

Rally News

* A 2013 No Alibi Report by Dan Comden

We leveraged survey work done during last year as well as some answering some long-time "what if" questions about other roads in the SE corner of the state. This is your No Alibi rally for 2013.



#21 preceding #22. Yes, there was dust. Steve Avdeeff /Priscila Padilla won Novice class.

"We" are Renee and Marinus Damm, Marvin Crippen, and me. The rallymaster title should be defined as Chief Delegator, because that's what it feels like, assembling a crack squad combining a variety of skills including map reading, Google-mapping, spreadsheet wizardry, road libraries from the past, and logistics for the future. These are all put together to create a superior rally product. Add an amazing team of checkpoint workers and you've got yourself a damn fine event.



#3 won with 51 seconds error over the whole weekend.

23 cars answered the call, all of whom registered via the RASC web site. It's clear that turnout was going to be on the low side, despite an early announcement of the weekend and fairly regular Facebook updates. My theory is that the mental distance to the TriCities is just too much for some people. Despite that, we had a fairly good spread of teams, including the seasoned veterans Gary Webb (AZ) and Pete Schneider (NJ) -- making a vacation of the event by bringing their wives -- as well as some of the usual suspects from Oregon and Washington. We were fortunate to also have three first-time novice teams, including one from British Columbia.



Curt Thompson/Richard Thompson (#3) used a homebuilt rally computer to win. Many years in development.

Day One saw an initial run out Smith Canyon, then a TSD along the ridge above the Snake River. That section had a number of checkpoint crews reporting interactions with very friendly locals -- no, really! Then a medium transit through Kahlotus to the Lyons Ferry Marina. Our catering guy had made custom lunches and Ed and Jeanne Rachner delivered them to that location we've passed so many times. Teams and workers enjoyed their lunch before returning to competition with a run down the old favorite Fields Gulch and over to WhoopemUp Hollow. That last had some very entertaining new roads where once again, friendly locals were all smiles when told they were going to be seeing a line of cars coming through the mostly unknown yet entertaining Balch Road. A quick stop in Dayton for snacks and gas, then another new No Alibi road up Jasper Mountain south of Dayton, where an amazing view across the Touchet River Valley was a just reward before heading north to the other side of Hwy 124 for the always-popular Skyrocket section. I don't recall ever seeing so much green on a No Alibi and the intensity was incredible. Thanks to the slick scheduling of Marvin, we had plenty of crews on the final Climax section where -- wonder of wonders -- another friendly local couple were happy to be entertained by the parade of mostly foreign cars through their farm yard.



Philip & Patrick Widner (#22) won SOP

Dinner this year was the result of unhappiness with the cost of last year's hotel banquet. The caterer we used at the finish is called the Grillmaster (long may he live) and he suggested to me that he might be able to host the entire No Alibi mob at his place in 2013. After a bit of scheduling and discussion, we ended up with what may be one of the nicest dinners at a rally we've had in a few years, sitting outdoors

around a covered pool eating amazing barbecue and catching up on the day with friends. Within an amazingly short time, Marvin and Jessica delivered scores. Last year's unhappiness was completely forgotten and if anyone needs to arrange a meal for a large group pretty much anywhere in central Washington, I'd be happy to connect you with Mark the Grillmaster.



Lovely venue, fabulous weather and great BBQ highlighted the long weekend.

Sunday's 0900 start time came with plenty of time to get ready for another sunny day on the gravel roads. We started with a modification of Dodd Road near Wallula, a transit through Touchet, then south across the state line for Butler Grade and Missouri Gulch. Fuel for cars and occupants was found in Pendleton (I'm glad I was talked into a 40 minute break here) and then we went through a modified Coombs Canyon and the enchanting roller coaster of Mud Springs road. The final Juniper Fizz section began with Stage Gulch and ended with a parade along a regiment of wind turbines, where the final checkpoint position had been marked with a photograph during the measurement run. Many teams could not resist the allure of the view and took a time allowance for photographic needs, never seeing that last CP crew of Renee Damm and her niece Larissa.



Ben Thompson/Eric Hobbs (#16) won Equipped class with 102 points.

Ken and Sue Lingbloom worked the MTC at the bottom of Hatch Grade, where they not only collected any TAs but also provided a gentle reminder to complete the event survey on the transit to the finish. This ploy resulted in what may be an unprecedented rate of return, where 22 out of 23 surveys were filled out and submitted. Marvin and

Jessica continued to work their scoring magic, and custom trophies were awarded.



Steve Roberts/ Jack Heppes added No Alibi to the long list of rallies this early RX7 has finished.

Complete results and a list of all the skilled, personable and talented workers are available at the Rainier web site. I have to mention both Marinus Damm and Jim Breazeale, true checkpoint snipers who truly enjoy being unseen by the cars they're timing.



Jason Webster/Brandon Harer (#9) raised dust. The breeze helped all the checkpoint crews.

Thanks again to everyone at the club for the help, entries and support.



Dan Sperry/Adam Bjerke (#19) had the most ostentatious ride. The Novices had almost (?) too much fun.

The rally measured out 483 miles, 45% TSD's. 76 CP's were scored working out to an average of one every 3.43 miles, every 5:12 minutes. A reasonable 8 ¼ hours on Saturday, 6 ½ on Sunday. With all those miles and

checkpoints, a 57-point tie for 2nd overall between Wallace/Kraushaar and Daily/Pfau was broken by the “most zero’s” rule.

Eleven Unlimited cars, with (I think...) 5 homebuilt computers. 7 Equipped, only 2 SOP. And 3 Novices.

The concept of the hidden checkpoint keeps getting tweaked. Jim Breazeale hid in a culvert to be invisible. Renee Damm brought the new Swedish-delivered Volvo, then covered it's bright blue paint with a camouflage net. Roy's black Impala with push bars and antenna challenged drivers to maintain CAST even when gut reaction is to lift in proximity to a cop car.

The best No Alibi ride? Dan and Marvin rented their rides for the weekend. The Miata hit railroad tracks hard and caused concern when it wasn't quite the same. But continued the weekend, top-up to prevent sunburn in the glorious unrelenting sunshine.

Steve Richards (#6), Brian Cary (#18), and Steve Perret (#20) still have the Alcan 5000 signage.



#18, Brian Cary/ Julie Guthrie had the only bicycle rack.

* Alcan (August 18-26, 2014) Jerry says to look at the entry list and see how it's grown. One new car entry with someone we may all know. The \$2900 entry fee (\$2000 per motorcycle) looks steep for a rally, but reasonable for a 9-day vacation.

Club News

* May meeting notes- by MN. President Crippen convened the meeting at 7:33. The absence of the Secretary and past meeting minutes was noted and glossed over as has become tradition. Treasurer Cristy didn't say anything about banking problems, and there is more than \$4000 in the account.

Rallymaster Ed Rachner was applauded for a successful Raindrop rally. It was worth mentioning that finally a rally didn't end at a pizza restaurant. Scoring was done at 4:30.

No Alibi looms in just a month. Yes, the ever-popular "Skyrocket TSD" will be revisited. Since Saturday run far from, uh, civilization, a bag lunch is being planned at Lyon's Ferry.

Ron Sorem recounted his experience at Oregon Trail and then reported on the rally.

A ghost from RASC's past appeared: Don Johnson. He's retired now and drives a Mercedes wagon. We remember him from his Fiat Brava and Rover 2000 to lay out rallies. Adjourned at 7:57.

Trivia

* Replace references to Island Rallysport Club (IRC) with Apex Motorsport Group: (via Bart Vogelzang)

"It has taken a good while, but we now have our official new name; Apex Motorsport Group. We are still working on a logo, and a website, but already have two events on the go.

<http://www.islandrallysport.com/index.html>

"We have a full day TSD Rally School July 6, 2013, and a 250 km 6 hour novice TSD rally on GRAVEL on July 7, 2013. Also, we are now doing only online registration and payment, and you can get to the payment page, with supp reg links, here. <http://tinyurl.com/nt2vn2z>"



Saturday NA dinner. Various captions apply here. -ed

For Sale

*2001 BMW 330ix. Silver, black interior. automatic transmission, 17" wheels. Cheap at \$2800 (*price reduced!*) because of a bad head gasket and much labor involved in the fix. (Shipping to Seattle from Henderson, NV for less than \$600) Jerry Hines, 206-227-6343

* Free! Timeshare at Wapato Point (Lake Chelan). Pay the closing costs and get 4 weeks a year. See Jerry for details. 206-227-6343



***Still at about ½ price of retail: For Sale:** PIAA LP 570 High Intensity Led Driving Lamp Kit (2 lamps) -7 inch LED Long Range driving lights. Reflector- LEDs project off of an ingenious computer-designed multi-surface reflector offering more and better illumination

than halogen lamps with the durability and low power draw of LED lighting. Kit includes two lamps mounting brackets complete wiring harness and detailed installation instructions. Bulb Type: 5-watt LED bulbs 6000K Description: Polycarbonate and cast aluminum housing with polycarbonate lens.

RASC club price \$220 cash....

ALSO: New in box Hella 192 Driving lamp. Super Oscar size, discontinued. \$50? ronsorem @ gmail .com

* One pair of PIAA 6" pencil beams. Aluminum housings, with lens covers. \$50 for the pair. roy.ward@frontier.com, (425) 485-6225

*PIAA fog lights (2). **Car jewelry** Typical fog "band of light". Smallish at 6-3/8 x 3" tall, 3" deep. Much used at some point in their long life. \$35. Mark Nolte: mnolte@blarg.net

* Semi-worn **rally tires**. Suitable for RX, not a full stage. Mixed brands, price is negotiable. 15" is the "standard size". Ed Rachner 206-499-8271

* For Sale: Some of you know her as Rocket. She's a **2002 Subaru WRX**. She's won most every TSD rally in the NW and she is for sale. After near 13 years of single ownership she has become a bit much for a daily driver. I am going o shift to something with better gas mileage and less years. She has many TSD add-ons and would a great fit as a turnkey TSD car for someone willing to spend a bit more time with her than I can with my current travel schedule. The Good- lots of tweaks, spares. The Bad: Leakdown test on cylinder 3 shows a need for a valve job; slightly noisy bearing in the transmission (reported by Smart Service)

Crack in the windscreen.

Interested? Let's talk. Jeff McMillen:

Jeff@somepants.com



Ella defined "back-seat-co-driver" for Jeff McMillen as they worked Sunday checkpoints at No Alibi.



Dan decided he needed to carry enough food for the entire rally. He went "big". Here, telling Nolte about the fun with "traction control".



Novices Mark & Jim Solberg with the top up.

RASC Calendar

Other/ Classic enthusiast events

July 25/28 Monte Shelton Classic, Portland, OR

Aug 9/11 - "Rush to Gold Bridge", B.C.

Aug 23 - Targa Canada West, Nelson, B.C.

Sept 20/23 - Fall Freeze, B.C.

NW Stage Rallies -

June 8/9 -Idaho Rally, Boise, ID

June 21/23 - Nameless Performance Rally (Olympus) Shelton, WA

July 20/21 - Mendocino Rally, Williams, CA

Oct 4-5 - Pacific Forest Rally, B.C.

Oct ? - Mt. Hood, OR

Nov 1/ 2 - Rocky Mountain, Invermere, B.C.

Dec 7-8 - Big White, B.C.

Oregon TSD -

July 5 - Friday Night Series, Milwaukie

Aug 2 -Rally School

Aug 3 - Mountains to the Sea, Portland

Aug 9 - Friday Night Series, Milwaukie

Aug 17/18 - The Road Not Taken (Web site current as of ... February)

Sept 6 - Friday Night Series, Milwaukie

Oct 4 - Friday Night Series, Milwaukie

TSD- Washington, British Columbia

June 14 - NWRC Friday Niter by NWRC

June 15/16 - Heart of Darkness, Hope, B.C., 5PM to 7AM!

July 6 - Wolf Ridge (TSD school also), Vancouver Island, B.C.

July 12 - NWRC Friday Niter by NWRC

July 20 - SnoGit by ORCA (Island hop)

http://www.nwrally.com/upcoming_events/SNOGIT-10_Flyer.jpg

Aug 9 - NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA

Sept 13 - NWRC Friday Niter by PSRC

Oct 11 - NWRC Friday Niter by RASC

Nov 16/17 - Totem, B.C



Some roads pass very near barns and yards. Glenn Wallace / R. Dale Kraushaar on Sunday.

Photos by Mark Nolte and Sally DeVore

Rainier Auto Sports Club will meet this coming Monday, June 10 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: No Alibi ... alibi's, plus stories. NWRC representative Jim Breazeale will do some arm-twisting to draft a checkpoint crew for the June 14 Friday Niter (if he works it right, he won't have to make the 2+ hour drive to-from his home). Maybe news of the just-completed Idaho stage rally.

2013 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

At Large, Jim Breazeale, blackholeracing@yahoo.com


At Large, Troy Jorgensen, - RASC@waflracing.com

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

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 **The Wishbone Alley Gazette**

% Mark Nolte

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