it.

I told the car salesman I had not passed the driving test, but I felt that if I had a small car, I would be able to pass the test. We went back to the dealership, and he showed me a Pontiac Sunbird since it was a smaller car. I agreed that it would work.

I reviewed the parking instructions in the study booklet and to date, I can recite the instructions. The following week the salesman took me back to retake the driving test. I made sure I did not make the mistakes I had made before and followed the instructions to park the car. To my surprise, I was able to park the car with no problems. This was the first time I had ever parked a car and I passed the test.

Prior to deciding on the type of Pontiac car I was going to buy; I bought a Consumer Report magazine to see the reviews of the Pontiac cars. I decided on the 1976 Pontiac Astre because it was small and gave good gas milage and it was within my budget. Most people bring up the Chevrolet Vega as a similar car. My car was black and had "gold" stripes. The stripes looked orange to me, but the salesmen kept saying they were gold.

I drove this car from San Antonio, Texas to Astoria the summer of 1978. My car was not happy here in Astoria. I learned that if I tried to go up 8th street from where I lived on Franklin Street, it would not go up the hill. That winter the car started to leak and I took it to the dealership. They could not find where the water was coming in.

(continues on next page)



FROM THE BACK SEAT "THE GAL'S PAGE"

(continued from previous page)

I learned not to go up the hill without having a good start from the bottom of the hill and the car leak was manageable. Bryan and I started dating in 1980 and in 1981 when I went to Texas and left my car with him, he found the leak. The water was coming in from a rusted hole in the front windshield window. I was happy and thankful that the car no longer leaked.

I had the car for ten years and sold it to my brother. He kept it for about 3 years and sold it to a friend of his. I loved my first car.

I do have a story about the salesman, but if I tell it, you may not believe it.

Had to end my first car story with a little suspense.

I also I want to add the following car story that was published before by another car club member whose name, sadly, I don't remember. I enjoyed it so much I figured it was time to publish it again.

IF MY BODY WERE A CAR...

If my body were a car, this is the time I would be thinking about trading it in for a newer model.

I've got bumps and dents and scratches in

my finish and my paint job is getting a little dull...

But that's not the worst of it:

My headlights are out of focus and it's especially hard to see things up close.

My traction is not as graceful as it once was.

I slip and slide and skid and bump into things even in the best of weather.

My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins.

It takes me hours to reach my maximum speed.

My fuel rate burns inefficiently.

But here's the worst of it --

Almost every time I sneeze, cough or sputter.....either my radiator leaks or my exhaust backfires!

From Nora Corkill



Historical and/or Hysterical Pictures

Of LCCC Club Members, Friends, and Family

(ps: send in pictures of your fun times to The Backfire Editor and see them posted here to share with everyone!)



**LCCC WORK AND PLAY AT THE
2024 MARCH SWAP MEET**

PRESIDENT JIM PURDY / VICE PRESIDENT CHUCK LOESCH /

TREASURER BURT YOUNG / SECRETARY NICKI ANDREWS / BACKFIRE EDITOR ROSS GETCHELL

/ WEBMASTER ROBI NELSON

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ATTENTION



50's Cruise Needs You!

The 50's Cruise is ready to start signing-up club members for help with putting on the show. Help is needed with: Set-up and take down, parking of show cars, parking of spectator cars, host car parking, show car gate and spectator gate admissions, security and traffic direction, Registration, Raffle, and T-shirt sales, judging cars for trophy awards also members on "stand-by" to help where needed. It is nice to have extra volunteers to address the needs as they arise.

We would like to be able to have volunteers covering shifts from 8-11am or 11am-2pm. If you are going to be at the show, please call Doug to volunteer with any of the areas above. 503-468-0006

Thank you! The 50's
Cruise Committee

PRESIDENT JIM PURDY / VICE PRESIDENT CHUCK LOESCH /

TREASURER BURT YOUNG / SECRETARY NICKI ANDREWS / BACKFIRE EDITOR ROSS GETCHELL

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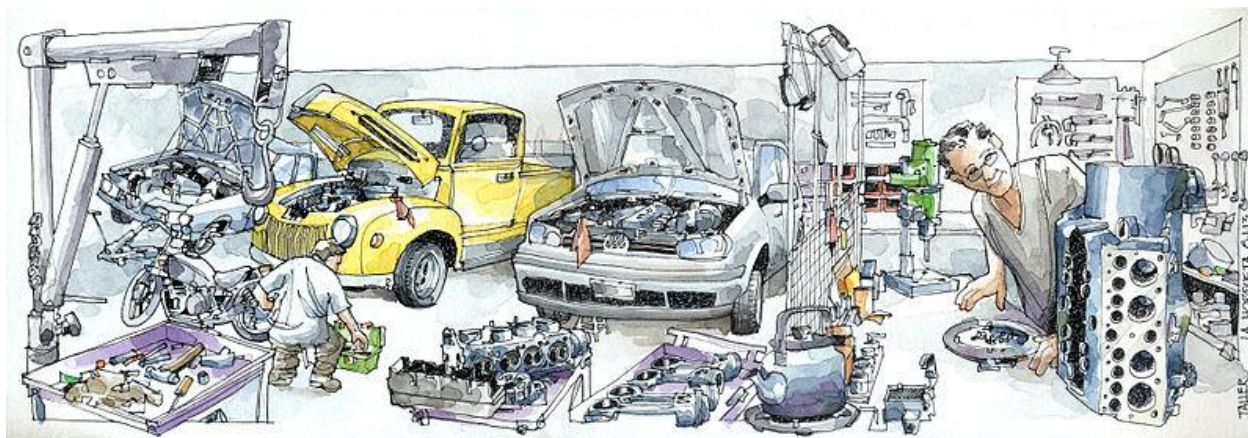
FOR SALE LOT & ANNOUCEMENTS

If anyone would like to order a Club Jacket, Please contact Dorothy. An order is going in April 20. 503-468-0006

SPECIAL ANNOUCEMENT !! WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO SOMETHING FOR OUR CLUB?

WE HAVE NEED FOR ARTICLE'S MEN'S FIRST CAR/ OR SPECIAL INTEREST (ALL MONTH'S) WOMEN'S GAL'S PAGE (SEPTMEBER)

ADDITIONALLY, WE NEED SOMEONE TO BRING GOODIE'S FOR EACH MONTH CLUB MEETING



UP-COMING GAL'S PAGE ARTICLES January Dorothy Gillies, February Patty Getchell, March, Darcy Vanosdol, April, Nora Corkill, May Nicki Andrews, June Jo Loesch, July Judy Atkinson, August Judy Jordan, September ? October Gail Penuel, November Diane Matthews.

Get well to;

Well Wishes, Sending good wishes to all of you who I don't know about. Please let me know so I can send you a card if you need one. I think we can all use a little pick me up sometimes. Thanks, Linda Uphoff (my phone number is listed in your roster)

BRINGING GOODIES 2024

PRESIDENT JIM PURDY / VICE PRESIDENT CHUCK LOESCH /

TREASURER BURT YOUNG / SECRETARY NICKI ANDREWS / BACKFIRE EDITOR ROSS GETCHELL

/ WEBMASTER ROBI NELSON



LOWER COLUMBIA CLASSICS CAR CLUB
P.O. BOX 1259
ASTORIA, OR 97103

New Membership Form

Lower Columbia Classics Memberships are "family memberships". Those living in your home over the age of sixteen, are included for a \$25 annual Membership fee. Your membership includes "The Backfire" monthly newsletter, activities such as organized cruises, the Holiday party, monthly socials, the multi-club picnics, admission to the annual March swap meet at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds, and the car show at Camp Rilea in Warrenton.

Once membership is processed, you will receive a Welcome Packet. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Jo Loesch, Membership Chair
Email: LCCCmembershipchair@outlook.com

Lower Columbia Classics Car Club - New Membership

Make checks payable to: Lower Columbia Classics
Mail to: Membership LCCC, P.O. Box 1259, Astoria OR 97103
(Dues are \$25.00, Due Jan. 1 of each year)

Today's Date: _____ Amt Paid: _____ Check# _____

Name: _____ Spouse or S/O Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ Spouse - S/O Phone: _____

Email: _____

Spouse - S/O Email: _____

"CAR LIST"

Year	Make	Model

Wedding Anniversary Mth: _____ His Birth Mth: _____ Spouse-S/O Birth Mth: _____

Household Members /Children:

Name(s): _____



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 ROSS GETCHELL
 PATTY GETCHELL
 KEVIN KELTY
 CHARLENE LARSEN
 MARGARET LAU
 SARA MEYER
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