

Messenger



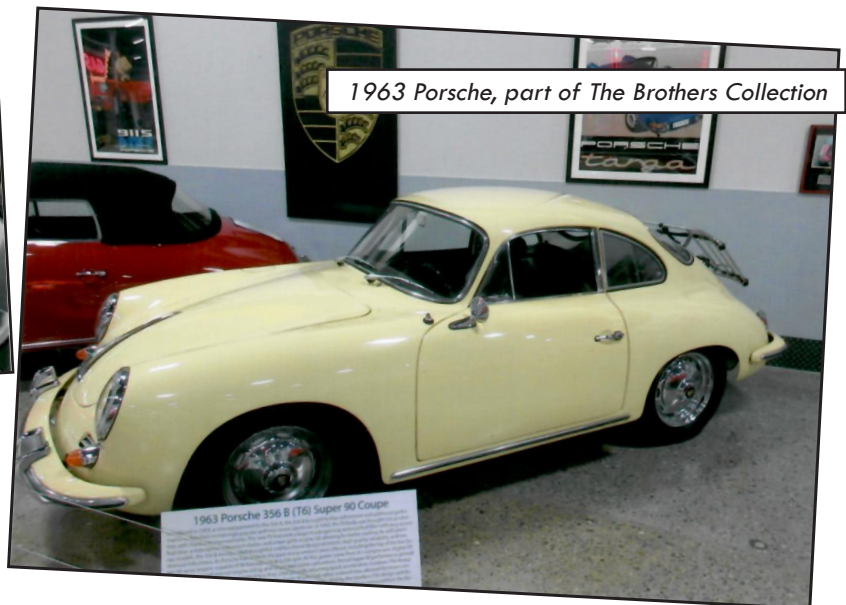
Volume 20, Issue 1

EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE

www.nwcarandcycle.com

January – March, 2022

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE WORLD-CLASS “BROTHERS COLLECTION” IN SALEM Mark your calendars for January 23 at 1 pm



This astounding private collection in Salem is not open to the public and only allows for pre-arranged tour groups to visit. Act now to reserve your spot on January 23! See story and information on page 6.



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Our Last Letter from (Outgoing) President Tom Ruttan

By Tom Ruttan

After a very busy summer things have quieted down significantly at your museum, as is the usual case for the end of the year. Many dedicated volunteers continue to come in and do what is necessary for the Speedster Class, museum maintenance and repair, as well as taking on new projects. The pipe organ project continues to make great strides including adding a harp celeste to the collection of components to the organ. The winter vehicle storage program, thanks to more advertising by your museum and our member car clubs, has had the best year so far with 22 cars and one motorcycle in storage. This goes a long way to paying our yearly operating costs.

We are very happy to have many new car clubs join your museum this last year and expect to add to this list in the coming year. They have added a great deal of new energy to our ranks and it's great to see them using our facilities for their events and monthly meetings. We have recently joined the Salem Auto Club Council with representation at their meeting to allow us to stay connected with club activity in the area and promote the museum. Thanks to Andy Ottolia and Tom Winterrowd for making this happen.

All things must come to an end, as the old saying goes. It is with some sadness but optimism for your museum's future that this will be my last "Letter from the President" that I

write. I announced to the Board last summer that I will be stepping down as Board President and as a Board member. I have been serving as Board President for almost 10 years and as a Board member for 19 years. That's a long time to have been doing these jobs and I feel that both for personal reasons and to spur new

ideas and leadership, I need to step down. The Board has elected Tom Popelka, one of our very active members who is very dedicated to the museum, as your new Board President. Tom is a great guy and I know he will do a great job in this position.

By the way, I'm not going very far with regard to the museum. I still plan to be active as a volunteer and will continue to chair

the Display Committee; only now it will be as a "civilian" rather than an officer and Board member.

Farewell for now,
Tom Ruttan



Longtime member and volunteer extraordinaire Ed Weber has moved to be closer to his son. He has asked us to share his new address with you:

**Ed Weber
303A Calderwood Dr.
Meridian, Idaho 83642**

Museum Contacts

President

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Currently open

Speedster Chairman:

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Meet the New President, Tom Popelka



Hello fellow club members and families. My name is Tom Popelka. I have been a club member for about five years. I have a 1957 Thunderbird. The club board of directors has selected me as your new president. I thank you for selecting me and I hope to fill the position as well as Tom Ruttan and the previous presidents.

My occupational background consists of working for 46 years in various audio related electronics and electrical trades. My current electrical challenge is working on the electrical part of a 1923 Smith Unit pipe organ that was donated to the Museum.

So far there have been no sparks and smoke coming from the pipe organ so I guess Stephen, Tony, Connie, and I must be doing something right because there is beautiful music coming from the pipes!

Speedster Program Update

By Don Blain

Our Speedster Program is continuing to work on projects. We have seven students enrolled this year and average at least five for each class session. The 1929 Model A Ford is almost finished, and the students have had an opportunity to drive it. The 1920 model T Roadster that we received from California is going well. We are getting ready to build the engine for it.

The mentors and students have been moving parts from the shop to the new container so that we can set up our machine shop in the vacated area. This will allow us to teach the students on more machines crucial to the building of the cars and their maintenance. We have been able to add two new mentors so we are able to have ongoing training for all.

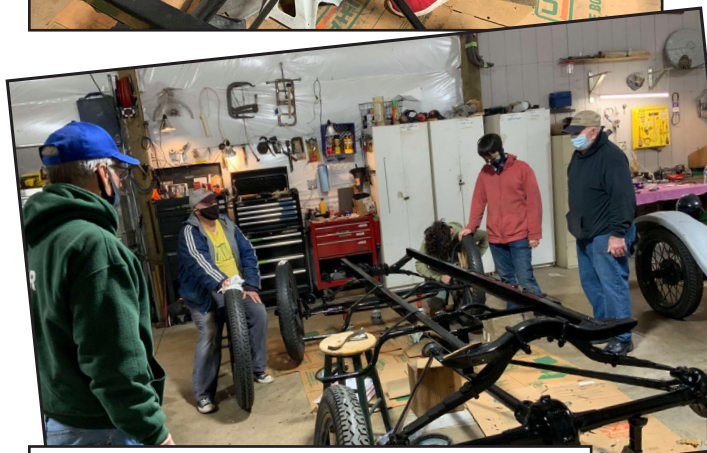
We have recently received a \$500 donation from the Willamette Valley Street Rods and have another \$500 being donated by two different car clubs of \$250 each. Donations such as this are what keeps our program going and we very much appreciate them.

While we will be suspending classes for the Christmas and New Year break, we will be continuing again starting January 6. For more information on the Speedster Program you may contact Don Blain at: 503-871-8696 or 503-585-8078 or email: talulatouring@msn.com.

Students attach the wheel to the frame of "Black Jack," which is being assembled from car parts donated by a group in California who ran a similar program.



Teagan is adjusting the door latch on the Model A that is being prepped for sale to a buyer in Los Angeles.



Students work with mentors to attach the wheels to the frame of "Black Jack."



Mentor Buck teaches a student how to operate a sewing machine in the upholstery shop.

Leadership and Board Changes at the Museum

By Tom Winterrowd

Tom Ruttan, President for the past 10 years is stepping down and will be replaced by incoming President Tom Popelka. Popelka spent his career as a telephone technician at Portland Public Schools and ended his professional career at Home Depot. At the Museum, he is a member of the three-person team constructing and maintaining the 1926 Theatrical Organ as it once again makes music.

Tom Ruttan joined and became a volunteer 19 years ago at the urging of his late friend Bjorn Klingenberg, a Museum Founder. Enough volunteers are a current challenge and his proudest moment is witnessing the Museum's growth and its evolution into an important institution in the North Willamette Car and Motorcycle community. Thankfully, Ruttan will maintain an ongoing presence as he retains his display committee duties.

Joanne Blain has agreed to join our Board of Directors. Joanne started our Ladies Area ten years ago. Recently, she has been working on the retail committee to give new importance to our retail store.

Finally, announcing that Mike Bostwick is leaving the board after over 15 years of service. Mike brought his connections to the Portland car community. His many contributions include upgraded security and other maintenance work. He has served as president, secretary, treasurer and board member.

The board is involved in both day-to-day operations, long-term strategic planning, and board governance issues. Duties of board members and committees include facilities, retail store, security, operations, accounting/financial, speedster program, maintenance, volunteer recruitment, Powerland Heritage Park relations, donations and the membership experience. The board's current issues include adopting new technology and finishing construction of second floor facilities.

The Museum expresses its gratitude to the departing board members and welcomes those members accepting new leadership responsibilities.



Harp-Celeste Rings Out

By Doug Nelson

A harp-celeste is an instrument that has a tone which is more mellow, somewhat between a piano and a harp. This instrument came from the University Temple Methodist Church in Seattle, Washington. The Bonn Company of Portland donated it to the Museum. It is a fine addition to our pipe organ. It was worked on by our team of Tony Kraxberger, Stephen Miller and Tom Popelka and sounds great!

Join our Group Tour of The Brothers Collection!

By Doug Nelson (with a little YouTube help from Laura Nelson)

You are invited to join in on a Museum-organized tour of The Brothers Collection. This collection is of 350 top-notch cars under one roof, one of the premier private car collections in the world.

This collection is located in an industrial park in southeast Salem. It is not marked from the outside, as the owners prefer to keep a low profile and only allow pre-arranged tours for clubs and groups. The collection is not open to the general public, and as such has asked that we not publish the address. You will need to call Doug Nelson at 503-399-0647 if you plan to go.

All cars are in excellent condition and are organized by make or type of car. Much thought has gone into this gathering of automobiles. If you would like a sneak peek, go to YouTube and search for a video called "The Worlds Most Insane Muscle Car Collection..." by user "drianashton." If you are reading the newsletter electronically, you may be able to click [here](#) to watch.

To participate with our tour:

1. Send a check for \$15 per person payable to Doug Nelson, 761 Hylo Rd. SE, Salem OR 97306. You may call Doug at 503-399-0647 to get the address.
2. On Sunday, January 23, gather at 1:00 pm at the collection.
3. You may stay as long as you like but your feet might wear out!

A Scene from a Movie Night

By Mark Moore

Jerry Grulkey was the host for our Movie Matinee and showed the finer points of etiquette by helping his wife Sandy into a 1904 Stevens-Duryea automobile. This car has a rear engine and no protection from the elements. The automobile was featured in the movie "The First Auto," a 1927 film about the transition from horses and buggies to cars and the rift it causes in one family. The movie was shown at the Movie Matinee on Dec. 5, and the car is in Jerry's Collection. Seated in the rear is Bob Farwell who helped transport the vehicle.





PRESENTING THE 2022 RAFFLE QUILT!

**It's Red,
White,
and
BLUE-tiful!**

The Toy Box

By Chip Hellie

For this issue we're again looking at another rubber toy. However, this is a rather unusual and hard-to-find toy compared to the more commonly found Sun Rubber and Auburn Rubber toys.

It's a Supercharged Cord Phaeton. The detailing is rather good for a rubber toy. I find it most attractive, and the rear skirted fenders add much to its charm.

This toy was first produced by Garrett Sales. It was unusual as they added color and additives to the rubber unlike their competitors such as Auburn and Sun Rubber who painted their rubber. This prevented the

toys' finish from cracking and chipping off when the rubber hardened after a few years, not to mention all the crashes! The additives also helped to keep the rubber soft and more pliable.

Garrett Sales produced around 18 different toys. They can be identified by their logo underneath which consists of the initials GS inside a diamond.

Later on, this same toy was produced by the "Rubber Toys Unique" Co. They are identified by the initials RT inside a heart. This is the later RT version and numbered 400.



These were accent-trimmed by an artist with silver paint. The only drawback is the painter also painted the headlight doors silver. Everyone knows those body-colored headlight doors are one of the Cord's most prominent feature! Just start rubbing...



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

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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

Thursdays in January, February, and March:

Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17, 24

March 3, 10, 17, 24

**Museum open 9 am - 2 pm
Speedster Class at shop building**

Jan. 20 Board/Member meeting Nelson building, 2 pm

Jan. 23 Group Tour to The Brothers Collection, 1 pm
(Registration required, see info on page 6)

Feb. 17 Board/Member meeting Nelson building, 2 pm

March 17 Board/Member meeting Nelson building, 2 pm

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