

The Washington Cruisers Car Club

November 2021

President – Tim Lemley – 724-255-8900
Vice Pres – Cheryl Cunningham - 724-948-3059
Treasurer -- Jamie Leichty - 724-263-3335
Secretary – Sharon Lemley - 724-255-8900
Asst. Secretary - Rich Vlainich - 724-223-0881

Directors

Don Cunningham - 724-948-3059 Tom Shanor - 724-225-8714
Brent Liberatore - 724- 249-6050 Marian Clemens -724-255-2687

Membership:

Jamie Leichty...980 Thomas 84 Rd., Eighty Four, PA 15330

Merchandise: Tim 724-255-8900

Website: www.washingtoncruisers.com

Christmas Party

The Washington Cruisers will be having our Christmas Party Saturday December 4th, 2021 from 4–9 pm, with dinner at 5:00 pm. The location is Thomas Presbyterian Church Christian Center. The Center is located at 1068 Linden Rd, Eighty Four, PA 15330. Directions to Church: Take Rt. 19 to Waterdam Rd. in McMurray. Follow Waterdam Rd. 2.3 miles then the road turns into Thomas Rd., on slight bend. Follow Thomas Rd. approx. 1 mile. Make a slight right onto Linden Rd. Thomas Church Christian Center will be on your left (behind the church). Please enter through the front door. The cost per person of the catered buffet dinner is \$16.00. Members are permitted to bring guests; they will pay the same amount as members. **We ask that each family bring a dessert.**

The buffet consists of:

Breaded Chicken	Baked Ziti
Roast Beef/Gravy	Tossed Salad
Parsley Potatoes	Rolls/Butter
Coffee, Tea or Water	

Please return the form at the end of the newsletter NO later than Wednesday, November 24th, 2021. Due to the party being catered, NO exceptions after this date!!!

NO ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED IN THOMAS CHRISTIAN CENTER FACILITY

McDonald's Cruises

Another cruise season has come and gone. If you attended any of the cruises at the McDonald's restaurant you know we had issues with McDonald's locking the door during our cruise because lack of staff. This became quite an issue for attendees who wanted to eat or even use the restroom. We discussed these issues with the managers to no avail. After several people (even non club members) called their customer service number to complain, they still continued to lock the doors without notice!! I was told by the store manager that we were too much of a hassle to them!

I had a discussion with the regional manager and they have decided they do NOT want us to come back next year to hold our cruises. They feel with staff issues and no idea if it will get better next year, they can not commit to "Partner" with our club. I reiterated that the club has raise over \$56,000 the almost 30 years we have been in existence and all of the business that we have brought to their restaurant, but that didn't sway her decision. Believe me I tried my best!! So, as of now we are on the look out for a location to hold our Saturday night cruises. If anyone knows of a location, that would be big enough to hold our cruises, hold approximately 100 cars, that has food and a bathroom, please let one of the board members know. We will also will be looking for another charity to raise money for.
Jamie

With Sympathy

Walter Casson recently passed away. Our sympathies to Brenda and their family. Jack Cole's Mom recently passed away. Our sympathies to Jack & Sherry and their family.

Membership Dues

Now is the time to send in your 2022 dues. As always, the dues for current returning members are only \$20.00. Dues MUST be paid by January 31st, 2022. After that the dues are \$25.00!! **Please return the form at the end of the newsletter.**

Membership Meeting

The board will be working on the details and location for the annual membership meeting in January. Look for the information in the January 2022 newsletter. We also need a few more board members. Contact any board member for information.

Website

If you haven't visited the Washington Cruisers website lately you should check it out. Thanks to Brent, who takes great pictures, our gallery has a lot of new pictures of the cruises and super cruise. Check it out at **www.washingtoncruisers.com**

Get to know the Washington Cruisers

Four years ago, I barely gave a '32 Ford a second look. Then one night I saw the perfect 1932 Ford Fender less Highboy Sedan roll into the Mineral Beach Car Cruise, I was hooked. I did a lot of research and saved every picture of every '32 Ford I could find, and used them to map out exactly what I thought My version of the perfect '32 Ford would look like.

I started shopping around for a good project car, and saw what they were bringing \$\$\$. Then I stumbled upon a company that made fiberglass bodies and realized that a "glass" car would be more realistic, budget wise. Plus, No rust, No cutting and grinding, No making patch panels and floor pans, No hours of scraping off undercoating and layers of old paint.

The company I chose was located in South Carolina and they put up a good front and made lots of promises. So, I made a deal with them to make a Vicky body, and put it on a new Speedway Motors rolling Chassis. The promise was for a High-Quality Body on a Pro Built Chassis and all to be done in 3 Months. After many, many excuses and 10 months later, I was on my way to South Carolina with a trailer to bring back my prize!

Well as most stories go, the "Quality" did not live up to the Promises. The fit and finish was not that great, the welding on the Chassis looked like a third grader did it, but they had my deposit and I was desperate to get my car done, so I accepted what they delivered... (for what I paid for a Complete Body on a Rolling Chassis, I would have gotten only a Body from a Reputable Builder). So, I think in the long run I got what I paid for and still ended up ahead of the game.

In the 10 months while I was waiting, I had purchased a new Crate Motor and Tremec 5 Speed Transmission, Headlights, Tail Lights, Radiator, Steel Hood and Grille Shell, Wheels and Tires, Wiring harness, Seats and Material for the Upholstery, and the millions of other little parts required to build a car.

Once I Refitted the doors, Reworked the hinges, Redid all the body lines, Straightened the roof and cowl, Reinforced the floor and firewall, Cut almost all of the welds out of the Chassis and rewelded them. I then spent what seemed like endless hours filling and sanding the new "Perfect" body that they made for me to get it to where I was ready to paint the Car. My son Matt came over to my shop and sprayed the paint. (He is younger and can see better than me). I then did the wet sanding and buffing. The Paint turned out Perfect.

Once painted, I assembled all of the parts that I had accumulated and it went together relatively fast, being as I had built it in my sleep over and over in the 10 months while I waited to get the body built. From the time I rolled the car into my shop to the time I drove it out, was a total of 10 Months. I think it turned out to be a very nice-looking car.

I was going for a "Nostalgic", just rolled it out of an old barn look. So, I went with Bias Ply Tires from Coker Tire and Artillery Wheels. I added a tilt out Windshield, and a working Cowl Vent, and a metal Cowl Band. All three are something you don't see on fiberglass cars. I chose to go with a polished stainless steel Straight Axle with Hairpins and Batwings, and a Chromed Vega Steering Box. The interior is bare bones, No Heat, No Radio, No A/C, No Power Steering, No Power Brakes... Just two Seats and a Steering wheel.

I now have 2600 miles on it and all of the bugs worked out (there really where none). BUT, I have come to the conclusion that Bias Ply Tires, while looking really cool, are not driver friendly. So, I replaced them with Radials, and Also, there is a reason they quit using Manual Vega steering boxes on cars, they too look cool but are in reality, Junk. So that got replaced with a Cross Steer Half Rack.

I have finally built a Car that I think is going to be a "Keeper" and is a Blast to drive!



Mike Leichty's 1932 Ford Vicky

If you would like to be included in the "Getting to know Washington Cruisers Members" please send an article and picture to: jamie110@verizon.net

Welcome new members

Bob & Pamela Daniels and their 1968 Chevy Chevelle.

Gary & Elayne Scherer and their 1969 Camaro SS and 2013 Cadillac Escalade.



Membership Dues \$20.00 (by Jan. 31st, 2022)

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

Phone # _____

How would you like to receive your newsletter, via home address or email? _____

Email address _____

Make check payable to: **Washington Cruisers**

Mail to: Jamie Leichty 980 Thomas 84 Rd., Eighty Four, PA 15330

Cut here

Christmas Party Dec. 4th, 2021

Names _____

Guests' Names _____

TOTAL # OF ADULTS AT \$ 16.00 EACH _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to: Washington Cruisers

Send to: Jamie Leichty 980 Thomas 84 Rd. Eighty Four, PA 15330

Return this form by Nov. 24th, 2021. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**