



Blown Gasket

Oil Capitol Auto Club

P.O. Box 1861

Mills, WY 82644

We are on the Web at www.ocac.cc

May 2018 * Volume 5

The Blown Gasket is published by the Oil Capitol Auto Club. Newsletter info, pictures and interesting tidbits can be sent to Jerry Russell at GhostMerc@qwestoffice.net or 577-7119. Editor reserves the right to edit all copy for length, grammar, and/or style. Deadline is the Thursday after that month's meeting, which is held on the second Wednesday of the month at Z's Classics, 2049 E. Yellowstone, Casper, WY. *Dues are \$20 per year payable January 1st.*

Upcoming Club Activities

Regular Monthly Meeting, June 13, at Z's Classics, at 7:00 PM

Friday club dinner: Contact Pat Potter 315-5144

Sunday Breakfast: May: Denny's (7:30 AM)

June: Yellowstone Garage (8:00 AM)

BIRTHDAYS

Jennifer Baker, Stan Goodwin, Chuck Burrows, Bethany Baker, Tel Baird, Rocky Smith



Pathways School Car Show

OCAC MEETING MINUTES

Oil Capitol Auto Club
General Membership Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2018

Board of Directors:

President:	Rocky Smith
Vice President:	Bruce Berst
Treasurer:	Ken Lantta
Secretary:	Mark Milliken
Car Show Committee Chairman:	Jerry Barton
Newsletter Editor:	Jerry Russell
Webmaster and Social Media:	Mike Kennedy

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the President.

Minutes: The President asked for any corrections or additions to the April minutes. Hearing none, the minutes were approved as posted.

Treasurer:

- A financial status report was presented.
- Membership status: 56 Active, 33 Family, 26 Lifetime, 14 Lifetime Family. Lifetime members are being contacted regarding their membership status, with 22 unanswered queries to date. Unresponsive members will be dropped from OCAC membership.

Vice President:

- The Pathways School car show and fundraiser was a big success, with 39 cars attending.
- The Foss Motors import car show is on for Friday, May 25, 10 AM.

Car Show Committee Chairman:

- Fairgrounds are ready, but volunteers are needed for parking (see Bruce Berst).
- Ramkota has 40 rooms reserved. Parking will not be a problem.
- The Saturday evening program at Ramkota will include an ice cream social, live band, photo presentation, raffles, and door prizes.
- Judy Goodwin has received 80 car registrations.
- Those who wish to be on TV can meet on Friday, May 25 at 6:30 AM at K2 for a TV spot. Check with Stan Goodwin for more info.

Charity Committee (Pat Potter):

- The Committee prepared and presented a report on how they think charities should be handled.
- Five military veteran scholarships are proposed at \$2500 each.

- Other funds were proposed to go to United Way. Objections were made to United Way because of their out-of-town status, and lack of focus on military veterans (the original reason for the Memorial Day Car Show).
- A vote was taken and passed to omit United Way language from the Committee's report.
- Forms are available to members for designating their choice of beneficiaries.

Social events planning:

- Pat Potter will plan the Christmas party, the President will plan the New Year's party, and Pam Burrous and Jennifer Bakers will plan pot luck picnics.

Guest speaker:

- Jason Vlcan of the National Historic Trails Center provided information on upcoming events of interest to OCAC members.
- June 9 is an OCAC cruise to Ft. Phil Kearney and the Fetterman battlefield site. Meet at 8 AM at the NHTC parking lot. Historian Bob Wilson will be our guide for the day.
- June 30 is a field outing along the Oregon Trail between Poison Spider and Independence Rock. OCAC has received a special invitation to attend. Bring your everyday driver for this dirt road.
- Other NHTC road trips include "Three Crossings" (July 7), "Cheyenne-Deadwood Stage Route" (August 18), and "1851 treaty of Ft. Laramie" (September 8). Call Jason at 307 261-7783 for more info.

Summary of events discussed:

- 5/19: "**Cars and Coffee for Veterans**" 8–10 AM, eastside City Brew. Military veterans will receive complimentary coffee courtesy of the OCAC membership,
- 5/23: Preview tour of the "**Dash for Cash**" Cruise. Meet at 6 PM, Sunrise Shopping Center,
- 5/25-5/26: **Car show registration** at Ramkota. No registration on Sunday, 5/27,
- 5/25: In addition to the **Foss import** show, there will be shows for **all GM** at Griener GM (E. 2nd), **all Mopar** at Fremont Motors (E. 2nd), and **all Ford** at Griener Ford (CY Ave.). All 10 AM,
- 5/25: A special edition "**Cars and Coffee**" will be at eastside City Brew 7:30 – 10 AM,
- 5/26: **Dash for Cash** and **Yellowstone Garage Cruise-in**,
- 5/27: **OCAC Memorial Weekend Car Show** at Casper fairgrounds,
- 6/2: **Gumbo Cook-off** at fairgrounds,
- 6/2: **Elks car show** downtown at Elks Lodge,
- 6/9: OCAC tour of **Ft. Phil Kearney and Fetterman Battlefield** site. Meet at 8 AM at NHTC,
- 6/30: **Oregon Trail** tour sponsored by the NHTC. Meet 8 AM at NHTC,
- 7/21: **Cloud Peak** car show,
- Check ocac.cc for more details.

Adjournment: Hearing no further business, the President adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Studebaker Bring Mercedes-Benz to America

Mercedes-Benz had a very weak distribution system in the United States in the early to middle 1950's. Except for a few racing SLs the marque was virtually invisible in the United States. In an attempt to expand sales in the US, Mercedes needed a partner with a large dealer network. Negotiations started in 1957 and a Distribution Alliance agreement was reached with Studebaker-Packard Corporation. Beginning in 1958 Studebaker-Packard had exclusive rights to distribute Mercedes in the United States. The agreement also prohibited Studebaker-Packard from developing and selling their own luxury car which might have sped up the demise of Packard and the Studebaker.

After 1958 the Packard line was discontinued but Studebaker retained distribution rights for Mercedes-Benz. A few executives from the Packard division formed a subsidiary within Studebaker Corp. named Mercedes-Benz Sales, Inc. with offices located in South Bend, Indiana.

Dealerships had to promise to purchase \$10,000 in tools, parts, supplies, and supply floor space for 2 to 4 Mercedes vehicles to be able to offer Mercedes for sale in the dealership. By 1964 more than 150 Studebaker dealerships were also selling Mercedes with 20 now selling Mercedes exclusively.

By the early 1960's Mercedes was delivering more than 20,000 vehicles a year to customers in the United States. Mercedes decided that they could go it alone without Studebaker and bought back the Mercedes-Benz Sales, Inc. contract for \$9 million, more than 5 times the original value. Mercedes-Benz of North America was formed in 1963 and Studebaker produced its last vehicle some three years later.

NEW MEMBERS

Chad Andress
1929 Ford Coupe
1966 Ford Mustang
1966 Ford F100

Jared Converse
1970 Dodge Challenger

Jim & Sharon Trantham
1938 Dodge Touring Sedan

Danny O'Connell
1971 Chevrolet Chevelle

John Schmidt
1971 Ford Bronco

BENOVELENCE

Sylvia Kirby is currently at Central Wyoming Hospice. No further details are available.

MY CAR

How can I introduce Chris Raymond to you? Enthusiastic, young (33), mechanically inclined, a father, husband, racer, and car nut. After working as a Subaru Tech for White's Mountain Motors for 10 years, he decided to go to WyoTech where he earned his Associates degree. Chris has been an Auto tech teacher at Casper College for almost 14 years. Luckily for him Casper College wants someone who can teach with a hands on approach for a hands on occupation. Chris is a tuner car lover. He owns a 1970 Triumph Spitfire, a British roadster which runs well and looks well but sits in primer at present. He hopes to get finished in the near future. His daily driver is a 2009 MiniCooper tuner. It is hopped up and he hopes to take it to track days. Also, as a race fan he has a 2004 Nissan Sentra Rally complete with a roll cage, harness, and set up to race. Wyoming has a qualified race track in Lusk which is where he raced last summer and has plans for this summer as well.

His wife Amy teaches Pharmacy Tech at Casper College. Chris also has a son who is 5 and loves anything on wheels. He also has a 3 year old daughter. As a family they love the outdoors and partake of mountain biking, hiking, and winter skiing. This summer Chris plans to do more racing at Lusk and in surrounding states.

As a Casper native Chris has always known about the OCAC and his vocation and occupation is his main motivation for joining our ranks. Someone from the OCAC spotted his Nissan sitting in the parking lot and put one of our "I Like Your Car" cards on the windshield. Chris called Ken Lantta and was glad to hear that the OCAC is eager to recruit younger members with different kinds of cars. Chris likes to lead by example, hopefully to his students, so he has joined the OCAC. Welcome to Chris and his family.

CLASSIC CLUES

Question: What was the first car to be offered with a "perpetual guarantee."

Answer: The 1904 Acme, from Reading, PA. Perpetuity was disturbing in this case, as Acme closed down in 1911.

MEMORIAL DAY CAR SHOW

Planning for the Memorial Day Car Show continues with more and more sponsors coming on board. Of course, volunteers are always needed; and there is always lots to do. Members are urged to register early and to check the website and Facebook regularly for updates and schedules. For up to the minute information, please contact Jerry Barton or any of the officers. Time is growing short and there is lots to do. Everyone is urged to pitch in and help wherever you can. Also, tell everyone you know about the show and ask them to get those cars out and dust them off. See you there.



ROAD TRIP

A road trip is currently scheduled for 6/9/18 to Ft. Phil Kearney and the Wagon Box Fight near Story, WY. The group plans to meet at the Ramkota Hotel on the 9th and leave by 8:00 AM to travel to the fort. There will be a guided tour of both sites with the group then returning to Casper. Please contact Mark Milliken for more details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Arts in Motion Car Show, Denver, CO, 5/20/18.

Gillette Car Show, Gillette, WY, 5/26/18.

OCAC Memorial Day Car Show, 5/25, 26, 27/18, Casper, WY & Natrona County Fair Grounds.

Gumbo Cook Off, 6/2/18, Natrona County Fairgrounds.

Casper Elks Club Car Show, 6/2/18, Elks Lodge in Casper, WY.

WyoTech Car Show, Laramie, WY, 6/2/18.

Fort Phil Kearney/Wagon Box Fight Tour, Story, WY, 6/9/18.

Douglas Car Show, Douglas, WY, 6/9/18.

Hulett Car Show, Hulett, WY, 6/9/18.

Alan Rietz Gun & MOPAR Auction 6/8 & 9, 2018, Mansfield, SD, Van Der Brink Auctions.

FOMOCO Picnic & Car Show, 6/24/18, Arapahoe Park, Golden, CO.

Main Street Cruisers, Car Show & Shine, 6/16/18, Soda Springs, ID.

Rocky Mountain Street Rod Nationals, Pueblo, CO, 6/22-24, 2018.

