May-June 2025

Pacific Tiger Club Newsletter

ROOTES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

The Prez Sez!

by Larry Atkisson

We will be gathering at Griot's Garage June 7th in Tacoma for a New Product Demo at 10:00 AM. Following the demo we will have a PTC meeting. Griot's is also hosting a Caffeine & Gasoline for the Porsche Club 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM. Word is they start to clear out about 9:30 AM. Parking maybe a bit crowded….not to worry, Griot's will also have plenty of parking as they own the property north of the retail facility & will have that area open. If the weather permits, this would be an excellent opportunity to drive your car, shake out the cobwebs, in prep for our sunny driving season.

Thanks to all who attended the PTC Swap Meet. It was nice to see everyone.

Rob Carpenter recently sold his Alpine to former PTC member Ken Fletcher, with the help of Mike Nannenhorn. Hopefully Ken will rejoin PTC.

For those interested in a road trip, TUXLIV (Tigers United) will be June 18 -21. It will be held at the Monterey Peninsula & Laguna Seca Raceway.
July 20: Practically in our backyard will be the Hansville 15th annual Car Show, Buck Lake Park in Hansville. 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Registration is $20.00, which includes 1 free breakfast, & a commemorative dash plaque to the first 200 cars registered. Coffee, donuts & lunch are available for a small fee, which benefits the Greater Hansville Community. PTC member Bob Bennion is the go-guy for further info.
Email: 904star@centurytel.net

Our condolences to the family & friends of former PTC member Eric Eastick, who recently passed away. Eric was a Tiger owner who lived for many years in Surrey, BC. He recently moved to Kelowna, BC to be near his family.

Let me know if you're interested in hosting the PTC Christmas Party.

Membership: The new renewal date for all memberships is October of every year. Please send in your dues to continue to receive the PTC newsletter & announcements for upcoming PTC events & meetings. Thank you to those who have already updated their membership. If you have any questions or want to know how to get your membership up to date, reach out to Linda, membership chair.

A reminder: Linda & I will be stepping down as President and Membership, respectively, effective October 11 at the PTC AGM. Please consider filling these positions. Contact me, Linda or Dick for information. We are also looking for a new Secretary. Jim Clark has been Secretary for many years & would like to pass the pen & tablet to another PTC member.

- ***Larry***

2024-2025 Club Officers

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Historians: Dave Dunn / Dan Kuenzi

Renewing your membership?

Members are asked to send all membership checks and correspondence to:
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catkisson@aol.comn
Annual Membership Dues: *$32.00 (US funds).*
Make checks payable to: Pacific Tiger Club.

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Calendar - PTC Club Events

June 7 Griot's Garage 10:00 AM Tacoma, WA. New product demo

July 12 - Western Washington All British Field Meet – St. Edward State Park Over 400 British iron spread out across the lawn in front of the Lodge at St. Edward. Friday night Social. Online registration at wwabfm.com.

August 16 - Run to Sequim, WA Bring your picnic lunch. Details to be announced. Hosted by Mike Nannenhorn

September 13 - Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum (Free Admission) Details to be announced

October 11 PTC Annual General Meeting 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM Griot's Garage Tacoma, WA

November: Tentative: Tour of US Undersea Museum Keyport, WA Details to be announced

Other Sunbeam Events

June 18-21 Tigers United XLIV Monterey Peninsula, Laguna Raceway

Other Shows/Races etc

June 26 Greenwood Car Show 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Seattle, WA. Show & Shine

July 20 Hansville Car Show 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Show & Shine. Hansville, WA Buck Lake Community Center

Secretary's Report

By Jim Clark

PTC Swap Meet - held at the Larry and Dave's Garage in Kingston, WA March 15

Meeting called to order by Larry Atkisson

Larry thanked everyone for coming and announced that he and Linda would not be president and membership chair next year. Also, Secretary Jim Clark is retiring from office. Be ready to vote for a new President, Membership and Secretary at the AGM.

Linda Atkisson discussed the upcoming meetings [See Club Calendar]

Linda A. also reported the club has 68 members, down a little from a year ago.

Dick Sanders asked that members submit possible short stories about their Sunbeam or a drive they may have taken in their car for a future Newsletter.

Jim Clark asked those members present if the ad for the ABFM program was satisfactory. All agreed it was. Dick S. especially liked it, as his Alpine was featured.

Jim Clark wanted the club to consider this year's charitable donation to Food Lifeline during the ABFM. The donation can be made at the Foodlife booth at the ABFM; last year we mailed our donation to the Food life line main office. After discussion, a motion was made by Kevin Jewell to donate $250 this year. It was seconded by Craig Izett. Motion passed by voice vote.

Mike Nannenhorn reported that there were approximately six sets of stainless steel headers available for $700. Contact him if interested. He also recommended a book about Tigers, called "The Sunbeam Tiger, A Few History Highlights." The cost is nine dollars and he felt it was a great buy. Kevin Jewell thought they would make great gifts.

Budd Bennion reminded the club that he has PTC hats for sale, but he left them in his car, as he didn't want them mixed in with his free stuff on his parts table.

Glenda Clemans asked that if anyone needed a name badge, meet with her.

Jim Clark hesitantly asked about a May social meeting at the Sunset School Park in Shoreline. May 17 is a possible date. Cal Banks, who raced funny cars, will be a guest, provided he feels up to the club social. [Ed. This meeting is

off, as the Park space had already been reserved]

Larry A. thanked members Pete and Debra Phelps for attending our meeting, as they came up from California.

Minutes submitted by Jim Clark

Tech Tip from Budd Bennion

Recently I needed a gas tank sending unit for my 1960 Hillman Husky. My part number was F5300/33.

After some searching I found a company that will supply a complete new sending unit. I found that an Austin Healey Bugeye Sprite has the same Smith part (Also Metropolitan cars). I emailed this company Sports & Classic,1069 East Main Street, Stamford CT 06902. Ph 203-348-2226. They replied "A new sender is supplied with the base sending unit and an extra long arm, number 32 that allows you to cut the arm to match your old unit arm. So you get the float, arm and the sender as a package. Part is in stock. Sports & Classics, sportsandclassics.com, Find them on Facebook.

Budd Bennion, Seattle

Invitation to display your Sunbeam at Pacific Raceways – July 5 or 6

To all PTC Members: Is anyone interested in coordinating PTC's participation in the SOVREN-Historics Car Corral this year. I am committed to that effort with the local Corvette Club and have a group of about 20 Vettes coming. We could do either Saturday, July 5 or Sunday. I think the better race day would be Saturday as by Sunday there is a always bit of attrition by the racers.

If anyone is willing to coordinate, I can email you the form. The Historics want a single registration for each club as they don't have the volunteers to deal with each individual. The registration deadline is June 16, or earlier if they max out to the 250-car total allowed. That deadline provides them time to mail the tickets to the club organizer and for the mailing to each participant.

If you are interested, let Larry/Linda know that you will be coordinating, and also reply to me and I will immediately forward the car corral application to you. Note that any of us can simply go to the Historics vintage races, but to participate in the car corral, you MUST be pre-registered.

Kevin Jewell [originally suggested by Don Bell]
kevinandjudyj@comcast.net

Fill'er Up!

By Dick Sanders

Strange Universe! Part II

In the last Newsletter I wrote about the odd website of Metro Moulded Parts. Metrommp.com contains rubber parts for a huge variety of cars, including Sunbeam. Also, their site contains descriptions, histories and bizarre illustrations (see below) of probably every car they sell to. In the case of Sunbeams, the histories are just accurate enough to be dangerous, and inaccurate enough to make you think it couldn't be AI.

At the recent PTC Sunbeam Swap Meet, Budd Bennion pulled me aside and told me his own, positive history with Metro. While they didn't have a labeled Hillman Husky part, he was able to match up the profile of the window channel rubber he needed. He still had an old hard copy of their catalog. Quite extensive!

While Metro's prices for Sunbeam items are typically high compared to Sunbeam Specialties or Classic Sunbeam, we should all be grateful for a vendor who still carries anything that fits Sunbeams or Hillmans!

Smells of the Open Road

We all probably remember the sights and sounds of roads we've driven with top down in our Sunbeams. But how about smells? Anyone living in the Puget Sound region up to the mid-70s must remember the "Aroma of Tacoma." Everett was a close second place. Here's a short list of memorable smells I've encountered in my Alpine over a few decades. Add to the list by sending me any smells you remember.

Heading southbound on the lower deck of the now-demolished Seattle Hwy 99 Viaduct, a summer breeze would carry up from the waterfront the wonderful scents of various seafood from the restaurants below. It was enough to make me slow way down in the right lane.

Traveling to Sunbeams International United (SUNI II) in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, the monotony of straight, flat interstates left me often wondering what state I was in – or was it just a state of confusion? One point I was certain of was a few miles outside of Lincoln, Nebraska. A sign announced an upcoming hog farm about five miles off the highway, but the *smell* announced itself even farther away. OMG! I know the human sense of smell rapidly adapts to various smells, but I can't believe that people learn to live with this. I never actually saw the hog farm, but the memory will last forever.

By contrast, I was once heading west on Hwy 20 on a blistering hot day. The sheer mountain rock wall just to my right seemed to reflect and amplify the heat. I was cooking. Out of nowhere I spotted a waterfall cascading down a slender path on the rock from at least 100 feet up. The state had constructed some sort of tunnel to redirect the stream under the roadway, rather than having it splash across the roadway. But while the water was diverted, the *air* over it formed its own river. As I passed by, for just a instant I was blasted in the face by a current of fresh, moist air that penetrated deep into my lungs. Never has the air tasted so sweet.

Last on my short list is close to home: Hwy 167. Southbound, nearing the Hwy 516 exit in Kent, for the last two summers I've been assaulted by the wonderfully unique aroma of….franks & beans! The well-known Caveman eatery would be the obvious source, but it's a bit too far away.

What top-down smells make *you* let off the pedal for a good long sniff, or jam your foot to the floor to get the hell away from it? ***PTC***

1961 12 Hours of Sebring. The #42 car has long disappeared but #'s 41 and 43 have both been restored.

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