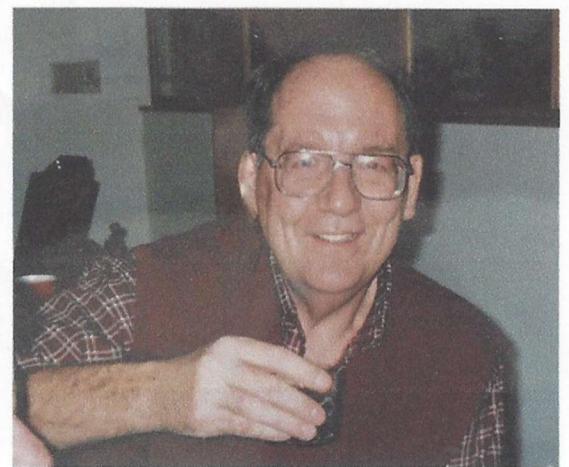




Robert "Bob" Warren Heckel

May 24, 1936 to February 1, 2026

There will be no celebration of life at this time due to unforeseen circumstances.



Bob was born to Theophilus "Ted" Frederick-Tobias Heckel and Jeanette "Jean" Dirkswager Heckel in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Shortly after, the family moved to the Chicago area finally settling in Wilmette, Illinois. Two years later his sister Nadine "Dee" was born followed by his brother Karl. Bob graduated from New Trier Township High School in 1954. He attended Valparaiso University in Indiana graduating in 1958.

Two days after graduating for college he was on a train to Fort Riley, Kansas for Army basic training. He felt this was his best option as finding a job before his military obligation was fulfilled was slim to none. During his time

in the Army, he was stationed in Germany where he traveled at every opportunity taking beautiful black and white pictures of the countryside.

Upon his honorable discharge from the Army, he eventually obtained a job with Kemper Insurance in Chicago as a Commercial Lines Underwriter. In 1966 he was promoted to Commercial Lines Underwriting Manager and offered a transfer to Seattle which he took. For two years he was involved with Junior Achievement that helped a group of high school students develop a product and then sell that product at a kiosk at Northgate Mall. Bob retired from Kemper Insurance in 1995 after 32 years of service.

While working at Kemper Insurance-Seattle he met Sharon who worked in the "typing pool". On their first date it was agreed they would not tell anyone in the office they were dating. So, when Sharon walked into the office and showed her supervisor a picture of them and her engagement ring, it did not go well. Her supervisor said: "That's Mr. Heckel" and Sharon replied: "Yes, Bob and I are engaged.". Her supervisor took the picture and ran through the office yelling: "Mr. Heckel and Sharon are engaged. Mr. Heckel and Sharon are engaged."

One of Bob's Underwriters took him to a bar across the street, bought him 2 Vodka Gimlets on the rocks and he was f-i-n-e.

Bob was always a car enthusiast, which he got from his dad. Driving home from work one day he saw a MGA on a dealer's lot and ended up driving it home. That began his love for MGS owning 2 MGAs and 3 MGBs during his life. In between those was a 1957 Corvette, a Bugeye Sprite he raced on the race tracks in Wisconsin, a 1961 Porsche that had seen better days but was a dream to drive. When he turned 70, he knew time in a sports car would one day come to an end. After talking it over his sportscar-enthusiast-"let's-put-the-top-down" wife, Sharon, he purchased his dream car, a 2007 Porsche Boxster, while it was on the ship and picked it up on his 71st birthday. His "fun cars" may have been sports cars BUT he had a true and deep appreciation for all things auto. He and Sharon started attending Auto Swap Meets early in their marriage. (Sharon's Dad owned a service station.) If it was old, well used, had the original box, sparked a memory or was simply a great find it came home. When visiting his brother in Wisconsin, he and Karl would go to junk yards and pull auto emblems and dealer decals off the cars. That led to twelve 4'x2' peg boards of auto emblems all polished and categorized hanging in his garage.

While living in the Magnolia area of Seattle, he learned of a car club that met in the Armory at Interbay and found it to be just what he was looking for. A great group of guys who like to talk about anything cars. Bob liked to get involved and involved he became.

Bob joined PSRG around 1991. Even though Bob did not own an early Ford, his enthusiasm for the hobby stood out.

"Before long he was volunteering for club events. He was the first to serve 3 consecutive years as President. He helped shape the club in such a way that it made it easier to plan ahead for events, and he always had good ideas. His participation in the swap meet was huge." Bill Meade

Coming from the mid-west, he grew up playing slow pitch baseball. He started one team and played on several teams in Seattle in his early days but when he turned 50 a change had to be made. He learned of a team in Buckley, The Wishbone, who played in an "over 50" league. Everyone on the team had to be 50 or older and there was no sliding into a base. They not only played weekly during the season but as many tournaments as possible. This turned out to be a great fit and Bob played until he was 63.

Through all his life, Bob's Christian faith was a deep part of who he was -

Valparaiso University is a Lutheran University. As usual, he was involved in his church in Wilmette and Trinity here in Seattle. After retirement he mowed the grass and showed up for all work parties. After 60 years at Trinity, they are family and have been a steadfast support through the last years of his life and especially the last month.

The life of a thoughtful and kind man and loving husband of 57 years who liked to be involved and help whenever possible has been completed and memories abound.

2026 PSRG WHO'S WHO

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Swap Meet-
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Welcome-Guy Generaux
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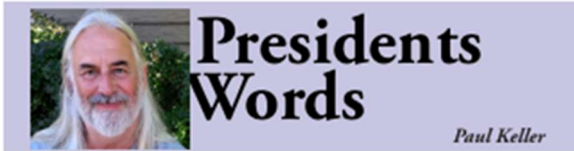
Puget Sounds is published by the Early Ford V-8 Club PSRG #18 solely for the enjoyment and use of its members, and to present a forum for the personal stories of the staff and contributors. The Puget Sound Regional Group #18 does not endorse any opinions nor does it warranty information contributed by any individual. Articles, Comments and Information are greatly solicited and may be sent to the Editors:

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We are pleased to have items for publication in other newsletters when credit is given to the source. Submissions are requested by the 19th of the month prior to publication. Note: The Early Ford V-8 Club PSRG #18 respects our members and friends confidentiality and privacy. We do not make our mailing list available to other organizations.

General and Board meetings usually held at Redmond Eagles 11440 Avondale Rd NE Redmond, WA 98052 On the second Saturday of each month





Hello V8er's,

I want to thank VP Bill Meade for covering for me at our February Meeting. I hear I missed a good one. Mary and I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting. Spring could arrive at any moment now. Maybe some V8s will make an appearance.

Swap Meet preparations are progressing. Returning vendors deadline will pass soon, although many wait until the last minute to settle while risking losing their stalls. We have now close to 700 of the approximately 1300 stalls sold. Last year's weather was not the best. I get the feeling this year's will be great.

We could always use more help with the meet. Maybe schedule the Thursday & Friday of the meet as vacation and join us this year? There are still RV spots available if that helps. Remember, these funds allow us to pay for items like our banquet, picnic & Tour of the Year as well as donations to automotive student needs.

St. Patrick's parade time is very soon. Once again, we had been invited by the Irish Club thanks to Dean & Jane. The parade has been moved from 4th Ave to the Waterfront. Maybe the Seafair Pirates had something to do with that. I am looking forward to seeing our cars participate. There will be no meeting on March 14th due to several members participating in the Irish Parade.

Mike & Trina have taken the reins of our newsletter. The seamless transition from Scott's hard work is appreciated by all. Don't forget to give them the fuel of your stories and photos.

Happy Fording,

Paul Keller



Meeting Minutes

Mary Lamken

PSRG 18 Board Meeting - From Amy Quilizapa

February 14, 2026

Present: Bill Meade, Bob Merz, Paul Blumenstetter, Jackie Blumenstetter, Amy Quilizapa, Mark Keenholts, Carol Keenholts, Cliff Winfrey, Rich Troberg, Chris Knudsen, Louis Moore, Dean Arnold, Dave Hoffman, Steve Young, 2 guests

Called to Order: 1:08

Reading of Minutes:

Announcements:

- Positive feedback regarding our swap meet from attendees at Puyallup Early Bird Swap Meet
- Bob Heckle passed away. Carol brought card for members to sign...Thank you Carol!

Treasurers Report:

\$12k for swap meet so far

Downtown North Bend Car Show:

July 19th, 2026

Got the city to agree to NO dump truck plows at each end of street closures...YAY!

Need volunteers to get raffle items to donate or businesses to donate. Got first raffle item from Griot's

Assistance with any sponsors outside of North Bend

Need help the day of the show for the following:

Parking

T-shirt table

Raffle tickets.....Trina (hint, hint)

Swap Meet:

Need building at entrance moved

Need to get a great visible location for club booth

Discussed putting banners on front fencing to display who the swap meet is put on by

Old Business: None

New Business: None

PSRG 18 General Meeting

Present: Bill Meade, Bob Merz, Paul Blumenstetter, Jackie Blumenstetter, Amy Quilizapa, Mark Keenholts, Carol Keenholts, Cliff Winfrey, Rich Troberg, Chris Knudsen, Louis Moore, Dean Arnold, Dave Hoffman, Steve Young, 2 guests

Called to Order: 2:20

Leads and Needs:

- Bill Meade needs 2 speed controller for '35-'36 Columbia
- Visitors from Finland needing help with V8...Thank you Mark and Dean for answering any questions

Parade:

Irish Club Parade is March 14th. The parade has moved. Starting at Alaskan Way and Wall Street. Dean will send out more information.

Collector plates:

Information was sent out to anyone who has collector plates. It is just staging that IF you have a collector plate, you must have a regularly licensed vehicle as well to prove you are not using your classic car with collector plates as a daily driver.

Name Badge \$50 Winner: Chris Knudsen



Thanks, from the greyhound newsletter

Saint Patrick's Day Parade



Our club is participating in the Seattle Saint Patrick's Day Parade again this year.

So, dust off your EFV8s and get them ready to show off. This is a great opportunity for some good publicity for the club and our annual swap meet.

The parade will be on Saturday, March 14th, with vehicle staging at 11:00 AM at Pier 66 on Seattle's waterfront. After the parade, you will have the option to display your vehicle at the Seattle Center. There will be no club meeting in Redmond in March. This meeting may be held with a Guinness in hand at the Seattle Center after the parade.

Contact Dean Arnold at DeanLouisArnold@Hotmail.com or call or text him at 206.499.7145 to sign up for the event. Dean will provide full details in a group email as we get closer to the event.

For more information about the Irish cultural event, visit the [Irish Heritage Club](#) Seattle website and check out [IRISH WEEK '26](#).



**GREENWOOD
CAR SHOW**

JUNE 27TH 2026

Registration is now open for the 2026
Greenwood Car Show

[Register Online](#)

Join us for the summer's best party, followed by
the return of the Greenwood Seafair Parade

Interested in Sponsoring, becoming a Vendor
or Volunteering? [Contact Us](#)

The Greenwood Car Show is an annual non-profit fundraiser event that
has relied on your tax-deductible donations to survive for the past 30
years. If you'd like to help, please consider volunteering or donating.

[Donate Now](#)

more info at
www.GreenwoodCarShow.com

The Greenwood Knights, Seattle, WA, USA

When the car is parked

Air Fryer Fried Chicken

Ingredients:

8 pieces Chicken	1 Cup buttermilk
1 1/2 Cups flour	2 eggs
1/2 Cup Cornstarch	

Seasoning Mix:

3 Tbsp. Paprika	1 ½ Tbsp. garlic powder
1 Tbsp. onion powder	2 Tsp. Salt
2 Tsp. Celery salt	2 Tsp. Pepper
2 Tsp. dried mustard	2 Tsp. Ginger
1 Tsp. thyme	1 Tsp. basil
1 Tsp. oregano	

Directions:

Combine eggs and buttermilk, whisk to mix. In another bowl, mix the flour, cornstarch and other dry ingredients. Preheat your air fryer to 375 degrees for 5 minutes. Dip your chicken pieces in buttermilk mixture, let excess drip off. Dredge chicken pieces in flour mixture; make sure it sticks. Shake off excess. Spray the air fryer basket with olive oil then place the chicken pieces in the basket. Generously spray your chicken pieces with PAM. Air fry for 25-30 minutes, flipping halfway and spray again with PAM. Chicken is done when internal temp reaches 165 degrees and the outside is golden brown.

Recipe from Southern Texas Ford Group

PSRG In the V8 Times

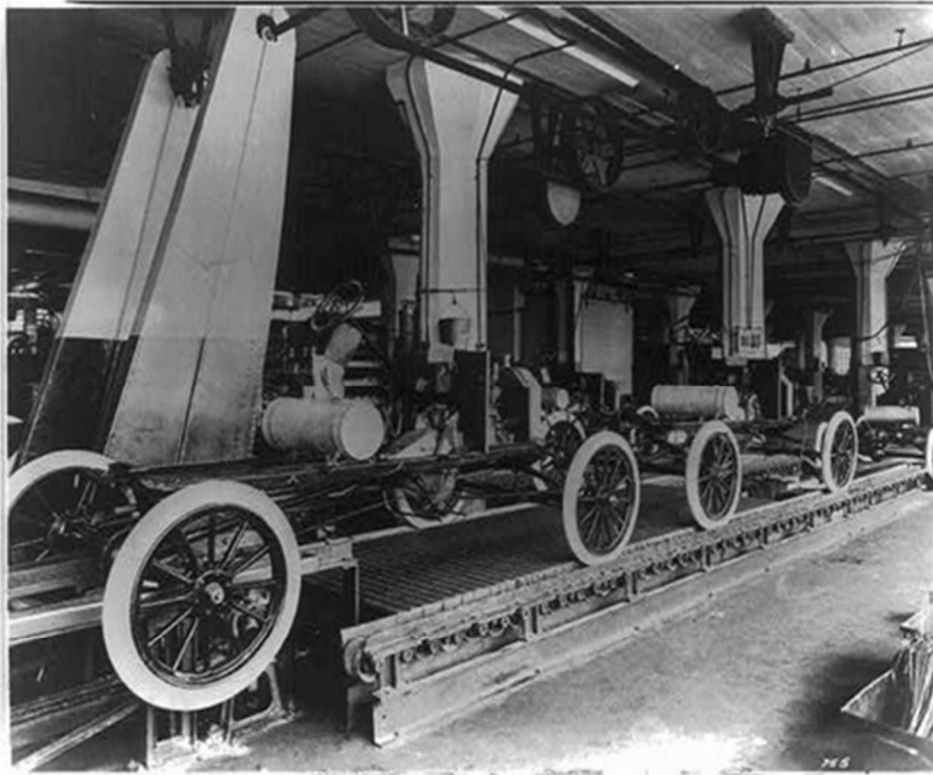
Guy Generaux has been busy sending material to our national publication. In the July/August 2025 issue of the *V8 Times*, you may recall seeing a feature titled "My Excellent Sportsman Adventure." It involved discovering two 1947 Ford Sportsmans in Wenatchee during our 2022 PSRG-hosted National V8 Meet. The owner, Doug Baker, joined the EFV8 Club and PSRG with Guy's encouragement. Now, a sequel to the story will be forthcoming, as Guy has collaborated with Steve Smith (Mid-Willamette RG, Salem OR) on yet another Sportsman adventure. Watch for it possibly in the upcoming March/April edition of the *V8 Times*. PSRG also enjoyed coverage recently in the "Regional Group News" section of the magazine for our Summer Picnic and our annual Tour of the Year.

In a January edition -

In January, specifically on January 5, 1914, Ford Motor Company changed labor history by introducing the "[\\$5 day](#)," doubling the minimum wage to \$5 for an eight-hour workday. This revolutionary move boosted productivity and enabled workers to buy the cars they produced.

Other historical Ford Motor Co. events in January:

- January 1903: Shortly before the company's official June incorporation, Henry Ford was finalizing the design of his second car, the "999" racer, which would set the stage for the Ford Motor Company's launch.
- January 1910: The Ford Highland Park plant, which later housed the first moving assembly line, was partially operational.
- January 1941: Production for the U.S. military increased as the company shifted toward defense efforts during that period.



Assembly line at the Ford Motor Company's Highland Park plant. ca.1913. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.



Membership

Guy Generaux

ROSTER UPDATE

New Member: Henry Gabler, 3830 113th Ave SE, Snohomish, WA 98290

V8 Happenings In The Desert

By Guy Generaux

If you ever have a winter opportunity to get out of Dodge (aka: Seattle) to Palm Springs, think about timing your excursion to mid-February and attending the Dr. George Car Show. You'll not find a venue more compelling than the famous Indian Wells Tennis Garden, one of the finest (if not the best), tennis facility in the world. The event features 1200 vehicles, all staged on the massive, lush grass field adjacent to the complex. Attracting cars from all over southern California, it is the largest single charity fundraiser for the Coachella Valley Cancer Research project. While an eclectic display, numerous Early Fords populate the concourse. The 2026 event was held on Valentine's Day this year.

PSRG reporter Guy Generaux (left) with his 1966 Thunderbird Convertible. College friend Mark Venn (on right),



Don Dally (a PSRG member), won a Primo Restoration Award for his 1933 Ford Cabriolet.



Nice trophy and ribbon for Don's '33.



Al Clark trailed down his gorgeous '32 Ford from Victoria, BC to attend the show. Some of you may remember Clark as chairman of "Fords and Flowers," the EFV8 National Meet held in Victoria, 1996. He is also the founder of 'Deuce Days," which has morphed into the pre-eminent gathering of '32 Fords on the planet.



Al Clark and Guy run into each other at the crack of dawn for set up. Later, a 78-degree day was perfect for show-goers.



Wood is definitely good!



An unusual bright yellow paint job works well for this shoebox Ford.



1947 Ford Station Wagon. '37 Woodie next door.



Pick-ups were plentiful, including this beauty.



These hopped-up coupes attracted throngs of spectators.



Tri-color '35 Ford Pick-up was tastefully restored.



Sent from my iPhone

Leads & Needs

Leads & Needs listings are free for club members.

All listings will run for 3 months unless they are renewed or terminated early. Contact Mike and Trina to have them kept in another month or to have them removed earlier.


E-mail your listing to the newsletter editor at editor@efv8psrg.org. or call 206-778-9097

Need:

- Bill Meade needs 2 speed controller for '35-'36 Columbia

Your editors are always looking for articles or photos for the newsletter, please send them our way at editor@efv8psrg.org



<p>January 10th General meeting at 2pm. Meeting. Board meeting at 1 pm</p>	<p>February 14th General meeting at 2pm. Meeting. Board meeting at 1 pm</p> <p>14-15th 57th Annual Early Bird Swap Meet Puyallup</p>	<p>March 14th No Board/General meeting.</p> <p>14th Saint Patrick's Day Parade</p> <p>PSRG Ford club forms in 1969 </p>
<p>April 11th General meeting at 2pm. Board meeting at 1 pm</p>	<p>May 9th General meeting at 2pm. Board meeting 1pm</p> <p>16-17 Monroe Auto Swap Meet</p>	<p>June 13th General meeting at 2pm. Board meeting at 1 pm</p> <p>27th Greenwood Car Show</p>
<p>July 11th General meeting at 2pm. Board meeting at 1 pm</p>	<p>August 8th General meeting at 2pm. Board meeting at 1 pm</p> <p>29th 48th LeMay Annual Show</p>	<p>September 12th General meeting at 2pm. Board meeting at 1 pm</p>
<p>October 10th General meeting at 2pm. Board meeting at 1 pm</p>	<p>November 14th General meeting at 2pm. Board meeting at 1pm</p>	<p>December 12th General meeting at 2pm. Board meeting at 1 pm</p>