



Polishing Rag

October 2024



Prez Sez..

Do You Wanna Drive the Boat?

It was early January 2001. Because that is what the accompanying photo shows, and our daughter was on winter break from college. We flew into Las Vegas that year and with a rented white Dodge Intrepid, our trip continued visiting Lake Mead, Hoover Dam, and the London Bridge in Lake Havasu, Arizona, before going on to my sister's house in Torrance, California.

We had reservations for a boat ride/ tour on Lake Mead and it included getting fairly close to the high-water side of Hoover Dam. Lake Mead is the largest U.S. reservoir, located in southwest Nevada, created by the Hoover Dam on the Colorado River.

The boat was a three level Mississippi-style paddlewheel, actually powered by a modern engine. It was a cold windy day and just before we were about to depart, it seemed apparent that, other than the four-person crew, we were the only visitors on the boat. I asked and commented we could cancel. They said they had a contract with the Department of the Interior and were required to go out, even if there was only one guest. My response, "ok".

The top level was an open viewing deck, Daughter, Jennifer, and I were looking at the sights in the cold wind listening to a recorded description of the lake. (Wendy was enjoying hot chocolate in the heated level below). The Captain came on the speaker and said, " I usually don't do this, but if you would like to come up to the wheelhouse and get out of the cold, you are welcome. My response, "ok".

He was a very friendly fellow. As we were getting close to the dam and the intake towers, he asked, " do you wanna drive the boat?" My response, "ok". A great experience and memory. Behind the Ship's Captain Wheel and with advice, I guided the big boat's U-turn from the Hoover Dam.

I have been president of the Willmar Car Club for the past three years, which is also a good term limit. I do not consider myself as a Captain or a driver of the club, however, we do need someone at the wheel. Our Bylaws state nominations for club officers are to take place in November and December. At our October meeting, I would like to see a motion and approval to begin the process for this year at that meeting. The thinking behind this is anyone nominated would not have say yes or no right away and have time to think about it. If someone is asked in October and decides to pass in November, then a November nominee could think about it until December. I am hoping the response to the motion will be, "ok".

Our September meal/meeting at Dick and Carol Johnsons was a great one. Grilled burgers by Dick and potluck dishes by members. Then a collector car visit to the Paynesville Nursing Home just a couple of miles away. We then returned for dessert and the meeting, ending with a fun garage tour, and viewing of antiques and collectibles. A big thank you to the Johnsons.

The October meeting will be at Willmar Pizza Ranch on Thursday, the 17th. Arrive 5:30 - 6:00 pm, for the meal. The meeting will begin at approximately 6:30 pm.

Our September Car Buff's Breakfast was at the Paynesville American Legion, with a good buffet served by Legion members. We had about 30 attendees.

The October breakfast will be at Sherry's Cafe in Kerkhoven, 9:00 am, on the 5th. A small-town cafe with small prices.

A fall leaf tour has been planned by Jay on October 10th. Check this newsletter for the details.

Hope to see you at the October gatherings. Bob



Willmar Car Club Meeting Minutes September 14, 2024

Call to Order by President Bob Barr.

Care and Share: no cards went out this month.

Minutes approved as read.

Treasurers Report approved as read subject to audit: discussed the bank account and why it was moved to the checking account from savings.

Announcements:

Both nursing home visits turned out great and the turn out of cars was much appreciated.

October 5 is the next breakfast in Kerkhoven.

Old Business:

Membership directory was passed out; big thank you to Dave, Shari and Greg for pulling this all together.

Root beer and Rides is coming up September 21, everything is set to go.

The fall leaf tour will be Thursday, October 10 at 10 a.m. Meet at the Spicer mall.

New Business:

October 17 is the date for the next meeting at Pizza Ranch. Eat at 5:30 pm, meeting at 6:30 pm.

November 21 is the date for the November meeting again at Pizza Ranch.

December 14 will be the date for the December meeting at the Historical Society building.

Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Mork, Secretary

August Picnic at Diamond Lake



October Meeting

Thursday, October 17

Willmar Pizza Ranch

Eat at 5:30 pm, meeting at 6:30 pm.

Willmar Car Club Sunburg Trolls Trophy Winners



Ramona Helms—Studebaker Lark Ute



Michelle & Randy Suter—Nash Metropolitan

Randy & Michelle also scored an invitation to the
10,000 Lakes Concours d'Elegance



*A & W Cruise
Night*



*in the good old
Summer
Time*



Wednesday, September 18th

It was another beautiful evening at the last
Wednesday A&W Cruise Night for
the season.





Root Beer & Rides

September 21st

Root Beer and Rides also was another great evening.



Willmar Car Club Fall Cruise

Thursday, October 10

Depart from Spicer Mall at 10:00 a.m.

- The route is about 160 miles.
- First rest stop will be at St Joseph.
- Lunch will be at Jordie's in Bowlus at about 1 p.m.
- Last rest stop will be at Melrose and then head back to Spicer.

Any questions, call Jay Mork at 320 905 7083.



October Quiz

The Disappearing Brakes

We once had a schoolteacher who had taken his car to our shop for a lot of brake work. One day he came in and said, “Guys, I’m disappointed. Now that it’s summer I’ve been doing more long-distance driving. If I drive on the highway for an extended time, when I exit and try to use the brakes, they’re often not there. I step on the brake pedal and it sinks almost to the floor.”

We combed over the car for anything that could possibly have caused his problem. Everything looked fine. As we were scratching our heads, old Crusty, the mechanic, was sitting in the corner counting his teeth and wondering how much longer he’ll be able to eat corn. Suddenly he asks the customer, “When did you have the exhaust system replaced?”

“Oh,” the fellow says, “I had it replaced in May. I took it somewhere else because you thieves charge too much.”

Crusty says, “That’s the problem.”

What did Crusty know?



September Quiz

An Airborne Conundrum



In the early days of flight, airplane mechanics had a puzzling problem. They discovered that airplane engines seemed to backfire through the carburetor with regularity. This required extra maintenance, and it could even damage the carburetor. After much investigation, they discovered the pilots were deliberately causing the planes to backfire.

Why would a pilot want the engine to backfire through the carburetor, scaring the pants off his passengers, when it seemed to have no useful purpose?

September Quiz Answer

To keep the carburetor from icing up. They would either make the fuel air mixture more lean, or advance the engine’s timing so that it would backfire. This expelled the ice which, if it were allowed to build up, would eventually cause the engine to stall and then seize — thus **really** scaring the passengers.

OCTOBER EVENTS

- 5th- Car Buff Breakfast, Sherry's Cafe, 1005 Atlantic Ave., Kerkhoven, 9:00 am
- 10th- Fall leaf Tour, check details in this newsletter
- 17th- Willmar Car Club Meal/ Meeting, Willmar Pizza Ranch, arrive 5:30-6:00 pm, depending on your schedule. Meeting at approximately 6:30

A HALLOWEEN HUMOR

- **What's a pumpkin's favorite genre?** Pulp fiction.
- **Why did the pumpkin take a detour?** To avoid a seedy part of town.
- **How do you mend a jack-o'-lantern?** With a pumpkin patch.
- **What's the best thing to put into a pumpkin pie?** Your teeth.
- **Why was the jack-o'-lantern scared?** Because it had no guts.
- **Why was the gourd so gossipy?** To give 'em pumpkin to talk about.
- **What do you get when you drop a pumpkin?** Squash.
- **What does a carved pumpkin celebrate?** Hollow-een.
- **Who helped the little pumpkin cross the road?** The crossing gourd.
- **What did the pumpkin say to its carver?** Cut it out!
- **What's a pumpkin's favorite Western?** *The Gourd, the Bad, and the Ugly*
- **Where does a pumpkin preach?** From the pulp-it.
- **How do gourds grow big and strong?** Pumpkin' iron.
- **Why did the jack-o-lantern fail out of school?** Someone scooped his brains out.
- **What's a pumpkin's best hope to quit smoking?** A pumpkin patch.
- **How do pumpkins like to listen to music?** On vine-yl.





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

www.willmarcarclub.com

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