



# NEWS

*Fast ~ Friendly ~ Generous ~ The Car Club Others Respect*

## President's Message



Hello again!  
Can you believe that the month of January has come and

gone? I guess it really is true what they say: *the older you get the faster time goes by*. The best thing I can say about January's disappearance in the blink of an eye is that it puts us one month closer to the season we all love. And that means we have to start making preparations to facilitate the busy months of spring, summer, and fall.

Thanks to all who attended the first meeting of 2023. The Board and I appreciate your support!

We are looking forward to adding the G-Board to our monthly meetings. I believe it will help to improve our already fantastic club.

Until next month remember: participation is a wonderful thing.

*~ Steve Williams*

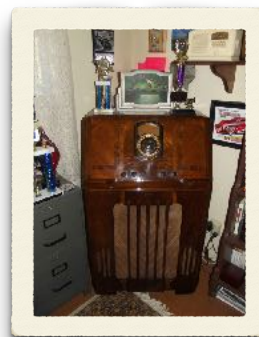
## Keeping Busy and Somewhat "Sane"

I've never been one to embrace winter - those endless, dreary, cold days seem to last forever. I'm a spring and summer guy, and fall colors to me just mean everything is dying. (That last statement always makes Jan roll her eyes.) My solution to the winter doldrums is simple: I find that if I can stay engaged in my winter weather hobbies, I can actually enjoy the time away from my warm weather garage and car related projects and activities.

Some of you may already know what those winter hobbies are, but you may not know how I got started on them. I'll begin with radios.

I've always been fascinated with radios and old school, vacuum-tube electronics. My folks bought me my first radio

thirteen, Weller (still use it!), pliers, and I finished project and late at night distant AM over the



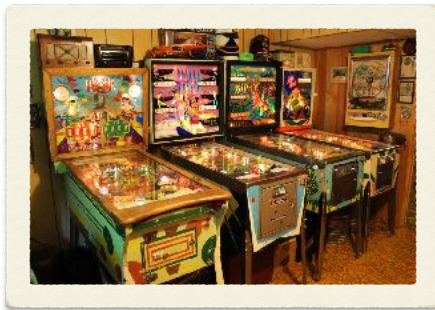
States, Canada, and Mexico. Wish I still had that radio but I don't know where it finally ended up. I hope some kid finds it in an attic somewhere.

kit when I was along with a soldering gun needle nose diagonal cutters. that kit radio would listen to it picking up stations from all western United

Around 1963, my mom would take me to the old

Goodwill on Third Avenue. I'd drag home these big old console radios from the '30s and '40's. I'd work on them in the basement - most of the time without a lot of positive results. My dad would sigh whenever I talked my mom into bringing one of those white elephants into his basement shop. I have to admit that he was tolerant as he saw his shop space fill up with more clutter and tripping hazards. Once in a while I'd get one of those old warhorses to work, but more often than not they'd end up collecting dust. On occasion I would notice that one of my treasures had "disappeared" when I wasn't looking.

That same period of 1963-64, the kid up the street would drag me downtown to an upstairs pool hall. It may have been called the Aurora, but I'm not sure. A door at street level opened to reveal a narrow flight of stairs to the second floor where a very large room had a half-dozen pool tables in its center, and all four walls lined with pinball machines. These were all electro-mechanical machines, five balls for a dime, and "NO BETTING" placards prominently displayed on each of them. (Right!) A cashier sat at a podium on a raised dais at one end of the room where he made hard change for folding money. The air was blue and foul from cigarette and cigar smoke. My parents would've needed therapy if they had known I was spending any time in this place - but that made it even more intriguing. I only went there a few times during my ill-spent youth, but I've been hooked on pinball machines forever thereafter.



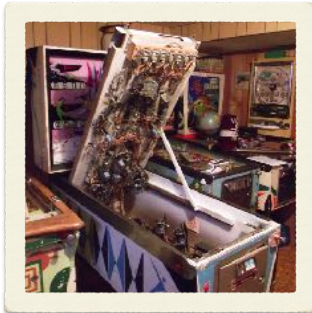
Fast forward to 1970. I had been working for Harriot Nelson Cowling Photography in Spokane for two years out of high school when the job came to an abrupt end as my boss and the business' namesake passed away. I decided to move to Northern California and was soon hired by Pacific Telephone as a technician. I was trained to work in a monstrous telephone switch providing long distance and overseas phone service for the San Francisco East Bay area. The company provided me with the tools and many hours of classroom and on-the-job training. I learned proper circuit schematic diagram reading and sectionalized troubleshooting techniques. The East Bay long-distance switch was huge and occupied space on five floors of a large building in downtown Oakland. There were forty-plus technicians like myself charged with keeping this 1940's era electro-mechanical computer running with its thousand of vacuum tubes, flat spring relays,



cross-bars, motors, clutches, electric eyes, and battery supplies. I ended up working for the parent company (AT&T) and was able to transfer back to Spokane with them in 1981, eventually retiring with twenty-nine years of service in 1999.

How did my pinball and jukebox obsession begin? It's now 1985, and Spokane's Follet Music Company closed its doors after many years of providing jukeboxes, pinball, cigarette, gum machines, and all things coin-operated in the Spokane area. A good friend said, "Hey, do you want to go to the Follet warehouse auction?" Of course I did! (Jan sensed trouble ahead.)

The auction took place on a cold and snowy winter day. The number of bidders inside the warehouse was small, held down by the competing snowstorm outside. Complete and shipped pinball machines were being sold for pennies on the dollar. The non-working machine lots were being bid up to ten dollars choice, and I bought a few along with some inoperable but complete jukeboxes. That was the start of my next passion: pinballs and jukeboxes. Over the years I still occasionally pick up a jukebox or pinball and bring it home to restore. It usually takes a year or more to restore a machine, and learn its idiosyncrasies. Some of my machines have gathered dust for thirty-plus years, patiently waiting for me to get to them. (Image: A 1958, AMI Model J-200 50th Anniversary Edition comes home to the shop. This model is the first truly high-fidelity stereo jukebox to be offered. Nickel play and 200 selections.)



The inside of an electro-mechanical pinball machine looks very much like the equipment I used to repair at the phone company, all flat spring relays, motors, contacts, and color-coded wiring. The games themselves are a joy to play, and if you are any good you can play for hours and rack up free games. Some of the games allow for up to four players and provided a little friendly competition. (Image: A 1970's Williams A-Go-Go with its hood up for servicing. Lots of things can go wrong in these old machines, and often do.)

The juke boxes are a combination of radio electronics with their vacuum tubes, amplifiers, and wonderful mechanisms to select, then grab records and place them on a turntable for play. Watching one of those jukes change a record is pure poetry in motion. Jukeboxes also feed into another hobby of mine: music. The styling of the jukeboxes with their colored pilasters and gleaming chrome trim is as appealing to me today as it was for the bar and

## 2023 Dues

### A Thank You and a Deadline Reminder

Nearly two-thirds of our club members have paid their 2023 dues! Your prompt action is very much appreciated.

The reminder that I want to bring to your attention is this: Any member that has not paid their current dues by March 31, 2023, may be subject to removal as an active member of the Gents Auto Club of Spokane. The Board can reinstate a delinquent member under extenuating circumstances. If a member is not reinstated by the Board, the member will have to attend three meetings and be voted back in by the club members.

Bring your dues (cash or check) to the February 1st meeting.

Or you can mail your dues to me at the address below:

John Scofield / Gents  
212 E 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. #9  
Post Falls, ID 83854

Thank you for your attention to this yearly membership duty!

~ John Scofield, Treasurer

restaurant customers willing to plunk coins into them “back in the day.” Every era’s styling was different: from Art-Deco to machine-age to the automotive inspired machines of the late fifties with their wraparound glass domes and automotive style chrome and frills. The sound produced by one of the 350-pound machines, once properly rebuilt, is nothing short of phenomenal!

I still dabble in photography and these days have traded my film camera for digital and do all of the darkroom lab work on my computer. Much less mess, and no chemicals!



Author and Gent, Dean Carriveau

(Image: As found, 1949 Seeburg M100A. A real game changer. This jukebox is the first to play both 78’s and 45 RPM records. It would play both sides of 50 records, and other jukebox companies had to scramble to play catch-up.)

*Spring eventually comes along...*

*...not soon enough....*

*and then there are those cars.....*

**2023 Gents Officers**

**President:** Steve Williams  
**Vice President:** Paul Inman  
**Treasurer:** John Scofield  
**Sergeant at Arms:** Ben Curtis  
**Secretary:** Cindy McHargue

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

**Next Meeting:**  
**March 1, 2023**

**Eagles Aerie 2,**  
**6410 N Lidgerwood**

*“You win some, you lose some,  
you wreck some.”*

*~Dale Earnhardt, Sr.*

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\*

**Super Bowl LVII- February 12**

*I'd run over my mother to win  
Super Bowl.” Russ Grimm, 1984  
Washington Lineman.*

*Response from Oakland  
Linebacker Matt Millen: “I'd run  
over Russ Grimm's mother too.”*

*Raider's Won - 38-9*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Hot Rod Blues**

**September 9, 2023!!**

**Answering the Question of Why**

I moved to Spokane with my two children in 1999, shortly after my wife died in a head-on collision. I knew no one here, and made the decision based on two things: the education system here, and the easy, close access to hunting, fishing, and outdoor activities that I love. Moving the grandkids 1500 miles away from my parents did not win me the Son of the Year Award. Much thought and homework went into what this move would entail.

We, (the kids and I) worked daily to put all the puzzle pieces together. It was incredibly difficult, and regular failures were common. We stayed positive and persevered through countless setbacks. As time went on, we began to see light at the end of the tunnel.

Then, in October of 2004, I had to go through the most frightening thing of my life.

I was experiencing numbness in various parts of my body that was progressing quickly. After a myriad of medical appoints an MRI showed I had a tumor inside my spinal cord between C4 and C5, and that it needed to be removed. The list of problems and potential side effects from this surgery were lengthy and very scary. I was reflecting on my life in an abrupt and different way than ever before.

My entire family arrived to provide support for this very non-routine surgery. After going under the knife, I expected to wake up with the tumor removed to then deal with some form of recovery, and hopefully, little to no problems or side effects. I was set on getting back to normal.

When I woke up from surgery, I was told that it turned out not to be a tumor, and nothing was removed.

I am learning how to live with “Demyelinating Neuropathy” for the rest of my life. I am numb over

**RADAR**

**BLIP!**

More Info  
to follow  
soon:

[The Great Northwest](#)

[Gathering](#)

[July 21-22-23](#)

[Spokane County](#)

[Fairgrounds](#)

**Support Brian  
Anderson's efforts to  
replace the Good  
Guys Show.**

[This Just In:](#)

*"My first ride won me over," he recalls.  
"Sitting in that high-backed bucket  
seat and watching him speed-shift that  
Pistol-Grip four-speed while trying to  
keep my feet from coming off the floor  
changed my opinion of Mopars."  
~Feb. Muscle Machines Mag, Page 45.*

roughly 70% of my body. I had to relearn doing very simple things: walking, driving, feeding myself, throwing a ball, writing a letter, paddling my kayak, typing on a keyboard, dressing myself - you get the picture.

I went for years thinking I was getting 8-9 hours of sleep per night when I was only getting 1-2, which can cause the body to decline rapidly. I made an appointment with my doctor. After prescribing countless different drugs with very little to no help, she suggested Medical Cannabis. I initially told her: "No! I have no interest in this, I am NOT a pothead." Under her supervision I tried it and was able to get the full rest that I had needed for so long.

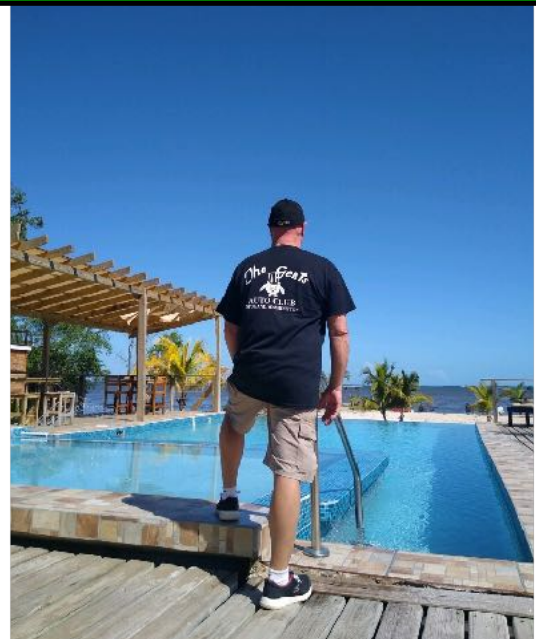
I did not get high, I did not eat the refrigerator, I did not have bloodshot eyes, and I did not get hooked on it.

That's why I own a medical company that specializes in products and education with Cannabis and Mushrooms.

*Deke Cloyd, Author*

**HELOA from Belize!**

**Thom Coffman is starting a new chapter of the Gents Auto Club!**



# \* \* \* \* Upcoming Events \* \* \*



## INLAND NORTHWEST HONOR FLIGHT 2023 FUNDRAISER GALA & CASINO NIGHT

COME JOIN THE FUN &  
PLACE YOUR BETS ON OUR VETS

Friday, February 17  
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Doors open at 5 p.m.

Spokane Convention Center  
Centennial Ballroom  
334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.  
Spokane, WA 99201



All proceeds from this event will go to INW Honor Flight – an organization committed to offering Inland Northwest war veterans an opportunity to travel to Washington, DC, to visit those memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices.

**PURCHASE TICKETS: INWHONORFLIGHT.ORG/GALA** Reservations will close 2/8/2023

\$100/Person	Dinner PLUS 2,000
\$175/Couple	Honor Flight Bucks
\$650/Table of 8	per person
	for Casino Games

For a suggested donation, purchase more Honor Flight Bucks to play more: \$50 for 3,000 Bucks  
\$75 for 5,000 Bucks  
\$100 for 7,500 Bucks

Live Music by HOT CLUB OF SPOKANE

CASINO & AMUSEMENT GAMES!  
Raffle and Casino Prizes!



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## Calling all **T BIRDS** & *Pink Ladies* for **THE NO SHINE BANQUET**

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 25th, 2023  
**TIME:** Social hour at 5:30 with dinner to follow  
**WHERE:** Mirabeau Park Hotel, Spokane Valley  
**COST:** \$50 per person \* ON SALE NOW \*  
**BAND:** The Kevin Shay Band  
**Raffles, 50/50, Silent Auction, Awards & more!**

*Come help us celebrate the distinguished man, woman, couple, young hot rodder & business of the year, nominated by you!*

**FOR MORE INFO CALL:**  
RACHELLE 509-218-0212  
CHRISTINA 509-869-6815

**FOR TICKETS CALL:**  
CHRISTINA 509-869-6815  
JACQUIE 509-844-8428

Dress up as your favorite Grease character or in 1950's attire if you wish.



Print off & fill out the nomination forms today!

INCCC News

November 2022

The Seventh Annual

# SPOKANE Speed AND Custom SHOW

APRIL 14-16, 2023 • ALL INDOORS!  
SPOKANE FAIRGROUNDS • 404 N HAVANA

PRESENTED BY

Spokane Cup  
Best of Show  
\$5,000 Cash Award

Sponsored by  
**ARP**

PRINT SIGNS, MAINTENANCE  
SPONSORSHIP & MORE INFO  
Visit the Calendar on the Website

spokanespeedandcustomshow@gmail.com

## MEMORIAL WEEKEND

MAY 28-30, 2022

3900+ American Flags on Display at All Cemeteries

### EVENTS

**RACE TO REMEMBER 5K**  
Saturday, May 27th | 8:30 am-10:00 am  
Fairmount Memorial Park  
\$25 Entry Fee With T-Shirt | \$15 Without T-Shirt

**SALUTE TO SERVICE BENEFIT CONCERT & CAR SHOW**  
Sunday, May 28th | 5:00pm-7:30pm  
Greenwood Memorial Terrace  
Band | Beer Garden | Auto Club  
\$5 Suggested Donation  
Concert Proceeds Benefit Second Harvest Food Bank

**HEROES' PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
Monday, May 19th | 8:30am-10:30am  
Heritage Funeral Home  
\$3 Per Person  
Free for Veterans & Service Personnel  
Pancakes-Sausage-Juice-Coffee  
All Proceeds Benefit Second Harvest Food Bank

**FLAG CRUISE**  
Monday, May 29th | 10:00am- 11:00am  
Riverside Memorial Park  
Follow the American Legion Riders on a Flag Cruise through Riverside Memorial Park and Fairmount Memorial Park.

**GREATER SPOKANE ELKS #228 MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE**  
Monday, May 30th | 10am  
Spokane Memorial Gardens  
5909 S Cheney-Spokane Road

**MELVIN M. SMITH DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE**  
Monday, May 30th | 11am  
Fairmount Memorial Park  
5200 W. Wellesley

**FLAG RETIREMENT SERVICE**  
Monday, May 30th | 11am  
Pines Cemetery

**QUESTIONS?**  
Call 509.224.6812 or  
visit: FairmountMemorial.com and  
Facebook.com/FairmountMemorial

## Stay Involved in Our Community!