

The Wishbone Alley Gazette

July, 2012 *Rainier Auto Sports Club*

Rally News

* Nor'Wester as of June- by Ron Sorem

The Editor said: "You have a month to get me an article on Nor'Wester".

Well when The Editor speaks, you ask "How high?" (Actually you wonder WTF?). But there has been some news on the rally...

First, in April, we went out to double-check the odometer and streamlined things a bit, deviating from the original 1967 & 1997 routes, but eliminating what have become some very slow sections through Ellensburg. Then the first regularity was altered to allow an earlier rest stop and fuel options.

A major part of our scenic tour into Oregon fell, into the canyon, over the winter. A 13 minute longer route has been described to us as 3-foot deep mud (4-wheel drive truck with chains). The Forest Service has no budget for immediate repairs on little used roads, unless needed for fire suppression, and if then, no access anyway. Now even if the muddy dries up in two months, we probably won't negotiate the ruts in our cars. So the patchwork quilt of measured sections eventually came together as a re-write, with a minimal loss of mileage (although no Oregon) and a bit earlier finish at the Red Lion. As Roy mentioned on the website, allowing "a bit more time for nourishment, libation, and harrowing tales of the day". (Something us old timers might be looking to enjoy).

During No Alibi, I used a long break between assignments to mark some more checkpoint locations for Nor'Wester. Yes, you will see a brief section of familiar road. On the other hand, you won't know where we are hiding. A congested area used as a long Quiet Zone on No Alibi will be bypassed to appease the neighbors. The shortcut is fun too!

I've always felt that nighttime checkpoints present a problem for crews and competitors alike. For crews, it's hard to see the numbers without headlights shining on the cars. For competitors any distraction can lead to mistakes, and slowing to be courteous/cautious/safe when coming up to a car parked along the route could lead to a second or two penalty. With this in mind, I checked the sunset/twilight times for Saturday evening, and by reversing the late day loop, we avoid any such conflict, and turn a downhill gravel into an uphill gravel. Always a good thing!

Our Check Out crew is anxious to get out on the route, but Roy and I need to do a final measurement. And, if we can turn a "Bridge Out - Road Closed", that we encountered on survey, into another regularity we'll do it. Checkpoint crews will just have to be as little of a distraction as possible.

Sleep is really over-rated, right?

* 2012 Olympus Rally

This year's event will be held September 21-23 in Shelton, Washington on private timberland with central service at The Ridge Motorsports Park. Host hotel will be the Red Lion in Olympia, WA.

To register to volunteer for this year's event, please go to www.rallydata.com.

This year's team captains will be: La'Akea Siverts - stage, Corky Russell - stage, ORG Group - stage, John Nispel - stage, Kim Craddock - stage, Marv Irish - spectator, Lee Chambers - comms, Ken Quale - service, Linda Vandiver - registration

Should you have a preference as to which captain you'd like to team with, please make sure to indicate this in your registration at the bottom where it says "Olympus Specific Comments (who you would like to work with etc)."

Club News

*June meeting notes, by MN. The gig started at 7:32 with 14 members present. No applause for reading of the May meeting Minutes although Eric did a splendid job. Treasurer Cristy (no H) was cagey about financial status since so many bills are rolling in from No Alibi.

Rally reports started with furthest-out, in this case the 2014 summer Alcan: Jerry has changed the route to "enjoy" Fairbanks. Motorcycles make up most of the entries at this point. Raindrop: Jeff says we can re-use the 2012 route. Nor'Wester: Eager to measure, but roads are muddy.

Applause for No Alibi. Mention of smaller-than-usual entry.

Then there was a little award by the Board in thanks for umpteen many years of Editing the WAG. Gift certificates to Lowes (quickly spent) and Max Dales, the nicest restaurant in Mt. Vernon. Nolte was speechless, which may have made it all worthwhile.

Announcements: The Hines will vacate the big house on the hill this Friday, fitting everything into a 26-foot truck. The Rally against Parkinson's has moved to Sept 9 to avoid a PIR schedule conflict.

Adjourned at 7:57.

RASC Calendar

Washington & British Columbia TSD

July 13 - NWRC Friday Niter by NWRC

July 21 - SnoGit 9 by ORCA, Start: 10AM, Bellevue Eastgate Park & Ride, 5 hours, Finish: Burlington, \$45.

Aug 10 - NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA

Sept 14 - NWRC Friday Niter by PSRC

September 15>16 - Nor'Wester (Lewiston)

Oct 12 - NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA

Nov 9 - NWRC Friday Niter by RASC, Bellevue

Oregon TSD

July 6 - Friday Night Series, Milwaukie

Aug 3 - Friday Niter Series, Milwaukie

Aug 11 - Mountains to the Sea, Portland, \$50 includes BBQ at Lincoln City finish. All paved TSD, "99% trap free". Reg 9AM, FCO 10AM

Sept 9 - Rally Against Parkinson's, Portland Note: changed to Sunday!

Sept 14 - Friday Niter Series, Milwaukie

Oct 5 - Friday Niter Series, Milwaukie

Oct 6 - Oregon 1000, Wilsonville (A run-work event)

Stage events in Pacific NW

September 21-23 - Olympus, Shelton

Oct. 12-13 - Pacific Forest Rally, Merritt, BC

Rainier Auto Sports Club will meet this coming Monday, July 9, 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: Nothing pressing. The usual "insider stuff".

2012 Board Members:

President: Marvin Crippen, mandos@gmail.com
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Secretary, Eric Horst - erich@quavy.com
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Contributions and paid/unpaid advertisements eagerly sought: e-mail: mnolte@blarg.net

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