



# Pacific Tiger Club

## Newsletter

ROOTES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

### President's Corner



We are fast approaching the end of 2014 and a brief review of the year's events seems to be in order:

**January:** Dick Sanders organized a "day at the track," the slot car track that is. The

day was windy and rainy in addition to a much-anticipated Seahawks playoff game. None of this deterred the approximately 15 member who showed up to test their driving skills.

**February:** We were treated to a guided tour of the Hydroplane Museum in Kent where many of the piston powered relics are displayed. An added bonus was a large display of R/C racing scale model hydroplanes by several local clubs. The degree of detail was amazing.

**March:** Max Pahmeier hosted the first "Sunbeam Swap Meet." The idea had been discussed and was finally kicked off and was greeted with much interest. Members brought their various spare parts with many finding new homes. I am hopeful we can make this an annual event.

**April:** Another wet day but no shortage of interest from the club as we toured Jim Green's speed shop in Monroe. We have done this in the past but it is always a fun day to see all the interesting projects in his facility. Jim has been

*Cont. on next page*

### **HOLIDAY FUN WITH PACIFIC TIGER CLUB!**

**Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>  
Noon-to-5pm**

You are invited to join PTC for a holiday party at the home of Kevin & Judy Jewell. They'll supply Ham and Mac & Cheese and waters, pop, and a festive beverage. We'll need some: appetizers, vegetarian and gluten-free friendly foods/salads & desserts. Let's just pot luck it all the way instead of assigning stuff.

Hollie's **Gift Exchange Magic** will be featured. So bring a wrapped, new gift of about \$15 value from each person who wants to play. We have had nearly 100% participation in the last couple of years, so let's keep it up!

The address is: 12120 202 Ave NE,  
Woodinville, WA 98077. Phone: 425.885.0103.

*"Please let us know you are coming by emailing us at [kevinandjudy@isomedia.com](mailto:kevinandjudy@isomedia.com) so we can be sure to have enough food and beverages.*

*Also, please remember those in need at this time of year and bring a canned food item to be donated to **Hopelink Food Bank.**"*

*- Kevin & Judy*

## Club Officers

- President:** Dave Dunn  
5906 Mont Blanc Place NW  
Issaquah WA 98027  
[ddunn@andoverco.com](mailto:ddunn@andoverco.com)
- VP/Newsletter:** Dick Sanders  
4239 S. 261<sup>st</sup> S  
Kent, WA 98043  
253-332-0253  
RootesRooter@aol.com
- Secretary:** Jim Clark
- Treasurer:** Bob Bennion  
37904 Fawn Rd NE.  
Hansville, WA 98340  
360-638-1992  
[904star@centurytel.net](mailto:904star@centurytel.net)

## Committee Chairpersons

- Membership:** Dan Kuenzi  
370 N. East Camano Dr.  
STE #5, PMB #36  
Camano Island, WA 98282  
509-952-7120  
[shelbycuda@hotmail.com](mailto:shelbycuda@hotmail.com)
- Historians:** Dave Dunn / Dan Kuenzi
- Activities:** Volunteer needed!

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performance-building Ford motors for a number of years and has an eclectic collection of cars and memorabilia. He had just added a 50's style diner theme area with a complete old train set displayed overhead. In addition he mixed in a display of some of his collectable old warplane parts.

**May:** We met at the XXX Drive-In in Issaquah and drove the back roads for a brief stop at Snoqualmie Falls and then on into North Bend for lunch at Twede's Café. This café was made famous by the TV show Twin Peaks.

**June:** Dan and Cindy Kuenzi once again hosted us with a scenic drive of Camano Island followed by a delicious meal in their Taj Magarage. Another great turnout of over 20 members, many of whom drove their Rootes vehicles. In addition it is always interesting to view the diverse collection of cars the Kuenzis possess.

**July:** We were involved with two significant events in July. First was SUNI VI in Colorado Springs, CO, where Max Pahmeier again headed this once-every-five-years event. 2014 being significant in that it is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the launch of the Tiger. The event was well organized with many of our members actively involved. Second was the All-British Field Meet at its new location at St. Edward State Park in Kenmore. The day was warm and our club had a great turnout. Budd Bennion has been involved with this event on behalf of the club for many years. The new venue was met with much enthusiasm from the participants.

**August:** Another beautiful day found us winding through the trees and valleys around Snohomish with a destination of El Paraiso Mexican Grill for lunch. After a hearty meal some members ventured into Snohomish for the popular hobby of antique shopping.



**October:** Our Annual General Meeting closed up our fiscal year at Robb's 125<sup>th</sup> Street Grill in Seattle where we had our own room and a catered meal. Some members displayed parts of their collectable memorabilia as well as pictures from the year's events. We wrapped up the afternoon with our usual dispersing of door prizes.

Thank you to everyone who hosted and/or organized our events. It is always appreciated to have such a great amount of

## Pacific Tiger Club Newsletter

participation. The events were all well attended and I look forward to having a planning meeting in January to establish another fun year of events and outings. Please start thinking about what ideas and events you feel we should consider for 2015 and either email them to me or come to the planning session in January. In addition I would like to also recognize all the officers who give their time to the various positions they hold. Many of them spend a lot of volunteer time to make the events, newsletter, email notices, balance bank accounts, etc. all function properly for everyone's benefit.

Our **November** meeting found us at BritSport in Seattle's lower Magnolia area. Mark Jones, the proprietor, opened his shop on a Saturday for us and provided coffee and pastries homemade by his wife. 2014 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> year for BritSport in their current location. Mark gave a brief description of the various current projects.

They perform complete restorations or basic maintenance of all British makes. They had a couple of non-British machines in the shop but he explained the unique reasons for having them. Namely that a VW bug belonged to the electrician who keeps all the shop circuits in working order and is always available on short notice. As Mark said, "we keep him happy so we can keep the lights on." When asked what was the longest amount of time he had spent on a restoration, Mark replied it was approximately four years for a one-of-four-produced Aston Martin.

Mark was very gracious and patiently answered all of our questions. He is passionate about his business and enjoys an excellent reputation. Thank you to Larry and Ileen Ingersoll for arranging this meeting with Mark.

Next up is the annual Christmas Party which will be hosted by Kevin and Judy Jewell on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 5:00. Hollie Sanders will again be organizing a gift exchange, with further details forthcoming.

*Dunn for now*

October/November 2014

*Happy Holidays from PTC!*

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

*PTC membership as of 11/24/2014 stands at 85, up three from a year ago. Since January 2014, we have five new plus one re-activated member for a total of six new members. New members have largely come by word of mouth and our PTC website.*

*As you come across folks expressing interest in Rootes cars, I encourage all members to make them aware of our club and the benefits enjoyed. If you come in contact with someone interested in joining, simply email me their name, phone number, email and I will take care of the rest.*

**- Dan Kuenzi**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

By Bob Bennion

Pacific Tiger Club	
Annual Statement of Financial Results	
Fiscal year Oct 2013 - Sept 2014	
Checking account balance, October 1, 2013	\$ 12,367.08
Receipts deposited:	2,512.18
Checks disbursed:	2,069.37
Checking account balance, September 30, 2014	\$ 12,809.89

October/November 2014

## ***Secretary's Report - Annual General Meeting***

Meeting held at the 125th Street Grill, Seattle, WA

Meeting called to order by Dave Dunn  
11 October 2014

Dave Dunn started the meeting by thanking Kylie Keyzer for her work of the PTC website. New photos will be posted soon.

Dave D. also thanked Bill Sandell for suggesting the Swap Meet idea for the club, which was held at Max Pahmeier's garage.

Max Pahmeier reported on SUNI VI: He thanked everyone who helped out with the event and especially thanked Bill and Glenda Clemans for their hard work. The event had very good attendance with a total of 75 cars. The Marriott was one of the nicer hotels that the club has booked for a SUNI event; he especially liked the restaurant and great staff they had. The speakers were Rosemary Smith and Graham Robson, and they related stories of their past driving adventures. Max related that his brand new Dodge pickup broke down on the way to Colorado Springs, while the Clemans drove their '62 Alpine the whole way without a problem.



Starke Shelby reported on the Monterey Historic Races which he attended in August. It was the 100th anniversary of the Masarati but the Sunbeam Tiger's 50th anniversary was also featured. Starke raced his Tiger (one of eight in the grid) and actually finished. Stark spoke of his experience on the track and that he has now checked that event off of his bucket list. He is making plans for the next trip to Monterey.

Treasury Report: Bob Bennion reported that the club now has \$12,809.00-a net gain of \$442.00 over the past year. The club still has a \$8,000.00 CD for a period of 18 months.

The club checking account has no fee at this time because it was set up by Linda and Larry Atkisson-tied to their commercial account. At another bank the club would encounter a \$14.00 per month fee.

Membership Report: Dan Kuenzi reported that club membership is at 86 people. This is up three members from last year. He told us that the PTC website is very productive at generating interest in the club.

Budd Bennion recapped the All British Field Meet, stating that there were 21 Rootes cars on display out of a total of 603 cars. In 2013 the club had just nine entries at the meet. The club received a letter thanking us for buying a \$300.00 ad in the program.

The ABFM would like more club participation and Budd hoped he had club backing to volunteer their time next July.

A motion was made to retain the current officers for the next year. All were in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Future events discussed:  
November 22 meeting will be at BritSports at 11:00

The Christmas meeting will be at Kevin and Judy Jewell's home

The January meeting will be a planning meeting

Larry Atkisson asked if PTC was going to put on the Sunbeam Northwest next year. More discussion will follow at the planning meeting.

Dave D. thanked Budd B. for supplying the door prizes and the raffle soon started.

Brent Edinger won the Boxes of Mystery game.



Meeting was adjourned

**Minutes submitted**

**by Jim Clark**

*(AGM photo by Kylie Keyzer)*

# Where Was Your Sunbeam First Purchased?

Story and photos by Ed Erikson

I'm sure that not many of us can answer that question. After all, most of our vehicles have gone through numerous owners and any original paperwork has long ago been lost or thrown out.

Fortunately, when I purchased my Alpine V in 2003 all the paperwork from the original bill of sale was given to me. Even the warranty book with tear-out coupons was included. The bill of sale said that my car was

sold in early 1967. The seller was a "Beach Imports" on Charleston Road in Bremerton, Wash. The car went through about six owners from Bremerton to Mr. Vernon to Poulsbo, and finally to Tacoma before I purchased it from an ad on the Sunbeam Alpine Owner's Club website. Well, since I live on Vashon Island – very close to Bremerton – I thought that I would take a look for that "Beach Imports" on Charleston Road.

Needless to say, there was no Beach Imports, but I eventually did find a Charleston Beach Road. It was originally the main highway to Bremerton from the south. It had become almost an alley as a new four-lane highway became the favored route to the city in the 1970s, I believe.

Anyway, I had almost given up on the location of Beach Imports when [in 2008] a fellow Pacific Tiger Club member [Ross Evans] told me that he had been told that there was a former Rootes dealership about to be torn down in Bremerton. Well, lo and behold, he

showed me the place. Behind it was Charleston Road. The building had previously been boarded up so there was no identity to distinguish it from other abandoned buildings

in the vicinity. Yes, it was in the process of being demolished, and when the boards came down, there in all its glory was the Sunbeam script, Tiger and Imp words, and



Chrysler insignia.

What a find! Many pictures were taken on a nice day. A month later I went to take another look and, unfortunately, I saw that the



whole building had been completely leveled with no evidence that it had ever existed. I consider myself pretty lucky to have seen this place just in time.

[This article first appeared in *The Rootes Rota* in July 2008, published by Ohan Khorlikian]

# Fill 'er Up!

by Dick Sanders



## Lights! Camera! Action!

*Ghost Sniffers, Inc.* is a locally-produced television show on the web, now in its second season. It takes place in a world with no one over 16 years-old, where kids with special challenges turn those disabilities into super abilities, such as the Type 1 diabetic lead who gains the power to ‘sniff out’ vampires. Great fun for the younger set.

A spin-off independent feature film, *Ghost Noir*, recently finished shooting in the Bremerton area. The producer needed a roadster for one scene and turned to a Port Orchard neighbor, PTC member **Ross Evans**. Ross recently attended a sneak preview of the premier at a packed Port Orchard theater, where he had the treat of watching his Tiger get over a minute-and-a-half of screen time. He also received screen credit as a “stunt driver,” though he says he never exceeded 25 mph. He even donned a costume to try to look like the driver’s character, though he says that the DVD contains a deleted scene where you can see his gray hairs poking out from under a hat. DVD’s of *Ghost Noir* can be purchased for just \$9.95 at: [ghostnoir.blueforgeproductions.com](http://ghostnoir.blueforgeproductions.com). ■

The Monterey Historics held in August provided an excellent showcase for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tiger, both on the track, where eight cars competed, and on the auction block at the Russo & Steele auction. Two Mk II Tigers went for in excess of \$210,000 each, roughly \$60,000 more than the highest prices previously seen for Tigers with no documented

factory racing history. ■

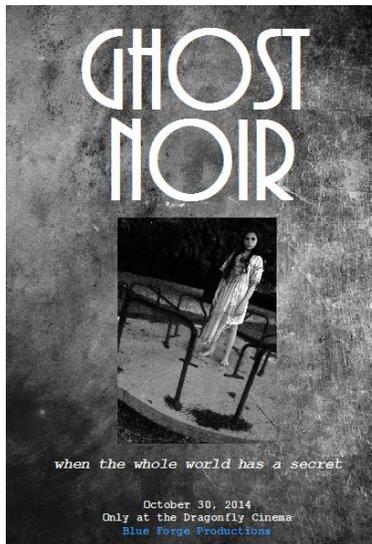
Our November meeting was held at **Britsport**, a British specialty repair and restoration shop in Seattle’s Magnolia neighborhood. Just a tiny sign on a chain-link fence routed us to the alley entrance that I missed the first two times I drove by. Once inside, though, was a huge, well-equipped shop. Jags, Austin-Healys and MGA’s made up most of the customer cars on hand.

In our Q&A session with owner Mark Jones, he told us that his shop worked on few Sunbeams, mostly gearboxes sent over for repair by long-time PTC member Jim Leach. In an era of fewer and fewer repair shops catering to British car owners, it is surprising that more of us haven’t taken advantage of an obvious resource. ■

Like parents brawling in the aisles of K-Mart over the latest trendy toy for their kids, eBay buyers also often go crazy about a month before Christmas, bidding up rare Sunbeam parts and memorabilia to unheard-of prices. Through November, the most sought-after items on eBay were: an NOS red dash light which sold for \$108; a Mk II Tiger owners manual in almost new condition went for \$580; and a pair of Mk II non-eyebrow headlight rims sold for \$637. Need a vinyl roll for your stock condition roll tools? A nice



went for \$560 – no tools included. A copy of the always popular Book of Norman fetched \$1,600. Finally, what I thought was the “bargain” of the bunch was a 30”x 45”, silk Rootes showroom advertising banner, circa late 1965 or early 1966, going for *only* \$381. ■



# WANNA SELL! WANNA BUY!

**FOR SALE:** 1957 Sunbeam Rapier Series I A3605792 R67 Hardtop 22,144 miles. See: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/sunbeam/office/featured.html> This Rapier has paint, weather-stripping, and upholstery issues. Asking \$6,500. Elliott Fletcher, 360 668 3532. Rapier located three miles NW of Woodinville, WA at Maltby.

**FOR SALE:** Aluminum oil pan for Alpines. Originally fitted to 1725cc on later fastback Alpine GT. Pan in good condition. Has baffle, but needs minor welding repair around screw holes. \$150. Local pickup only (Kent). Dick Sanders 253-332-1124.

**FOR SALE:** 1967 Series 5 Alpine 70,000 miles, stored last 10 years, rust free Arizona car, in British Green. Asking \$10,500 – Offers! Contact Don Atchison 360-275-2773. Located in Belfair, WA

## Mark Your Calendar!

### **PTC Club Events**

**December 7 Noon-5pm PTC Christmas Party** at the home of Kevin & Judy Jewell. 12120 202<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE, Woodinville, WA 425.885.0103. See Page 1 for details.

**January 17 10am.** Planning Meeting for 2015 events at the home of Dave & Anita Dunn. (Note that we've carefully planned this year to avoid any possible Seahawk playoff games!) 5906 Mont Blanc Place NW, Issaquah, WA 98027.

### **British Iron**

**April 25 - 2015 Tulip Rallye**, held during the annual Skagit Valley Tulip Festival. The car show in the parking lot before the rally starts is itself worth the trip!

**May 24 Vintage British Car Show** to be held at the Issaquah Triple X Root Beer Drive-in.

### **MINI TECH TIP**

#### **Wheel Cylinder Rebuilding**

After disassembly, polish bore of the cylinder with a hone.

Wash casting and other metal parts with clean alcohol or approved brake fluid.

DO NOT USE GASOLINE, KEROSENE or any other fluid that might contain even THE SLIGHTEST TRACE OF MINERAL OIL, as these are injurious to rubber parts and will cause future trouble.

(This tip was included with a Dormont wheel cylinder rebuild kit - courtesy of Budd Bennion)

### **Renewing your membership?**

Members are asked to send all membership checks and correspondence to:

Dan Kuenzi  
370 N. East Camano Dr.  
STE #5, PMB #36  
Camano Island, WA 98282  
509-952-7120  
shelbycuda@hotmail.com

**Annual Membership Dues:** \$32.00 US/35.00 for foreign members. Make checks payable to: PacificTiger Club.



*Hope you find something special under your Christmas Tree!*



5906 Mont Blanc Place NW  
Issaquah, WA 98027