

# The Wishbone Alley Gazette

July, 2014 *Rainier Auto Sports Club*

## Rally News



**Yes, that's an Oldsmobile. And it won.**

\* No Alibi (June 7/8) was as much fun as anticipated. Twenty-eight teams got to see the wondrous roads of eastern Washington by way of the vast scablands in the center. The seasoned team of Marcus Gattman/Brandon Harer had low score of 49 points in an Oldsmobile. No kidding.

Yulia Smolyansky turned over the wheel of her Subaru Forester to Don Best while she calculated, to win Equipped class with 96 points. The SOP class had 5 entrants, with Philip and Patrick Widner accumulating only 517 pts. The Novice class was won with 569 pts. by Peng Du /Samrat Bhattacharya.



**Tom Burgess/Jim Bowie in a rather rare (its right hand drive, for starters) Impreza**

Months of research (scheming?) with maps resulted in 527 miles of rally, split 50/50 between timed sections and transits. The traditional formula was followed, with eight and a half hours on Saturday, 7 hours on Sunday. That includes the well-planned breaks on each day, with bag lunches on Sunday at the Grand Coulee Dam visitor's center parking lot. Dan called upon a local Coulee City sandwich shop to provide bag lunches, each labeled per the team's order. (Buy local!)

Dinner at Spokane's Old Spaghetti Factory was a bit tight, but no one seemed to miss not having a planned program. Good company, after all.

Rallymaster Dan notes, "Feedback was positive, folks liked the roads quite a lot. Add Douglas county to the list of "don't use on a rally" now that we know the default speed limit is 25. Probably more interactions with deputies from different counties, including one that called and had a conversation with me the week after the event (Whitman). More interactions with upset locals than I recall in prior events. Lots of flats, more than I recall in prior events. Fortunately feedback forms and in-person comments were positive."

There was one DNF when the spare tire wasn't going to work. Another notable flat tire was the Scoring/Sweep Saturn. The Damms helped get that one back to civilization, where Costco was available to fit a replacement.



**Paul Westwick/ Darsi Sullivan provided the Sonnett entry this year.**



**Phyllis and Bob Chandler celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the appropriate manner- on a rally.**

It all went very well, with the only stress being street parking for the Saturday dinner. The denizens could have found the temptation of so much bling in the rally cars irresistible. The Lingblooms managed to get a robo-cop ticket navigating the one-way streets.



**Gary Webb and Pete Schneider, from Arizona and New Jersey.**

The RASC workers each got to at least 2 checkpoints each day. That totaled up to 72 checkpoints, or one averaging every 6 minutes for the 286 miles. As usual, some of the fun was hiding from the rallyists, or at least not giving them time to adjust. The Damm's bought some camo netting (sold by the yard). Ron Sorem parked his car at a likely spot, then traipsed up the hill on Rock Island Grade (and shade!) to clock a lot of cars a wee bit early on the long downhill. -MN

#### **Pictures by Paul Lockaby and Sally DeVore**

\*Idaho Rally (June 21-22) had a large turnout, 54 cars, for their NASA-sanctioned event. Not as many from our neck of the woods, with a lot of California, Utah, and Colorado license plates. There was an incident that will come up in future discussions. #466 (Subaru WRX of Brian Gottlieb/Krista Skucas) hit a tree hard enough to knock both driver and navigator unconscious. The next two rallyists say they were waved on by a nearby road marshal, to arrive at the finish where no communications were set up (!). The next three cars stopped, and established Ham radio contact to call for first aid. The driver was evacuated by helicopter.

\* Heart of Darkness (June 21-22) got 16 entries, with 4 DNF's on the all-niter. 14 controls were scored. One of the TSD's was called "Helmer", a name familiar from PFR? Dan/Nicki Lachapelle won.

\* Something newish is the "Coldwater Rally Weekend" on July 26-27, near Merritt, BC. It seems to be known as Test Weekend, even though there will be a co-driver school and steward training as well.

\* Alcan (August 18-26) It looks like it'll be 12 cars and 30 motorcycles. (A long haul for the rigs towing trailers to-and-from).

Jerry has all-new 2-color license plate frames for entrants and workers.

## Club News

\* Ed Rachner passed away at home on June 29, 2014. He had struggled with cancer for a few years, and hoped to beat it. When the doctors concluded that he was losing, he returned home for his last weeks.

A celebration of his life will be held at his home in Bothell on Saturday, July 12 from 2:00 p.m. onward, and is open to all.

A map is available on his website:

<http://rachner.us/ed/>

Beverages of all sorts will be provided, along with a BBQ of burgers and hot dogs. Please feel free to bring anything else you'd like to grill, as well as any other dishes to share.

If you have any remembrances, comments, photos or other Ed-related memorabilia, please bring to share, as there will be a special memory wall set up.

Parking is available in the lot roughly 100 yards east of his home, which is at:

715 232nd St. SE  
Bothell, WA 98021

Jerry Hines notes, "Ed was a true gentleman and tireless rallyist, and I greatly enjoyed working club events with him. Obituary mentions 11 years with northwest events and RASC, but this was his second time around in rallying. Ed designed & built early rally computers as [Chronar rally equipment](#) ("Mr. Chronar"), and was an old east coast TSD rallyist plus [top 10 Pro Rally](#) finisher in the 80's."

\* Rainier Auto Sports Club meeting minutes for June 9, 20124

Recorded by the club scribe Diamond Jim

Call to Order by HRH Marvin Crippen at 20:13.

Attendance of 8 was thin due to No Alibi over the weekend.

May meeting minutes read and corrected to clarify exactly who is the Nor'Wester route master. Ron not Roy.

Madam Treasurer said the club's finances were "fluid" at the moment due to No Alibi being last weekend.

### RALLY REPORTS

July's Friday Niter rally is a NWRC event and they are looking for workers. Step up and help them out by being at the start by 6:30pm this Friday.

RASC's October Friday Niter rally report was unavailable.

Summer ALCAN 5000 rally is on track. Staffing remains fluid, with some additions and drop outs. Call for Tech Inspection volunteers. Food and Beverages as bait.

Raindrop 2015. Still unclaimed. Discussion of possibly running Ed's route in reverse or doing one farther north.

Nor'Wester 2017. Another segment stitched together by Route Master Ron Sorem. Smalltalk about some roads and firming up the schedule with a 6hr starting day, 12hrson Saturday and finishing with a 6hr day.

No Alibi. Another classic RASC event, certainly worthy for the 15<sup>th</sup> edition. Good feedback reported on social media. Worker stories both good and bad. Several stories were not fit for public record. Discussion of the winning team and car and 70 controls were scored. There are extra shirts available. A discussion of roads in Oregon for future events was opened. Gas monies were doled out to workers who were flabbergasted.

OLD BUSINESS – The call to open Old Business was met with silence.

NEW BUSINESS - Opened the flood gates back up with Ron discussing the speed limit issues on No Alibi. Roy offered to query the local counties for the official word as well as noting that advance notice to the L.E.O.s would go a long way in smoothing the locals ruffled feathers.

Lincoln and Douglas county speed limits are officially too low for our sport except in the hill climb sections.

Are Quiet Zone speeds still too high for dusty conditions? Justifications and reasoning expressed.

Ham Fest observations included WSP experimenting with Drone technologies as well as unmanned radar devices.

Then the meeting returned to No Alibi stories with Nolte expressing sentiments shared by many about dinner at the Old Spaghetti Factory.

And then back to Rally Reports with Tim Chovanak telling us about Radium Hot Springs Rally in Canada. 20 cars started and with the usual amount of rally carnage, 13 finished.

Next years date is in question due to this year's event being run through calving season, wrinkling some cattlemen's brows.

Noting that both Canadian and US rally 2015 schedules are still in question with an October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline looming.

Olympus Rally enjoyed nice weather and went pretty smoothly in spite of Rally America signing on at the last moment. Club members staffed radio and control positions as well as the Safety Team which deployed a Zero "b" car to ensure a timely and safe running of the epic 27 mile Nahwatzel Stage.

Rally Idaho - Has a 55+ car entry field and is begging for volunteers. Go and have some fun.

Pacific Forest Rally has requested Team Fugawi? to do Green Crew duties again for the 2014 event. Ron Sorem and Jim Breazeale will be leading that.

Heart of Darkness -- Another classic Canadian event with 12 entries so far. FCO 9pm in Hope, BC.

Call to adjourn and seconded at 21:19

### Trivia

\* New Baby! Max and Danya Vaysburd are parents of a baby Eliot.

\* Marinus and Renee Damm have taken up residence in a new 5-car garage, with a house attached, of course. The new digs have the advantage of being on the west side of the river, ending the painful commute to work. Bicycling is now an option.

\* Steve Richards has a new Timewise 798A on order. He says he's chatting with owners to learn the finer points of its use.

\* The Breazeale's "Devil Bunny" is closer to being on the road. The July 4 holiday was spent selecting a motor build from among 3 engines.

### For Sale

\*For Sale: BMW limited slip rear diff, 3.91 ratio. Fits E36 (325I, 328I,M3). \$250. Jeanne Rachner (425) 481-0604

\*1984 Subaru BRAT, no rust, mostly unmolested. Blue. \$4250 Jeanne Rachner (425) 481-0604

\* 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. 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](mailto:Jeff@somepants.com)

### **\* For Sale – Need Cash Now**

**1991 Subaru Legacy 2.2 Turbo Sport Sedan** (clone, shell is USA made "L" body, "sunroof delete")

Five speed manual, Subaru competition clutch and Limited Slip Differential from original Turbo Sedan.

You've seen this car on stages at Pacific Forest Rally, Mountain Trials, Doo Wops, Oregon Trail, Olympus, Idaho International, and at TSDs like Raindrop, No Alibi, Totem, Thunderbird, Oregon 1000 and many others.

Car has developed a typical Subaru "old age knock", most likely rod bearings. Bid on rebuild is over \$2000 installed, at a Subaru shop. DIY for a lot less – just not by me. Needs a new battery. "Might" jump start one more time. Tags expired, needs to be running for Seattle area emissions (passed fine last time). If you think you can undertake this project, offer me \$1000 for the car and second EJ22T motor (louder knock – needs bearings) and ALL the parts, and it's yours. Bring a trailer...

There is a long list of spares included, from two 1991 and one 1993 Sport Sedans, including drive train components, brakes (ABS and non), axles, open diff, glass, and hood and trunk. (Just about everything that won't fit an Impreza)

RonSorem @ gmail dot com. 206.954.3173

Also available a low mileage (91533) **1997 2.2 NA motor** ready to go in – \$1200 with complete harness.

RonSorem @ gmail dot com. 206.954.3173

**1987 Subaru EA82T Turbo Wagon.** 5-speed push-button 4WD. Ran when parked. Needs battery. \$500 (long list of 1987 spares and EA82T cores)

RonSorem @ gmail dot com. 206.954.3173

\*1982 Mercedes 300 SD. (Yes, the Turbo diesel). Nice chrome wheels, recent paint job- it's "taupe". \$2450. The car is in Washington. Got 30 mpg from La Vegas to Vashon Island. Jerry Hines (206) 227-6343

### RASC Calendar

#### Washington & British Columbia TSD

July 11 – NWRC Friday Niter by NWRC

July 26 – “Pachena”, Vancouver Island

Aug 8 – NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA

**Aug 18>26 –Alcan 5000, Kirkland>Anchorage**

Sept 12 – NWRC Friday Niter by PSRC

Sept 27 – Fall Novice rally and workshop, Mission, B.C.

#### **Oct 10 – NWRC Friday Niter by RASC**

Oct 18/19 – Midnite, paved TSD, Vancouver Island

Nov 22/23 – Totem, Cache Creek, B.C.

#### Oregon TSD

*Portland Friday Nighters are first Friday of the month.*

July 19 – Mountain to The Sea by Cascade SCC

July 24 – Monte Shelton Classic (Entry may be full-ed)

Oct 11/12 – Oregon 1000, Oregon

#### NW Stage rallies

Jul 26 – Mendocino, Ukiah, CA

Oct 3-4 – Pacific Forest Rally, Merritt, B.C.

Oct. 31-11/1 – Rocky Mountain, Invermere, B.C.

Dec. 6/7 – Big White Winter rally, Kelowna, B.C.

***Rainier Auto Sports Club*** will meet this coming Monday, June 12, at 8 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 poss, 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:** Curt Thompson may have a report of his GPS experiment on No Alibi. He drove the route the following weekend to verify the GPS readouts. Jeanne Rachner is cleaning out a full garage, may have goodies for sale.

### **2014 Board Members:**

President: Marvin Crippen, [mandos@gmail.com](mailto:mandos@gmail.com)

Vice-President: Steve Richards, [smrdatman@comcast.net](mailto:smrdatman@comcast.net)

Secretary, Jim Breazeale, [blackholeracing@yahoo.com](mailto:blackholeracing@yahoo.com)

Treasurer, Cristy Breazeale, 360-318-3320

At Large, Ed Rachner, [e.rachner@comcast.net](mailto:e.rachner@comcast.net)

At Large, Eric Horst - [erich@quavy.com](mailto:erich@quavy.com)

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

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% Mark Nolte

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