

# RUSTY NUTS

February 2013

Issue No. 2

Pat Clark Editor

## WOW! WHAT A DAY!



The first annual ARC Car Show/Swap Meet is history, and WHAT HISTORY WE MADE! It is estimated that over 7500 people were in attendance on January 19, 2013 at the R.H. Johnson Center to see well over 200 beautiful, classic cars. The weather was perfect and months of planning paid off big time. Very positive comments were heard all day. Participants thought it was phenomenal for a "first time" car show. Good comments ranged from check in/parking organization to the beautiful trophies. Some participants suggested that we hold two car shows a year. Final numbers aren't in but over \$12,000 was raised.

Lauren Matley and all of his volunteers deserve a big round of applause. This event would not have been such a success without everyone who helped. THANK YOU ALL! Volunteers worked most of the day Friday, some spent the night, and more worked all day Saturday. This was a real group effort and proved what a great club we have.

A lot of SCW residents came out and supported the show and some said it was the best thing to happen in SCW in a very long time. We gained many new members the day of the show and many new fans.

Plans are already underway to improve next year's show.



The next ARC General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 19th at 2:00 PM in the R.H. Johnson Lecture Hall



Many spectators enjoyed the beautiful cars at the 1st Annual ARC Car Show/Swapmeet.

## Cruise Control

The Car Show/Swap Meet is now just a memory from the past. BUT, what a memory! Thanks to Lauren Matley who chaired the program and to all of the many volunteers who stepped up and did such a magnificent job!

February is a big month for ARC. On the 9th we will be going to Wickenburg to participate in the "Gold Rush Days." On February 21st we will have our cars on display in the Safeway parking lot. Our hope is to plan a trip to Mel Martin's Museum for all members and friends to attend. They will love to view the fantastic cars on display.

The Second Public Forum Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 5th at 10 AM. This meeting will be at the Social Hall at the RH Johnson Center.

Our membership is growing and we will soon be passing the 300 membership mark. Thank YOU!

Herb Clark, President

### **COMING EVENTS**

**Feb. 9 - Wickenburg Parade**

**Feb. 19 - ARC General Meeting**

**Feb. 21 - Safeway Car Show**

**March 5 - Public Forum**

## Editor's Garage

Welcome to the second edition of the RUSTY NUTS newsletter. Our first edition ended up too big to be sent out in one piece and we had to send it out in two separate parts. I know some of you didn't get all of it and I apologize for that. Hopefully, we will do better this issue.

In future issues, we hope to report on members buying new (or "old" new cars). We would love to include pictures. Let us know.

We will also have an article called "IN FOR REPAIRS" to let you know of members who may be ill or in the hospital. We need a volunteer to coordinate this effort. This would include sending cards and verifying information.

We are interested in what you want in YOUR newsletter. Any comments or suggestions are very welcome. Send to me at [prclarkgolf@aol.com](mailto:prclarkgolf@aol.com).



## ARC Officers

President - Herb Clark

[woodmedic@aol.com](mailto:woodmedic@aol.com)

Vice President - Gary Jones

[2geez99@gmail.com](mailto:2geez99@gmail.com)

Secretary - Jim Whitlock

[jamescwhitlock@gmail.com](mailto:jamescwhitlock@gmail.com)

Treasurer - Suzanne Jones

[sjmicrosmith@aol.com](mailto:sjmicrosmith@aol.com)



# Downshifting

DOWNSHIFTING is a new article for RUSTY NUTS about our members. I plan to interview a different member each month about his or her first, favorite, and present cars. I feel it will give everyone a chance to get to know other members. If you have some special stories, let me know.

For my first article, I planned to interview Tom Lundbom. He just seemed like a nice guy with a great car. (And not too intimidating.) When I asked him about the interview, he said, "You will have to talk to Carol. Haven't you seen the license plate?" So I read his license plate which says "NOT TOMS." It seems Tom's fancy car is actually back in Washington and the 39 Chevy, which is here, is Carol's. So I decided to interview both Carol and Tom. Here goes!

Tom and Carol Lundbom live in Union, WA. Tom grew up in Aberdeen where his grandfather owned a garage. Tom went to work there at the age of 14 and spent a lot of time in the garage and got into cars at an early age. His first car was a black 53 Mercury convertible. Carol's first car, she grew up in Elma, was "Big Red", a 64 Impala SS hardtop.

Tom's second, and favorite car was a dusty rose 57 Olds J2 convertible. Tom sold this car for \$400 when he was drafted. He got his draft notice in 1963 on the day that President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. He was a company clerk at the Ft McArthur hospital and while there he accompanied the CC on family notifications for Vietnam deaths and drove an Army ambulance in the Watts riots in LA.

After the service, Tom worked as a chemist in a lab and then at a credit union where he eventually became CEO and grew the company from 8 employees to 250. It was during this time he met Carol and they were married in 1968. At the time of their marriage, the Lundboms owned a Myer's Manx Dune Buggy and a 59 MGA. Carol didn't know how to drive at the time, so Tom taught her. Carol taught delinquent youth for 30 years. They eventually sold both of these cars to a Fiat dealer and got a 68 Fiat 124 Spider.

They liked the Spider so much that they would end up owning 6 different Spiders.

One of the 124 Spider's was a rebuild and finished to a metallic brown. It was stolen in Portland from a motel and recovered the next day but while in the thief's possession he broke the front wheel off, froze the emergency brake, scraped much of the new paint etc. They continued on their vacation jaunt ending up in Port Angeles. There it started smoking and Tom called his friend the fire chief, who came to their rescue but didn't have a fire extinguisher. So there was extensive wire damage. Then while loading onto a trailer, the car fell off into a garage door. For some reason, their insurance company tried to charge them for a deductible for each of these incidents even though they were all related to the theft.

In 1989, a \$100 junkyard special 65 Impala SS convertible, 400 HP, 409 was purchased. Tom completely restored it to its original condition. It was red with a white top and interior. It was very special as there were only 440 of these cars manufactured. In 2005, they sold this special car at the Barrett Jackson Auction. Although they got a good price for it, Tom figures he made about 17 cents an hour for his work on it.

Another of the Lundbom's cars was a 70 Buick GS, which Tom described as *pretty hot*. Carol drove the Buick to work for 3 years and had a series of accidents in it - none of which were her fault. Carol felt the car was jinxed and after one accident and two more close calls on the same day, she threw the keys on Tom's desk and announced (!!!!!) that she would not drive that car anymore. They sold it to a friend who drove it for 20 years without any incidents.

Carol's present car is her beautiful 39 Chevy. Tom's uncle bought it new and his cousin put it away in 1963 for his son. In 1976 the cousin gave it to his son for his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday and he impolitely declined and so Tom and Carol became the new owners. During its transformation to a Street Rod, Carol spent more time

working on it then Tom did. She did the Bondo-ing, sanding, and wiring. In fact she wet sanded it three times. So much sanding ...she lost the feelings in her fingers. They painted it themselves and each night as it was drying, bugs got stuck to the clear finish. (Thus, the need for so many wet sandings) It has since been repainted. That cousin would love to have the "old" car now.

Tom and Carol attended the very first Hot August Nights in Reno in 1986 in the 39's maiden voyage. They were going with a friend but his 47 Ford blew up on the way, so they drove together in the 39 Chevy. They had quite a trip as the transmission line and exhaust both fell off. Carol said it was "Hotter than the hubs of hell" but their friend didn't want to open the windows because she didn't want her hair messed up. The 39 got air when they returned to Olympia.

Tom and Carol have owned eleven cars at one time. Among the nicer were a 57 Cadillac Sedan Deville Brougham and a 58 Impala convertible. They sold all of them to restore the 65 Impala convertible. After selling the 65 at Barrett Jackson, they did a frame off restoration on a 72 Buick GS convertible (455 stage 1).

Tom says if he does another restoration, it will be on a 65 Buick Sport Wagon. If he could have any car out there, it would be a 54 Kaiser Darrin with the pocket doors.

Tom and Carol bought their house in Union Washington from her aunt. They added another garage with 14 foot ceilings with a lift and golf cart storage.

While working on the garage, a golfing neighbor stopped to see why the ceilings were so high. This neighbor ended up being Bill Gates and his father. Tom and Carol are snowbirds and spend 6 months in Washington and 6 months here in SCW. Tom is ARC's web specialist. What a special couple!