

Messenger



Volume 16, Issue 4

EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE

www.nwcarandcycle.com

October—December, 2018

EDSEL VISIT CAPS OFF SUCCESSFUL SUMMER



The twenty-one Edsel cars, all outstanding in their field (photo and pun by Ed Weber).

On Thursday, August 2, 2018, an Edsel club tour visited our museum as part of a weeklong national Edsel Car Club convention that was headquartered in Keizer, Oregon. This was arranged by Dave Ricks, who is a museum member and also member of the local Edsel club. Thanks, Rick!



About 60 Edsel drivers and passengers visit Nelson Exhibit Hall (Photo by Ed Weber).

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Letter from the President

By Tom Ruttan

Another busy summer is now in the record books at your museum. The Rendezvous and Steam-Up were well-attended and key highlights of the summer, but several other events provided some great fun as well. The vintage Airstream trailer show was a popular event as we hosted over 30 vintage Airstreams (along with some cool vintage cars that were towing them) at Chandler Field where they camped for 3-4 nights. They were part of a national vintage Airstream convention held in Salem this summer. We were privileged to be a part of this and they put on a great show. We also hosted some vintage trailers as part of the Civil War Reenactment at Powerland during the July 4 timeframe. Also, your museum was part of the inaugural Hops & Vines event organized by Powerland Heritage Park in September. It was very well received, had good attendance and we expect it will become one of Powerland's annual events.

As part of a national Edsel Car Club convention held in Keizer this summer, we hosted 35 Edsels for a day at our museum. We are also looking forward to the Willamette Valley Model A club event on Saturday, October 6, and our annual Fall Membership Get-

Together on Sunday, October 7. Both of these last two events will take place in our newly completed front addition to the Nelson Display Hall.

The first floor of the front of the Nelson Display Hall has been completed and is now ready for use.

Under the expert guidance and leadership of Gary LeMaster, we have seen the construction work finished, resulting in a beautiful new facility that will serve as additional display area, meeting facility and events space. It is really exciting to see this milestone reached and I wish to thank all the generous donors that made it possible. And let's not forget Gary's tireless dedication and hard work to guide this to completion.

Speaking of donations, many of you have continued to make donations over the summer and this has helped us to get over the top and finish this phase of the building project. Thank you very much! Also, our membership drive has been very successful this summer with a significant increase in both renewals and new members. Andy Ottolia as Donation Chairman and Neil Beutler, our Membership Chairman, are to be thanked for their hard work and drive to make this possible.



Member Appreciation Get-Together: October 7, 2018

By Andy Ottolia and Neil Beutler

Dear Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum member: Firstly, we wanted to thank you for becoming a supporter of the Museum during this fruitful and exciting year of 2018! This summer's highlights included fine shows like the Rendezvous, the Great Oregon Steam-Up and the Truck Show, where over 25 new members were signed up. Our automobile and motorcycle displays were a hit with visitors for their variety and uniqueness. The displays were anchored by 3 rare barn finds – the 1919 unrestored Model T Ford School Bus, the 1926 time capsule Pontiac and the 1936 Terraplane in the barn. Visitors also witnessed the progress of our 12,000 sf addition of the Nelson Exhibit Hall and we are happy to report that soon the first floor will be completed. As an appreciation to our members and new members we will hold a member get-together/open house on Sunday, October 7, 2018 from 11 to 3, including a presentation at 12 noon. This is your chance to welcome new members, learn about the Museum's cars and get to ride and drive some classics. Do not miss this date to have fun and meet your Museum board members and fellow Car Nuts.

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Please join us for our annual

MOVIE NIGHT

Sunday, December 2

Social Hour: 2-3 pm; Movies at 3:00PM

Popcorn, cookies and drinks
provided by the Ladies of
NWVCM

Please RSVP for seating:
Tom Ruttan 503-621-8943;
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Featuring:

"Concept Car"

from The History Channel's Modern
Marvels

"Half Moon Road: The Ernie Adams Story"

about building dwarf cars

Speedster Class Update

By Don Blain

A new Speedster school year begins on September 20. We are looking forward to having students from the Salem-Keizer School District in addition to two home-school students who will be joining us mid-term when they turn 16 years old.

Many of our mentors are returning for another year and our goal is to complete the 1929 Model A Roadster and the 1928 Chevrolet Pie Wagon which we have been working on for several years. It is always good to complete projects and be able to sell them in order to provide ongoing funds for the Speedster Program.

The program is dependent on donations and projects that can be sold to fund future activities and continue to teach students how to build cars from the frame up.

If you know of a student (16 years old or older) who would benefit from the program, I would appreciate your letting me know. We are always looking for new students. I can be reached at 503-871-8696 or email: tululatouring@msn.com.

In Memorium: Pete Smiley

By Doug Nelson

Peter Edward Smiley, "Pete" was long time Model A Ford fan and was active in the Museum, showing his 1931 Ford coupe in our display two years ago. Pete's 1931 speedster will be donated to the Museum. Pete spent over 30 years with the Otis Elevator Company and made many lifelong friends. Pete is survived his wife, Catherine. They were married 50 years.

"Barn Find" School Bus Begins Overhaul

By Andy Ottolia

This display season was a hit with our visitors. Many guests commented on how varied and unique the vehicles were, and the "barn finds" were the crowd favorites. Among these was our 1919 model T School Bus, believed to be the oldest unrestored school bus in the nation.

This summer a team of five members took on the task of making our "Barn Find" school bus roadworthy. The team is headed up by Don Blain and includes Bob Pipkin, Tom Wintercrowd, Jack Adams, and Kirk Matteer. All these mechanics have owned Ford Model T's and A's and are experts in their field with years of knowledge.

The goal is to make the bus operational and safe to drive around the grounds and at shows. The original exterior patina, paint and interior will remain as found.

To get the motor running after nearly half a century in the barn, the head was removed, cleaned and inspected. Pistons and the piston bores viewed from the top looked fine. All new gaskets, plugs, coils, wiring, hoses and carburetor were installed.

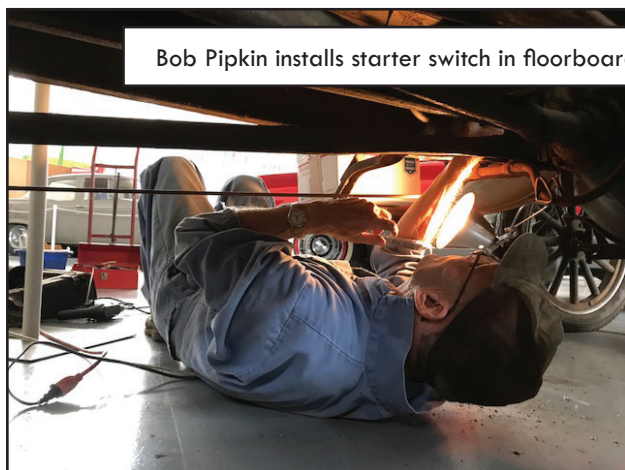
This motor did not come equipped with a starter. Can you imagine how tough bus drivers were back then in 1919? Having to crank her up every morning on those snowy New Jersey winters. And no heat in the cab either! No wonder our "Greatest Generation" (those



that lived during the Great Depression) are so tough!

We are updating the motor to electric start which included installing a battery, wiring, starter switch, generator and a small dashboard. Next will come working on the brakes, a differential inspection and service and adjusting the transmission bands. Engine start-up is close at hand, so stay tuned for future updates.

Our goal is to have her on the road for next year's show season to make many people smile and reminisce of memories and wonderful days gone by.



Bob Pipkin installs starter switch in floorboard.



Tom Wintercrowd and Don Blain making final engine wiring adjustments.

Hops & Vines Tasting Event a Success!

By Tom Ruttan
Photos by Mark Moore

The Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum participated in Powerland's first annual Hops & Vines event on Saturday, September 22. We were one of 11 museums at Powerland to host breweries and wineries for the afternoon. Our museum hosted both Gilgamesh Brewing and Arcane Cellars, who each provided tasting samples of their beer and wine products that could be purchased from them. We also had music from a jazz trio, The Charles Guerin Trio, for a few hours that provided a great atmosphere for visitors to socialize, tour our museum and sample the beer & wine. This was the first year for this event and it was quite successful and enjoyed by everyone. The unofficial head count for our museum visitors was about 100 and according to Michelle Dutchateau from Powerland, her unofficial count for total visitors to Powerland Heritage Park was about 300. Michelle and those of us at our museum were quite happy with this first-time turnout and plans are already underway to do it again next year. Gilgamesh and Arcane were also pleased with the turnout and their on-site sales.



The Charles Guerin Trio delights the guests.



The Gilgamesh Brewing table was a big hit!



Not-so-arcane Tom Ruttan enjoys a tasting from Arcane Cellars.



The event drew over 100 visitors to the Museum, and over 300 to Powerland!

The Cannonball Motorcycle Run

By Tom Ruttan

There is an amazing motorcycle event that takes place every two years, called the Cannonball Run. It is named and patterned after Erwin "Cannonball" Baker who set a coast to coast record for riding an Indian motorcycle in 11 days in 1914. The first Cannonball motorcycle run for the modern era took place in 2010 and has been run every two years since.

The ride starts on the east coast and runs to the west coast in 16 days and would be a pretty good challenge for riders on modern motorcycles, but these riders are piloting really old motorcycles. How old, you ask? For the 2018 event there were two basic classes: those bikes that are 100 years or older and those that are 90 years or older. There are sub-classes within these for single cylinder, twin and four-cylinder motors. Surprisingly, a good percentage of the riders finish with a perfect score – that is, they rode every mile within the allotted time, which for 2018 was 3441 miles from Portland, Maine to Portland, Oregon (almost). The tie-breakers to determine the overall winner is first to the oldest bike then the fewest cylinders and finally the oldest rider.

The overall winner this year was Dean Bordgioni, riding a single cylinder 1914 Harley Davidson. A very impressive accomplishment on a very simple, basic (and low tech) motorcycle.



The finish line was at the Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Washington in the Columbia River Gorge. Apparently, the organizers decided to not go all the way to Portland due to the difficulty the old bikes would have negotiating Portland traffic.

I had the privilege to see them come in to the final stop at Skamania as well as coming in and leaving Great Falls, Montana. It was quite a show and was a lot of fun talking to the riders and support folks about the adventure. They had to be very resourceful as many of the bikes needed major repair each night to get ready for the next day. It was not uncommon to see pistons being replaced, cylinders being welded and re-bored, and complete engines swapped out. Some of the support vans were quite impressive with Bridgeport mills and lathes at the ready plus lots of spare parts.

While this was a competitive event and everyone wanted to win, I found a real sense of camaraderie and family amongst the riders and crews. They helped each other with advice, parts, and labor to try to keep everyone going the next day. Everyone I talked to had that attitude and it was a genuine sense of concern for the well-being for the other riders. It was an amazing event!



The Toy Box

By Chip Hellie

Here we have a great shelf piece, a tin wind-up Royal Bus lines bus. This was made by the Louis Marx Co. in the late 20's. It is approximately 10" in length and it once was considered quite rare, especially when one recognizes how delicate the toy is. One misplaced step and poof! With the advent of the internet we now discovered that quite a few have survived and it's not a particularly hard toy to find. However, it doesn't take away how nice a display piece it makes. Value today \$125-\$200.

The "road hog," as WC Fields would call him, is a Tootsie Toy Andy Gump car. This cast toy is just under 3 inches and produced around 1932-33. This is a piece of the Funnies set. Probably the most commonly found of the set.

Worth \$75.00 on average but it can bring in the



\$200.00 range depending on color and condition.

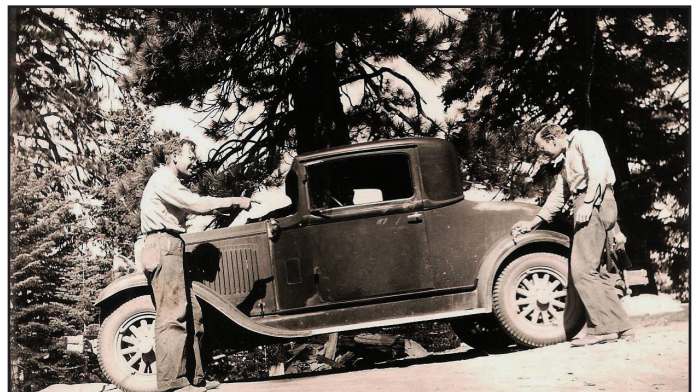
Speaking of road hogs, there is a great movie from 1932 called "If I Had A Million." There is a great car crash segment with WC Fields getting even with those hogs! If you have some spare time, try to find it. It'll make true car lovers cry!

My Amazing Dad

By Al Hall

Photos by Al Hall's dad (read the story)

During the great depression, my dad and mom lived in a cabin near Lake Arrowhead in the San Bernardino Mountains which was about 120 miles east of Los Angeles. Good jobs were hard to find at that time but he would search for whatever work became available in order to make a buck. He drove a milk truck in San Bernardino, worked on wildcat oil rigs near Bakersfield, and occasionally would do landscaping. When not working he had his favorite hobbies....amateur radio, cross-country skiing and "creative" photography." Here he is playing chess with himself and washing his car with himself. He titled these "It's your move" and "Hey, you missed a spot." My brothers and I have always been amazed what all our dad knew how to do in the 1930s.





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P.O. Box 15 • Salem, Oregon 97308-0015

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

10 minutes north of Salem
30 minutes south of Portland

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Oct. 4	Speedster Class 9 am
Oct. 7	Special member get-together and open house! (See page 2 for details), 11-3 pm
Oct. 18	Speedster Class 9 am
Oct 25	Speedster Class 9 am
Oct. 25	Board/Member meeting 2 pm
Nov. 1	Speedster Class 9 am
Nov. 8	Speedster Class 9 am
Nov. 15	Speedster Class 9 am
Nov. 15	Board/Member meeting 2 pm
Nov. 29	Speedster Class 9 am
Dec. 2	Movie night in new addition (See page 3 for details), 2 pm
Dec. 6	Speedster Class 9 am
Dec. 13	Speedster Class 9 am
Dec. 20	Speedster Class 9 am
Dec. 27	NO Board/Member meeting

MEMBER/BOARD MEETINGS are the 3rd Thursday of each month, 2 pm at the
Texaco Service Station on the Powerland grounds. Everyone is welcome!