



THE OIL CAPITOL AUTO CLUB'S

BLOWN GASKET

Oil Capitol Auto Club
P.O. Box 1861
Mills, WY 82644

January-February 2013
Volume 15, Nos. 1 and 2

The Blown Gasket is published by the Oil Capitol Auto Club, Casper, WY. Editor reserves the right to edit all copy for length, grammar, and style. Deadline is the 15th of each month. Dues are \$20 per year - payable January 1st. Check with the club website, <http://ocac.cc> for the most up-to-date information. Memorial Weekend show info: <http://cruizinwiththeoldies.com/>

Recurring Club Activities

- **General membership meeting:** Second Wednesdays, 7PM, Z's Classics, 2049 E. Yellowstone.
- **Car Show Committee:** First Wednesdays, 6:30 PM, Kloster shop, 236 N. Kimball.
- **Friday night dinners:** 6:30 PM, check with Skip Hoffman, 277-0818.
- **Sunday breakfast:** 7:30 AM, January: G-mas (old Herbo's).

Special Club Activities

- **February 13, 2012:** Potluck and general membership meeting, 6:30 PM, Z's Classics, 2049 E. Yellowstone. Bring a main dish or dessert.
- **May 25-26, 2013:** 13th Annual OCAC "Cruisin' With The Oldies" Car Show.

The Prez Sez.....

OCAC has a great year started. So let's start thinking about what we want to do this year. We'll be looking for members to lead cruises, picnics, tours, and perhaps an overnight run. Let's all get involved. And don't forget, CAR SHOW, CAR SHOW, CAR SHOW.

OCAC President Skip Hoffman

Important Newsletter Information

Starting with the April 2013 issue, Blown Gasket will be published only on the OCAC website. The reason is simple: when nominations for Editor were requested at the November General Membership meeting, no one stepped up. Just to make sure some kind of newsletter continued, I volunteered with the understanding that the newsletter would become all-electronic early in 2013. The membership expressed no concerns, and no discussion ensued.

Newsletters will be posted on the OCAC site by the 25th of every month prior to the month of publication. Due to the demands of starting my new company while holding down two jobs, there is precious little time to manage emails, printing, posting, and mailing tasks. Since most members have computers, the club can save hundreds of man-hours and many hundreds of dollars per year in printing and mailing costs. The OCAC web site can be viewed on computers at any library, and 24/7 around the world on common electronic devices. Hardcopies can be obtained for a few cents by accessing the OCAC site at any print shop.

Understandably, some members believe that mailed hardcopies are important and should be continued. If that's you, then let's do it! Let's talk about how you can become a co-editor to handle r hardcopy mailings. Special arrangements can be made for members who are homebound, in assisted living, or hospice. By the way, many thanks to Connie Bryant for the historical documents from the pre-OCAC "Horseless Carriage Club of America."

Mark Milliken, 2013 Editor.

General membership meeting Minutes, January 9, 2013

Welcome everyone attending meeting (22 members) at Z's Classics.

New members Jim Nations mid 80's Jaguar
Mike & Cheryl Ross '90 Corvette & 1927 Model T

Meeting came to order at 7:03 p.m. Motioned by Mark Milliken and 2nd by Bob Entrekin to approve Treasurer's Report. General Account \$2,346.79 Auction Fund \$431.72 Special Events \$6,879.11 (December statement)

BILLS PAID: Caddy Shack \$768.00 Quality Office Solutions \$22.68 Peden's \$107.10 Postmaster \$90.00

SPECIAL EVENTS

12/14/12 Greiner/Schmidt Motor Co. 2013 Platinum Sponsorship \$1,000.00 for MEMORIAL WEEK-END 2013 CAR SHOW

In Bailey Midkiff's absence, Phil Nissen, Stan Goodwin, Jim Nations and Jerry Barton have volunteered for the MW 2013 program. Jerry Barton, Stan & Judy Goodwin have been working on the MW 2013 Car Show budget. 300 entries needed for the 3 day event to self-support itself. NO parade, NO ice cream social and awards to be given out Sunday afternoon, the last day of the event. Greiner/Schmidt Ford will have the Mustang Show on Friday. Activities at John Huff's YELLOWSTONE GARAGE is BURNOUT (burn rubber until you need new tires) and a concession stand, SHERRI'S maybe catering. Plans still in the works.

NEW BUSINESS

Suggested by Jerry Knight & Pat Potter to auction old OCAC inventory.

New WEDNESDAY NIGHT CRUISE director needed for 2013. Ralph Butler will continue until new director steps up.

Volunteer needed to take calls for FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER reservations. Skip Hoffman will continue until new person steps up.

Newsletters will no longer be mailed out in about 3-4 months. E-Newsletter copies can be obtained at the library, print out cost to member will be less than \$1.00. VOICE YOUR OPINION IF YOU DO NOT AGREE with these changes.

Yolanda Scribner to reserve 2014 New Year's Brunch at Best Western Ramkota. Menu changes have been requested. Christmas party reservation have been suggested to return to the Caddy Shack. Potluck for February VALENTINE'S DAY; bring dishes in about 6:15 p.m dinner at 6:30 p.m. Meeting starts at 7 p.m. Motion made by Jerry Knight 2nd by Jerry Russell add 5 e-mail package for officers @ \$5.95 month to internet program

Jerry Knight Auctioneer brought in \$41.80 (new auction fund total \$473.52) for items donated to auction, Collectible car books, Antique glass car plate, assorted saws, bags, hacksaws, etc. Thank you to all who donated items. Thank you Cindy & Ashley for bringing in cookies and M & M brownies.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Don Heil 2nd by Mark Milliken at 7:38 p.m.

Secretary/Treasurer, Yolanda I. Scribner

The Gray Ghost Rises Again (Part 1 of 2)

By Jim Nations and Steve Cutler

Back in the day (1970s and '80s), Lander Wyoming provided hot-rodders a simple and entertaining cruise on Main Street. For instance, you could start at the Safeway parking lot to see who was lined up and hanging out.

Next, you would head down Main Street, past Artís Bar and Tastee Freez. If you wanted to show off next to a car full of Riverton girls you'd gas it on the straight away after the corner by the high school. Next, you would turn around at A&W, cruise by Dairyland to see who was chomping on Cartwheels, and then drive past Safeway to see the parked trucks and cars. Also, if you headed toward the river, and hit the 3rd street

traffic light, it would provide a great echo chamber as the sound of revved-up engines bounced between Landers tallest buildings. It was the next light, at 2nd, that provided a natural drag strip. Main Street went from two lanes at 2nd to a single lane across the river bridge, which provided a built-in winners lane for those of us willing to risk the ticket/s. If you were suspicious that a cop had spotted you racing, you would continue to motor south, out of town toward the truck stop or turn left and head to Riverton. Remember to merge to the left lane by the antelope statue, the one that would mysteriously grow genitals made of a radiator hose and two softballs. This was a yearly ritual around the time tourist season started.



Road Runner owner/restorer Steve Cutler (L) and Jim Nations with the "Grey Ghost." Jim points to the "kick" panel.

If the race was serious, you would head south, out of town, or to Sinks Canyon. It would be a good time to check on the kegger up in the Canyon or somewhere along Baldwin Creek/Squaw Creek, or at the rusted-out bus body among the sagebrush that served as a marker for so much romance and next-morning headaches. After the festivities ended or were cut short by Fremont County's finest, it was back to the 14 blocks of Main Street and endless tanks of gas, testosterone-laden challenges, wolf whistles and bare butts through the passenger windows.

If you didn't rack up at least 100 miles a weekend while cruising Lander's Main Street, you just weren't trying!~One of those nights eventually led to a remarkable connection between friends of mine in Lander and Casper. Jeff Palmeno and I were two of the biggest Mopar guys around at the time, he had a fast 170 Roadrunner called the "Gray Ghost", silvery-gray with an Air Grabber hood, 440 4-speed, pistol grip shifter and a bench seat. This Mopar was born with a 440X6-pak, but Jeff switched it to a 780 Holley and sold the 6-pak setup. Jeff's dad ran the Chevron Gas Station in Lander, which served as a good base to fill up, hang out and put your car on the lift to wrench and tighten those header bolts. That was typical on my 169 Roadrunner, 383 Magnum, 727

automatic console shift, red with black hood stripes and the Air Grabber fresh air system. Both Roadrunners had the original 1-beep, 2-beep horns that sounded exactly like the horn on the shop Jeep pickup at the Ford dealer where some of us had worked at different times. (Mopar guys know why the horns sound alike).

Jeff and I were in the "Grey Ghost" late one Saturday, we came around the high school curve and noticed a drunk girl wobbling on the sidewalk by the Kawasaki dealer. We slowed down to see who it was; a friend's under aged sister who was out way too late. Jeff pulled into the parking lot so she was on his side of the car. I teased her about being drunk and told her I was going to tell her older brother, who was in college at UW Laramie and had asked me to keep an eye on her. She got belligerent and started hitting the driver's door. Now Jeff is about 5'6", maybe 130 pounds and this girl was big. He yelled at her to get away from the car and she got madder. She then offered to kick Jeff's butt, however, decided to kick the "Gray Ghost" instead. She was successful with denting the body right behind the driver's door just as Jeff was pulling away and before she did any more damage. Well, he almost made it and this was chalked up as "Another Night of Excitement in San Diego". *To be continued.*

A Word from the Car Show Chairman.....

If you haven't already heard we are cutting the car show back to two days on the account of a needed fresh start. We have also cut out a lot of the dining activities as well as the parade. But it is all for a great cause and I feel very confident that it will be a great solution to the overwhelming weekend it has become.

The goal this year was to bring back the fun and cut out the work. We have a lot of new ideas in store down at the Yellowstone garage. We even have updated the awards and got rid of the classic jacket which was a task in itself I must say. The committee has got help from some new faces but is still needing a few folks to put in there two cents if at all possible. I love getting new ideas from the club members and am very consistent at putting them to good use. So come on by to our next meeting on February 6th at Larry Klosters corvette garage hope to see ya there thanks for all the help.

Bailey Reese Midkiff

Cruisin' With The Oldies – 2013

During Memorial Weekend of 2013 OCAC will host the 13th “Cruisin’ With The Oldies” cruise-in and car show. Led by Bailey Midkiff as Event Chairman, planning is well underway for what we hope will be a less labor-intensive show. Most club members who have helped with the event felt that it needed to be simplified and shortened. Feedback from some participants gave the same message – a four day car show was too long, especially for Memorial weekend.

So, this year’s “Cruisin’” will be two days long but still include plenty of fun activities for both participants and the public to enjoy. The actual schedule of events is still tentative but begins on Friday with Greiner Motors sponsoring an All-Mustang show at the dealership on “CY” Avenue. It will be a Friday only event this year with awards to be given out at the dealership at the end of the day.

Saturday morning will feature a short cruise for participants that will wind up with a cruise in at the Yellowstone Garage like in past years. Food will be available for purchase and some new activities are being discussed by the planning committee. In the late

afternoon, a cash cruise sponsored by Starbrite Restoration will have participants follow a route with several stops where lucky entry numbers will be drawn for cash. The destination for this cruise is still in the planning stages. Neither a parade or poker run are being planned for this year.

Sunday will feature the car show itself at the Central Wyoming Fairgrounds and will also include an automotive swap meet and vendors. Cruisin’ With The Oldies will finish with the awards being given out at the Fairgrounds at the close of the show around 3:00 PM.

All committees need some additional help from club members to make even this shortened event a success. Those of us on the show committee are excited about what we have planned and we’re looking forward to a more manageable schedule of events. Come join in on the fun. A sign up sheet will be passed around at club meetings too.

Phil Nissen, Publicity Chairman



OCAC CAR SHOW NOTES

12/5/12

An invoice to Greiner's is being sent before Jan. 1 for \$1,000. Cindy has invoices

Josh Forbes will be the awards chairman. Awards to be fewer & less expensive w/ jackets only going to Best of Show & People Choice (voted on by participants)
Hand made are an option

Motion was made to use the Parkway. Room rates are \$70 & they are holding 170 rooms. Ramkota would hold 50 rooms at same price.

Registration forms will go out late Jan. or early Feb. after the logo is designed. Judy Goodwin will do this & put her return address. Local people can find the form on the web site.

Checking account needs changed. It is believed that Connie, Carol & Larry are currently on the Hilltop account.

Phil will send out donor/sponsor letters in Feb.

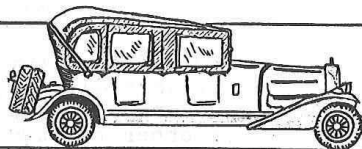
Acker Signs provided the banner & will be asked to do one again, free of charge in exchange for publicity & their name on the banner.

Yes we will have t-shirts. It was decided members will have different than others. To be decided is whether or not we will provide free t-shirts to workers as we have in past.

Budget will be done by Stan & Pat using last years as a guide but paring down the income & expenses drastically, hopefully keeping the registration down to \$25 since we will not be providing food unless John Johnson provides dinner after the Dash for Cash on Sat. eve. Dash for Cash is being sponsored by Starbrite Restoration for \$500 & maybe another sponsor so \$1,000 can be given.

Suggestion was made for Sunday nite dinner at Parkway w/ cost being included as a separate line item on the registration form. Just an informal gathering before everyone leaves.

Side Curtain COURIER



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BESSEMER BEND TOUR: April 16

Spring touring season kicked off April 16 with an enjoyable tour to Bessemer Bend. Despite high winds, the day was sunny and pleasant, and the group assembled at downtown Safeway parking lot. As touring progressed, so did the wind, and by the time the entourage reached Bessemer Bend it was blowing a full gale. Not to be daunted, however, the cars were parked as a windbreak, and lunch proceeded. Frank Slichter, Lou Simkovsky and Jim McKinley cooked hamburgers for the crowd, and there was bountiful food of every kind prepared by the ladies of the club.

Cars and people present for this tour were:

1930 Chrysler
Don and Georgia Kuhn and Deborah

1951 Studebaker
Bruce and Dorothy Thompson

1929 Model A Ford
Frank and Jean Slichter

1952 Chevrolet
John Bays

1935 Plymouth
Loring Barnes

1951 Packard
Albert & Margaret Lytle and Marty

1930 Model A Ford
Forrest, Fern and Doris Schindler

1930 Model A Ford pickup
Byron and Dianna Freeman and daughters Sharon and Pam

1947 Ford
John and Beverly English and George and Mary Russell

1948 Ford
Jim and Pat McKinley

Modern iron
Bill and Pauline Wolfe

Modern iron
Lou and Dorothy Simkovsky

Due to the inclement weather, many who planned to attend the Mile High Swap Meet in Denver on May 6 and 7 changed their plans. However, a few hardy souls braved the snow and rain and those in attendance were:

John and Beverly English
George and Mary Russell
Forrest and Fern Schindler
Frank and Jean Slichter
Bruce and Dorothy Thompson

Corporate Officer John Bays reports that he has mailed in incorporation renewal forms, so that our club is still in good standing as a non-profit incorporation.
