

NORTH IDAHO CLASSICS

The North Idaho Classics Car Club (NICCC) began in the manner common to many car organizations. When a summertime conversation turned from politics and sports to old cars, four guys agreed that older is better—the cars were faster, roomier, easier to repair, and much more fun to drive! Dick Livingston ran an ad in the newspaper requesting that he and others with a similar passion meet to discuss options. Gene Fusion saw the ad and called Dan Drapeau saying, “Let’s go check this out.” The resulting meeting of these men was the nucleus formation of the NICCC. That founding was in 1984 in Rathdrum Idaho and most car people can agree that the new cars by 1984 were nothing to get excited about so their above stated attributes about the older cars were quite true. In the fall of 1984, a small group of car buffs met at Citizens’ Hall in Rathdrum, Idaho and the NICCC was born.

In 1984 no one could envision the modern cars of today that exhibit superb comfort, handling, road worthiness, driveability and performance. In 1984 the “classic muscle” car was gone and we can only marvel at the rebirth of performance cars in the past 15

from the same manufacturers of those classic muscle cars of the ‘60’s and 70’s. As the world continues to change, and particularly with respect to personal transportation and the environment, no one can predict how long these modern cars we have today will be available. They too may become classics in the future. Another looming concern as radical changes to personal transportation come about, is what happens to these “classic” cars that

From those five club initiators, the NICCC grew to at one point over 100 members, and currently has near 70 members. The five initiators were Dick Livingston, Jim Schadewitz, “Ponco” Thomas, Gene Fusion, and Dan Drapeau. A few other founding members are still active in the club, including Larry Easterly, Dave Rurey, and Dean Held. The NICCC is a nonprofit organization whose members share a common interest in all



are so lovingly restored and cared for by car enthusiasts. This is a concern for all car enthusiasts that no one has easy answers for. These and other reasons make it all the more important to respect the

makes and models of old cars, including hot rods, customs, restorations, and muscle cars. Being a “classics” themed club, member cars run from “old” to 1975. The members stress that



The cars of a few NICCC members

years. Some of these modern performance cars are modern incarnations of the same models

“classics” and participate in the hobby as long as possible.

they are a welcoming club to people of all ages with an interest in classic cars. One does not need