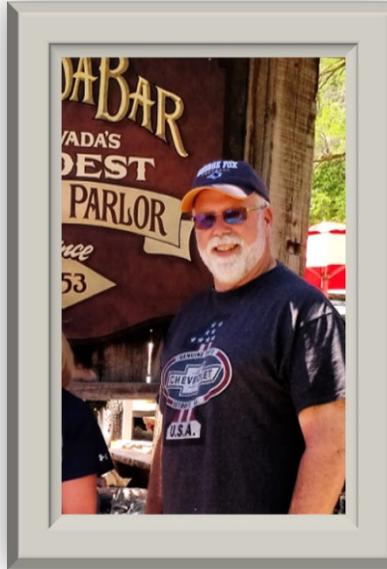


June has ended and club members have started attending a few car shows. June 25<sup>th</sup> about 10 of our members caravanned to Clatskanie's Heritage Days Car Show and again the temperature was in the 90's. Fortunately a breeze made it just "really warm". The new group putting on the show did a good job for their first time hosting a group and the park was full of cars. Warrenton's 4<sup>th</sup> of July was a little different, four members joined other classic cars in a gathering of cars at the city park. The city didn't organize it as before, but they made space available and then you could join the parade if you were up for it. July 9 was the Aberdeen show and I know of several members that made the trip. We were out of town and unable to tag along but hope a stop at Clark's on the way home from Aberdeen was included.

Coming up on Sunday, July 17 is a club cruise/social that will end up at the Matthews' home in Rosberg Wash. with homemade ice-cream. We will meet at Dismal Nitch rest stop in Washington, and depart the parking lot at 1pm to tour the back roads, the covered bridge, and the old Altoona fish cannery before ending up at Mike and Diane's. If you are coming,



please bring chairs and the ice-cream topping of your choice. This is always a good time.

Our July club meeting will be at Fred and Ann Mestrich's, July 21 at 7pm.

The 50's Cruise committee finally got our tents and pop-up canopies together and out of the Jordan's shop. The small group made sure each bag had a top and sides. They are

all now in the club container and I think there are eight 10'x10' and one 10'x20'. Thank you to Jo Loesch for getting rid of the mis-matched/damaged/torn etc. sections of the obsolete canopies.

At the 50's Cruise I got to talk to the automotive/welding instructor from Warrenton High School and we discussed what our club could do to help his program. He said that he would make a list of things they could use and get it to us before school starts. He thought hand tools might be their biggest need. He also said they had been in touch with Harbor-Freight's educational division and that we may be able to get a price break if items are purchased from them for the school.

Hope to see you all soon! Doug



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June 16,2022

President Doug Gillies called the June meeting of the Lower Columbia Classic car club to order at 7:00 pm. Officers present were introduced - Treasurer Burt Young and Secretary Nicki Andrews. Vice President Jim Purdy was absent.

Visitors - Ernie and Liz Henton and Rick Jackson, Ralph Jackson's son.

Steve Jordan made a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting as printed in the Backfire. Motion passed.

Financial report - Burt Young reported that he is waiting on the last of the bills to be submitted before his final report on the 50's cruise. A letter was found from Marian Olson (charter member)with a \$30 donation to the club. The monthly financial report was passed around. There was a discussion as to our club's nonprofit status.

Committee reports

Membership - Diane Matthews reported that we have two new members. She is in need of decals. Steve Jordan has them and will get them to her.

Sunshine - Linda Uphoff has been sending out cards.

Backfire - No report. Ross Getchell is out of town. If you have anything for the Backfire see Ross.

Website - No report.

Swap meet - Burt Young has reworked the final total of the swap meet. The bottom line is \$7,534 profit. The Riviera has sold for \$3,000. That money had been earmarked to go to Educational Outreach.

Educational Outreach - Daryl Neimi was not present. We are in need of a list of items that the high school teacher needs.

Ads - Patty Getchell has submitted thank yous to the Daily Astoria.

50's Cruise - We had 50 cars. Bills are still coming in. Doug Gillies reported that the canopy's are drying in Steve Jordan's garage. We discussed selling the left over t-shirts. The club paid the vender fee for Twin Ranch to be on the Camp Rilea grounds. All aspects of the show were discussed. Using Camp Rilea for next year's show will be discussed by the 50's cruise committee.

Old Business:

Steve Jordan reported on the sale of the Rivera.

Fred Mestrich has injured his back and may have to have surgery.

Jim Purdy has been working on finding a place to purchase club jackets. Doug reported that Jim has found a place in Centralia. He and Doug will be checking on this.

Clatskanie Heritage car show is June 25th. A group will be meeting at the Astoria aquatic center and leaving about 7:30.

President Doug Gillies will be sending out an email.

Warrenton is planning something on the 4th of July at the school baseball field - parade, barbecue and possible car show.

Upcoming car shows

June 19th Planters Day in Woodland

July 9th Midnight Cruizers in Aberdeen

July 9th Hood River car show

Ice cream social Sunday July 17th at Mike and Diane Matthews. Please RSVP if you are interested in going. We will be meeting at 1:00 at Dismal Nitch and cruise to their home.

Mike Matthews shared with us his getting the build sheet for Diane's car, the LeMoms, for her birthday.

July meeting will be the 21st at Fred and Ann Mestrich's home.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm

The drawing was won by Nicki Andrews.

Nicki Andrews  
Secretary

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## FROM THE BACK SEAT "THE GAL'S PAGE"

### DRIVING LESSONS

BY VALERIE PURDY

These are just short stories about me and my dad. My mom, Louise, passed away 1-1/2 years ago, and have been spending more time with my dad. They were married almost 60 years, and he really reminds me of her.

The earliest driving trip I remember is dad taking me and sister, Vanessa, to Mist, Oregon. We went through Vernonia up to Mist. Way back then, the store was still there, and dad let us pick out a Nehi soda and a candy.

Some family trips I was too young to remember. There were always a lot of trips to the beach. There was a trip to Lake Chelan, and we took the Lady of the Lake Ferry to Stehekin. I vaguely remember playing at the lake before we had to get back on the ferry.

I distinctly remember a trip to Carney, Nebraska to visit my mother's family. I was 8 years old, and it was the summer after I had major surgery a year earlier. I was born with a congenital kidney birth defect and underwent a ureteroplasty repairing the plumbing with a plastic tube. Before then I would be sick with kidney infections every few weeks. Long story short, I was in good health when I was 8 for the first time in my life! My dad had a 1930 Cadillac that he sold to pay for my kidney surgery and I remember the buyer paying my dad with \$1,000 bills. When we went to Nebraska with truck and camper, gas was 54 cents/gall. The gas crisis was going on and it was 1976. I sat next to my dad, often wearing his hat, and monitored his speed to make sure he was going 55 mph (so we did not waste gas)! Dad put up with all of it.

When I got braces, they really were painful. I had to wear braces for 2 whopping years! After I first got them, my dad drove me from Mountindale up Dairy Creek Road, and over Green Mountain to Vernonia! I don't think this road is still passable or maybe you

could do it with a jeep. It was really fun and then he took me out for a burger, which hurt with the new braces on. He was trying though!

My dad, Melvin, taught me how to drive when I was 16. I had my learner's permit and we he had me drive down the road where I usually walked or ran to the freeway. I remember him telling me to focus on the white line when there was a lot of rain or people had their bright lights on – great advice. My dad took me driving more than my mom as she had hypertension and I would really scare her! My dad taught me how to check and change the oil on my car, but I never really had to do it. That was sort of a test for the boys I was dating. They had to be able to change the oil without complaining. Jim passed that test! I remember on one driving lesson day, my dad took me to

Last summer I took dad to the "End of the World" car show. We ended up watching the parade and enjoyed seeing many of the cars. He has a bad knee and it is difficult to walk around and see all the cars. Melvin enjoys when he is here visiting and he gets to see some of you when he goes to a car club meeting with Jim.

Dad had his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday last December. He is still a good driver. His hearing is not very good. They did check him at the DMV recently and said it was still "okay" for him to drive. We will take turns riding with him when he drives to be sure he is still safe to drive.



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## WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON?

BY JIM WOOD



Summer is here and it is time to put some miles on that special car or truck of yours. Speaking of trucks, I went over to Ernie and Judy Atkinson's house to check out their new hot rod Ford pickup. There are a few Ford pickups in this club and Ernie's new pickup is a great addition. At first glance it looks like an all original '37 Ford pickup. Closer inspection notices that it is only about five inches off the ground. This was accomplished by removing a couple of springs from the original banjo style rear end and installing a



four inch dropped front axle. The wheels are the original Artillery style Ford wheels sporting new wide radial tires. Another feature that makes the low slammed look is the three inches missing from the roof of the cab. Yeah that's right, a 3in chopped top. Wow what a great stance and custom look. This rig is old but solid as a rock. Perfect body and no rust anywhere. I've got a feeling



this truck didn't originate in Oregon. If it did it's been inside all of its life. At some time or other the original '37 flatty was replaced with a '53 Merc flathead. The 3-2 Holley 94 carbs and a few other tricks puts the hp at about 250. If you know

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BY JIM WOOD



whole vehicle. The gauges are a combination of old and new. Everything on this truck works. Headlights, tail lights and turn signals have all been upgraded to LED bulbs. Tinted windows help keep the sun out of this beautiful and simple interior. Ididit steering column and custom steering wheel adorn this classy but simple interior. Probably the crown jewel is the awesome and perfect grill that these '37Fords were sporting. A beautiful example of automotive

anything about these old motors you know that's a lot from a flathead. I absolutely love the fact that this rig has original style motor and the old truck 4spd tranny, the tube style driveshaft and the old banjo style rear end. The new exhaust system sports headers pushing heat through a pair of cherry bomb mufflers to get that awesome flathead sound that I think all car guys love. Some of the unseen updates include a Vega steering box, an aluminum radiator and fan, modern 12 volt ignition and all new wiring for the



art. Ernie says he's not sure how long he's going to keep it. He wanted a pickup to haul stuff in, but he couldn't bring himself to use this cool ride as a dump hauler. Maybe you can talk him out of it. Ernie and Judy have been club members for a long time and always help when needed.

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## 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!)



Midnight Cruises July 9th 2022 in Downtown Aberdeen Washington was a delightful partly sunny day. LCCCC members started on our way north 6:30am from Astoria DMV. As we continued, we picked up a few more at Dismal Nitch, & Naselle. We made a stop at the McDonalds in Raymond and the Beach Barons joined us for the final distance to Aberdeen. Overall, we had over a dozen members who all seemed to totally enjoy the show, and the chatter with friends. 5 of our members were given a Trophy, and most of us (tradition) stopped at Clarks for ice cream.

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Anyway, I am asking **400.00** or **OBO 503-791-3804** Ask for Bill

**UP-COMING GAL'S PAGE ARTICLES**

June — Sherrie Kelley    July—Valerie Purdy    August—Lorraine Berard    September—  
Gail Penuel    October—Kay Murders    November—Dorothy Gillies

*Get well to; \_Ralph Jackson (2), Sherrie Kelley, Fred Mestrich, Barbara Niemi*

*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 2022**

March-Diane M, April-Patty, May— Oliver, June-Niki, July-Anne, August-Burt, September-Dorothy G, October-Sherri K, Nov.-Linda U, Dec.-Christmas Party

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