

Rally News

* RASC Friday Niter – October 14

Rallymaster Eric Horst appears to have resurrected an ancient course in rally valley, with some updates (of course)!

The checkout had it's own excitement, not to be experienced on rally night.

See Eric if you can staff checkpoints.

*** Night on Bald Mountain 2005 by Ron Sorem**

Morton WA. October 1, 2005. The Olympic Rally Competition Association (ORCA) presented their premier nighttime gravel event in the mountainous terrain of the south central Cascades. Rallymaster Esko Mannisto called it a combination of "some of the finest paved and unpaved roads the Gifford Pinchot National Forest has to offer".

ORCA provided a festive start location at Plaza Jalisco Restaurant in the logging town of Morton, 25 miles east of I-5, about 95 minutes from Portland, and "normally" less than two hours from Seattle. Several teams found Washington's summer construction season "still in full bloom", involving detours and delays enroute, south of Puyallup, including our team of Ron Sorem and Max Vaysburd "doing some future rally exploring". NoBM Registration was leisurely, over family Mexican fare from 3:30, through the driver's meeting and up to First Car Out at 5pm to accommodate late arrivals.

Oh What a Night! Late December back in '63...
Well, with credit to the Bee Gees song, it was "Oh what a night" albeit October 1st 2005. And, it was back in '73 more likely, but Northwest TSD Rallying has not seen these roads for many years. As ORCA's Greg Hightower commented, it is "too far from the Seattle area and Portland, for competitors... And for the fifteen trips to layout the rally".

The Odo Calibration section began eastward on Hwy 12, for 30.97 miles to the 30-minute **Mission Mountain Monte Carlo** (timed sections with no intermediate checkpoints). The Monte began climbing steadily from the highway at about 1000 feet, to a pass below Chambers Lake, dropping only briefly into the Cispus River drainage. Climbing again, gradually and carefully, passed exposures and intended views of Mount Adams, however the storm clouds that had left fresh snow just above our route left most of the big mountain obscured. Scenery was plentiful with green Fir and Spruce and Hemlock, highlighted by brilliant autumn colors in red and orange and yellow of Vine Maple, Mountain Ash and Huckleberry.

Elk Peak Regularity (a timed section with several hidden checkpoints) began at a wide spot on FS22. In a quarter mile, the highest elevation on the rally at 4600 feet, brought a long descent through hairpins and exposures and cautions for Rocks, Exposures with Rocks, and Rough followed by Rocks (with a checkpoint) then, Potholes, Rough, and Dip. The callouts make this sound

terrible but it wasn't. Each "caution" was only the beginning or end of long stretches of smooth forestry roads, including surprising sections of pavement. Speeds were below the Forest Service mandate of 35mph, and were reasonably easy to maintain. NoBM has a "No Novices" policy, so this type of road is familiar to all the competitors and there were no reports of off-road excursions.

The short **Yozoo Creek Monte Carlo** brought teams to **Grouse Creek Regularity**, along FS78, first twisting, then a long steady climb on smooth wide gravel, dropping down to the Cispus River and the paved FS21 and **Cat Creek Transit** through to FS23.

Cispus Creek Regularity turned westward on a two-track forest road with impressive (and dangerous if missed) concrete water crossings, all appropriately "cautioned". The regularity contained three checkpoints that we noticed, the last being a bit troublesome for me, just .35 from the end of the section. A sudden "strange" noise emitted from the engine. Very distracting; resulting in a few seconds of inattention just before the CP, and of course, points.

Cispus Road Transit brought the rally to its mid-point gas and grub stop in Randle on Hwy 12.

Silver Creek Monte Carlo presented a paved trip up FS47, nearly 8 miles, to **Silver Creek Pass Regularity** with another 13 miles of twisting climbs and falls, sharp corners with exposures outside and at least one car breaking cross ditch, noted on the route book as "!!! BAD DIP"—perhaps still understated.

Skate Creek Transit followed FS52, with 45mph pavement becoming a 35mph twisting paved descent toward Packwood. Turning onto FS47 a brief section of gravel brought competitors to **Willame Creek Regularity**. This section followed FS47 reversing an earlier section, to FS85 and **Griffin Mountain Monte Carlo**, which proved to be a bit of a chore to arrive on time. The fog had turned the evergreens to a silvery barrier on each side of the road, broken by voids into black, with an ever changing combination of lighting giving less than optimum results. Most crews we spoke with had trouble with the fog and twisting roads, and like us, arrived at the end of section with very little if any time to spare before starting the final regularity.

Catt Creek Regularity ran through a logged off area with exposures at every turn, dropping down to end at "Burned Stump on Left". The transit to the finish began with several of us grouped together. Max reclined his seat and asked if I could follow someone to the finish without the route book. We had both been a bit less than sharp at the start, and after 5 hours of concentration we both needed a nap. I had to keep driving so it was navvie naptime. Negotiating the lane-and-a-half paved and twisting bumpy little track was relaxing, until we were all PASSED by another competitor, apparently bent on getting to the finish as early as possible, including passing on blind corners and essentially forcing his way passed three cars where there

was barely enough room. Very disconcerting. (This was the usual suspect, without newness for a defense-ed.)

This prompts a fractured fairy tale, or public service announcement: "See Dick and Jane. See Dick and Jane go on a rally. See Jane adjust her lights (like most rally people). See Dick ignore his lights. See Dick exceed the speed limit and put the rally in a bad light. Don't be a Dick." Queue up "*Blinded by the Light...*" by Manfred Mann. Please folks! I was followed by at least seven different cars during the event on transit sections, and ONLY ONE had lights so bright that I was forced to pull over and let him pass. Several other cars reported similar occurrences. Please take the time to properly adjust your low beam headlights, and use them when following other competitors. You will earn the respect of fellow competitors and will be able to see MUCH better in the fog.

The long transit to Puyallup passed quickly enough, with a brisk run through the twisties above Alder Dam and LaGrande. Dinner and results at Cattin's Family Dining, our 24-hour restaurant, after 211 miles and nearly 7 hours.

NoBM 2005 saw 16 entries and 16 finishers. Congratulations to Jeff McMillan and Marvin Crippen, First Overall with 17; Dan Comden and Ryan Kyle, First Equipped with 22; and Michael Daily and Tom Palidar, First SOP with 48.

Complete results at www.teamhightower.com/nwrc/nobm

Dan Comden's take: Morton to Puyallup. New roads, lots of transit and Montes. Roads were excellent, if a bit bumpy in places. Almost no local traffic!

Jim Hogan introduced a new navvie to rallying as well, and Darla appeared to be having fun. Proof of concept in using craigslist.com to locate willing codrivers.

Eric and Travis overcame a loose ignition relay in penultimate regularity, and were saved by a couple of time declarations. Some very quick Montes, which pretty much required averaging the max speed limit in order to get to the next start on time.

It was fun.

1st UNL / 1st Overall: Jeff and Marvin 17 pts

2nd UNL / 2nd Overall: Eric and Travis (first time navvie) 20 pts

1st EQU / 3rd Overall: Dan and Ryan (3rd time navvie) 22 pts

3rd UNL / 4th Overall: Ron Sorem and Max

Vaysburd.23pts.

4th UNL/ 12th Overall: Jim Hogan/ Darla Varrenti 267 pts.

Club News

Upcoming Elections by President Marvin Crippen

In case you didn't make the last meeting, elections for the Board of Directors are coming up soon. Sometime before the next meeting (October 10th) you might be asked by the Nomination Committee (Dan Comden, Ron Sorem & Jerry Hines) if you would be willing to run for election. I thought a quick description of what is

involved and a time-line of the election would be in order.

"The Executive Board" consists of 6 positions; President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two "At Large" positions. Nominees are elected to the Board in general, not to specific positions. The new Board determines who fills what positions.

The duties of the positions, as outlined in the By Laws, are as follows.

President

- He shall preside at all business meetings.
- He shall be chairman of the Executive Board.
- When he deems it necessary, he may call extra business meetings, appoint committees and fill committee and protem positions.
- He shall perform such other duties as his office may require.

Vice-President

- The Vice-President shall oversee and co-ordinate the efforts of all major committees, insuring the club of a well-rounded schedule of activities in keeping with the aims and purposes of the club.
- He shall perform the duties of President in the absence of the officer.

Secretary

- He shall keep the minutes of all business meeting and Executive Board meetings and see that such are published and read to the general membership at the next regular meeting, and the next edition of the newsletter.
- He shall maintain an active membership roll.

Treasurer

- He shall keep an accurate account of all financial transactions of the organization and shall issue a financial report at least twice a year to the Executive Board and general membership.

The duties of the "At Large" members of the Board are not defined in the bylaws, but are generally accepted to be "as needed and determined by the Board".

The previous President (myself) and Treasurer (Ed Millman) automatically become Board members for the next year (although they do not necessarily return to their previous position). So the elections will be for four Board positions.

Election Time-line

October Meeting: Nomination Committee presents a list of nominees and nominations from the floor are accepted.

November Meeting: Election held.

December Meeting: New Board installed. (The December meeting is usually a holiday party held on a weekend so the date has yet to be determined.)

Trivia:

* Steve Johnson quit SCCA to head up Champ Car. He headed up SCCA from June 2000 until September 2005.

* NW Region of SCCA has seen its membership plunge since the demise of ProRally. One victim is the monthly newsletter.

* This is for Portland area television, don't know if it works for Seattle area...

Looks like OLN will televise Rally America events at 2pm PDT each Saturday beginning October 8 and repeat the following Friday at noon. The first two November events come off an hour later at 3pm (maybe due to Daylight Saving Time change on October 28?).

Sno*Drift, Sat 10/8 2pm (rerun Friday 10/14, noon)

Oregon Trail, Sat 10/15 2pm (rerun Friday 10/21 noon)

Susquehannock Trail, Sat 10/22 2pm (rerun Friday 10/28,noon)

Pikes Peak, Sat 10/29 2pm (rerun Friday 11/04, noon)

Maine Forest, Sat 11/05 3pm (rerun Friday 11/11 noon)

Ojibwe Forests Sat 11/12 3pm (rerun Friday 11/18 noon)

Colorado Cog Sat 11/19 2pm (rerun Friday 11/25 noon)

Lake Superior Sat 11/26 2pm (rerun Friday 12/02 noon)

It Worked Department:

seattle.craigslist.org > men seeking women > Good at math and immune to motion sickness?

Good at math and immune to motion sickness? –

Fairly ugly, self-absorbed guy, 53, seeks math-minded woman, perhaps near-sighted, to spend some time in my car in the dark. Have you spent time doing some dead reckoning? Able to read fine-print novels and maps in a moving car without tossing your cookies? Talk to me.

Yes, need navigator for Night on Bald Mountain time-speed-distance rally on evening of October 1, starting in Morton and ending in Puyallup. Can't post URL, but Google on "teamhightower nobm.htm" and it'll pop right up.

Ideally, you'd just happen to be an intelligent, quiet, unassuming, yet glamorous woman who enjoys slipping around on gravel forest roads in the dark with a carefree stranger. I do the driving, you do the detail work. Must not be averse to strong vibration. Experience not required though I suggest avoiding cheap Chinese food before our night together. Clear liquids only.

Now to get down to the serious "personal" business. If, beyond your superficial glamour, you are bright, witty, extremely rich, and prone to signing lopsided prenup agreements when in the throes of love or lust, all of this rally business will most likely lead to marriage. How can you top that?

Drop me a line. I need a navigator to dominate me!
Jim.

FOR SALE / Wanted:

* '96 Audi Avant (wagon), black, everything works. Add factory chrome wheels, brand new 16" tires. Price is now \$4250 Jerry or Colleen, 425-823-6343

* 2004 Kawasaki KLR 650 dual-sport, 5800 miles. \$3500, runs great! Jerry & Colleen

* 12V side terminal car battery. Unused, forlorn, alone. Clean, well-groomed and housebroken. Needs to be needed. Make a #@*&!! offer. Roy Ward, 425-485-6225, roy.ward@verizon.net

* BE PREPARED!

What would you do if *disaster struck today?* A tsunami, an earthquake, *an endless horde of cable news reporters?* How would you operate your TV, your CD player, your Mr. Coffee? By using this portable 12Vdc supply source (in combination with a DC to AC converter, available at most RV supply and hardware stores), you can rest easy that you will have emergency electricity to power that laptop, TV, or massage appliance. Can also be used to recharge cell phones! So *don't wait! Call today!* Roy Ward 425-485-6225 or roy.ward@verizon.net.

Calendar

Armageddon is cancelled. The rallymasters have pressing "home matters".

Puget Sound-area TSD

Oct 14- Friday Nighter, RASC, Bellevue

Nov 5- Armageddon XXIV, Bellingham WA

Nov 11- Friday Nighter, NWRC, Bellevue

NW Stage events

October 15/16 - Pacific Forest Rally, Merritt, British Columbia. CARS Nat'l

Oct 22- Mt Hood, Reg'l Stage Rally, Odell OR

Oct 23- Hood River, Regal Stage Rally, Odell, OR

Nov 6- ORG SCCA Rally Cross #6

Canada TSD events

Oct 29- Midnight, BC Regional TSD, Nanaimo

Nov 19-20- Totem, BC Regional TSD PCC

Portland, Oregon, TSD

October 8/9 - Gran Prix Imports Port Orford Rally, TSD, Gran Prix Imports in Wilsonville on Saturday morning and travels to Port Orford for a banquet. On Sunday, the rally heads back to the Willamette Valley and ends with a banquet in Albany.

www.tsdroadrally.com/portorford/

Two rallycrosses:

* September 18th - Portland International Raceway.

* September 25th - Washington County Fairgrounds.

Cost: \$25 for SCCA Members, \$30 for non-SCCA members.

Rainier Auto Sports Club

will meet this coming Monday, October 10 at 7:30 PM at Café Veloce at the Totem Lake shopping center. Best way I can think of to get there is 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 possible, with the Café on your right at that point.

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

Agenda: Workers will be drafted for the Friday Niter (A RASC tradition dating back to the 70's). Stories of the checkout. Nominations for 2006 Club Officers will be accepted from the floor.

Stories of NoBM, the unprintable ones.....

Someone may bring up Web page content.

Steve Willey may have something to say. Roy will probably still have the battery.

2005 Board Members:

President: Marvin Crippen –(206)365-5915; Vice-President: Steve Willey – (206) 417-8517

Secretary: Eric Horst (206)363-9752; Treasurer: Ed Millman (206)361-7389

Members at Large: Mark Nolte (425) 226-3155, Jerry Hines (425) 823-6343

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The editor is Mark Nolte, ph. (425)652-3578. View back issues at

<http://www.rainierautosports.com/wag/default.htm>

Contributions and paid/unpaid ads are eagerly received at

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