

The Wishbone Alley Gazette

January, 2017

Rainier Auto Sports Club

Rally News

* From Ron Sorem: **Big White** was pretty fun for my first course opening on snow (real snow, lots of it, not just a skiff like at PFR from time to time).

We saw temps down close to 0°F

It was slippery -- several control cars (2-wheel drive) were late arriving and I had to wait for them.

Sweep got everybody out.

TV coverage should be spectacular (Launch Control maybe, maybe later this month??? CRC TV??)

One stage had fresh 3-4 inches between recce and first running next day.

Same stage had white-out conditions on first run still in daylight (I had only Steve & Kathryn's tracks to follow, but second run was much better with lights even with light snowfall. Antione L'Estage fast time on this stage was 49KM average... I think his fastest average was 80-ish km/h on short flowing stage.

Anything with hairpins and you had to tip toe through it then try to gain speed.

Condo Life was okay for the "company" and pot luck dinners, but Jim & I both drew short straws as to beds, or lack thereof, so the "restfulness" suffered.

Several off's, one or two mechanical. I think all the off's returned for second day.

34 starters (35 entered but one national contender could not get to year end podium even with a win so he stayed in Quebec (?))

Don't know how many finishers

The RallySafe system still has a couple of bugs but in general, knew where people had crashed and could warn sweep. We had units in 00 & 0, then in two of the sweeps and medic1... By the way, you can get a finger wagging for being too fast on a transit...

About 45 seconds at customs going north, about 30 seconds at the booth coming back in. Went up very early Friday and came back midday Monday.

* RASC folk attending: Tim Chovanak (with son Preston), Ron Sorem/ Jim Breazeale, Steve Perret/Kathryn Hansen, and Andy Newell.

*Alcan (August 20-28, 2018) Jerry reports 10 Vintage cars. He's juggling accepting past entrants, plus keeping the motorcycle entry down to about half of the list.

* Cut and copied from Russ Kraushaar's Pacific Coast Challenge 2016 winners announcement: "Keeping the pace (*on Totem*) better than the rest was driver, Tom Kreger along with ace navigator, Cynthia Bushell. The win at Totem gave Tom his first PCC

driver's title and moved Cynthia up to second overall navigator.

Winning the navigator title and joining a very short list of three-time winners is Renee Damm.

Marinus Damm and Alex Neely round out the drivers podium. Yulia Smolyansky was a close third on the navigator side."

The 2016 season was Thunderbird (BC), No Alibi (WA), Oregon 1000, and Totem (BC).

Club News

* Dues: \$25 single, \$30 family. Pay at the meeting or send to the club P.O. box.

* Rainier Auto Sports Club meeting minutes for December 2016 recorded by Diamond Jim

Meeting called to order by Charles Aggenbach at 19:45 with 11 members in attendance.

The published minutes of the previous month's meeting were read and accepted.

Madam Treasurer reported a current bank balance of \$4,743.28 with no outstanding items.

RALLY REPORTS-

ALCAN RALLY 2018- Nothing new to report. The event continues to show strong interest with potential motorcycle entrants being put on waiting lists. There is still room for the 4-wheeled competitors. Course survey will be in August 2017.

NOR'WESTER RALLY- The route has been finalized with options for Mother Nature and county road budgeting. Internal discussions narrowing choices of the foods and festivities. Volunteers solicited for a variety of tasks. Marketing (kind begging for \$\$ is not our strong suit) will become an issue soon. Lots of ideas, no courage.

RAINDROP RALLY- The call for a Rally Master was met with the usual deafening silence, so dates were thrown about as a starter. Easter being a floating holiday makes April a difficult month. Honest calendar gazing and discussion brought us to a May 7th date. Rumors suggest a return to a more southerly location in an effort to entertain our Oregonian friends. All agreed we have had nice drives on the 3 southern most events.

The NWRC FRIDAY NITER RALLY- It was suggested that the club ask the NWRC for the October slot. Despite our reluctance to actually compete during the year, club members admit to enjoying working the events. Another reason to hang out with rally friends and family. Gentle arm-twisting for the October RM will begin.

OLD BUSINESS-

HOLIDAY PARTY- The notorious glacial pace of RASC brought about some hand wringing concerning a winter holiday party. The warm fuzzy memories of the club gatherings at the Hines' and the Comden's homes are hard to live up to when current club members don't have a large convenient space to host in. After a brief, intense scouting of locations, it was decided to not have one in 2016 and just enjoy a regular meeting. Several club members mentioned a club gathering in the warmer months. The "No Alibi" weekend (June 3rd & 4th) was mentioned; the Ranhofer's suggested a Xmas in July meeting at their home next to Seward Park. Plenty of room to entertain. Details to follow as calendars and schedules firm up.

ELECTION RESULTS- Thanks to all who volunteered, both on the electioneering and the candidates. Every candidate who ran was elected in a landslide. The newly elected are: Charles Aggenbach, Tim Chovanak, Marvin Crippen and Jim Breazeale. The newly elected 2017 Board will meet after the December meeting and ~~divide the spoils~~ choose official positions.

NEW BUSINESS-

The call for a 2017 NWRC representative was answered by the current club rep Diamond Jim Breazeale. The club will present dates for the 2017 NWRC Calendar, ideas for growth and suggest an event price increase.

Madam Treasurer suggests a price increase across the board. Membership dues haven't increased in years and the club's event entry fees are lower than other comparable events. Please make your thoughts known and the board will take that up.

The never-ending challenge of keeping the sport alive and growth in club membership continues to be a pressing problem. Ideas floated include a "free rally entry/membership" scheme, a simple (recycled Friday Niter) "free" rally held on a weekend during the day light hours, strongly suggesting that if you are a club member you have to participate in some fashion and doing more social activities as a club among other ideas.

Club branded apparel is another topic that continues to be brought up. The Ranhofer's volunteered to investigate cost issues. Old school letterman/car club jackets seem to be more favored than a hat. Nolte continues to lobby the hat case but never brings information for support.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-

The Ranhofers brought the proofs of an upcoming magazine article featuring "Otis", their lovely, well prepared, now even more famous Porsche Cayenne for show and tell. They are certainly elevating RASC's media exposure with mention of the Alcan and No Alibi events.

The meeting of the newly elected officers and the attending Board members will be immediately after the December meeting.

The call to adjourn the meeting and seconding came at 20:45. Gossip ensues... and then....

The newly elected and the current Board members attending met and decided on suitable positions. Your 2017 RASC Board is as follows: President Charles Aggenbach, VICE President Marvin Crippen, Madam Treasurer Cristy Breazeale, Secretary Diamond Jim with Tim Chovanak and Troy Jorgensen being Members at Large. No other official business was discussed. I think.

(After driving over some odd trash in the driveway, I backed up and actually looked at what I had driven over. The meeting minutes survived being left on the car's roof over night in the rain, falling into a puddle and being driven over repeatedly grinding them into the mud. I'm sure there is a lesson in there somewhere.)

Trivia

* Nolte was surprised when all that was needed to get the Mazda 3 Navigation system working was a small SD card. It was \$350 from Amazon, but all the other "things" were already in the car.

Steve Richards needed a new windshield in December. The Mazda 6 had a long list of accessories, and he specifically didn't order "Lane Avoidance". Yet the guys installing the new windshield had to special order the replacement since the cameras were indeed built in. The windshield harness wiring has to match or things don't go well.

Now he will investigate how many dollars it would take to get them working. And if he wants to spend the money.

*Cristy Breazeale got a dash cam for Christmas.

* Porsche sells as many Cayennes as 911/Boxter/Caymans. So its as much an SUV company as all the other manufacturers.

For Sale/Wanted

* **1993 Legacy Super Sport** turbo sedan (Rare-maybe one of 25 imported). Burgundy, 5-speed, 153,000 miles. Set up for TSD with wiring and goodies. "Alcan proven". \$5000 (UPDATE: Steve said to change it to "Make me an insulting offer") Car is fine, just running out of parking spots. Steve Brown, 206-954-4267

* 15" Subaru alloys with **Silverstone 185/65-15 S-525** tires. 4 tires (2xL and 2xR) have about 11/32 tread left on them. The other 2 are "spares", one has 6/32 and the other is 9/32. Make me a reasonable offer. The newer tires were \$150 new from Tabor

Rally Team. Rims were \$50/each from Gundies. Max Vaysburd max@angrykitten.com

* **2011 Audi A4 Quattro Avant.** 109K miles, all options including HID and Nav. Available in Seattle area Saturday, January 7 (Call for appointment) New low price: \$12,900. Jerry Hines (206) 227-6343 or alcan5000@gmail.com (Colleen got a Mini-Cooper Clubman)

RASC Calendar

Feb 4-5 – Thunderbird, B.C. Probably Cache Creek.

RASC events:

May 7 – Raindrop

Sept 15-17 – Nor'Wester

Oct 13? – Friday Niter

The shakeout for stage rally ended up with two series. There is also the California Rally Series (CRS).

The Canadian Rally Championship and American Rally Association combined their dates for the North American Rally Cup.

Feb 3-4 – Rallye Perce-Neige, CRC, Maniwaki, QC

April 21-23 – Oregon Trail, ARA, Portland, OR

May 13-14 – Olympus, ARA, Olympia, WA

May 26-28 – Rocky Mountain, CRC, Invermere, BC

June 2-3 - Sasquehannock Trail, ARA, Wellsboro, PA

June 30-July 2 – Rallye Baie des Chaleurs, New Richmond, QC

July 21-22 –New England Forest, ARA, Newry, ME

August 25-26 – Ojibwe Forest, ARA, Detroit Lakes, MI

Sept 7-9 – Rallye Defi, CRC, Montpelier, QC

Sept 28-30 – Pacific Forest, CRC, Merritt, BC

Nov 24-25 – Rally of the Tall Pines, CRC, Bancroft, ON

Dec 8-10 – Big White Winter, CRC, Kelowna, BC

Rally America –

Jan 27-28 – Sno*Drift, Atlanta MI

March 17-18 – Rally of the 100 Acre Wood, Salem MO

May 19-20 – Southern Ohio, Chillicothe, OH

July 21-22 –Rally Colorado, Colorado Springs, CO

Aug 5 – Sno*Drift Summer, Atlanta, MI

August 25-26 – Rally Wyoming, Casper, WY

Oct 7 – Show-Me Rally, Potosi, MO

October 20-21 – Lake Superior, Houghton, MI

Rainier Auto Sports Club will meet this coming Monday, January 9, at 7:30 PM at Café Veloce (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: Dues are due, bring your checkbook. The club pays a huge insurance bill based on the membership number, so pay up.

Review your information on the Roster in the Members section of the RASC website.

The Board will introduce the 2017 club officers. Whether to present Raindrop in 2017? The college football championship game starts at 5:30. It might be rowdy and loud.

2017 Board Members:

President: Charles Aggenbach: charles@aggenbach.us

Vice President: Marvin Crippen: mandos@gmail.com

Secretary: Jim Breazeale: blackholeracing@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Cristy Breazeale: blackholeracing@yahoo.com

At Large: Troy Jorgensen: fastest4d@msn.com

At Large: Tim Chovanak: tim@blackpondfarm.com

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The editor is Mark Nolte, ph. (425) 226-3155. View back issues at <http://www.rainierautosports.com/wag/default.htm>

Contributions and paid/unpaid advertisements eagerly sought: e-mail: mnolte@blarg.net

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