



February 2025

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Denny Bickar
Vice-President –
Roy Rager
Secretary –
Chris Weedmark
Treasurer –
Bob Shawgo
Public Relations –
Jim Daly
Historian –
Steve Reames
Newsletter Editor –
Jim Daly

Message from the President

Pushrodders,

Condolences to the Callaghan family and the Pushrod family for losing one of the founding pioneers of the Pushrods of Hoquiam car club.

Sandy Burkhamer has passed. Sandy was married to Norman Callaghan Sr. and was mother to Norm and Kelley Callaghan.

There will be a celebration of life at a later date.

Our annual Christmas meeting / dinner was a success. The dinner, with all of the cost came to \$27 a plate. That is a fair price to the club for what we received that night. Also, thank you for all of the Christmas gifts for the kids. A fun night for all. Kelley Callaghan, with excellent help, did a great job.

The year 2025 is upon us. We are expecting the best year ever for this club. The charity auction is going to be a good one. Patty Rager has done a fabulous job of organizing and coordinating the whole project. The sponsors from the community have been very generous. Fred will once again be our auctioneer with his wife Gerri and daughter helping with the numbers. We need runners to take the bids and help loading and unloading.

Message from the President (cont.)

On Saturday morning, the 15th, at 10 am, we will meet at Gil`s shop to load all of the auction items. Bring your gloves and pickups. We will unload on Sunday morning (16th) and set up. I will get the Elks doors open at 8 am. Patty will need help organizing the tables. All hands-on-deck. We are expecting a big crowd. A big day that will pay off for the club.

This month I am putting in the latest roster. If you see something wrong or if someone is not on the list, let me know.

February Schedule

Feb. 5	Business meeting, 6:30pm
Feb. 13	Pushrod lunch Busters, 12pm
Feb. 15	Load auction items at Gil`s, 10am
Feb. 16	Unload auction items at the Elks, 8am
Feb. 19	Board meeting at Gil`s shop, 12pm
Feb. 31	PUSHROD DINNER at Duffys, 6pm

We are going to spice up the 2025 Pushrod newsletter by adding a Rodder of the Month segment into it. The old-timers in the club remember that I did this some years ago.

This month is the life and times of Bob Shawgo.

Rodder of the Month

Bob Shawgo

Bob was born in 1941 in Seattle. Orphaned, adopted at 13 months old, his new family moved to McMinnville Oregon.

Bob joined the Oregon National Guard on Sept. 9, 1958, and one week later he graduated high school in 1959 and was shipped to Fort Ord, Calif. For training for six months. In 1961, Bob joined the U.S. Air Force for 4 years.

After his service to his country, Bob worked at a Chevrolet dealership parts department. In 1965 he worked at the McCord Air Force base as an aircraft mechanic for 11 years.

Leaving civil service at McCord, Bob went back to Oregon to work at a small aircraft company in Seattle, then on to Boeing for twenty four years ending in 2024.

In 1959, friends took him to the Aurora Drag Strip. Seeing those high powered drag racers sparked his interest in racing.

His first car was a 1950 Olds 4 door 88 Rocket 303. Bob`s favorite car of all time is a 1957 Olds. Bob has owned 20 cars at one time or another.

His third car was a 1955 Chev with a 265 ci and raced it in 1961. He moved up in class to the D/gas, C modified with a 283 ci beefed up.

In the middle 1970`s, job, family and money became priorities. In the late 70`s he was watching the drags at Seattle International Raceway and got the bug again. He found a chassis and trailer for \$800 in Olympia, put in a 1956 Hemi motor and ran an A fuel dragster called the “Northman”. Personal best times were 7.9 seconds at 187 MPH. Bob raced for three years before time, money and family became a priority again.

Bob loves motorcycles. He has owned two big Harley Davidson bikes. He has ridden to Sturges, North Dakota 7 times, each time a different route. He has ridden up and down the west coast to Carlsbad Calif. 4 times and numerous trips to Utah, all to visit family and site see.

Bob is a model train fanatic. In 2004 he joined the Pierce County Lionel Club and has been President and vice-president. He helps with the Washington Museum Model Train Festival during December each year. He helps put on the BIG model train exhibit at the Puyallup fairgrounds each year.

Bob was very involved with his kids activities. Boy Scout leader, junior basketball, T ball, vice-president of the Fife-Milton junior football program.

Married to his beautiful, loving, caring wife Betty for 23 years along with 5 kids, Mike, Kristen, Bob, Erica and Kirk has made Bob Shawgo a happy man.

Bob moved to the harbor in 2017 because of less people and less traffic. He joined the Pushrods in 2020 and in 2021 became our treasurer.

At 83 years of age, Bob loves the chance to do community service for others. His current car projects are a 1941 Ford 2 door sedan and a 1968 Chevrolet. Like most of us, he needs a bigger garage.

Note from the Editor

We had a trip Friday, January 31st, to La Spiaggia Ristorante (Italian Restaurant), 729 Point Brown Ave NW, Ocean Shores, WA 98569 **Website:** laspiaggiaristorante.com

Phone:(360) 289-2328

There 14 Pushrodders that jumped into the Five Star Community Van driven by Jim Daly, and made the trek to Ocean Shores. The food and wine were excellent. The service was great. The conversation was loud, but comfortable and we learned a bit more about each other.

We made it there and back safely, so all-in-all it was a great evening with good friends.

Joke(s) Corner

I have found that: Life is like a roll of toilet paper; the closer you get to the end, the faster it goes.

Don't argue with an idiot. Observers may not be able to tell the difference.

Question: Why is it that our kids can't read a Bible in school, but they can in prison?

Wouldn't you know it: Brain cells come and brain cells go, but fat cells seem to live forever.

Question: Why is it that I have to swear on a Bible in court, but the Ten Commandments cannot be displayed there?

See you all Wednesday at our regular meeting.



Push Rods of Hoquiam
210 6th Street
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