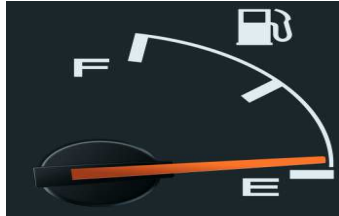


# McMinnville Auto Club

Presents  
**ROUTE 99**

Our Monthly Newsletter

Volume 8 Issue 2 February 1012



**Q. How far can I drive when my gas gauge reads empty?**

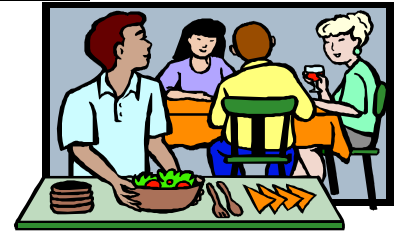
**A.** Your vehicle may give you a few miles of grace, but tempting fate is not really the point here. The important thing to know is what to do when the gauge approaches empty, and the ways that driving with a nearly empty tank can affect your car.

In many modern cars, the fuel pump sits inside the gas tank. It uses gasoline for cooling and lubrication, so when gas runs very low the pump tends to heat up. You might not do major damage if you let this happen once, but making a regular practice of driving with just a few quarts of gas in the tank can eventually kill the pump.

Another peril involves the stuff that collects at the bottom of a gas tank, such as sediment from fuel and water from condensation. With a full tank, condensation doesn't have much space to form and sediment sits harmlessly at the bottom. When fuel runs low, there's a chance that the pump will suck in debris and push it to the engine or that enough of it will collect on the pump's filter to block the flow of gas.

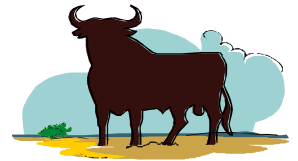
The easy cure for these troubles is a few gallons of prevention. Keep your gas tank at least three eighths full.

## Pot Luck Dinner !!



Thursday night February 9, 6:30 pm. We will use the main dining room of the Church. Those of you bringing food please bring your favorite dish. The club will provide water, coffee, soda, etc.

We have had some great pot lucks in the past, it gives us all a chance to "shoot" the bull,



and find out what projects you are involved with this winter. I also include in that statement the "*HONEY DO'S*," which keep some of us very busy.



## Testing Engine Vacuum

*Monitoring your engine's deepest breaths can tell you a lot about its health*

A vacuum test is one of the simplest and most effective diagnostic weapon the shade-tree mechanic has in his arsenal.

With an inexpensive gauge, you can gain insight into the symptoms of vacuum leaks, incorrect timing, low compression, sticking valves and more.

First, you need to know the vacuum specs for your engine (consult your shop manual). You must also bear in mind that vacuum gauges are calibrated for sea level, and for every 1,000 feet you are above sea level, you must subtract one inch of vacuum.

The simplest to perform is the running vacuum test. To begin, start the engine and let it run until it has reached normal operating temperature. Find a vacuum port to connect the gauge to, ideally, it should be on the manifold or below the base of the carburetor. Where it shouldn't be is high atop the carburetor, on the air cleaner or any of the emissions control paraphernalia.

With the gauge connected, if the needle rides steady at or slightly above the number spelled out in the shop manual (a very slight flutter is ok, too), then all is well.

If the pointer jumps around erratically, increase the engine speed to about 2,000 rpm. If the needle's action smoothes out, it could be an ignition or low-speed carburetion problem. If the erratic action of the needle seems to worsen, the problem is likely an intake vacuum leak or a valve train issue.

To perform another type of vacuum test, often referred to an engine condition test, first warm up the engine. Then, tightly close off the carburetor throttle and tighten the air mixture screws (noting the number of turns so you can restore the stock setting) Plug the PCV and disable the ignition so the engine does not start.

Now connect your gauge and crank over the engine. A non-emissions-equipped engine should make 10 or more inches of vacuum.

A low but steady reading might indicate a blown carburetor flange gasket or a worn throttle shaft; it could also be a vacuum line leaking, or it might simply be the engine isn't turning over quickly enough due to a weak battery or starter.

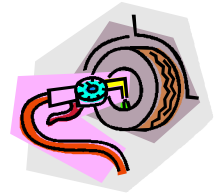
If the needle seems to pulse suddenly during the engine condition test this could be a sign that something is amiss but affecting one or possible two cylinders. It may be valve related, and intake leak affecting one cylinder for a compression issue in one cylinder.

Here are a few fundamental readings you might encounter while testing your engine:

- A steady reading between 15 and 22 inHg is normal for most engines. By snapping the throttle open and closed the needle should drop to 5 inHg or lower before stabilizing at 15 and 22.
- A low reading that stays steady (perhaps around 5 inHg) indicates a vacuum leak at the intake manifold or carburetor. It might also be something as simple as disconnected or leaking vacuum hose.
- A reading of between 8 and 14 inHg could be telling you that the ignition timing is incorrectly set or that piston rings are leaking. It might be advisable to break out the timing light and compression tester at this point.
- If the needle is vibrating rapidly between the 14-19 inHg marks, it could be a sign that worn valve guides are allowing the valves to move around.
- A bad head gasket would usually result in a reading that fluctuates between 5 inHg and lower than normal reading.
- A higher than normal reading that holds steady could mean a restricted intake. This could be a clogged air filter or a stuck choke on a carbureted engine.
- When the gauge's needle swings across a 4-5 inHg range around the normal reading, it could be a sign of incorrect carburetor adjustment which should manifest itself in other ways too.

### Tools and materials

- Vacuum gauge
- Vacuum tubing
- Tubing adaptors or fittings as necessary
- Vacuum port plugs

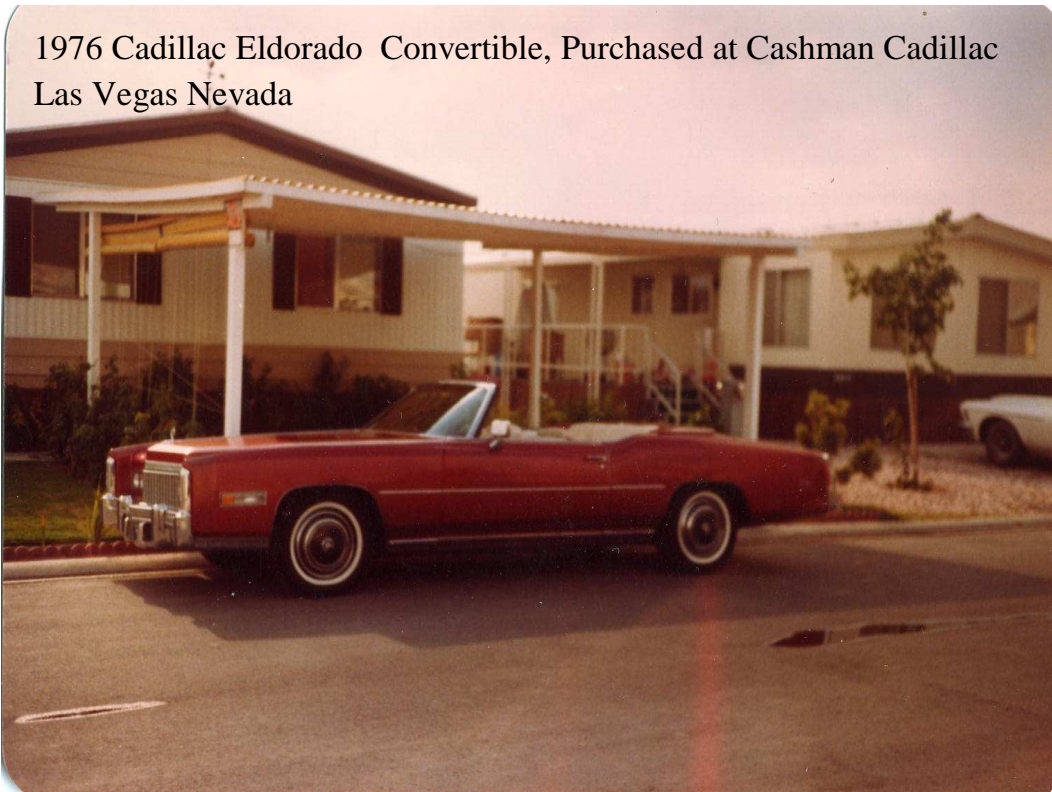


“Cadillac Curtis Smith”, one of our newest members, has had a lot of cars during his life time. The following five are a few of his favorites.

**1971 Cadillac Coupe De Ville bought at Scott Motors Reno Nevada. This Cadillac went over 159,000 miles before being traded for the 1976 Cadillac Convertible.**



1976 Cadillac Eldorado Convertible, Purchased at Cashman Cadillac Las Vegas Nevada



1961 Chevrolet Impala (one of first 409's) #9 of those Experimental Cars. Purchased at Bert Corvettes. The first set of tires lasted two (2) weeks.



**Truism:**

“The clock of life is wound but once, and no man has the power to tell just when the hands will stop, at late or early hour. Now is the only time you own. Live, love, toil with a will. Place no faith in time. For the clock may soon be still.”



1955 Buick 2 dr. H/T Victoria Blue/White. This Buick had no power options. Basic Buick just comfortable.



1962 Tan Cadillac Brougham new in Dallas Texas. This beauty had all options including power wing windows.





## Be My valentine

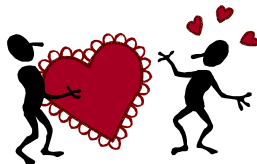
Valentines Day is February 14. This day is set aside for exchanges of love with sweethearts, friends and family.

Expressions of love such as Valentine Day greeting cards, boxes of chocolates, flowers, presents or special events mark the occasion.

A Frenchman, Charles, Duke of Orleans, is credited with writing the first Valentine. He was captured by the English during the battle of Agincourt in 1415. On Valentine's day he sent his wife a rhyming love letter from the tower of London, where he was imprisoned.

There are different ideas as to where or how the celebration of Valentine's Day began.

The Roman's celebrated a festival called Lupercalia on February 15. This festival was held to ward off the danger of wolves to their flocks and honored their God Lupercalia. This is one idea. The Christian Church had two Saints named Valentine and two other ideas center around them. The Roman Emperor, Claudius the II forbade young men to marry in 200 A.D. He believed single men made better soldiers, free of family concerns. A priest named Valentine disobeyed the Emperor and married couples in secret. The next Saint Valentine was a lover of children but, was imprisoned when he would not honor other gods. The children missed him and wrote messages of affection to him. They threw their notes through the bars of his cell. This may have been the beginning of exchanging messages. He was executed on February 24, 269 A.D. Pope Gelasius in 496 A.D. named February 14th, Valentine's Day, after him. The fourth idea concerning the celebration of Valentine's Day is based on the belief that birds or fowl pick their mates on February 14th. It was believed love birds in particular, chose this day to begin mating.



The modern day celebration of Valentine's Day seems to have began in France and England. On Valentines Eve young people would gather and pick names becoming a valentine to whose ever name they chose. Cupid, Doves, Love Birds, Roses, Hearts and arrows are all symbols of the Valentine's day Holiday. Cupid was the symbol of the Roman God of Love.



Today, people exchange cards with symbols of love and affection on them. Children and adults use various colors of printer paper to make distinct handmade cards for special people in their life. Glitter, markers and picture can add special sparkle to any card. Many people like to place these cards in strange spots for their loved one to find, like in a refrigerator, or a mirror, on a computer or on a pillow.

**Be Mine**

## Club Officers:

President: Mike Irwin  
Vice President: Curtis Smith Jr.  
Treasurer: Rich Custer 503-472-8090  
Secretary/Editor: Ray Clevidence 503-680-3116  
Membership Chair: Mike Irwin 503-474-5737  
Program Chair: Rich Custer 503-472-8090  
Sponsor Chair: Curtis Smith Jr. 503-472-3071  
Publicity Chair: Kevin Gebhart 503-474-0668

## **McMinnville Auto Club** **Route 99 Monthly Club Newsletter**

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leave information at:  
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[www.macautoclub.com](http://www.macautoclub.com)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you want more information please contact Northwest Car Events: [www.upfrontimages.com](http://www.upfrontimages.com). Check it out, it has all the car shows, swap meets, etc., in the Pacific Northwest.

04 February, Salem Collector Car Auction, Oregon State Fair Grounds, Salem, OR

09 February, McMinnville Car Club Pot Luck Dinner, 6:30 PM, First Presbyterian Church, bring your favorite dish, your specialty.

**A drunk woman**, stark naked, jumped into a taxi at a location in Palm Springs, CA. The Indian driver opened his eyes wide and stared at the woman. He made no attempt to start the Cab. "What's wrong with you, haven't you ever seen a naked woman before?" "I'll not be staring at you lady. I am telling you, that would not be proper, where I am coming from." "Well if you're not bloody staring at me, what are you doing then?"

"Well, I am looking and looking, and I am thinking to myself, where is this lady keeping the money to be paying me with."



## Next board meeting:

First Thursday of every Month  
February 2, 2012 @ 6:00 PM  
734 NE Baker St McMinnville, Oregon 97128

## Next club meeting

Second Thursday of the Month  
February 9, 2012 @ 7:00 PM  
690 NE 2nd. Avenue, McMinnville, Oregon 97128  
Enter at SW corner of church go up ramp.

## **Classifieds:**

**1967 Buick special for sale. Original V-8 300 cu .in & 2-speed power-glide transmission. Original wheels & hubcaps. Vehicle currently has 350 cu-in V-8 & 3 speed automatic transmission. Good buy \$5,500.00. Contact Chris at: 503-435-9474 or email: [dr\\_duck@comcast.net](mailto:dr_duck@comcast.net) Check out our web site for a picture of this beautiful car.**

These wheels came off a Ford. They are Boss 308's, 20", ten spoke, with tires mounted. Beautiful wheels and tires can be purchased for 800.00 or best offer. Call Ray 503-680-3116.



Our club expresses our appreciation to our sponsors and supporters and asks you, our club members, to patronize our sponsors, the ones who make our events possible.

Without them we could not put on our club's events or make our donation to the "Free Community Dinner" held each Saturday night for the hungry and lonely families in our community, & Rock of Ages Retirement Center. We also support the Disabled American Veteran local program for our service men and women who are injured while serving our country.

We can use items for raffles and handouts for our car show participants. Our car shows draw from 75 to 150 participating cars with more than twice that many spectators.

**Major Event Sponsor: \$250.00** or more, list on our Website and Monthly Newsletter. Your Banner will be on display at our two major car shows.

**Valley View Retirement Village 15600  
SW Rock of Ages Rd. McMinnville, OR  
97128**

**Evergreen Aviation  
3850 Three Mile Lane McMinnville, OR  
97128  
[www.egam.org](http://www.egam.org)**

**West Coast Bank  
2214 NE McDonald Ln. McMinnville, OR  
97128 503-474-9695**

**Toth Corporation  
155 NE Baker Creek Rd. McMinnville, OR  
97128  
503-472-6262**

**Corporate Level Sponsor at \$100.00 or More**  
List on our Web site and Monthly Newsletter.

Les Schwab Tire Center  
170 NE Hwy 99 W. McMinnville OR  
503-472-4668

Macy & Son Funeral Directors  
135 N. Evans St. McMinnville, OR  
503-472-6151

Todd's Complete Exhaust  
2987 SE Booth Bend Road. McMinnville, OR  
503-472-6262

Yamhill Towing & Mac Towing  
190 W. Main, Yamhill, OR  
503-434-9119  
1350 SE Davis St. McMinnville, OR  
503-434-1515

Chuck Colvin Ford  
1925 N. Hwy 99 McMinnville, OR  
800-768-6906

J & J Custom Auto body, Paint & Fabrication  
15001 SW Hwy 18 McMinnville, OR 97128  
503-881-2507

Oregon Mutual  
400 NE Baker St. McMinnville, OR  
503-472-2141

Mr. Thad Brill  
Edward Jones  
715 NW Adams St McMinnville, OR  
503-474-04444  
[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

NW Logging Supply  
2330 Stratus Ave. McMinnville, OR  
503-472-4115

First Aide Only Exchange  
11101 NE 37th Circle Vancouver, WA 98682  
360-448-6223

Email: [markmiller@firstaideonly.com](mailto:markmiller@firstaideonly.com)

## Corporate Level Sponsor at \$100.00 or More

Golden Valley Brew Pub  
980 E. 4th. McMinnville, OR 97128  
503-472-BREW (2739)

Oil Can Henry's  
Roger & Sandy Dickinson  
2185 NE 27th St. McMinnville, OR 97128  
503-435-2579

Ed's Transmission Service  
2300 SE Stratus Ave. McMinnville, OR 97128  
503-472-3630

South Paw Speedway  
503-560-3225

Larson Motors  
830 NE Hwy 99 McMinnville, OR 97128  
503-472-6144

## The Judge said

"Mr. Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully, and I have decided to give your wife \$775.00 a week."



That's very fair, your honor,' the husband said. 'And every now and then I'll try to send her a few bucks myself.'

## Guys Talking

Two guys were discussing popular family trends on sex, marriage, and family values.

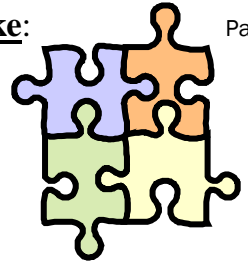
Bill said, 'I didn't sleep with my wife before we got married, did you?'

Larry replied, 'I'm not sure, what was her maiden name?'



## Best ever Senior Citizen Joke:

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A little silver-haired lady calls her neighbor and says, "Please come over here and help me. I have a Killer jigsaw puzzle, and I can't figure out how to get started."

Her neighbor asks, "What is it supposed to be when it's finished?"

The little silver haired lady says, "According to the picture on the box, it's a rooster,"

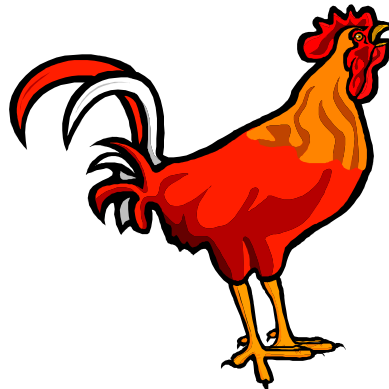
Her neighbor decides to go over and help with the puzzle.

She lets him in and shows him where she has the puzzle spread all over the table.

He studies the pieces for a moment, then looks at the box, then turns to her and says, "first of all, no matter what we do, we're not going to be able to assemble these pieces into anything resembling a rooster."

He takes her hand and says, "secondly, I want you to relax. Let's have a nice cup of tea, and then," he said with a deep sigh....

"Let's put all the Corn flakes back in the box."



**New Member:**

Gary and Elsie Ray, reside at 10715 Amity-Dayton Hwy, McMinnville, Or 97128. Check out directory for telephone numbers.

The dirty ford in the barn came out late which is a 1946 ford, but is titled as a 1947. Gary found the Ford outside Sheridan in a barn. It had not been started for 30 years. He is working on it now, and it will remain stock, keeping the flathead.



The 1929 Plymouth he dragged out of a field in Whiteson in 1998 and completely rebuilt it. He had Jim Myer racing in Lincoln city copy his frame and made a new one. Independent front suspension, disc brakes 4 bar rear with coilovers, crate 345 hp turbo 350 with stage 2, 373 poss rear end. It needs to be repainted.

