

*October 2019*



## October Club Meeting

Although there was no scheduled event for September, many members attended the Osceola Wheels and Wings show as well as other local shows and cruises.

The October club meeting was held on a cool Saturday morning at Classic Auto Repair at 2100 107th Lane NE in Blaine, MN. Just over a dozen members and guests were in attendance to view the new shop/showroom. Several of us visited their old location in New Brighton a few years back, and their new shop is quite stunning.

The shop manager provided a quick overview, and thereafter, club members were free to view the collection. I arrived a little late and didn't hear the car count, but by my estimates, there were at least 50 vehicles in the showroom. The private collection is owned by a local businessman and much thanks for his willingness to share these great cars.



There was an incredible variety of vehicles including a few newer performance models (Viper, Mustang) as well as muscle-car era MOPAR, Buick, Covair, and Fords. There was even a functioning Messerschmitt on-site.



Of course, a few of our club favorites to admire included a rare 1970 LS6/454! From what I could tell a vast majority of the cars are in show condition. The staff mentioned the owner often invites friends and family to take the vehicles out for a spin. One can dream!



The club spent about an hour touring the shop, and we were impressed by the custom car hauler with a winch system. It was fun looking at a few of the shop's intake and carburetor displays.



Afterward, we headed down the road and enjoyed some delicious food at The Tipsy Steer. Thanks to Hank and Jenny for coordinating!

## Tools

**Lights** - Joby FL1-0YAM Gorillatorch Adjustable and Flexible Tripod Flashlight - \$125 on Amazon



I received one of these as a gift from my wife and I use it constantly in the garage. This adjustable tripod flashlight has powerful magnetic feet and bendable and flexible legs. The Gorillatorch illuminates your target while keeping your hands free. There is a light dimmer, and the brightness can be controlled by turning the dial. The lights are LED and provide up to 65 lumens (1 watt) of lighting power. At its brightest setting, the light will last up to 20 hours of continuous use or up to 80 hours when the dimmer is set to the economy setting. The Gorillatorch is powered by three AA batteries. We've also used this while camping and for numerous house projects. The legs collapse for easy storage and transport.

**Dustless Sand Blasting** - DB225® at \$8,500 or DB150® at \$6,000

<https://www.dustlessblasting.com/>



Dustless sand blasting utilizes water and abrasives that are mixed inside the blast tank. During blasting, water encapsulates the abrasive and coatings being removed, which prevents them from becoming airborne. The droplets then fall to the ground, keeping surrounding areas clean.

The equipment manufacturer claims the system will remove paint, rust, undercoating, body filler, powder coating, and even chrome in one simple step. They also indicate the water in the Dustless Blasting process eliminates friction and heat, thereby eliminating metal warping. The resulting surface is primer-ready and will also prevent rust for 72 hours. Note an air compressor is not included, and the run time for model DB150 is 15 minutes and DB225 is 30 minutes.

## Fire Extinguishers



Toward the end of the tour of Classic Auto Repair, we discussed fire extinguishers. I didn't realize the different types/classifications available, as their recommendation was to use an extinguisher with a BC classification. They are considered a dry chemical extinguisher. They can put out both Class B and C fires caused by flammable liquids (B) and energized electrical equipment (C). They are filled with either potassium or sodium bicarbonate. Relatively speaking, these units will generally fight a flammable liquid fire more effectively than a Class ABC extinguisher.

There are four classes of fire extinguishers – A, B, C and D – and each class can put out a different type of fire.

- Class A - for ordinary combustibles such as wood and paper
- Class B - for use on flammable liquids (grease, gasoline, oil)
- Class C - for use only on electrically energized fires
- Class D - for use on flammable metals

Multipurpose extinguishers can be used on different types of fires and will be labeled with more than one class, like A-B, B-C or A-B-C. The class in the attached photo is a 2:BC. The numbers before B and C are a measure of the amount of square feet the fire extinguisher can put out. For example, a 10:BC fire extinguisher can extinguish a fire over 10 square feet.

## Random Notes / Trivia / Fun Facts

Are we nearing the end of the Local Drive-Ins?

### Wagner's, Brooklyn Park

I stopped by Wagner's in Brooklyn Park last summer for a quick bite with the family. A few weeks back I saw a story that Jim Wagner, the owner of Wagner's Drive-in, was diagnosed with cancer over a year ago, and his health is declining. I wasn't aware that Wagner's has a local car enthusiast group, the "Wag-niters," that meet Monday nights.



Jim is trying to get stronger in a hospital room, where he's battling pneumonia along with stage four cancer. His support group, including family, friends, customers, and numerous groups he has helped over the past years are praying he can overcome this serious health issue, as he has done in the past. Due to his treatments and hospital stays, his catering business has decreased and he can no longer support the drive-in to stay open on Sundays.

Thus far, he has lost over 40% of business. With the slow season ahead for his restaurant, his friends in the Wag-Niters Car Club have setup a GoFundMe page to help with Jim Wagner's medical bills.

### Galaxy, St. Louis Park

I was not aware of the relationship with Wagner's and Galaxy until I read more about Galaxy Drive-in in St. Louis Park. I occasionally drive by the restaurant running errands and I had to think the construction updates on Highway 7 a few years back had a severe impact on business. The beautiful neon lights glow year around, but there is no sign of human interaction. No windows are broken, and the lawn is perfectly manicured.



The owner, Steven Schussler, bought the location in 2009. The drive-in dates back to 1951 and was most recently called Wagner's; it was Schussler who renamed it the Galaxy. Hard to believe, but the article reports that he spends upward of \$130,000 annually to maintain the property and has invested over \$1.7 million. However, he has been reluctant to sell until he can find a great operator that can run the restaurant effectively.

### **Club Notes**

Anyone interested in holding an officer position in 2020 should contact Jenny Staniec at [jenny.staniec@northstarcheves.com](mailto:jenny.staniec@northstarcheves.com).

**Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>:** Bowling from  
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM at Drkula's 32 Bowl  
6710 Cahill Ave, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076  
5:30 PM for Club Meeting, Officer Elections, & Dinner

**Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>:** Holiday Party  
Crooked Pint Ale House & Event Center  
734 Adolphus St, Maplewood, MN 55117  
Appetizers at 5:00 P.M  
Please bring unwrapped toys

**January TBD:** Check Forum

### **Sources**

<https://www.nationwide.com/fire-extinguisher-safety.jsp> 11 Nov 2019

<http://www.safetyemporium.com/fire/fire-extinguishers/class-bc/> 11 Nov 2019

<http://www.citypages.com/restaurants/hey-whats-the-deal-with-st-louis-parks-vacant-but-lit-galaxy-drive-in/559294661> 02 Nov 2019

<https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2019/10/14/he-touches-so-many-people-friends-rally-around-wagners-drive-in-owner-in-midst-of-cancer-fight/> 03 Nov 2019