

# Heartbeat of Olympia

Volume 42, Issue 6

August 2014

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## 2014 Windy Ridge Double Back Tour by Denny Miller



On Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, our club offered the most technically challenging tour of the season: a tops-down drive into Gifford-Pinchot National Forest and up to the Windy Ridge Observatory overlooking Mt. St. Helen's.

Eleven cars joined the tour. The drivers and passengers included: Denny and Josette, Lee Cousineau with Jim Gould, Brian and Betsy, Will and Marilyn, Anne, Bob, Frank, Doug Rogers, Mark and Kathe, and Shoshanah. In addition, Darren from Snohomish had found the tour on our website and drove down for it – his third Mt. St. Helen's tour with us.

As a usual first step, Denny used his cowbell to gather everyone around, then he outlined the day's drive.

Just after 8:00AM, we headed South on Rainier Road. Once in Rainier, we planned to turn left on Highway 507 for Yelm. But before we could make the turn, an 80+ year old woman passed by going our intended direction in a small car. We followed her out of Rainier, where she caught up with an old pickup truck traveling at a low speed with a load of junk.

We wondered when it would be safe to pass both cars, but when we came upon a clear straight stretch, the woman shot past the pickup and charged down the road. We were inspired to pass the pickup and follow her to Yelm. This was the first of a series of interesting interactions with other cars and trucks on the tour.

Once in Yelm, we turned right at the light, drove through town, and then headed for McKenna. At McKenna, we turned right on Highway 702 and followed along with traffic to Highway 7.



### Heartbeat of Olympia

The Heartbeat of Olympia is the official publication of Corvettes de Olympia. It is published monthly and samples can be obtained by writing to: Corvettes de Olympia, PO Box 2154, Olympia WA 98507-2154, or by contacting any club member. Heartbeat of Olympia Editor-in-Chief: Wendy Forcier.

Corvettes de Olympia is a non-profit organization formed in 1972. Our purpose is to:

1. Develop friendship and pride among Corvette owners and drivers,
2. Encourage skillful, safe and sportsmanlike driving habits on the highways,
3. Improve relations between the community and Corvette people,
4. Actively promote, sponsor, organize, and supervise sports car competition, outings, meetings and other Corvette or sports car activities.

Annual membership dues are Family—\$55.00, Single—\$27.50. Monthly meetings are normally held at 7:00 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at Hawk's Prairie Restaurant. Meetings are open to any and all Corvette enthusiasts.

Visit us on the web at: [www.corvettesdeolympia.org](http://www.corvettesdeolympia.org)

## Next Meeting

Aug 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Hawks Prairie Inn Restaurant, Lacey, WA

## President's Message



Wow! I thought the Mt Rainier tour was exhilarating.

No - the Windy Ridge tour was EXHILARATING!

We drove 120 miles of forest roads and for the most part the traffic in front of us pulled aside to let us run. I've never experienced that before and it was GREAT!

On a completely different note, August brings our Vette Fest which many have work towards and many more have volunteered to participate. I am so happy with the planning and preparation done by our committee and the level of volunteer support offered by the rest of the club.

I expect a great event and hope to see you there.

Save the Wave,

Anne

### Past Presidents

#### Corvettes de Olympia

1972	Rich Lockhart
1973	Larry Johnson
1974	Rich Lockhart
1975	Terry Halliday
1976	Ralph Adams
1977	Bill Pollard
1978	Sandy Lockhart
1979	Mike Halliday
1980	Ralph Adams
1981	Larry Johnson
1982	Mike Halliday
1983	Karen Johnson
1984	Jerry Crabill
1985	Tom Kuchman
1986	Larry Johnson
1987	Duncan Johnson
1988	Skip Burch
1989	Jim Turcotte
1990	Karen Johnson
1992	Tom Kuchman
1991	Ron Zielin
1993	Roy Scioli
1994	Tom Hanson
1995	Tom Kuchman
1996	Peggy Rogers
1997	Peggy Rogers
1998	Karen Johnson
1999	Randy Harris
2000	Randy Harris
2001	Jim Turcotte
2002	Peggy Rogers
2003	Peggy Rogers
2004	Vince Puntenev
2005	Vince Puntenev
2006	Vince Puntenev
2007	Brian Cousineau
2008	Peggy Rogers
2009	Meagan Renick
2010	Meagan Renick
2011	Meagan Renick
2012	Meagan Renick
2013	Anne Wax

## 2014 Windy Ridge Double Back Tour

by Denny Miller, cont. from pg. 1

At Highway 7, we turned right and headed for Elbe. Traffic was light, but we travelled under the speed limit so the road would clear ahead of us before the famous curves of Highway 7. That strategy worked well giving us a free run at the curves until we reached La Grande. At that point, a car and a truck pulled out in front of us. And then the magic began...

Driving through the curves past La Grande, we pulled up close to the first vehicle and then backed off to give them space. They turned off at the next opportunity and let us pass.



The same thing happened again with the second vehicle giving us a free run at the road. We, of course, all waved thankfully as we passed. It was a great run.

Once in Elbe, we stopped in the gas station next to the public bathrooms.



Once past Morton, we turned east on Highway 12 and had an easy drive to Randle. Randle was the usual deal. We parked in the Post Office parking lot, while most of us used the rest room and/or purchased National Park passes.



We then headed South on WA 107 which quickly turned into Forest Road (FR) 25 and the real fun began. Traffic was reasonably light, but we travelled well over the speed limit so we caught up with car after car.



We had to pass a few cars, but the majority pulled over and let us through. So we enjoyed turn after turn, after hairpin turn at speed.

We then turned right onto FR 99 and headed up hill with speed toward Windy Ridge. Again car after car pulled over and let us pass.



## 2014 Windy Ridge Double Back Tour by Denny Miller , cont. from pg. 3



We had our picnic lunches at the Windy Ridge and listened to an engaging Forest Service Interpreter tell a Native American inspired story about the mountain. We had a blast.



Within an hour, we headed back down FR 99. While driving up, we all had noted how rough the downhill lane was, and everyone cautioned us to take the stretch slowly. We did just that.

At the bottom on FR 99, we turned right and headed down FR 25 toward the Pine Creek rest area. We had this beautiful stretch of mountain road almost to ourselves.

The few cars that we encountered pulled aside when they could so we could pass. We drove hard, but well within the limits of our Corvettes. What a rush!

We had nice break at Pine Creek. I (Denny) had grown somewhat weary so at the cowbell meeting before we left, I suggested and everyone agreed that we would take it a little easier.



This year, instead driving on to Woodland and then home to Olympia via I-5, we headed back up the mountain on FR 25 toward Randle. Even at a reduced speed, the section of road up to FR 99 was fun to drive. Josette had established a routine of warning us all of oncoming cars, pot holes, dips and bumps in the road. This became more and more valuable as we proceeded on FR 25.

The stretch of this road from FR 99 to Randle has deteriorated badly so we were challenged to stay out of trouble even with Josette's warnings.

We found ourselves back in Randle by mid-afternoon, where we took a 20 minute break. Then we drove back to Elbe by way of Morton and took a short break at the gas station at Elbe.

When we headed for home on Highway 7, traffic was relatively heavy. We held back a bit as we drove along Alder Lake, and then magically the windy road to La Grande opened up in front of us for another fine driving segment.



We caught up with traffic a few turns before La Grande and followed it at distance all the way to Highway 702. We took 702 to McKenna and 507 to Yelm where the tour ended.

All in all, this was a wonderful, over-the-top Corvette tour!



## OPERATION BACKPACK 2014!

### Donating can be fun if you do with CdeO

**Please help support students in North Thurston Public Schools this fall by donating school supplies and backpacks!!!**

Over a decade ago, CdeO decided to give back to our community by donating school backpacks stuffed full of school supplies.

Randy Harris nick named our gig "OPERATION BACKPACK" and the name is now used county wide. Each year the need gets greater for assistance helping our local students get started off to school that first day like all the other children.

Each year we have donated anywhere from 40 to 55 backpacks full of the supplies needed for the grade level you choose. So once again we are donating backpacks full (loose items are welcome as well) of supplies. Also, please include some larger size backpacks for the high school students.

We will meet at Woodland Elementary, Mullen and Carpenter Road, August 20 and leave by 5:30 to get to the bus lot by 5:45. Usually Raj Manhas attends, has a few words of appreciation to say, we count the backpacks for a grand total and then go to Norma's at Nisqually for dinner.

Let's break our record of 55 packs this year, be generous and help out our local school children get the school year off to a good start. We are also donating as many scientific calculators as \$300 will buy.

If you are unable to come on Operation Backpack night, feel free to bring your packs and supplies to the next meeting and I will deliver them.

Any questions, my number is 360-491-7432. Thanks for your support. Peggy

Here is a generic list of school supplies:

#### All Grade Levels

- Backpacks
- Calculators
- Crayons (large/regular)
- Colored Pencils
- Scissors (pointed)
- Highlighters
- Glue sticks
- Notebook dividers
- Spiral notebooks
- Notebook paper (wide and college-ruled)
- 3-ring binders
- Plastic/clear rulers
- Protractors
- Erasers
- Markers
- Pocket folders (all ages)
- Composition books (black/white college-rule)
- Supply boxes

#### Secondary only

- Larger backpacks
- Blue/black ink pens
- Pen/pencil holder pouches

Hawks Prairie Inn

July 9th, 2014 7:00-8:00

**Call To Order/Introductions/****Approval of Minutes (Anne Wax)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm at Hawk's Prairie Inn Restaurant in Lacey, followed by introductions. The meeting minutes from last month's meeting were approved as printed.

**Treasurer's Report (Will Trogden)**

Will presented the report. Will can provide copies of this month's report to individuals if requested.

**Committee Reports****Sponsorship Update (Peggy Rogers)**

No news.

**Membership Update (Billy Smith)**

Membership is up-to-date. We were joined today by George & Nancy Littleton, along with George & Jane Weeks. Also, two prospective members came to 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

**Sunshine Chair (Brenda Johnson)**

Michael Rennick sent the club a really nice thank you card for our Meconi's Get Well card. Any calls or visits to Leo would be appreciated.

**Webmaster (Wendy Forcier)**

Thanks to those uploading pictures to the web site – very useful to the newsletter, website and historian.

**Historian Update (Marilyn Trogden)**

Continuing to upload more pictures. Thank you to everyone contributing!!

**Scholarship Fund (Mark Twardzicki)**

No news.

**NWACC (George Schwartz)**

No news.

**NWACC (George Schwartz)**

No news.

**National Corvette Museum (George Schwartz)**

No news.

**Vette Fest X (Arthur Green)**

Vette Fest is coming! Anne presented the event plans, and how club members can help. Lots of cool stuff planned for the event – music, food, a great raffle, and all kinds of trophies. We have 30 volunteers so far, and need more. Anne will send out all the details and how you can help.

**Events and Activities (Josette Miller)**

Welcome to peak Corvette Season! See event calendar for details on all events.

**Where we've been:*****"Three Parades and a Picnic"***

- **Ocean Shores Flag Day Parade** – We did Blue Slough twice! George the Monkey was very popular.
- **Yelm Parade** – Gary had a small cowgirl princess attending, and the cars were right next to horses. So good day.
- **Fourth of July Parade** – We had a great time! Lonnie, a friend of Carla's came with his custom car with Lambo doors, played great music. The parade goers loved him! Morgenson's second princess attended and had a great time.
- **Fourth of July Picnic** – Fabulous, relaxed picnic. Lots of great food, beautiful view and fun people.

**NWACC Autocross Training** – Several folks went including Arthur and Carla. It was such a good training that Arthur won more than a rookie should -- he had best score of novice class, and middle of the pack overall. J

**Vette-A-Bratton (Yakima Valley Vettes)** – see great article from Duncan in the June Newsletter. They set the bar very high for a weekend event. Duncan won a trophy at the car show.

**Glass Odyssey** – Charmaine won a brick from the Museum at the auction, and Jim and Cynthia won First Place in c6 coupe class, a highly competitive class!

**One Lap Around Mt. Rainier Day Tour** – see Denny's article in the June Newsletter. Weather was great, beautiful drive, fun roads to drive.

**JBLM Freedom Fest** – Many folks attended the car show hosted at Fort Lewis, and then drove over to Velma and Doug's for picnic.

**Coming Up:**

**Windy Ridge Tour** – Denny described how the tour route avoids I5 snarling traffic and the Seattle-to-Portland cycling. Meeting at the Whitman and College QFC at 8am. There's a pass needed, so plan on \$15 per car unless you have a Senior pass.

**Shadow of the Mountain** – Many folks going to Leavenworth trip.

**Autocross #3** -- it will be July 13<sup>th</sup>.

## General Membership Meeting cont.

**Lakefair Parade** – we don't know the line up yet. There's a car show too this year Friday night the 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a very fun event. We will then have a great picnic at Jim and Karen's home!

**Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Rose City Classic and TCC event. Don is running a caravan for TCC, Anne is going to the

Rose City Show and Shine. Rose City is a 3-day event, check out the website

**Classical Gas Car Show** - one day event at Clover Park. See the website for details – great show, and a group will be going.

**Autocross #5** – will be held August 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Lake Pateras** – Reserve the rooms! It is a great trip through the North Cascade. We have 12 rooms at Lake Pateras for sign up – will be in September.

**Morningside** – a great little ride for a very worthy cause. It helps a lot of disabled folks get and keep jobs. If you want to be involved, would like some volunteers. September 21<sup>st</sup>. \$80 a couple, and Peggy can give away two sets of tickets. See Peggy or Randy for sign up.

**Little Creek Casino** – has a poker run, and a run on the 2.5 mile Shelton track with a pilot car. Great opportunity to check out the track. Will eventually be available for rent as a drag strip. Will be a big deal for Mason County!

**Operation Backpack** – our 12 year legacy of contributing to Operation Backpack continues. It will be Wednesday August 20<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at Woodland Elementary to be at the Bus Barn by 5:30pm. Just bring supplies, or help put together backpacks. We were able to provide a lot of calculators last year. Club approved \$300 for calculators. See website for more details. NOW is a good time for great deals on school supplies.

**“Do-over” Rainier Tour** – we liked the Mt Rainier trip so much, we will do it AGAIN on August 24<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more!

### Special Topic: Vette Fest X

Anne presented an overview of the event, what we've done so far, and how you can help. Raffled out ice cream to 12 lucky Vette fest volunteers.

### Raffle (Will Trogden)

Thanks to Randy for providing mystery purple bag, and great chocolate!

And the Winners Are:

- Mystery bag went to Frank Zangar
- Chocolate went to Gary Mortenson
- For 50/50, \$21 went to Doug Rogers, who will bring the next raffle prize.

## **Special Topic: Vette Fest X**



Anne presented an overview of the event, what we've done so far, and how you can help. Planning a great event:

**Fun vendors** such as pin striping and Corvette Ice cream

**Unusual Trophies** – including awards for custom cars, best paint job, etc. – and you could set up your own trophy!

**Fabulous T-Shirts** – better than the standard event T-shirt, with a variety of colors.

**Lots of raffle prizes** – the committee has 40 raffle prizes so far -- and can always use more.

**Awesome goodie bags** – registrants will have some surprise gifts in their packets.

### **Where you come in:**

**Join the Volunteer Team** – see below for where you can help.

**Donate Trophies** – see a committee member if you'd like to donate \$30 for your own trophy. Can choose the award – Best Wheels, Most Bling, etc.

**Find Raffle Prizes** – contact businesses to donate raffle prizes. Doesn't require big deals – even your favorite coffee shop and auto parts store could have fun prizes to offer. It's great publicity for them!

### **Volunteering Opportunities**

Here are the areas that need people, and who's volunteered so far:

#### **Before the Event**

**Publicity** – Wendy will help with Facebook, Corvette Forum – post flyers (Randy),

**Trophies** - See Don, Anne, and Will if you want to provide trophies, you can even judge the trophy!

**Registration** - Join a Packet Party to set up registration packets.

#### **Morning of Event**

**Set up:** Fred, Larry, Marilyn, Peggy, Denny, Josette, Carolyn, Will, Anne

**Parking:** Denny, Jim, Lee, Jimmy, Randy, Lee Smith, Jim Rogers, Fred and Larry

**Registration** – Peggy, Billy, Shanah, Josette

**Hospitality** – Wendy, Carla, Brenda (relief)

#### **Show Time**

**Judging:** Gary M, John Zine, Doug Grover, Doug Rogers, Peggy, Jim Rogers, Bob Mckibbin.

Mason (Doug's grandson), Mikala, and Arthur III (Arthur's grandson) can be a runners.

Will have a training Saturday morning for an hour. TBD. Don and Meagan will train us. Aug 16<sup>th</sup> 10 AM.

**Participant Choice Ballot:** Brenda will lead this starting at 11am.

**Music:** Keith has offered his sound system, but need a volunteer to run it. Will Trogden will work with Shanah to set up a Pandora playlist for the event. .

#### **Wrap up**

Larry, Will, Marilyn, Doug, Jim, Fred, George, Carolyn, Charmaine

Need a volunteer to pack up Keith's music system.

## **Information and Registration**



## Test Your Knowledge:

The original front emblem and horn button on the "Aurora" show circuit Corvette featured crossed American and checkered flags. Why was it changed to what it is today from the original emblem?



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## Upcoming Events

### August

Sat 2nd	Rose City Corvette Classic Show N Shine 8a.m. to 3p.m. (Hospitality Night on Friday, Aug. 1st)
Sat 2nd	Tacoma Corvette Club & Sunset Chevrolet All Corvette Show
Sun. 3rd	Autocross #4 at Portland Int'l Raceways (Rose City Corvettes)
Sat-Sun 9-10th	Classical Glass 5-Star Classic All Car Show
Sun 10th	NWACC Autocross #5 in Shelton
Wed 13th	CdeO Meeting, Hawks Prairie Inn Restaurant at 7:00 p.m.*
Sat. 16th	Vettes At the Marina Corvettes of Grays Harbor
Sun 17th	CdeO VetteFest at Titus-Will Chevrolet in Olympia*
Wed 20th	Operation Backpack and Dinner at Norma's of Nisqually*
Sun 24th	9th Annual All Corvette Show & Burger Bash Corvette Marque Club
Thur-Sat 28-30th	2014 National Corvette Museum Caravan

### September

Sun 7th	Pacific Northwest Concours D'Elegance At Lemay
Wed 10th	CdeO Meeting, Hawks Prairie Inn Restaurant at 7:00 p.m.*
Sat-Sun 13-14th	North Cascades and Lake Pateros Weekend Tour*
Sun 14th	NWACC Autocross #6 at Sanderson Field in Shelton
Sun 21st.	Morningside Ride Gimmick-Type Road Rally
Fri-Sun 26-28th	3-day Tour to Victoria, BC*

### October

Sun 5th	Cdeo Day Tour
Wed 8th	CdeO Business Meeting & Dinner

\* Indicates Club sanctioned events that count for membership qualifications. For more meeting places, times and additional events, visit the CdeO Event Calendar at <http://www.corvettesdeolympia.org>