

# The Wishbone Alley Gazette

## September, 2012

### Rainier Auto Sports Club

#### Rally News

\* Nor'Wester 2012 - What with the ebb and flow of entries, the September 15-16 rally will probably run with 22 cars. Not bad, and certainly more than most of the ES 1000's that ran in the same time frame in the mid-'80's.

Saturday's rally will be eleven hours of unending excitement. Sunday's course was tuned to finish at 4:30. An early decision to avoid National Forest roads proved good since road graders haven't made a visit.

For updates go to the Rainier Website  
<http://www.rainierautosports.com/events/2012/norwester/default.htm>

\* What follows is an accounting of our adventure- By Cristy Breazeale

We left Arlington in the Devil Bunny just before 6 AM on the 25th of August to do the course survey for the Nor'Wester. These are usually done the weekend before the event, but 750 miles is a whole lotta route book (and checkpoints) to reconcile in a short time.

So the weekend before the rally was out. The weekend before that was Labor Day, so that was out, too: too many people, too many cars, too many cops. Hence, the date 3 weeks out.

Fueled and on the road, we enjoyed a magnificent sunrise over the rugged North Cascades while passing the mist-shrouded lowlands. I'm not a morning person, but it was pretty enough to make me sit up and take notice.

We ran the odo check outside of Ellensburg, then a short 30-mile warm up TSD and a transit to the fabled Horse Heaven Hills. I'll just say that we recognized some of the roads from No Alibi, but they were put together differently. After many miles of gravel roads, we transited through Tri-Cities for lunch and gas, then headed east for more fun. Some folks may have heard this part of the story: we made it just 1.4 miles out of Prescott when the Rabbit started making what shall be described as "terminal noises". We coaxed the car back into town and called AAA. We have 100 miles free towing, but the other 210 were going to cost almost \$800. Cough! Gasp!

So we called some rally friends looking for ideas and suggestions. Sean Medcroft tossed his plans for the rest of the weekend and came with the service Volvo and car dolly to rescue us. I'm now driving the black Audi we sold him last winter. Thanks to everyone we talked to, a double thanks to Sean.

Meanwhile, we still had a course survey to run. One rally car down, one to go. And on Saturday morning of Labor Day weekend we hit the road to run the odo check in the white Alcan Audi, then go to Prescott to pick up where we left off.

I'd like to say that we laughed, hooped and hollered through a day and a half of delightfully twisty roads, but since we were course survey, that was verboten. We had to take it sedately, with no sliding or wheel spin to skew our measurements. We spent the night in Moses Lake, got up at 5 AM and headed home, handing off the route books with our notes to Ron Sorem at a park and ride in Bellevue. He went home to study my scribbling while we went home to prepare for delivery of a GTI with a donor motor, a peppy 1.8 with a 5-speed transmission, a gift from my nephew, Max. He wanted to help us pull the engine out so he could take the body back home, but we weren't ready for that, and we still had other things we had to accomplish that day. He also threw in a set of gravel tires on teardrop rims. Thank you, Max, for everything.

So now we have 3 engines to pull: the "project" Ford Ranger, which has gone from the back burner to someplace even more remote, the ailing Devil Bunny, and the donor Jackalope. Some old timers might remember that as the plate on the Red Hook Rally Rabbit, it's been on

Max's GTI for several years now.

Anyway, the course survey is done, there's lots of fun, twisty roads, hillclimbs, views, wildlife, and more. Hope to see you there.

\* Olympus (Sept 22-23) has 10 stages on Saturday, ending the day with a 2 -mile special at The Ridge at about 9 PM. Sunday's 3 stages are reruns of stages run on Saturday, including a 3rd run of Nahwatzel. (20 miles!).

Rally America's clocks are getting old, so the PRG clocks are getting ready. The entry list shows 78 competitors, a welcome problem for the organizers.

I don't know what the charge will be to view the runs at The Ridge. Worker's get in by merely showing their wristband.

RASC isn't participating as a club, but the rally needs volunteers, including Hams (which RASC has in abundance). Te volunteer list is a bit lean as of early August. To register to volunteer for this year's event, please go to [www.rallydata.com](http://www.rallydata.com). -MN

#### Club News

\*August meeting notes, by MN President Marvin convened the meeting at 7:32 with reading (and acceptance) of the July minutes. Treasurer Cristy (no H) Breazeale reported \$6917 or so in the bank account.

The Nor'Wester was the major news, with nothing too specific. The Route Book was handed to the Breazeales for the final check. Flyers have been handed out at the Friday Niters, and were included in the Mountain to the Sea rally teasers.

The September NWRC Friday Niter is bumped a week so not to conflict with Nor'Wester. When and how this was done was a mystery to all present. Very nice of them, whoever it was.

Max Vaysburg accepted congratulations on his recent win, with R. Dale Kraushaar, of Mountains to the Sea. He learned a bit from R. Dale's navigating, was mystified by it also.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52.

#### Trivia

\*Roy has replaced his blue Impala (with "fleet" dog-dish hubcaps) for a ... black Impala with alloy wheels.

\* Kathryn Hansen got herself a new BMW motorcycle.

\*Ed Rachner is getting some medical care, but trying not to let it slow him down.

#### RASC Calendar : September is really busy!

Sept 9 -Rally Against Parkinson's, Portland  
Sept 14 - Friday Niter Series, Milwaukie  
Sept 14 - NWRC Friday Niter by PSRC  
**September 15>16 - Nor'Wester (Lewiston)**  
September 22-23 - Olympus, (Stage) Shelton  
Oct 5 - Friday Niter Series, Milwaukie  
Oct 6 - Oregon 1000, Wilsonville, OR, then south  
Oct. 12-13 - Pacific Forest Rally (stage), Merritt, BC  
Volunteers requested.  
Oct 12 - NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA  
**Nov 9 - NWRC Friday Niter by RASC, Bellevue**  
Nov 17-18- Totem (TSD) Merritt, B.C.  
Dec 8-9 - Big White (stage) Kelowna, B.C.

**Rainier Auto Sports Club** will meet this coming Monday, September 10, at 7:30 PM at Café Veloce at the Totem Lake shopping center. Best way I can think of to get there via north on I-405, take the "NE 124th" exit, then keep right under NE 124th and Straight at the signal. This puts you on Totem Lake Blvd, not whatever the frontage road is next to I-405. Then right first pass, with the Café on your right at that point.

Monthly meetings are *usually* the second Monday of each month. Past Members, visitors, and spectators are welcomed.

**Agenda: Nor'Wester head count and planning. Latest news about replacing motors under the Breazeale shade tree. Eric may or may not be rushing preparation for the Friday Niter. It's the start of the 2013 club election cycle, with the Nominating Committee selection.**

**2012 Board Members:**

President: Marvin Crippen, mandos@gmail.com

Vice-President: Steve Richards, smrdcatman@comcast.net

Secretary, Eric Horst - erich@quavy.com

Treasurer, Cristy Breazeale, 360-318-3320

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Contributions and paid/unpaid advertisements eagerly sought: e-mail: [mnolte@blarg.net](mailto:mnolte@blarg.net)

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