



CLASSIC NEWS – FEBRUARY 2023

President: Carolyn Hartzell 541-956-6954
Treasurer: Glenn Dean 310-339-3221
Secretary: Paul Pauliot

Vice President: Charlie Price 541-659-5252
Show Chair: Kathy Simmons 541-592-6009
Newsletter Editor: Glenn Dean 310-339-3221

A few words from our Club President

Hello everyone!

Even though it is raining and the old, pampered cars are staying clean in their garages, we can still get out with our daily drivers.

Every Friday night (year round) you'll find some of us at Udders for ice cream and lots of talking around the tables. Come out around 6 p.m. Udders is on 7th St. near the I-5 Freeway in the Diamond Home Improvement Center and Sizzler parking lot.

Also, you can join us every Saturday night at Jimmy's Drive In at 4:30 p.m. for a great burger and shake. Jimmy's is located at 550 NE E St. Some of us eat there every week throughout the year.

Connie Gates and I will start arranging short cruises in February or March.

Next meeting: Sunday, February 12th at the Fruitdale Grange, 1440 Parkdale Dr., Grants Pass at 4 p.m.

Carolyn Hartzell

541-956-6954 wthcjhnova@q.com

FEBRUARY MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

5th Bonnie Booth

11th John Bucchino, Jr

13th Sandra Carpenter

23rd Linda Dittemore

6th Kathy Simmons

13th Andy Speziale

21st Mike Phillips

27th Babe Caltabiano

Anniversaries

4th Frank & Jane Hamusek

21st Richard & Esther Coleman

9th Richard & Deb Reaza

22nd Andy & Claudia Speciale

Mark your calendars for upcoming car club events

– Recurring Cruises

Udders Ice Cream every Friday night – weather permitting

Cruise to Udders for ice cream and car chit/chat! Meet us there around 6 pm: 1893 NE 7th Street in the Diamond Home Improvement parking lot.

Medford Cars and Coffee . . . every Saturday morning - weather permitting

Join us to socialize and enjoy the cars: Location: Southern Oregon Orthopedics, behind the Starbucks at 2676 E. Barnett Road (across from Asante Hospital in Medford) 8 am to 9:30 am every Saturday. medfordcarsncoffee.com

Cave Junction Senior Center on the first Saturday of every month

Cruise Directors Carolyn and Connie invite you to meet at Albertson's Allen Creek Road location at 8:45 am on the first Saturday of every month. They'll be leaving the Albertson's parking lot at 9 am sharp to cruise to the Cave Junction Senior Center. The all-you-can-eat breakfast (only \$9) includes eggs, hash browns, pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, coffee, and juice..

– Upcoming car Cruise

Willamette Valley Corvette Show "Glass on the Grass" 55th Birthday Bash

Saturday June 17th 8 am to 3 pm – 3995 Brooklake Rd NE, Salem, OR

Club Meeting Minutes, Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023

President -Carolyn Hartzell: Carolyn opened the meeting at 4:04 which is good because I was late. She started with a short prayer and then introduced Bill Bower who has a 2007 Porsche 911. Welcome Bill.

Vice President -Charlie Price: Charlie reminded everyone that the 2023 RVCC dues are due. They are still only \$24.00 per family for the full year. Helping groups in our community through charitable donations is very rewarding and we can all be proud of the effort it takes.

Treasurer - Glenn Dean: Glenn reported that the club is still solvent.

Newsletter editor- Glenn Dean: Glenn is needing someone to step forward and tell their story about their car(s), how did you get it, what have you done to the car, whatever you would like to share. Glenn is also still filling in as Newsletter editor and looking for someone to step up and take over. No previous experience required.

Car Show Chairperson- Kathy Simmons: Kathy reported that the Jackets are out and Team Leaders are needed for Parking, Advertising, & Pre-Show. Volunteer and keep your car club alive and well. Too few trying to do too much is not the way things should be. We have a great club let's keep it growing.

Secretary's report- Paul Pouliot: Paul read a Thank you card that was received from the Caveman Kiwanis to the members of RVCC for our donation of \$3000.00.

Cruise Directors- Connie Gates & Carolyn Hartzell: No cruises this month are planned due to the weather. Feb. 4th is the next date for the Cave Junction breakfast. Meet at Albertsons parking lot for the drive to Cave Junction, we will leave about 9:00. Truly wonderful and hearty breakfast for only \$9:00.

Old Business: Static windshield Decals are ready. Cost and distribution to be finalized next meeting. Status of Bottle Drop program- still on hold, waiting for proper paper work.

New Business: Anniversary Dinner is planned for March 12th. Place and Menu to be announced later. The Grange has requested clean up after use, basically wipe down the tables and counter.

No 50/50 this month.

Next meeting: Sunday February 12th, 4 p.m. at the Fruitdale Grange, 1440 Parkdale Dr. Grants Pass

Submittal by Paul Pouliot, Club Secretary

Member Prospective for February 2023

A '69 Camaro for Jim Wells? It was meant to be!

The year was 1969. Jim Wells, only a teenager at the time, began visiting Chevy dealerships, pretending to be a potential buyer so he could test drive those hot new '69 Camaros. Back then, they were as out of reach as the moon for the teenager, but Jim never forgot those early test drives.

Fast forward to 2009. Jim drove up to Gig Harbor, Washington, to check out a friend's '65 Mustang. Jim remembers telling his friend that "the only thing that would stop me from buy your Mustang would be if I could find a '69 Camaro." As fate would have it, the very next day, while driving to Port Orchard to visit his father, he spotted a '69 Camaro, parked at a baseball field with a "for sale" sign on it. Jim bought it on the spot and trailered it to Grants Pass!

The car was completely stock with the exception of its Viper Red paint. It had a small block 307 V-8 engine, 350 turbo auto transmission. It was a nice looking car but didn't have much get up and go. It also had the original 14-inch rally wheels with drum brakes.

Jim went to work! He had 4-wheel disc brakes installed and added 18-inch American torque thrust mags and low profiled the tires. "I had to have American mags because that's what I had on my '63 Impala SS as a teen," he said. Then, in 2014 he installed new original/stock seat covers and carpet.

So now the Camaro was looking good but an important job was still ahead, Jim said. "I wanted to make it real fast!!" He contacted fellow Club member Ron Smith and they brought in John Keller of Keller Motors to build the motor. They decided to go with a 383 Stroker, aluminum heads and cam, which John said would bring it up to at least 425 horsepower. Jim wanted a manual transmission, so Ron suggested a Tremec 5 speed. Once the motor was built, Ron installed it and as well as the transmission. Then, Jim had the rear end changed to a 373 positraction. At last, Jim had the Camaro he'd always dreamed about . . . a cool-looking head turner with the muscle to back it up.

But, of course a cool muscle car is never finished, so in 2017 Jim added a cowl induction hood and Rally stripes. A great painter, Mark Brown from the Paint Shop, gave the car a new paint job in Jim's favorite Viper red color and added the Rally stripes.

"In addition to Ron Smith and John Keller, there were many great folks who contributed to finishing the car. I'm grateful to Russ of North Valley Muffler; Steve Simmons at Sunrise Color; Bob at RCM Classic Car Repair, and Steve at Performance Fabrication," Jim said.



Your story can be next – In the March 2023 Newsletter. Just write the story and attach a picture and send it to the Newsletter Editor – Glenn Dean GlennLDean@verizon.net