

## OITM Appreciates Our Volunteers

Volunteers at *Out in the Mountains* make our newspaper possible. At the end of each month after making all of our deadlines, a large group of volunteers comes to Stuffing Night to help get the paper out to our readers. Volunteers come in with smiles and a willingness to get their hands dirty for an hour or two, some every single month. But then we all enjoy the pizza and the time we have to catch up with friends.

So from the bottom of our hearts, please, accept our thanks and gratitude for being there with and for us all. You are the heart and soul of this very paper.

thanks!

### OFFICE "MAGIC-MAKERS"

Joseph Swinyer, with assistance from Robert Wolff and Jonathan Martin.

### SPECIAL "LIFE-SAVING HELPER"

Greg Thompson, who has immigrated to Canada.

### THE "STUFFERS"

Brian Cote, Tina Giangrande, David Lynch, Jonathan Martin, Tom McGlenn, Mike Stoddard, Joseph Swinyer, Greg Thompson, Greg Weaver, Robert Wolff, Joe and the lovely, sweet lady (wink).

### THE "DISTRIBUTORS"

AIDS Project of Southern Vermont, Thia Artemis, Euan Bear, Rick Bersaw, Tom Bivins, Louis Bower, Daryl & Dennis DePaul, Kathy Donna, Dave Edee, Thom Fleury, Danny Gates, Keith Goslant, Lisa Gurney, EJ Haley, Bennett Law, John Landau, Nat Michael, Lynn McNicol, Fran Moravcsik, Fred Pond, Amy & Fonda Wilcox and Rick Wold.

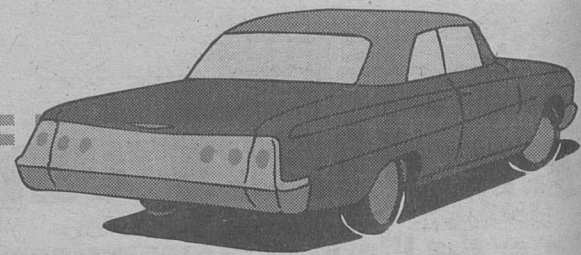
### EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE

Euan Bear, Naomi Freedner, Tina Giangrande, Amy Prenowitz, and Liz Rotundo.

And for everyone that we missed or just did not have room to mention here.

## T-BIRD AUTO Q&A

Gotta question? Need some advice about a car? Just ask, and I will try to help you out.  
taylor@mountainpridemedia.org



## What is Dry Gas?

Dry gas is an additive to absorb and burn the water that might get into your gas tank. Water and gas do not mix, yet water does get into the gas tank.

Here are some ways this happens:

- The gas you get at the gas station contains small amounts of water.
- The fluctuation of temperature, especially here in the mountains, will cause condensation to build up on the inside of any part of the tank that does not have gas in it.

To help prevent this from happening, you should always try to keep your gas tank as full as possible, especially in the winter. Water will freeze in gas, so an empty tank in cold weather can easily cause problems.

Another way to prevent the water from causing trouble is to put a container of dry gas in your tank, at the rate of one bottle for every 10 gallons, but no more than two bottles per tank. Add a bottle to your gas tank every few fill-ups.

There are two kinds of dry gas. One has

methanol and other additives. Methanol sinks to the bottom of the gas tank and mixes with water. Then the combination liquid is burned through the combustion chamber in the engine.

The other type of dry gas has isopropanol and other additives. The isopropanol absorbs five times more water than the methanol. It also helps to melt any ice that may have formed through the absorption of water. How to tell the difference? The one with the isopropanol will say ISO-and then the brand name. The kind with methanol is usually called just the brand name or will say "dry gas."

The methanol dry gas is a good maintenance, all year round additive. In the winter, use the ISO-based gas. In a diesel or two-cycle engine, use only the ISO-based product.

If your gas line freezes, first try some ISO-brand gas. Wait 15-20 minutes for it to work before trying to start the car. If it still does not work, a heated garage or a very sunny spot is hat is needed next.

Please do not use a torch or a hair dryer. Doing this is only asking for trouble, and may cause serious injury even with the best of intentions.▼

## I'm in Love With My Buddy!

Dear Joe,

I am a male in my early 40s, gay but not overly out. I have been in several long-term relationships over the years. My buddy, a neighbor and church friend, is also in his early 40s, lives at home with his parents, never dates, and has never had a girlfriend. I am one of his best friends, and his only other friends are gay but closeted.

The dilemma? I am really attracted to this guy, but hesitate to act, as I do not know if he is gay. What if I approach him and mess up our friendship, not to mention causing cosmic disturbances locally if he objects to my approach?

What to do? I'm getting antsy about this.

Joe's response:

This is an age-old question for gay guys and gals ... is your friend gay or straight? You have three options to consider, and Joe does advise very careful consideration of the options. There are benefits and risks for all three.

Option One is to let matters develop, if indeed they do. Your friend may identify as gay and come out to you. Wonderful! Or he may decide to get a girlfriend and thus resolve the matter. The issue that you need to consider here is time. Are you seeking a relationship now? Or can you wait a long time or forever for the guy to act? - which he may never do. Do you have the time and patience to wait, perhaps for nothing?



## Ask Joe

By Joe Swinyer

Option Two is more proactive: come out to your friend and gauge his reaction. This may test your friendship if he is straight or questioning. You need to ask yourself, "Do I want this guy for a friend if he cannot accept me as a gay man?"

Again, your decision, as if he is not gay-friendly, the cosmic disturbances could take place, although coming out is not as big an issue as it was years ago. At least you will know where he stands on gays!

Option Three is the most proactive and needs to be thought out carefully: come out to the guy and reveal that you like HIM. Your agonizing may be solved, although Joe cannot predict the manner in which that will happen. Wouldn't it be nice if he falls into your arms and reveals that he has pined for you as well? On the other hand, the response may be less enthusiastic. Again, do you want a friend who cannot accept you as gay? This is a big consideration in options two and three.

So, dear Antsy, Joe cannot recommend an exact course of action. You need to review the options above and make your considered decision. Joe cannot refrain, however, from pointing out that while option one is the most cautious, it can take a lot of your time and induce emotional fatigue.

Advisedly,  
Joe

Any questions for Joe Swinyer can be emailed to him at [joe@mountainpridemedia.org](mailto:joe@mountainpridemedia.org).