

Messenger



SECOND FLOOR BUILDOUT MAKES EXCITING PROGRESS

Photo and article by Rick Simmons

Thanks to all who contributed to our long-term vision of developing an unused portion of the Museum upstairs into a 6,000 square foot Learning Center and multi-use facility. We have been moving forward with the first phase of construction with funding the installation of an elevator, planned from the beginning.

A special thanks to members Jerry and Andy Van Zant of Van Zant Construction for donating their time and efforts to coordinate work and act as liaison with subcontractors to build the elevator support structure and surrounding walls.

This facility will include extra bathrooms, a warming kitchen, theater, meeting room for club activities, a library, and computers for our students. The educational opportunities are endless as well as hosting events such as weddings, memorial services, birthdays, reunions, movies...the list goes on!

We will soon move on to the next phase of finishing the walls, flooring, and utilities, and will need to continue fundraising efforts until finished. When done, we should be able to be self-supporting through rental fees and club dues. Completion of phase one should be done this summer with ongoing work during closed days. Thanks again to all the dedicated volunteers helping on this project.



The framing for the elevator is in on the 2nd floor, and ready for the next step toward not needing steps!

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Letter from the President

By Ron Smith, President

Greetings members and friends! As I type this letter, I'm on my vacation. I will be gone 75 days and will drive over 9500 miles across this great country. Thanks to the many volunteers at the Museum, lots will be getting done while I'm away.

The elevator project has started and we are seeing some progress (mostly upstairs). The Speedster Program is moving along and making improvements to the shop every week. The new front reception desk and computer/cash register are being set up. The display committee is finishing plans on the theme this year, and the Lifestyles area is getting set up. The organ has had a few upgrades this off season as well.

The Museum is going to be doing our Cruise Nights at the Museum again this year. It will be held the second and fourth Wednesday nights in June, July, and August, from 4 pm – 8 pm, so bring your car out and

have a good relaxing time listening to great music, and eating some food provided by our vendors on the grass with a cool breeze.



We will host several car shows again this season. Look for flyers in the spring and summer newsletter.

I hope to see you all at one of the volunteer opportunities in the coming months. We are always out at the Museum on Thursdays working on a multitude of things from 9 am – 2 pm. I hope you can make it out and attend some evening events as well.

All of the museums at Powerland are run by volunteers and can use all you support and help in any way you can.

I will see you all in June when I'm back from vacation. Until then, keep up the great work and get lots done. Again, thanks to the crew at the NWVCM. There are always lots of things happening at your museum!



Find us on [facebook](#) !



“Like” us to get event reminders, fun facts, and photos.

We also welcome your photos and news of other events.

(Search for Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum or find the link on our website, www.nwcarandcycle.com)

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Featured Book from the Ferne Hellie Library: *The Auto Math Handbook* by John Lawlor

By Ruth Jarmusz, Fearless Librarian and Book Reviewer

This book can best be described as a collection of the most basic calculations, formulas and equations required for engine and car building for the layperson.

Some of the chapter topics are compression ratios, piston speed, g-force and weight transfer, and tire sizes and their effects. Each of the seventeen chapters concludes with a table summarizing the formulas it has covered.

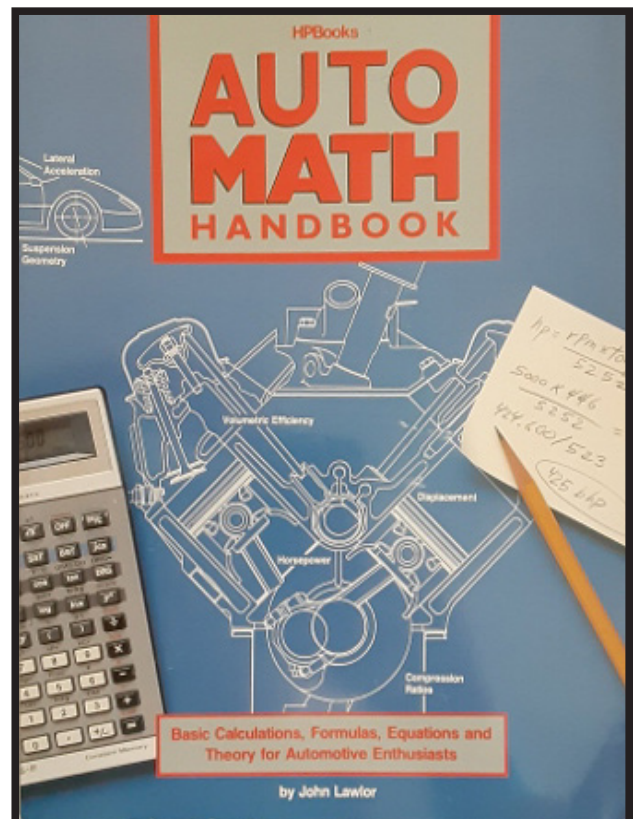
Most of the formulas are written in plain English or easily recognized abbreviations such as rpm and mph.

A chapter is even included on how to figure blood alcohol concentration in a driver!

Appendix A is a list of conversion factors for United States and metric units of measure that could be of use to the automobile aficionados.

Math no longer has to be a necessary evil. With the *Auto Math Handbook*, you'll be able to make simple, accurate calculations to achieve the utmost performance from your car!

I am highlighting this book because I found the topic very interesting, especially since math is not my strong subject! The author breaks down formulas so they are VERY easy to understand. It goes into the reasoning behind the formulas and gives lots of good examples. The *Auto Math Handbook* could be useful to the mentors of the Speedster Program to help explain formulas to a student. Take a look at it on the book stand in the Ferne Hellie Library.





KICK OFF the 2024 SEASON

95th Annual Cherry Blossom Poker Run

April 13 2024

By Andy Ottolia, Event Enthusiast

By now you are ready to get outdoors and enjoy that Jalopy you've worked on all winter. Well, this great event is just perfect for you! It's going on its 95th year. It's sponsored by the Salem Auto Club Council and kicks off the 2024 Car Show Season.

It begins at 9am in Salem and drives along the beautiful countryside of our Willamette Valley. There will be six stops along the drive at points of interest along the way. The run finishes at the NW Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum at approximately 11 am. The cars then line up on the lawn and festivities begin with the prizes, museum tours, and other activities.

On a nice sunny day, over 200 cars participate, and proceeds go to worthy charities. It's a win-win day so don't miss it. All Museum members are encouraged to come out and enjoy the poker run and the car show when they line up on the grounds. Our goal is for Museum members to meet and greet the visitors and tell them about our museum.

So get your classic out, or just show up and see the wild variety of cars and enthusiasts and I guarantee you will have fun and learn something new! See flyer at right for details.

Lifestyles Area Update

By Pat Roby, Lifestyles Display Coordinator

Photo submitted by Ruth Jarmusz, Quilt Photographer

The Lifestyles Committee is busy planning our display area for the coming summer season. The Museum opens on May 18, and are planning for the theme "Road Trip on Route 66."

We usually meet on Thursdays and are looking forward to organizing our road trip display! So, we are looking for Route 66 memorabilia that anyone would like to loan to the Lifestyles area for the summer displays. Stay tuned for a new look in lifestyles.

As usual, we will be displaying quilts, and will have a quilt to raffle this summer as well (see photo). Tickets will be \$1 each or six for \$5. The drawing to be held last day of Steam-Up, need not be present to win.

A BIG THANK YOU to our generous members and the public. We raised enough money last year to buy new mannequins and other necessary supplies. And we can always use donations for our sale table.

If anyone is interested in helping us set up or be a docent for the Lifestyles area, please let me know. There will be docent training this year. See the article in this issue of the Messenger on page 8.

Contact information: Pat Roby 503-692-0774 or email at truckgirl51@yahoo.com.



Pat Roby and Tom Popelka show off this year's prize for the quilt raffle.

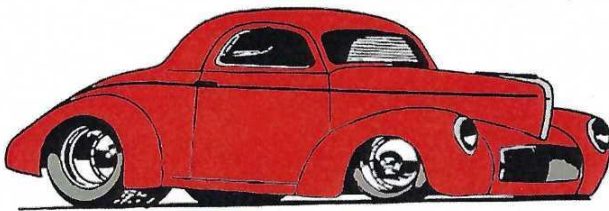


95th Annual

Salem Auto Club Council

Cherry Blossom Drive & Poker Run

Saturday April 13, 2024 9am to 2pm



**Cars, Trucks & Motorcycles
All Welcome!**

This is not a race. Take your time.

Enjoy a beautiful drive through the Willamette Valley visiting six interesting stops for the Poker Run



Start at:

Harbor Freight parking lot - west end (at the old Costco)
1010 Hawthorne Ave. SE, Salem, OR 97301

*****Registration from 9am to 11am*****

Bring canned food or cash donation for Marion Polk Foodshare

Cost: \$5.00 per poker score card

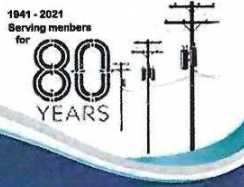
Best 3 hands win!

1st place - \$100. 2nd place - \$75. 3rd place - \$50

Portion of the proceeds go to a local charity

(Bring food or cash donation & be entered in a drawing)

Thanks to:



For more info call Russ Strohmeier 503-930-8976

Drive your Classic Convertible in this Cool Leather Jacket!

By Ruth Jarmusz, Librarian and Ingenius Auctioneer

Up for the highest bidder is this BRAND NEW, with tags, Men's XL, Andrew Marc SUPERB lambskin leather jacket!

- Shell: 100% Leather
- Shell Lining: 100% Polyester
- Sleeve Lining: 100% Polyester
- Jacket Fill: 100% Polyester
- Two outside zipper pockets and one inside
- A quilted bib at the collar can be worn in colder temperatures and removed for milder weather. Wear alone or layer year-round!
- Valued at approximately \$300

“Andrew Marc has been a leading maker of designer outerwear since 1982; building on a rich heritage of garments that embody both fashion and function.” From their website. Bidding is free and you can bid as often as you wish! Just stop by the Museum to view the jacket and fill out a bidding slip, or you can bid by email. Email Ruth Jarmusz at readingsgr8fun@yahoo.com and put Leather jacket in the subject line with your name, phone number and amount you want to bid. Proceeds will benefit the NW Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum. Winning bidder will be announced at the June 20 Museum Board Meeting. Bidders need not be present to win. (In the event of a tie, each party will be able to give a final bid.)



Letter from an Appreciative Member

Reprinted with permission

January 18, 2024

Attached you will find my check for [our family's yearly membership and payment for storage of my] 1909 Brush Runabout. You have been so kind to store it in your facilities after my house fire in June. I believe I dropped it off in late October. What a relief it has been to have had it stored in a safe place, especially in the time of reconstruction of my home. You are lifesavers.

I have always known the value of the Museum and Antique Powerland in general. What a fantastic way to introduce our next generation to the wonders of the long, often forgotten past. It has been my and my family's pleasure to watch and participate in the tremendous growth of this special place.

Thank you for your assistance in my time of need, and blessings to all the good people who make up the Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum.

Signed,

Karen Becker; Chris, Melissa, and Carston Bishop; Susan and Fred Bishop
Jefferson, Oregon

Speedster Shop Update

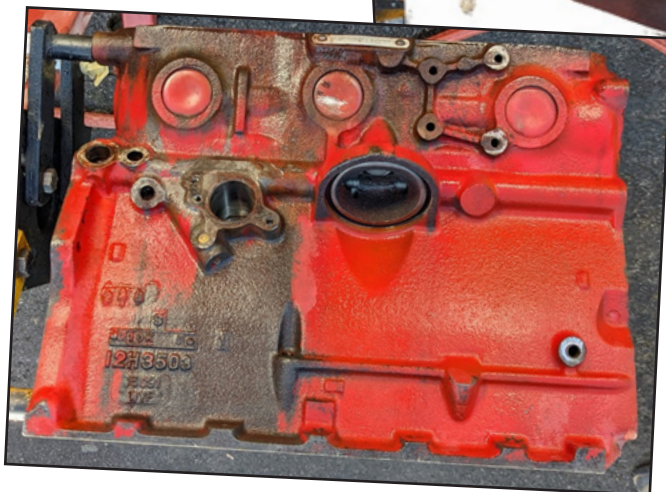
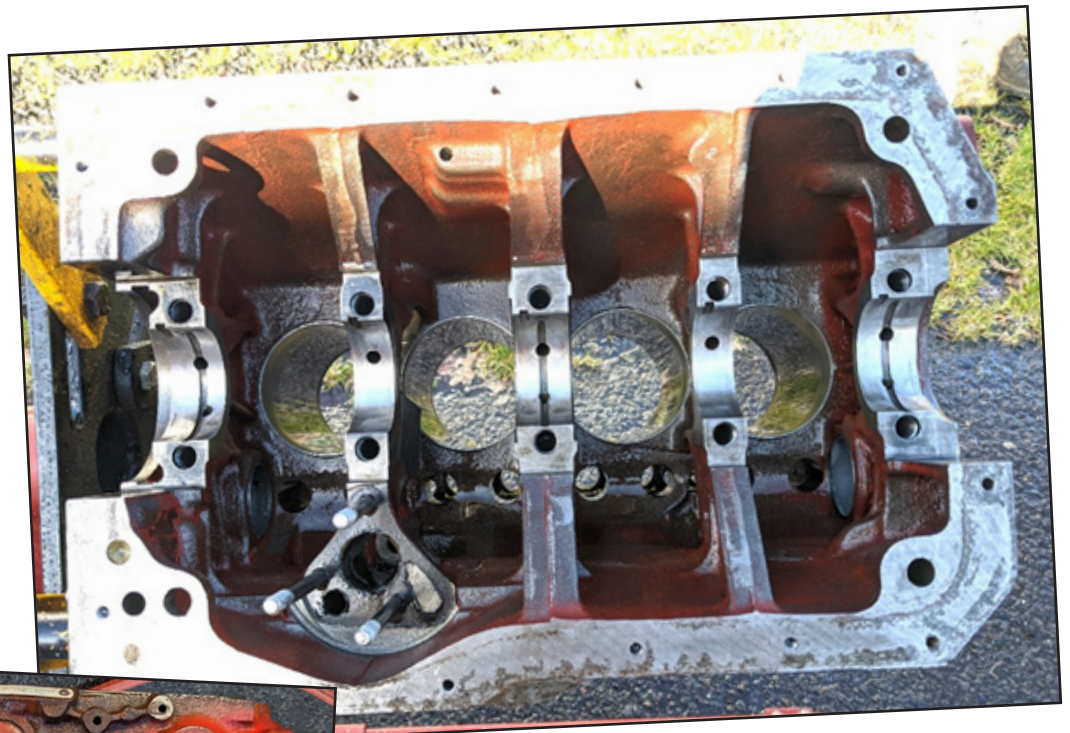
By Gary Dennis, Speedster Chairman

Exciting things are happening at the Speedster shop. Don and crew are assembling the Model A chassis. The project is ready to accept an engine. Since Don is taking a few (well earned) weeks off, Jack and crew will complete the engine installation. A new mentor will step up soon to start the metal work on the Model A coupe. We are looking forward to the mating of the two assemblies to create a complete Model A.

Our most recent acquisition is an automated parts washer. I call it a dishwasher because it

works like one. It currently sits next to the heater. Last week the machine shop crew prepared the machine and cleaned one of our donated MGB blocks. From the pictures you can see how clean the engine is inside and out. This was accomplished in 12 minutes! That saved the students from hours of work at a solvent bench, and they still wouldn't have gotten it as clean as the dishwasher did! It was a big purchase but it will more than earn its keep. If you are around on a Thursday, come and see it work.

**B
E
H
O
L
D**



**The Very Clean Engine Block
(inside and outside)**

Docent Training and Sign-Up Now Available! Call Now to Reserve your Spot!

By Pat Roby, Docent Trainer and Wrangler

This is an organization that operates on volunteer participation. As such, there are no paid positions, and this is one of the aspects that keep our museum financially sound and viable. Our successful programs include the speedster shop, lifestyles, library, vintage organ, summer cruise-ins/car shows, and our summer car and motorcycle displays. The many volunteer hours donated by our members in these areas keep our museum functioning and thriving. The one program that needs more volunteer hours donated is our docent program.

To that end, I would like to invite our membership to consider taking the docent training class on May 11 or May 16. This class is being offered to inform and train the people who will become our link to the public. This link is so important in growing our connection to our membership and ultimately our public.

The volunteer docent opportunities are on weekends only starting May 18 and continue through the end of September. Times are usually in 4 hour blocks on Saturday, 9 am – 4 pm and on Sundays 12 – 4 pm.

On Saturday, May 11 the class will be from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm with coffee and doughnuts provided. The second class will be held on Thursday, May 16 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, with a pizza lunch provided. Both classes are free and will be held at the Museum. You only need to attend one class.

The class will be the same at each session and will include safety training, information about the security of the building, and knowledge about this year's displays. Additionally, it will include what to do when you come on duty and what to do at the end of your shift. Information about making sales at the gift shop is also on the agenda, as well as details about the displays. There will be handouts and opportunities to ask questions as well.

I can't stress enough how vital a docent can be to the survival of a museum. Please consider this opportunity and call me 503-692-0774 or email me at truckgirl51@yahoo.com to sign up for the class. Please RSVP as soon as you can so we have enough food and handouts. Hope to see you there.

Welcome New Members, and Thank You to our Latest Donors

By Ruth Jarmusz

Welcome our New Members This Quarter

- Columbia River Region Vintage Chevrolet Club of America
- Virgil Smith, Tacoma
- Jeremy Scholz, Beaverton
- Steven Whitchurch, Mt. Angel



Thank You for Donations This Quarter

- Willamette Valley Street Rods (For Speedster Program)
- Vassallo Family
- Mark Bjerke
- Powerland Holiday Sparkles

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 Ron Smith at 503-931-7879 or nwvcmpres@gmail.com

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone number(s) _____

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

Membership levels:

- _____ **SPECIAL 3 years for \$100**
- _____ Standard membership, \$40
- _____ 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!*

History Showcase: The Cactus Derby

by Andy Ottolia, History Buff



A road race from Los Angeles to Phoenix called the Cactus Derby was conducted annually from 1908 to 1917. Famed driver Barney Oldfield came from behind to win the 1914 Cactus Derby earning him the title “Master Driver of the World.” In its day, Stutz Bearcats were the fastest sports cars. We have a 1917 Stutz Bearcat in the Museum that looks similar to this car. Back then you could watch these races in the streets of your own town. Racing through towns was an exciting novelty during the infancy of the automobile. This painting from that era was actually found in a museum in Tubac, Arizona.

Joke of the Quarter

From upjoke.com/motorcycle-jokes, submitted by Ruth Jarmusz

A rookie police officer pulls an old biker over for speeding.

Officer: May I see your driver's license?

Biker: I don't have one. I had it suspended when I got my 5th DUI.

Officer: May I see the owner's card for this vehicle?

Biker: It's not my bike. I stole it.

Officer: The motorcycle was stolen?

Biker: That's right. But come to think of it, I think I saw the owner's card in the tool bag when I was putting my gun in there.

Officer: There's a gun in the tool bag?

Biker: Yes sir. That's where I put it after I shot and killed the dude who owns this bike and stuffed his dope in the saddle bags.

Officer: There are drugs in the saddle bags too?!?!?

Biker: Yes, sir. Hearing this, the rookie immediately called his captain. The biker was quickly surrounded by police, and the captain approached the biker to handle the tense situation:

Captain: Sir, can I see your license?

Biker: Sure. Here it is. It was valid.

Captain: Whose motorcycle is this?

Biker: It's mine, officer. Here's the registration.

Captain: Could you slowly open your tool bag so I can see if there's a gun in it?

Biker: Yes, sir, but there's no gun in it. Sure enough, there was nothing in the tool bag.

Captain: Would you mind opening your saddle bags? I was told you said there's drugs in them.

Biker: No problem. The saddle bags were opened; no drugs.

Captain: I don't understand it. The officer who stopped you said you told him you didn't have a license, stole this motorcycle, had a gun in the tool bag, and that there were drugs in the saddle bags.

Biker: Yeah, I'll bet he told you I was speeding, too.



YOU Can Help MUSEUMS

Reprinted from Old Cars Magazine with permission, submitted by Andy Ottolia

Fortunately, the largest old car and truck hobby museums are here to stay, thanks to years of effort by many enthusiasts who donated their time and money toward establishing those museums, and who continue to do so in order to keep them operating. However, many midsize and small museums are not in the same position and seem to come and go. It's an unfortunate fact in every hobby, not just old car and truck-related museums. It takes a lot of organization and people to keep any museum flourishing — curators to keep displays interesting and people returning, fundraising staff to bring in additional money, marketing personnel to introduce the museum to the public, and that's just for starters. Add in the mechanics and detailers required for a car or truck museum and the necessary museum staff grows. Without a trust in place, small and midsize museums that are funded by private individuals are likely to eventually disappear when the founder dies. And even with a trust, some midsize and smaller museums still fade away when the succeeding operators throw in the towel due to lack of interest or funding to get visitors in the door with their admission bucks. But fear not, there are steps all of us can take to help make our hobby museums thrive.

Host an event at a nearby museum or collection. If you're part of a car club or group that holds regular cruise-ins, meet at a museum or car collection instead of

a mall or fast-food restaurant. You can even work with the museum or collection to host a car show and/or swap meet in its parking lot. Anything that will draw people to a museum's parking lot will also help usher people through its doors. People sometimes need an excuse to stop at any kind of establishment, even if they've been considering doing so for a long time. Walking through an unfamiliar building's doors is also intimidating to some people, so if you can get people in the parking lot, you're more likely to get them inside where they may return again and again. If a museum's parking lot won't work for a car show you're organizing, consider including it as a stop during a cruise.

Volunteer your time. Museums certainly need docents and people with dusting skills, but they also need many other types of help. If you have computer, marketing, mechanical, photography, video, writing or fundraising skills, your local museum could probably use your services. If your skills aren't on this list, still inquire. There are many other skills needed to operate a museum, some of which may not have even occurred to you.

If you have a collection of vehicle-related items you'd like to sell, or if you manufacture an item relevant to the museum, offer it to the museum's gift shop where it can earn a profit on each item sold. A self-published book or coloring book, a model, a poster and more are just what museums

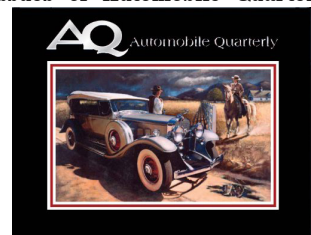
are looking to sell in their gift shops.

Many people allow their cars to be shown in museum displays, and that's surely a help. If you're considering selling that car, inquire whether the car can be advertised for sale while in the museum in a consignment-type arrangement where the museum can earn money from its sale.

Spread the word about museums. If you're handing out a car show flyer at another event, offer to hand out flyers for a local museum at the same time. If you have taken additional steps to support a museum, drop me a note and we'll share them in "Sound Your Horn" to help keep our hobby museums' doors open and introducing new people to the old cars and trucks we love.

WANTED

Issues of Automobile Quarterly



ONLY Volumes 40-52
For: Completing our set at
Fern Hellie Library.

Contact Ruth Jarmusz
 readingsgr8tfun@yahoo.com



"EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE"

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

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

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| April 3 | Model T Club meeting at Museum |
| April 4 | Corvette Club meeting at Museum |
| April 13 | Cherry Blossom Run, 8 am – 3 pm. OUR MUSEUM is the last stop for food and social at 11 am |
| April 18 | Museum Board Meeting, 2 pm – 4 pm |
| April 15 – 21 | Storage cars out of building |
| April 21 – 28 | Building clean up and new cars move in |
| May 1 | Model T Club meeting at Museum |
| May 2 | Corvette Club meeting at Museum |
| May 9 | Tractor Pullers meeting at Museum |
| May 15 | Early Ford Club meeting at Museum |
| May 16 | Museum Board Meeting, 2 pm – 4 pm |
| May 18 | Steam-Up for kids, 9 am – 4 pm |
| June 5 | Model T Club meeting at Museum |
| June 6 | Corvette Club meeting at Museum |
| June 11 | Tractor Pullers meeting at Museum |
| June 12 | Cruise Night at the Museum 4 pm – 8 pm |
| June 13 | Model A Club meeting at Museum |
| June 20 | Museum Board meeting, 2 pm – 4 pm |
| June 26 | Cruise Night at the Museum 4 pm – 8 pm |

Speedster Class at the shop building

April 4, 11, 18, 25
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

WEEKLY WORK DAYS
are **Thursdays from 9 - 2.**
Everyone is welcome to come help.

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