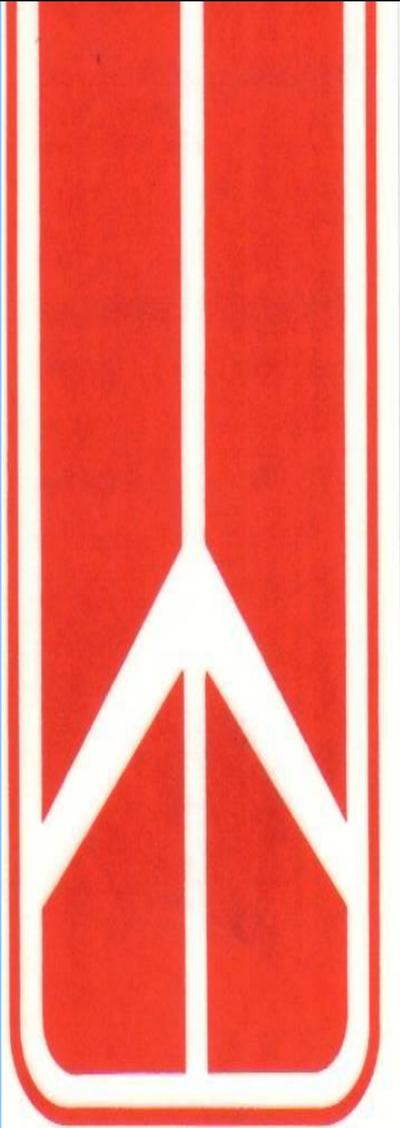


# THE PUGET SOUND ROCKET

## Newsletter of the Puget Sound Olds Club

An Official Chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America

February 2015



THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR Bennett

Thank goodness! The days of being gouged for fuel and emptying our wallets look like they are over. As we get closer to the “cruising season” the price of gas should not be a deterrent to enjoying driving our Oldsmobiles. Yesterday the gas price in Pierce County dropped to \$1.91 a gallon. It has been reported that in Spokane that gas is below \$1.80. In 2005, when the Puget Sound Olds Club hosted the National Meet in Seattle, many Oldsmobile of America members declined to drive to the Pacific Northwest because gas was \$2.50 a gallon.

It is doubtful that we will ever see the days of our youth when you could put \$5.00 of gas in our cars and cruise for the entire weekend. Let’s just enjoy the lower prices while we can. A couple of years ago we cruised to Port Townsend for the day. Anyone interested in repeating the cruise? Let us know and we will make plans.

**Between the Bumpers**  
**PAGE 3**

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**PAGE 9**

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
**PAGE 13**

**Puget Sound Olds Club  
2014  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President**

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253-845-2288 home

253-576-1128 cell

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Ed Straw

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**Secretary**

Position open

**Treasurer**

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**Newsletter Editor**

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**OCA BOARD MEMBERS**

No Zone Reps at this time

**PSOC Website:**

[www.pugetsoundoldsclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundoldsclub.org)

## President's Message

PSOC Members,

Happy New Year!

Well, here we are already in the second month of 2015. The call of swap meets is in the air. On the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> you will be able to attend the Corvette & High Performance Swap Meet at the Washington State Fairgrounds, formerly known as the Puyallup Fairgrounds. Sometimes you can even find Olds parts there. On the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, the Early Bird Swap Meet will also be held at the Washington State Fairgrounds. Your editor will have the usual three spaces in the Show Plex. Look for the red Puget Sound Olds Club banner.

We are pleased with the recent increase in attendance at chapter meetings. If you have not been to a meeting in a while, we would like to encourage you to attend a future monthly meeting if you can include it in your schedule.

I would like to extend my thanks to my wife, Pam, for taking the minutes at the January chapter meeting. In the absence of an official chapter secretary, if you would like to assist with note taking at a chapter meeting, please let us know.

See you at the meeting on Feb. 8.

*Go Hawks!*

**Ed Konsmo**  
President

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE NEWSLETTER:**

Information to be considered for submittal in to the newsletter needs to be received by the 25th of the month. Please send your information as an e-mail or attach it to your e-mail in word document form. If you have problems or questions, call Ed or Pam at 253-845-2288. Please e-mail your submittal to: [ekonsmo@msn.com](mailto:ekonsmo@msn.com)



## “BETWEEN THE BUMPERS” ... By Ed



The following data was printed in *Hemmings Daily*

What's the single greatest achievement in the history of General Motors? That's a question made meaningless by the very size of the world's largest automaker, and the impact that it has had on the United States and the world beyond. Even a cursory look at the history of GM and its ever-changing constellation of divisions will tell you that its greatness results from countless accomplishments, much as a 10-foot snowdrift is the product of millions of individual flakes. With that in mind, here are 100 highlights from a remarkable century.

### **1908**

Billy Durant incorporates General Motors on September 16 as a holding company for Buick. Oldsmobile is folded into GM.

### **1909**

Oakland Motor Company, which would later spawn Pontiac, becomes a GM holding. GM buys Cadillac from Henry Leland.

GM adds AC Spark Plugs.

Reliance Motor Truck Company and the Rapid Motor Vehicle Company, the predecessors of GMC, become part of GM.

### **1910**

Cadillac becomes the first American manufacturer to offer closed bodies as standard.

### **1911**

GM Export Co. is established to handle sales outside of the U.S.

### **1912**

Cadillac makes the electric self-starter standard, and wins the Dewar Trophy from Britain's Royal Automobile Club.

### **1918**

GM buys the assets of Chevrolet, started seven years earlier by Durant and Louis Chevrolet. The purchase of United Motors Corporation brings Delco, and its founder, Charles F. Kettering, into the GM fold.

GM of Canada is formed through a merger.

### **1919**

GM acquires controlling interest in the Fisher Body Company.

Americans become familiar with the monthly payment thanks to the formation of General Motors Acceptance Corporation; by 1928, four million vehicles will be sold this way.

**Continued on page 4**

**1923**

GM opens its first European assembly plant, in Copenhagen, Denmark, where Chevrolets are built for sale in Scandinavian countries, the Baltics, and Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary and Russia.

GM research introduces ethyl gasoline.

Fisher pioneers use of lacquer for auto bodies, speeding up production.

**1924**

Corporation president Alfred P. Sloan outlines his vision for a hierarchical GM: "A car for every purse and purpose."

Buick introduces four-wheel brakes.

GM Proving Ground, the largest testing facility of its kind in the world, opens in Milford, Michigan.

**1925**

GM acquires British carmaker Vauxhall.

GM establishes operations in Argentina, France and Germany.

General Motors do Brazil is established in Sao Paulo.

Fisher Body acquires Fleetwood Body; for decades, its name would be associated with the finest Cadillacs.

**1926**

The first Pontiac is introduced as a companion marque to Oakland.

The School of Automotive Trades is reorganized into the General Motors Institute, today known as Kettering University.

**1927**

The Art and Colour Section is established, with Harley Earl in charge.

**1928**

Cadillac introduces the clash-free Synchro-Mesh transmission.

GM India is established.

**1929**

GM acquires controlling interest in German carmaker Adam Opel AG.

GM China is established, with headquarters in Shanghai.

**1930**

The Cadillac V-16, designed by Owen Nacker, is the industry's first sixteen-cylinder engine.

The Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild is founded to encourage boys to develop high-precision skills; many winners of the Napoleonic Coach and car-styling contests would go on to successful design careers.

**1931**

General Motors - Holden's Limited is established through a merger of Holden Motor Body Builders and GM (Australia) Pty. Ltd.

**Continued on page 5**

### **1934**

GM's two-cycle diesel engine hauls the first American diesel-electric train, the Pioneer Zephyr. An 83,764-mile run to demonstrate the efficiency and reliability of diesel power five years later sounds the death knell for steam locomotives.

"Knee-Action" independent front suspension is introduced; it's so good, it was adopted under license by Rolls-Royce.

The industry's first barrier crash tests are conducted on GM cars.

"Turret-top" all-steel roofs are introduced for the 1935 model year. Fabric roof panels quickly become obsolete.

### **1935**

Bill Mitchell begins his 42-year career in design at GM.

GM de Mexico is established.

The Chevrolet Suburban, the ancestor of the SUV, hits the market as a 1936 model.

### **1936**

Using eight huge vans, the Parade of Progress brings the latest in technology to small-town America.

### **1937**

Pontiac leads the way in introducing the column-mount gearshift lever.

### **1938**

The hugely influential Buick Y-Job concept car is unveiled.

### **1939**

GM's Futurama exhibit is the star of the Worlds' Fair in New York City.

Hydra-Matic, the industry's first completely automatic transmission, is introduced on 1940 Oldsmobiles.

### **1940**

GM celebrates production of its 25-millionth car.

William Knudsen, president of GM, is appointed head of the new federal Wartime Office of Production Management by FDR.

### **1942**

100 percent of GM production has been converted to the war effort.

### **1948**

Cadillac and Oldsmobile introduce the industry's first modern, overhead valve, high-compression V-8 engines, and set off the horsepower wars.

### **1949**

Cadillac introduces its first hardtop, the Coupe de Ville.

Oldsmobile introduces the Rocket 88, combining a powerful V-8 with a light body. The car excelled on NASCAR's tracks, and in the Carrera Pan Americana.

"Transportation Unlimited," the forerunner of the Motorama, draws more than half a million people.

## **Years 1950 to 2002 will be in the March *Puget Sound Rocket***

OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA  
**PUGET SOUND CHAPTER**

*2015 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check here if this is an address change

HOME PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAY      MONTH \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE          MONTH \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_

**\$15.00 annual dues payable.** *Make checks payable to Puget Sound Chapter and mail to:*

**Kathi Straw**  
**PSOC Membership Chairperson**  
**P.O. Box 82042**  
**Kenmore, WA 98028**

*Please assist us in updating our roster by listing your current Oldsmobile(s) below:*

1) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

2) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

3) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

4) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

5) YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

Please print this form and mail to Kathi Straw

## LET'S GET PERSONAL

# February Birthdays

<i>Date</i>		<i>Lives In</i>
<b>1</b>	<b>Trudy Gamash</b>	Sequim, WA
<b>2</b>	<b>John Haukom</b>	Lacey, WA
<b>6</b>	<b>Joyce Rose</b>	Quilicum Beach - Canada
<b>7</b>	<b>Liz McCaughan</b>	Des Moines, WA
<b>13</b>	<b>Carol Secord</b>	Redmond, WA
<b>14</b>	<b>Margaret Reid</b>	Delta, BC – Canada
<b>20</b>	<b>Erik Martinson</b>	Maple Valley, WA
<b>21</b>	<b>Kyle Hartman</b> 	Tacoma, WA
<b>21</b>	<b>Hugh Russell</b> 	Seattle, WA

*We are still in need of Hosts for August and October – please let me know if you can help. Thanks to all. Pam*

### **UPCOMING CLUB MEETING HOSTS \* 2015 MEETINGS**

*February – Kathi & Ed Straw  
 March – Erma & Ed Booth  
 April – Vicki & Erik Martinson  
 May – Ken Thompson  
 June – Hugh Russell  
 July.....Zone Show  
 August  
 September – Ned Peterson  
 October  
 November – Nina & Jim Rogers  
 December....Christmas Party*

**\*Host provides refreshments**

## MEMBER NOTES & CHAPTER INFO

This page features notes of interest for and about our members. If you have something interesting to report, please send an e-mail to your editor at [ekonsmo@msn.com](mailto:ekonsmo@msn.com), or call and leave a message, 253-845-2288.

### **Time to renew your membership!**

Did you forget to send in your 2015 chapter membership? In this newsletter on page 6 you will find a chapter membership application. Will you please take a moment, fill it out and mail it to Kathi along with your check? Chapter dues are still only \$15. Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our chapter needs a recording secretary for the monthly meetings. It is not a difficult task. Perhaps you have been thinking about becoming more involved in your chapter. All you need to do is write down what is discussed at the meeting and turn it in to the editor for publication in the newsletter. It's a very simple process and does not take a lot of your time. Perhaps you might be willing to just take the minutes for a meeting or two. Please call, or just show up at the next meeting and be willing to volunteer. Your participation will be appreciated!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **MEETING TIME REMINDER!**

The members present at the January meeting voted to move the February meeting to the **second Sunday, the 8<sup>th</sup>**, instead of the usual first Sunday of the month. The meeting will be at the Newport Way Library at 1 PM. This change will allow chapter members to enjoy the Super Bowl game without having to rush home.

## **GO HAWKS!!**

# CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

## OLDSMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA PUGET SOUND CHAPTER

January 4, 2015

### MINUTES

- President Ed Konsmo convened the meeting at 1:10 pm. 16 chapter members were present.
- Treasurer, Kathi Straw reported that the chapter finances are in order. Dues for 2015 are continuing to come in.
- We still need a volunteer for the position of chapter secretary.
- Ed K. reminded members to be sure and get their club dues paid
- .A report from former OCA President Pat Yancey is that Margaret is finally home and feeling better. We were all pleased to hear the news.
- It was reported that Nina Rogers, former president, had received a reply from OCA acknowledging the receipt of the request made on behalf of our club asking that a Legislative Representative be available for questions and concerns and that clubs in the Pacific Northwest Zone have no representative.
- Nina reported that the toys for military families received at the Christmas party were very welcome. A thank you note from the military organization had been received.
- Ed K. opened the floor for discussion of ideas for promoting more club attendance. Perhaps discussing it in the newsletter; to get ideas from members as to what might work better for more people. Perhaps a different day of the month, location changes as to where the meetings are to be held or perhaps an evening/dinner meeting were some of the ideas.
- In future months tours were discussed. Ken agreed to be Wagon Master when a tour was decided. Members were asked to give it some thought so we could discuss ideas at the next meeting.
- The next meeting will be February 8<sup>th</sup> (not the usual first Sunday of the month, due to Super Bowl timing). The meeting will be at the Newport Library, from 1:00 pm. – 2:15 pm.
- Thanks to all that signed up at the meeting to provide snacks at the upcoming meetings. The only months that remain unclaimed are August and October. If you didn't have a chance to sign up, there is still time.
- Kathi & Ed Straw discussed the trip they are taking in July (after our Zone show). They will be traveling to Olds Alberta Canada. Several members of the B.C. club and several other clubs in Canada participate in this show each year. They invited anyone wishing to attend give them a call to make it a tour, if they like.
- Website change information:  
There were questions regarding Web posting. There will be a \$5.00/mo. Fee if we do the changes on our own, or \$15.00/mo if Kathi's sister continues to do the changes for us. There is also a \$25.00 a year fee if we feel we'd like to change the name of web site.
- The meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm

## 2015 LeMay America's Car Museum Featured Attractions



On March 27, 2015, the LeMay will debut an updated Route 66: Dream of the Mother Road exhibit, featuring vintage station wagons. Given the resurgence of interest in classic station wagons, likely in opposition to the growing population of crossovers and SUVs, the museum could hardly have chosen a more suitable vehicle for the exhibit, a 1950 Olds 88 “Tin Woodie.” Per Keller, “The station wagon is the ultimate road-trip car, which makes it appropriate to highlight in our exhibit dedicated to the most famous highway in the U.S. We all have a station wagon story.”

## Swap Meets & Shows to attend in February

**The swap meets and shows are selected based on convenient locations.**

**FEB 7-8 Puyallup, WA; Corvette & Hi-Performance Swap Meet**  
Washington State Fair Grounds; Puyallup, WA 360-786-8844

**FEB 14-15 Puyallup, WA; Early Bird Swap Meet**  
Washington State Fair Grounds; Puyallup, WA 253-863-6211  
(Your editor will be in the Show Plex selling Olds parts....again)

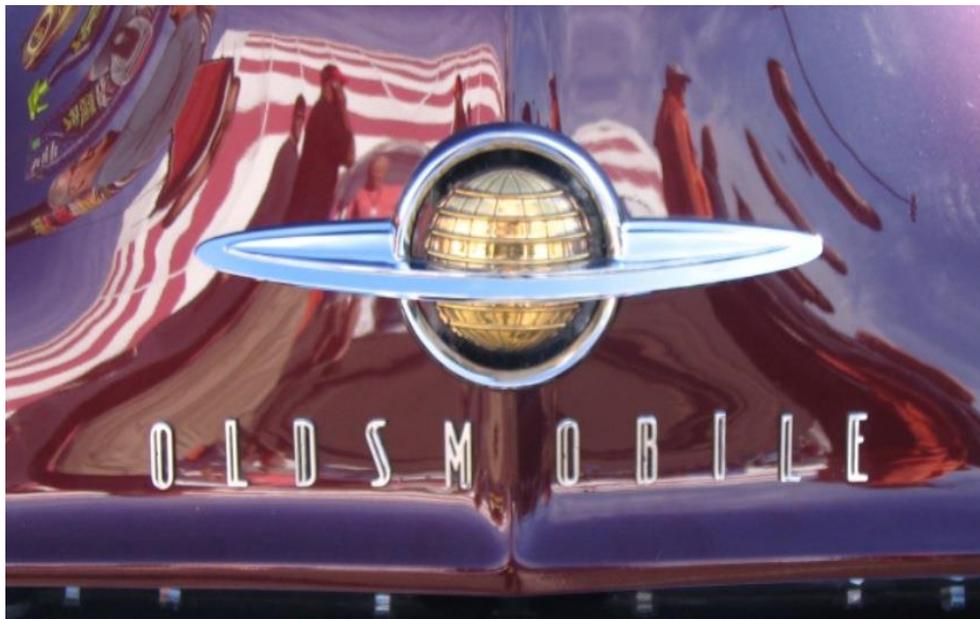
**FEB 21 Burlington, WA; Berry Cool Car Show**  
360-757-6333

**FEB 22 Hoquiam, WA; Push Rods Auction**  
360-533-2484



## Future Oldsmobile National Meets

- 2015 - July 22-26; Brookfield, WI; Brookfield Milwaukee Sheraton Hotel. Hosted by the Olds Club of America**
- 2016 - July 19-23; Kingsport, TN; Meadow View Resort and Convention Center. Hosted by the Oldsmobile Club Of America.**
- 2017 - Albuquerque, NM – Date to be determined**



## CLASSIFIED – For Sale/Leads & Needs

**CLASSIFIEDS:** Classified ads are free, unlimited words, within reason. **Ads will ONLY run for three consecutive months unless renewal is requested.** Please submit your classified advertisement in electronic format by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month to [ekonsmo@msn.com](mailto:ekonsmo@msn.com).

### FOR SALE:

- **Parting '55 Olds 2 door hardtop and '98 4 door hardtop.** Excellent front fenders, bumper cores, door cores, stainless, padded dash, windshield, power steering, set of four VG Fiesta wheel covers, two and four bbl manifolds. What do you need? Don Monroe, Tacoma, Washington, 253-566-8488. (1)
- **1955 Super 88, 2-door hardtop.** Green & white, with white on top. \$12,000 OBO. In Redmond, 425 868-1082 ask for Lynn Senior (2)
- **1957 Star Fire Holiday Coupe.** Selling car and all spare parts. Call Ed Booth; 253-752-6153 (1)
- **1963 Olds** Call Richard Arnett; 253-278-9487 (1)
- **1964 442.** Excellent condition! \$52,900; Call Ned Peterson 425-316-3200
- **1965 442 COUPE**—3,508 miles on rebuilt (09/07) 400 cid Olds V8; 4-speed with console and tach; black interior, Ice Blue exterior. Rechromed front bumper (02/07); new springs and shocks (04/08); new seat shelf (05/11); new weather stripping and Dyna Mat (5/13); new seat foam and upholstery (03/14); many extra parts and other updates. Asking \$32, 500. Call Scott at 503-351-1070 (2)

### NEEDS:

- **Need: Radiator shroud for '57, '58 or '59.** Call Erik (425) 433-6480 (3)
- **Need: Cornering light switch for '65 "98 LS"** Call Art Gamash (360) 683-4749 (3)
- **Need: 1958 98 Chrome Trim below the doors, wheel well to wheel well, driver's side.** Darrell Weisgerber, TN. 865-483-6334 (3)
- **Need: Power Antenna and the name of a Wonder Bar radio repair person.** Call Ed Booth; 253-752-6153 (1)

### LEADS:

**'38 Olds Front fenders, a seat and some garnish moldings;** Mike Steckler;  
[mikepammikealex@msn.com](mailto:mikepammikealex@msn.com) (3)

**Bumper jacks;** Call Hugh Russell; 206-524-2785 (1)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING ADS:** A number at the end of each listing indicates how many issues of the newsletter that the ad has already run. The ad will run for three months. If you have a **THREE** after your ad, you need to contact us if you wish to renew the ad for following issue

## **“PARTING TRIVIA “**

### **A SHOT OF WHISKEY**

In the old west a .45 cartridge for a six-gun cost 12 cents, so did a glass of whiskey. If a cowhand was low on cash he would often give the bartender a cartridge in exchange for a drink. This became known as a "shot" of whiskey.

### **THE WHOLE NINE YARDS**

American fighter planes in WW2 had machine guns that were fed by a belt of cartridges. The average plane held belts that were 27 feet (9 yards) long. If the pilot used up all his ammo he was said to have given it the whole nine yards.

### **BUYING THE FARM**

This is synonymous with dying. During WW1 soldiers were given life insurance policies worth \$5,000. This was about the price of an average farm so if you died you "bought the farm" for your survivors.

### **IRON CLAD CONTRACT**

This came about from the ironclad ships of the Civil War. It meant something so strong it could not be broken.

### **PASSING THE BUCK/THE BUCK STOPS HERE**

Most men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck knife company. When playing poker it was common to place one of these Buck Knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer the deck of cards and the knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn't want to deal he would "pass the buck" to the next player. If that player accepted then "the buck stopped there".

### **RIFF RAFF**

The Mississippi River was the main way of traveling from north to south. Riverboats carried passengers and freight but they were expensive so most people used rafts. Everything had the right of way over rafts which were considered cheap. The steering oar on the rafts was called a "riff" and this transposed into riff-raff, meaning low class.

### **COBWEB**

The Old English word for "spider" was "cob".

### **SHIP STATEROOMS**

Travelling by steamboat was considered the height of comfort. Passenger cabins on the boats were not numbered. Instead they were named after states. To this day cabins on ships are called staterooms.

## **SLEEP TIGHT**

Early beds were made with a wooden frame. Ropes were tied across the frame in a crisscross pattern. A straw mattress was then put on top of the ropes. Over time the ropes stretched, causing the bed to sag. The owner would then tighten the ropes to get a better night's sleep

## **SHOWBOAT**

These were floating theatres built on a barge that was pushed by a steamboat. These played small town along the Mississippi River. Unlike the boat shown in the movie "Showboat" these did not have an engine. They were gaudy and attention grabbing which is why we say someone who is being the life of the party is "showboating"

## **OVER A BARREL**

In the days before CPR a drowning victim would be placed face down over a barrel and the barrel would be rolled back and forth in an effort to empty the lungs of water. It was rarely effective. If you are over a barrel you are in deep trouble.

## **BARGE IN**

Heavy freight was moved along the Mississippi in large barges pushed by steamboats. These were hard to control and would sometimes swing into piers or other boats. People would say they "barged in".

## **HOGWASH**

Steamboats carried both people and animals. Since pigs smelled so bad they would be washed before being put on board. The mud and other filth that was washed off was considered useless "hog wash".

## **CURFEW**

The word "curfew" comes from the French phrase "couvre-feu", which means "cover the fire". It was used to describe the time of blowing out all lamps and candles. It was later adopted into Middle English as "curfeu", which later became the modern "curfew". In the early American colonies homes had no real fireplaces so a fire was built in the center of the room. In order to make sure a fire did not get out of control during the night it was required that, by an agreed upon time, all fires would be covered with a clay pot called-a "curfew".

## **BARRELS OF OIL**

When the first oil wells were drilled they had made no provision for storing the liquid so they used water barrels. That is why, to this day, we speak of barrels of oil rather than gallons

## **HOT OFF THE PRESS**

As the paper goes through the rotary printing press friction causes it to heat up. Therefore, if you grab the paper right off the press it is hot. The expression means to get immediate information.