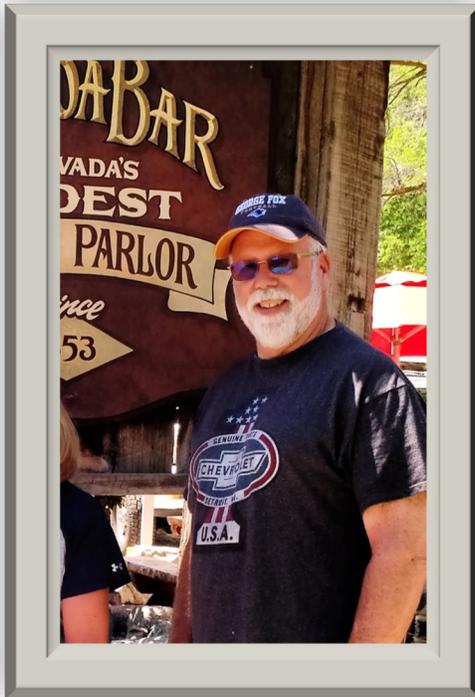




March has arrived and it appears our first Swap Meet since 2019 is on track. Our vendors seem to be eager to participate and it appears we will just about sell out all available spaces. This is being written before the event and I am hoping we sell most of the items donated to the club and we will recap the meet in the April “Back Fire”. Many thanks to Fred and his committee, as well as all of our members who volunteered to help.



2022 “T-Shirt” for \$5 each to committee members and other members who will be volunteering at the event. Dorothy G. is organizing the list of names and sizes so if you would like to help at the June 4 car show give Dorothy G. a call – 503-468-0006.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 18, 7pm in the Jordan’s shop, and we have the “Yellow Book”. Hope you can make it!

Doug G.

Membership renewals are still coming in and hopefully we will have our new membership list done later this month. We send the “Back Fire” to our current membership roster so be sure you have sent your renewals with any information to membership chair Dianne Matthews. She is working hard to keep our list as up to date as possible.

With the Swap Meet over and wrapping up, it is time to focus on the 50’s Cruise. This year the committee is offering our

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY,

Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, and enjoy the ride.



The meeting of Lower Columbia Classic's was held on February 17, 2022, at Steve Jordan's Shop. President Gillies called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Officers present were Doug Gillies, President; Jim Purdy, Vice President; and Patty Getchell, Secretary Pro-Tem. Burt Young, Treasurer and Nicki Andrews were absent.

Bill Denny was introduced as a new member he has a 1941 Plymouth.

Minutes. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the January 2022 minutes as printed in the February *BACK-FIRE*; the motion passed.

Treasurer's report. President Gillies distributed the financial report for members to review.

Membership report. Diane said there are several new members including Ed and Carol Penuel, and new member Bill Denny. Diane will issue a new roster at the end of March.

Sunshine Committee. Linda reported that she sent Jeff Penuel a get-well card and will send one to Bonnie Parker.

Backfire. Ross reported articles are needed in the future to cover "What are you working on?" to replace articles that Jim Woods wrote. Fred submitted an article for March.

Web Site. We are still working to set up a web page. There is a Facebook Page.

Swap Meet. Fred reported that 75% of the spaces are spoken for. Insurance documents were received. Dorothy passed around a sign-up sheet. Fred and Ann will buy pizza at Fultanos Pizza for anyone wanting to join them at the end of set up Friday night @ 8 pm. Help is needed to unload the container prior to the meet; an email will be sent prior. Four 4x4x4 totes are for sale \$25.00 each for club members. Charlie Clayton reminded members it is great to meet, socialize, and sell items at the club booth. Masks are recommended according to state guidelines.

50's Cruise Reunion report. Need to order T-Shirts. Members will be able to get one for \$5.00 if they work the show. Insurance papers received and will be taken to Camp Rilea. Reminder we will need many people to help set up day of the show, June 4th at 6 am; also need help Friday, June 3 after breakfast at Pig N pancake at 9:00 am. There will be two (2) free passes to show drawn at the swap meet.

Educational Outreach. The Riviera is advertised in the NW Classic Auto Mall, no calls yet; it is advertised in the Projects section. Suggested advertising in Facebook Market Place.

Unfinished Business

At a special meeting the Board elected a 5th Board Member it is Ross Getchell.

A Wave Runner and Trailer were donated to the club. Some people are interested. Greg Mestrich is helping with the sale. Doug will contact Jerry to get the Bill of Sale for the trailer. There is also a big Generator for sale and it may be taken to the Swap Meet.

The Valentine's movie "Valley of the Light", flowers for the ladies, and dinner at the Drop Anchor were a big hit. Everyone had a great time. Dorothy to send a "thank you" card to the Beach Barons.

Ralph will contact Michael to let him know about his membership and to bring him to the Swap Meet.

New Business

So far, 10 cars are planning to attend the car show in Joseph. Thanks for the cookies, Ann.

Ross won the drawing.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

The next meeting will be at Steve's shop on March, 17 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Patty Getchell- Secretary, Pro-Tem

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My First Cars #2

By Fred Mestrich

Continuing from my First Car Story: The summer after I had talked Ann into buying the Alfa Romeo, I had to fix it. I was working at Lovell Auto for the summer, and they let me pull the engine in the shop upstairs. When I pulled the engine apart, I found 3 different styles of pistons and took the engine back to the Oregon Tech the following Fall term. I rebuilt it in my room at Craig Hall where I was living. My room was on the second floor, and I carried it to my wagon completed. That was not a smart thing to do. My back has suffered since.

That Spring term I called Ann and told her to set the date for our wedding. We were married that summer and the Alfa was still apart. We got married and borrowed Able Olson's car trailer and towed it back to school in Klamath Falls. On the way back the engine in the Wagon blew up outside of Brownsville. Lucked out and stopped at the right service station as the owner had a Sears rebuilt engine for \$100.00.

and let us use his service bay to replace it. I had the new engine in that night, and we got going, the next morning only to have the generator and voltage regulator follow the engine just south of Eugene. Barely made it to Oakridge and replaced them.

That took care of all our cash. We made it to K Falls without anymore breakdowns. Was able to get the Alfa running at the service station I worked at. We got to drive it for a little while. We sold it and bought a 1967 Volkswagen for Ann. She insisted we finance it to establish our credit. In other words, we were broke. At least I was.

Will continue at a later date as the story goes....

FROM THE BACK SEAT "THE GAL'S PAGE"

NO horsing around....seriously....

So, this is a *BACK SEAT ARTICLE*, pretend I am in the back seat of a classic car telling this story. It is not about horsepower in cars or vehicles of any sort, nor is it about one of our infamous car trips or socials. It is really about a horse.

The horse was named "D" at least that is how I was introduced to her by Katie and Jim Scarborough when Ross and I moved across the road from them. Every morning I would come out our door and yell across the road "Good Morning D!". She would shake her head and acknowledge the greeting. As I walked by her yard, I would talk to her.

Well, just so you know I have a bit of a fear of horses. My experience with them began with my Uncle Gile's race-



This picture is not of 'D' but reminded me of her sweet disposition

horse; we were told to stay away as he wasn't friendly. My next experience was going with some friends to a horse stable and riding along side of the Los Angeles River (all concrete) we had a road that ran parallel, but you could not see the river. We got to an under pass (road overhead with lots of traffic) and my horse named goofy (I think) stopped and would not go under the overpass. Everyone else went on, so being the expert, I went back to the stables and said I want another horse. I was told, emphatically, no way. A guy saddled up and we headed back out. Got

to the overpass, my horse stopped. The guy hit him in the rear, and it started bucking me. The guy shouts out "hold on girly". Ha like I would do anything else. Goofy and I made it just in time as everyone else was coming back. Last time I rode a horse.

Back to "D". Katie asked if I would feed her when they would take short trips. So, I said yes. She was actually very sweet, and she put up with my ineptitudes. However, one time a neighbor yelled

out to me "The horse is down"; I went over, and D was laying with her head down on a slant. Called the vet and Wendy. Almost put her down but we decided to see if she would get up and she did.

The heart of the story is this: I would tell my friends in Portland about my adventures with D.

Four of them came to visit and Ann insisted that we all go meet D. We went over to the fence by the deck. D was in the lower 20 and I shouted to her "D, my friends are here to meet you." She started prancing around and slowly came up to the gate to meet my friends, carrots were shared, and new memories made. Just so you know you don't have to horse around to make new friends...miss you "D".

Patty Getchell

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!)



Do you know who this person is? And where is she?



What a fun trip to participate in 'Route 66



Might as well sit around and eat snacks that Ann brought before the Movie starts



LCCCC members. Waiting for sundown for the movie to start

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Ramblin 'Round

With Steve

So March "came in like a lion", but it has turned into a sure fire lamb as of yesterday and as Doug commented "it is too darned nice to be doing anything like work".

I've been scrambling around gathering up all of my supplies for the Swap Meet, as I man the clubs information booth. In addition to the Info booth I and Ernie Atkinson share a table at which we will attempt to rid ourselves of some excess baggage, things like 6 volt GM heaters, gas pump nozzles, die cast banks and so forth, most of which we hope never to need again. Hopefully someone who does need it will stop by.

In addition to readying for the swap meet, I've been cleaning up my shop a bit in preparation for getting started on restoring the '54 Skylark that's been taking up space for the past 20 years. I'm going to give it the old collage try as far as getting it done so that I can drive at least once. I've been putting together a budget (Marv Stunkard warned me never to do that) so that it's a little less of a surprise as I get into it. So far it's not too much of a shock since I've done a few resto's be-

fore this and have an pretty fair idea of what its going to take. What I have found is that some parts that were not available at all thirty years ago are today. Back when I did my first restoration of a Buick, they were not at all popular, so parts distributors were hard to impossible to find for that marque. Today, that's not so much the case.

In the "good news" department, the Clatskanie Heritage Committee has taken over the Heritage Days Car Show and will present it on June 25th. I don't know what the car registration fee will be yet, but as soon as they determine that and make the pre-registration forms available I will make them available to the membership via e-mail and will have them at the meetings. Another not so far away show will be the Midnight Cruisers Rod Run in Aberdeen, WA. on July 9th, car registration will be \$20. and I will get pre-restration forms for that one also.

The Club has received a number of the "Little Yellow Books" (N.W. Events Calendars) which are available to members at our meetings. Many more fairly local listings for close-to-home events.

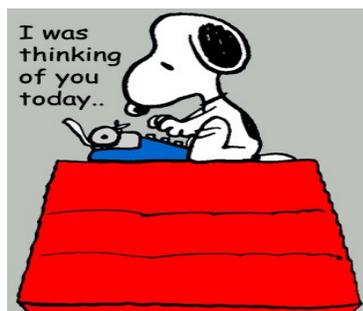




FOR SALE LOT & ANNOUCEMENTS



I have a 1949 Chevrolet car engine, a 216 cid with a 3-speed trans. and a third member complete. I want to donate it to a club member for free or whatever they wish to donate to the club or charity of their choice, in our club's name. It has 72,000 mile on all pieces and to my knowledge no rebuilds. When I got it, it was in the car and ran & drove fine but I just had to change it all out. (more hp). Anyway, I hope someone will save it from the scrapper. 503,791-3804 Ask for Bill



Get well to Margo Gittins, Jeff Penuel, Dorothy Danielson, Bonnie Parker, Ken Uphoff, Ralph Jackson

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)

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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