

# The Vintage Voice

A P U B L I C A T I O N O F T H E T H U N D E R B A Y  
V I N T A G E S P O R T S C A R C L U B



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## CHAIR CHATTER

Well it seems de rigueur at this time of year for club chairs to cast out a little optimism about the umpteenth coming of a new vintage car season. For me, that will not be difficult. Already, there has been an obvious increase in the amount of daylight. One of our cats is already resuming his task of giving the odd unleashed neighbourhood dog a little exercise. And, most convincingly among we gear-heads, my brother left word at the beginning of last week that he was off to Daytona. Apparently, he and three of his Mosport race marshal buddies were tagged to assist at the Rolex Series. I'll need to prepare myself for his return to Ontario – like most brothers, he likes to try lord something like this over me. 'Tis a good thing we're close!

Under John and Glen's leadership, RendezVous preparations are ramping up. Members who are not already involved can obviously do so in a number of ways. At present, an entertaining banquet speaker is being sought - all ideas are welcome! We still need RendezVous sponsorship suggestions and members willing to make those requests; so, if you have a good relationship with some commercial enterprise, let John or Riley know.



I'm afraid that I must admit to little progress on the car. The next step is to do some minor sheet welding, so I've been practicing but have not yet achieved consistent and beautiful beads. I'll get there.

*Geoff*

## The Time Is At Hand

Time To Renew Your Membership - ONLY **\$25**

## MEETING MINUTES - JANUARY 19TH

Present: 17 members

## Agenda:

- under New Business, include the item concerning terms of executive positions

## Minutes of the last meeting (09 11 16):

- highlights reviewed

## Secretary's Report (provided by the Chair):

- there has been no club correspondence

## Treasurer's Report:

- The unaudited Annual Financial Statement for the year ended October 31, 2009 was presented. So far, there have been 12 membership renewals and the payment of outstanding dues was encouraged. Geoff to review the matter of Honourary Members and report to the next meeting.  
- It was suggested that a 4-sale ad for past RendezVous shirts be included in the next newsletter and, any remaining items be kept for sale or prizes at this year's event.  
- We still need a supply of membership cards.

## Publicity and Activities Report:

- The annual Chilli Buns Tour will take place on February 21. Richard Vamplew agreed to again establish the route and Glenn will check on a potential finish line eatery

## Old Business:

- RendezVous preparations continue and members were again encouraged to help out, and come to the next meeting. This was scheduled for February 1 (later changed to Jan 27), at Chris Pyne's place at 7 PM. Any potential commercial sponsorship suggestions are being sought. Members with

an idea are encouraged to contact Riley. Also, various tour leaders will be required for the event

## New Business:

- The suggestion to change club executive terms from one to two years was discussed. There was consensus that the current arrangement of single year terms continue.  
- Chris presented the results of the Meeting Format Questionnaire (which were published in the December VV). It was agreed that the most important feedback was that the membership wanted the business segment to be short, and followed by a feature - videos, discussions, speakers etc. Geoff offered to coordinate speakers that members suggested.

The business discussion was followed by a DVD video "50 Years of F1 On-Board", featuring Fangio, Moss, Clark and others.

*Geoff*

## MEMBERSHIP MESSAGES

- We need a Secretary for the meetings - see Geoff if you are willing to take that on (Ed: we must have some members who can write.....?)
- 4 Sale: we have some club T-shirts, and also shirts from our past Rendezvous events - make Ken B an offer he can't refuse.
- 2010 Membership fees are overdue; get your \$25 to Ken B ASAP.
- You said you wanted a feature at our meetings; well, see Geoff with your ideas - a speaker, some interesting parts/problems you've got etc.? This will be great, but only if everyone contributes.

*Chris*



## ANSWER TO JANUARY'S MYSTERY CAR

Tricky? Well, not to Doris Colosimo or Tom Moerke who both knew it was a **Crosley Hot Shot** (1951 in fact). Tom says that he's driven one, and "...they were terrible cars, 3-speed non-sync trans, itty-bitty little 4 cyl...." They were the first US sports car after the war, and the first US car with disc brakes (although they were unreliable and later replaced with drums). However, The Times said that "The biggest problem was its engine, a dual-overhead cam 750cc four-cylinder, not cast in iron but brazed together from pieces of stamped tin, known as the CoBra (copper-brazed) engine. When these brazed welds let go, as they often did, things quickly got noisy, and hot." Crosley built around 2000 Hot Shots from 1949-52; they were almost as fast as an MG TC at half the price, but by the time they had fixed their problems it was too late, and they went out of business in 1952.

*Chris*

### RENDEZVOUS 2010 UPDATE

Rendezvous plans are taking shape. As of Jan 27th we have 46 rooms booked at the hotel. 16 rooms have also been booked for Wed the 16th for people who are going to come in early to take part in the Golf on Thursday. This will be a Best Ball event with the focus on having fun.

Riley has agreed to head up the Sponsorship post. We will be discussing potential ideas at the Feb General meeting. If you have possible contacts for sponsors, bring them along.

It looks like we will be having a Funkhana again this year, but the location has not been finalized, so we are open to ideas about a possible lot to stage that event.

Friday night plans for a BBQ at Chippewa are firming up. We intend to invite the other local car clubs out to this event. It should make for an interesting show.

For the Rally on Saturday, we are planning a two-tone event as it were. Entrants will be given the choice of doing the route as a TSD rally or as a Fun Tour. Following the rally, we will be parking the cars at the Casino for the "Show 'n Shine" then heading around the corner to Tony and Adams for lunch. The Show 'n Shine follows in the afternoon.

I would like to thank all the folks that have put in the effort in these early stages. As we move forward, we will need people to plan and head up the tours on Friday, as well as volunteers to help out at the various other events. This is the 20th anniversary of this wonderful event, let's make it a great one!

The next Rendezvous planning meeting is scheduled for 7pm Wednesday March 3rd at John's (413 Shuniah St.) - all members are invited to come along and share their ideas!

*John*

**THERE, I FIXED IT.....!**

Thanks to Clora Gilbert for these.



There I Fixed It



There I Fixed It



There I Fixed It



There I Fixed It



## GOOD DETECTIVE WORK

Found on the RockAuto website:-

On October 9th, a woman was killed by a hit-and-run driver in rural Snohomish County north of Seattle, Washington.

On October 21st, a detective from the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office in Everett emailed Joseph at RockAuto.com in Madison, Wisconsin to request help identifying their only clue, an inner fender with a couple of zip ties attached.

The inner fender is a piece of black plastic that lines the wheel well above the tire. The inner fender left at the crime scene had no part numbers or other identifying marks. Joseph looked through some of the inner fender photos in RockAuto.com's online auto parts catalog and asked around the warehouses a bit. He quickly learned he was searching for the proverbial black plastic needle in a haystack of auto parts.

That is when Joseph called Carl at Sherman Body Parts just outside of Detroit. Sherman supplies RockAuto with quarter panels, grilles, cross members, rocker panels, and lots of other body parts including inner fenders. With just a couple of photos, Carl went to work identifying that inner fender from Washington State.

And Carl did it! He determined the inner fender came from the left front wheel well of a '99-'04 Chevrolet Tracker, '99-'05 Suzuki Vitara, or '01-'06 Suzuki XL-7.

The sheriff's detective contacted the Washington State Department of Licensing and got a list of 1300 Chevrolet Trackers and Suzukis registered in Snohomish County. A new search for a needle in a haystack began.

The big break came when the detective phoned seeking info on a Chevy Tracker registered at a residence approximately 15 miles from the crash site. The woman who answered the phone said her nephew had sold the Tracker and recently moved to an apartment complex. She agreed to ask her nephew to call with information on the Tracker's new owner.

The nephew received the message from his aunt and excitedly told his roommate that his old SUV

might have been involved in a crime. The roommate said he had seen a Tracker-like vehicle with front-end damage in their own apartment complex parking lot!

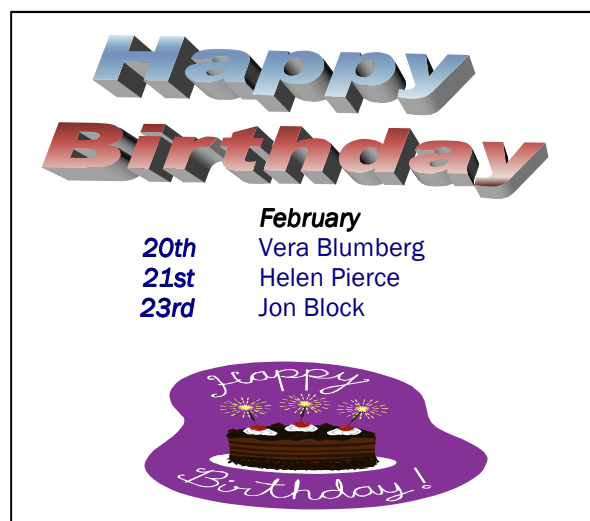
The detective came out and walked around the apartment complex. He found a Suzuki Grand Vitara with front end damage. Remarkably, it was mostly old front-end damage preceding the hit-and-run.

The old damage had been repaired with zip ties. The left inner fender was missing. The zip ties found on the inner fender at the crime scene matched the zip ties on the Vitara and zip ties found in the Vitara owner's boyfriend's garage.

Last week, the Grand Vitara owner, a 46 year old woman, confessed to the hit-and-run. She showed no remorse and only regretted that she would be unable to smoke cigarettes in jail.

It is amazing that this case was solved in less than a month with just an inner fender to work from. It was miraculous that the former Tracker owning nephew just happened to have moved to the apartment complex where the guilty Vitara was sitting. A hit-and-run makes the world seem like a cold and heartless place, but maybe that was offset a bit by the extended community in Washington, Wisconsin, and Michigan that came together to solve this crime.

*Chris*



### THE DANGERS OF USING 12V CHARGERS

Glen got this message and photo from a friend.

“Attached are pictures of what remains of our 2007 Suburban.

This fire resulted from leaving an **Iphone charger/docking station plugged into the car outlet**. It overheated and started a fire, while parked in our garage. **PLEASE unplug anything you have in your car outlets once you turn off your car!**

We were VERY fortunate that we accidentally found the fire, at 11pm, before going to bed and before it spread to the house. None of our garage heat detectors or house fire alarms went off (another item to take care of on my to do list). The boys and I were pretty freaked out but we're all enjoying our new car at least.

Feel free to pass this along to anyone you want. Better safe than sorry.”



(Ed: my '72 Jensen actually has a 12V socket on the dash - although it is for charging the **car** battery).

### CHILI BUNS TOUR - SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21ST

This year's Chili Buns Tour will take place on Sunday February 21st. We meet at 1:00pm at Tim Horton's on Oliver Road, with the start at 1:30pm. The Tour should take about 2 hours, and will end with a bowl of Chili of course, at a location to be determined. Richard says this is not a rally, but a comfortable tour around some of our country roads.

### FEBRUARY MYSTERY CAR

I think we'd all agree that this driver is about to scream "Oh shxt !"

But what car is he driving?

Thanks to Glen Paterson for this one.



 **Get the Good Stuff**

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|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| <b>MON – WED</b>   | <b>8:00 am-5:30 pm</b> |
| <b>THURS – FRI</b> | <b>8:00 am-8:00 pm</b> |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>    | <b>8:30 am-5:00 pm</b> |



**WINTER STORAGE**

**A** Plymouth Landing Storage Complex  
600 Montreal

Phone 807 626 4433



### **Executive**

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| President:     | Geoff Reynolds |
| Vice President | Jon Block      |
| Treasurer      | Ken Biniaris   |
| Secretary      | vacant         |
| Events Chair   | Riley Burton   |

### **Appointments**

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Regalia    | Norris Badanai |
| Newsletter | Chris Pyne     |

**Thunder Bay Vintage Sports Car Club**  
c/o High-Tech Computer Services  
283 Bay Street  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1R7

### **Club Philosophy by Gord Birch**

To form a gathering of kindred souls whose common bond is tinkering with elderly automobiles of a sporting nature: swapping tales of their favourite marques and the joys of their misspent yesterdays.

To rally for tours through the countryside, to the lusty sound of a spirited four cylinder exhaust, with the top down, wind in your hair, grease under your fingernails and never straying more than thirty or forty miles from home.

To compete in gentle forms of automotive calisthenics, befitting such venerable wheels and occasionally raise a glass of the vintage to the vintage.....

**WHAT** We are a multi-marque club dedicated to the preservation, maintenance, restoration and enjoyment of older sports and sports-touring automobiles.

**WHEN** Monthly meetings are held at the Prosvita Hall on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm

**EVENTS** We have driving tours, poker rallies, car show attendance, barbeques, tech sessions, golf and any other ideas we can think of.



## **Calendar of Events**

|                              |                           |               |  |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Tuesday February 16th</b> | <b>Monthly Meeting</b>    | <b>7:00pm</b> | <b>Prosvita Hall</b>                   |
| <b>Sunday February 21st</b>  | <b>Chili Buns Tour</b>    | <b>1:00pm</b> | <b>See page 5 for details</b>          |
| <b>Wednesday March 3rd</b>   | <b>Rendezvous Meeting</b> | <b>7:00pm</b> | <b>John Colosimo's, 413 Shuniah St</b> |
| <b>Tuesday March 16th</b>    | <b>Monthly Meeting</b>    | <b>7:00pm</b> | <b>Prosvita Hall</b>                   |