



The Polishing Rag

December 2022

Willmar Car Club



Prez Sez....

All is Well That Ends Well



I don't know how long ago the following took place, perhaps twelve or more years ago. The Willmar Car Club breakfast was at the Hilltop Cafe in Paynesville, and after everyone had their fill of eggs, hashbrowns, and coffee, a garage tour and collector car dealership visits were planned with four stops. The last one was at Ellingson's in Maple Grove and ending for supper at D.B. Serles in St. Cloud. At one time the restaurant was the manufacturing building for the Pan Auto (1913-1918).

Four of the wives, Linda Mork, Linda Ulrich, June Mertz, and my other half, Wendy, felt a shopping visit to the Albertville Outlet Mall was more to their liking, and it just so happened to be Parade of New Homes close to the area. So, how do they get there?

Jay and Linda drove their '57 two seat Thunderbird, Dennis and Linda had their '73 two seat MGB for the day, and none of the gals were willing to ride in the back of Randy and June's '69 El Camino SS, which also had two bucket seats. That left the Barr's 1966 Dodge Dart. Wendy isn't comfortable driving when the traffic gets a bit heavier, so, Linda Ulrich volunteered for driving duties.

My response was a reluctant, "well..yeah..I guess"

When the plan was revealed to husbands and others, I had offers to ride with all who were on the tour and visits. The first stop was at the Bob Stoneburner collection on Lake Koronis, and I arrived with Dennis Ulrich in the MGB. Our next visit was at the Vern Johnson (Dick Johnson's father) building in Paynesville. Jay put the top down on the T-Bird, and I rode into town with him. Dave Lang owned a '64 Chevy at the time, he transported me to Pantown Classic Car Sales in St. Agusta. I'm not sure if they are still in operation? My ride to Maple Grove was with Mike Hartman and his '37 Ford Street Rod. The car for the last leg of our day before St. Cloud was handled by Randy and the blue El Camino.

The 273 c.i. Dart was waiting at the top of the entrance ramp on I-94 as we drove past Albertville on the way to eat again, and Linda fell in behind us.

What a great day! I was a passenger in five collector cars, visited with members, and Wendy didn't have to look at a hundred cars. The photo shows a gift to me by the ones who (borrowed?) the Dart. Actually, volunteering turned out to be a very good experience.

All club members have the opportunity to volunteer this month. Nominations are still open for club officers and one board of director opening. It really is a great way to participate, so I would encourage you to ignore the photo and think about it.

We had a good a number at the last Car Buffs Breakfast, with 27 attending the buffet. Those attenders had the opportunity to add key chain/fobs to their collection when Dick Johnson volunteered to pass on what must have numbered 100 or more vintage tags.

Check the details in this newsletter for our December activity.

Wishing All Happy Holidays, Bob

Willmar Car Club Meeting Minutes - November 18, 2022

Meeting called to order by President Bob Barr.

Secretary's report read and approved.

Treasurers report read and approved subject to audit.

Care and Share: cards sent to Kathy Watson and Dick Lindahl.

Correspondence: Thank you from Ridgewater College for the donation to the scholarship fund.

Old Business:

- Greg is checking on when we will see the applications for the scholarship for Ridgewater
- Christmas Party is pot luck with club supplying coffee, water, plates, silverware and napkins
- Toys for Tots: Members who wish to help shop for toys should meet at Walmart in Willmar by the old Subway/grocery entrance at 2 p.m. on December 10, prior to the Christmas party.
- Membership up-date: Greg is working on it and has the letters ready to go out to members for donations for the scholarship, Toy's for Tot's and membership.
- Club jackets, it was suggested that examples and different sizes be brought to the Christmas party so club members could try on and decide on buying.
- Member appreciation award was discussed. A motion was made by Jay that we stick with a plaque with a second by Mike Hartman. Motion passed.
- Discussion on moving the meeting date one day earlier to Thursday evening and meeting at a pizza place. Hoping to increase attendance at the monthly meeting. This would start in March, 2023.
- Monthly breakfasts are still in the plan stage
- Question if the tax forms have been filed to show that the club is a non-profit club. Greg is checking on this.
- Further discussion on Root Beer and rides. Jay moved that we have it again next year, second by Greg. Motion passed.

New Business:

Nominations for officers:

President: Bab Barr

Vice President: Jay Mork

Treasurer: Greg Gjerdingen

Board of Directors: Mike Hartman

Motion for adjournment made by Tim and second from Nate.

Respectively submitted

Linda Mork, Secretary

DONATIONS FOR WILLMAR CAR CLUB TOWARDS THE RIDGEWATER AUTOBODY SCHOLARSHIP AND TOYS FOR TOTS SHOPPING

The club is seeking donations from club members to maintain its presence in these areas. Since the club has dropped the car show it no longer has a fundraiser to cover the donations usually made by the club. This has been done before for both the Ridgewater Autobody Scholarship and the Toys for Tots shopping donations, and it turned out successful. Your assistance is needed again this year.

**If you are able and willing to help with a donation,
please use this form to send a check to:**

Willmar Car Club, PO Box 428, Willmar, MN 56201

Indicate where you wish you donation to go by filling out the following:

RIDGEWATER SCHOLARSHIP.... _____

TOYS FOR TOTS _____

TOTAL DONATION..... _____

Thank you to all who have contributed in the past for the Ridgewater Autobody Scholarship and the Toys for Tots shopping. Thank you in advance to those who will contribute this year to assist the Willmar Car Club to keep making donations without depleting the funds held by the club. Please have these funds in before December 1st.

This donation form is only going out to club members.

Name(s): (Not for publication) _____

In a past meeting of the Willmar Car Club, a motion was made, seconded and approved to sponsor a \$500 scholarship for an Autobody student at the Ridgewater College. The scholarship would be awarded to a second-year student, funded by donations from club members. The club will donate any shortfall of \$500. If you would like to give a larger donation for the scholarship, you may write your check directly to the Ridgewater College Foundation, designating it for the Willmar Car Club Scholarship. The donation directly to the Ridgewater College Foundation would be tax deductible. You can send it along with your other donations, and we will get it turned into the college.

The group also decided to also continue to participate in the Toys for Tots shopping, again with funds donated from club members. Again, if your check is made out to Toys for Tots, it will be tax deductible. Shopping will be done with the local Toys for Tots chairman so the purchases are made through their account, thus saving the taxes.

You may also shop ahead at the store sales and turn in the donations. If you do this, please report your total retail value of your purchases so we can know the full value of what the club members are donating.

Thank you for all you do to keep the Willmar Car Club name out in the public!

ATTENTION

The New Year, 2023, will soon be here. It is time for membership renewals. **Please renew your membership and return the form by December 10th.**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

WILLMAR CAR CLUB RENEWAL FORM

(Please print)

Name _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Spouse & Children's Names _____

Membership Dues are \$25 for the year.

Dues are paid on a calendar year basis and, if you have not paid recently, your dues are now payable. Please use this form and fill it out completely.

**REMEMBER POLISHING RAG, EVENT SCHEDULE & PICTURE
LINKS ARE AVAILABLE AT: WILLMARCARCLUB.COM**

Note: These forms were sent by US snail mail. If you did not receive it, please update your address with the club. Thanks.

Willmar Car Club



Saturday, December 10th

4 pm-7 pm

Kandiyohi County Historical Society Building
610 Highway 71 NE, Willmar

Potluck and December meeting

Club will provide plates, silverware, water, and coffee

Toys for Tots Shopping



**December 10 - 2 pm
Willmar Walmart**

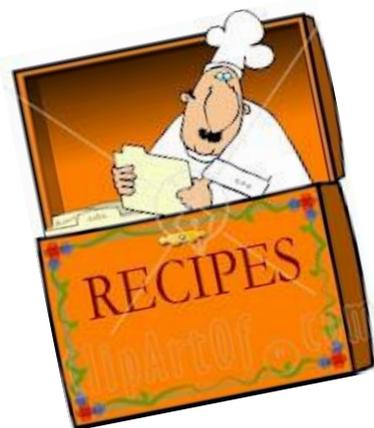
Meet inside grocery entrance.

*Some donation funds to be used or purchase on your own
and donate through Willmar Car Club*

Wanted: Articles, photos, etc. for the newsletter!

Please email items to berdellej@gmail.com

Deadline to submit: 25th day of each month – easy to remember!!



Recipe Corner

Berries & Cream Shortcake in a Mug

Prep: 5 minutes

Cook: 5 minutes or less

Cool: 10 minutes

Ingredients:

- 3 tbsp. all-purpose flour
- 2 packets natural no-calorie sweetener
- 1/4 tsp. baking powder
- 3 tbsp. unsweetened vanilla almond milk
- 2 tsp. light butter
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup berries, or more for topping
- 3 tbsp. light whipped topping (thawed from frozen)

Directions:

Spray a microwave-safe mug with nonstick spray. Add flour, sweetener, and baking powder. Mix well.

Add all remaining ingredients except berries and whipped topping. Using a fork, whisk until uniform.

Microwave for 1 1/2 minutes, or until set.

Immediately run a knife along the edges to help separate the cake from the mug. Gently shake mug to release, and transfer cake to a plate. Let cool slightly, about 10 minutes.

Slice cake in half horizontally. Top the bottom slice with 1/4 cup berries and 1 tbsp. whipped topping. Repeat with remaining cake slice, 1/4 cup berries, and 2 tbsp. whipped topping.

MAKES 1 SERVING



happy new year



December Car Talk Puzzler

The Little Morris Minor That Could

RAY: The inspiration for this puzzler was sent in by Jerry Olhaver. I've done a little obfuscation and declarification.

The scene is some miles out on Cape Cod. It's late summer of '54, the day after a hurricane had altered the landscape. The hero of our puzzler is a Morris Minor...remember the Morris Minor? It was the great-grandfather of the modern Mini.

Jerry's problem came with the tidal surge on parts of the Cape Cod peninsula caused by the storm.

Yachts and working boats had been swept miles from the marinas, and actually left in fields! Only National Guards trucks and jeeps, big mainland wreckers, and a few rubbernecking cars were moving on the roads.

Every other set of wheels still on the roads looked drowned. They wouldn't start, wouldn't run, and were waiting for a tow truck. It was an uncertain future, too. You never know what's going to happen when your car gets drowned.

Enter our hero, pedaling his bicycle. He spots his Morris Minor, looking as drowned as all the rest. But, at least the four tires are on the pavement. He tries to start the engine unsuccessfully. It cranks, but won't fire up.

He opens the hood and removes the spark plugs. They're soaked with gasoline. He realizes why they're soaked because when he takes the distributor cap off, it's full of water. He realizes that he's done for. Yet, in less than 10 minutes, unaided and using only what he had on his bicycle, and in the trunk of the car, he begins a successful drive across the peninsula.

How did he do it?

November Puzzler and Answer

RAY: I received a short letter the other day. May 11, 1998, actually. It was from Carrie Brown, who is the curator of the exhibition "Pedal Power" at the American Precision Museum in Windsor, Vermont. Carrie writes, "In the 1800s, the high-wheeled bicycle was called the 'Ordinary.' It was almost exclusively a toy for wealthy young men.

It was expensive. It cost a half a year's wages, and it was dangerous, the most common accident being the header when the rider would fly over the handlebars. The Ordinary was difficult to mount, with its tall front wheel, and difficult to ride. But, it had certain advantages.

In an attempt to make cycling more universally accessible, bicycle engineers and manufacturers eventually developed what was called the Safety bicycle, which had two wheels of the same size, and chain drive and gearing -- not unlike bikes that we have today.

For various reasons, however, the Safety bike did not catch on immediately. It was considered ugly, inelegant, inefficient, and uncomfortable.

Then, in 1889, a veterinary surgeon in Belfast, Ireland patented an accessory that revolutionized the bicycle, and, from that point on, Safeties began winning races, and the Ordinary quickly fell out of fashion."

What was the name of this veterinary surgeon, or, what did he patent?

Here's a hint: if I gave you his name, you'd know the answer.

Answer:

RAY: If someone had figured out the seat, no. The reason I couldn't give you his name is that his name is John Boyd Dunlop. And Dunlop invented the pneumatic tire.

2022 In the Rearview Mirror



- 10 official Car Buffs Breakfasts - about 25-30 attendees at each, with the exception of April Sacred Heart (37), and October Litchfield (45+)
- Father's Day Cruise and Visits - we had great appreciation at all three health care facility stops. Twelve cars participated, and a good potluck/meeting at Jay and Linda Mork's afterward.
- Glenwood supper and Glenwood A&W Cruise Night- good time, good food.
- Seventeen members and nine collector cars made the trip.
- July potluck/meeting at Cliff and Deb Willhites'- Hutchinson joined in with us, and again, good food.
- New London to New Brighton Friday night car parade in New London- they say we are always invited.
- August Diamond Lake Picnic- we ate well, as always.
- Jay's Cruises- drive to Osakis, appreciation by the health care facility which was set up by Gary Hotovec, and a stop at the local ice cream shop that felt like you were back in the 1960's. A second late fall drive in the Litchfield area was enjoyed by several cars.
- Root Beer and Rides- number five already, good club turnout.
- Fall Leaf & History Tour- twenty plus cars and over thirty members for supper at Dave's Food & Catering in Renville.
- Check this newsletter for details on this year's Christmas Gathering and Toys for Tots.

Hope you can be part of 2023 activities!

Bob





Organized in 1980 to promote the preservation
and enjoyment of collector vehicles.

www.willmarcarclub.com

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