

# THE TAPPET CLATTER

Founded 1967

THE PUGET SOUND REGION VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA

February 2016

Volume 49 Number 2

## Caretakers

Text and Photos by Don Comstock



We are all one and will, in all likelihood, need one. I'm referring to the ownership of a vintage Chevrolet or any make for that matter. I watch "Chasing Classic Cars" with Wayne Carrini on Velocity in which Wayne seeks special cars that belong to collectors who have passed on or can no longer take care of their prized possessions. He often meets with the widow or an older gentleman whose car has been a part of their life for decades.

An example was a Ferrari that had the wheels removed to do a brake repair twenty-odd years ago but was never put back together, sitting forlornly all that time reminding the owner of work that he or she is unable to accomplish. The old guy contacts Wayne because it is time to let the car go.

When Wayne arrives the seller tells many tales about the good old days driving the Ferrari on vacations and to car events, winning trophies and/or races. Wayne looks the car over and respectfully makes an offer. The seller has second thoughts and has to have more time to consider the offer and really decide whether he truly is ready to sell at all. Perhaps after months of phone calls a deal is finally struck and the car changes hands. Many of you have been in Wayne's shoes. This is an invitation to tell your story whether as a buyer, a seller or a relative gifted the family car.

I have been fortunate over the many years of old Chevy collecting to have several family jewels come my way. My mother's 1966 Chevelle Malibu came to me from family and it continued to stay in the same home with my mother as long as she lived, so she saw it regularly. Receiving a car from someone who has cherished it for years bears a heavier weight of responsibility than getting it at auction or from a dealer that is one step removed from the emotional owner. I will share my acquisition of the green 1951 sedan I purchased from Mrs. Davidson in Warren, Oregon in the fall of 1985.

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## 1967 - Puget Sound Region VCCA - 2016



*The Puget Sound Region of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America (PS-VCCA) is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, fun and enjoyment of vintage Chevrolet cars and trucks. Members are not required to own a Chevrolet. Regional membership is open to all Chevrolet enthusiasts who are members of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America (VCCA). All Chevrolets from 1912 through 1991 may be registered with the Region.*

*General meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month, except the 3rd Monday in May, at **Tillicum Middle School, 16020 SE 16th St., Bellevue**, 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM. No meetings are held in June, July, August, and December. You can learn more about the club by visiting the website where you can see color photos of previous tours, parts for sale, wanted, etc., and there is a link to view our monthly newsletter, "The Tappet Clatter."*

*You can find the PS-VCCA website on the **World Wide Web** at <http://pugetsoundvintagechevrolet.org/>*

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### Publication Information

The deadline for receiving articles for the Tappet Clatter is normally by the **5th** of the month.

The Editor reserves the right to edit material in any way as appropriate for wording, clarity, grammar, punctuation and available space. We can accept most electronic formats and hardcopy.

Email copy to [tappetclatter@outlook.com](mailto:tappetclatter@outlook.com)

# Director's Corner

*"From The Driver's Seat"*



Hopefully winter is almost over; already I've noticed the days are getting longer, and daylight savings time is just a few weeks away. My favorite time of the year is just approaching. I like the time between early April and mid July because we have the most daylight and I think I get more done in daylight. Maybe I don't, but it makes me feel good thinking I do.

Last month we had our banquet, and thanks once again to the Kowats for making the arrangements at the Golden Steer and the Comstocks for handling all of our reservations. It was my pleasure to announce that this year's Director's Award went to Mike Currie. He does a great job on our newsletter every month, so please join me in offering him our congratulations.

As I reviewed the list of things we did during the year, I saw that we had a lot of opportunities to get together and enjoy each other's company and our Chevys. Hopefully we'll have as many chances (or more) this year to do the same. Our first event this year will be a joint tour with the Mount Rainer and North Cascade Regions. It's a potluck and tour being led by Ken Scott. There's more about it elsewhere in the Tappet Clatter, but it sounds like fun; if you have a chance think about attending. Don Comstock will lead a group from the Renton Walmart to Ken's house to start the tour.

I went on a road trip with several members of the Columbia River Region to the Turlock swap meet last month, with several additional stops along the way. More about some of them at the next meeting, but on the way down, we stayed at the hotel that we will be using if you attend the Mini Meet. Rooms were nice and the breakfast was a standard motel breakfast. Plenty of choices. So if you have the time, the Willamette Valley Region is working very hard to make this a fun meet, and would like to see a lot of us there.

The registration form for the National Meet should be in the March G&D. My intention is to make a copy when I get the magazine and send it in right away so I don't overlook it. Hopefully many of you will also do the same.

We have a need for Garage Nite locations. If you'd like to offer to host one or know of another one we could visit, please let me know so we can make it happen. Along those same lines, does anybody have an activity in mind for April that they would like to see the club do?

See you at the meeting.

*Jim*

## Web Links Of Interest

**Columbia River Region**, VCCA: <http://www.vccacolumbiariverregion.org/>

**Mt. Rainier Region**, VCCA: None

**North Cascade Region**, VCCA: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/northcascadevcca>

**Puget Sound Region**, VCCA: <http://pugetsoundvintagechevrolet.org/>

**Willamette Valley Region**, VCCA: <http://www.wvrvcva.org/>

**Dave Folsom Blog**, [www.chev235guy.blogspot.com/](http://www.chev235guy.blogspot.com/)

Gas stations without ethanol, <http://pure-gas.org/index.jsp?stateprov=WA>



## **Chevrolee Comments...**

on repairing, rebuilding, or replacing your Chevrolet engine

“It’s a nice car, just has a little rod knock”, is a phrase which was heard for several decades describing Chevrolets. By the mid 1950’s however, crankshaft bearing failure was virtually eliminated by a series of changes in engine design over the years. Sometimes the changes were small, sometimes the changes were very significant, but they all added up to the smooth running engines with long life that we have known since the mid 1950’s. Let us trace some of these changes.



The four cylinder engines were improved over the years climaxing in 1928 with the last of the early fours. For its time, this was an amazing engine, often outliving the car in which it came, only to find its way into a boat, a buzz saw rig, a tractor, or some other creative device. I believe that one of the reasons for success of this engine was the short crankshaft. With three main bearings, this means that there were two connecting rod journals between each main bearing.

In 1929 the six cylinder engines still had just three main bearings. This means that there are three connecting rod journals between each main bearing. This arrangement made the crankshaft somewhat “springy” and tended to lead to early bearing failure. The early 1929 engines did not have wrist pin bushings in the pistons. As a result, wrist pin noise was common. Late in 1929 this problem was corrected with the use of bronze bushings.

Up through 1928 the connecting rods did not have a separate removable dipper. A small “finger” was forged in the bottom of the rod cap which splashed through the oil in the trough. In 1929 the replaceable dipper was introduced with the basic design continuing through 1953.

The early four cylinder engines did not have continuous lubrication to the rocker arm shafts. A felt pad on top of the shafts was periodically given a few squirts of oil by the operator. If this was neglected, the shafts and valve guides wore and quickly became noisy. In 1929 continuous lubrication was provided.

Continued next month...

Written April 1988

Lee Folsom (Feb. 14, 1927 – Sept. 10, 2015)

## 2016 Activities

February	22	PS-VCCA Club Meeting at Tillicum Middle School
March	28	PS-VCCA Club Meeting at Tillicum Middle School
April	25	PS-VCCA Club Meeting at Tillicum Middle School
May	23	PS-VCCA Club Meeting at Tillicum Middle School
June	TBD	Gail Darby Memorial Strawberry Shortcake Social, Perrigo Park

### Bill Damm's SAFETY CORNER

It's still winter  
So what the heck,  
Good time for  
A safety check.

The tire pressure  
And wiper blades-  
Where to find  
That pair of shades.

Hi beam, low beam  
Brake lights too.  
Washer fluid  
For the view.

A safety flare  
Or flashing lights  
For emergencies  
On rainy nights.

Drive with caution,  
Drive with care-  
Along with patience  
Will get you there.

From Al Howe:

This is a list of activities planned for our monthly meetings:

#### 2016

- Feb – Al Howe, disassemble a 1955 headlight switch
- Mar – Part 3 of National Parks Highway System
- Apr – Auction
- May –
- Jun – Strawberry Social
- Jul – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic
- Aug – Dinner at the “XXX Drive in”
- Sep –
- Oct –
- Nov –
- Dec –

As you can see we have some open meeting dates. I hope to have some slide shows of summer activities like the 4 cyl and 6 cyl tours but we still need some other ideas.

Some demonstrations like Bob Stamnes and Don Comstock did would be ideal but we could use other activities also.

Give me a call or drop me an email and I will see what I can do.

### FEBRUARY GARAGE NITE

No Garage Nite is scheduled for February.



(Continued from Page 1)

The '51 Special Deluxe 2 door sedan showed up at the Portland Swap Meet in April 1985. A nephew brought the car to sell. It had 37,000 original miles and looked to be well cared for but needing a few things repaired and updated. I was given a phone number of Mrs. Maxine Davidson. When I called I learned she had inherited her uncle's car 10 years previously and didn't drive it much. Uncle Walt Feuerstein bought the car in Portland driving it to church on Sundays and to the grocery store. In about 1960 he moved to Warren. When Maxine began caring for the Chevy in 1969 she used it as a second car, taking it for drives when the weather permitted.

Most of the time was spent in a tiny one car garage. She had it serviced regularly and kept it clean. By 1985 a bit of rust was peeking from under the side trim and the bumpers were beginning to show signs of rust. At this time Mrs. Davidson had a new car she wanted to keep in the garage but didn't want Walt's Chevy to sit outside and deteriorate further. We talked on the phone many times during the spring and summer and finally late in September she said I could come down and buy the car. When Sallie and I got there the Chevy was in the garage but ready to come home with us. After talking for some time and seeing pictures of the car we loaded it on a trailer and made the three-hour drive home talking excitedly about what we were planning for the car. Over the next year it got the trim removed, light rust cleaned, etched, primed and the whole car painted. We had Diane Hoyt repair the top of the rear seat and the shabby door panels. Our era as caretakers had begun.



We finally relinquished the car to a gentleman named Randy Markuson. For the next few years we saw the "Green Bean" at several car shows and approved of the care it was receiving. I hear Randy still has the car but he doesn't take it to shows as he finally has his new shop built and is finishing his hot rod.

### **Q: Who opened the first drive-in gas station?**



## March Celebrations

### ANNIVERSARIES

Dave and Betty Roberts	6
Dick and Gisela Jones	9
Dave and Diane Haddock	17
Bob and Florence Helgeson	27
Jim and Sue Seiber	29
Al and Kathy Howe	30

### BIRTHDAYS

Jill Anderson	1
Matt Dickinson	4
Elbert Butcher	7
Dave Haddock	14
Evie Schein	15
John Zeigler	20
Jerry Yoder	21
Gary Barquist	28
Lynn Boltz	30
Dee Zimmerman	31

### PS-VCCA 2016 Meeting Treats

February:	Dave Haddock	June:	Strawberry Shortcake Event
March:	Ralf Luche	September:	Glenn & Judy Landguth
April:	Al Howe	October:	Bob & MG Stamnes
May:	No one signed up	November:	George & Barbara Reich

## Joint Tour with Mount Rainier and North Cascades Regions March 19<sup>th</sup>

Meet at Ken Scott's house at noon. 15721 48<sup>th</sup> Ave. East, Tacoma, WA 98446.

Puget Sound members can meet at the Wal-Mart parking lot in Renton, east end off Rainier Avenue at 10:45 so we can leave by 11:00. Please email or call Don at 253 863-0420 so we know who to expect.

Vintage cars are great but not necessary because members with non-vintage cars will be chauffeured by others.

We will be touring to Jim Ronstad's collection near Tacoma. He has many makes and models of collectable cars as well as other neat "stuff". A tour to "The Castle" mentioned at the November meeting is possible but it may not be available as it is for sale and the current owners can't commit. A potluck will be held at Ken Scott's following the tour. Don and Sallie Comstock will supply roasted chicken, North Cascades will supply dessert, all others can bring salads, beans or whatever. Ovens will be available.

This will be a splendid opportunity to mingle with old friends and make new ones from the Pacific Northwest.

Contacts: Don Comstock 253 863-0420  
 Ken Scott 253 531-5266  
 Jim Pickett 253 984-1607  
 Bill Wynn 253 863-6030

**True or False? The 1953 Corvette came in white, red and black.**

**A: False. The 1953 Corvette's were available in one color, Polo White.**

## PS-VCCA January Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2016

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at the Golden Steer Restaurant in Kent at 7:20 by Director Jim Darby, starting his second term. There were 41 members and guests in attendance. Jerry Yoder brought two guests with him, sister Sally and friend Linda.

Membership: Donna Onat shared the news that rosters were finished but we weren't notified that they were done so they will have to be mailed out. Those attending the banquet were given the chance to delay getting theirs until the February meeting. Donna may try calling others who regularly attend meetings to ask if they would accept getting theirs at the February meeting as well. The cost for mailing is about \$1.50.

Monroe Swap Meet: A sign-up sheet was sent around for the spring Monroe Swap Meet. This is an opportunity to help our club by earning money for working a four hour shift at the Meet if we are asked to do so again. Last year the number of positions were cut but Jim wants to be ready with volunteers. This is the main fundraiser for our club.

National News: Bill Barker announced that men's T-shirts will be safety orange and the ladies' will be white for the National Meet in Tahoe. Registration will begin online March 1. The G&D will have articles in the February edition. He urged us all to attend the banquet because there will be a great entertainer of national fame doing a comedy routine. No, it isn't Jay Leno. We need to talk about caravans to the Meet at the March general meeting. It will take two days to get to the Meet so we need to book the overnight stay fairly soon. Marilyn Campbell is heading up the tour for the Meet and needs people to work at Squaw Valley setting up and handing out plaques as well as anyone with canopies and chairs to bring with them.

State of the Club: Jim Darby shared a little information on each of the eleven events the club offered this past year. He gave thanks to everyone who contributed time and their expertise to make this club a success. The Director's Award went to Mike Currie for his work on the Tappet Clatter, getting it all together and published on time. This is extraordinary because most of the work is done remotely from Eastern Washington through emails with little or no actual contact with club activities.

Officers stayed the same with Jim Darby keeping the Director's job, Al Howe, Assistant Director; Mike Currie, Editor of the Tappet Clatter; Don Comstock, Secretary; Sallie Comstock, treasurer; Donna Onat, Membership; Dave Haddock, Historian; Jim Martoza, Webmaster; and Bill Damm, Club Store. Bob Stamnes will continue with the Glove Box and Bob Helgeson will bring coffee etc to meetings.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Don Comstock



## From the Glove Box



**From the Glove Box** is devoted to sharing technical information, technical problems and solutions to problems related to the restoration and preservation of vintage Chevrolets. Please share your knowledge, experiences and recommendations with your fellow members.

Call the Glove Box Coordinator, Bob Starnes, via email at [rstarnes@yahoo.com](mailto:rstarnes@yahoo.com) with your information.

### G&D Index of Technical Articles, Early 1970s to late 1990s.

Continued from January Tappet Clatter

<u>Car Year</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>G&amp;D Issue where found</u>
1934	Service News,	July 1976
1934-35& 35	Truck Brake Adjustment and Construction,	July 1985
1934-38	Knee Action I,	April 1982
1934-38	Knee Action II,	May 1982
1934-38	Chevrolet Service Topics, Knee Action Units,	December 1975
1934	Master, Parts for Side Tire Carrier/Fender Well,	January 1980
1935	Deluxe Radio Model 601662 for Standard Model.,	October, 1987
1935	Radio Model 601574,	October 1985
1935	Single Unit Radio Model 601177,	July 1986
1935	Master Sedan Test Report w/Mech and Perf Characteristics,	July 1983
1935	Standard Sedan Test Report w/Mech and Perf Characteristics,	June 1983
1935	Carb,	January 1976
1935	Service Manual,	August 1976
1935	General,	October 1978
1935-38	Carb Specifications,	November 1977
1935-36	Carbs	February 1976
1935-54	Tool Kits,	December, 1993
1936	Radio Model 985301,	April 1986
1936	Master Deluxe Sedan Test Report,	October 1983
1936	Standard Sedan Test Report w/ Mech and Perf Characteristics,	August 1983
1936	Service Procedure and Specs,	January 1979
1936	Delco-Remy Service Manual,	September 1976
1936	Carb,	March 1976
1936	Carb Specifications,	April 1976
1936	Carb, W-1,	March 1980
1936	6-Tube Radio,	June, 1989
1937	7-Tube Deluxe Superheterodyne Radio, 985255,	June, 1987
1937	Radio, 985253,	November, 1987
1937	6 Tube Superheterodyne Radio, 985254,	June, 1988
1937	Master Deluxe Sedan Test Photos,	November 1983
1937	Delco-Remy Service Manual,	November 1976
1937	Chev Service News on 1938 Master Deluxe Sedan,	June 1976
1937	Chev Service News,	February 1982
1937	Chev Service News,	August 1982
1937	Repair & Tune up Manual,	February 1979
1937-38	Six-Tube Single Unit Radio, 985252,	April, 1988
1937-39	Transmission Service Procedures,	September 1978
1937-42	Transmission Details, Knee Action,	December 1978
1937-47	W-1 Carb Service Procedures,	September 1977
1937-48	BB Updraft Carb Service Procedure,	October 1977
1937-48	Carb, Brass Bowl Updraft,	July 1977
1937-53	Cents More On The 216s.,	June, 1994

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<u>Car Year</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>G&amp;D Issue where found</u>
1937-53	Experience On The 216 Engine,	January, 1994
1938	Deluxe Radio,	November, 1988
1938	Master Deluxe Sedan Test Photos,	December 1983
1938	Delco-Remy Service Manual,	December 1976
1938	Service News,	August 1976
1939	7-Tube Radio,	October, 1989
1939	Radio Model 985426,	August 1985
1939	Master Deluxe Sedan Test Photos,	January 1984
1939	Accessories,	March 1984
1939	Delco-Remy Service Manual,	January 1977
1939-40	Service Bulletin,	October, 1979
1939-40	Carb, W-1,	January 1978
1939-48	W-1 Carb Service Procedure,	August 1977
1940	Deluxe 6-Tube PB Radio,	April, 1989
1940	Test Report w/Mech and Perf Characteristics,	February 1984
1940	Delco-Remy Service Manual,	February 1977
1940-48	Transmission Technical Tip,	April, 1992
1941	Deluxe 6-Tube PB Radio, 985695,	January, 1987
1941	Installing Rear Fender Wheel Covers,	July, 1987
1941	Super Deluxe 8-tube Radio,	October, 1988
1941	5-Tube Radio,	February, 1989
1941	Test Report w/ Mech and Perf Characteristics,	March 1984
1941	Service Bulletin, Adv Service Info, Motor Tune-up,	July 1979
1941-48	Carb W-1,	February 1978
1941-49	Carb,	July 1978
1941-47	Carb BB,	February 1978
1941-49	W-1 Down-Draft Carbs,	March 1978
1942	General Specs,	August, 1997
1942	Service Bulletin,	September 1979
1942-48	Deluxe Radio, 985793,	May, 1987
1942	Blackout Chevs,	August, 1994
1946	Super Deluxe Radio, Model 985986,	May 1985
1946-48	Radio 986146,	December, 1987
1946-48	W-1 Down-Draft Carb,	March 1978
1946-53	Body Model Numbers,	June 1981
1947-50, 51-53	Custom Deluxe Truck PB Radio,	March, 1987
1947-60	Technical Tips Truck VIN Info,	July, 1994
1949	Improvements,	August, 1989
1949	New Chev,	May 1979
1949-50	CustDlx Radio Push Button Models 986240 & 986388,	September 1986
1949-54	Repl Bushing Seals, and Retainer, Steering Gear, Shaft,	March 1994
1950	Custom Deluxe Radio,	August, 1989
1950	Specs, October, 1989 1950 Carb,	August 1978
1950s	Custom Deluxe Truck Radio, Manual Tune 986771,	December 1985
1950	Truck BB Up-draft Carb,	June 1978
1950-58	235 Rocker Arm Lubrication-Valve Trains,	July, 1997
1951-52	Custom Deluxe Radio 986516,	March, 1988
1951-52	Deluxe Push Button Radio Model 986515,	March 1986
1953	Engines,	December 1992

To be continued next month.

## TAPPET CLATTER *Classifieds*

Ads will be posted for a minimum of three months (longer on a space-available basis). Please notify the Tappet Clatter Editor at [tappetclatter@outlook.com](mailto:tappetclatter@outlook.com) when your listing no longer needs to be published.

### FOR SALE

**1927-8 Chev Parts** for sale. Make an offer. Bob Godfrey is anxious to get rid of the parts.  
Contact Bob Godfrey, 360-568-7547. 830 Pine Ave, Snohomish, WA

**1932 Chevrolet** (modified). Sale or trade. Contact Lance Kesinger for details. 425-823-2263.



9/15

**1931 Chevrolet Sports Coupe**, older restoration. Original engine and drive train. Hampton Coach interior is in good condition. Runs and drives very well. Comes with a large collection of extra parts. Radiator and water pump were replaced in 2014. \$12,500 Phil Christensen 509-636-2163



**1963 Corvair Greenbriar** 6-Door Van. Runs and drives and stops! Eastern Washington van. A little rust and a few dents but otherwise very solid. Good tires and lots of spare parts. A bargain at \$2,500! Contact Mike Currie 206-755-0137

8/15



**1948 Chevrolet Fleetline Aerosedan**, Restored about 15 years ago with only 3,000 miles since. Always garaged, Hampton Coach interior, original rebuilt 216 ci engine, options include Guide foglamps, six lug 15 in. wheels, backup light, and windshield washer. All reasonable offers considered.

Janice Dynes 425-827-9954

7/15



**1947-1971 Locking gas cap** for sale \$8 to club members. Manufacturer: FoMoCo No. C20Z-9030-A Appears to be the same as one listed on Ebay at 400393915956 which fits 1958-63 Chev cars. Key included. Chrome plated. 1947-1971 Chev Trucks  
Contact Bob Starnes, [rstarnes@yahoo.com](mailto:rstarnes@yahoo.com)

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### WANTED

**1930 Passenger Radiator** Gary Barquist 509-636-2133

6/15

**1941 Chevrolet speedometer**. I'm needing to replace or have repaired/rebuilt the non-working speedometer of my 1941 Chevrolet Special Deluxe coupe. Suggestions would certainly be appreciated. David Holiday, Gold Bar WA [davterr13@comcast.net](mailto:davterr13@comcast.net)

8/15

## Hope is Eternal!

David Gowan, Director Area # 3 VCCA

Even with all the pain and hardship in this ol' world, people hang onto an unending cord of hope. I've seen it in business, in families, in communities and in personal faith. Yep, Valentine's Day is past, but folks I know still care for each other, do things intentionally that prompt love and support and they keep looking 'up'. I like that!

I encourage you to plan on going to the 55<sup>th</sup> National Anniversary Meet in Lake Tahoe beginning on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August. You'll meet VCCA members from all over the world who will restore your faith in humanity. They're just good people. Take time to read the G & D for activities in other regions, tours and articles that help you enjoy the hobby. If you have concerns for the VCCA Board to discuss, send them to me soon because I will attend the annual board meeting on April 7 to 9<sup>th</sup>.

