Pacific Tiger Club Newsletter

ROOTES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

The Ex-Prez Sez!

by Larry Atkisson

This is my last Presidents Page, as I mentioned in past newsletters & meetings throughout this past year, I have held this position many times over the past 46 years that I have been a member of PTC. It's time for someone new to assume the position of President and bring new and fresh ideas to the club.

The August tour to Sequim was threatened by rain and clouds but the sun came out and it was a beautiful drive to Sequim. Many of us chose to drive our Sunbeams. Good choice!!

The 1st stop was at Port Gamble to meet up with PTC travelers from Seattle area, Hansville, and Poulsbo. Our next stop was Seven Cedars Resort area via Hwy 101 on the Olympic Peninsula. We met up with Mike Nannenhorn and Pam Frye, our tour planners and guides to Sandy Keyes' car collection. We also met up with Bruce & Margaret Synder (Olympia) and Gary & Nancy Achman (Rainier). On to Sandy's barn & met up with Jim Jimenez (Sequim). We toured Sandy's barn collection of classic cars, many restored, plus car memorabilia and history of the North Olympic Peninsula. There was also a pretty cool old-time bar that had been restored and was fully functional. The collection was impressive!!

After the tour we gathered out front of the barn & ate our picnic lunches. We also had a club meeting. There were 21 club members who joined us for the tour to Sequim.
Thanks to Mike & Pam for organizing the tour & providing refreshments for everyone.

Another good turnout for the Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum at Paine Field. It was an interesting & informative history lesson. We spread out a bit as we were assigned docents that guided us through in groups to tour the museum. As we went through at different times, we were not able to hold a meeting. There were 23 members that came out for the tour. Thank you to Kevin & Judy Jewell for arranging the tour for PTC. After the tour many of us gathered at the new Dicks Drive In nearby and enjoyed Dicks burgers, fries & milkshakes.

I want to thank Dick Sanders PTC's newsletter editor and Vice President, for the work he puts into getting our newsletter published. Please send any information that he could use in the newsletter. If you want to write a story, and need some assistance, Dick can take your ideas/information and put them into the story you want to share. ***Larry***

2025-2026 Club Officers

President: Looking for a volunteer!

VP/Newsletter Dick Sanders
4239 S. 261st So.
Kent, WA 98043
253-332-0253
RootesRooter@aol.com

Secretary: Dave Dunn
37373 Beaver Rd NE
Hansville, WA 98340
425-865-9283
ddunn@andoverco.com

Treasurer: Kevin Jewell
12120 202nd Ave NE
Woodinville, WA 98077.
425-885-0103
kevinandjudyj@comcast.net

Committee Chairpersons

Membership: Linda Atkisson
37624 Vista Key Dr NE
Hansville, WA 98340
206-612-4851

Historians: Dave Dunn / Dan Kuenzi

Renewing your membership?

Members are asked to send all membership checks and correspondence to:
Pacific Tiger Club
c/o Linda Atkisson
37624 Vista Key Dr. NE
Hansville, WA 98340
206-612-4851
catkisson@aol.com
Annual Membership Dues: *$32.00 (US funds).*
Make checks payable to: Pacific Tiger Club.

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Calendar - PTC Club Events

PTC Christmas Party – Dec 13th 11:30 to 3:30 - Lake Stevens, WA

Glenda and Bill Clemans house at:
6710 151st Ave NE
Lake Stevens, WA 98258
[The neighborhod front gate will be open!]

"We will serve BBQ Country Style Ribs (and there will be some without BBQ sauce). Bring an accompaniment dish that you would enjoy with Ribs! Please have it fully prepared, since my kitchen area is limited. (Salads, vegetables, appetizers, and deserts)

"We won't have the gift exchange this year, but will you please bring items to go to the local food banks. Cash is acceptable also. I know that some food banks have requested canned meats, baby formula, diapers along with cereals and pasta, just to name a few items.

"Looking forward to seeing everyone on December 13th!"

Please *R.S.V.P to* Linda Atkisson by December 9th, catkisson@aol.com or call or text 206-612-4851

- Glenda & Bill Clemans

PTC 2026 Event Planning Meeting – Feb 21 - 11am Hosted by Budd Bennion

14720 - 30th Avenue NE, Shoreline, WA - near Lake City WA & just off I-5 & NE 145th St.

PTC Contact for directions, or it you have ideas for future events:
Cell 206 291-0232 or
email: budd.bennion@comcast.net

Outgoing Secretary's Report

By Jim Clark

Annual General Meeting held at Griot's Garage, Tacoma WA

Bill Sandell brought the lone Sunbeam. In back is Budd Bennion's Ford Galaxy.

Meeting opened by Larry Atkisson
Attendees: 33

Larry Atkisson thanked Budd Bennion for organizing the food for the general meeting and Kevin and Judy Jewell for organizing and selecting the door prizes. Kevin J. described the process of having a $200 budget. While selecting items for the raffle, he exceeded the budget amount. The manager of Griot's

Garage was gracious and zeroed out the cost of several prize items so that the club budget was kept. Thank you Scott!

Larry sadly announced that former president Chuck Rapuzzi had recently passed away.

Officers elected for next year were announced:
President: still open
Vice President/Newsletter Editor: Dick Sanders
Secretary: Dave Dunn
Treasurer: Kevin Jewell
Alternate Treasurer: Budd Bennion
Membership chair: Linda Atkisson
Merchandise chair: Budd Bennion
Name tags: Glenda Clemans

Vice President report: Dick Sanders wanted to thank everyone who submitted articles for the newsletter this year. He told us that the articles that members send in help make the club what it is.

Membership report: Linda Atkisson reported that the club has $10, 944.00 in the bank, not counting the AGM expenses. At present we have 68 members. The new, uniform club dues renewal month of October has made her job much easier.

Secretary's Report: Jim Clark reported that it was a privilege to work at the secretary's position for 13 years and that one of his favorite memories during those years was the 2014 SUNI VI. Max Pahmeier did a great job in organizing the event in Colorado

Larry Atkisson (left) and Kevin Jewell dish out the lunch.

Springs, with help from other members. There were 70 Rootes cars. The guest speakers, author Graham Robson and Rootes team racer Rosemary Smith, were entertaining as they bantered back and forth.

Bill and Glenda Clemans announced that they will hold a Christmas party for the club on 13 Dec..

Earl Baird announced that there may be a chance to take a tour of the Naval Undersea Museum next year, if the government is still in business.
Lunch: The Cactus Southwest Kitchen provided a Taco Bar with salad and dressing. We had a choice of chicken or beef tacos with black beans and rice. Two trays of sweets hit the spot for dessert. Thanks Budd for making a special run across town to pick up the food.
The Raffle: Everything from homemade Sourdough bread and a large mix of Griot's products were offered. And as a extra, Griot's offered a free bottle of "Best of Show Wax" to everyone.

Minutes submitted by Jim Clark

PTC Summer/Fall Event Gallery

August 16 – Tour of Sandy Keyes' Car Collection – Sequim, WA hosted by Mike Nannenhom

Long-unseen member Bill Whitmore (left), with his brother, John. Both own Alpines.

A fantastic collection, dominated by numerous Lincoln's dating back to 1940.

Mike Nannenhorn (center right) let's us know what we'll – which was a lot!

What could better top off the display than an 1890's bar, transported from Montana?

September 13 – Flying Heritage& Combat Armor Museum Everett, WA

Eau de Skunk

By Don Bell

Most of us know of the Odor of Tacoma and the similar Odor of Everett. Nasty, roll-up the windows kind of odors.

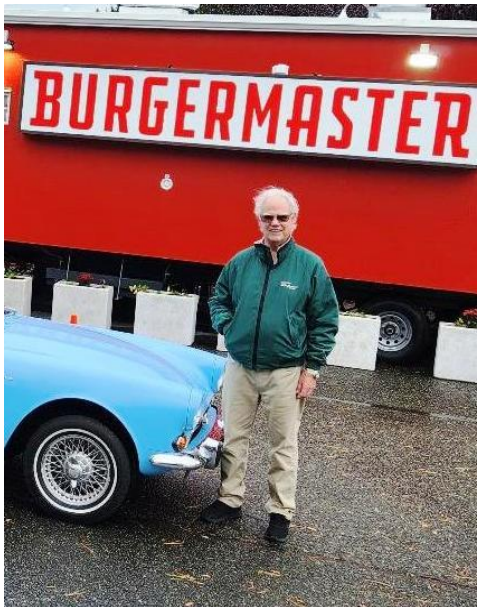
But let me relate the story of the **Eau de Skunk**:

As a Canuck, but living in Seattle, I would make frequent trips back to Vancouver to visit with school mates and family.

The back story - Sandy and I met at Burnaby North High School – me as a senior and she as a junior. At first sight on the dance floor I was in love with this tall, dark-haired beauty. I got it right and we married in 1961! In 1963 I was recruited by a Seattle CPA firm and made the move (wet backed it for seven weeks while waiting for my Green Card!)

I had been a competitive Sports-Car Rally driver in BC – one of my sponsors was Johnston

Motors – I bought my 1961 Alpine from them in early 1962. One of the event sponsors was Labatt's Beer – we learned to drink much beer – not that we had much to learn! As part of the move to Seattle I traded my Colour 1 - '61 in on a Colour 100 – '63 and set out on a career path to fame and some fortune – three great kids, 20 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren and more. In August 1968 (that date has relevance later on as you will see), I made a deal on the front porch of a house in Montlake with a gal graduating from U of W (she was from Tacoma) selling her Colour 86 - '67 MkII Tiger ($2,500.00!!)



Don Bell at the 2024 Last Dash Splash Tour

Now for the rest of the story – here's the relevant date - in July 1968 (remember I still had the '63) we made a perilous trip to Vancouver – why perilous you ask(?). Ah, British Columbia was in the first of its brewery strikes and my school mates were dying of thirst!!! I had stowed/hidden four dozen Champaign of Beer behind the metal soft-top storage area. Now the relevance of that date becomes clear – the MkII Tiger would have had a hard time hiding the beer!

OK, Don, but you said there was a "rest of the story". Well, "hear" it comes. I like the scenic drive north from Bellingham through Aldergrove (Highway 539). Plus, we could stop for a visit with my much older brother in Aldergrove. How much older you ask – gee, about 1,200 seconds. Now back to the Odor – about 200 yards south of the border checkpoint I hit a skunk – full on with the left front wheel – nasty, nasty smell! **Eau de Skunk**! Border guard

leaned down to check our documents, and ask the usual question – "Do you have anything to

declare?" I saw him recoil as he bent down – the smell got to him. One whiff and he said goodbye! About three miles further down the road at 60mph the smell wore off the car! About 30 miles further the Millers made it into the ice box to be consumed that evening! A good time was had by we four couples.

I have no idea of what happened to the Alpines, but the Tiger is safely stored in my geerage waiting for one of my grandsons to claim her! And, meanwhile, from time-to-time and at other times, I get to put the top down on my MBZ SL600, or truck about (excuse me "aboot") in my '09 Bullitt or 540hp - '08 GT500 Shelby.

Best to everyone,

Don Bell aka: Sunbeamdon

Membership Secretary Report

by Linda Atkisson

October is the new renewal date for all club members. Please send your dues $32.00 for 1-year membership or $64.00 for 2 years, payable to the Pacific Tiger Club,
c/o Linda Atkisson 37624 Vista Key Dr. NE Hansville, WA 98340. Many of you have already sent in your dues. Thank you! We appreciate your continued support of the Pacific Tiger Club!

Most of you know that all communications with club members and distribution of the newsletter is by email. This is a very efficient way to deliver the newsletter & send out announcements & notices in a timely manner. There are a few club members that still receive printed copies of the newsletter (currently 3-5 members). A big thanks to Glenda Clemans graciously prints the printed copy from her computer /printer & mails them out to those members. If any of you have access to email delivery, I would appreciate it if you would contact me & we could switch you over to email delivery. I am the person that gets you all notices & newsletters when they are ready to distribute by email.

If you would like to get a Pacific Tiger Club name badge: contact Glenda Clemans at email: bgsnamelc@comcast.net or 360-572-0405

I also want to thank Dick Sanders who is Vice President /Newsletter editor for the Pacific Tiger Club and does a great job of publishing the newsletter bi-monthly. Dick would appreciate any stories, articles, pictures, etc. that would be of interest to PTC club members and could be shared with club members via the newsletter.

If you have moved, changed your phone number, or email addresses please contact me to update your contact information.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Linda Atkisson
catkisson@aol.com

Chuck Rapuzzi , 69

PTC member and past president, Chuck Rapuzzi passed away the week of Oct 6, 2025 after a battle with cancer.

Chuck had bought and sold many cars throughout his life. In his later life he had a Z28 Camaro, Pantera, a few Lotus cars and lastly a Sunbeam Tiger. The Tiger he purchased from Lisa & Brian Bogdon when they lived in Longview, WA. He was glad to be a member of the club and stepped up one year to lead the club as president.

Chuck & Carol Rapuzzi

Some may remember his Tiger, light blue with an air filter hole cut into the hood and a orange LAT stripe across the back fenders and trunk. Chuck had the car repainted the same blue with a new hood and no stripe.

Chuck really liked driving the Tiger as it was not an exotic car (it has a Hillman Husky frame) but a rare car with an easy to maintain Ford engine. You all know when a small car like a Tiger drives in with a V-8 sound, you have to look. The Tiger, I am told, will stay within the family.

- ***Budd Bennion***

Veep! Beep!

by Dick Sanders

2025 was a pretty good year for PTC. Every time we schedule an event at Griot's in Tacoma, I think to myself that maybe we've gone to the well once too often. June's event, a Griot's product demonstration, seemed to fit the bill. A little before the scheduled start there was only a handful of people. A few minutes later we counted 26 members. Likewise, RSVP's for the October AGM were barely over a dozen as the date approached. When it was over, we counted 33 on hand, a better turnout than we've had in years. Griot's has been just plain great to PTC.

To me, Sequim seemed like it might be a tad too far to drive. PTC's last two journeys to Sequim were back in the late 1970's to take part in the Sequim Irrigation Day Parade, where we had eight Sunbeams each time. The August tour ended with a big crowd and half a dozen Tigers to match the local Mustang club on hand. A big thank you to Mike Nannenhorn and Pam Frye.

Finally, we had about 25 members take the September tour of the Flying Heritage Museum at Paine Field in Everett. By coincidence, we were joined by a similar number from the local Jaguar Club. The museum's top-notch docents had their work cut out for them.

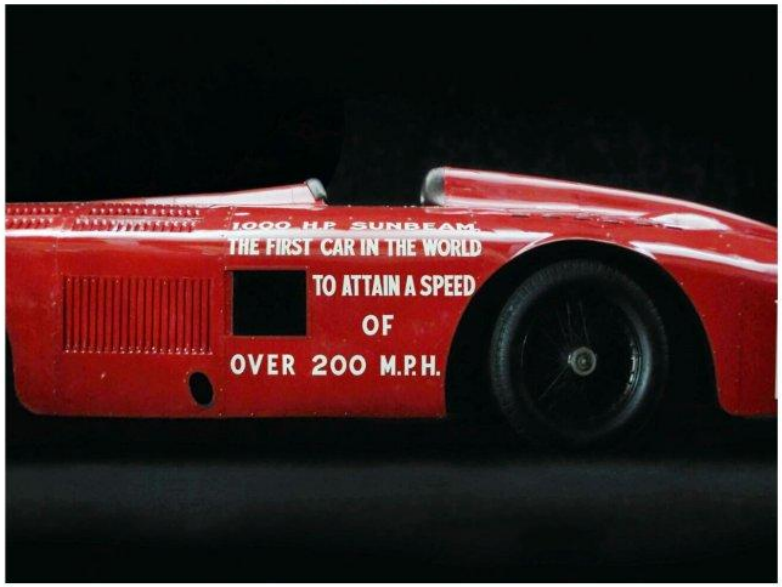
Budd Bennion will be hosting our annual event planning meeting on February 21. Hangin' out at Budd's is always a treat, but it's also your chance to add to the 2026 suggestion box. The best new ideas have *always* come from our members!

- ***Dick Sanders***

4239 So. 261st St.
Kent, WA 98032

Sunbeam 1000hp Restoration Campaign

The National Motor Museum is restoring the Sunbeam 1000hp World Land Speed Record vehicle with the aim of returning to Daytona Beach for the 100 year anniversary of Sir Henry Segrave's 203.792 mph land speed record on March 29th 2027.



The 1,000hp Sunbeam of 1927 which was one of the first cars built for the sole purpose of breaking the record and was the first car to reach 200mph/321.87kph powered by two aircraft engines.

Although built in Wolverhampton the beast of a vehicle was taken to Florida, and with a crowd of 30,000 spectators looking on the Sunbeam 1000hp record breaking attempt took place on the morning of March 29 1927 on Daytona beach. The speeds achieved on the two runs averaged 203.792mph/327.972kph – a new World Land Speed record!

The Sunbeam 1000hp – also christened 'The Slug' or 'Mystery' – has been on display at the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu for some years but, unlike many of the other vehicles in the museum, it was not in working order. Their dream is to have it recommissioned and restored so that it can be enjoyed by future generations and remain a shining example of British engineering, British -American motoring heritage, and human endeavour and of course keep the Sunbeam name live for generations to come.