



The Hub

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YOUR CLUB OFFICERS



Our officers for 2018 and beyond! President, Rocky Rodenberg; Vice President, Lani Okalani; Treasurer, Laura Louise Rosenfelt, and Secretary, Marcie Odom. Help welcome the new officers aboard and be nice to Rocky!!

A MESSAGE FROM ED...

Hi Everyone,

I'm Ed. Hope everyone is having a great March. How did everyone's NCAA March Madness bracket turn out? It is an odd one this year. Sorry I got this out so late, I've been busy vacationing in Phoenix watching Spring Training! This was our 6th annual Spring Training trip. Good times!

Also, Tammy McMann is looking for a few good...volunteers to help park cars at their car show on April 29th. See the Upcoming Car Show section for more information. Registration form is included with this month's e-mail.



- Next Club Meeting on Tuesday, April 3rd at Clarette's. 5:30 for dinner and meeting will start no earlier than 6:45 (no, I didn't pick that silly time!).

- You may notice that we have a new Hub editor. It's me!! Tomas. If you have anything to submit, contact me at

tomdeccio@charter.net

LITTLE KNOWN CAR FACTS...

How did everyone do last month on the trivia? Here are some more jewels to gnaw on:

Chronological evolution

Car facts about the car's inventors, etc.:

- 1782 **James Watt** builds the first engine crank.
- 1792 The first U.S. toll roads opened in PA and CT.
- 1860 **Jean Lenoir** invents the spark plug.
- 1887 The **Benz** became the first car offered for sale.
- 1896 The **Duryea** became the first production motor vehicle in the U.S.
- 1897 The first [auto insurance](#) policy is purchased in Westfield, MA.
- 1900 The first Guide **Michelin** published mostly containing a list of gas stations in France.
- 1901 The first **Grand Prix** race was won with an average speed of 46 mph.
- 1901 The first American car manufactured in any quantity, the "**Curved Dash**" Olds is offered for \$650.
- 1913 More than one million cars registered in the U.S.
- 1914 The **Chevrolet** bow-tie emblem first appears.
- 1914 The first electric traffic light was installed in Cleveland.
- 1923 Powered windshield wipers became standard equipment on many cars.
- 1923 A radio was first offered as an accessory.
- 1939 **Buick** introduces turn signals as standard equipment.
- 1946 The first power windows were introduced.
- 1948 **Harley Earl** introduces the tail fin on the Cadillac. Fins don't go away for over a decade.
- 1953 **Chevrolet** introduces its Harley Earl-designed **Corvette**.
- 1954 Padded dashboards introduced for safety.
- 1956 Electric door locks introduced on several luxury models.
- 1958 The first remote adjusted side view mirror.
- 1958 [Ford](#) introduces the first electric trunk release.

- 1958 [Chrysler](#) introduces the day-night rear view mirror.
- 1960 All-weather antifreeze plus coolant introduced.
- 1963 Seat belts first offered as standard equipment.
- 1965 Rear seat belts became standard on most cars.
- 1974 National 55 mph speed limit enacted after oil shortages.
- 1984 **Chrysler** introduces the **Dodge Caravan** and **Plymouth** voyager minivans.
- 1972 Cars traveled along LA freeways at an average speed of 60 mph. In 1982 the average was only 17 mph!
- 1974 The average American family spent 33 percent of their yearly income for a new car. In 1995 the average was 50 percent.
- 1995 the Big Three sold a whopping 97,000 cars in Japan.

SUNNYSIDE CAR SHOW

We sent a very large contingent (3 vehicles) to the Sunnyside Car Show to represent the Cruisers. We froze our pattooties off because it was so windy! But it was sunny so that helped a little. Bill Hickey, Bob Daschofsky and I had a great time.



WE LOST A TRUE FRIEND THIS MONTH



Neal L. Larson
— March 6, 2018

Neal L. Larson, 83, passed away March 6, 2018. Neal was born and raised in Illinois as the only child born to Lester and Marian Larson.

He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend to many. Neal served in the Air Force for eight years as an airline mechanic instructor. He married Joyce Dunston in July 1963 in Alton, Ill. Neal worked for the John Deere Co. and was transferred to Walla Walla in 1972, where they lived and raised their daughters. Neal taught agricultural mechanics classes at Walla Walla Community College and was active in the WWCC Rodeo Team as a volunteer, and he and Joyce spent many weekends at rodeos.

Neal's greatest passion, besides his family, was cars. Every year since 1955, Neal worked for the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) going to all the major races across the country. He loved restoring antique cars and participating in car clubs and shows. Neal belonged to the Walla Walla Historical Auto Club and served as president many times throughout the years. Neal and Joyce also belonged to the Walla Walla Cruisers car club and spent many happy years with their friends in the club. Neal helped organize and fund raise for several Wheelin' Walla Walla Weekends, even up to the age of 82 for the 2017 event.

Neal is survived by his wife of 54 years, Joyce Larson; four loving daughters, Barbara Anthony (Charles) of Illinois, Kelly Watson, Melinda Magnaghi (Scott), Melissa Watson (Tom) of Walla Walla; 10 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. He is preceded in death by both of his parents.

Memorial contributions may be made in Neal's name to his great-grandson, Anders Armijo College Fund through the Herring Groseclose Funeral Home 315 W. Alder, Walla Walla, WA.

CRUISERS 2018 SCHEDULE

Here is the remainder of the off season winter cruise schedule. Meet times are 5:30...unless you decide to come at lunch time and stake out your seat! And usually, there is ice cream afterwards! Del???

Friday, March 30th - Sweet Basil Pizzeria

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Here are some upcoming car shows and stuff...

Saturday, April 21st Patriot Car Show, Liberty Christian School, Richland

Sunday, April 22nd Old Steele Car Show, Union Gap, WA

Saturday, April 28th Benton City Spring Opener - Benton City

Saturday, April 28th Dogwood Show n Shine, Lewiston, ID

Sunday, April 29th **20th Annual WWU Homecoming Car Show**, College Place

**** I am attaching the registration form along with this newsletter. Tammy McMann is the contact person for any questions. Her contact information is on the registration form. She can't make it to the meeting next week but she is looking for a couple more volunteers to help with parking that morning. If you are interested please contact her. You will need you there between 7:50 and 8am. Rick Gumm and Rick Cates (I shall call them The Ricks) are already confirmed to help with parking.**

The Hub

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For submissions to the newsletter, please email the editor

tomdeccio@charter.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.WALLAWALLACRUISERS.COM



Bow Tie Cool & Super Sport Attitude!

The Hub Newsletter needs your pictures and reports of car shows and events you attend.

Submit to: The Hub Editor:
tomdeccio@charter.com



MARKETPLACE

2012 Buick Regal Turbo Premium Sedan for Sale:

The car has 55,129 miles on it. They are the 3rd owner. Has weather tech floor mats; a custom paint job. Looking for \$14,000 but open to negotiation. It's a beautiful car with features that this model would not normally have, like the paint color. If interested let me know and I'll put you in touch with the seller.

