Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum

Messenger

EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE www.nwcarandcycle.com



July - September 2025

YOUR DOLLARS COUNT DOUBLE NEW MATCHING FUNDS CAMPAIGN BEGINS

his is your chance to take your museum to the next level!

And what an opportunity. To kick off our fundraising campaign, three of our members have teamed up to challenge us with \$25,000 in Matching Funds. This means every dollar raised will be matched up to that amount.

With the completion of the elevator this summer, we are announcing our next fundraising phase, the second-floor buildout. The brand-new second floor will provide 6000 square feet of much needed space to accommodate more motorcycles, automobilia and a much larger conference area for educational purposes and special events. There will also be a large library and restrooms. This will free up the existing conference area on

the first floor for additional vehicles and displays. This is the last major cap

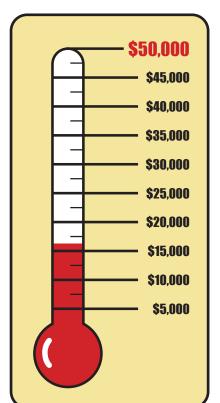
This is the last major capital project left in the Museum's 20-year plan. Make this vision a reality. Help us raise \$50,000 for the second-floor buildout with the help of these Matching Funds.

Your donation, large or small, will be matched and bring us closer to achieving our goal. Join us in preserving the past, while building for the future. Donate today and help us create an even bigger space for history, education, and passion by 2026!



IN THIS ISSUE

Membersip Form	2
Guide to Museum Contacts Volunteer of the Quarter	3
Summer Display in Photos	4-5
Letter from the President	6
Docent Training Update	7
Fire Truck Field Trip	8
Cherry Blossom Run Recap	9
Speedster Update Winter Storage Option	10
Summer Calendar Welcome & Donations	11
Lifestyles Summer Display	12
Building Happenings	13
History of our Home	14
Steam-Up Sign-Up	15
Mark Your Calendars	16



Volume 23, Issue 3

DONATION AND MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail this form, along with your payment, to:

Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum PO Box 15 Salem, OR 97308-0015



Questions? Call Ron Smith at 971-338-8675 or nwvcmmpres@gmail.com Name Occupation (current or past) Spouse/significant other Address City, State, Zip E-mail Phone numbers (Home) (Cell) **DONATION** in the amount of \$ Membership levels: SPECIAL 3 years for \$100 Standard membership, \$40 a year Club membership \$200 for first year, \$100 each year after Lifetime membership, \$10,000 (one-time fee, includes family) Tell us about your vehicle(s) and interests: I (or my club) would prefer to receive all correspondence via email

The Museum also accepts cars and motorcycles to display and to sell.

These donations are used to help build the endowment fund that will help support the Museum in the future.

Contact me (or my club) regarding volunteer opportunities

Museum Contacts

President

Ron Smith nwvcmmpres@gmail.com

Secretary

Neil Beutler neilbeutler@yahoo.com

Co-Treasurer

Arlene Popelka, 503-656-4758 popelka 12345@msn.com

Co-Treasurer and Librarian

Ruth Jarmusz, 909-554-0584 readingsgr8tfun@yahoo.com

Docent Coordinator

Pat Roby, 503-692-0774 truckgirl51@yahoo.com

Speedster Chair & Education Comm. Chair

Gary Dennis, 503-449-6615 garyisthebomb@gmail.com

Maintenance Chair

Gary LeMaster, 503-393-6069 grlemaster@msn.com

Fundraising Chair Andy Ottolia, 503-873-1185 or 503-851-0816 gosurfhi@gmail.com

Membership Chair & Newsletter Submissions

Cindy Smith, 503-931-3028 nwvcmmmembership@gmail.com

Display Committee Chair

Tom Ruttan, 503-638-1746 tgruttan@gmail.com

Marketing and PR Chair

Scott Olson scottjolson64@gmail.com

Newsletter Designer

Laura Nelson nelsonducks@gmail.com

Antique Powerland office

503-393-2424 office@antiquepowerland.com

Volunteer of the Quarter: Will Fanger

By Rick Simmons

he volunteer of the quarter is none other than one of our newest members, Will Fanger. He came to us for the first time at our Heritage Car Show to show off his beautifully restored 1962 Corvette, I reconnected as a former co-worker with the Oregon Dept of Corrections where he retired as a Captain and Officer in Charge from the Oregon State Correctional Institution and formerly retired from the Military. He had some trouble with his car on the way home and commissioned me to do some fine tuning and diagnostics. I invited him to the NWVCMM on a Thursday to



observe operations and meet the crew. He immediately fell in love with our program and mission for education. Will maintains a small farm outside of Turner, Oregon, and has a lot of free time on his hands. He joined the Museum this spring and has been a great asset in helping with some of our maintenance projects such as the elevator, repairing the old flagpole base, the gazebo wood replacement, and pressure washing. Will accepts any challenge we give him with enthusiasm and a can-do attitude.

Ruthless Torque: Joke #1

By Ruth Jarmusz

Little known fact, Moses had a motorcycle. It literally says so in the Bible:

"And lo, the roar of Moses" Triumph was heard throughout Israel."



Speaking of Triumph Motorcycles, be sure and check out our Johnson Motors Dealership ~ Triumph display in our showroom at the Museum!

Summer Display in Photos

By Tom Ruttan



he theme for the summer 2025 Museum display is movie & TV vehicles along with a motorcycle display (in the front of the display hall) that pays tribute to that famous Pasadena, CA dealer, Johnson Motors, who was the US distributor for Triumph and Ariel motorcycles from pre-WW2 until the 1970's. A big thank you to Mike Tyler and Andy Franklin for their superb work in helping to design as well as building most of the Johnson Motors display.





Letter from the President

By Ron Smith, President

ood day to all of you. First off, I want to thank all of the volunteers that make the Museum a success. This year started off with a bang, starting with the Cherry Blossom Poker Run (car show stop), Steam Up for Kids with over 1500 visitors, and the PVA Car Show that was held on Chandler Field, with 178 entrants. What a great success so far.



The displays are very well thought out and the grounds look great. Chandler Field is looking incredible this year. The Gazebo post that was rotten has been replaced and painted. The Texaco sign was cleaned and painted and the windows in the gas station are being reglazed and painted. The old flagpole was removed, and the new flagpole was relocated to the SW corner of the property.

Friends of Tom Ruttan have made a Triumph motorcycle display that is amazing. We also have Mobile gas station facade with gas pumps. The organ is getting tuned. The Speedster Program is complete for the year. With the help of many mentors, there was great progress made on many projects this year.

Lifestyles looks great thanks to all the hard work by all the volunteers.

I'm sure that I have missed some, but I greatly appreciate everything that everyone has done.

The elevator is currently stored in the Nelson Exhibit Hall. By the time you read this, it should be in the

process of being installed. We are told it will take 4-8 weeks to do this. We are hoping it will all be done and ready for Steam-Up. Fingers crossed everything goes as planned.

This summer is going to be busy around the Museum and the grounds. There are lots of opportunities to help if you are available. Here are some areas where we

need help:

- Docents
- Museum and grounds maintenance
- Grant writing (need to get upstairs finished)
- Someone to help with file organization and record keeping
- Tax person who understands nonprofits and can help with the cost of filing taxes
- Tradesmen or women (painting, electrical, plumbing, etc.)

There are many ways you can get involved and help. Even if you can't work, you can always support financially. Coming to a Board meeting (3rd Thursday of every month at 2 pm), and offering suggestions and encouragement is helpful. Don't forget to let friends and family know about the Museum. They can even come with you to help.

Thank you to everyone — Keep the Rubber Side Down!!

If Every Museum Member Donated...

f every Museum member donated \$500 to the Fundraising Campaign, we could finish the upstairs and have funds for furniture too! Don't delay. Send your generous donation today!

Docent Training a Success

By Pat Roby

e had another great response to our second year of docent training! Ruth Jarmusz, Rick Simmons, and I conducted the trainings on May 10th, May 15th, May 22nd, and May 29th. We had a total of 32 members sign up and attend. The groups were focused and very attentive; they asked good questions and were happy and grateful for the opportunity to learn about our wonderful museum.

We covered safety training; specifically, use of our AED, Narcan and pulse oximetry. We also reviewed using our emergency equipment such as the electric wheelchair, fire extinguishers and locations of our first aid boxes and ice packs. We also did a refresher course on how to access the Museum; this year's theme; how to operate the card reader in the gift shop and other information needed to make the public feel at home in the Museum.

A topic reinforced at this year's sessions was maintaining the general cleanliness of the Museum. We all want the Museum to look great!

Available docent shifts and times are posted on the signup board in the Museum meeting room, and I have been calling and making good connections with our docents. Please take the time to call, or email me, or swing by the Museum and sign up for a time slot. If we all take a few shifts, we can cover all the shifts. And

of course, Steam-up is coming, the last weekend in July and the first weekend in August. That event really requires all hands-on deck. Last year we had about 15,000 visitors come through in the 4 days of Steam-Up. IT WAS GREAT!

Again, please call me @ 503-692-0774 or email me at truckgirl51@yahoo.com to sign up; or if you want to join our fabulous group of docents—please reach out. I can schedule training for you and give you all the information you need to have a wonderful experience showing off the Museum.

Thanks to Doug Nelson, Micheal and Rosemary Bostwick, Eric Olson, Matt Hackney, Nils Olson, Jim Cutting, Will Fanger, Tony Kraxberger, Bob and Karen Farwell, Rusty Medearis, Dave Koetje, Tom Przedwosewski, Don Blatchford, Stephen and Connie Miller, Linda Leek, Tom Popelka, Steve Price, Mickey Hatley, Martin Harding, Jerry Ekstom, Neil and Kathy Beutler, Jack Adams, Alan and Eleanor Eyman, Tom Winterrowd, Al and Judy Hall, Gary LeMaster, and Chris and Tom Irwin. If I have missed anyone, let me know, you all deserve to be recognized for the hard work you do.

I appreciate all of you coming and making the sessions so successful. I also want to extend a big Thank you to Ruth and Rick for all their help and support as well!



1931 REO Speedwagon Fire Truck takes Field Trip!

By Rick Simmons

ccasionally our displays are shown at other events such as the Concourse d'Elegance, Ag Fest, and Cutforth's Cruise-in. But recently, for the second year, our fire truck, a 1931 REO Speedwagon, took a field trip to the "Clopton Classic" fire truck show in Aurora. More than 30 vehicles attended along with a showing

of antique cars from



out their website for lots of great pictures. After all, who doesn't love a fire truck? Many are real works of art and were of the finest craftsmanship of the time. Our truck, donated a few years ago by member Ken Harrison for all to enjoy, draws attention throughout the season at NWVCMM where we pride ourselves in offering a unique and diversified collection of

the Portland chapter of the Horseless Carriage Club of America. The event was hosted by SPAAMFAA member Brian Clopton. (the Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America). And you thought we had a long name! Check vehicles and motorcycles. Museum member Dave Kootje also brought his 1931 Chevrolet chassis fire truck, a real beauty! We're all about quality, not quantity.

Ruthless Torque: Joke #2

Collected by Ruth Jarmusz

A biker is riding a new motorcycle on the highway.

While passing a car, he knocks on the window. The driver of the car opens the window, "Yes?" "Ever driven a Honda motorcycle?"

"No I haven't."

The biker drives on, until he sees the next car. While passing it, he knocks on the window. The driver of the car opens the window: "Yes?"

"Ever driven a Honda motorcycle?"

"No I haven't."

Then suddenly there is a curve, the biker sees it too late. He crashes off the road into a ditch. A car stops and a man runs to the unlucky biker. Covered in blood, the biker asks, "Ever driven a Honda motorcycle?"

"Yes I have. I had a Honda for 20 years."

The biker says, "Tell me, where are the brakes?"

Museum and Sun Shine at Cherry Blossom Poker Run

By Andy Ottolia

uring the Cherry Blossom Poker Run in April, great weather brought about 200 participants and car clubs to this event. We are grateful to those Car clubs and members that have supported the Museum in time and donations over the years to get where we are today!



Speedster Report

By Gary Dennis

s I write this report, we have one more session before the end of the school year. We will have two graduates this year, Nico VanDekoppel and Conde Uribe. Nico worked with me in the machine shop rebuilding an MG engine, Conde worked on various projects in the shop. Both were excellent students and received a \$50 gift certificate to Harbor Freight (courtesy of Tony) and a certificate of completion.

Tony Darcy continues to lead the group tasked with the ongoing build of the 26 Chevrolet Pie Wagon as well as teaching welding to all students.

Tom Ruttan has facilitated the donation of a restored 34 Chrysler Phaeton as well as machine shop tools, a collection of license plates, spark plugs and much more from the estate of a collector of all things old! We get to pick what we want! Tom, Tony & I just formulated a plan to retrieve the items this summer. Tony thinks we'll do it in one day, we will see.

I am looking to recruit new students for the next school year, and we want to cast a wider net than in the past. Basic parameters are high school age (16-19), the flexibility in schedule to attend our class Thursdays, interest in learning hands on skills and automotive mechanics, responsible to show up each week & neat habits. Both genders are welcome to attend. We can mentor 8 to 10 students. If you have a

prospective candidate, I would like to hear from you. My contact information is on the masthead.

My sincere thanks go to our mentors Don Blain, Jack Adams, Arlen Buck, Doug Cody, Les Layton, Jeremy Scholz & Tony Darcy. You guys are the best!



Plan Now for Winter Vehicle Storage

By Tom Ruttan

o you have the age-old problem most collectors have, not enough space for all your cars and motorcycles? Do you need space this winter to work on that special project? Are you hesitating to buy that collector vehicle because of lack of space? Do you wish to take your vehicle off the road in winter weather to protect it?

Well, the Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum has the solution to all these problems. We offer secure, dry, heated storage for one or more of your special vehicles to free up needed shop or garage space for the winter.

At \$475 per car (\$100 per motorcycle) from October 15 through April 1 you will not find a better storage deal for your special vehicle. Remember this is secure, dry, heated storage that insures the best and safest storage outcome. Plus, you will be making an important contribution to the museum as well since the income from the winter storage program helps to pay our operating costs. Contact Tom Ruttan at (503)621-8943 or tgruttan@gmail.com for more info and to make a reservation.

2025 SUMMER CALENDAR

ALL CLUB MEETINGS ARE IN THE NELSON BUILDING UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. ALL ARE WELCOME!

July 2025

- 2 Will. Val. Model T Club Mtg, 6:30 8:30 pm
- 3 Willamette Valley Corvette Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 8 Oregon Tractor Pull Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 9 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field, 4 8 pm
- 10 Willamette Model A Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 12 Oregon Tour Nelson Bldg and Chandler Field,
 All Day
- 16 Early Ford V8 Club Mtg, Nelson Bldg, 7 9 pm
- 17 NWVCMM Board Meeting, 2 pm 4 pm
- 23 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field, 4 8 pm
- 26 Great Oregon Steam-Up, Powerland, All Day
- 27 Great Oregon Steam-Up, Powerland, All Day

August 2025

- 2 Great Oregon Steam-Up, Powerland, All Day
- 3 Great Oregon Steam-Up, Powerland, All Day
- 6 Will. Val. Model T Club Mtg, 6:30 8:30 pm
- 7 Willamette Valley Corvette Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 9 S-K Car Show, Chandler Field, All Day
- 12 Oregon Tractor Pull Mtg, 6 pm 8 pm
- 13 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field, 4 8 pm
- 14 Willamette Model A Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 20 Early Ford V8 Club Mtg, 7 9 pm
- 21 NWVCMM Board Meeting, 2 4 pm
- 27 Cruise Night at the Museum, Chandler Field, 4 8 pm

September 2025

- 3 Will. Val. Model T Club Mtg, 6:30 8:30 pm
- 4 Willamette Valley Corvette Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 9 Oregon Tractor Pull Mtg, 6 pm 8 pm
- 11 Willamette Model A Club Mtg, 6 8 pm
- 17 Early Ford V8 Club Mtg, 7 9 pm
- 18 NWVCMM Board Meeting, 2 4 pm
- 27 Heritage Car Show, Chandler Field, All Day

Welcome, New Members! And Thank You, Donors!

By Ruth Jarmusz

NEW MEMBERS

- Will Fanger Turner
- Kathy Schuette Salem
- John Stepisnik McMinnville

DONATIONS - thank you!

- Dennis Barci
- Al & Judy Hall
- Henry's Lady Chapter (for Speedster program)
- James Hokinson
- William Jabs
- Northwest Vintage Thunderbird Club
- Andy Ottolia
- Pacific Northwest Truck Museum
- Rogue Valley A's, Inc. (for Speedster program)
- John Schenk

Your Dollar Counts Double!

By Andy Ottolia

his is your chance to participate in the last major capital improvement project at the Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum, the 6,000 sq. ft. second floor buildout! This area will include an elevator, conference and display area, library, and restrooms. To kick off the campaign, we received a \$25,000 matching funds grant. Every dollar you give will be doubled. We cannot miss this opportunity for the Museum PLEASE DONATE NOW!

Lifestyles Design Team Fills out Summer Display

By Pat Roby

he Lifestyles area is once again ready to receive visitors for the summer season. In connecting to the theme of "Cars and Motorcycles in Movies and Television," we had a lot of fun!

The Lifestyle team consists of volunteers Joanne Blain and her daughter Robin, Eleanor Eyman, Karen Farwell, Connie Miller, Kathy Beutler, Linda Leek and me. We worked hard to decorate around the various cars.

Among the cars featured, we highlighted the film "Christmas Story" set in 1940. We are showing the spectacular 1938 black Oldsmobile on loan from Peter Trelstad. We set up a Christmas vignette featuring the parents and little boy who wanted a Red Ryder BB gun. Member Alan Eyman has a Red Ryder BB gun, which we used in the display. Thank you, Alan!

This year we used the back of the Lifestyles area to show a stateroom from the "Titanic," another one of the movies we used in the display. Our 1909 Cadillac decorated with mannequins in period costumes from the era is out on the Museum floor. We also changed our look this year by putting a gorgeous 1960's era E-type Jaguar on loan from member Andy Ottolia in our space. This make and model was in the original "The Italian Job" movie from 1969.

Overall, the cars that we decorated around are very different. Be sure to check out "Bay Watch," "Sabrina," "American Graffiti" and all the other cars, videos and displays as well. Please plan a visit soon, as this look will be gone at the end of September.



Lifestyles display of quilts and old movie equipment

Our design team used the talents of our own Joanne Blain and her daughter Robin to make our raffle quilt as well as the other hanging quilts. I invite you to spend a few moments looking at their beautiful handiwork, demonstrating a lot of skill! We are selling tickets for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The drawing will take place on August 3, the last day of Steam-Up and you do not need to be present to win. And, as usual we can always use volunteers to help us decorate. If you are interested in lending a hand, please feel free to call Pat Roby @ 503-692-0774 or e-mail truckgirl51@yahoo.com.

P.S. Check out our vintage phones, cameras, movie gear and vintage Disney collections as well.

HHATTHE

444



Happenings Around the Museum

By Jim Brown

ell, if you have not been by the Museum lately, there has been quite a bit accomplished with more on the horizon and 2 new wonderful displays to see this year.



This year will be exciting with the culmination of several projects getting completed. First off is the relocation of the flagpole. As some of you had heard, the flagpole was backed into last year. We decided to move it to the SW corner of the building to be out of the way, provide greater protection, and

easier access around its original location and add an additional parking location in front of the museum.

Many thanks to Jim Cutting and Gary LeMaster.

The Gazebo had a rotten support beam that had to be replaced, which was no easy task. That beam was inset into the concrete at least a few feet down and had to be augured and chiseled out. Then a concrete

support was poured, and a duplicate support had to be created. With Rick Simmons' expertise and some help from volunteers we got the new support in place and looking good. It should last many years before needing any more attention.

We have just started cleaning up



and addressing some of the windows and trim around the Gas Station and Speedster shop, which are long overdue for some attention. Along with a fresh coat of paint, you should see a nice refreshing pop to the outside of these two buildings. We just completed the big window in front of the Gas Station with more to follow.

The elevator project should be ending soon. All the drywall is complete in the shaft and around the vestibule. Installation is scheduled for around mid-June



with an estimated completion date around mid-July. It will be exciting to finally have that project behind us.

The Museum just completed setting up two wonderful displays. You really should come and check them out. You won't be disappointed.

A big shoutout to all the amazing, dedicated volunteers that make this museum truly unique. To the Speedster program providing real world skills to our incredible students, to the Organ group that spends countless hours fine tuning and repairing the Organ to keep it in top working order, to Lifestyles, Docents and the many volunteers that keep this place going, Thank You for all you do.

FROM THE FIELD

The History of our Home

By Andy Ottolia

he Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum sits on a 2-acre parcel of land encompassing the Nelson Exhibit Hall, our 1938 Texaco gas station and the Speedster restoration

building and our show field. But our museum is one of many on the Powerland Heritage Park complex. Today the park remains a vital institution for preserving Oregon's industrial and agricultural heritage. Here is a brief history of our home, this gem offering educational experiences for visitors of all ages.

The origins of Powerland Heritage

Park trace back to the 1950s and 1960s when local farmers in Silverton and Woodburn areas organized annual threshing bees - community events where neighbors gathered to assist harvesting crops. These events were popular and were held on local farms in the area to showcase Oregon's rich agricultural culture. Much of the equipment at these threshing bees came off the farms where they had been sitting for 50 years by the 1960s. Since they were steam powered iron and steel monsters they were made to last. When they were brought back to life by dedicated enthusiasts they made for a fine show of sounds, billowing steam, loud whistles and their massive size shook the ground.

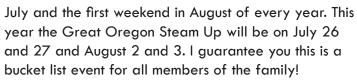
This prompted the steam enthusiasts to find a permanent venue, so they formed Western Antique Powerland Inc. (WAPI). A campus of 62 acres was purchased and over the years the park expanded to include various historical structures such as the historic Willamette Valley Steam Engine Museum were steam engines of all sizes are displayed some going back to the 1870's and the Brooks Antique Show Pavillon. These structures house rare equipment and artifacts relating to Oregon's agricultural past.

The park's centerpiece event, The Great Oregon Steam-Up began in 1970 and has become a significant annual tradition, attracting thousands of visitors each year. Last year 14,000 visitors attended

over the two weekends.

The event features on the last weekend in

live demonstrations of vintage machinery, including steam powered tractors, sawmills, and fire apparatus, along with trolley rides, a parade of power and a swap meet. All 14 museums onsite are open, so it makes for a very thrilling day for the whole family. It is held



Here is the list of the 14 museums at the park. How many have you yet visited?

- Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum
- Pacific Northwest Truck Museum
- Oregon Electric Railway Museum
- **Brooks Historical Society Museum**
- Oregon Fire Service Museum
- Willamette Valley Model Railroad Museum
- Antique Caterpillar Machinery Museum
- Pacific Northwest Logging Museum
- Oregon Vintage Machinery Museum
- Early Day Gas Engines and Tractor Association (Branch 15)
- Antique Powerland Museum Association
- Willow Creek Railroad
- Antique Implement Society
- Western Railway Preservation Society



FROM THE FIELD



Great Oregon Steam-Up Show Car Registration

Name:		Date: _	
City:		State: _	
Phone (cell) day of	show:		_
Club Affiliation:	☐ Branch 15	☐ Oregon Vintage Machine	•
	☐ Caterpillar	☐ NW Vintage Car & Motor	•
Make:	Model:		Year:
Please check one:	☐ First Weekend	☐ Second Weekend	□Both



"EDUCATION IS OUR PURPOSE"
P.O. Box 15 • Salem, OR • 97308-0015

The NW Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum is at Powerland Heritage Park, off Brooklake Road, west of 1-5.

1-5 Exit 263, Brooks

10 minutes north of Salem 30 minutes south of Portland

www.nwcarandcycle.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FULL CALENDAR ON PAGE 11

WEEKLY WORK DAYS
Thursdays, 9 am - 2 pm.
Everyone is welcome to
come help!

MEMBER/BOARD MEETINGS are the 3rd Thursday of each month, 2 pm at the Nelson Exhibit Hall. Everyone is welcome!

SUMMER HOURS IN EFFECT

Saturdays 10 am – 4 pm Sundays 12 – 4 pm

CRUISE NIGHTS AT THE MUSEUM

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday during June, July, August 4 – 8 pm Food truck on site!