



The NWDELetter

Northwest Datsun Enthusiasts

March 2013





2013 Officers & Contact Information

President:	Tana Bryan 360-469-4187 president@nwde.org
Vice President:	Jack Kampa vicepresident@nwde.org
Secretary:	Pete Peters (206) 715-5378 secretary@nwde.org
Treasurer:	Pete Peters treasurer@nwde.org
WWSCC Rep:	Pete Peters wwrep@nwde.org
WWSCC Website	http://www.wwsc.org
NWDELetter Editor:	David Gonzales news@nwde.org
NWDE Website	http://nwde.org

Who are we? Northwest Datsun Enthusiasts (NWDE—pronounced **'nude'**) is an organization dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of all Datsun/Nissan vehicles. We meet monthly (except December), and try to schedule automotive/social activities on a monthly basis (see Calendar of Upcoming events). We are members of the Western Washington Sports Car Council (WWSCC). NWDE is not affiliated with Nissan Motor Company, Ltd.

Got News? Please email it to news@nwde.org

Cover: Kris with her Datsun 320 Pickup



Up-Coming Events

March 2013

- 15 NWDE monthly meeting
- 16 DatsunsNW Polar Bear Cruise, Astoria, Oregon

April 2013

- 26-27 The biggest Roadster show! Solvang, CA.
- 26-28 SOVREN spring sprints, Pacific Raceways in Kent, WA
- 27-28 ZCCA Maryhill Drive, Federal Way & Camas, WA

May 2013

- 17-19 2nd Annual Datsun Matsuri show in Kelowna, BC
- Late Vancouver All Japanese Show. Vancouver, BC
- Late Ratsun Show. Seattle, WA

June 2013

- 1-2 Spokane Historic Races, Spokane County Raceway
- 8-9 DatsunsNW car show in Canby, OR
- Late Greenwood Car Show in Seattle, WA

July 2013

- 5-7 Pacific NW Historics, Pacific Raceways in Kent, WA
- 12-13 Roadster Show, Shasta. CA

August 2013

- 11 Blue Lake Datsun show in Portland, OR
- 17 Shedd Roadster BBQ. Shedd OR
- 18 Vancouver All Nissan Meet in Vancouver, BC

September 2013

- 7 (tentative date) Olympia Nissan car show in Olympia, WA
- 28 Japanese Classic Car Show in Long Beach, CA

Minutes

NWDE Meeting Minutes February 15, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm

ATTENDEES: Dave F, David G, Don A & Sandi T, Jack K, Joanne & Gordon G, Pete P, Peter & Jennifer D, Roger S, Tana B, and Ted H. GUESTS: Jeremiah and Dave (Flat Panel Speaker Guys with Dave F. at Tectonic Audio Labs).

TREASURER'S REPORT: Current balance: \$4683.03. Dues are due.

WWSCC REPORT:

- * TorqueSteerers will be hosting Events 1 and 2 of the 2013 WWSCC Championship Series, at Emerald Downs in Auburn on Sat, March 23rd and March 24th. You can register at the WWSCC 2013 Series Registration web site
- * Potential August 24-25 dates are not available, so the 2013 NWDE Clothing Optional event will be Sunday, September 22.
- * Pete Peters is the new WWSCC Treasurer

AWARDS: Trophies were engraved and handed out to:

Member of the Year: Pete Peters

- * Vehicle of the Year: Kris & Joe Eberle's Datsun 320 pickup
- * Hard Luck Award: Marty Molloy. Marty had vehicle problems and wasn't present to accept....JUST KIDDING!!!! I think he had to work late.

INTRODUCTION Highlights:

Dave Coleman recently picked up a 1972 521 w/ L16 in Sea Foam Green

- * *Jeremiah is shopping for an Infiniti G35*
- * *Gordon's roadster frame-off is slowly inching forward. Gordon still hoping to get a run in the sunshine this year.*
- * *DaveF bought a 1992 Nissan Maxima in 1995....and he just got it back! He's going to fix it up for a needy family.*

OTHER STUFF:

Ted brought a couple wheels from the DROPS Powder Coat Project: one white for his NL320, and one silver grey for a roadster. Very nice!

- * *Don & Sandi presented Tana with a -H-U-G-E- bag of carrots for her mules.*
- * *Tana presented Don with a copy of Bob Sharp's Datsun Competition Preparation Manual and a book: Winning Autocross Solo II Competition: The Art and the Science*
- * *Tana brought Datsun & Nissan literature to sell*
- * *David G brought a number of automotive publications for give-a-way*
- * *Ted also wanted to remind folks of the DROPS Swap Meet on Saturday, Feb 23, and that Richard from the Netherlands will be visiting again in late April before heading down to the Solvang Roadster Show.*
- * *Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm*

In Memory of Kris Eberle

The Story of Kris and her 320 from her husband, Joe.

Kris was born May 09 1970 in Everett Washington. She lived in Anchorage, Alaska and Arlington, Washington. Her Dad is Stan, her mom is Eve, she has a brother



Bryan and four sisters: Karen, Angie Tricia, and Gina. She Graduated from Arlington High School In 1988. Then married Joe Eberle in June of 1990 and moved to Anchorage. She attended Olympic College in Bremerton, University of Alaska in Anchorage, and Graduated with a degree in Cosmetology in Tacoma Washington. She worked as a cosmetologist in Port Orchard. We have two boys Brandyn, now 20, and Andrew, 16.

I had the opportunity to bring Kris her first car that she had purchased from mutual good friends. Her dad bought her a green 1978 Datsun B210 hatchback with a 4speed. This car came from my **best friend's sister Janet. So I drove the car from Bremerton to Snohomish** back where her mom

worked and Kris was there as happy as a sixteen year old girl would be to get her first car. She was wearing a red sweatshirt and was cute but there was no real connection between us at this time. We started dating some time after that when we went inner tubing in the snow. That was like 26 years ago. She loved that Datsun. I think she washed the clear coat off it before she gave it to her younger sister and we moved to Alaska after being married in 1990. I helped her work on it as I had some Datsun experience with my family. My sister had a 1977 B210 and dad also had a 1974 620 pickup and a B210.

Kris liked to do things. She was not afraid of anything. She liked to play with her boys, camp with her friends, motorcycle ride on the dirt and street, yard work, boating, swimming, rafting, hiking, adventures, build, and make creative things for the church harvest carnival. She had the ability to picture something that may be broken or beat up and knew how it would look when she finished it. She loved God and knew she would be with him some day. She had no fear of dying and no fear of trying something new.





In Memory of Kris Eberle (continued)



Kris always wanted a small car or truck to restore and drive. We actually built up a 1978 Triumph TR7 with a Ford 302. It **turned out great but it wasn't practical at the time** so we sold it. It only had 2 seats and our family had grown to four with the birth of Andrew. Well, fourteen years later, Kris had the itch about getting another cute car to drive. She would spend hours looking on Craigslist looking at Mini Coopers, Crosleys, etc. Finally she found a 1964 320 pickup in Snohomish. She really liked this body style of trucks, they were cute, had an old round headlight look, and small. We went and looked at the white 320. In about a half hour we had it running but the truck had some major body cancer in the rocker panels. We decided to keep looking. Then she found a red one in Kennewick Washington. We went over and looked at it and she bought it. It needed some work with the engine and brake system. I was just planning to fix the brakes and the engine but one day I came home from work and Kris was pulling the front fenders off. She wanted



In Memory of Kris Eberle (continued)

to restore her baby to the frame. The first year we got the engine done, transmission done, frame repainted, brakes done and were working on the cab repairing the rust. Then in June the breast cancer came back in her lungs and bones. She found a lump in her breast 10 years prior and went through all the treatments and surgeries to remove it. So now I had to get my butt in gear to get this truck done so she could drive it. That summer we got most of the parts painted, in the fall she worked on the upholstery, steering wheel, gauges, while



going though weekly chemo treatments. My brother and I spent a lot of time putting all the pieces together. She spent hours detailing every part, even cleaning parts with dental picks. She actually drove it around the yard with doors off in April. Our goal was to try and make the Canby truck show in June. We had mostly finished it and she loved driving it through the summer with her friends. Kris has a special group of girlfriends that are like sisters and they loved cruising around in





that green 320. She took it to several car shows, Canby, Greenwood, Vintage Historics, Elks, and other local shows. We took it to the November NWDE meeting even getting a discount on the ferry because it was less than 14 feet. We drove I-5 on the way home. The last trip Kris made in her truck was in late December we took it on a sunny evening drive around Port Orchard and ended up in Manchester, Washington looking across the Puget Sound at Mount Rainer as the evening sun was shining on the top the snowy mountain; it was a night to remember.



In Memory of Kris Eberle (continued)



Kris and I had a great time together. She loved seeing all the cool Datsun cars and trucks and talking with the people about their cars and her truck. She peacefully passed into the arms of Christ January 9th. We will miss you Kris and will see you soon, you have left your spirit with so many of us in so many ways.

Joe





Words about Kris

By Jack Kampa

My lasting impression of Kris is that she is a caring, fun loving person who squeezed every ounce of enjoyment out of each and every day. Just being around Kris made you feel good.

I first met Kris and Joe at Canby, then, at Greenwood and at NW Historics. Kris never mentioned her illness but always wore a hat and got tired easily so you knew she had something serious but she never let on. Kris always had a smile on her face, enjoyed talking to Datsun lovers and when she got tired she would graciously sit in her lawn chair and take a few Zs - all with a contented look on her face. Now that is courage and elegance all rolled into one.

Kris had a mischievous side as well. After she won a trophy at NW Historics, I said "not bad Kris, three trophies in 4 weeks." She corrected me and said "three trophies in three weeks"!

Way to go girl. You rock!



Words about Kris (continued)

Tana Bryan:

I only wish I had a chance to have known Kris better. At her memorial, we found out that she was well known as a wonderful Mom, wife, sister and friend to many. Everyone only had many kind words to say about her. They called her a true tomboy too. She helped out with the kids groups at her church and often had kids over to play board games and other fun games at her home. Kris and Joe and their two boys had many outdoor hobbies together. We heard that Kris was not the kind of gal to just complain about her symptoms.

When I was able to meet her at the NW Historics car show, I could tell she was in pain. However, she still had a smile and talked to everyone she met. She loved to talk about the restoration of her Datsun 320 truck. She actually had taken the dash board completely apart and rebuild and repainted all of it. Her husband Joe helped with the mechanical and painting aspects of the rebuild. Kris was quite an amazing gal.





Words about Kris (continued)

Ted Heaton:

Kris's amazing GREEN L320 truck got my immediate attention when I first met her and Joe at the 2012 Canby Datsun Show. The quality and detail work she did on the L320 interior was astounding. Kris was really proud of what she and Joe had accomplished.

A favorite memory was her revelation about the numbers on the speedometer. Kris had hand painted all the numbers and she pointed out how the "80" (top speed!) was backwards as it was at the bottom of the dial. (70 08). Since the 8 is at about 5 o'clock on the dial it seems "right" and you do not notice that it is backwards...

Best part of the story was that Jack Kampa who owned an L320 truck for over 40 years had never noticed it!



Words about Kris (continued)



Sandi Anderson:

After attending the memorial for Chris, I am feeling a bit cheated I did not have a better opportunity to know this amazing lady better. I learned the world is a better place because she touched so many lives.

Dave Firestone:

I do have to say that I feel lucky that I got to meet her, and you, and the green project. You both amazed me with your positive attitudes and resolve to just keep living. The project results are incredible, and very touching. Nice work on your part (not the incredible restoration, but the creation of something so meaningful).



The Hidden Danger of Old Tires

By Tana Bryan

This is a lousy way to start a horse ride. The following quick tip can keep you and your horses rolling along.

The problem is that tires, like any rubber product, degrade over time and could present a significant yet hidden safety risk regardless of tread depth.

Trailer tires 6 years and older can fail/blow out when traveling; also under inflated tires get hot at high speeds causing sidewalls to fail and separate from the tread. When getting a trailer or replacing tires on any vehicle insist on tires manufactured within the past year or so. Just because a tire hasn't been 'used' or put on a vehicle does NOT mean it is NEW.

Tires are manufactured with a date code, 4 digits long, which represent the week and year the tire was made (For example 3211 is the 32nd week of 2011 while 0598 is the 5th week of 1998). This code is on the tire usually in a circle or indented oval following the other sizing numbers and info on the tire. (The code could be located on the inside sidewall if the tire is already mounted on the vehicle...check for it. Your safety is well worth the extra effort!)

Updates

Ted Heaton is happy to announce the arrival of the latest member of his Datsun Family. 1964 NL320 number 288 arrived this early morning by enclosed trailer! Very high class delivery. #288 is now available for viewing by contacting the proud new owner. #288 will be available for sale in the future so if you want to join the elite NL320 Truck Brothers, start saving your \$\$!

From the NWDE Facebook page:

- * Andrew fits EFI to his Datsun with SU-type throttle bodies (pictured to the right)
- * **Tana's Roadster is for sale** (see photo back cover)



Club Meetings

When: Third Friday of each month (except December)

Time: 7:30 pm. Folks usually arrive earlier to gather & gawk at vehicles, then order pizza.

Where: Redmond-Overlake Round Table Pizza

Round Table Pizza
15025 NE 24th St
Redmond, WA 98052
Phone: 425-644-7117

Directions:

1. From I-405 head east on I-520
2. Take the southbound 148th Ave NE exit
3. Once on 148th Ave NE, get in the far left lane
4. Turn left (east) on NE 24th St
5. Turn right (south) on 151st Pl NE. Round Table is straight ahead



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C/O DAVID GONZALES, EDITOR
510 BLUEBIRD LANE
BELLEVUE, WA 98008-5827 USA

