



# HIT & MISS

Newsletter of the Western Antique Power Associates

## President's Message by Bob Smith

The Cal Poly Pumpkin Festival is about to start. It runs the entire month of October and I told the members at the last board meeting that I wanted 100% participation in the event. We secured a building at Cal Poly with the promise that we would contribute volunteer help during their events. This is their biggest so give me a call and let me know how you can help. If everyone gave me 1 day out of the month it would cover all supporting activities. Now I know that is too much to ask of everyone but I am going to give it a try. Myself, I will be there every day of the event from open to close. It would be nice to see everyone else there also. Like I said. One day out of the entire month of October.

Now I would like to share with you a trip I just got back from. I went to Phoenix to visit my cousin and he knew of a road that will take you down to the rivers edge at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. This road is located just West of the National Park on the Hualapai Indian Reservation. You start at Peach Springs on US66, 50 miles East of Kingman. You stop at the State Fish and Game office in town to obtain a permit which will allow you permission to enter the reservation land. The permit costs \$16 for Arizona residents and \$32 for out of staters. I highly recommend you obtain a permit because if you are caught on reservation land without one, you are subject to tribal law and they can seize your property. After obtaining a permit you descend on Diamond Creek Road for about 22 miles. This road is owned and maintained by the reservation and is very rough since it follows the creek bed most of the way down. Cars are not recommended. If it starts to rain, get out quick. The decent will take you well over 1 hour. At the bottom you will be blown away at the scenery of high canyon walls and the swift Colorado River. It is not as overpowering as the main canyon but still beautiful. This is the final destination of river rafters that start their journey on the east end of the Grand Canyon. It is also the starting point for rafters going west. Well worth the rough ride down. Go see it sometime.



Next WAPA Board Meeting  
November 5, 2022  
9:00am at Cal Poly

October  
WAPA  
meeting  
canceled

**WAPA enjoying a beautiful day at Fort MacArthur in San Pedro.**



Listening to Bob's mystery engine noise.



**FOR SALE**

For Sale. Novo Vertical Engine, 3 HP, Serial Number 89058. Ran when put into covered storage. Has Wico EK Magneto. Photos available via email. Engine located in San Gabriel, CA. Asking \$625. Contact Tom Reifer at 626-287-1395

For Sale, Fairbanks Morse Z engine. Rated as 2 HP at 600 RPM, Serial 781188 (1935 date). Not restored, but runs on starting fuel tank. Main fuel tank line was missing check valve and added new check valve to fuel pickup. Did not test on main tank to keep it fresh and clean. Mounted on factory oval sheet metal base. Located in Pasadena. Listing at \$425 by Ken Evans, call home phone at 626-683-8372.



## Rubel Castle Tour by Rob Skinner

On September 10, a gang of WAPA members converged on Rubelia in the foothills of Glendora. Rubelia, or the Ruble Castle as it is otherwise known, was the brainchild of Michael Rubel and friends over a twenty year period. Michael moved to the property in 1959 at the age of nineteen. He soon began work on the castle using whatever building materials were available to a young gentleman—rocks from the nearby canyons. His workers were friends who came and went over the years, all to accomplish the lofty goal of creating a real castle. As I stand in the middle of the castle, imagining how many river rocks are needed to build walls six feet thick, my hands and back start to ache. Each of these rocks was “appropriated” from Azusa Canyon, put in the back of a pickup truck, driven to Glendora, unloaded, and then stacked tall. Millions of rocks, millions of pounds.



Our host for the day was Scott Rubel. Scott is the nephew of Michael, and spent a lot of time at the castle as a youngster. Scott showed us around, told stories of Michael, how the fortress was built, and how many of the antiques, machines, and vehicles were acquired back in the old days.



If you missed out on the opportunity to visit Rubelia, don't despair. Mark your calendar for

next April 16, for Michael Rubel Day at the castle. The intention is to make this an annual event on Michael's birthday. Some time this winter, after all the WAPA shows have wound down, we'll go to the castle to get two Western engines running. There is a 30 horse and a 60 horse engine. The last time these engines were run was in 2008, so it shouldn't be too much work to get them going again. Most of us don't often get opportunities to play with big engines, so if it's the sort of thing you want to do, keep an eye on the WAPA calendar.





The minutes of the September 3 WAPA Board Meeting will be in the November Hit & Miss.

### October Birthdays

- John Beck
- Sylvia Bishop
- Derek Christensen
- Mark Panzone
- Francine Rippy
- Giles Rowlands



Bob Smith	President
Dave Stockton	Vice President
Kelley Garcia	Secretary
Mitchell Reichwein	Treasurer
Jim Treadwell	Show Director
Ron Haskell	Membership
Tim Neely	Museum Director
Lance Wilson	Safety
Carol Haskell &	Purchasing
Ellen Morse	Editors



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