

# Messenger



Volume 11, Issue 2

"EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE"

April — June, 2013

## MEMBERS GATHER TO CELEBRATE 11 YEARS

By Ed Weber

On Saturday March 23, more than 90 members and friends of the Museum gathered for a sumptuous potluck dinner and an update on the progress of their museum over the past eleven years. Doug Nelson, chairman of the board, detailed our long list of progress and explained the next two construction phases needed to complete the main Exhibit Hall of the Museum.

Ed Weber highlighted the Speedster Program by showcasing the mentors of this program. He unveiled a photo display showing 13 different mentors assisting students on 19 individual and different jobs of building a speedster.

Doug Nelson presented "Volunteer of The Quarter" awards to **Sandy & Jerry Grulkey, Dave Mulheron and Ray Hansen**. Other awards presented were: **Laura Nelson** for her

outstanding work in publishing *The Messenger* newsletter, **Willamette Valley Model T Club** for its commitment to the Speedster Program, and **Don Petersen** for his exceptional role as mentor to the Speedster Program.

All Museum officers and board members were introduced to the membership along with members of the Education Committee, Display Committee, Docent Committee, Building Committee, Newsletter Publication, Web Page Management, Maintenance Committee, Speedster Committee, and The Ladies of The Museum.

To close the program, President Tom Ruttan presented an award to **Doug Nelson**, "as a visionary, strategic leader, fundraising champion and multi-tasking individual in his role as the Museum's Board Chairman for 11 years."



Board Chairman Doug Nelson delivered a "State of the Museum" speech while attendees worked hard to make a dent in the ample amount of delicious potluck fare.



Doug Nelson presented a certificate of appreciation to Sammy Newsom, president of the Willamette Valley Model T Club.

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## Letter From the President

By Tom Ruttan

**T**he first quarter of 2013 has been a busy one for the Museum.

Ray Hansen and the Education Committee continued the Museum's focus on education with two presentations and a tour for members. The first presentation was held on February 16 where Kenny Dreer entertained a large crowd of 75-80 people talking about the New Norton motorcycle development under his direction plus a very interesting discussion of the current Norton Company with some informed speculation of its future and fortunes. On March 16, Bo Miller gave a very informative presentation on building a street motorcycle engine for speed and reliability.

Ray has also arranged for our members to tour the LeMay Museum on April 13. (More on page 3).

Another event that you may find interesting is a presentation on the history and business success story of Langlitz Leathers on April 27. Langlitz is a Portland icon and world-famous maker of leather motorcycle riding gear as well as leather goods for general use.

When you receive this newsletter we will have already held the member's appreciation potluck luncheon. Hopefully you had a chance to attend to catch up with old friends and see what is happening at the Museum.

Speaking of getting involved, we need you to help out this summer and volunteer to be a docent. The Display Committee, chaired by Gene Walker, is working very hard to line up some great cars and motorcycles for our display this summer. This should be the best year ever and will include some cars and bikes that are 100 years or older as the centerpiece of the display. The Museum will be open every Saturday and Sunday from 10 - 4 starting June 1 and will go through September. If you count up all those days it is pretty clear that we need a lot of volunteers to cover all those times. It is a lot of fun and a great way to contribute to the museum without taking very much time from your summer schedule. Contact Don Feller, Doug Nelson or me about spending a few quality hours with your museum.

The Las Vegas motorcycle auction put on by Mid-America Auctions was held in January and I mentioned in the last issue that I planned to attend and try my luck selling a couple of my restored bikes. I am

pleased to report that they both sold and although I might have wished for higher bids on one, it was great fun and met my objectives for attending. The selling prices ranged from the affordable (depending on your perspective) to the truly outrageous. The vintage motorcycle hobby does not come close to the prices for the old car market but they are definitely on the increase from a few years ago. I am busy in the shop working on the next restoration projects and hope to have a couple finished by summer. If so, I will have them on display at some of the many museum events this summer.

I hope to see all of you at one or more of our upcoming events. This is your museum and it is here for you and your family to enjoy.

## Volunteer of the Quarter: Don Peterson

By Doug Nelson

**D**onald Petersen is a founding member of the Museum and "Car Guy" from early on. Don has served as recording secretary of the Museum and past board member. He is our swap meet chairman during July. Currently Don is serving as a mentor to the speedster program. He is bringing his expertise in body, fender and paint work to help build the present speedster under construction. Don works great with the kids. He explains and then steps back to allow the young people the opportunity to do the work themselves.



Don Petersen (center) and students.

He often says, "If they make a mistake, that's all right because that's how they learn."

Don has donated many tools and supplies to the speedster program. Thank you, Don, for all your hard work!

## Speedster Update

By Tom Ruttan



*Left: Speedster Class of 2013 with mentors*

*Below: Don Blain takes a student on a test ride*

**T**he Model T Speedster mentor team has been working hard with this year's students on the 4<sup>th</sup> Speedster. The body is on the frame and the students are learning valuable skills in sheet metal work, engine rebuilding and wood-working in addition to general shop and life skills lessons.

Thanks to all our volunteer mentors and those who donate supplies to make this program possible!



## Join Us at the LeMay Museum

**T**he Education Committee has arranged a tour to the new LeMay Museum in Tacoma on Sat. April 13. A group rate of \$10.00 per person has been agreed upon thanks to the efforts of Ray Hansen, our education chairman. The LeMay has been under development for about 10 years and was officially opened last year. It is located adjacent to the Tacoma Dome. Members may carpool or take the train. Call Ray for information regarding shared transportation at 503-393-4228. Several folks are taking the train, leaving Salem at 6:42 am and arriving at 11:00 am in Tacoma, a short walk from the museum. The train returns to Salem leaving Tacoma at 3PM. A special companion fare is available by acquiring a coupon in advance of the trip.

Tour participants should gather at the museum entrance at 11 am to qualify for the group rate. Some folks are going to make a longer event of the trip and stay overnight at a motel in the area and take in the Chihuly Glass Museum on Sunday.

## Caboose Overhead!

**A** new addition to the Logging Museum at Powerland is a steel caboose that was unloaded March 29 before an appreciative group of folks. It will become the Logging Museum office. They also have a display building under construction. This picture was snapped by Graham Hicks, Laura Nelson's father, during his first trip to Powerland.





## Bo Miller Presents Motorcycle Engine Performance Tuning for the Street Rider

By Tom Ruttan

**B**o Miller is in a good position to talk about performance tuning of modern Bonneville twin motors; he has run at the Bonneville Salt Flats for many years and set several class speed records on his Bonneville twin cylinder motorcycle. He also knows something about riding on the street with a motorcycle that is easy to start and ride that will still perform well. It is in this context that Bo presented a very interesting and practical viewpoint on tuning a motorcycle engine for both performance and riding on the street.

As with any vehicle and certainly with street motorcycles, there are compromises between a powerful engine and civilized road manners. Bo discussed these trade-offs to achieve a durable, easy-to-ride bike that runs off pump gas, is easy to maintain and will start easy while having enough power to be safe on the street, have passing ability and to have the respect of fellow riders.

Bo starts with an assessment of the existing motorcycle engine to know where to make improvements. There are three main areas to focus on: engine data, air & fuel intake data, and exhaust data. Bo uses a computer program called Pipe Max to calculate the engine performance, a dynamometer, several reference books, and his own experience level to determine what to modify to achieve the desired results. This can be a highly technical discussion, but Bo was able to explain it so that all of



*Bo Miller explains the finer points of motorcycle engine design*

us in the audience could understand and appreciate. The key areas that he focused on included exhaust pipe dimensions, exhaust and intake port dimensions, valve timing, piston speed, air filter characteristics, valve size and lift dimensions. It is a basic problem of getting the intake fuel/gas mixture to flow efficiently into the engine and then flowing the exhaust gases out of the engine. It is also important to look at these together since the intake and exhaust affect each other.

While this session likely did not make instant motorcycle engine design engineers out of all of us, we came away with an appreciation of all that is required to make a motor run right and will be a little more savvy about how our cars and motorcycles work.

## Coming Up: Langlitz Leathers to Present April 27

By Tom Ruttan

**O**n Saturday, April 27, you can come hear the compelling story of Portland's own Langlitz Leathers history in a presentation at the Museum.

■ Ross Langlitz was an ardent motorcyclist, and in 1947 opened his own leather garment shop that focused on high quality custom motorcycle gear. Ross retired in the mid-1980s, but left the shop in the hands of his daughter (Jackie) and son-in-law (Dave). For the past 3 decades they have run Langlitz Leathers as Ross intended....not too big as to get out of hand, and not so small that it would have major problems sustaining itself. Ross' goal of producing The World's Finest Motorcycle Leathers has been reached, and his reputation has traveled around the world as the ultimate in motorcycle gear.

Please join us on April 27 at 10 am to hear Dave and his daughter Judy present the history of one of Portland's most iconic and famous institutions.

## Update for the Ladies of the Museum

By Rosemary Bostwick

**T**he quilt is on its way to being quilted and will be hung in the Museum for all to see before June. It has turned out to be a beauty this year and I hope that you will all come see it and buy a raffle ticket for it. Thank you to all of the ladies that have helped to make this an annual fundraiser for the new building and maintenance on the Museum.

We are looking for any accessories to set up our display for the summer, whether they are men's or women's or for the home. We need items such as hats, jewelry, music boxes, gloves, collars, games, lamps or other items that would have been used way back when. If you can lend us any of these items please call Rosemary Bostwick at 503-245-5444 or Joann Blain at 503-585-8078.

We also need some help with manning the ladies part of the Museum for the Steam Up. There are a lot of people through during those 2 weekends and it really helps the docents if there is someone in that area to help. Please call either Joann or myself if you can help for a few hours either of those weekends.

Thank you to all that have helped this year and will help in the next few months. Remember we are the touch of home that makes our museum warm and inviting.



*This year's fundraising quilt, to be raffled off at Steam Up.*

## Summertime Sneak Peek



**T**his little buggy is an example of a cut-a-way. Notice the cutout on the side of the wooden body.

This allows the buggy to turn very sharply to the left or right as the front wheel can access this cutout while turning. It is a four passenger vehicle. Two face the front and two face the rear, with storage under the rear. It will be on display at our museum this summer to advertise the future coming of the Curtis Collection to Powerland.

**M**ember Nate Levin's bright red and black 1947 Dodge half-ton pickup is an example of the diversity of our upcoming summer display at the Museum. Opening June 1, the theme this year will be 100-year-old vehicles. Gene Walker, display chairman, has arranged three century-old motorcycles and three equally old motor cars as centerpiece attractions. A 1956 Thunderbird, a 1930 Cadillac and a 1955 bucket T Ford dragster are some more of this year's great attractions.



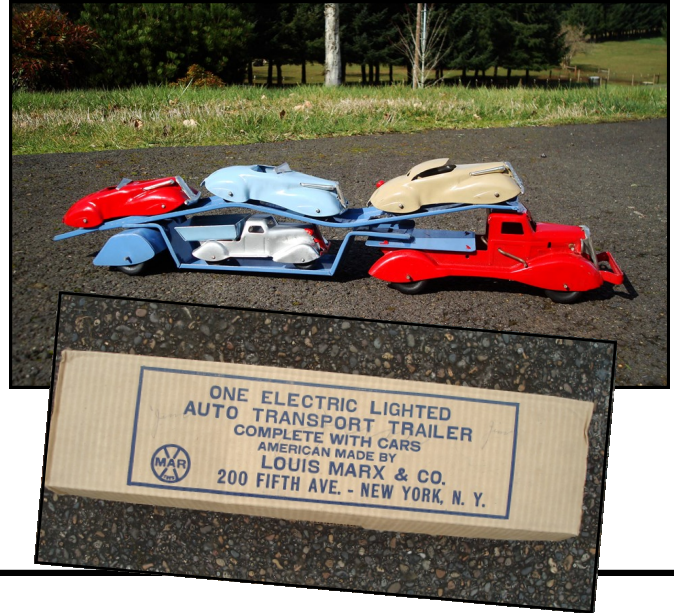
## The Toy Box: Pre-War Pressed Steel Transport

By Chip Hellie

In the last 40 years or so that I've been collecting old toys, there is rarely anything that really amazed me until I saw this toy. It's a pre-WWII pressed steel transport truck by Louis Marx & Co. New York, NY.

What amazed me is that it is in absolutely "brand new" condition. Collectors call this M.I.B. (Mint in Box) It doesn't get any better than that!

Not only is this toy in perfect like new condition, it comes with all its perfect cars, its loading ramp, its original box and check this out...Its original Supreme #10 flashlight cell which powered this toy's working headlights! I doubt the battery was ever used as it shows no rub marks! This surely has to be one of the best condition prewar toys in existence!



## ~~The Automotive Mascot~~ A Warning From Chip

By Chip Hellie



I didn't do an article on motoring mascots for this issue but instead thought I'd send out a warning to those who have things done to their cars by others. It's actually rather amusing, especially as I didn't pull this disgusting rotten thing out of my car but out of my sister's BMW. She's been taking her car to those quick change oil places for years. As a favor I graciously allowed my better half Susie to change her oil for her.

After about 15 minutes or so I heard Susie scream, so I got off the couch to see if the car had dropped on top of her head but she was OK, she just had her head under the hood and was mumbling something incoherent. The accompanying photo tells the story. That ugly mess is what's left of her oil filter. I believe the first cartridge oil-filter was introduced in 1924 and you could have easily believed it had been in her

car since then. Pretty much indescribable. Here's where a picture is worth a 1000 words.

BMW filters are somewhat hard to find and more expensive than the average spin on filters.

I'm guessing these outfits who say they can do an oil and filter change for \$19.95 can't do a BMW or Mercedes and come out even. Maybe they figured she'll never know. You can't see a cartridge filter when it's in place anyway so how would the customer know? My advice is ask to see the old filter if you use these companies. If your car has a spin on filter check to see if it is new or at least maybe a different brand than you drove in on.

Be aware, some places will take advantage of you if they can! This is living proof! Enjoy the picture, I laughed so hard I couldn't breath which of course my sister didn't appreciate.



## Fire Safety for our Rides

By Doug Nelson

**T**he summer touring and show season is almost upon us. Is your vehicle equipped with proper fire protection?

There are basically three common types of fires:

- (A) combustible material: paper, wood, fabric, upholstery, rubber and plastic.
- (B) flammable liquids: gasoline, oils, and greases
- (C) electrical fires.

Fires on or inside of our vintage automobiles may have one two or all three of the above types of fires going on at the same time. Pouring a pail of water on your burning car will not likely help and may actually spread the fire and even conduct electrical current through the water. Your significant investment in your pride and joy should be protected by a comparatively minor cost device that may save your car and even your life. That device is a fire extinguisher rated ABC (for all three types of fires) and large enough to put out the fire.



Assume you are happily rolling down the road and smoke starts bellowing out from under your dashboard. It's probably an electrical fire that is burning up the wiring harness. First, STOP! Second, get out of the car along with your passengers and call 911. Unless you are way out in the boondocks, help can be just minutes away. At the time of exiting you should have grabbed your ABC rated fire extinguisher unless you kept it locked in the trunk or under the hood. (These are both good places for a second extinguisher). The best place to keep your primary extinguisher is within an arm's length of the driver, attached to the floor with a quick release latch.

Use the P. A. S. S. system: PULL the pin. AIM the nozzle at the base of the flames. SQUEEZE the trigger while holding the extinguisher upright. SWEEP the nozzle from side to side and outward to extinguish flames. Don't spray the top of the flames. The source of the fire is at the base of the flames.

This P. A. S. S. system works on most fires such as a kitchen fire with grease or a shop fire with spilled flammable liquids. Your fire extinguisher sales source will have further detailed information on the various types of extinguisher and how to use them. Oh, by the way, do not test your fire extinguisher by pulling the pin and squeezing the trigger even ever so slightly. The unit is under internal pressure and will degrade quickly once the pressure is released. Your extinguisher will have a gauge with an arrow pointing to the green area on the dial when under the proper pressure.

Happy and safe motoring this summer!

## *The Poetry Corner*

### Dream Car

By Martin Doerfler

The engine's from an airplane  
the body from a dream  
the chassis is a nightmare  
not as simple as it seemed  
when he sketched it in his head  
it was high tech chrome and red  
now its angle iron and rust  
junkyard tech instead  
there's a front end from a Buick  
and a tranny from a truck  
to hold that airplane engine  
if it ever fires up  
the nine inch rear's so heavy  
that it dang near crushed him flat  
when he got a little careless  
and it slipped right off the jack  
But broken ribs will heal  
and so will welder burns  
and "chicks dig scars" they tell him  
they'll be lined up for their turn  
riding in that dream machine  
beneath the moon and stars  
and in case you ever wondered  
that's why we build the cars



"EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE"

P.O. Box 15 • Salem, Oregon 97308-0015  
[www.nwcarandcycle.org](http://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 FOR 2013

### **APRIL**

5 - Education Comm. Meeting, Chalet, noon  
13 - Tour: LeMay Museum, Ray Hansen 503-362-0913  
27 - Langlitz Leathers presentation, 10 am

### **MAY**

3 - Education Comm. Meeting, Chalet, noon  
16 - 19 Boy Scout Camporee: Our museum will host an event

### **JUNE**

**Museum Open Weekends! Sign up for docent duty, call  
Doug Nelson at 503-399-0647**  
29 - All Comers Car and Motorcycle Show (The Rendezvous)  
High School Show area separate from adults

### **JULY**

**Museum Open Weekends! Sign up for docent duty, call  
Doug Nelson at 503-399-0647**  
8 - Education Comm. Meeting, Chalet, noon  
19 - Swap Meet set-up  
20 - Swap Meet/Car Show  
27 & 28 - Powerland Steam Up

### **AUGUST**

**Museum Open Weekends! Sign up for docent duty, call  
Doug Nelson at 503-399-0647**  
3 & 4 - Powerland Steam Up

### **SEPTEMBER**

**Museum Open Weekends! Sign up for docent duty, call  
Doug Nelson at 503-399-0647**  
18 - Education Comm. Meeting, Chalet, noon

### **OCTOBER**

Educational Presentation: TBA, Doug Towsley

### **NOVEMBER**

1 - Education Comm. Meeting, Chalet, noon

### **DECEMBER**

6 - Presentation: "Movie Night"

*Member/Board meetings are always 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM at the Texaco Service Station. The Display Committee meets on 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 PM at Texaco Service Station. All are welcome. Let's support our hard-working Board and committee members by becoming involved in the Museum.*