



Cascade Pacific Plymouth Club, Inc.

Affiliate of Plymouth Owners Club, Inc. Founded 2000

DEDICATED TO THE
PRESERVATION & RESTORATION OF ALL
PLYMOUTH AUTOMOBILES



Volume Twenty-Three, Issue Three

Clackamas, Oregon

March 2023

SMS fabrics are amazing. So is the story behind the business



By Gary Rusher

If you missed the Saturday tour of SMS Fabrics you missed checking out an amazing facility. But most of all you didn't get to hear the story of the beginnings of an amazing business.

Doug started out as a co-owner op-

erating a small auto repair business in North Portland. Some of their business was repairing cars for overseas shippers.

Soon they started asking if he could repair upholstery as well. His partner did not want to get into that so Doug started a side business at his home. Then there was the question of getting the various fabrics. Soon he found he needed to have more space and moved

into a separate facility.

Two moves later and he now has a HUGE facility in Canby that has, in his words, "40 to 50 thousand" rolls of fabric. All catalogs to show the make and model of vehicle that it goes to. Yes, he has hundreds of the original fabric books from the different auto manufacturers. If they don't have it they have mills to reproduce it.

(continued on page 7)

**CPPC will be meeting
AT THE CLUBHOUSE
on March 28, 2023**



**SHINE UP YOUR CAR –
WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!**

Portland Swap Meet 2023 is a no-go for CPPC

By Robin Will

We reluctantly cancelled CPPC's participation in Portland Swap Meet for 2023 because a couple of last-minute developments eliminated some of the help we were counting on.

We just made the deadline for refunds of our payments from last year, so we'll be seeing a refund of \$360 in due time.

The three-day run of Portland Swap Meet requires 26 hours of coverage – 13 two-hour shifts. We like to schedule two people per shift and sometimes three, plus additional help jockeying the trailer in on Thursday and out on Sunday.

We couldn't do that this year. We'll assess all of our options, and perhaps try again next year.

Minutes of February's membership meeting

From minutes taken by Robin Will

Cascade Pacific Plymouth Club met on February 28, 2023, at Clackamas Community Club, 15711 SE 90th Ave., Clackamas, OR. Fourteen members were present.

Robin Will took the minutes.

President Jim Wheat called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and led the membership in the flag salute.

Jim mentioned new club members who had joined recently: Evan Sether, Corvallis; and Ronald Friedrich, Clackamas.

Jim thanked Donna and Mike Bade for bringing refreshments, and noted there were still vacancies on the refreshment schedule for March, July, and September.

Swap Meet Coordinator Robin Will reported on the status of sign-ups, and said it appeared we could support a booth focused on membership instead of sales, using only half of the normal space. Robin circulated a scale drawing of how the booth might be laid out. (UPDATE: Swap Meet participation was cancelled on March 13, 2023, due to logistic problems, in time to claim a refund of space rent paid last year.)

Car Show Coordinator John Cooper reported on planning for the June 17 event, and circulated a sign-up sheet for workers.

Jim Wheat asked if members would prefer to meet at 6:00PM rather than 7:00PM. There was general discussion but no conclusion.

Dues update: as of the February 28 meeting, approximately half of club members had paid dues.

Newsletter editor/webmaster Robin Will thanked the eight people who contributed articles or photos to the CPPC newsletter and mentioned that he routinely gets feedback from several national POC members about club activities. The club website continues to draw 1,000-1,200 unique visitors per month. Attention to activities and photos is picking up, post-COVID, but most of the hits are going to information articles and downloads of miscellaneous newsletters.

Mindy Benfield recapped the May-

flowers' Sandy Museum tour in February, and circulated a sign-up sheet for the tour of Mt. Angel on March 9.

Gary Rusher circulated sign-up sheet for his March 4 tour of S&S Auto Fabrics in Canby, a world-class facility for fabric and vinyl auto interior restoration.

Mike Bade had to cancel a garage tour due to snow in February, and he'll need to get with the host, Darryl Schroeder, to reschedule.

Jake Higginbotham reminded members that his 1949 Plymouth Business Coupe will be in the Salem Roadster Show, in the Finn's Auto Restoration booth.

Member Care: Stephanie Willis is scheduled for another surgery and then more rehab following her car crash. Vera Rusher is home from rehab and doing better.

Presentation for the evening was about the trip Mike Bade and Jake Higginbotham took to the Grand National Roadster Show in Pomona, CA, in February. They managed to be all over greater Los Angeles when all was said and done, and naturally, Mike took a lot of pictures.

Door prizes were won by Donna Bade, Robin Will, and Dave Benfield. Bob Derbyshire won the 50/50 jackpot.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM

**Seventy-two
members have
already paid
2023 dues.**

*Forty-eight
members still need
to step up before we
send the roster
to press.*

CPPC Officers 2021

President, Jim Wheat, 661-361-9378

Vice-President, Jake Higginbotham,
503-348-2428

Treasurer, Dolores Call 503-723-5118

Board Chair, Mike Bade 503-702-2480

At-large, Joanne Dixon 360-608-6171

Standing Committees

Membership, Mike Bade 503-702-2480

Newsletter, Website

Robin Will 503-285-3437

robin@robinwill.com

Mayflower Events

Susan Yates, 503-705-6416

Mindy Benfield, ben1323@aol.com

Refreshments Coordinators

Dennis Mowery 503-663-1204

Technical Advisors

Randy Ealy 503-864-8111

Member Care

Lorraine Griffey 503-666-2222

Club Activities

Jim Wheat 661-361-9378

Portland Swap Meet

Robin Will 503-285-3437

Down by the Riverside Car Show

Randy & Pam Ealy, 503-864-8111

Membership & Dues:

Cascade Pacific Plymouth Club, Inc. dues

are \$25.00 per calendar year

Membership runs January 1 through
December 31.

Concurrent membership to the National
Plymouth Owners Club is required. plym-
outhbulletin.com/members.htm

Mailing Address:

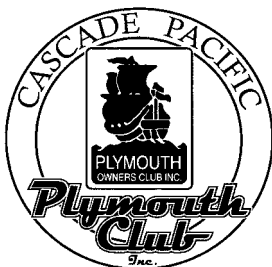
P.O. Box 2988, Clackamas, OR 97015

Website:

www.CascadePacificPlymouth.org

Email contact:

info@cascadepacificplymouth.org



Freemans' '37 adds class to Corvallis renovation tour

Sometimes it seems like D.J. Freeman simply has more fun than the rest of us.

A gentleman who recently renovated a building in downtown Corvallis put out a request for cars from the 1920-1940s to park in front to add period-correct atmosphere when he held his open house.

D.J. and Cynthia were the first to arrive at the March 1 event. They parked in front as instructed, met the doorman – *the doorman, for heaven's sake* – and took his picture with their car. They toured the project – an upstairs office suite renovated to the feel of the 1920s – and hobnobbed for a while. Upon leaving, they learned their car had “earned” a substantial gift card, so they went out to dinner.

“Reserved parking space, sunny day, free dinner. What great time,” D.J. said.



Wooden Shoe Festival tour is in TBD status as we go to press

While Mike and Donna Bade are touring Spain, Mike is still working on activities for the Plymouth Club.

Barring a serious rainstorm or a cold snap, the tulips will be at their peak about April 22, and the Wooden Shoe farm will be swarming with visitors. The farm has suggested a ticket price for that day.

But they also suggested a deeper discount and lighter crowds if we go a little earlier – late March or early April.

The flowers may be in early stages of bloom, but the crowds won't be so severe, and tickets will cost less..

We'll alert members by email when the decision is made.

Got a January 2004 newsletter you can share with Joanne?

To All CPPC Members, If you have a January 2004 newsletter or can even make a copy of the entire newsletter and send it to me I would be so very grateful. Please send to Joanne Dixon, 3515 NE 97th Ave., Vancouver, Wa. 98662

2023 ACTIVITIES

April, 2023

April (tbd) – Mayflower Tour, Hoover-Minthorn House Museum in Newberg

April (Saturday TBD) – *Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival - TBA - *No Tickets available until March 21, 2023*

April 23 (Sunday) – The Corvallis Auto Swap Meet and ‘Dust ‘em Off’ Car Show is Sunday at 7am, Benton County Fairgrounds.

May, 2023

May (tbd) – Mayflower Tour, Crystal Springs Rhododendron Gardens in Portland

May 13 (Saturday) – *Portland Transmission Car Show - TBA

May 20 (Saturday) – *Bridge Tour of Marion County & the Oregon Gardens - Silverton, OR - Host: Randy Ealy

June, 2023

June 17 (Saturday) – *Down by the Riverside Cruise-In - Clackamette Park, Oregon City, OR

July, 2023

July (tbd) – Luscher Farms in Lake Oswego

July (TBA) – *Senior Center - Sunnyside Road - Clackamas, OR - Host: Jim Wheat

July 16th (Sunday) – *Woodburn Drags - Mopar Nationals Weekend - Host: Dave Benfield or Mark Childs

August, 2023

August (tbd) – Mayflower Tour, Vancouver Waterfront and Officer's Row

August 5 (Saturday) – *Gladstone Car Show - Gladstone, OR



OFF THE HOOK – 5-speed swap for Mopar flatheads

(Editor's note: Most of us have wished at one time or another that our old Plymouths weren't so stressed at highway speeds. Over the years, one solution has been to install an overdrive unit out of a DeSoto, but we live in a world where most people don't even know what a DeSoto is. Similarly, I have heard – but not verified – that the differential gearset out of a pre-1949 Chrysler Windsor will make the Plymouth longer-legged, but those are 74-year-old parts if you can get them. I was happy to see this solution in another POC region's newsletter, and to discover the business belongs to Russ Nardi, who has been active in the national club for longer than I have been a CPPC member. I don't usually do blatant commercials in this newsletter, but I'm making an exception in this case.)

By Russ Nardi

If you want to make your 1933-1959 Chrysler, Dodge, DeSoto or Plymouth vehicle more drive-able and safe, put a T5 5 speed manual overdrive transmission in it! You can use most T5 transmissions from the Mustang or S10/Camaro/Firebird vehicles.

There is a small amount of research necessary on your part but once you select the transmission that best suits your application, the conversion is a simple bolt in procedure.

The only outside resource you will need is to have a new driveshaft made with the correct front yoke.

Our basic kit comes with the adapter plate, Special clutch disc, pilot bearing and attaching hardware. Optional or additional parts are available if you need to replace original, worn out components.

Our patent pending adapter plate is made from high strength aluminum and has stainless steel inserts for durability. Our special design clutch disc uses the highest quality facing material for long life and durability. A specially designed pilot bushing adapter allows for precise alignment and extra grease capacity for long life. Hardened bolts give the plate additional durability.

About Our Company

We made our first T5 adapter kits in



Adapter installed on Flathead Bellhousing.

2006 and have sold hundreds of them to enthusiasts all over the world! We are car guys. We have experience in restoring, and making vintage cars our life's work and continue to do so today.

Headquartered in Michigan, where cars are in our blood, we have the technology available to us to manufacture the best parts available. When you contact us, we have car guys who answer your questions and assist you with restoration advice for your car.

The cost of the kit was \$445 as of 12/20/2022. Postage inside the USA is \$25.00. For up to date information, visit our website: www.5speedadapter.com, or contact Russel's Automotive at 586-566-5838 or email Russels.adapters@gmail.com.



S-10 Adapter Kit



Ford/Camaro/Firebird Adapter Kit

Cascade Pacific Plymouth Club Technical Committee 2023

The committee meets the 4th Wednesday of each month, and other times as they are needed, gladly making house calls where necessary. Call Randy Ealy at 503-864-8111 if you need assistance.

Randy Ealy, 503-864-8111 prealy48@gmail.com, Dayton, OR

Marlo Edman, 503-936-4624 medman@teleport.com Portland, OR

Phil Lapin, 503-816-5644 philzmap@gmail.com, Boring, OR

Dennis Mowery, 503-663-1204 jenmowery@aol.com, Boring, OR

David Pollock, 250-743-4859 dnpollock@shaw.ca Shawnigan Lake, BC

Philip Post, 541-535-1860 harrigerj@charter.net Talent, OR

Gary Rusher, 503-939-9320 chiefgr@hotmail.com, Wilsonville, OR

Bob Westphal 360-334-6037 bobwestphal@hotmail.com, Vancouver, WA

Jim Wheat, 661-361-9378 jawheat@gmail.com, Lake Oswego, OR

Carmen Dannunzio, 484-886-6115, c.dannunzio53@gmail.com, West Chester, PA

We will do all we can to help you with your car. NOTE: Keep this list handy for future use.

Mayflowers visit Mt. Angel Abbey, a famed mid-valley destination

By Mindy Benfield

On Thursday March 9th six members of the Mayflowers met at the Mount Angel Abbey, which sits high on a hill-top with beautiful views of the Willamette Valley, the Cascades and the Pacific Coast Mountain range. Mount Angel Abbey is a Benedictine Community founded in 1882 by Swiss Monks. The Monks who live there dedicate themselves to studying, work, prayer and silence.

Our self guided walking tour took us to three of the most prominent buildings in the complex. Our first stop was the library which was rebuilt in the early 1960's. It replaced the original one that burnt down in 1926. A famous Finnish Architect, Alvar Aalto, designed it and most of the furniture, cabinets, shelving and light fixtures in the building.

Next we toured the Abbey Church which is considered the center of life on the Hill. The Romanesque style church houses two organs. The largest of the two is in the choir loft and has 2478 pipes!

Our last stop was the Abbey Museum. There is original art and many displays of 'preserved' animals, large and small. There is quite a cross section of displays of all kinds, both old and new, from many cultures.

On the way into Silverton for lunch at the Glockenspiel Restaurant and Pub, we made a quick stop at St. Mary's Church to look inside. It was built between 1910 and 1912 in the style of

Gothic Revival Architecture. It is beautiful, especially with all of its stained glass windows.

Plans are underway for the next Mayflower outing. It will happen towards the end of April, so stay tuned for more information. There will be a sign up sheet at the next general meeting.

(See more photos of the Mayflowers' Mt. Angel tour at the Activities tab on CascadePacificPlymouth.org. There were two top-notch photographers on the tour, and between them they too more pictures than we're able to share here.)



One old Plymouth wasn't enough: check out the new addition to Phil and Rose Ann Hall's garage

By Phil Hall

Somehow Rose Ann and I got it into our heads that we would like to own an early 1930's Plymouth. We had talked about it off and on for many, many years. What moved the topic from talk to action was coming across a beautiful 1931 Plymouth Sport Roadster for sale. We went to see the car but were unable to close the deal. Although unsuccessful with the roadster, we learned a lot from the experience.

First of all, we learned that we had not adequately researched the roadster before going to see it. For other subsequent cars that caught our interest, we would go online to see whatever the internet had to offer regarding that particular car. In addition, we contacted the Plymouth Owners Club technical adviser to discuss that par-



ticular model Plymouth. Then, using the Plymouth Owners Club roster, we contacted a number of club members who owned the model Plymouth that we were looking at. Some of the dialogue was by email or text; however, we found that phone conversations were the easiest and most productive. These discussions were extremely helpful.

(continued on page 7)

SHOWTIME! (Left) Jake Higginbotham's 1949 Plymouth Business Coupe isn't quite finished, but it was close enough to display in Finn's Auto Restoration booth at the Salem Roadster Show, an invitation-only event. Jake is itching to get his hands on the coupe and actually drive. (Right) Randy and Annette Wells showed their "sweet" '69 Plymouth Roadrunner and their "rowdy" '38 Plymouth rumble seat coupe at the Portland Roadster Show. Both cars won in their class.





BODY SHOP & REPAIRS

Pam Ealy has taken over the role of coordinator for CPPC's Member Care. Please keep her up to date about members who need cards, letters, e-mails or phone calls. Contact Pam at 503-864-8111 or via email at prealy@gmail.com. You may also relay messages directly to your newsletter editor: robin@robinwill.com

Stephanie Willis is still recovering from the car crash last December that injured her legs and set her up for multiple surgeries and lots of rehab. Phone # is 971.420.7525, and calls are welcome.

NUTS & BOLTS: Board meeting highlights

From minutes taken by Robin Will

The Board of Directors of Cascade Pacific Plymouth Club met on Tuesday, March 13, 2023, at Black Bear Diner in Wilsonville, Oregon, immediately after the Cruise-In Committee meeting.

Present were Jake Higginbotham, Joanne Dixon, Mike Bade, Donna Bade, and Robin Will. Robin Will took the minutes.

Mike Bade called the meeting to order at 11:39AM.

Minutes of the February 14, 2023, board meeting were approved as published in the CPPC newsletter.

Treasurer Dolores Call's financial report was approved as submitted. The club does not publish our bank balance, but we remain in good financial condition, and any board member can provide specifics. As of the meeting, 59 members had paid dues, and 61 had not. Donna Bade will make reminder phone calls before the club roster is updated for the year.

Mike noted another \$200 in eBay sales which will eventually appear in the club treasury.

Jake Higginbotham will be speaker at the March 28 club meeting.

Joanne Dixon mentioned two places among CPPC lists where deceased members' names show up, and suggested some lists that need immediate attention.

Joanne also suggested that we draw ideas for future speakers from the lists of sponsors who support our cruise-in each year.

Robin Will recapped his decision to cancel participation in Portland Swap

Meet: problematic in load-in and load-out logistics, and not enough people signed up to keep two people in the booth at all times. A refund of our space rental has already been okayed by email, and a check will be mailed from Portland Swap Meet.

Since Swap Meet is one of CPPC's revenue sources, more emphasis will need to be put on other venues to take up the slack. There was general discussion about evaluating the contents of the trailer for increased Internet sales, but no hard plans were developed.

The meeting adjourned as 12:29PM.

Halls' new convertible, *continued from page 5*

From our experience with the roadster, we also learned that we did not have a methodical approach to looking at a potential car to buy. To fix this, we developed a checklist for looking at potential buys.

Here is our check list when buying an early 30's Plymouth.

Old Cars Price Guide value for the car?

Condition of paint, chrome engine bay, upholstery, headliner, carpet, pedals, steering wheel, dash?

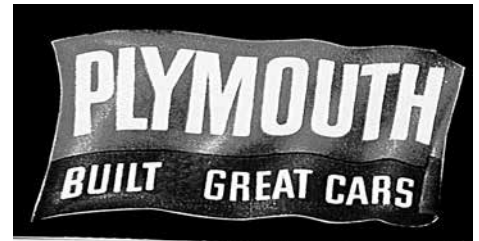
All lights and gauges work? Parking lights, brake lights, directional lights, low beam, high beam, generator, starter, horn, oil pressure gauge, temperature gauge, gas gauge, amperes gauge?

What kind of oil pressure does the car hold? Does the electrical charging system work?

Wheel wobble on test drive indicat-

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Allen Faltus	3
Dan Davis	3
Vera Gruenewald	5
Nancy Sebastian	6
Gary Petersen	10
Bob Orme	13
Gerry Petersen	14
Amy Goff	19
Ann Klinger	21
Retha Harden*	21
Beth Pierce	23
Debora Splinter	23
Diane Taylor	27



ing possible problems with front wheel bearings, kingpins, or spring shackles? Vibration in steering wheel?

Drips, condition of undercarriage? Any lost motion in universal joints? Condition of universal boots?

Do brakes pull evenly under a hard stop when out of gear from about 35 to 40 MPH? Car stops straight, does not stall?

Does the car wander? Does the car track or hunt? Response of car when hands free?

Excessive play in steering? Hard steering?

Operation of overdrive or free-wheeling?

How old are the tires?

Coolant clarity?

Feel under fender edges for condition of bead indicating fender repairs? Any repaired fender cracks? Alignment of doors and hood? Doors, hood, rumble seat open and close smooth? Door locks work?

SMS Auto Fabrics, *continued from page 1*

What came next was the story about how he found a man (sorry I can't recall his name) who put together machinery that will reproduce any texture and pattern in vinyl. And then the story of how to reproduce original style door panels.

Some 20-plus members had a great outing and learned a lot about the auto fabric business. Hope you get a chance to go next time.



Halls' new convertible, *continued from page 6*

Easy start, smooth idle? Snappy response when revving from idle? Accelerator response? Hesitate when taking off?

Smooth clutch, smooth upshift, smooth downshift?

Listen for knocks, preignition
Windshield wipers work?

Questions to seller: Start with a simple, open-ended: Tell us about the car? Are there any quirks to be aware of? Details of any engine repair or rebuild? Have poured bearings been replaced with inserts? Hardened valve seats? Engine balanced when rebuilt? Any spare parts go with the car? Any original tools go with the car? Any literature goes with the car? Maintenance history: oil change, tune ups, brake adjustments, etc.?

For the test drive, I asked the seller to take me for a drive and then at the half-way point, we would change positions and I would drive the car back. At this point, we applied the final item on our checklist: if you aren't smiling while driving the car down the road, then this isn't your car.

Well, all is well that ends well. We are now the very pleased owners of a lovely 1931 Plymouth Convertible Coupe.

I'm lookin for a set of running boards for a 1941 Plymouth sedan delivery. Allan Howard, a270bar@gmail.com

1937 plymouth 2dr sedan parts rear axle complete \$100 front seat good condition \$150 heater\$30 6volt horn \$20 I'm located outside of Salt Lake City Utah call John or text 801 864 6479

For sale – NOS Deck Lid, 1936, fits trunk back sedan, fits Chrysler, Plymouth, Dodge, DeSoto. \$400, you must pick it up, West Chester, PA. Carmen Dannunzio, 484-886-6115.



To all my car collecting, junk yard cruising, needle in a haystack friends out there: looking for a trunk lid for a 1967-1969 Plymouth Barracuda Notchback or convertible Any help would be greatly appreciated. Randy Wells, randy@rasnw.com

Wanted: 1937-1941 mech parts, P4-P12, engine (original), trans 3 on floor '73, 1941 3 speed on column and small mech parts, 47-41 Plymouth. Want body parts (sheet metal) 1937-41 hoods, front/rear fenders, deck lids, doors, bumpers. Want original jacks & tools, '37-'41. Want factory literature, '-37-'41. Carmen Dannunzio, 484-886-6115.



Looking for an exhaust manifold for a 1948 Plymouth 218 CI.23" block. Bob Hanson, Chandler AZ, 602-809-8424 (See pic)



I am looking to sell my '65' Barracuda Project. Car has no major rust, and comes with a 1970 slant 6 motor. Asking price is \$4,100 OBO. I believe it has all of the necessary trim to finish as well as several duplicate parts. I also have 4 back windows that will go with this sale. color is Gold on Gold. Push button automatic car. I can be reached at the contact info below. Clark Taylor (360) 921-4636, Clark-taylor@Msn.com

We found this on Facebook – white on dark blue. Order them through the POC website. \$5.00

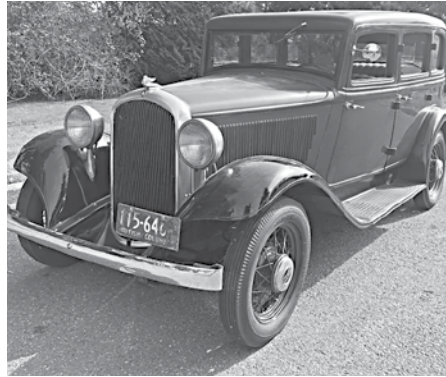




For sale – 1942 Plymouth P14C Town Sedan staff car, very rare, fanatical nut-and-bolt restoration, from Bill Call's collection. As is/where is, \$40,000. Located in Clackamas, OR. Todd Call, tcall23403@mac.com, 503-799-5154.



For sale, 1939 Ply 2dr Sedan. All stock. Work done on metal restoration. Fresh paint. All body work done. Orig power train plus extra engine & trans. More details on CascadePacificPlymouth.org. \$9,000 OBO. Jake, 503-678-1712.



FOR SALE, 1932 Plymouth P B: I have rebuilt the engine. Also the brakes have been rebuilt. She runs great. All original. My price is \$ 11,000 cdn . With the American dollar being worth more than the Canadian dollar, this is something to consider. jbaileymed@hotmail.com

We want to keep old stuff in circulation, so advertising of Plymouth-related goods and services is free on a non-commercial basis. CPPC membership not required. Ads are published on a space-available basis, and edited ruthlessly to fit. Everything here is duplicated or expanded on CascadePacificPlymouth.org. Please remember to tell us when your stuff sells, so we can pull your ad. Contact the editor, robin@robinwill.com with your words and pictures.

For sale – (3) 1938 Plymouth steel wheels for sale 17.5" x 5" – great shape - \$200 (pictures on website) Clark Taylor – (360) 921-4636

Wanted – 1938 Plymouth Passenger side Headlight bucket. (will take drivers also if you have). Clark Taylor – (360) 921-4636

1949 Plymouth P-17 Car Parts for Sale (Note: all parts listed are used take-offs.)

Complete front bench seat (blk leather) \$200.
Gas tank with sending unit, holding staps (no rust) \$150.

Contact Jake Higginbotham. 503-678-1712



Vintage Magazines! Approx 70 issues of Popular Science, Popular Mechanix, Mechanix Illustrated + others. 1930s thru 1950s. \$75 for all! Pickup in Hillsboro. ALL MONEY GOES TO CPPC!!! Email Dan Davis: dandavis1981@yahoo.com

FOUNDED 1957

CLACKAMAS, OR 97015
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Affiliate of Plymouth® Owners Club, Inc.

Plymouth Club, Inc.
Cascade Pacific