

Messenger

"EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE"

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SPEEDSTER STUDENTS, BLUE SKIES, AND A MODEL T



Clockwise, from left: Speedster students Isaac, CJ, Gabe, Damien, and Josiah enjoy a ride in a Model T from mentor Don Blain. The Speedster Program, now in its 8th year, has become one of the Museum's shining examples of education and outreach. (Photos by Ed Weber)

The Speedster Program has had steady attendance so far this year with an average of seven students, including Salem Keizer and home-schooled students. We anticipate continued good turnout starting in the new year.

We have three major projects that we are working on when students and mentors are available. Our hope is to see some of them completed during this year's classes. All of the students have had a chance to drive a Model T Ford this year. That is always a big highlight for the students.

The speedster team is looking forward to the library and computer area, also a place to view films and slides and draw blueprints of projects. We have many pictures of members of the classes from year to year that can be displayed.

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Letter From the President

By Tom Ruttan

Things have quieted down a bit at the museum with the winter months upon us. Quieter but certainly not without activity. The 6th annual Movie Night was held on Friday, December 2nd to a good size group in attendance. This is a good event to come and visit with museum friends, make a few new acquaintances and enjoy seeing old movies and videos on topics about vintage cars and motorcycles. The Speedster Program for the newest batch of high school students is also moved into high gear this time of year. We have a very good turnout of students again this year with the home school students making another good showing. We have many projects to keep everyone busy this year and plan to wrap up a couple of the Speedster projects this term along with other on-going activities. Come by most any Thursday and see what is going on and lend a helping hand if you are interested. I am happy to note that Steve Johnson returned to the museum this fall and has resumed his duties as Museum Board Chairman. His plans that took him away this summer changed and we are very happy to have him back.

With the ending of the summer vehicle displays, the exhibit hall now has cars that are being stored for the winter; both museum cars and members vehicles. This is a great source of revenue for the museum to help pay for the utilities and other museum expenses. If you are interested in storing your vehicle for the winter, it's a great deal: only \$50 per month for dry, heated and secure storage. If interested, contact Doug Nelson or myself.

Speaking of summer displays, the Display Committee is already thinking about next summer's display. We are looking for ideas for display themes and interesting vehicles so if you have any ideas or suggestions or would be interested in displaying your vehicle, contact Doug, Steve Johnson or myself.



The new addition to the front of the exhibit hall is continuing to progress well. The exterior shell is just about done. The sprinkler system has been installed and signed off and insulation of the exterior walls is planned to be installed very soon. Gary LeMaster & crew are looking at some changes to the location of the front door so while that is being addressed and the front doors are being assembled there will be plywood put up over the front door opening temporarily to secure that part of the building. Steve and others are working very hard to secure funding through grants and donations for doing the interior of the new addition. The Murdock Foundation grant application is pending and we hope to hear back from them after the first of the year.

All the best,
Tom Ruttan

Dave Hansen Donation Arrives at the Museum

By Tom Ruttan

Due to the lack of storage space because of the summer displays in the Exhibit Hall and the construction underway in the new addition, I have been storing Dave Hansen's donation of motorcycle and car literature and collectables in my shop since the deal for Dave's donation was completed last June (2016). Recently some safe and secure storage area became available in the main Exhibit Hall so all 77 boxes were moved there in early December. This will allow us to set up some tables as work space so we can open up the boxes and start going through and sorting the books, magazines, papers and collectables. This is a significant addition to the museum's Fern Hellie Library and will provide us with some great reference material for both vintage motorcycles and cars in addition to display items that will add to our museum displays. Just to give you a snap shot of what is in this collection, here is a sample of some of the items: We will start sorting through this collection after the first of the year. Anyone interested in helping, please give me a call.

Motorcycle Literature

Honda 500 Grand Prix MC Wins – Oxely
 Motorcycling Chronicles, 100years – Mitchell
 Motorcycle Service & Setup – Robinson
 Bimoto – Sarti
 Classic Motorcycles – Willoughby
 Moto MV Agusta – Colombo
 The Harley Davidson Century
 Classic British Motorcycles – Wilson
 Norton Rotaries – Peskins
 A Century of Japanese Motorcycles – Ganneau
 Velocettes, MSS to Thruxton – Burris
 Indian Motorcycles – Hatfield
 Many other motorcycle magazines, shop manuals,
 advertisement brochures, etc.

Automobile Literature

Encyclopedia of American Cars – Vivian
 Catalog of British Cars. '45 – '75 – Culshaw
 Extraordinary Automobiles – Uann
 Bonneville Salt Flats – Lepp
 American Motors, 1902-1987 – Gunnell
 Japanese Exotic Cars – Doo
 Duesenberg B6 – Malks
 Rolls Royce & Bentley – Woodenberg

...Plus many other display-worthy items and collectables!



The impressive, yet somewhat imposing, collection of motorcycle and automobile literature and collectables donated by Dave Hansen. Now in the Museum, we are happy have your assistance with unpacking and sorting through this treasure trove! Contact Tom Ruttan if you can help.

Tribute to Jesse Robinson, Speedster Student and Friend

June 18, 1992 — November 16, 2016

By Dean Lohrman

On November 16, 2016 the Museum lost a very strong ambassador to our Speedster Program as a result of a one-car auto accident. Jesse Robinson will be missed.

Jesse Robinson started high school like an alarming number of teenagers today, frustrated and disenchanted. Poor attendance, lack of focus, and unwillingness to follow the rules were an ongoing issue. By the end of his sophomore year Jesse had completed 2 classes for 1 credit. The average student his age should have 10 classes for 6 credits. Needless to say, Jesse was on track to drop out and not get a diploma. After getting kicked out of South Salem High School, Jesse was forced into enrolling at Roberts High School (district alternative school). Still not convinced he wanted or needed to be in school, he attended a day or two a week. Fortunately for him, on a day he chose to attend, Doug Nelson and Dean Lohrman did a presentation on a new program sponsored by NWVCM (Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum). Students from Roberts High would be given the opportunity to work alongside retired mentors restoring antique cars.



Reluctantly, Jesse got involved and quickly developed a close relationship with several of the mentors. After attending about 3 times, Jesse's overall attitude seemed to change. He was at school every day, assignments were



Jesse (left, behind wheel) shares proper speedster posture to a fellow student.

being completed and most notably, he was starting to willingly listen to advice. Going into his senior year, Jesse managed to catch up on credits and position himself to graduate on time. Attendance was no longer an issue, missing 10 days the whole year (7 of the 10 days due to the passing of his mother). Continuing to develop his automotive skills and graduating from high school became Jesse's main focus throughout his senior year. Shortly after graduation (with the help of a mentor) he landed a part-time job at an automotive machine shop. Within eight months the position changed to full-time. Because of his hard work and determination, the job was offered to Jesse.

In honor of Jesse's hard work, dedication, and commitment to the Speedster Program, our board voted to name the shop inside the garage building after him. A banner was hung in December with photos of Jesse and the name "Jesse's Shop." The banner was printed by 1 Day Signs in Salem. Owner Mark Klar waived all costs for the banner, noting his support of the Museum and the Speedster Program.

Mentors Remember Jesse

Compiled by Ed Weber

Dean Lohrman: "Throughout the ten years Jesse Robinson has been an ambassador for what the Program represents."

Bert Harrison: "I have great pride in Jesse Robinson for turning his life around and becoming a model person and it started with our help at our automotive teaching classes. It was my fortune to be his first mentor. His passing was a huge loss for all of us that respected and loved him."

Ed Weber: "With every task he was assigned, Jesse challenged himself to do his best job. He was quick to help other members of the Speedster Team."

Don Blain: "I had several conversations with Jesse and most were of the projects he would like to complete. One was finish High School, and another to build the Ford car that was his grandmother's. He was working on a 650-700 horse power race engine that he showed to me in its various stages of development."

The Speedster Program was developed by the Museum's educational committee as an outgrowth of their successful ongoing High School Car Show and Shine. The committee wanted a program that would interest younger generations in the restoration and preservation of Vintage Automobiles and they designed the program to achieve these results.

Since the Speedster Program was created in 2008, the focus has been to give at-risk teenagers the opportunity to:

1. Create an interest and develop basic skills in automotive mechanics, especially in the restoration and preservation of vintage automobiles.
2. Enable students to have a positive relationship with an adult mentor and with other members of the Speedster Team.
3. Develop positive social and life skills.
4. Turn their lives around.

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Adopt-a-Vehicle Program Still Has Cars Available

By Mike Bostwick

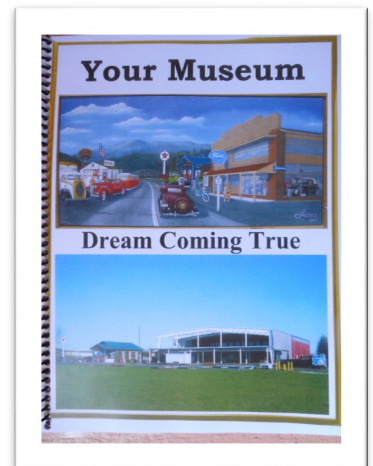
Please take a moment to consider participating in the vehicle adoption program. It is very important to your museum to have the vehicles operating. Thanks to the few that called so far!

This program is one where members would adopt a vehicle and get it operational and then maintain it on a quarterly basis. If called upon, you would get to drive the vehicle around Powerland and at events at other locations. (For example, the 1909 Cadillac last year was worked on by a group of members and went to Forest Grove and Northwest Concourse and was driven around during Steam-Up). As many of you know, the more the vehicle is maintained, the more valuable it is and the more fun it is to drive for everyone's enjoyment! Please look at the list in our last issue and see if you may be interested in adopting one and taking care of it. There will need to be a lead member just to record the work and make the decisions. There will be some funds available for the program but whatever can be donated will help. If interested or if you have any questions, please call Mike Bostwick at 503-245-5444.

Construction Photo Booklets for Sale

By Ed Weber

At the December 2 "Movie Night" the Museum made photograph construction booklets for sale for the first time. These booklets contain 31 pages with 57 full color photographs that chronicle the construction of the "Nelson Exhibit Hall" starting with the site preparation in the fall of 2005 and through November of this year. Many of the photos feature Museum members volunteering their skills at various jobs such as driving vibrating rollers, shoveling gravel, installing sheathing, flooring and moisture barriers. There is a limited supply of these booklets and they can be ordered by contacting Ed Weber at edweber10@comcast.net or by calling 503-949-4778. These booklets are designed so that additional pages can be added as the construction proceeds to its final completion in 2017, if the owners desire.



Update for the Ladies

By Joanne Blain and Rosemary Bostwick

Even though the ladies have put their display area to bed for the winter, we are looking and working towards what we will do in our area in 2017.

The ladies have already started on a new quilt to be raffled off in 2017. Be prepared to buy your tickets. You might be the lucky winner. Funds from the raffle go to the Museum's Building Fund. We would like to see our building expansion finished in 2017.

We have also chosen "collections" as the topic for the 2017 display. If you have anything that would be of interest to the viewing public we would like to hear from you. We will accept all different kinds of items and will be displaying like items together in group settings. If you have something you would be willing to loan for display between May and October please contact Joanne Blain at 503-585-8078 or Rosemary Bostwick at 503-235-5444 to see if your collection can be used and you wouldn't mind having it on display for the summer.

*The Poetry Corner***Here's a Tip for Ya, Dearie**

By Martin Doerfler

Please don't call me Sweetheart
 I'm only here for pie and coffee, nothing more
 and the decaf with cream is sufficient reminder
 that I'm an old man
 And no, I have not come from Bingo
 or the Lawrence Welk tribute at the casino

lies the mind of a young swain
 a romantic lunatic, a poet
 who conjures angels from crows
 racing cars from rusty tin pots
 and needs no confirmation
 that the disguise is perfect

Please don't call me Darlin'
 how can you know
 that below the fringe of dryer lint
 behind the acre of forehead

So please don't call me Honey
 Unless, unless
 never mind
 I would only break your heart

The Toy Box

By Chip Hellie

Before the days of Uber, there were vehicles called Taxi's. One could simply stand on the edge of the street, wave, and yell "TAXI," and the driver would see you and pick you up. Nowadays drivers won't hear you over the stereo. They won't see you either as they are (illegally) texting or watching something on YouTube with their phone on their laps so others won't know what they're up to. Stand on the edge of the road at your own peril today.

The yellow and black taxi here is a tin windup made by Strauss. It's a YELL-O-CAB, something I mentioned before that one did to hail it for a ride. Now we have Yellow Cabs. The green and black taxi is of heavy cast iron and is produced by Arcade.

Both toys were produced from the 1920's through the early 30's, and are quite large at approximately 9 inches long. Great shelf pieces! These are from Doug Nelson's collection.





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www.nwcarandcycle.org

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

1-5 Exit 263, Brooks

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January 18	Member/Board Meeting 6:30 pm at the Texaco Station
February 10, 11, 12	Custom Motorcycle show in Portland. See Tom Ruttan for details.
February 15	Member/Board Meeting 6:30 pm at the Texaco Station
March 15	Member/Board Meeting 6:30 pm at the Texaco Station
April 6, 7, 8	Portland Swap Meet
April 19	Member/Board meeting 6:30 pm at the Texaco Station
April 30	Corvallis Swap Meet

MEMBER/BOARD MEETINGS are the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 6:30 PM at the
Texaco Service Station on the Powerland grounds. Everyone is welcome!