



Victoria Vintage View

Newsletter of the Victoria Chapter

May—June 2019

Bill Bouchard—Editor

This year there will be 11 Chapter vehicles along with their 21 passengers heading off to Nelson and the annual National May Tour. As an added bonus Paul Taylor arranged for a trip for our members in their travel. An overnight stop will be made in Osoyoos. Early information has Murray Firth with his 1970 Cutlass winning a 1st Place and Best in Class, and Finn Eriksen taking the Hard Luck Trophy with his 1966 Buick Convertible having a blown tire.

A Model T run is usually scheduled for Father's Day, but I haven't received any information yet. Stay tuned for Father's Day 2019 and the Model T run.

Camosun College will be having their annual Trades Awards Ceremony on May 29. Among the awards presented on that evening is the Robert Lawrence Vintage Car Award. You know that our Chapter has established that award and at this point I have confirmed Paul Taylor and YT as attending to represent the Victoria Chapter. We will have the award recipient profiled in the next newsletter.

In 1999 there was the final Malahat Challenge. Continuing after that our Island Challenge has taken the first weekend of September and this year it's the Island Autumn Tour taking place on September 6,7,8. The weekend is organized by the Nanaimo Chapter. It should be worth putting your name in for this tour weekend as it is close to home and they have a trip to Gabriola Island planned as part of the tour.

Swap Meet

If you're in a dark place and don't realize yet it is Swap Meet time next month. June 23 to be exact and there is still room for volunteers. Our Swap Meet is unable to operate effectively without the volunteers who are there for the Chapter to make this annual event. If you haven't put your name in yet there is still time to volunteer and you are needed.

March Sunday Run

This was a great day for a scheduled Sunday run, this one sponsored by Gordie and Jane Thomas. Thank you for organizing and leading the run, Gordie and Jane. There were 23 cars, 19 of those were the vintage era and the remainder modern. The cars transported 37 people and 33 were interested and hungry as well to enjoy the good services of the Spitfire Grill.



April Sunday Run

Another nice Sunday for a car run and dining out. There were 20 cars with 15 of those being vintage. The 20 cars carried 32 people but for some reason we only had 12 eating at JJ Morgan's. Tom & Ann Tams brought out there newly-restored 1962 Buick Skylark convertible. The run took the participants through a piece of Esquimalt, then on to Victoria, Oak Bay and Saanich. It was a great run organized by John King

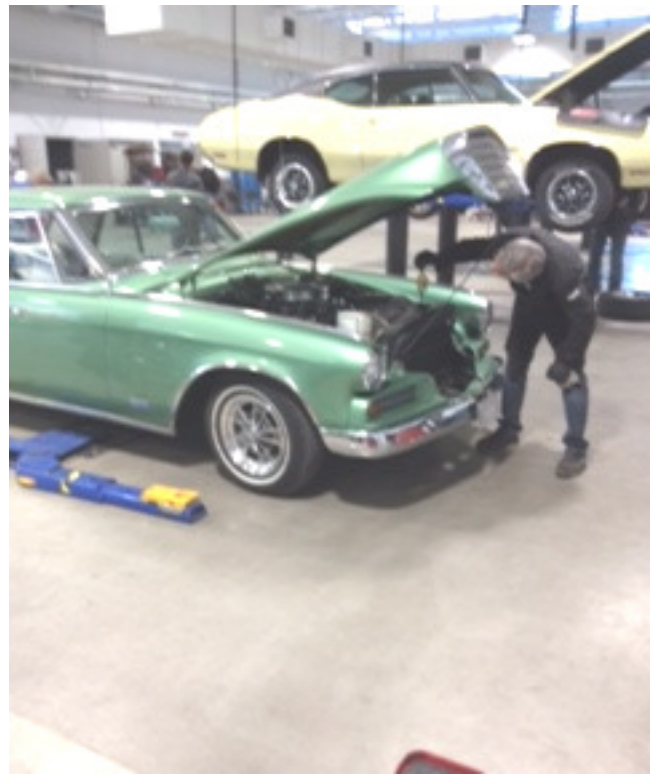


Victoria Chapter VinTech

I have just returned from our annual VinTech, sponsored by Camosun College School of Automotive. Two key members bring us together for this very worthwhile event. Pat Jones is Program Leader of the Automotive Service Technician Apprentice and Foundation Program at Camosun and our Victoria Chapter member. Then directly from our Chapter we have Paul Taylor and Liz Taylor who recruited member participation and put on the famous hot dog cookout. Actually hot dogs, chips, drinks.

The members who did participate received tremendous value as the vehicle inspections were first-class. The average inspection took about two hours and if you wanted a thorough report on vehicle condition, this was it. The participant list completed here includes members who brought out one of their vehicles.

David Hilder—	1966 Beaumont
Darryl Watkins—	1992 Cadillac Fleetwood
Finn Eriksen—	1966 Buick Electra
Heinz Mueller—	1987 Mercedes Benz
Gordie & Jane Thomas—	1934 Oldsmobile
John King—	1948 Dodge
Murray Firth—	1970 Olds Cutlass 442
Rob Hill—	1963 Studebaker
Brent Morrison—	1985 Cadillac
Len McIlwrick—	1969 Camaro Z28
Peter Klit—	1964 Ford Galaxie



Ode To The Buick Man –(Dedicated to his Wife)

B is for broke which is what we are, since he bought the old Buick car. Our budget was soon bent and busted, to fix up the motor and the parts that were rusted. When we complain, we hear from our honey, how it's the best investment for our money. Banks may fail and stock markets crash, but our old Buick "investment" soaks up our cash.

U is for an understanding spouse, when car parts are stashed all over the house. In the attic and under the bed, down in the basement and out in the shed. When asked to spend more of their time with you, they say with a pout, "there's worse I could do", instead of fooling around with old Buick cars, I could be out chasing women in bars."

I is for in the garage night and day, we think it is work, they see it as play. The tasks may take them months or years, nothing can stop them, neither our pleadings nor tears. They love to scrape, polish, and shine, remove old parts and take off their grime. Then they come in all sweaty and dirty, in the wink of an eye they want to flirty. Their body is all greasy and hot, an aphrodisiac it really is not. When they at last lay down their wee heads, they plan the next session while still in their beds. When the Buick is restored, all finished and done, they start reading Hemmings to find some more fun.

C is for cannot possible do, when asked to fix up the house for you. There is no time to wallpaper and paint, on their list of priority, chores are an ain't. I ain't gonna do it, I ain't got the time, I've got to go work on that Buick of mine.

K is for kooky, otherwise called "nuts", we should have them committed but we don't have the guts. We could send them to therapy or take them fishin', but the sight of an old car would cause a remission. I guess we will keep them just as they are, a man in love with his old Buick car. For no matter how hard, we may bitch and moan, there is no better way to keep him happy at home.

Thanks to Evelyn Wilson for writing this and Larry Wilson for submitting this for the Accelerator. My special thanks to our John King for thinking of us in providing the article.



Sunday run—May

A Sunday run in May, is usually a good call and this May was no exception. Lovely day and 27 members out with 14 vintage, 4 modern cars. Heinz Mueller was looking after this date and the run for me mostly was a reminder of certain experiences along our road of life. (You'll have to pardon me for that.) On our May 12 run we traveled through parts in Esquimalt, right in my old stomping grounds. Allow me to reminisce as I put personal experiences to Heinz' run.

Our first significant turn was to Tillicum at Burnside. This brought back the memories of Tillicum Outdoor Theatre, of a single guy driving a Consul or a '52 Chev. Then years later as a married man with two daughters and my '65 Barracuda was perfect as the back seat went down and the sleeping bags made up for a good bed for two daughters.

Back to the route and quickly back in time as we proceed on our drive to the Gorge Road. This brought memories of the early teen years, with the wonderful Sunday outings with the girlfriends' family, when after church we would visit their family. The house had a view over the Gorge waterway. A view that is now in much better shape today than it was years back as they have brought the Gorge back to the glory years.

Then as our Chapter's drive took us to the end of Gorge Rd and a couple of left turns to Craigflower Rd. and the Gorge Vale Golf Course where our favorite spots always yielded the golf balls for our spending money. We were youngsters then and I lived on Colville Road at the 11th fairway of the Gorge Vale Golf Course. The local grocery store on Tillicum and Craigflower was the usual destination for us kids. We would make short work of those purchases of the larger five scoop cones with the best ice cream that I think cost 12 cents . (The dairy on Yates was a close second!!)

Our drive continued over the E&N tracks up Lampson and a turn into the area now known as Rockheights. Years back and living on Colville Road we would always cross the train tracks close to home and head off to our numerous forts well hidden in what we knew then as "The Transfer". Special tree swings and our numerous forts made "The Transfer" a must do in the late 1940's and very early '50s. We seemed all alone in the woods that would in much later years become the large housing development now that looks like any other local neighborhood.

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Heinz's drive brought us out to Esquimalt Road close to our favorite beer parlour during my Naval days. Remember the section for "men" and the separate area for "Ladies and Escorts"? Now the new building is a featured liquor store and it sure is a nice looking building. Continuing on Esquimalt Road we made our turn on Canteen Road, at the eastern border of the massive parking lot where I parked for almost five years of service in the dockyard on ship and shore side. How come it was empty this day? Perhaps it's that all of the ships are at sea.

For this Sunday drive it would soon lead to Lyall Street, and this is a street, as a youngster, that I would terrorize with my tricycle. I think I was living there only long enough time for me to get to know that we had an army (PPCLI) in our neighborhood. Then a few quick turns and Heinz' drive took us to Esquimalt Road, the new bridge and back to all of the traffic. Soon we were tasked to find our reserved sitting at Bin 4 and get on with the eating at hand.

Thanks for the run Heinz, for returning me briefly to my childhood and my early adult days. Bill Bouchard



Pat Meehan brought his Model T and that was inspected last year. Harvey Sherman dropped in with his newly-restored Mercury but an inspection wasn't called for and Rudy Ewert brought his daily driver.

