



CRUZIN NEWS-N-VIEWS

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Here's a list of your Officers, Board Members and Committee Chairpersons, if you have any questions, suggestions, comments or just want to chat, give them a call.

Summer Cruise 2010

Our two major events for this tour were the "NSRA Car Show" in Pueblo, CO and the "Cache Valley Cruise In" in Logan, UT. We started with five cars, Jim & Jackie Councilman, Jerry & Carol Elliott, Paul & Judy Nolte, Ron & Jan Olmstead, Dee & Ken Schaaf. We met at 7:00 a.m. for breakfast at Rock Springs and left at 8:00 a.m. Went up through Flagstaff-seeing a lot of smoke yet from the fire, then on to Holbrook to meet up with Conrad & Michelle Monroe. Yup, lunch time! We continued on to Sanders where we met up with Dave & Anne Bennett along with Frank & Rose Svancara. NOW WE'RE EIGHT! But along the way, Councilmans were having problems with their suburban and finally had to get their fuel pump replaced at a little garage in Sanders.

Between Gallup and Farmington, we noticed Frank's car had little drips of gas coming out occasionally, but he managed to get to our hotel in Farmington, NM. Ken called a buddy, Jake Padilla, who got in touch with Ed Hatcher who had a radiator shop. Frank headed over there only to stop dead in the road just outside of the hotel. So Ed brought a trailer (but the wench had been loaned out) so Paul, Jerry, Ken, Dave, Jim and Conrad pushed the car up on the trailer. This was a "missed" photo opportunity. They had to push it up rearend first and Frank had to sit inside, traveling backwards, so he could keep his foot on the brake while the trailer was in motion. But he couldn't get out of the car anyways, as the door would have hit the trailer. After preparation of the tank, it was welded where necessary and Ken, Dave and Paul followed a very tired Frank back to the hotel about 11:15p.m. Of course, the rest of us had eaten, so those guys had "brown bag" food at that late hour.

Headed out the next morning through some beautiful country and lo and behold we came across a free car wash. Some of the cars were able to dodge it, but Ken got it square

on. A farmer had his irrigation sprinklers close to the road and it was going around in circles. Some cars missed it and some of us got it! Also we came across an old rusted school bus which could double for an OTHG COOL BUS! Now we're just outside Colorado, elevation 6450. The scenery is beautiful and we're going through San Juan National Forrest - so pretty! After by-passing Durango, we went through Pagosa Springs and beautiful Wolf Creek Pass, 10,850 elevation. We arrived in Pueblo, CO and settled in at the hotel.

The 2010 Rocky Mountain Streetrod Nationals had a "kick-off" BBQ Thursday night at the lake in Pueblo State Park. Olmsteads and Schaafs attended and saw the Dam and Fish Hatchery. They had great food, music, swimming beach and the weather was cooled off some and very comfortable. Ken visited with a couple of acquaintances there. Friday, went to the fairgrounds, found a parking area and one of the big buildings, air-conditioned, with ramp up to double doors; was open so we put our chairs inside the opening in a semi-circle and that was our stake-out for the Friday and Saturday activities. They had a "ladies tea" on Saturday at 1p.m. in that building. Each day we walked to see the 2000+ cars. Yup, there's Ken, visiting with more friends. They had a good swap meet with reasonable prices. Now it's time to go have dinner. We found a Black-Eyed Pea Restaurant near our hotel and of course Phoenix doesn't have them anymore. Still YUMMY! In Pueblo, we encountered several other car problems: Ron had a gas leak from loose fuel line fittings, Conrad to the rescue; Conrad adjusted his carburetor; Dave replaced the compressor for his air conditioner.

Continued on page 2

2010 Phoenix Summer Tour

(continued from page 1)

Then it was on down the road, come Sunday morning. Next stop was the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park in Canon City, CO. We took the incline railway - "World's steepest incline railway at 1550 ft, 45 degree angle, rate of decent 3mph and takes 5.5 minutes each way; we took the aerial tram across the Arkansas River; we ate at the outside snack bar and noted some VERY DARK CLOUDS coming our way. Frank and Rose departed our group and took the trolley across the bridge and headed to Montrose to spend time with relatives. The rest of us walked back across the bridge which was swaying some, and you could see the rushing water down through the wooden slats. After eating, Dee had gotten a sack at the gift shop and put that over her head to protect her hair. It was raining and VERY WINDY coming back over the bridge. Walking the bridge was exciting and maybe just a little scary. Some of the gals enjoyed a ride on the carousel before we left. We decided with the weather so unpredictable, Schaafs, Councilmans and Elliotts went back to Canon City and on to the next motel. Monroes, Noltes, Olmsteads and Bennetts drove across the bridge and through the countryside and met us at the next motel in Manitou Springs. Oh-oh, Jerry is working on his door latch now. Monday morning, we all drove to Jim's high school and posed some pictures for him to send to his 50th class reunion which is to be held in August. Then we said good-bye to the Bennetts who were going to Mount Rushmore. NOW THERE WAS SIX!

That morning, it was on to Pike's Peak, elevation 14,110, where we took the Cog Railway to the top. Just beautiful scenery and lots of pictures taken. We stayed about ½ hour and then our train headed back and YOU BEST BE ON IT! Gorgeous sights as you'll see by the photos. We traveled on and went through the "Garden of the Gods" which is another area of colorful rock formations. Coming into the park, a deer ran right in front of Olmsteads suburban. Quite a surprise! After leaving there, Elliotts were having car problems; it kept stopping, changed fuel pump, adjusted carburetor, etc. When we got going again it was getting late but we saw the MOST INCREDIBLE SUNSETS YOU EVER WANTED TO SEE! We finally arrived at our motel at 10:00 p.m. in Leadville, CO, 10,152 elevation and snow on the mountains.

Tuesday we traveled through Northwestern CO. into UT. After Vernal, we encountered chip seal and lots of little rocks flying everywhere. GO SLOW! We traveled along the Flaming Gorge area, 8500 elevation, up into the Southwestern portion of Wyoming, spending the night in Green River. Wednesday, we traveled through beautiful prairie lands of WY, back into UT around Bear Lake, arriving in Logan that afternoon. Bob & Betty Bailey along with Barney and Donna Wilkins joined us there. NOW WE ARE EIGHT AGAIN!

We stayed in Logan three nights. Each night (during the car shows) we circled our chairs in the motel's parking lot for our evening "pow-wow." We had a lot of laughs and fun during these times. Thursday was the poker Run to Bear Lake and then a picnic lunch at the park. Friday and Saturday was a "laid back" car show at the fairgrounds. There were approximately 827 cars, a small swap meet, lots of food vendors and Ken visited with lots of friends that he knew. The Councilmans received an award, so Saturday at 4:30 pm we were in the rodeo grandstands while all the winning cars

came through. Then at 6pm they gave away the car that everyone was hoping to win, a '66 Pontiac Convertible. They call the ticket number, you have to be present to win, and they set the timer for five minutes. If no one shows, they draw another number. The second number called was there. Then it was a "mad rush" to get back to your cars and get out of the fairgrounds on the parade route. There were 20,000-30,000 spectators watching the cars; standing, some on couches, chairs, trailers along the street, even people sitting in a SPA. After the parade, we went back to the hotel and walked ½ block to the Old Iron Grill for dinner. Very nice restaurant. Then we called it a night.

After breakfast Sunday a.m. both Baileys and Wilkins left for home. NOW THERE ARE SIX!

After our gas stop South of Salt Lake City, approaching the freeway, Paul pulled a "Larry Besore" when his trunk lid flew open. But they didn't loose their jackets or pillow! Someone forgot to close it when they got the almonds out. Upon reaching our motel in Richfield, UT, we met up with Dave Bennett and friend Jim. Anne had flown out after seeing Mt. Rushmore and Jim had flown in. Dave and Jim continued on to Bryce Canyon with the group and then they left for home. Somewhere on the narrow back roads to Bryce, Jerry had a stone thrown into his windshield which left it's mark! After leaving Bryce Canyon, we headed West through the Cedar Breaks National Monument, 10,575 elevation (used Golden Age cards) and stopped at the North scenic view of the Zion National Park. Olmsteads and Councilmans went on ahead to Springdale and our motel, the Bumbleberry Inn. On Tuesday we boarded a shuttle and toured Zion National Park and all it's glory! So gorgeous, such beauty! Throughout this entire trip we saw many different animals—deer, antelope, turkey, even buffalo and lots of little critters.

Tuesday when we left Zion going towards Kanab, they had massive highway construction going on. The road was VERY ROUGH; single lane in one part so you had to sit and wait for the oncoming traffic to get through. But the scenery was just gorgeous! Ron and Jim had gone on ahead before we returned from the shuttle tour, and later Ron had called that they were in Page, AZ and headed home. Jim was at the hotel when the rest of us got to Kanab. The Parry's Lodge is a wonderful place to stay. Each room is named after a star that had stayed in that room. Ken and Dee were in the Gabby Hayes room. At 8pm each night, they show an old B&W western movie, made right there in Kanab. The movie house is an old barn with lots of easy chairs, rockers, etc. We had popcorn and soda and watched the movie which was about 1-1/2 hours long. Wednesday we were headed home via Page, AZ, when "old Raspberry" decided to have a little problem with the distributor (not to be left out). We got to Cameron, AZ where they guys huttled and the gals shopped. Okay, all fixed! On to Flagstaff for lunch at Garcia's, noting the burned mountainsides in Flagstaff. Monroes parted company for Show Low and five of us headed on towards Phoenix.

A GREAT BIG THANKS to Carol Elliott, Judy Nolte, and Conrad and Michelle Monroe for the trip planning. WOW! ANOTHER GREAT JOB! That takes a lot of time! I hope you enjoy the photo presentation! What's next. Say....aren't we supposed to be going to Payson for a Hotdog and Brat?!!

Introducing: Ron & Jan Olmstead

Ron and I have been happily married almost 11 years. But, our story goes back to Camelback High School, Class of '57. Ron and I only knew who each other was. We did have one class together; band in our freshman year. Neither of us remembers the other. That was the beginning and we didn't even know it. But, let's go back to the very beginning.

Ron was born in Phoenix, went to Emerson, Whittier, Grandview and Monte Vista Grade Schools, then to Camelback and on to ASU to become a registered land surveyor. He had his own business as well as working for others. At one time he tried his hand at having his own shop called Old Cars. This wasn't successful because he said he was too slow. Actually, he was too much of a perfectionist. He was working for Fleet-Fisher Engineering when he retired in February of 2000.

Ron never got to know his dad. His dad was disabled by Wilson's disease. He was hospitalized most of Ron's life and passed away when Ron was in high school. His mom had to face tragedy early on when she was left to be a single parent. She had wanted nothing more than to be a stay-at-home wife and mother to raise her little son. What's more, she had never worked outside the home a day in her life. A friend helped to get her a job at Valley National Bank. After showing her to her desk, her friend handed her a letter to type. It was then she had to confess she didn't know how to type. She wasn't packing but was fully trained, including how to use a typewriter. Edye, Ron's mom, had arranged for him to spend time at the YMCA while she was working but she was not aware that her little guy was learning to shoot pool with the big boys. Also his maternal grandmother had much influence on his life during the time he and his mom lived with her. She always knew when Ron was doing something he shouldn't; approached him in a manner where he would own up to his behavior. His own guilt and shame was all the punishment she dished out.

When Ron was in high school, he got his first car. It was a '50 Chevy fastback, a 4-door, not quite his favorite model. It was black though, his favorite car color; and with a few modifications, he could call it his own. While at Camelback, he was a member of the Playboys car club. (This is when his friend, Geof, gave him the handle 'Mouse' which has held on until this very day.) The club member, with the direction of Carl Grimes, built a 1951 Henry J B 'Gas' racer. It ran so well the club decided to take it to the Lions, CA dragstrip. The car did so well there they decided to go to Santa Anna on Sunday. There was such a difference in the two climates that the jets in all six carburetor's had to be changed. With club member, Wayne Boich, at the wheel, it got off to a good start. Quickly the car burst into flames. Three quarters of the way down the strip, Wayne bailed. He suffered burns to much of his body and had to be taken to the hospital. (A little aside, the Henry J crossed the finish line all by itself and was clocked at 70 some miles per hour.) Wayne had to be hospitalized so Ron and two others hooked up the Henry J and headed for Phoenix. On the way, they were involved in an accident. With Ron driving, Wayne's new '56 Chevy went up a small incline and turned over. It was a miracle the boys weren't hurt. The Henry J went down a embankment and landed on some railroad tracks. Unfortunately, the Henry J was in very bad shape. After all the commotion was over, the tired boys rode home on a bus. Ron traded his Chevy fastback for a '28 Roadster P.U. He kept this for fourteen years. It was his daily driver, street (?) as

well as drag racer. He entered it in the L.A. Roadster Show at Pomona, CA. There he enjoyed himself so much that he became an associate member of the L. A. Roadster Club. Ron was organizer and founding president of the Arizona Street Rod Association. He held this position for five years. ASRA was formed so they could be host club to the World of Wheels. For the 75th anniversary of the 32 Fords, Ron had a gathering at our home which he called 'Deuce Day.' There were 106 cars and over 225 participants that day. Sanderson Ford is now holding the show at their facility and it has become an annual event headed by George Walker.

I also was born in Phoenix, went to Creighton Elementary School, Camelback. After marriage and raising my three kids, I went to Glendale Community College to take a few classes. I was raised on a dairy farm and was pretty much of a tomboy. I started driving tractor at age 9 pulling the hay wagon while my dad tossed hay to the cows. I learned many jobs from being farmhand to selling milk products at the dairy's milk depot. For that dad paid me \$1 an hour and all the ice cream I could eat. Right after high school, I went to work for Herb Steven's Lincoln-Mercury. There I was surrounded by cars. I worked in the office and the parts department. Being cashier, I was supposed to ask for identification on customers' checks. My boss jokingly reprimanded me one day for not asking Jeff Chandler for I.D. when he came to retrieve his Lincoln Continental. I was so busy that the day went by fast. I wasn't a clock watcher except around time for me to go to the Waffle Shop. I loved a huge breakfast. I had a hollow leg then. (To all of you traveling OTHG--I have no will power now and I gained 8 lbs. on our trip.)

I was married and a daughter and two sons. During the time they were little, I worked for City Directory Services compiling directories for towns in Southern U.S., doing this at home while trying to keep an eye on three youngsters. One day my oldest son, then four, came running in the house telling me that the alley was on fire. I ran outside, saw that there was indeed a fire that was beginning to burn the fence. I called the fire department who had it put out in record time. A fireman asked how it got started and I said didn't know. He wanted to talk to my son. Why didn't I think of that? He was not supposed to be outside the yard. I went in the house to get him and found him hiding under his bed. I sold Tupperware and Avon. (Didn't every homemaker?) I also kept busy doing mom things, involved with my kids and their activities. My boys both played Little League and soccer and someone had to work in the snack shack, right? I also rode dirt bikes with my sons.

My uncle, Herb Backus, owned one of the fastest midgets in Arizona. I loved to go to the races especially going into the pit afterward. At old Phoenix Speedway, they had a race each week for those who wanted to try their hand at driving. This tall, lanky, shy kid with glasses, a junior at North High School was doing such a good job of driving other cars it prompted my uncle to ask him if he would like a ride in his midget. From that night on, Uncle Herb and Bobby Ball began what was to become a championship team. On Sundays I loved to hang around the shop and listen to the drivers as they relived their races. I remember Jimmy Bryan told his tales while chewing on an old cigar. Uncle Herb's garage was a regular hangout for Phoenix as well as CRA drivers. After Bobby's deadly injury, my family didn't follow racing any longer.

(continued on page 4)

Coming Events

<i>OTHG Business Meeting</i>	<i>Wed. August 4</i>	<i>Coco's 4514 E. Cactus Rd.</i>
<i>OTHG Board Meeting</i>	<i>Tues. August 17</i>	<i>Manuels-Cave Creek North of Cactus</i>
<i>OTHG Business Meeting</i>	<i>Wed. Sept. 1</i>	<i>Coco's 4514 E. Cactus Rd.</i>
Route 66 Days	Sept. 10-12	Flagstaff, Az John (928) 451-1204
<i>OTHG Board Meeting</i>	<i>Tues. Sept. 14</i>	<i>Manuels-Cave Creek North of Cactus</i>
Run to the Pines	Sept. 24-26	Pinetop, Az Bob & Linda (928) 368-5325
9th Annual Fall Car Show	Oct. 2	Full Moon Saloon, Sedona, Mike (928) 300-5809
Standin on the Corner	Oct. 2-3	Winslow, Az
Prescott High Country Rod Run	October 8-9	Historic Downtown Square-Frank (623) 533-7837
Cruise on Central	October 9	Park Central Mall-Nancy (602) 809-1766
Old Car Swap Meet	Oct. 23-24	SIR Dragstrip, Tucson, Lou (520) 293-3178
33 Annual CHVA Car Show	Oct. 24	SIR Dragstrip, Tucson, Lou (520) 293-3178
13th SW Nationals, Goodguys	Nov. 18-21	Westworld, Scottsdale, Az
OTHG Christmas Party	Dec. 11	Italian-American Club
Casa Grande Picnic	January 29	Casa Grande, Az
Goodguys	March 2011	Westword, Scottsdale Az

An excellent source for upcoming show information and printable information sheets, maps & registration forms is: www.cruisinarizona.com or www.desertcruisers.com

July Birthdays

Brenda Besore	7/17
Robin Christensen	7/27
Patricia Hann	7/28
Rich Christensen	7/31

July Anniversaries

Rich & Robin Christensen	7/3
Bob & Betty Bailey	7/10
Barry & Ruth Ann McGilvra	7/15
Ken & Carol Du Bois	7/25
Mike & Lynn Leas	7/26
Fred & Sue Elston	7/27

August Birthdays

Terry Scott	8/12
Linda Barnes	8/29

Please let me know if I don't have your birthdays and anniversaries.

You can e-mail me at jnolte@cox.net.