



Oil Capitol Auto Club

P.O. Box 1861

Mills, WY 82644

We are on the Web at www.ocac.cc

Blown Gasket

July 2020, Volume 7

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

- ✓ Club Summer picnic
- Sunday, 16 August; Wells Park Shelter #1
- 610 East K Street, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

CARL BAKER, DIXIE BLOWER, PAM BURROUS, RALPH BUTLER, RON CLARK, BRUCE EDDY, BEV ENGLISH, DON HEIL, MIKE JOHNSON, WENDELL KING, BRENDA MIDKIFF

Great Inventions: The Speedometer

The world's first speeding ticket was given to Walter Arnold in Paddock Wood, Kent, on January 28, 1896. Arnold tore through the town at four times the speed limit and a five-mile chase ensued before finally he was brought to a halt by a bobby on a bicycle who pinched him for going 8 mph—and without the requisite flag-waving escort. But you can't really blame Arnold. After all, the speedometer hadn't even been invented when he was summoned to court and fined a shilling.

Credit for the first car speedometer goes to A.P. Warner of the Warner Electric Company, who adapted a mechanism called a cut-meter, which measured the speed of industrial cutting tools. The Oldsmobile Curved Dash Runabout of 1901 was the first vehicle to be equipped with a speedo, while a year later German engineer Otto Schulze patented a device for measuring the instantaneous speed of a vehicle.

The Schulze-patented speedometer relied on an eddy-current created by a magnet to translate the speed of rotation of the wheels (or more often from the transmission) to a dial on the dashboard. A flexible drive cable is attached to gears in the transmission at one end and has a permanent magnet attached, via another gear, at the other. This magnet sits inside a speed cup which is attached to a needle on the speedo gauge. As the magnet spins, it creates a rotating magnetic field which, in turn, drags the speed cup and is attached to the needle in the same direction as the magnetic field—without a physical connection.. Clever stuff.

For a time it was even mandated that vehicles had one speedometer for the driver to see and another, larger one, that would be visible to police. Fortunately, as speed limits were increased this rather ridiculous idea met its demise.

By 1910, speedometers were standard fit and the eddy-current speedo would remain the only viable option until the 1980s. Other attempts were made using centrifugal force and spinning air cups (nice try, Nikola Tesla), but none would prove as reliable until the invention of the electronic speedo.

Oil Capitol Auto Club

General Membership Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2020

Board of Directors:

<u>President:</u>	Mark Pitts
<u>Vice President:</u>	Mike Johnson
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Ken Lantta
<u>Secretary:</u>	John Gudgeon
<u>Car Show Committee Chairman:</u>	Jerry Barton
<u>Newsletter Editor:</u>	Jerry Russell - Absent
<u>Webmaster and Social Media:</u>	Mike Kennedy

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 6:59 P.M. By President Mark Pitts

TREASURY REPORT: Ken Lantta treasurer

The General Club Account and the Car Show Account were discussed. Current members: 72 regular members, 50 family members. New Member - (joined at the June 2020 meeting) -- Paula Travers

Minutes: accepted as published on OCAC website

Committee Reports – Veterans Museum Firetruck Project: Mark Milliken & Mike Johnson

The Veterans Museum Firetruck project is continuing with steady progress. Club member Doug Walters has the truck cab & other parts in his paint & body shop and is the process of preparing them for paint. Mark Milliken reported that a period correct Copper clad fire extinguisher was donated by Casper Fire – Mike Bailey. Mark also stated that Peterbilt of Wyoming – Casper has offered to donate needed repairs to the transmission & transfer case on the drive train. Mark thanked the OCAC for their \$500 cash donation, as well as the volunteer crew of OCAC members. As always, please refer to the OCAC website for up to date photos & progress reports on the project.

Trip Reports:

Club member Stan Goodwin reported that the OCAC excursion to the Bear River Young Life car show in Craig, CO was a great success. The OCAC won the trophy for best club participation; the \$300 cash award was donated back to the Young Life youth organization. In addition, members Phil Nissen & Mike Kennedy won trophies.

OLD BUSINESS: President Mark Pitts discussed options for the 2021 Cruizin' with the Oldies car show. The Board of Directors meeting had discussed and put forth options for the 2021 show, as the survey sent to members had indicated most of the Club members wished to continue to have a show, albeit with a streamlined agenda. Discussions ensued upon dropping most all events from Friday & Saturday – leaving the Sunday show and shine. Dropped events would be the Dance on Friday, Donut cruise Saturday morning, the ice cream social on Saturday evening. We would retain the Saturday afternoon Dash for Cash, that has been coordinated by club member/Subcommittee chair Dennis Day. The Dash for Cash was a replacement for the parade from years past, since the City of Casper would no longer support it. In addition, a large portion of time was spent in past years soliciting donations for charitable fundraising in conjunction with the show. The OCAC donated 5 scholarships to Casper College, as well as other donations to several local charitable organizations. If this aspect of the show were eliminated, the donations submitted could be smaller & less of a burden to local businesses. This would also reduce responsibilities of the volunteers. The upshot being that the show goes back to its roots; a pure car show for the enjoyment of the car hobby. The show events would be funded by registration fees and smaller donations and be a break-even proposition.

There has yet to be anyone that has volunteered to be the show chairman. Club member/Past Chairman Jerry Barton suggested that we could go forward without a Show Chairman per se; and proceeding as just a group of individual subcommittee chairs. At present, we have several sub committees in place with individual Chairman already handling

their individual tasks – Mike Kennedy – registration, Stan Goodwin – advertising, Bruce Berst – parking, Phil Nissen – awards, Dennis Day – Dash for Cash - etc.

Jerry Barton motioned that we proceed with the pared down event and eliminate the show chairman position in lieu of existing subcommittee chairs. The motion was seconded by Rocky Smith. The motion was brought to a vote and passed unanimously by members present.

Former chairman Jerry Barton will prepare a check list of items for running the show that will be presented to the committee chairs.

NEW BUSINESS: None reported

ITEM OF INTEREST: Mark Milliken stated that the Street Outlaws reality show is in Casper filming a new round of episodes. They are racing on a section of the Hwy 247 bypass. They are closing the road section from 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. the following morning; spectators are not allowed at the location. There is currently no word as to when the shows will air.

50/50 RAFFLE: Won by Dennis Day

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Wednesday Night Cruise to Glenrock



Cruise to Craig Colorado

On Father's Day weekend several of the club members cruised to Craig, Colorado, for their Father's Day weekend car show. The members included Stan and Judy Goodwin, Phil Nissen, Mike Johnson, Jerry Barton, Mark Pitts, Ron Rickabugh and Lynn Haynes.

On the trip down, we went through Rawlins to Baggs then to Craig. The afternoon before the show there was a poker run through the big city of Craig. Following the poker run we met for dinner.

The day of the show found Stan under the yellow hulk of his car struggling to repair a broken wire on the neutral safety switch. Stan made the repair just in time to cruise to the show location.

The show was great, about 100 cars or so. Locals VERY friendly. The show was a judged show with limited participant voting.

Phil Nissin was given 2 awards.

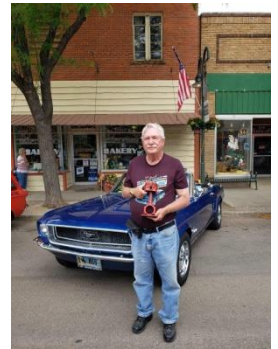
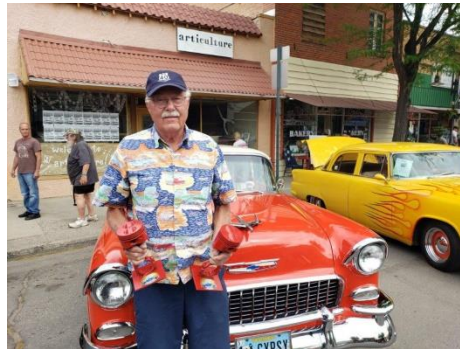
Mike Kennedy was given 1 award.

The club was awarded \$300.00 for having the largest number of participants at the show. Members attending voted to give the money back so that it could be used to support their cause.

On the cruise back the group separated, some going back through Baggs and some opting to go through Steamboat Springs-Walden-Saratoga--a much more scenic route. All arrived back in Casper with almost no mechanical problems. Stan's yellow Plymouth had a fuel pump failure, but he was able to limp back to town.

Would recommend the show as enjoyable and friendly.

Mike Kennedy



11 Hollywood Heroes Who Felt the Need for Speed

MICHAEL FASSBENDER -- He's played *X-Men's* Magneto and Shakespeare's Macbeth, but Michael Fassbender's toughest role yet was behind the wheel of a Mk2 Ford Escort on the Rally of the Lakes in Ireland. Fassbender—or :Fastbender," as it says on his race suit—is a tidy driver on the track, and he's got a win in the 2018 Ferrari Challenge North America and a season of Porsche Super Sports Cup to prove it.

JAMES DEAN —We all know how things ended for James Dean behind the wheel of his "Little Bastard" Porsche 550 Spyder. But before his tragic demise Dean had shown real talent behind the wheel in three races in his 1955 356 Super Speedster. Racing against Ken Miles, among others, Dean finished in second place at the Palm Springs Road Races. He was first in class and third overall at Minter Field and cut through the field from 18th to 4th at the Santa Barbara Road Races before his engine blew.

STEVE McQUEEN — McQueen was a triple threat. He could act, drive and ride. His two-wheeled exploits saw him inducted into the Off-road Motorsports hall of Fame in 1978. On 4 wheels McQueen's most notable exploits included taking a BMC Mini to 3rd place at Brands Hatch in a 1961 British Touring Car Championship race and winning the 12 Hours of Sebring in a Porsche 908 in 1971—despite having a cast on his left foot.

PAUL NEWMAN — It's fitting that the 1969 film *Winning* would kick start Paul Newman's racing career, because win he most certainly did. Newman took four SCCA championships, came second overall at Le Mans in 1979 driving a Porsche 935, and became the oldest driver to be part of a winning team when he won his class at the 24 Hours of Daytona in 1995 at the age of 70. He didn't stop there, either, winning at Lime Rock when he was 81. Winning indeed.

JAMES GARNER — During the filming of *Grand Prix*, James Garner reportedly kept up with Graham Hill, Jack Brabham, Jackie Stewart and Jochen Rindt. In 1967 he founded American International Racing, which would field cars at Le Mans, Daytona and Sebring. Garner also took part in the grueling Baja 1000 in a Porsche-powered Meyers Manx and would go on to tackle the event in Ford Broncos and Oldsmobiles. He even drove the pace car at the Indy three times.

GENE HACKMAN — The *French Connection* star spent the '70s campaigning a Formula Ford in the SCCA. By 1983 he'd impressed Dan Gurney enough to earn a seat at the 24 Hours of Daytona, although the race ended with mechanical failure. His only victory came in the 1980 Toyota Pro-Celebrity Grand Prix at Long Beach, but ace race instructor Bob Bondurant maintained that Hackman was one of his best students.

PATRICK DEMPSEY — Patrick Dempsey is one of very few actors whose list of race appearances is almost as long as his acting credits. He first took to the track in 2004 driving a Panoz and by 2007 he was taking part in the Rolex Sports Car series. He finished ninth at Le Mans in 2009, returning in 2013, 2014 and 2015; that final year, he secured a podium finish in the GTE Am class. He is a multiple race winner across numerous championships from Porsche Supercup to the Maserati Trofeo and the American Le Mans Series.

ERIC BANA — Australian Eric Bana has a love of cars that began when he was 14 and wanted to quit school to become a mechanic. A year later he bought his beloved "Beast," a 1974 Ford Falcon XB that he still owns today—despite almost destroying it on the 2007 Targa Tasmania Rally, an event he first entered 11 years earlier but failed to finish. He took part in Australia's Porsche Challenge in a 944 with a best finish of fourth in 2004.

ROWAN ATKINSON — *Mr. Bean* and *Johnny English* actor Rowan Atkinson has developed a reputation as being almost as hilariously inept behind the wheel as he is on screen. He famously crashed his McLaren F1 twice and had a massive off in an Aston Martin V8 Zagato during an owners' club race. However, he's actually quite handy and has completed two seasons of the Renault 5 Turbo championship and raced both at the Aston Martin Le Mans festival in a Vantage GT4 & at the Goodwood Revival in a Jaguar Mk VII.

PAUL WALKER — Paul Walker will forever be *Mr. Fast and Furious*. He lit up the big screen, and in the 2010 Redline Time Attack Championship, he lit up the tires of a BMW M3. Campaigning in the street tire class he made the podium and impressed the professionals. Echoing James Dean's legacy, Walker's career was sadly cut short when the Porsche Carrera GT he was riding in crashed in 2014.

IDRIS ELBA — Idris Elba is the only actor that we know of to break a land speed record. In 2015 *The Wire* star smashed the U.K. flying mile record at 180.4 mph. Driving a Bentley Continental GT Speed on Pendine Sands, he smashed the record that has been set nearly 90 years before by Sir Malcolm Campbell in Blue Bird. Elba also tried his hand at drag racing and at rallying as part of a Discovery Channel series: *Idris Elba: No Limits*.



Wyoming Veteran's Memorial Museum 1942 Chevrolet Fire Truck Project Update Week Ending 7/11/2020

Mark Milliken

Volunteer Hours: 25

Weekly Highlights:

- Mike Johnson is welding on the door checks and alignment guides.
- Mike J. has begun restoring the passenger side spotlight.
- Jerry Russell has prepared two wheels for paint.
- The voltage regulator was disassembled, checked, cleaned, and painted.
- John Lanum has offered to restore the vintage copper fire extinguisher.
- Two more donors have committed to assisting with the tire purchase.
- Joe McGuire reports that Fred Devore of Peterbilt Casper will offer shop time for the fire truck.

Looking ahead:

- Mike J. will work with Fred Devore of Peterbilt to disassemble the transfer case and replace seals.
- Sanding and metal repair of cab and cab parts in preparation for painting.
- Next weekend, volunteers will be at an out-of-town cars show.
- Windows are expected to come in this week.
- Jerry Russell will continue with wheel prep.



Ty Clinton and Jerry Russell set toe-in after installing the tie rod.



Mike Johnson inspects the transmission output seal.



Ty installs the new ignition coil. Note the governor, carburetor, and air cleaner.



Ty and Jerry install the restored fuel pump. Note restored distributor.



John Gudgeon cleans the transmission and bellhousing.



Mike and Jerry practice social distancing

WEDNESDAY CRUISES

7/22/20: Ralph Butler will be the cruise leader.

7/29/20: Ken Lantta will lead a neighborhood cruise through Sunrise Hills and Stoneridge subdivisions area.

Cruise Leaders:

Cruise leaders are needed for every Wednesday night (except meeting nights). The Cruise Schedule is posted on the website. Please contact Mike Johnson at 307-265-3256 if you wish to lead a cruise. Pick a date and let's drive!

Rendezvous point:

Arrangements have been made to meet in the parking lot of Rocky Mountain Discount Sports. The cruise will begin from there. The address is: 1351 CY Ave. This is a change from last year and early 2020 planning. Do not go to the U-Haul parking lot.

Depart at 6:30 p.m. from the Rocky Mountain Discount Sports parking lot

- Unless a destination makes a different time more workable

Submit your ideas and recommendations to:

Vice President, Mike Johnson, at magicm@vcn.com or 307-265-3256

CLASSIC CLUES

Question: What is the Spirit of Ecstasy?

Answer: The official name of the mascot of Rolls Royce, she is the lady of top of their radiators.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Directors Meeting, 8/10/20.

Regular Monthly Meeting, 8/12/20, 7:00 p.m., at Z's Classics.

Annual Club Picnic, 8/16/20, 11:00 am to 3:00 p.m., at Wells Park Shelter #1.

28th Annual Rocky Mountain Rebels Car Show, 7/17-19/20, Riverton, WY.

20th Annual Wyo Tech Open House & Car Show and NSRA Appreciation Day, 7/18/20, Laramie, WY.

North Park Days, 7/18-19/20, Walden, CO.

WSRA Annual Meeting, 8/14-15/20, Thermopolis, WY.

Casper College hosts "Remembering Our Fallen Memorial", 7/27-8/5/20, Casper, WY.

