

# The Greasy Gumshoe: Tech Tips for the Classic owner

## File 2, Case 4 This Issue's Gumshoe: Wendell Smith Fuel Tank Repairs



Last year, when we held the fall foliage tour from the Transportation Museum to Washington, Missouri, I experienced fuel starvation due to carburetor clogging. About every ten miles I had to pull over and shoot Gumout in my carburetor intake to clean things up enough to make it up the next hill.

I discovered that the fuel liner I had put in my tank in the 1970's is soluble to the ethanol that is in today's fuels. Several other club members are indicating they are also experiencing trouble with older fuel tank liners flaking off. As reflected in the accompanying picture my fuel filter had approximately a tablespoon of sand like substance in it.

I took my main tank as well as my autovac tank off and delivered them to Gas Tank Renu in Bloomington, Ill. I learned about Gas Tank Renu from Marc Ohm and Bob Abbott.

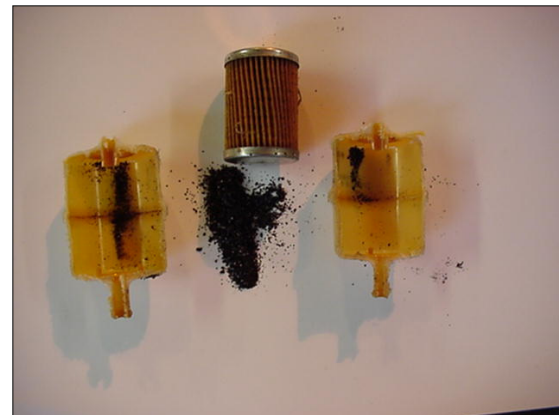
The process used by Gas Tank Renu includes chemically cleaning the tank, cutting approximately eight one inch holes in the tank for sandblasting access, welding the holes up and then placing the liner in the tank. The unit is then placed in an oven for the liner to be baked on. The finished tank is guaranteed not to rust, and the company says ethanol and other fuel additives will never dissolve the liner.

I would do two things differently. When Gas Tank Renu shipped the tanks back they were not properly packaged and ended up with some shipping dents. I should have driven up to pick the tanks up when they were finished. Second, the shop in Bloomington does powder coating, consequently, I thought it would be a good idea to have them paint the tanks. However, when requesting the painting they misunderstood what I had wanted and their paint job was not up to my standards.

I later sanded the paint off and redid the paint myself.



Note where one inch holes were cut into tank then rewelded.



Fuel filter cut open showing approximately a tablespoon full of a sand like substance from the original ethanol soluble liner.



Finished tank ready for installation on car.

