Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum

Messenger

Volume 23, Issue 2

EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE www.nwcarandcycle.com



April – June 2025

1918 T-HUCKSTER DONATED FOR DRIVING LESSONS, DEMONSTRATIONS



his 1918 Ford T-Huckster was donated to the Museum by Julie Walker. A few of our speedster mentors took the time to tune it up, so now it is ready to help teach people to drive a Model T. It will also be used for displays and demonstrations, for years to come. We can even give rides on weekends, as long as we have a trained individual on site. The speedster students will be doing the maintenance on this beautiful vehicle. Thank you, Julie!

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Letter from the President

By Ron Smith, President

ith the season about to start, or has started by the time you read this, I want to say thank you to all of the volunteers that make the Museum and Speedster Program what it is today. Our Speedster Program is going strong with 8 – 10 students and several new mentors (see volunteer of the quarter article). The kids are working on several

projects, like the pie wagon, '27 Chevy touring, and a Model A. They are learning to weld, make body panels, and assemble engines after machining them in the machine shop.

The Museum is all a buzz with things going on.
Lifestyles is getting ready to support the display
committee with the theme of the year – Movie/TV cars
& motorcycles.

The elevator has made great progress and, if we are lucky, will be in and working by May 1. Keep your fingers crossed all goes well. It is all wired and ready for the installers to finalize. Unfortunately, just because the elevator is working doesn't mean we get to use the upstairs yet. There will be a fundraiser this year to help raise funds needed to get this upstairs finished. This money will be used for bathrooms, sheetrock, framing, floors, HVAC, plumbing, and the list goes on. So keep in mind, we are a 501c3 nonprofit and can use your help and or donations.



This year will be full of fun events. We are open every Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm, and Sunday from 12 pm – 4 pm starting May 17. We are going to continue having the Cruise Night at the Museum the 2nd and 4th Wednesday nights (4 pm – 8 pm) during June, July and August. Of course, this will be held on our own Chandler Field. There will be a food truck if you're

hungry. All cars and motorcycles are welcome, both old and new. There will also be several Saturday car shows this year. The Paralyzed Veterans Association, the mini truck show, the S/K Car Show, and the Heritage Car Show. Please come out and support these club events.

There will also be lots of other events from the partner museums and APMA to support as well. Many clubs meet every month at the Museum and others use the grounds several times a year.

Don't forget to check out the Museum's website and on Facebook for other events and meetings that are happening. Did you know that you can add the Museums calendar of events to your phone for free? Just follow the directions on the events page of the web page at nwcarandcycle.org.

Thank you for all you do, Ron Smith Board President

Thank You Member Clubs for Your Support!

Capitol Area Mustang Club
Early Ford V8 Columbia
Emerald Empire Vintage Auto Club
Mid-Willamette Early Ford V8 Club
Northwest Nomad Association
Oregon Region Classic Car Club of America
Tractor Pullers of Oregon

Packards of Oregon, Inc.
Rose City Motorcycle Club
Salem Auto Club Council
Willamette Valley Corvette Assocation
Willamette Valley Model A Club
Willamette Valley Region VCCA

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Welcome, New Members! And Thank You, Donors!

By Ruth Jarmusz



NEW MEMBERS

- Jedd Pond, Aumsville
- Tractor Pullers of Oregon, Keizer
- Emerald Empire Vintage Auto Club, Eugene
- Northwest Nomad Association, Portland

DONATIONS - thank you!

- Julie Walker (see photo, front page)
- Linda Leek
- Tim Layton
- James Hokinson
- Heritage Car Shows (for Speedster Scholarship)
- Lara Chandler Tiffin
- Willamette Valley Street Rods (for Speedster Program)
- Emerald Empire Vintage Auto Club
- Al & Judy Hall
- Ruth Jarmusz
- Gary LeMaster
- Mike & Rosemary Bostwick
- Richard Irwin
- Capitol Area Mustang Club
- Jim Cutting

In Memoriam: Kay Nelson

By Ty Nelson



ay Nelson, wife of Museum founder Doug Nelson and mother of board member CJ Nelson and Museum supporter Ty Nelson, passed quietly in her sleep on February 21, 2025. She was 82. Kay was born November 25, 1942 and always lived in Oregon, but in many cities. She married Doug in 1965 and raised their boys in Salem. Her dedication and sacrifice to her sons showed when she traded her 60's Porsche two-seater for a Ford Pinto station wagon. (The boys are still apologizing to her about that.)

She graduated from South Eugene High School and then the University of Oregon with a degree in education. She taught at the old Keizer Elementary School (mostly the 5th grade) and was later the librarian at Pringle and Rosedale Elementary schools in Salem where she developed and ran student chess clubs.

Kay was by Doug's side to establish the Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum, and pushed them to include a vintage culture and lifestyles section as well, which is still going strong to this day.

Kay loved the city of Sisters, and after her retirement from the school system she opened a seasonal antique shop there called The

Elder Sister. For nearly 20 years she split her summers between Salem and Sisters, enjoying her beloved Whychus Creek and a hearty breakfast at The Gallery restaurant before running her shop. In her later years she gave her family a legendary tale to tell when she stole Doug's truck to make one more trip to her beloved city of Sisters and show her outlaw side with a fiery sparkle in her eye.

Our beloved Kay will be remembered for her brilliant mind and adventuresome spirit, powerful qualities that will be shown to those she sees next!

Volunteer of the Quarter: Tony Darcy

By Board of Directors

ony Darcy is a retired steel crane maker. His company, US Crane, donated labor to build the new crane in the speedster building. Tony is a mentor in the speedster program and is helping teach the kids to weld. The Chevy pie wagon is one of the projects that they are working on. Tony donated a new Miller Welder, along with an engine and transmission from one of his many ongoing projects at home. He has given time to help with projects outside the speedster program like donating tools to help with removing the concrete from the base of the old flagpole, and bringing in donations for the speedster program, including picking up and storing two donated cars at his place until the Museum has the time and place to begin work on them. And he is the new owner of a vehicle that was recently sold by the Museum. So, if you see Tony walking around, say hi. He is always willing to help.



Lifestyles Area Already Planning for 2025

By Pat Roby

he Lifestyle committee is busy planning our display area for the upcoming summer season. The Museum opens on May 17 and we are featuring "Movie and Television Cars and Motorcycles." We are meeting on Thursdays and are organizing our displays to highlight this theme. So, to that end, we are looking for movie and/or TV memorabilia that anyone would like to loan to our area. We would be interested in movie cameras, phones, lights, period clothing of the 1920's, 1930's, 1940's,1950's, and anything that would seem to highlight the cars and motorcycles of these eras. Also, stay tuned for another new look featuring vintage clothes of these time periods.

As usual, we will be highlighting quilts and will have a quilt to raffle this summer, made by member Joanne Blain and her daughter Robin, (see photo). Tickets will be \$1 dollar each or \$5 dollars for 6 tickets. The drawing will be held on the last day of Steam-Up, need not be present to win.



This beautiful quilt from Joanne and Robin Blaine will be raffled off this summer. Get your tickets before the last day of Steam-Up!

A BIG THANK YOU to our generous members and to the public. We raised enough money last year to buy more new mannequins and other equipment, and supplies for moving our cabinets. And, as always, we can always use donations for our sale table.

If anyone is interested in helping us set up or being a docent for the lifestyles area, please let me know. There will be docent training again this year, so look for the related article in the Messenger.

Contact information: Pat Roby, 503-692-0774 or email @ truckgirl51@yahoo.com

Do you have memorabilia from classic movies and TV shows? Let us display it for the summer!





YOU Can Build Our Future

By Andy Ottolia

our museum has become a hub for enthusiasts and showcases stunning, meticulously restored vehicles

■ that tell the story of innovation, craftsmanship, passion and life. But we need your help to take our museum to the next level!

With the completion of the elevator this summer we are excited to announce our next phase, the second-floor buildout. The brand-new second floor will provide 6000 square feet of much-needed space to accommodate more motorcycles, automobilia and a much larger conference area for educational purposes and special events. There will also be a large library and restrooms. This will free up the existing conference

area on the first floor for additional cars and displays.

This is the last major capital project left in the Museums 20-year plan. To make this vision a reality, we are beginning by raising \$50,000 for the second-floor buildout. Every donation, large or small, will bring us closer to achieving our goal. With your support, we can continue to preserve automotive history and inspire the next generation of car and motorcycle lovers.

Join us in preserving the past while building for the future. Donate today and help us create an even bigger space for history, education, and passion by 2026! To donate, please use the form on page 9.



Benefiting the Brent Strohmeyer Memorial Scholarship Foundation, local area high school automotive programs and other charities











Elevator and Second Floor Progress Reaches New Heights

By Jim Brown



ell, I suspect a lot of you have heard that the Museum is installing an elevator to access the upper floor, however, most of you have never seen the upstairs. It is important to understand all the work and money required that has gone into this project. Well, by the time you read this article the Museum should be close to having an operational elevator. Yes, everything is finally coming together, and the elusive elevator is coming to fruition. However, there is still much to do before people are allowed access to the upstairs. A great deal of our limited resources have gone for the installation of the elevator and this has left limited resources for other projects. Now, with the elevator project nearly behind us we can move forward with getting the upstairs into a useable space. One of the first things we are going to tackle is putting an enclosure around

the stairwell which will allow a safety barrier and allow occupancy so we can show the potential for the upstairs area. With nearly 6000 square feet, it will be a tremendous area to cater to events and meetings.

We have selected the flooring and installed a small portion on the west wall but need another \$20,000 in material to complete the flooring. We also need to add electrical to the outer walls, lighting, construct the bathrooms and kitchenette, and drywall. There is still a tremendous amount to do upstairs, but with the elevator project behind us we can concentrate our efforts on getting more completed. We all at the Museum will be excited to show both members and guests our vision for the upstairs and enjoy the process as we can devote more donations to this effort.

Display your Dedication by Diving into Docent Duty

By Pat Roby

he Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle
Museum is an organization that operates on
volunteer participation. As such, there are no paid
positions, and this is one of the aspects that helps keep
our museum financially sound and viable. Our successful
programs include the speedster shop, lifestyles, library,
vintage organ, summer cruise-ins/car shows, and our
summer car and motorcycle displays. However, the one
program that needs more volunteer hours donated is
our docent program.

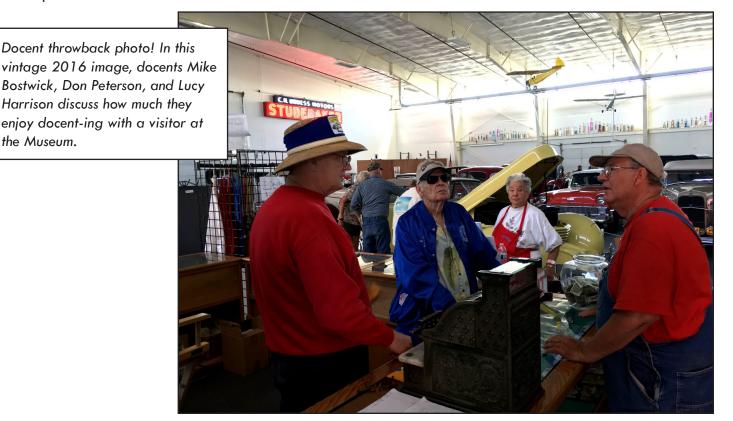
Finally, I would like to invite our members to consider taking the docent training classes being offered this May. The dates are May 10 and May 15. This class is being offered to inform and train members who will become our link to the public. This link is so important in growing our connection to all our membership and ultimately our public.

Volunteer docent opportunities are available on weekends only, starting May 17th and continuing through the end of September. Times are usually in 4-hour blocks on Saturday, 9am-4pm and on Sundays, Noon-4pm.

On Saturday, May 10, the class will be from 10am-Noon with coffee and doughnuts provided. The second class will be held on Thursday, May 15, from 11am-1pm, with a pizza lunch provided. Both classes are free and will be held at the Museum. You only need to attend one class; however, you are welcome to attend both if you prefer.

The class will be the same in each session and will include safety training, information about the security of the building, and knowledge about this year's displays. Additionally, it will include what to do when you come on duty and what to do at the end of your shift. Information about making sales at the gift shop is also on the agenda. There will be handouts and opportunities to ask questions as well.

I can't stress enough how vital our docents are to the survival of our museum. Please consider this opportunity and call me at 503-692-0774 or email me at truckgirl51@yahoo.com to sign up for the class. Please RSVP as soon as you can so we have enough food and handouts. Hope to see you soon!



DONATION AND MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail this form, along with your payment, to:

Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum PO Box 15 Salem, OR 97308-0015

Contact me regarding volunteer opportunities



Questions? Call Ron Smith at 503-931-7879 or nwvcmmpres@gmail.com Name Occupation (current or past) Spouse/significant other Address City, State, Zip E-mail Phone numbers (Home) (Cell) **DONATION** in the amount of \$_____ Membership levels: SPECIAL 3 years for \$100 Standard membership, \$40 a year Club membership \$200 for first year, \$100 each year after Lifetime membership, \$10,000 (one-time fee, includes family) Tell us about your vehicle(s) and interests: ☐ I would prefer to receive all correspondence via email

The Museum also accepts cars and motorcycles to display and to sell.

These donations are used to help build the endowment fund that will help support the Museum in the future.

Speedster Report

By Gary Dennis

inter term is going well. We have eight students and a full contingent of skilled mentors. We will lose one of our students to graduation, Jaxon Camillo. Jaxon turned out to be a quick learner and had outstanding hand/eye coordination. He is anxious to start homebuilding with his uncle in Idaho. We'll miss him.

Daniel Porter created an opening in his work schedule to guide the students in the skill of forming (from scratch) the patch panels for the "A" coupe' body. That session went very well with mentors learning alongside students (see pictures). Thank you, Daniel.



With the shelving system in place, better organization of the shop is taking place under the leadership of Jeremy Scholz.

We plan to have one of the MGB engines assembled and on the run-stand making noise by the end of the school year. That we will record on video!

As always, thanks to our mentors Don Blain, Jack Adams, Arlen Buck, Doug Cody, Les Layton, Jeremy Scholz & Tony Darcy. You make all the difference!



Mentor Doug Cody teaches a student engine adjustments. The 1929 Model A engine and chassis were rebuilt by the students. Coupe body behind them awaits restoration.



THIS IS IT! THE CALENDAR YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

2025 SUMMER CALENDAR

ALL CLUB MEETINGS ARE IN THE NELSON BUILDING UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. ALL ARE WELCOME!



April 2025

- 2 Willamette Valley Model T Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 3 Willamette Valley Corvette Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 8 Oregon Tractor Pull Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 10 Willamette Model A Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 12 Cherry Blossom Cruise/Poker Run and Open House, 12 – 4 pm (see page 14)
- 16 Early Ford V8 Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 17 NWVCMM Board Meeting, 2 4 pm

May 2025

- 1 Willamette Valley Corvette Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 7 Will. Val. Model T Club Mtg, 6:30 8:30 pm
- 8 Willamette Model A Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 10 Rose City Motorcycle Club Event, 3 8 pm
- 13 Oregon Tractor Pull Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 15 NWVCMM Board Meeting, 2 4 pm
- 17 Steam-Up for Kids, Powerland, 9 4 pm
- 21 Early Ford V8 Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 31 Studebaker Club Picnic, Chandler Field, All Day

June 2025

- 4 Will. Val. Model T Club Mtg, 6:30 8:30 pm
- 5 Willamette Valley Corvette Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 7 PVA Car Show, Chandler Field, All Day
- 10 Oregon Tractor Pull Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 11 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field,4 8 pm
- 12 Willamette Model A Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 18 Early Ford V8 Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 19 NWVCMM Board Meeting, 2 4 pm
- 25 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field, 4 8 pm
- 28 Trolley Days, All Day

July 2025

- 2 Will. Val. Model T Club Mtg, 6:30 8:30 pm
- 3 Willamette Valley Corvette Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 8 Oregon Tractor Pull Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 9 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field,4 8 pm
- 10 Willamette Model A Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 12 Oregon Tour Nelson Bldg and Chandler Field, All Day
- 16 Early Ford V8 Club Mtg, Nelson Bldg, 6 8 pm
- 17 NWVCMM Board Meeting, 2 pm 4 pm
- 23 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field, 4 8 pm
- 26 Great Oregon Steam-Up, Powerland, All Day
- 27 Great Oregon Steam-Up, Powerland, All Day

August 2025

- 2 Great Oregon Steam-Up, Powerland, All Day
- 3 Great Oregon Steam-Up, Powerland, All Day
- 6 Will. Val. Model T Club Mtg, 6:30 8:30 pm
- 7 Willamette Valley Corvette Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 9 S-K Car Show, Chandler Field, All Day
- 12 Oregon Tractor Pull Mtg, 6 pm 8 pm
- 13 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field,4 8 pm
- 14 Willamette Model A Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 20 Early Ford V8 Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 21 NWVCMM Board Meeting, 2 4 pm
- 27 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field,4 8 pm

FROM THE FIELD

Brickyard Sells its Most Valuable Race Cars

By Andy Ottolia

bout 15 years ago, I had the privilege of touring the Indianapolis 500 Motor Speedway and its museum. This is hallowed ground for American motorsports, and I was so impressed with their collection. The "Brickyard" as it is known has history dating back to 1909 and the collection showcases many of the Indy 500s past winners. So in early 2025, when I heard the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum was going to auction 11 exceptional race cars, aiming to raise \$100 million I was shocked. Selling their most valuable cars? What were they thinking? How could national treasures of such value be sold off to foreign shores? Whether you agree or not the move was



The 1964 Ferrari 250 LM won the 24 hours of Le Mans in 65 and fetched \$22 million dollars

financial and to create a large enough endowment to ensure a sustainable future. Remember, 60 years ago when these cars were donated to the Museum, they were just used race cars. Today race cars of such historic significance have values that have hit the stratosphere.

The auction's highlight was the 1954 Mercedes-Benz W 196 R Stromlinienwagen, driven by legends Juan Manuel Fangio and Stirling Moss. Sold for \$53 million at the Mercedes-Benz Museum in Stuttgart, Germany, it set a new record for the most expensive Grand Prix car ever sold.

Another notable sale was the 1964 Ferrari 250 LM, which won the 1965 24 Hours of Le Mans with drivers Masten Gregory and Jochen Rindt. This iconic vehicle fetched \$22 million at an auction in Paris. Other significant cars included the 1966 Ford GT40 Mk II, known for its aerodynamic design and racing pedigree, and the 1965 Spirit of America Sonic I, which set a land speed record exceeding 600 mph. These vehicles, among others, were auctioned in Miami, contributing to the Museum's fundraising efforts.



The proceeds from these auctions are earmarked for creating a substantial endowment fund to ensure the Museum's long-term sustainability. This funding will support the acquisition of additional Indy 500-related cars and artifacts, as well as the restoration and preservation of its extensive collection.

Hopefully this move will secure its future as a premier cultural destination for motorsport enthusiasts.

If you have not visited, make sure you put it on your bucket list.

The Most Expensive Car in the World: This 1954 Mercedes Benz Silver Arrow Streamliner sold for \$53,000,000. Yes, dollars!

FROM THE FIELD

We Think We "Auto" Have Another Joke from Ruth

Collected by Ruth Jarmusz

t a recent computer exposition, Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated: "If General Motors had kept up with the technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25.00 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon."

In response to Bill's comments, GM allegedly issued a press release stating: If General Motors had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics:

- For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash twice a day.
- Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
- Occasionally your car would die on the freeway
 for no reason. You would have to pull over to the
 side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off
 the car, restart it, and reopen the windows before you could continue. For some reason, you would
 simply accept this.
- Occasionally, executing a maneuver such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
- Apple would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive but would run on only five percent of the roads.
- The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single "General Protection Fault" warning light.
- The airbag system would ask "Are you sure?" before deploying.
- Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.
- Every time GM introduced a new car, car buyers would have to learn to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.

From: https://www-users.york.ac.uk/~ss44/joke/crash.htm

Not a Joke: Please Reconsider Your Unsolicited Donations

by Volunteer Librarian Ruth Jarmusz

he Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle
Museum always appreciates your coordinated
donations of vehicles, motorcycles, car parts and
rare books or hard-to-find magazines. However, we
have been getting anonymous book and magazine
donations as well as unneeded items being dropped
off in the gift shop. Please, before you donate any
items check with the Museum Board President Ron at

971-338-8657 or nwvcmmpres@gmail.com. Book and magazine donations are not presently being accepted, we are very overwhelmed! If you do have books you feel are rare and should be considered for the Library collection, contact the Museum Librarian, Ruth at readingsgr8tfun@yahoo.com or at 909-554-0584. Thank you for your cooperation!



FROM THE FIELD



96th Annual

Salem Auto Club Council

Cherry Blossom Drive & Poker Run

Saturday April 12, 2025 9am to 2pm



Cars, Trucks & Motorcycles All Welcome!

This is not a race. Take your time.

Enjoy a beautiful drive through the Willamette Valley visiting six interesting stops for the Poker Run

New Start at:

Harbor Freight parking lot - west end (at the old Costco)
1010 Hawthorne Ave. SE, Salem, OR 97301

Registration from 9am to 11am

Bring canned food or cash donation for Marion Polk Foodshare

Cost: \$5.00 per poker score card

Best 3 hands win!

1st place - \$100. 2nd place - \$75. 3rd place - \$50

Portion of the proceeds go to a local charity

(Bring food or cash donation & be entered in a drawing)

Thanks to:



For more info call Russ Strohmeyer 503-930-8976

12TH ANNUAL

CASCADE CAR SHOW

10226 MARION RD NE, TURNER, OR 97392
★ ALL MAKES AND MODELS WELCOME ★



★ MAY 10, 2025 ★

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE SENIOR ALL NIGHT PARTY

SILENT AUCTION & ★ 50/50 RAFFLE ★ FOOD TRUCKS OPEN AT * 8AM *

★ REGISTRATION ★
\$15 PER VEHICLE
PRE-REGISTRATION MAILED BY

* FEATURING *
DJ RUSS STROHMEYER

\$20 AT THE GATE

* VENDORS *

----- STUDENT MADE AWARDS -----

CONTACT JEFF SCHNEPP: 5035022520 / JEFF.SCHNEPP#EMERYANDSONS.COM WENDI MCNITT: 5039495032 / WENDIMCNITT#AOLCOM



"EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE"
P.O. Box 15 • Salem, OR • 97308-0015

The NW Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum is at Powerland Heritage Park, off Brooklake Road, west of 1-5.

1-5 Exit 263, Brooks

10 minutes north of Salem 30 minutes south of Portland

www.nwcarandcycle.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WEEKLY WORK DAYS
Thursdays, 9 am - 2 pm.
Everyone is welcome to
come help!

MEMBER/BOARD MEETINGS are the 3rd Thursday of each month, 2 pm at the Nelson Exhibit Hall. Everyone is welcome!

FULL CALENDAR ON PAGE 11

SUMMER HOURS BEGIN MAY 17

Saturdays 10 am - 4 pm Sundays 12 - 4 pm

CRUISE NIGHTS AT THE MUSEUM

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday during June, July, August 4 – 8 pm Food truck on site!