



THE PIT STOP



MOSES LAKE CLASSIC CAR CLUB

MAY 2009



FROM THE PRESIDENT May Panic!

Well, maybe not really panic, but more like excitement over this year's car show. Are there any side bets out there yet on how many cars we'll have this year? It has been an interesting time in our economy, so only May 23rd will tell! Thank you for allowing me to be your president. I know your next president won't have my handsome good looks, or ear-catching accent, but then again, maybe you will understand them better!

This month's column is the completion of the history of the Opel. Opel in Europe: Opel is the main GM brand name in Europe except in the UK, where GM's other European subsidiary, Vauxhall Motors, still uses its own "Vauxhall" brand name. Vauxhall's models were its models, with the exception of 'Kadett' which was replaced by Astra, already used by Vauxhall, in 1991. In other right-hand drive markets in Europe like Ireland, Cyprus and Malta, the main GM brand name is now Opel, and for many years, Opel's Ireland brand sponsored the Republic's football team, using the slogan Ireland's Number One Supporter.

Some have suggested that the Vauxhall name should be dropped in the UK in favour of Opel, thereby harmonising GM's marketing strategy across Europe. However, Vauxhall has rejected this, on the grounds that its brand is well known, and fleet buyers, who are its main customer base, insisted that Opel models be rebadged as Vauxhalls. Opel also provides design and engineering to the American Saturn marque, similar to the Vauxhall situation in the UK.

An Opel Factory in Bochum: The company headquarters are located in Rüsselsheim, and it has plants in Bochum, Eisenach and Kaiserslautern as well as in Belgium, Spain, Poland and Hungary. In 2004 an employee strike had a major impact on production. In 2005, the new Opel Astra Diesel Hybrid appeared. In 2006, the Azambuja, Portugal factory shut down and the production of the Opel Combo transferred to Zaragoza, Spain. The move prompted a national boycott movement and caused the Portuguese Government to sue General Motors. General Motors announced in April 2008 that they would invest EUR9 billion by 2012 in a bid to stop the market share erosion of the Opel brand in Europe.

On November 17, 2008 Opel announced that they were seeking a €1 billion credit guarantee from the German government to help the Opel subsidiary if the parent GM doesn't make it through the credit crisis. The news comes as GM faces possible bankruptcy. The German government will most probably decline any guarantees due to the fact that the money could be transferred into the US, instead of using for the Opel subsidiary.

Opel logo: The lightning bolt on the Opel badging is a reference to the famous Opel Blitz truck. The German word 'Blitz' means lightning or flash. The logo was originally a Zeppelin, which became more stylized, and as the Zeppelin became less popular as a form of transport, the logo was changed. There is also a noticeable similarity between the winged Zeppelin and the lightning logo. Starting with the Opel Insignia, the Blitz logo will be updated. The border that is circling the lightning bolt will be wider to incorporate the Opel name, and the surfaces will be more spherical to give the logo a three-dimensional look.

DAVE

Moses Lake Classic Car Club

April 9, 2009

Meeting Minutes

Meeting at Memories-R-Forever. Called to order at 6:50 p.m. with President Dave at the podium.

The minutes from our last meeting were approved as printed in our last Newsletter. Barb gave the Treasurers Report. We have \$2,101.26 in our Money Market (Rainy Day) Fund. \$659.63 was paid out last month on five bills. \$1,130.50 was deposited from sponsors, dues and the 50/50 contest. A motion was approved to pay the bills on hand.

Car Show Committee Reports - Chairwoman Karen reported that more of the women's car club monogrammed shirts could be done and anyone that wants one should get a black T-shirt to her. Mick asked about same thing for a man's shirt and Karen said she would try although the person doing the work is just learning a brand new machine.

There was a request from Mrs. Moses Lake for a convertible to carry her in the Moonlight Parade. New member Harlan Cospers advised he will have room for her in his '63 Bonneville, which will be carrying a Jr. Miss. Karen has a request from the Moses Lake Senior Center for table space at our car show. The members agreed to find space for them. Bruce reported that Registration is going fine and he is working on printing all the materials for that. Paul said he has more show flyers and registration forms if anyone needs any. Karen reported that T-shirts are being made, car show advertisements will be in next weeks Nickel Saver, all Trophies are sponsored, Dash Plaques are being made (she had a sample with the red Chev on it) and she will run the Raffle table. She also said she wanted to rent 10 tables and a storage trailer, but Paul, Joe, Bruce, Bob M. and Bob D. will bring the tables and Kristen will provide the trailer. Bruce and Bob D. will bring Mick's sound system and will try to set it up for better reception at the back side of the library.

Mick advised his breakfast plans are coming together. He needs a couple more helpers and Michael's Catering will be providing some help. Bob M. requested money to start getting Door Prizes and the club approved \$300 for that. Bob D. said he has everything he needs for the Photography. Bob K.

handed out and explained his park Set Up Plan which is basically the same as last year. Joe volunteered to help park cars, so now there will be six on that crew. Aaron said he will be drafting a few of his friends (maybe former friends) to sell Bingo cards.

Michelle had a request to save three parking spaces at the new memorial plaque for Dennis Ferguson. The club agreed to that and Bob K. will block off the needed spaces. Michelle also asked for information to give to folks looking for local RV parks. She has heard the Fairgrounds RV Park is already full. Members suggested Cascade Park, Lakeside Resort and WalMart.

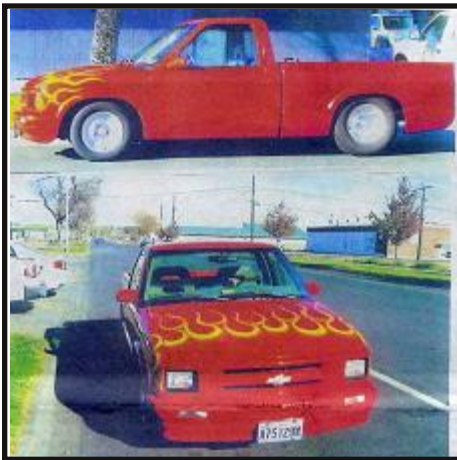
Old/New Business- Webmaster Paul had an email from Wenatchee Valley Cruisers suggesting our club join them at their Blimpy's Baskin & Robbins for a show and shine and they would then join us sometime at our Baskin & Robbins for a show and shine. Paul also reported that he, Clay and Karen and Joe all went on the Ritzville Gumball Rally to Grand Coulee Dam. Joe won on his poker hand and Paul won for oldest driver - again. Paul has made some changes -in red- to the future car shows listed on our website. President Dave reminded us of our club's show & shines at Sunbridge, from 10 to 2 on May 13 with pizza and Hearthstone, from 2 to 4 on May 6, with root beer floats for participants.

Harley and Juanita had the 'Duck' on display in Easter finery. Harley read the rules for Duck ownership, then Clay 'fessed up about his cars fuel gauge troubles on the Gumball Rally. Clay and Karen are now the Duck owners. Karen noticed previous owners have failed to keep up with the photo documentation. Sharrie told us about the Columbia Basin Cancer Fund and their raffle, with a John Deere lawn tractor as the grand prize. She has tickets for sale.

Meeting was adjourned 7:40 p.m. Guests and new members were introduced: Chris Johnson - Olds, Harlan Cospers - '63 Bonneville, Jeremy Reese - 2000 Prelude, Jeff Buchanan - '95 Accord and Sarah and Dave Lewis - '69 Beetle and '76 Fiat. All were welcomed. Door prizes were drawn as follows: Annie won the 12 volt compressor, Jeremy won a '55 Desoto and a tire gauge. The featured car of the month was won by Ron B. and the 50/50 was won by Delbert.

Larry made a valiant effort to recite a poem about Easter eggs and the neighbor's peacock.

Submitted by Bob Kent, Secretary



Ron Baker's '95 Chevy Luv PU

April Car of the Month

The engine is a highly modified 350 Chev with a 350 turbo transmission. The rear end has a full sized Chev differential; the wheels and tires are designed for full racing; the body has been lowered and the bumpers have been modified.

This beauty has a custom paint job, viper red, with old school scalloped flames, painted by Fred Gaston of Performance Auto Body in Moses Lake.



A Gas Station Of Yesteryear

Notice the price on the sign? Yes that's only .34 cents for hi-test gasoline and .28 cents for regular. (Let's not forget the 9/10% of a penny.)

With a fill-up you got, the gas pumped for you; your windshield cleaned; your oil and fluids checked; tire pressure checked; a free map, if you wanted it; and don't forget your Green Stamps!!!

NOTICES

The Hearthstone Inn Car Show will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Root beer floats will be served.

The Sundbridge Car Show will be held on Wednesday, May 13, 2009, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pizza will be served for lunch.



NEXT MEETING: MAY 14, 2009

TIME: 6:00 P.M DINNER

7:00 P.M MEETING

LOCATION: MEMORIES ARE FOREVER

MENU: "COOK'S CHOICE"

BUY, SALE, TRADE

1986 GMC for sale. 350 Corvette engine, lifts. Asking \$5,500 OBO. Call Joy, 855-2917. Vehicle located at 1300 W Marine Dr., #25, Moses Lake.



"100.00 WILL BUY THIS CAR, MUST HAVE CASH, LOST ALL ON THE STOCK MARKET"

Depression Era Wisdom

(Adapted from an article By ASHLEY GRIMALDO)

While I always poked fun at my grandma's creative use of leftover pickle jars, reuse of styrofoam plates, and water-infused hand soap, she had a point. Folks from the Great Depression Era were pros at stretching a buck. Despite the gloomy economic forecast we are still living in luxury, whether we'd like to admit it or not. Take the lead from seasoned thrifty seniors to waste not, want not:

1. Stop using credit cards: People who survived the Great Depression well understood that you never borrow money unless you have a clear plan on how to pay it back. This includes your automobile.
2. Never throw good food out: Keep the breadcrumbs, leftover chicken, and flour for other recipes. Buy food less frequently so you reduce the risk of it spoiling.
3. Buy sturdy, long-lasting products: Look

for items that have more than one purpose. Look to second-hand stores or garage sales for items that can be bought at a big discount.

4. Farm your yard: Grandpa grew summer squash, cabbage, carrots, and cherry tomatoes on a vine as long as I knew him. If you have a small plot of land grow food on it. Homegrown vegetables can't be beat for taste and cost.

5. Spend time at home: In my city we don't have a huge variety of options for free activities. Hang out at home with family and friends. Children from the Depression Era remember having community dances, ice cream socials, and spelling bees to pass the time.

Living simply will grant you a sweet appreciation for what you have. Rather than viewing the recession with a but-I-wanna-buy-it attitude, use this time to pare down and live within your means. As the saying goes, "use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without."

Moses Lake Classic Car Club

23127 RD 6 SE

Warden, WA 98857