



“The month of January didn’t end up quite like I thought it would. It turns out I caught Covid somewhere and spent a week off my feet at home. Thank you for the calls of support and concern. I am feeling much better thanks to “Nurse Dorothy’s” great care. We are planning to test several times before we go out in public.



appear strong and this should be a good turnout. As always, the more help, the better, so please volunteer if you can.

How many LCCCC members does it take to change the lights in the Jordan’s shop? We really don’t know, but we do know how many we used. VP Jim Purdy secured the use of a hydraulic bucket truck from Jim Varner’s garage and with help from Fred,

In club news, the executive board has met and filled our fifth board member position. Ross Getchell was nominated and seconded to be the new member. He accepted the nomination and was unanimously elected. Welcome Ross, the club is appreciative of your service.

Steve, Dorothy, Judy, and myself replaced almost all the bulbs in the shop. Thanks to Varners Garage for the use of their truck as it turned into a fun morning.

Membership renewal is continuing with Membership Chair Diane Matthews getting the 2022 roster put together. Our roster also determines who is on the “Backfire” subscription list, so make sure you don’t miss an issue.

If you aren’t aware yet, the club has a “Facebook” page up and running. Thanks to Robi Nelson, Bill Cook, and Lee Cordner for getting it going.

The Swap Meet committee is gearing up for our first swap meet since 2019. We are scheduled for set-up on March 11, with the swap meet Saturday, March 12. Dorothy and Fred are getting volunteer work schedules out to help in the success of this club project. Vendor reservations

The next club meeting is Thursday, February 17, 7pm in the Jordan’s shop. I hope to see you all there! Stay healthy and safe! Doug



January 21, 2022 7:01 pm

The January membership meeting of the Lower Columbia Classic car club was called to order by President Doug Gillies. Board members were introduced - Jim Purdy, Vice President, Burt Young, Treasurer, and Nicki Andrews, Secretary.

Chuck and Jo Loesch were introduced as new members.

Patty Getchell made a motion to accept the minutes of the November and December meetings as printed in the Backfire. Motion seconded and passed.

Treasurer Burt Young gave the monthly financial report.

Committee reports:

Membership - Diane Matthews reported the she has received lots of membership renewals.

Sunshine - Linda Uphoff has agreed to chair this committee. Judy Jordan gave a report in Linda's absence.

Backfire - Ross Getchell reported that there will be a new membership list available in February.

Website - Robi Nelson was absence but submitted a report to Dorothy Gillies on our new website which is up and running. Robi was able to capture all our information from the old website before it was shut down. If you wish to put your car on the new website let Robi know and she can block your license plate.

Swap Meet - Fred Mestrich reported that the Fair grounds have been reserved for set up on Friday, March 11th and Swap Meet Saturday, March 12th. The mailings have already gone out and we are getting lots of responses. The volunteer sign-up sheet will be available in February.

50's Cruise - President Doug Gillies reported on the progress on the 50's cruise so far. There will be a planning meeting in March. For those members who either help set-up or work the cruise t-shirts will be available to purchase for \$5. Please let Dorothy Gillies know what size you want.

Educational Outreach - President Doug Gillies reported that two wave runners and two generators have been donated to the club. Moneys from the sale of these items will be set aside for our Educational Outreach program. Also the ad for the Riviera has had 200 hits.

Old Business:

We thanked Patty Getchell for her work on putting together the club Christmas party.

The New Year's day cruise with the Beach Barons went to Dundee's in Seaside and was well attended. Next year will be Lower Columbia's turn to plan the cruise.

Steve Jordan reported on the new light in his shop. He thanked those members who helped change them.

New Business:

Judy Jordan reported that a former member, Judy Tontz, is wanting to move back to the area and is looking for a house in Warrenton.

Ralph Jackson talked about Michael Ferreura's membership . After some discussion, Steve Jordan made a motion that the club wave Michael's dues and make him an honorary member of Lower Columbia Classic Car club. Motion seconded and passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Next meeting February 17th at Steve Jordan garage.

7:45pm An impromptu board meeting was held to select a fifth board member. Ross Getchell was asked and he accepted .

Nicki Andrews Secretary

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Club Volunteers Needed!

The Annual Swap Meet is back and your help is needed to make it a success.

Set-up starts on Friday morning, March 11, around 7:30am marking out the vendor assignments in the Arena Area. This task is best done with 4 or more volunteers. Darryl Niemi will lead the group in measuring and chalk lining the area. Vendors start arriving before noon and it takes about that long to get it all numbered and done. From 12-4 volunteers help the vendors find where they go, assist with parking control, and make sure only paid vendors are setting up in the correct area. They are also needed to help load the donations being stored near Clatsop Power and unload these items at the Club Swap Meet booth. Charlie Clayton might be giving you a call to help. Club mem-

bers are on hand until 8pm when the building and gates are locked.

Saturday morning March 12, the fun begins at 6 am. The gates are unlocked and here they come. Vendors check-in, get their wristbands and those that did not set up on Friday, unload. The arena doors need to be opened for vendors needing to drive in, and closed at 8am to keep crowds in control. General admission starts at 8am, Volunteers are needed to take money, stamp hands, and greet the public. The club also has an information table in the exhibit hall to provide the public with information about the club. Volunteers are needed from 8-11 and 11-2. There will be a signup sheet at the February meeting, or you can call and let me know when you would be available to help and which area you would like to be 503-468-0006.

Thanks for all your support, Dorothy G .and Fred M.

FROM THE BACK SEAT "THE GAL'S PAGE"

Craziest Camping Trip Ever

by Linda Uphoff

A few years ago, Ken and I had the opportunity to buy a used RV from his old neighbors. It was a 1981 Minnie Winnie Winnebago and for it's age, it seemed to be in ok repair. Little did we know.

We cleaned it up inside because it had not been used for a while. We took our camping bins that we had used when tent camping and put all the kitchen/camping items in drawers and cupboards. We packed our clothes and bedding, camping food, and decided to go to a campground north of Vancouver, where we were living at the time. All was ok until the rain began. That was on the second day. We had planned to be there 3 days and 3 nights. That didn't happen. The first thing we noticed were small drips coming through the crank out in the roof. We managed to patch that and cover it to keep it from dripping. Second thing that began to happen were little rivulets of water running down the side walls. You couldn't exactly see where they were coming in but they were. Finally the lights began to flicker and we realized the water had gotten to the electrical/battery system and out went the lights. Luckily we had a couple of battery lanterns and camping lamps. By this time, it was getting dark outside and we had managed to divert the roof leaks away from our bedding and covered up to stay warm, dressing in our warm clothing and going to bed. In the morning, we were catching rain in bowls and pans and decided that the trip was over and to head home. Ken noticed on the way home that the brakes were

a little "iffy" but by the time we got there, they were practically non-existent! We stopped at a nice family cafe on the way home and had a good breakfast. When we came out, the battery was dead. A Good Samaritan gave us a boost and we drove straight home without turning off the engine. The alternator had quit working! By that time, we were ready to be home. Not happy about the RV and all its problems. Luckily, a year or so later, we sold the RV to a fella when we had a sale who wanted it for hunting in a permanent spot somewhere. He was told exactly what was going on with it and that we had tarped it to prevent any more leaks. He was happy to get it and we were happy to say goodbye to it. Been more careful since then when we bought other RVs. Moral of this story: Don't trust family and/or friends when they tell you about the condition of a vehicle and you don't know enough to have it checked out. Especially don't give them money.



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!)



Martha, she was fully devoted to all activities within the club. You are missed!

Burt, Tyler, and Larry. Involved and dedicated to the 50's Cruise on the Helicopter pad at Camp Rilea. Larry miss you!



Class Act from Astoria High School

One of our past Christmas Parties at the Longshoreman Hall

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My First Car #1

By Fred Mestrich

I never got to drive my very first car. It was a 1952 Chev. 2 door sedan with a 6 cylinder engine and 3 speed transmission.

It was my first year at Oregon Tech. in K. Falls, in the automotive repair program. Back home in Astoria for Christmas break, there was a Flying –“A” station on the corner of 15th and commercial, that was run by Ed Hanson. I would hang out there at times, as my folk’s store, Chris’ News, was just around the corner. Ed kept mentioning the ’52 Chevy he had in his basement garage that didn’t run and I finally got enough nerve to ask him if he would sell it. He told me “no-but that I could have it.”

The next day, I called Astoria Auto Wrecking and they towed it to my folk’s house on 12th street. Of course, the folks didn’t know anything about it and were a little surprised. I played with the Chevy that vacation and spring term, but never got it running. Summer came and I was asked to find some place to put it. Working at Lovell Auto that summer, they let me store it in a waterfront warehouse. Unfortunately, the warehouse burned down, along with my first car. Thus-the reason that I never got it running.

My first driver was a 1956 Chevrolet 210, 2 door station wagon exactly like my current

wagon. It was the same paint code, engine, and transmission. Wagons were just then becoming “in” and I found one on a used car lot in Astoria for \$100. 00 and drove it home. It was white, had a 235 cid 6 cylinder engine with 3 speed overdrive transmission.

I spent fall term at Clatsop Community College and used it thru Christmas vacation to deliver groceries from my folk’s store during the first big snow storm of the year. I paid for a set of chains and was back off to Klamath Falls and Oregon Tech.

Back at school, I talked Ann, my future bride, into buying a 1958 Alfa Romeo Spider roadster from a classmate. Big Mistake! We picked the Alfa up during spring break and the very next week it blew a piston. She was not happy, as it also caught fire and burned the hood.

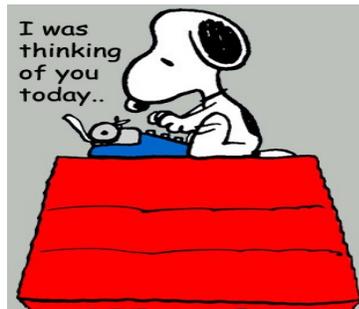
I was told to bring the ’56 wagon back to Astoria so she could use that. I did, but she never drove it and it sat in the same spot as my ’52 until summer. In order to get my wagon back, we got married that summer.

Well-there’s a lot more to the story, but I don’t want to be accused of writing a book!



FOR SALE LOT & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!
OUR WEBSITE IS NO LONGER WITH
HEMMINGS.
ROBI IS WORKING ON FACEBOOK AS OUR NEW
SITE



Get well to Tim O'bryant, Ralph Johnson, Fred Mestrich, Ken Uphoff, Doug Gillies, and Dorothy Danielson. Sympathy to Katie Scarborough

Hello Lower Columbia Classic members, I will be taking over for Judy Jordan who did a fantastic job at keeping us informed of our members who needed a little SUNSHINE

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)

BACKSEAT ARTICLES 2022

January-Judy Jordan, February-Linda Uphoff, March-, April-, May-, June-, July-, August-, September-, October-Nov.-, Dec.-

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 With joy and pure delight
 And may the love you have
 Forever be bound tight*

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