



Publication of:  
**The Gents Auto Club**  
 Spokane, Washington

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**Membership Meeting**

April 1, 6:00

Social hour at 5:00

**G-Board Meeting**

April 30, 6:00

**Officers of The Gents 2026**

Elected Officers

- Ben Curtis, President
- Ken Warren, Vice President
- Darlene Inman, Secretary
- John Scofield, Treasurer
- Jim Earls court, Sgt. At Arms

**G-Board Members**

- Bill Keehner
- Craig Taasevigen
- Dale Gibson
- Dean Carriveau
- Forrest Anderson
- Greg Collin
- Jack Haley
- Ken Warren
- Leland Jassman
- Paul Inman
- Scott Messmer
- Steve Williams
- Ted Davis

**Meet the Gents Sergeant at Arms**

I am Jim Earls court, been a club member for eight years with my 1964 Chevelle Malibu SS. The 327 cu. inch motor is carbureted with a wee-bit of added horse-power, and has a Tremec TKX 5-speed tranny, 66 G.M. 12 bolt 4:33 ratio positraction differential, Lakewood traction bars, Headman Hustler Long Tube Headers, Wildhorse electric cut-outs to name a few features. Otherwise it is mostly stock.

Purchased the Chevelle in 1971 after it was stolen from the original owner and built a Bad-Ass small block for it, then after driving it for a while I blew up the engine. Then the Chevelle sat in a garage for several years. I gave the car to my son in 1988 for his birthday, this when the "Hugger Orange" paint evolved. I installed a "Big Block" for Drag Racing. After a while he also blew-up the motor. I guess he was a chip off the old block!

After my Son's passing in 2006, I started the Chevelle's resurrection in his memory from late 2017 to the present. I would like to finish the suspension upgrade and add a quicker ratio steering gear. I love driving the old girl, except when it is very hot. There is quite a bit of header and road heat, and the 4 window A/C does not cut it very well. I also have a couple of Z-28 Camaro's and a 76 Chevy square body step side pick-up. I bought it with plans to get it finished before I go to the "Big Garage" in the sky or in some direction.



## President's Thoughts



Finally, we are enjoying some Springtime weather, ... unless Mother Nature has another surprise in store for us. Cars are seeing the light of day and enjoying some TLC from their owners. The **Speed and Custom Show** at the Fairgrounds is coming up from April 10 through April 13 and nearly a dozen Gents cars will be on display at various locations through the event. You may be called on to help before, during and after the show so that the Gents Display is again one of the best. If past years are any measure, it will be a lot of fun mixed with a small amount of work. The Gents members usually make a great showing at this event, and we expect that it will happen again this year. There are already a couple of great events scheduled in addition to our three shows. If you have ANY IDEAS OR WISHES you need to make us aware of that. Steve Williams has agreed to function as Event Coordinator this year, but he cannot do much without your input. Come to the Membership Meeting, volunteer where needed, and make some of your activity ideas known to Steve.

Greg and Esther Collin are putting in a lot of work getting this newsletter done monthly but, again, we need input from members. You do not need to write a full-blown thesis about yourself, but tell us about you, your car(s) and your history in the Gents, Esther can work her magic with surprisingly little input, but we DO NEED YOUR HELP. We will see you at the General Membership meeting on April 1st and at the Fairgrounds show. Remember that the Gents is the second oldest local car club, but we are by far the most generous and active. Why??? "GENTS DO IT RIGHT."

## Founding Member

### Mike O'Brien



As you may or may not know the Gents Auto Club was created in 1963 by a group of high school boys. What you also may not know is that there are several of the founding members still active in the Gents Club 63 years later. One of those men is Mike O'Brien.

Mike grew up in Spokane, WA where he made many memories cruising Riverside every weekend. Mike purchased a 1965 El Camino new from Appleway Chevrolet. Mike loved that car and wishes he had never sold it. When asked about his best car show he stated that it was the Spokane Auto Boat Speed Show in 1967 where he entered his El Camino.

Currently Mike is married to his wonderful wife Colleen, and he owns a 1964 Chevy Belair 409, which he traded a 1948 Ford Convertible for about a year ago. He enjoys the 340 hp 409, factory air conditioning and turbo 400 A/T. For an older car it also has come creature comforts including new stock seats, carpets, and disc brakes. To make his car stand out Mike gave it a really nice stock color paint job. If you want to keep your car looking really nice, like Mike's, you should give it a lot of TLC and always keep it garaged.

Mike retired as the General manager of King Beverage in Spokane. His leisure time is filled with golf, cars and motorcycles. If you would like to know about Mike's favorite quote you will have to ask him personally.

## Darlene and Rusty

In February we met the Gent's Secretary, Darlene Inman, but I neglected to include the pictures of their car.



### 1937 Ford Cabriolet

Corvette LT1 engine, 4L60 E transmission

Custom designed and fabricated chasses

Coil over front suspension

Custom fabricated center console

Navigation/stereo system with backup camera

Dakota Digital gauges

Remote doors, windows and trunk

Intro wheels

A/C, P/S, P/B, P/W, cruise

Power lifting trunk lid



## Spokane Speed & Custom Show

**April 10—12**

**Spokane County Fair & Expo Center**

The Gents will have a display with the theme

**The Evolution of Dreams**

*63 Years of Building Dreams*

Chevrolet Camaro and the Mopar hot rods from 1970 through 2014.

Setup begins on April 9. Four founders will set up at 12:00, club display begins at 1:00. Volunteers are needed for both. Those who come will have a chance to buy 3 day passes at a reduced price.

If there are questions please contact Clayton or Larry Setchell.

We hope to see many Gents members during the display. Wear your Gents apparel and let's show

### Club Business

- ◆ O'Brien Truckers has the pattern for the small 4" x 6" plaques, and Ben has ordered 24. The cost to members will be \$30 for the small plaques and \$35 for the larger plaques. Small plaques are painted and sanded, and big plaques are not sanded or painted.
- ◆ The club is interested in monthly car-related activities. Please let Steve Williams, one of the officers, or a G-Board member know if you have any ideas.  
(i.e., drive to Harrison, poker run, etc.)

## Upcoming Events

April 18 ..... Rogers HS Car Show

April 18 ..... Sunnyside High School Show & Shine

April 26 ..... West Valley Senior All Nighter Car Show

May 9 ..... Hugh Marconi – Wallace Depot Days Car Show

**June 6 ..... Gents/AutoNation “Spring Fling” Open Car Show**

June 20 ..... Miss Shifters Broads and Rods

**June 21 ..... Gent’s Wendle Father’s Day Show**

**July 10 ..... National Collector Car Appreciation Day (Gents will host)**

August 1 ..... Chewelah Mistequa Casino Hotel Car Show

August 8 ..... Pinehurst Show

August 8 ..... 21st Annual Rod and Custom Show

**August 15 ..... Gents Thrifty Auto Supply Reunion Open Car Show**

September 19 ..... Hot Rod Hall of Fame Banquet



## Hugh Marconi – Wallace Depot Days Car Show:

This will be the 40th edition of the Depot Days show, Mothers Day weekend, May 9th . Last year’s show had over 300 entries displaying their cars on the downtown streets of Wallace Idaho. Cars can be entered in seventeen various trophy categories plus best of show and people’s choice awards.

Pre-registration is \$20 and can be done on-line at [npdepot.org](http://npdepot.org) Registration on the day of show is \$25. All proceeds from the show go to the Northern Pacific Depot Museum. More information: [npdepot.org](http://npdepot.org)

Hosted by: Inland Northwest Lady Jeepers and Rock Star Wheelers

**ROGERS HIGH SCHOOL'S GRADUATING CLASS OF 2026**

**Fundraiser CAR SHOW**

**SAT. APRIL 18TH 2026 9AM - 1PM**

**\$20 Entry Fee..**

Car show, Trophies, Refreshments, Meet new friends & Help the Graduating class!

**1622 E WELLESLEY AVE.**

- Best Stock
- Best Build
- Most Mud
- Best Theme
- Crowd Favorite

**WEST VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR ALL NIGHTER CAR SHOW**

**Sunday, April 26th**

**12:00pm to 3:00pm**

**West Valley High School**

**8301 E. Buckeye Ave., Spokane Valley, WA**

**\$10 Per Car**

**No Early Registration**

**8301 E. BUCKEYE AVE. SPOKANE VALLEY, WA**

## CAR HISTORY

### First Speeding Ticket:

Issued in 1896 to Walter Arnold, who was going 4 times the 2mph limit.

### Woman Inventor: Mary

Anderson patented windshield wipers in 1903.

# Gents Merchandise

Here is the link that will take you to our club merchandise order form:

[Gents Merchandise](https://www.jotform.com/form/260407909317055) <https://www.jotform.com/form/260407909317055>

We have worked hard to get the best pricing on our items, and hope you are satisfied with how inexpensive most of them are. The site requires the use of a credit card to complete your purchase. The amounts charged are routed directly to our club bank account after subtracting the credit card fee of about 3%, we are not able to do this without paying the fees.

**Please Note:** All embroidered items can be finished in approximately 2 weeks, and screen printed items will take a bit longer since we need to order a minimum of 12 items for screen printing before they can go into production. You will be notified when items are finished and they will be delivered at the next general membership meeting.

If you have any questions or concerns about navigating the site or suggestions on improving it, let me know ASAP. We can add other items to the site as needed so if you have ideas, let me know.

Ben Curtis,  
President

**These items  
and more on  
the website**

