

THE PRAIRIE LADY

Rolls-Royce Owners Club - Can-Am Prairie Region

Newsletter May/June 2008

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Darcy and Dawn Collings 1989 Bentley Turbo RL KCX27731

Editor's Ramblings

Welcome again to another enthralling edition of the Prairie Lady. Please make note of the coming events as Terry and Marianne have put quite a bit of effort into these. I did the events organizing for many years and always appreciated a good turnout. I purchased another car in April. Please don't be disappointed because it's not an RR/B. I bought a 1972 Fiat Spider. The good drove it 60 miles home with no problems and it cost only 500 bucks. The bad RUST! Fortunately, I have some bodywork experience, having cut my teeth on the Bentley. I look forward to another overwhelming project now that all the spring car servicing is done.

George

Coming Events

Open Hoist Day

Sunday June 22nd 11am

Lone Star Inc.

10 Heritage Meadows Road S.E.

We will be viewing the underside of our cars. Dave Turner will be on hand to answer questions and to offer advice. Limited to wheel removal or tire rotations or other small jobs as tools are limited. Anything more specific needs to be requested in advance so there is time for everybody's cars and proper tools are available. Please call Terry with any requests and also to RSVP for this event by June 19th.

Aerospace Museum

Sunday July 20th 12 noon

4629 McCall Way N.E.

We will be given a guided tour of the museum so RSVP to Marianne or Terry by June 30th so so they can organize the proper number of volunteers.

Lunch

Sunday August 24th 1:00 p.m.

Madrina's Restarante'

23 Balsam Ave Bragg Creek

Meet at Southcenter Mall in South Calgary on the west side by the Bay at noon.

RSVP to Marianne or Terry by August 22nd.



Corniche Accumulators and Gas Springs

By George Pope

When I bought the Corniche last spring I decided to give it a summer of driving and sort out what it needed. It was taking a minute or so for the pressure lights to go off and the back end of the car thumped on bumps like a truck. This spring I ordered the gas springs and accumulators and with some new castrol green fluid went to work.

Perhaps I should throw a little disclaimer out here first. I am not a tech, don't pretend to be one, and only work on my own cars. I also want to make it clear this is a mineral oil car and not to be confused with my much beloved 363 brake fluid cars.

I first depressurized the system by gently pressing the brake pedal 50 times. I then opened the right front wheel bleed nipples and the rear height control bleeders. I then used a chain wrench to remove the 2 accumulators on the right side of the engine and replaced them with fresh ones. The gas springs on the Corniche are a really interesting kettle of fish. First you remove both parts of the back seat followed by the parcel shelf and unscrew 2 little covers. Then you detach part of the headliner and roll it up out of the way. I was told a chain wrench would now fit in and I could remove the gas springs but on this car it would not fit. I ended up removing the top of the rams with the gas springs attached to them and separated them in the vice. Then I placed the new gas springs on the ram tops and popped them back on the rams in the car. I then bled the brakes and the rear height control to get any air out. I found there to be surface rust under the parcel shelf due to water leakage so I did a Por15 job on that just to stop any future corrosion.

The car rides completely different now and the pressure lights go out much faster. This job took me about 5 hours and cost about \$600. Note the new steering rack seals courtesy of Dave Turner.



RROC Can-Am Prairie Region
Annual Business Meeting Minutes
Sunday, October 14th, 2007
Held at The Black Knight Inn, Red Deer, Alberta

Meeting Minutes

Members in attendance:

John Doyle, Olds	Laurie Niewchas, Edmonton
Kathy Doyle, Olds - Chairman	George Pope, Calgary
Howard Lengert, Calmar - Archiver	Hoover Reid, Calgary
Christopher McAviney, Calgary - Newsletter Editor	Bernice Tims, Calgary
Terry Murphy, Calgary - Acting Secretary	Maurice Tims, Calgary - Treasurer
Marianne Murphy, Calgary	David Turner, Calgary (Non-member)

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Minutes

The agenda for the meeting was accepted by the members in attendance. The minutes of the last Annual Business Meeting held on November 5, 2006 were referenced as published in the region's newsletter, The Prairie Lady, July - Sept. 2006, pp. 4-6. Kathy Doyle made a motion to accept the minutes as published. Howard Lengert seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Maurice Tims submitted the Treasurer's Report for review. The current bank balance is about \$4,200 less the cost of hosting the Technical Session of about \$800. The Treasurer's Report will be published in the January - February edition of The Prairie Lady. Can-Am Prairie Region primary member annual dues for next year will remain at the CDN\$32.50 in order to partially offset higher costs for The Prairie Lady. No change to spousal dues is proposed. Maurice Tims declared a motion to introduce a charge of \$20 for members to attend the annual technical session. The amount will be used to help cover the costs of the technical session. Marianne Murphy seconded the motion. A majority of the members in attendance voted for the motion. The motion passed.

Social Events Report

Cathy and Norman Howarth of Calgary have offered to host the region's annual Christmas Party on December 1, 2007. All members are asked to RSVP to Cathy directly. More information will follow in the next edition of The Prairie Lady.

The annual technical session will be held on either the April 26 - 27, 2008 or May 10 - 11, 2008 weekend.

Election of Regional Officers

The following slate of regional executive positions were elected for a one-year term:

Regional Chairman - Kathy Doyle
Treasurer & Memberships - Maurice Tims
Secretary - Darcy Collings
Newsletter Editor - George Pope
Archiver - Howard Lengert
Social Events Chair - Terry & Marianne Murphy

Other Business

Kathy Doyle put forward a motion to have a Spring Tour within the region next year. This idea will be further discussed by the membership.

Laurie Niewchas suggested that air miles be donated. No specific motion resulted from the discussion.

Meeting Termination

Upon no further business, Kathy Doyle asked that a motion to terminate the meeting be made. Marianne Murphy declared the motion. John Doyle seconded the motion. All members present were in favor. The motion was passed to terminate the meeting.

The meeting was terminated.

Terry Murphy for Darcy Collings, Secretary

2008 Pacific Northwest Fall Tour – Saturday Sept 13 through Saturday Sept 20

This National Club tour begins in La Conner WA (a picturesque fishing village halfway between Seattle and Vancouver BC), crosses east over the rugged North Cascade Mountains, meanders north up the lush irrigated wine country of the Canadian Okanagan Valley to Kamloops, crosses west via the Chilcotin Range and the Fraser River Highlands to Whistler (an international destination resort and the site of the 2010 Winter Olympics). The itinerary is an improved version of the highly successful 2005 tour. Many previous participants have signed up to go again. You may wish to organize or participate in a caravan to and from the tour. You are cordially invited to come. If you live at a distance from the tour, and don't want to drive your PMC, we encourage riders. We will arrange hosts as needed.

Essentially the entire route is designated scenic byway. The scenery is gorgeous. The driving is interesting, and in several places even a bit challenging. Each day offers ample opportunity to get to know other participants. Features of the tour include a boat ride on an alpine lake, an extended ride on a steam railway, and a choice between many activities at Whistler....

Other activities include visiting the mining ghost town of Molson, the Desert Interpretive Centre at Osoyoos, and several award-winning wineries. We will drive the oldest paved hill climb course in the world. Penelope Day (whose family was a contemporary of the Royces) will offer recollections of motoring in England in the 30's and 40's. One of our social events will be a BBQ at BC Region member Karl Stegeman's house overlooking the Kamloops valley. A wine reception will kick off the tour, followed by a welcome dinner. After a full day to enjoy Whistler's myriad activities, the official tour will end with a farewell dinner at one of Whistler's finest restaurants. If there is sufficient interest, we will set up a suggested tour of Vancouver BC for the next day (Sunday) for those returning to the US.

For questions or details, please contact co-leaders Phil Birkeland (253. _____ or jeanbirkeland@ _____ or David Stocks (250. _____ or fdstocks@ _____). We can email you detailed itinerary and registration information.

Get Out of the Car!

(This is supposedly a true account recorded in the police log of Sarasota, Florida)

An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and upon returning to her car, found four males in the act of leaving with her vehicle. She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun, proceeding to scream at the top of her lungs, "I have a handgun and I know how to use it! Get out of the car!"

The four men didn't wait for a second threat. They got out and ran like mad. The lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her shopping bags into the back of the car and got into the driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not get her key into the ignition.

She tried and tried, and then she realized why. It was for the same reason she had wondered why there was a football, a Frisbee and two packs of beer in the front seat.

A few minutes later, she found her car parked four or five spaces farther down.

She loaded her bags into the car and drove to the police station to report her mistake.

The sergeant to whom she told the story couldn't stop laughing.

He pointed to the other end of the counter, where four pale men were reporting a car jacking by a mad, elderly woman described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair, and carrying a large handgun.

No charges were filed.

Moral of the story?

If you're going to have a senior moment...make it memorable.

Wanted

4 - Good used 650-16 wide
white wall bias ply tires

Contact George Pope
403-

Wanted

Region Members
willing to contribute articles
for this newsletter

Email to pogo@