

# The Wishbone Alley Gazette

May, 2018

Rainier Auto Sports Club

## Rally News



**First overall with 9 points was RASC President Charles, driving navigator Mike Daily's Focus**

\* **Raindrop 2018** by the Ranhofers

April 29, 2018, a day of anticipation for 40 teams who signed up for the Rainier Auto Sports Club's (RASC) Raindrop TSD Rally. Did it rain? Unlike the previous recent years where the sun shown for the entire rally, it did rain, but the 40 teams didn't seem to mind and the wet didn't last very long.

The rally took place on Whidbey Island and covered most of the pavement on Whidbey. The start was at the Country Store parking lot in Coupeville and the rally ended at Deception Pass.

Along with the 40 teams there were 18 workers: Jim and Cristy Breazeale, Rod Johnson, Doug North, Steve Mats, Marvin Crippen, Eric Horst, Brain Fairchild, Steve Richards, Ken and Sue Lingbloom, Andy Newell, Kathryn Hansen and Steve Perret, Ron Sorem, Mark Nolte and Richard and Dolores Ranhofer.

Along with manning checkpoints, Ron Sorem, Jim and Cristy Breazeale, Marvin Crippen, Eric Horst, Steve Richards, Andy Newell, and the Ranhofers performed double duty in providing additional pre and post rally duties. A heartfelt thanks to everyone for volunteering to make Raindrop a success.



**Adam Cleese/Robin Turner won 2nd place Equipped in what might be considered a Vintage car.**

Raindrop wasn't the only celebration that was taking place on Whidbey that Sunday. The Holland Festival was also a happening and apparently has been for 40 plus years. It was apparent after speaking to the Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce that the rally route and the Holland Festival were taking place on different parts of Whidbey, and our paths would not cross. However, there was another challenge at the end of the rally. WSDOT seems to be batty about installing roundabouts throughout Western Washington. Shortly past Deception Pass WSDOT is installing not one but two roundabouts as one approaches Highway 20. Thankfully, this took place shortly after the end of the rally.

There were five classes: Unlimited, Equipped, SOP, Novice (the largest entry group), and Vintage.



**John Bartholomew/Amelia Breithaupt won the Vintage class. Yes, they waved at the checkpoints.**

One of the vintage cars was a 1977.5 stunningly bright and beautiful yellow Porsche 924. Those taking home trophies from the various classes are: Drivers & Navigators - Doug Breithaupt & Liz Quayle, Debbie Sjodin & Don Gibson, Dave Monahan & Vasco de Pinna, Marvin Weaver & Scott Weaver, Julia Syi & Jianing Wang, Adam Cleese & Robin Turner, Amelia Breithaupt & John Bartholomew, Steve George & Daniel Mors, Charles Aggenbach & Mike Daily, Ajay Doshi & Max Vaysburd, Keith Lueneburg & Annie Bragg, Bill Walsh & Jessica Fleenor, Brian Reilly & Bowen Anderson, Jordan Keffer & Derek Ihler.

The participants all indicated on their comments sheets they enjoyed the rally.

Hopefully, we will see their happy smiling faces at No Alibi, RASC's two-day, 500-mile plus, rally taking place on June 2nd and 3rd, 2018, and covering Olympia, Long Beach, Kelso and points in that direction. If you enjoyed Raindrop, you'll love No Alibi.

Check the Rainier Auto Sports Club web page for information on future rallies and club events.

You might even consider the ALCAN winter rally in 2020 after participating in rallies in the "lower 48".

\* The facts: 21 checkpoints in four sections, which works out to a checkpoint every 5 miles average (or every 8 minutes)

Four entries in Unlimited class, 5 Equipped, 13 SOPers, 13 Novices, and 4 Vintage. -MN



**Julia Syi/Jianing Wang, 3rd place Novices, were all smiles**

\* **No Alibi**, June 2-3 by Ron Sorem

No Alibi 2018 is on schedule. The route has been measured. About 488 total miles. Everyone's big concern so far is "How much gravel?"

After about the third request, I searched that out, and without any gravel parking areas counted, we are at 23.357 miles of gravel TSD. Beach sand only minimal, depending on your desires. There is no planned gravel transit mileage. Your mileage may vary...

Steve and Kathryn did checkout for Day One. The short and sweet report from Kathryn was "I really like your route!"

Steve is Chief of Controls for this event and will assign checkpoints and crew movements soon after Day Two checkout.

We would appreciate your confirmation of availability for volunteering. Send a note to Jim, Steve, or Ron.

The experiment of a Westside ("Wetside") base did not seem to faze the "usual suspects" as registration opened with a flurry of familiar names.

I think I found all of the through route gravel we could use. There is a lot of very long one-way gravel, but we'd rather keep moving and not have a "turn-around" stage. The pavement is twisty, the speeds comfortable and "entertaining", the scenery is great, and you have a chance to drive on the beach.

Raindrop was a success. Interest in No Alibi was encouraging from the novices and part-timers. Our promotion of No Alibi, in the two or so weeks prior to Raindrop, took a backseat. Monday following Raindrop, I hit most of the rally oriented social media with some new pictures along the route and a renewed invitation to join us. We have received a couple more entries.

We have tentatively accepted a seasoned Alcan motorcycle/sidecar team. In conversations they are prepared for anything, and the navigator states, "a regular route book will be fine".

Check pointers be advised!

We would like to see more interest in the rally. We have Oregon and Washington represented, as well as a California/New Jersey team. Let everyone know we put on a good show. Please join us.

I checked with the Red Lion a few days ago, and our room block still had 15 open/available rooms. Red Lion offered a promo in April, and our negotiated rate was below their promo.

Next up will be shirts, stickers, banquet deposit...

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact the Rallymaster through the website.

On that subject, Roy Ward has reluctantly stepped down as Rallymaster due to health issues. Diamond Jim Breazeale accepted the position. I'm still sitting in the Route Master seat, fielding questions and "perfecting" the Route Book.

See you on the Road,  
--Ron

PS: The main group of individuals putting together No Alibi is a busy rally bunch. Oregon Trail Rally, Raindrop Rally, Olympus Rally, No Alibi, and Day 22 of the 8000km TransAmerica Motor Challenge (Charleston to Seattle)

\* Alcan 5000 (August 20-28, 2018)

<https://www.alcan5000.com>

The Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/261614507789/>

is where pictures of the various "builds" get posted.

\* The **Olympus Rally** 2018 Spectator Guide is available now. You have two options for the guide this year. If you like print version, swing by Les Schwab in Shelton at 2505 Olympic Hwy N #300, Shelton, WA 98584 or in downtown Olympia at 1100 Plum St SE, Olympia, WA 98501. They are available there now. Or if you prefer digital go to our website at <https://www.olympusrally.com/guide>. You can either view it directly on the website or download a PDF version for off network viewing.

If you are going to be at any spectator location we recommend print or off network. Thank you and we hope to see everyone out at the rally.

\* The **22-day Trans-America Challenge** rally is set to finish in Seattle on Father's Day, June 17. There may be some RASC folk participating in the Newberg, Oregon to Seattle segment. Richard Ranhofer scouting photogenic finish locations.

## **Club News**

April 9, 2018 Meeting Notes (reported by Secretary Dolores Ranhofer)

Meeting called to order 7:39 PM

March minutes accepted after correction to the attendees list. Treasurer's Report: Accepted, with commentary.

Rally Reports:

Nor'Wester - no report; Alcan no report; Friday Nighter - no report

No Alibi: Jim Breazeale is the replacement Rally Master.

City of Long Beach events coordinator for Law Enforcement contacted Ron Sorem. (The rally will not be spending all day at Longbeach.) There is a 30 minute lunch break built into a transit and a rally oriented map of how to get to places for sight seeing. The info box for the section header advises participants to manage their time and be at the end of the transit at XX time.

Lunch situation: Tourism bureau has volunteered to set us up with accommodations for lunch. Parking is available behind the police station and sandwiches, soft drinks, cookies, etc. will be available. (People do read the law enforcement letters) Police recommended helping our rally to

their tourist bureau. End of the day Saturday will be pretty scenic.

Shirts are in the works. There will be traditional dash plaques, but we may also go with stickers. The Best Western is the unofficial motel for the night before the rally as it's close to the start.

Raindrop: Registration is up to 24. The Farmhouse is set up. Dash plaques (decals) are back from McNamara. The cost is \$85 for 150. We have a bid for the Route Books but it is higher than expected. Will check with Office Max and also Staples who needs 72 hours to return RI's books. Checkpoints are basically covered. Jim Breazeale has agreed to give the novice talk and Marvin Crippin is working on scoring.

Old Business:

By-laws: Rod Johnson provided a short synopsis and handed out copies of the current 1991 By-laws with proposed changes. Input from those present was requested.

List Committee: Charles Aggenbach developed a spreadsheet to determine who is and who is not a paid member. Ron Sorem brought up issues associated with who is included in the list - members, Facebook Page vs. Facebook Group. Suggested to leave the Facebook Page open as an advertising vehicle, and restrict the RASC Google email list to discuss things in the club with the club membership.

Tri-Fold: More to follow.

Announcements: Cristy Breazeale advised the club that she has received two emails requesting the club send money to an unknown entity

Meeting Adjourned at 9:04 P.M.

## **Trivia**

\* On their way to another glorious victory (so they say) in Gary's PBMGB, the #9 car had a flat tire. Ed Millman says it was interesting to watch Gary flail at the knockoff with the hammer. The rusty scissors jack reacted to the years of disuse, as one would expect. The spare tire was a studded item of indeterminate age. It took 13 or so minutes for the change.

The resulting change of odometer factor and the complexity of working in all the pauses in their Curta system made for an exciting Raindrop.



\* Andy Newell found a great deal on wood plaques, much better than using raw lumber and *extremely cheap* volunteer labor. The result was much admired.



Dave Monahan/Vasco dePinna got the 2nd Place SOP trophies

### For Sale/Wanted

\* Radio For Sale: **Icom IC-25A**, ham 2 meter, \$40  
Roy Ward, [roy.ward@frontier.com](mailto:roy.ward@frontier.com) , 425-485-6225

\* **2004 Ford Focus ZX3 -\$1500**

Here are all the pros and cons:

Pro :2.3L Duratec engine with only around 170,000 miles!!!

Con: 170k of hard miles by an uncaring owner and maintained by a shade tree mechanic

Pro: All manual everything! WIndows, door locks, trunk, Transmission (MTX-75)

Pros: Lots of new stuff I put on it!

- Clutch master and slave cylinder, and all of the rubber lines in between (Both were leaking heavily)
- Newly flushed brake system (front brakes look good, haven't checked the rear)
- New Alternator (purchased from Romaine Electric in Kent, tested before and AFTER re-installation)
- New positive battery cable from battery to starter to alternator (Doesn't have the 175A fusible link like the original Ford cable, but it could be spliced in)
- Pass. side CV axle
- differential seals.both sides
- front Ball joints
- Engine and Transmission Mounts, will include uninstalled polyurethane trans. mount (REALLY

needs it! You can wiggle the stock rubber replacement with your HAND!!!)

- Headlight assemblies!
- Used drivers seat- different color and has a tear but WAY better than the original.

Thats the good, but there is some bad:

- The transmission shifter cables need adjustment, will pop out of 1st occasionally, and the gear changes can be tricky.
- Interior is well used and it shows it.
- Extra Useless antenna added to roof by previous owner (not attached to radio/ anything?)
- Right Differential axle seal LEAKS!!! Brand new Motorcraft part from a dealership. Ask how many return trips it took just to get that part.....
- Needs an alignment and tires
- Crack in windshield, along the bottom.
- AND the doozy--- An issue I have not figured out yet but the computer that controls the charging system has been overriding the alternator voltage regulator and is overcharging the battery. Possibly a short as there is a constant draw on the battery that I have not identified yet. It could be wiring, it could be the cheap battery, it could be the PCM module itself. Either way I am done with it. Brian Cary [shoquatt@gmail.com](mailto:shoquatt@gmail.com)

\* I was going through my inventory of **headlight bulbs** searching for H4s and I find I have five or six sets of various wattage **9004 halogens**. I presently have no car or truck using 9004. \$5 per pair?? [ronsorem@gmail.com](mailto:ronsorem@gmail.com)

\* Ron's note made me think that I've got **several sets of 9003's, 9006's and H3 fogs** taking up space, also. Same deal as Mr. Sorem's. If you want 'em or need 'em just send me an email.  
Michael Jones [codrvr@aol.com](mailto:codrvr@aol.com)

\* Free. 2 Hella 4004 GT mirrors, satin chrome on plastic, no glass. (Use as a small, round picture frame?) In storage for 37 years, it's time for them to move on. Nolte:

[mnlte@blarg.net](mailto:mnlte@blarg.net)

\* Free Talbot 303 mirror, plus odd parts. 38 years of tarnish.  
Nolte: [mnlte@blarg.net](mailto:mnlte@blarg.net)

### RASC Calendar

\* Other events:

May 27>June 17 – “Trans-America Challenge”, Charleston to Seattle. (Yes, 22 days.)

June 23>July 1 – “Great Race”, Buffalo, NY to Halifax, NS

Sept 14> 16 – Hagerty Fall Classic, Troutdale to Duffur, OR

### Washington TSD

May 11 - NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA

**June 2>3 – No Alibi TSD by RASC, SW Washington**

June 8 - NWRC Friday Niter by PSRC  
July 13 - NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA  
August 10 - NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA  
**August 20>28 – Alcan 5000 by RASC, “Fairbanks plus and minus”**  
September 14 - NWRC Friday Niter by NWRC  
**October 12 - NWRC Friday Niter by RASC**

Pacific NW Stage rallies

May 18>20 – Olympus (ARA), Shelton, WA  
May 25>27 – Rocky Mountain (CARS) Invermere, BC  
Sept 14>15 – Idaho Rally (ARA), Placerville, ID  
Sept 28>30 – Pacific Forest (CARS), Merritt, BC

Oct. 5>7 – Tour de Forest (ARA), Olympia, WA

Oregon TSD (AROO = Alfa Romeo Owners club of Oregon)

June 3 – AROO TSD #4, Wilsonville, OR  
June 9 - Saturday TSD (Cascade SCC), Milwaukie, OR  
July 7 - Saturday TSD (Cascade SCC), Milwaukie, OR  
August 4 – Mountains to the Sea, (Cascade SCC) Portland> Seaside  
Sept 8 - Saturday TSD (Cascade SCC), Milwaukie, OR  
Sept 22>23 – Oregon 1000  
Oct 27 – Ghouls Gambol (Cascade SCC), Portland, OR



RASC usually meets on the second Monday of each month. Locations vary as we try out all the venues.

The May 14 meeting will be held again at the Olive Garden at 11325 NE 124th St, Kirkland, WA 98034 at 7:30 PM. The restaurant is on the west side of I-405. It's on the south side, with the NE 124<sup>th</sup> entrance before the parking lot. Or you can take the signal at 113<sup>th</sup> and turn in after that.

**Agenda: Raindrop wrap up, perhaps with critiques shared. No Alibi worker status. Some sort of resolution how to include non-members on the RASC mailing list.**

**2018 Board Members:**

President: Charles Aggenbach: [charles@aggenbach.us](mailto:charles@aggenbach.us)  
Vice President: Marvin Crippen: [mandos@gmail.com](mailto:mandos@gmail.com)  
Secretary: Dolores Ranhofer: [d.ranhofer@gmail.com](mailto:d.ranhofer@gmail.com)  
Treasurer: Cristy Breazeale: [blackholeracing@gmail.com](mailto:blackholeracing@gmail.com)  
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Contributions and paid/unpaid advertisements eagerly sought: e-mail: [mnolte@blarg.net](mailto:mnolte@blarg.net)

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