

Messenger



Volume 19, Issue 1

EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE

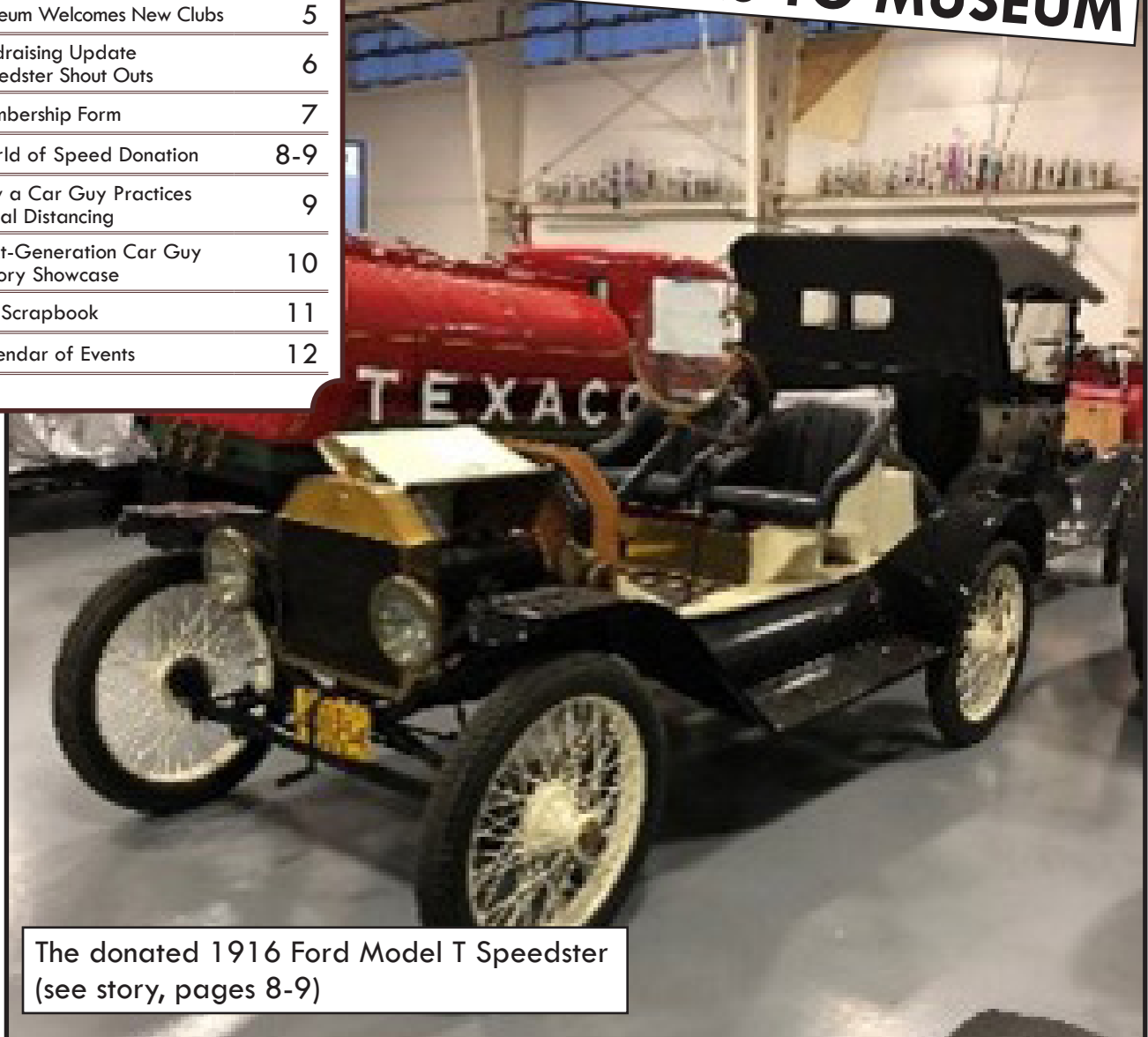
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January – March, 2020

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WORLD OF SPEED DONATES CONSIDERABLE ATTRACTIONS TO MUSEUM



The donated 1916 Ford Model T Speedster
(see story, pages 8-9)

Letter from the President

By Tom Ruttan

It's been a COVID quiet time this last quarter at your museum. As we entered into the fall and early winter, the cases of virus infections in Oregon ramped up significantly resulting in new State rules to try to quell surge in infections. As of this writing all museums are to be closed and indoor and outdoor public gatherings are limited to no more than 6 people. This has meant that any activities planned for this fall and early winter have had to be cancelled, including our annual Movie Night that had been scheduled for early December. There seems to be some good news recently with the pending rollout of a COVID-19 vaccine that brings a lot of hope that this pandemic can be controlled and result in significant reductions in the number of infections for the general population. Let's hope that this, along with all of us doing our part of masking up in public, social distancing and avoiding crowded gatherings of people, will allow us to open up our museum this spring and summer so you can once more enjoy this great facility.

While it has been quiet these last three months, small groups of dedicated volunteers, with appropriate COVID precautions, have continued to move forward on some of the museum projects. The pipe organ team

(Stephen & Connie Miller, Tom Popelka and Tony Kraxberger) have continued to make good progress on bringing the organ back to life. Their goal is to have an operational instrument by the time (if and when) we open for the summer in 2021. Maintenance on the building and grounds continues as needed by Gary LeMaster and team (which includes Rick Simmons). Mike Bostwick and I have

been installing a security camera system this winter. It is currently partially functional and should be fully operational by our summer opening.

The other major news is a large donation given to us by World of Speed Motorsports Museum in Wilsonville, Oregon. As many of you may already know, World of Speed announced they were closing their doors in early 2020. This move was certainly

influenced by (but not totally caused by) the State mandated shutdown due to the COVID outbreak. State law required them to disperse the assets that were donated to them as a non-profit to other non-profits and educational institutions. We applied to receive some of these assets and were successful. Please see an article on this elsewhere in the newsletter.

All the best,
Tom Ruttan



STORE YOUR CAR or CYCLE at the MUSEUM

Need a place for that new old treasure on wheels? Well, now you are in luck! Store it at the Museum! The Museum has benefited from this program over the years as these storage fees cover about a third of our operational costs. Storage is available through April 15, 2021. If you sign up now, it's only \$300 for cars and \$100 for motorcycles. Contact Tom Ruttan for more information or to schedule a dropoff time!

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Volunteer of the Quarter: Rick Simmons

By Tom Ruttan



Rick Simmons is one of the museum's "go to guys" when we need something done in the organization. He is a top-notch welder, fabricator, electrician, locksmith and auto mechanic. He is one of a small number of experts we rely on to keep our most prized collector cars running and maintained. He has spent many hours with our 1909 and 1930 Cadillacs and the 1919 Model T school bus getting them running, keeping them running and teaching others how to operate and maintain these vehicles. However, he doesn't just limit himself to just the exotics and most valuable; when the Studebaker or the Chevy needs some TLC or a boost to get it running, he is there to help and does it with ease and seemingly little effort.

Rick retired a couple of years ago, so he has been able to help us out more often. But as you might expect from someone of his many talents, he is in high demand. If it's not his own extensive home project list, he is helping all of his many friends with their projects as well. When he's not keeping the museum cars in top running shape he has found time to help out with the many maintenance projects around the museum.

One of our biggest events this last quarter was hauling all the items donated to us by The World of Speed Motorsport Museum. We were fortunate enough to be granted a large inventory of items including two cars and many bulky and/or heavy items. This was our great fortune but the challenge was getting all of these items moved safely to our facility. I was very grateful that Rick took a leadership role with this transport task. It would have been a much more difficult job without his guidance and expertise (along with the terrific work of the rest of the moving team).

For all of this, we recognize Rick Simmons as NWVCM's Volunteer of the Quarter.

In Memoriam: William "Bob" Pipkin

May 7, 1940 - December 1, 2020

By Doug Nelson

On December 1, 2020 we lost a good friend and mentor to the Museum. William "Bob" Pipkin passed on shortly after a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. Bob served as a volunteer to the High School Speedster program. Bob was a fantastically knowledgeable person of old cars and car parts. He had owned many old cars from the twenties to the seventies. His high priorities were the 1937-1938 Buicks of which he restored many. During his time at our Museum he worked with students building Model A engines. Bob's eyesight became impaired to the point where he could no longer drive and it became hard for him to drive out to our Museum. Bob had a passion for wild birds and he loved feeding and caring for them.

On a personal note, I worked with Bob for many years on various car projects and found him to be generous, caring and extremely knowledgeable. We will all miss him dearly.

Bob was preceded in death by his first wife Carol, with whom he shared 47 wonderful years of marriage. He leaves behind his second wife of 13 years, Marie, and his daughters, Charisse, Opie and Carmelle O'Dell, his youngest sister Beverly Harman, stepdaughters Marlene and Valerie, stepson Gary, eight grandchildren, and four great-grand-children.



Speedster Program News

By Don Blain

Since the virus pandemic has limited our ability to hold regular Speedster classes some of us have been working on other projects.

Students Julien Scott and Ryan Puffpaff recently helped with the moving of items obtained from the World of Speed. It is yet to be determined which of the items obtained will go to the Speedster group.

Julien and Ryan have also been helping me in removing the transmission from the 1909 Cadillac for repair. Darryl Lockling is machining a new gear for us and is repairing the casing. We will then put the transmission back in the car. Thank you Darryl for your help on this project and Julien and Ryan too.

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.

Museum Welcomes New Clubs

By Andy Ottolia

Our effort to make our facilities a community and events center is paying off with six new car and motorcycle clubs coming on board as Museum members. A big welcome to them and their members for supporting the Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum. You may have an interest in their cars and cycles, so get involved and support these clubs. We look forward to having them participate during summer events and especially the summer Rendezvous Car Show scheduled for June 19, 2021. For more club and events information please contact Tom Ruttan or Andy Ottolia.

New members this quarter are:

- Willamette Valley Corvette Association
- Oregon Classic Car Club of America
- Packards of Oregon
- Columbia River Early Ford V-8 Club
- AMCA Oregon Trail Chapter
- Oregon Tractor Pullers Association

New members in the previous quarter were Mid-Willamette Valley Early Ford V-8 Club and Pacific Coast Rover Club.

The Willamette Valley Corvette Association recently had a club meeting at the Museum. Not only are their cars nice but look at the first-class parking job they did for a club meeting! This dynamic club has 97 members and boasts many events during the year. Welcome, everyone!



Fundraising Update

By Andy Ottolia

On May 30th our Donation Appeal was launched and I am happy to report that over \$25,000 has been raised for our Museum. A big big thanks to all of you who participated. Your generosity is key to the financial stability of our mission.

We added many new members this year and 8 new Car and Motorcycle Clubs became members. We are looking forward to having all clubs participate in our Rendezvous Car Show scheduled on our show field for June 19: 2021. Mark your calendars.

Additionally thanks to the labors of Lou Tauber (who sent out letters). Many of you with expired memberships have renewed again. Most renewals taking advantage of the special 3 years for \$100. These sources of funds are instrumental for our Museum's survival and

especially in this difficult year of 2020. As you know, we run a lean ship here with no employees, no rent payments and no debt. Our facilities are free and clear.

We are proud of what has been accomplished over the last 20 years and especially significant is the 350 "at risk" students that have benefitted from our Speedster Program. Hopefully the program will resume next year.

Please get involved and let's make 2021 a great year and remember, Powerland Heritage Park will be celebrating its 50th anniversary next summer. So, get ready to enjoy the many events we and Powerland have planned.



USE THIS HANDY
FORM FOR ALL YOUR
DONATION AND
MEMBERSHIP NEEDS!

Shout Out to Best Pots, Enterprise

By Tom Winterrowd



NWVCM has survived for close to 20 years with support from members, volunteerism and donations. Partners we seldom mention are in-kind donors who quietly support NWVCM with their services.

Thank you Best Pots and Enterprise Car Rental. Best Pots for years has provided and maintained portable sanitation at no charge. THANK YOU!

When in session, moving speedster students back and forth to Museum grounds with a van and driver has been provided by Enterprise Car Rental at no charge. Additionally, this year the Enterprise Car Foundation granted \$1000 to our Museum. These funds were used to re-light, with high bay LED lighting, our Speedster work space. THANK YOU!

Please show your gratitude by supporting these Business Partners.

DONATION AND MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail this form, along with your payment, to:

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



Questions? Call Tom Ruttan at 503-621-8943

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone number(s) _____

_____ **DONATION** in the amount of \$ _____

Membership levels:

_____ **SPECIAL 3 years for \$100 (any age)**

_____ Senior membership \$35 (ages 65+)

_____ Family membership, \$50 (1 or 2 adults over 18 with any number of children under 18)

_____ Standard membership, \$40 (ages 18 – 64)

_____ Club membership \$200 the first year, \$100 each year after

_____ Lifetime membership, \$10,000 (one-time fee, includes family)

Tell us about your vehicles and interests:

☐ I would prefer to receive all correspondence via email

☐ Contact me regarding Volunteer Opportunities

*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.*

*The Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. Thank you!*

World of Speed Makes Substantial Donation to Museum

By Tom Ruttan

Early this last year (2020), World of Speed Motorsports Museum in Wilsonville, Oregon, announced that they would be closing their doors and ending their operation as a motorsports museum. All of us in the vintage and racing vehicle hobby were shocked and saddened that this world class museum in our own back yard was closing. In the short 5 years that they were in operation, they established themselves as a premium, high quality museum that was an important part of the community and contributed to the area in many ways. Their education program for both children and adults was exceptional and something that The Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum aspires to achieve with our High School Speedster program and our other community outreach programs.

Since they were closing their operation, state law required them to disperse all of their assets that had been donated to them as a non-profit 501(c)3 organization to other non-profit and educational institutions. Upon hearing about this we reached out to them in the spring of 2020 about acquiring some of their assets. Over the summer we participated in a fairly rigorous vetting and selection process in order to be chosen as one of the non-profits to receive some of their dispersed assets. We were successful in being chosen by World of Speed (WOS), so we were given a large list of those assets and asked to choose which items we would like to have.

In collaboration with our board of directors and a few other key individuals, we came up with a long wish list of things we would like to have. Since one of the stated selection priorities by WOS was to keep as much of their assets within the Northwest Region, we felt



The donated inventory waiting for us at WOS.

that our chances were pretty good. We were notified in the fall that we had been awarded some items and although it wasn't everything we asked for (they had many non-profits and schools putting in for these assets, as you might expect), we received a significant amount of the items on our wish list. According to Lewis Ferguson, Interim Executive Director at WOS, we received one of the largest amount of items for any of the non-profit and educational organizations that were on their list for disposition.

Fortunately WOS is only 20 miles away from our museum but it was still a big job to move all of these items. In November we assembled a crack team of volunteers to do the job consisting of Bob Farwell, Rick Simmons, Don Blain and his grandson, Ryan Puffpaff (all of which brought their trucks & trailers to haul away the lion's share of the inventory), Dave Mulheron, Tom Winterrowd, Jack Adams, Speedster Program student Julian Scott and yours truly with my truck and motorcycle trailer. It took us the better part of 2 ½ days to do the move that required some creative loading and packing plus a lot of old fashion sweat

equity and muscle (mostly supplied by the younger guys!).

Now the hard work begins of sorting through, organizing and figuring out how we will use all of these valuable assets that we were fortunate to acquire from World of



Loading up Rick Simmons' rig.

Speed. This will be the topic of many discussions with the museum board of directors and others over the coming months. Once we

are able to open up the museum to visitors again, I would like to invite you to come out and see what we have.

DONATION HIGHLIGHTS:

- Two cars: a restored 1916 Model T Speedster and a 1962 Martinizing Special Roadster
- Four-track slot car track measuring 12' x 8' with spare cars & track parts
- Drag strip "Christmas tree" light reaction time simulator
- Motorcycle motocross exhibit with 11 large display panels & stands
- Muscle car exhibit with large display panel pictures of muscle cars
- Vintage, operational Pepsi soft drink machine
- Large collection of vintage motorcycle artifacts, clothing, photos, etc.
- Portland Speedway artifacts, clothing and collectibles
- Many other collections of PNW motorcycle racing, oval track racing and Rose Cup artifacts

How a Car Guy Practices Social Distancing

By Tom Winterrowd

Today, 54% of US population knows someone with/died from Covid 19. So how do I get through this?

Solution: Buy a 1926 Model T Touring that has not run for 8 years. Friend Terry had too many projects and I foolishly thought I needed one.

This "Old Girl" goes with the pronouns "she" and "her" and is named "Iona". She arrived with optional equipment, 26-27 wire wheels-not very straight and a Ruckstell 2-sp rearend. Items arriving post delivery from the Ford Dealership.

The old babes' 94 years shows well. Transmission- cotton bands but looks good. Seats and interior old and good. ClothTop salvageable but needs some sewing. Tires are

tired...there are new Firestones in her close future.

By the engine number, born November 10, 1925 as a 1926 model. Contrary to popular belief, she came from the factory painted Channel Green. Amazing how fast Hank give up black with a declining market share. Years later painted red. Again years later painted black with equipment closer to a brush than spray equipment. "Out of the Holler" versus "Showroom Floor Shine" is my preference. A mechanically good running T that can climb a hill and maintain 45 mph on the flat is the goal. We are going T camping next year on Mt. Hood.

Oh, by the way. Iona's full name? Iona Ford.

Next-Generation Car Guy

By Andy Ottolia

M eet Dylan Newman, 17, a high school junior and student of our Speedster Program. He just became the proud owner of our 1961 Studebaker Lark. There could not be a more deserving young man than Dylan with his passion for classic cars, strong work ethic and friendly personality.



Dylan and his new Classic ride, a 1961 Studebaker Lark in very original condition.

The Lark has been displayed at the Museum for about 5 years and was the gift of the Greenberg family. In the late 50s and early 60s the Studebaker Lark was a popular model that many of us remember for their good looks,

quality and thriftiness.

Over the last 2 years, Dylan has received a wealth of automotive knowledge working on three important projects. He learned welding and grinding skills working on the 1928 Chevrolet Pie Wagon currently being restored. He was on the team doing brakes, startup and polishing of the 1949 Chevy Fleet line. And, he was instrumental in the full restoration of our 1929 Model A Roadster which is almost complete. Dylan and fellow student Julian worked for 2 months on its paint and body work and today it looks fantastic. He is very thankful for his learning experiences at the Museum and is now well equipped to be a caretaker of classic automobiles.

His plans with the Lark are to make it roadworthy and to drive it to car shows. He loves the boxy European styling and its 4 door practicality.

Congratulations Dylan on your new classic car and many thanks for your contributions to the Speedster Program over the last 2 years.

This is a win-win transaction for all and insures our automotive legacy is carried on by the next generation.

History Showcase

By Andy Ottolia

H ere's a scene from yesterday in Bryce Canyon National Park. A park ranger giving the happy group a tour of spectacular scenery. 100 years ago the Automobile opened the door to our countries beautiful places for all to enjoy.

Can you identify the wagon's make and the year?



THE SCRAPBOOK



In 1953, we traveled to see my father's parents, Celinda and Charles F. Olson, at their Uinta County, Utah, ranch. They were still driving their '31 Chevy Sport Coupe. I'm looking pleased, sitting on the fender, to be associated with such a wonderful car. My brothers and I have been working on it since 2004. My youngest brother, Museum member Nils Olson, who is helping me reassemble it, was born the next year.

- Eric Olson

Our occasional series "The Scrapbook" continues! Do you have an old car or motorcycle photo from your past you want to share? Email it, along with a description, to **Laura Nelson** at **nelsonducks@gmail.com**. (She can also scan the originals if you need...just contact her to work it out!)



On the left is a picture of me dressed as a cowboy at about 4 years old sitting on a 40's car. The other is my Mom in 1921 when she was 11 years old standing on the running board of a Model T (I think).

- Tom Ruttan



"EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE"

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 I-5.

I-5 Exit 263, Brooks

10 minutes north of Salem
30 minutes south of Portland

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2021

Jan. 21	Member/Board Meeting, 2 pm
Feb. 18	Member/Board Meeting, 2 pm
March 18	Member/Board Meeting, 2 pm
April 15	Member/Board Meeting, 2 pm
May 20	Member/Board Meeting, 2 pm
June 17	Member/Board Meeting, 2 pm
June 19	Rendezvous Car Show at the Museum grounds, 8am to 4pm Be there and support your museum!

The Speedster classes are to be held on each Thursday beginning on Jan 7, 2021 unless otherwise noted.

The Portland Swap Meet will possibly be held either April 1,2,3,4 or back up date of April 8,9,10,11, depending on government pandemic restrictions.

Keep an open mind, test negative, be positive and let's hope for the best.

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