



The Motor Mouth

Oh, oh, oysters!

Birders slurp swiftly shucked succulent specimens



Shuckermeister Michael Perry (in blue hat) leads PSEB oyster lovers in Oyster Shucking 101, sharing his revolutionary easy-shuck method: Insert the knife in the middle of the shell opening, not at the end. From left, students are Gordon Thorne, Ray Vingo, Margaret Vingo, Phil McCurdy, Ted Austin and Duane Niemi.

Photo by Joni Bayler

PSEB must be doing something right! For the second month in a row, our event was planned for the best day of the week. After days and days of rain and gray, Sunday, May 4, presented itself with bright sun, blue skies and enough UV rays to give some of us a bit of a burn. Snaking our way along beautiful Hood Canal to the Perrys' fabulous waterfront home in Belfair, we arrived poised and ready for fellowship, great seafood and the fun of being together.

Sipping late-morning coffee on the huge L-shaped deck, we waited for the perfect low-tide moment to descend stairs and begin harvesting the oysters just waiting to be plucked from the beach.

There we were, armed with buckets of all colors, and there was no digging, no searching, no effort. We just found the ones that called our names and popped them in.

Once we'd gathered our share of the morsels -- plus as many as we wanted to take home -- our host, Michael Perry, the Shuckermeister -- shared his secret to being a shucking machine: Insert the oyster knife in the middle of the shell opening, not in the end as conventional wisdom suggests. With

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T-Bird Time Travelers

That'll be us on **June 21** when PSEB steps back in time at **Port Gamble's Civil War reenactment**. Then we'll caravan to **Tom and Susan Harris' home** for a **barbecue and potluck**. See page 7 for details.

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A Berry Good Time

is planned for **July 13** when we caravan along the back roads of Vashon Island for the annual Strawberry Festival car parade and fun.

Registration deadline is

June 13. See page 10 for the form and send in now!





AS THE TIRES TURN

Snow met spring sunshine in the North Cascades as Judy and I motored along this past week in the family flivver, checking out the entire 360 miles of scenic highways, rivers, mountain ranges and colorful little towns we'll visit on the Sept. 12-15 Cascades Loop tour. The mountain scenery was more spectacular than I had remembered, especially the portion from Diablo to Mazama. The words "stunning" and "breathtaking" come to mind.

A hugely large thank you to Michael and Christine Perry for their flawless May oyster shuck-and-feed event at their Belfair beach home on Hood Canal. It was the largest turnout of the year, with almost everyone showing up in their Little Birds. Michael really knows his stuff about oysters, including showing all of us how to speed shuck. It



was a beautiful, sunny day, with good food, good times, good friends and great cars.

I have never been to a Civil War reenactment before, so am really looking forward to the June 21 PSEB event at Port Gamble, followed by another good potluck at Tom and Susan Harris' home. This is an official, sanctioned historical portrayal and promises to be both entertaining -- and loud!

But first, this week Stan Liebenberg and I will ferry across to Vashon Island to plan the scenic route and classic car parade particulars for our July 13 tour to the town of Vashon, site of the 91st annual Strawberry Festival. It'll be a day of hot music, warm sun, cool cars and cold homemade strawberry ice cream -- and a variety of other delicious eats. Sounds like a good way to spend a summer day!

-- *Gordon Thorne, President.*

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THE MOTOR MOUTH

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Official monthly publication of the Puget Sound Early Birds, chapter 81 of Classic Thunderbird Club International.

Members are encouraged to submit articles written by themselves or others. All submissions are subject to editing and space available.

Deadline: 20th of the preceding month

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Our Mission: To encourage and promote the preservation, admiration, ownership, enjoyment and restoration of the 1955, 1956 and 1957 Ford Thunderbirds.

Web site:

www.pugetsoundearlybirds.org



(continued from page 1)

great enthusiasm, we followed his lead until some -- in particular Phil McCurdy, Ray Vingo and Gordon Thorne -- could wait no longer and had to slurp the tasty morsels on the spot. Ah, the looks of glee, satisfaction, and just plain pleasure on their faces.

But the best was yet to come! While Christine brought out already shucked-and-chilled raw oysters and her special butter-and-Tabasco dipping sauce, Michael prepared two huge pans of Angels on Horseback, oysters wrapped in bacon and then oven baked. But wait -- there was more: Michael barbecued open oysters halves and served them with a delicious ketchup and horseradish sauce.

And when we'd almost had our fill, we turned to the potluck table for a tasty variety of salads, baked beans and fried chicken (for those not into bivalves). Although thoroughly sated, we still had room for desserts.

But it was the after-dinner entertainment that really got our attention. Little did we know that our host, Michael Perry, is a wonderful entertainer. His stellar rendition of "Harvey and Sheila" won him many new fans and solidified his future as the Bard of PSEB. The extraordinary conclusion to a perfect day was beyond all expectation.

The event gave us the chance to welcome back Thom and Joni Bayler, recently home from a many-month motor coach tour of the U.S. It was wonderful to see them again. Also attending were Ray and Margaret Vingo, Ted and Charline Austin, Bill and Doris Hummel, Mike and Sandi Talbot, Der and Judy Roupe, Duane Niemi (Nancy was out



The Top Ten Reasons why the Perrys' oyster feed was so great:

- 10. Sunshiny, blue skies, warm weather.
- 9. Great turnout; the largest of the year.
- 8. About a zillion oysters right in front of the house begging, "Take me!" "No, take *me!*"
- 7. Getting personal lessons in Oyster Shucking 101 -- we learned a lot about how to do it right.
- 6. Three yummy, delicious ways to serve and enjoy oysters.
- 5. Slurping raw oysters in sauce right off the beach.
- 4. Some marvelous side dishes to go with the oysters.
- 3. A lovely setting.
- 2. Warm, gracious and congenial hosts.

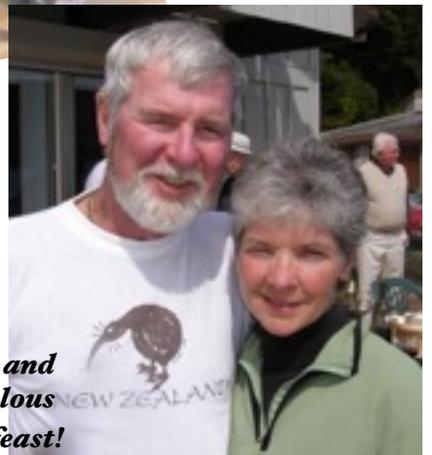
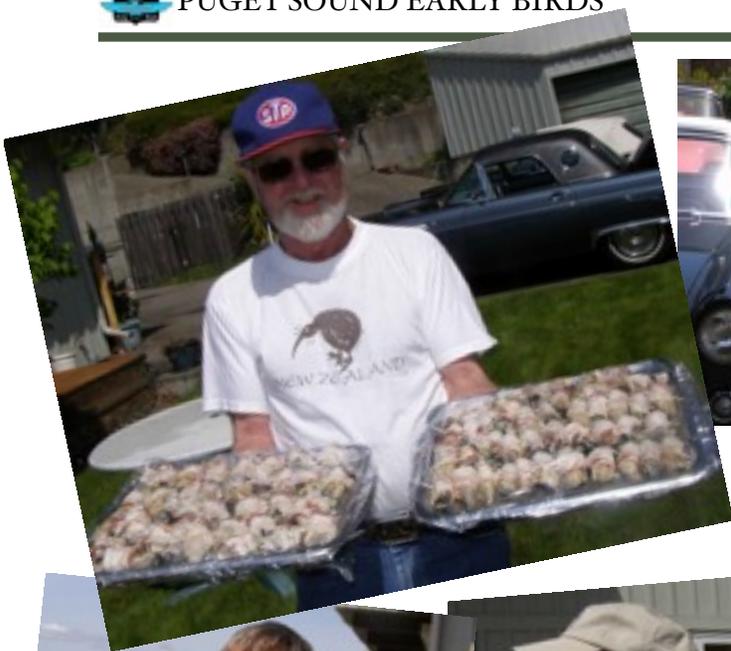
And the No.1 reason why the day was so great -- drum roll --

Michael's hidden talent: singing!



of town on a family emergency -- we missed you!), Gordon and Judy Thorne and Phil and Cheryl McCurdy.

The day was perfect -- and certainly a PSEB event to remember!



Thank you, Michael and Christine, for a fabulous food and friendship feast!



THE ROAD AHEAD 2008



Date	Event	Hosts
<i>June 21-22</i>	<i>Port Gamble Civil War Reenactment Potluck barbecue at Harris's</i>	<i>Tom and Susan Harris</i>
<i>July 13</i>	<i>Vashon Island Strawberry Festival</i>	<i>Thornes and Liebenbergs</i>
<i>July 28-August 3</i>	<i>CTCI International Convention Portland</i>	<i>Rose City T-Bird Club</i>
<i>August 17</i>	<i>All T-Bird Picnic, Eatonville Joint event with Olympic Classic Club</i>	<i>Ted and Charline Austin</i>
<i>September 12-15</i>	<i>Three-night North Cascades Loop Tour</i>	<i>Gordon and Judy Thorne</i>
<i>October TBA</i>	<i>Gig Harbor to Indianola Auto Rallye</i>	<i>Niemis and Thornes</i>
<i>November 8</i>	<i>Great Chefs of the Northwest</i>	<i>Ed and Tanya Johnson</i>
<i>December 14</i>	<i>Christmas Party and Gift Exchange</i>	<i>Pat and Judy Howard</i>

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

<i>July 4-6</i>	<i>North Idaho Golden Anniversary Tour Day tours from Moscow, Idaho</i>	<i>Crankers Club Call Ted Austin, 360/394-2297</i>
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SWAP MEETS AND CAR SHOWS

Call before you go

June 7-8 -- Port Orchard Tractor Pull/Engine Show, Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at airport. Admission fee; Olympic Peninsula Antique Tractor and Engine Association; 253/857-5203.

June 14 -- Maple Valley Days Classic Car Show, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., beach at Lake Wilderness; 206/763-1314.

June 14-15 -- GM Swap Meet Saturday/Car Show Sunday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. both days. Mt. Rainier Region, VCCA. 253/531-5266.

June 15 -- Country Village Father's Day Car Show, Bothell; noon-3 p.m., Fly By Night Cruisers, 425-483-2250.

June 15 -- Burien Father's Day Car Show, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., downtown on S.W. 152nd St. Discover Burien. 206/941-7199.

June 15 -- Everett Father's Day Car Show; 425/363-1364.

June 20-22 -- North Olympic Auto Parts Exchange and Swap, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Port Angeles, Clallam County Fairgrounds; 360/681-2432.

June 21 -- Lacey Lions Club Car Show; 360/943-3218.

June 22 -- Victoria, B.C., Swap Meet and Car Show, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Saanich Fairgrounds; Vintage Car Club of Canada; 250/592-7710.

June 28 -- Port Townsend Rakers Car Show, Memorial Field, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., 360/437-2120.

June 28 -- Greenwood Car Show; 206/789-1148.

June 28 -- Bellevue Strawberry Car Show; 425/455-1629.

June 29 -- Shelton Downtown Classic, Rod & Antique Car/Motorcycle Show, Railroad Ave., 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Yesteryear Car Club; 360/426-4422.

July 4-6 -- Kent Cruisin at the Northwest Historic Vintage Races, Pacific Raceways; 206/227-9486.

June Celebrations
Best wishes to . . .

<p>Birthdays</p> <p>2 Charline Austin 3 Archie Matthew 5 Thom Bayler 12 Pat Howard 26 Gordon Thorne</p>	<p>Anniversaries</p> <p>I Bob and Judy Lowe (1966) II Ted and Charline Austin (1979)</p>
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Calling All T-Birds

Father's Day Weekend Car Show and Barbecue

Clearbrook Inn

12295 Schold Place in Silverdale

11 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, June 14

RSVP by June 10 to Judy Howard,

PSEB Special Projects Chairman,

360/394-3585 or flybye63@earthlink.net

Questions? Marsha Pfeiffer, Clearbrook Inn

Activities Director, 360/692-1228





Witness history as it comes to life

**Saturday, June 21
Port Gamble**

See a Civil War battle reenactment.

Tour encampments, watch artillery, cavalry, infantry demonstrations.

Enjoy period fashions and music.

TIME: We'll gather at noon where our hosts, Tom and Susan Harris, have arranged reserved parking for our Little Birds between the water towers and red garages on Port Gamble's main street.



THE BATTLE: It begins at 3 p.m. and promises to be exciting and loud!

AFTERWARD: We'll caravan to the Harrises' home for a barbecue.

WHAT TO BRING: The Harrises will provide the main dish, beer, wine, lemonade and iced tea. To round out the meal, we'll all bring dishes to share: A-G Salad; H-M Appetizer; N-W Dessert (It's OK to trade with someone!)

RSVP by June 15 if you plan to attend: 360/297-7721 or stharris@centurytel.net.

Directions to Port Gamble: Hwy. 3 from the south or Hwy. 104 from the east. Port Gamble is just north of the Hood Canal Bridge. If you are coming just for the barbecue, directions to the Harrises' home follow below.

DIRECTIONS TO 21672 PRESIDENT PT. RD.

From Poulsbo: Lincoln Rd. to Old Port Gamble Rd., turn left. At Gunderson Rd., turn right. At Miller Bay Rd., turn left. At West Kingston Rd. (flashing yellow light), turn right. At the next stop sign, turn right on South Kingston Rd. **See final directions.**

From Bainbridge: After Agate Pass Bridge, turn right at stop light at Suquamish Rd. Follow Suquamish Rd. through the town of Suquamish where it becomes Miller Bay Rd. At West Kingston Rd. (flashing yellow light), turn right. **See final directions.**

From Hwy 3 and Hood Canal Bridge: Hwy. 3 to Hwy. 104 (Hood Canal Bridge). Follow Hwy. 104 to Kingston. One (1) mile after the traffic light at Miller Bay Rd. (Albertson's), turn right on Barber Cut Off Rd. At the next stop sign, turn right on S. Kingston Rd. At the next stop sign, turn left. (still S. Kingston Rd.) **See final directions.**

Final directions! South Kingston Rd. bends right. At the top of the hill, turn left on Jefferson Point Rd. Jefferson Point Rd. bends right; at the next stop sign, turn left on Klabo Rd. Klabo bends right and becomes Jefferson Beach Rd. The second street on the left is James Way, turn left. The next street on the right is President Pt. Rd., turn right. We are 1/4 mile down the road on the left at 21672.

Tom and Susan say: It's hard to see at night, but you are following the Puget Sound shore south. Most who get lost miss the turn at James Way. We have never lost anyone permanently, but **if you need help, call 297-7721**. It may sound difficult, but remember to keep Puget Sound on your left.



Callards Represent PSEB at Kelowna

Yes, the Puget Sound Early Birds were represented in Kelowna at the Okanagan T-Bird Club's annual gathering. Olympic Classic T-Bird Club suggested meeting on I-5 to travel to Kelowna with them and some members of the Rose City Club, but being relatively new to the Northwest, Martha and I decided to travel the long, but scenic way via the North Cascade Loop. We drove the five hours to our first stop in the western-themed historic town of Winthrop, Wash., in the Cascade Mountains.

The Methow River was flowing full force due to snow melt and the town was full of tourists. We even found a little stand where they make homemade ice cream that was simply wonderful.

Friday morning we saw the Shafer Museum, a largely outdoor site where we wandered freely before it actually opened and had some informative chats with the volunteers as they began arriving. Did you know Eddie Rickenbacker (of flying fame) designed an automobile and actually produced several thousand of them? The museum is in the process of restoring one of the few cars that are still in existence. We found out one of the volunteers there graduated from Verona (N.J.) High School, same class year as Nancy Niemi. Talk about a small world!



On our way to Kelowna, we gassed up just south of the border, then crossed into Canada. Thank goodness; gas is CA \$1.35 per litre (US \$5.11 per gallon). The drive was absolutely breathtaking; between the mountains (literally), the lakes and the bits of snow here and there . . . wow!

When we arrived at the hotel we found T-Birders reuniting in the parking lot so we checked in and joined them. We knew some, met some new people, and we all went to dinner together.

Saturday was the big "do" for the gathering. We formed up by model year, oldest first, and drove from the Ramada Inn to the city park for the Show and Shine. About 100 Birds from '55 to an '05 Retro. The weather reports promised rain but it was a gorgeous day. Later we took a tour to the Summerland Pyramid winery for a tasting, and learned a lot about pyramids and their magic powers, especially when used to age wine.

The Saturday night banquet was packed, with door prizes galore, all to benefit the Okanagan Community College automotive technology program. They probably raised over \$1,000 for the scholarship. The food and service was great and everyone had a good time. Unfortunately, we did not take the three-day add on tour as we had just returned from 10 days on the East Coast and were traveled out. But next year, guaranteed!



Oh, those crazy Callards!

-- **Bob Callard**



In Memoriam: Leona Schlie

Our condolences go to PSEB member Ed Schlie at the loss of his wife, Leona, at the age of 85 May 10.

Leona was born in Minnesota in 1923. She moved to Bremerton in 1942. There she re-met her childhood friend, Edwin Schlie. They were married on V-J Day, Aug. 15, 1945, at Memorial Lutheran Church.

She pursued many careers, from owning Mabel's Beauty Shoppe to tailoring at Anderson's Men's Store. She supported her husband who served in Bremerton's Police Department until he retired in 1977. She was active in altar guilds at Memorial and later Peace Lutheran Church, and she was also active in the lives of her two children, Marge and Jerry.

After her children left home, she earned an associate of arts degree at Olympic College. In their retirement, she and Ed traveled to warmer climates and over the past 10 years, spent their winters in Palm Desert.

Leona was a friendly, quiet lady who we found very pleasant to sit and visit with at our club meetings when she was able to attend. Due to on-going complications from radiation many years ago, she was not able to be as physically active as she would have liked. She did, however, manage to live a full and rewarding life.

Leona enjoyed sewing and card making as hobbies; her church has many decorative items that she personally made.

She and Ed got their 1957 Thunderbird about 25 years ago, became members of the Puget Sound Early Birds and enjoyed the club ever since. Ed was club president in 1990, and Leona helped him with a lot of the typing at this time. She also served the club as treasurer 1990-1992. They also had a 1965 Thunderbird and a couple of Chrysler TCs in their garage. PSEB, however, was the only car club they were active in.

At the age of 80, when her health didn't allow her to be as active, she took up the computer. Ed tells me that she would spend hours on it daily. I know she kept in touch with PSEB club members when they were in Palm Desert every winter on the computer. We were always happy to hear from her.

Leona is also survived by her brother, Marvin Horter (Lois); two children, Margaret Schlie-House (Steven) and Gerald Schlie (Dorothy); two granddaughters, Stevena House Labadie (Rick) and Aurora Chapman (Korey); and great-grandson, Kegan Chapman.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the American Cancer Society or American Diabetes Association.

--Judy Roupe



VTCl Northwest Conclave set for August

The Edmonton, Alberta, Thunderbird Club is hosting the Vintage Thunderbird Club International Northwest Regional meeting, Aug. 13-17, in Edmonton. The theme is "Thunderbird Heaven," something we can all identify with. For information: Bob Johnston, 780/467-6841 or conventionregistration2008@shaw.ca. Hotel deadline June 15; registration deadline Aug. 1.

Vingos and Weilers find new way to boost club membership

It was just a Sunday drive to Port Angeles for Ray and Margaret Vingo, but it turned out to be an eventful day for PSEB. Stranded by a loose hose that sprayed water all over the windshield, the Vingos were patiently waiting for AAA assistance at 3 p.m. Who should happen along at 4 p.m. but the Weilers, who

offered to help if AAA didn't show. At 5:30 p.m., they went back and by 6 p.m., all was repaired. Then AAA arrived!

During the course of the wait, a new California transplant, who just restored a '56 Bird, happened upon the group. They talked for a while and Carol extended an invitation to join PSEB. We're hoping David Hansen of Sequim will soon be added to the roster. Way to go Vingos and Weilers!!



PSEB's July 13 event will be berry, berry good!

It's the Vashon Island Strawberry Festival, now in its 91st year. There's always an abundance of great food (yes, including strawberries), refreshments and fun

times. Highlights include the Grand Parade, the classic car parade in which we will participate.

Deadline for parade registration is June 13. Below is the entry form you must submit and some additional information. Be sure to include the special features about your car -- you and your Bird will be introduced by the parade announcer as you pass the reviewing stand. Send to: Vashon-Maury Island Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1035, Vashon, WA 98070.

Car Show Registration

The annual Vashon-Maury Island Veterans' Classic & Special Interest Vehicle Parade and Promenade will be held on **Sunday, July 13th, 2008** here on Vashon Island in conjunction with the Vashon-Maury Island Strawberry Festival. We welcome you, your Car Club and any others who would like to participate. As many of you know who have joined us in the past, our Islands' Strawberry Festival is a jam-packed weekend of uniquely old-fashioned fun, food, arts and crafts, music events, family activities, carnival rides, pancake breakfast, and much, much more . . .

A DEFINITE nostalgic walk-back to a small town festival of days gone by. If you would like to participate in the 2008 Vehicle Parade and Promenade on Sunday, July 13th, please fill out and return this entry form no later than **June 13th**. Complete information will be mailed to you by July 1st.

Parade Entry Form

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Car Make: _____

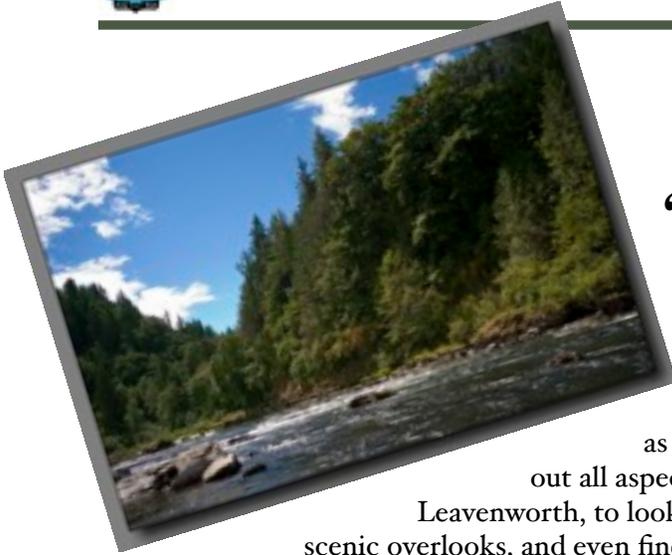
Car Year: _____

Body Style: _____

Car Color: _____

Club Name: _____

Car Special Features



Join us for

“One of America’s grandest, most spectacular drives.”

-- National Geographic Traveler

The Sept. 12-15 Cascades Loop Grand Tour is taking shape as a result of three-days/two-nights spent last week checking out all aspects of the tour, from inspecting the hotels in Winthrop and Leavenworth, to looking for fun restaurants, taking scenic side roads, detours, scenic overlooks, and even finding various potty stops along the way.

The Rio Vista is now our lodging for the two nights in Winthrop, and the Obertal Inn stays as our place in Leavenworth. Both of these offer great locations, right in the heart of the two themed towns. The Rio Vista is situated on the Methow River in downtown Winthrop. Rooms are spacious, clean, well-maintained with great beds and large covered balconies.

Both the Rio Vista and the Obertal include extra goodies such as a coffee maker and small refrigerators in each room, a generous sized whirlpool spa and all off-street parking. The Obertal also includes a good continental breakfast.

For reservations at the Rio Vista, call 509/996-3535. For the Obertal, 800/537-9382. At both be sure to tell them you’re part of the PSEB/Thunderbird tour.

NOTE: Rio Vista will hold our room block only until July 13, so to be sure of securing a room, don’t delay! You can always cancel later without penalty, up until Aug. 12.

Highlights of the tour include:

- Cruising through the North Cascades National Park, with its 318 glaciers, the most outside Alaska!
- The 33rd Annual Winthrop Auto Rallye, including a collector car parade into town, old-fashioned street barbecue lunch, Show ‘n Shine, Poker Run and a hilarious old-time live radio show.
- For wine lovers, the wonderful Lost River Winery is just across the street from registration.
- A private lunch on the lawn at the renowned Tsillan (pronounced Chelan) Cellars, with sweeping views of Lake Chelan. They’ve waived the usual \$5 wine tasting fee so we can enjoy samples of many of their award-winning wines. You’ll think you’ve traveled to Tuscany.
- A stop at the family-owned Trader John’s fruit stand featuring fresh vegetables, peaches, pears, plums and melons, etc.
- A slow detour through the charming, tree-lined main street of old historic Cashmere, named for the area’s resemblance to India’s beautiful Vale of Kashmir.
- The little Bavarian mountain town of Leavenworth, with its charming apparel, gift and wine shops, and old world cafes and restaurants. There will be ample free time for browsing and buying. The more adventurous can try an inflatable kayak or inner-tube short float trip into town on the Wenatchee River.
- Stevens Pass to the end of the tour in Snohomish promises some glorious autumn-leaf color.
- Lunch in Snohomish will be a bit of olde England with British Pub food in the heart of the town’s antiques shops.

So come and join us for four days, three nights, three rivers, two quaint towns and one National Park!



Bits and Pieces

- **PSEB shirts** -- the board voted to proceed with developing a club shirt with identifying embroidery in time to wear at the CTCI convention in Portland. We're working with Tanya Johnson on a design and shirt that will be reasonably priced. As soon as they are ready for purchase, you'll be notified by e-mail.
- **CTCI convention update** -- Cheryl McCurdy reports that the host hotel, the Red Lion, is sold out. The overflow hotel, Oxford Suites, is across the street. Cost is \$119 per night for a standard room, including a continental breakfast. To get the convention rate, ask for Rose City Thunderbirds; phone is 503/283-3030.
- **48 in 08 Tour** -- In just seven weeks this unique tour -- to visit all 48 state capitals -- will be underway. Tour coordinators Lucy Clark and Doc Dockter report that the Web site, www.home.earthlink.net/~48ino8, is updated with new information on hotels, route changes and logo apparel. **Registration must be made by June 30.** You might consider joining the tour for a day, as the Thornes plan to do, and drive from the Portland convention to Olympia with the group. ***You must register even if you only plan to do a day of the tour. It's a liability thing.***



- **Gas by Zip Code** -- This is pretty nifty. Just enter your zip code in the site below, and it tells you which gas stations have the cheapest (and the highest) gas in your zip code area. It's updated every evening. Just click on the link. You will see a map of your area and a listing of gas prices with addresses and brands. Thanks to Cheryl McCurdy for sending this along.
<http://autos.msn.com/everyday/gasstations.aspx?zip=&src=Netx>

- **The Greatest Auto Race Centennial** was postponed when China denied entry to participants. In 1908, six of the most innovative automobiles from France, Germany, Italy and the U.S. left Times Square in New York and headed for the finish line in Paris. The race required teams to drive the entire distance westward from New York without the use of a boat. The only way to do this was in the dead of winter when the narrow body of water between Alaska and Russia froze over. If this sounds familiar, you may be recalling "The Great Race," a wonderful movie starring Tony Curtis, Natalie Wood, Jack Lemmon and Keenan Wynn. This year, more than 30 vintage roadsters were due to depart New York on May 30 with plans to reach the Eiffel Tower on Aug. 2 after traveling 18,843 miles. But plans were put on hold when China pulled permits required to travel through the country.

