



NEWSLETTER

P O Box 166
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Website: www.rakerscarclub.com

Mike Hammers, President
Ron Rogers, Vice President

Karl Jacobsen, Treasurer
Gayle Thorne, Secretary & Newsletter Editor

President's Message

Thanks to all of you who helped make our first meeting of the year turn out so well. For a while I thought the meeting would be all of fourteen minutes long. I particularly want to thank Bill Eldridge for his encouragement, Gayle Thorne for her support and for all she does for the club, Karl Jacobsen for not just doing a fine job as Treasurer but for all the other work that he does for the Rakers, Mike Keller for keeping the club moving even when moving the club is difficult. Thank you, also, to those members who wished me well and volunteered to help throughout the coming year.

For those of you who don't know me, I grew up in Port Townsend and graduated with Rich Stapf and the famous class of 1965. When I turned sixteen and got a driver's license, my father offered me my choice of two of his cars for \$500—a white '55 Pontiac 2-door or a primered Deuce 5-window. I was not an otherwise bright kid but I did pick the Deuce.

My dad built the car in the early '60's. It had a '55 Plymouth V-8 that was installed by a shop in Seattle. My mother towed the coupe to Seattle for the engine installation with a pickup truck and a tow bar. The tow bar wasn't hooked up correctly and on the way to the South Point ferry the coupe started swaying and then flipped up on its side. State Patrolman Jack Movius, came to the scene and, with the help of a tow truck, got the car back on the road and fixed the tow bar. My Mom asked him if she was going to get a ticket and he said since she was Mike Sr.'s wife, he wasn't going to give her a ticket because she was in enough trouble already.

I had the car through high school and Bud Bumgarner painted it in 1962, Ford Rangoon Red lacquer. I swapped the wide whites for new tires from Harper Shell and put narrow white fake whites on them. I went through a couple of transmissions and several third members, and I got so I could change a rear-end in record time. My father was of the "you broke it, you fix it" school of automotive repair training.

I entered the army in 1966 and my parents moved to Bellevue in 1967, so when I got out of the army that's where I ended up and stayed for 27 years. I worked as a security guard, night counselor at a drug clinic, machinist helper and bar manager. A friend got me started in the insurance business and I went to work for PEMCO in 1977. I'm still a PEMCO agent with an office in my home.

My wife, Kim, and I have two children—Jessica is 31, married and lives in Federal Way and Rob is 29, recently married and is a finance manager at Stockton-to-Malone Honda in Salt Lake City (yes, *that* John Stockton and Karl Malone). Kim is an aide at Blue Heron Middle School and is very active in the community.

I've been working on a '52 Henry J for the last few years and I hope to have it running this year. I can usually be found on the local golf course during the warmer months so my car projects go to the back burner. I recently bought a '46 Ford 3/4 pickup with a factory hydraulic dump bed, but I don't yet know why.

I hope to get more competent and organized as we get into the more active part of 2008. We have a great group of car people and I think it's going to be a fun year. Any time you have an idea, comment or concern, fee free to call me at 385-7774 or send me an e-mail at kidd65@cablespeed.com.

Mike Hammers, President

January 8, 2008 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Mike Hammers.

Secretary Gayle Thorne read the minutes of the abbreviated December 4, 2007 meeting and members approved minutes as read.

Treasurer Karl Jacobsen gave the treasurer's report and members approved report.

Correction to 12/4/07 Minutes:

President Mike Hammers stated that the announcement made at the Christmas Party meeting referring to Coy Thomas being named new Activities Chairman was just a joke spurred by **Nomads I & II**. He also stated that Coy may not be able to continue as a Raker due to family issues.

Guests:

John Franklin introduced Charlotte Rutter. Charlotte has a 1966 Cadillac and she is interested in joining the Club.

Committees:

June 28, 2008 Car Show: President Mike Hammers asked if anyone was taking the lead for the upcoming car show. Karl Jacobsen said he and Bill Eldridge would. Bill also added it was already paid for.

T-Shirts: Karl Sebastian said we pretty much broke even on T-shirts and still has some left.

Choo Choo Project: Jim Franklin said the project will conclude this month. The Tender needs minor restoration and anyone that is available is welcome. President Mike Hammers reiterated that the project was started by George Earl (who passed away before it was completed) and it is a very rewarding project taken on by the Kiwanis Club. It was wonderful to see it running last year.

Activities: Early Bird Swap Meet is February 16-17 at the Puyallup Fair Grounds and President Mike Hammers asked if anyone had a booth, as he has some things he'd like to sell. Mike Keller asked if there were any events the members would like to do...like a run to Mt. St. Helens? He said he would be putting together a list and it would include the new street rod shop near Sequim that Sharon Clark spoke about at the last meeting.

Mike says we need to exercise our cars one way or another! He also has reduced the price of his '55 pickup to \$16,500.

Old & Unfinished Business:

President Mike Hammers gave a heartfelt apology for not properly thanking Tina Austin, Maxine Austin and Charlotte Meyers for all their hard work on the beautiful Christmas decorations. The Club was very appreciative of their efforts.

Karl Jacobsen reminded everyone that annual dues must be paid by the February 5th meeting, and if not received by that date a \$10 late fee will be charged. If payment is not received by the March 4th meeting members are dropped from the roster.

There was no raffle as prizes were slim this month (and will be saved for next month). Volunteers for February meeting are: Jon Parsons, Vic Olson, Greg Jacobsen, Don Thorne & Don Riggie.

New Business: None

Keith Marzan said that Ken McBride (PT QFC Store) has offered a portion of their parking lot for any informal Rakers gatherings. Keith offered to organize a little cruise-in/BBQ kick-off this Spring if anyone is interested.

Bill Eldridge reminded the members that our club insurance only allows for one car "show" a year and we might need to add a binder. President Mike Hammers said he would check with the agent and make sure that an informal run or cruise-in is not considered a "show."

Morris James said Hadlock Days will be **July 13-15** this year and the car show on Sunday. He shared a story about the 1964 Comet that he and his wife Sandy drove for 17 years, and then their son had it for a number of years, and it eventually ended up back with them. It is currently in full restoration and they will be surprising their son (who turns 40 in April) with the revamped car. In order to complete the restoration they purchased a donor car (no running gear, no glass) and anyone that might want it is welcome to it...otherwise it's going to the crusher!

Michael Hinojos shared a story about some friends that had a Volvo and when they passed it along to their son they were a bit apprehensive about giving him a car he was conceived in. Mike is also looking for a two carb manifold for a flathead V8.

President Mike Hammers asked if anyone else had their first car. Gary Olson in Shine has Mike's first car and also has Mike's father's '32 Tudor.

Joe Clouse asked that everyone thank past President, Bill Eldridge, for his time in office and a thank you to all the newly appointed officers.

President Mike Hammers says he doesn't know everyone's names and suggested we each stand up and introduce ourselves. He also suggests that if someone has a car-related problem they are working on, state your problem and if anyone has any solutions meet after the club meeting to share them. Mike has a dip stick problem with his V-8 as the exhaust manifold covers up the spot!

Jim Arrabito wondered if it would be possible (and not too much trouble) to add a "Resource" column in the Newsletter. It is certainly possible and encouraged!

President Mike Hammers mentioned that Central Welding Supply (385-9533 / 847 B West Park Avenue, Port Townsend) gives a 10% discount to all Rakers members. See Don Thorne.

President Mike Hammers reiterated the rules on accepting new members:

- Must attend 3 functions (that includes monthly club meetings, cruise-ins, group functions) and then membership votes.
- John Franklin is sponsoring Charlotte Rutter and she is looking for people to teach about cars.

Chuck Thrasher asked how to get his car on the website. Bill Eldridge said to get the information to our website guru, Sandy Hershelman (385-1087; email: hershelman@olympus.net) and noted because she tries to save us money it may take a week or two before she gets information posted.

ByLaws are available at the monthly meetings and everyone is encouraged to take and read them.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Gayle Thorne, Secretary

Note: If anyone is interested (or knows someone that might be) in advertising in our monthly newsletter, please provide me with your business card. \$10/month or \$100/year

Thank You Newsletter Contributors!

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February 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Rakers Club Meeting 7:00 pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16 Early Bird Swap Meet Puyallup Fair Grounds
17 Early Bird Swap Meet Puyallup Fair Grounds	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Leap Day!	March 1

Editor's Note:

Don & I recently read in the *Peninsula Daily News* about a **Caffeine & Cars** gathering in Port Angeles. Interested? Check it out. This is an email I received from David Haight, one of the organizers, after I emailed him to see if it would be okay to tell our members about his website and events.

“Great. It’s a very very low key sort of get together, and a number of folks typically hang around and have breakfast while there too.

Kurt, the other organizer of C&C will miss the next one on the 5th for a little sun break down south, but I’m all set and we’ve getting some regulars that show up each month also.

I hope you can make it down and see what’s happening. We expect the number of cars to increase as the days get longer and warmer, but those hearty enough to make it out during the winter months have been enjoying themselves, seeing fun cars, and making new friends.

I always post pics on www.davidghaight.com so you can see any new cars that show up.”

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