

Heartbeat of Olympia

Volume 42, Issue 2

April 2014

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St. Patrick's Day Parade in Ocean Shores

by Denny and Josette Miller

Itching to be back on the road, our club decided to attend the 2nd annual Saint Patrick's day parade in Ocean Shores on March 16th.

And then, March 16th turned out to be a cold and rainy day. Just the same, 13 of our corvette's assembled at the Barnes and Noble parking lot for the tour to the parade.

Attendees included Lee Cousineau, Arthur & Carla, Fred & Charmaine, Will & Marilyn, Keith and Beth, Lee Smith, Jim and Karen, Anne, Carolyn, John Zink, Brad Amos (visitor), Dan Plummer, and Denny & Josette.



The route to the parade started with a wet but uncongested freeway drive to Montesano where we met up with Allison. We then drove down Highway 107 in the rain and then zipped through Blue Slough Road at a surprisingly brisk pace. From there we had an exceptionally orderly drive through Cosmopolis, Aberdeen, and Hoquiam.

Leaving Hoquiam, traffic was light so we had a good run at the curves on highway 109 where it leaves North Bay and winds through the hills.

Once again the St. Patrick's Day parade was casual, and hosted by the Grays Harbor Irish Heritage Club and the Galway Bay Irish Pub. Last year it had 18 entries. This year, because of the heavy rain, it had about four entries, consisting of the grand marshal, a group of local business people handing out candy, our 14 corvettes, and a fire truck.

The route started the at the north end of Point Brown Avenue, traveled south to the round-about at W Chance A La Mer, and then back north on Point Brown Avenue to Galway Bay Irish Pub. The parade had about 200 watchers, most of whom watched from inside their cars. After the parade, a number of our club member said "We were the parade." Small parade size, and rain aside, it was really a hoot to participate in the parade.

We split up a bit after the parade, some of us going to the Los Maracos Mexican restaurant while Fred, Charmaine, Arthur and Carla tried a friend's pizza parlor.

After lunch, most of us headed back home together by way of Blue Slough Road (what fun), stopped once again at the Chevron station in Montesano, and then drove the freeway back to Olympia.

In summary – lots of fun in the rain.

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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: Keith Frost

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 2nd 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

Next Meeting

May 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Hawks Prairie Inn Restaurant, Lacey, WA

President's Message



In February a sink hole took out a major exhibit hall at the National Corvette Museum, and the museum finds itself once again in a financial bind.

I was touched by George's report at our last meeting on the plans for a quick recovery, and how General Motors will restore all of the recovered cars.

This embodies the resilience of the Corvette community, a resilience energized by the pure joy of Corvettes, the same joy we share here in our club.

Which brings me to April and the opportunity it brings for enjoying our Corvettes.

This month we will try something new – a trip to the Fire Mountain Grill @ Hoffstadt Bluffs overlooking Mount Saint Helens.

Come join us for a fun, windy road drive, and breathtaking views of Mt. St Helens and the Toutle River Valley.

Save the Wave,

Anne

ps. See the calendar for details on these events.

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 Puntney
2005	Vince Puntney
2006	Vince Puntney
2007	Brian Cousineau
2008	Peggy Rogers
2009	Meagan Renick
2010	Meagan Renick
2011	Meagan Renick
2012	Meagan Renick
2013	Anne Wax

Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast at North Thurston H.S.

by Randy Harris



The pots and pans are barely dry and the griddle is still warm to the touch but the success of the Pancake Breakfast and Corvette Car Show is still on the air in the cafeteria of the North Thurston School. Thanks to the majority of the club members who showed up before dawn, while there was still frost on the roofs and lawns, and all pitched in to work. Outside, the griddle was the best source of heat as the pancake batter and eggs were being mixed and scrambled. It looked like a well-oiled machine under the guidance of Chairperson Debbie O'Neill who once again took command and led the breakfast brigade into battle.... and won!!

Set up for the breakfast fund raiser began at 6 AM for the troops but began many months ago for Debbie and the committee. Sausages were donated by IHOP and Hawks Prairie Restaurant, coffee from Olympic Crest Coffee, and apple cider from Lattin's Cider Mill which all complemented the scrambled eggs, hot pancakes, and steaming sausage gravy and fresh biscuits. It made for a very tasty breakfast as the doors opened for business at 7 AM. The Boy Scout troops were there in mass again and helped with serving food and bussing tables while the Girl Scouts helped with coffee refills and kept the syrup dispensers nice and full when the tables began to fill with hungry customers.



The Corvettes de Olympia Club arrived at 8:30 with 18 shining cars to arrange for display and show at the front of the building and once they were parked neatly, inside they went to chop, chew, and chat. Hard to

say what order though, Veters are pretty good at all of those. Volunteers from the South Sound HS Leo Club handed out ballots and encouraged people to vote for the Corvette of their choice while Nick Murphy maintained close eyes on the ballot box. Eventually, a winner was announced, the black '65 Coupe owned by Gary Mortenson, and an
(Continued on page 4)



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Al Clark

Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast at North Thurston H.S.

(Continued from page 3)



award was presented at 11 AM. Following that presentation, the Corvette Club did what any good Corvette Club would do on a dry and sunny day in Washington, we went cruising!!!! With full tummies!!! Need some way to work off those pancakes!

The tour left North Thurston High School and negotiated College St. traffic lights, a traffic wreck in front of Lacey City Hall, and intrusive "outsider's" vehicles that were intent on joining the tour by ducking into the middle of the line here and there. But eventually, the gleam from the Vettes was enough to dissuade them to give it up and eventually we arrived on Rainier Road as a smooth, well oiled, traveling chain. Did I mention the full tummies?

The route led us to Rainier and onto SR 507 where we turned south and then onto Johnson Creek Rd. Here the driving became a little more "Corvette". Sections of sharp turns brought back the reason we all drive Vettes. Just throw me a curve!!!! We emerged from Johnson Creek onto Skookumchuck Rd. where we encountered a different type of horsepower, a huge Dualie pulling a behemoth horse trailer. Judging from the speed of the rig, they must have been carrying at least 50 draft horses or a student driver was behind the wheel. Either reason is torture for a Vette driver and should be outlawed! At least on dry, sunny days in Washington when there are curves in the road! Fortunately, when we reached the Bucoda Highway, they turned north and we turned south! Thankfully!!!!

The next turn was in Centralia where we skirted the city and hit Old Highway 99 at Ford's Prairie. This led us past the old Maple Lane Girls Detention School and to US 12 where we headed for Rochester. Aside from the WSP Trooper observing our approach to Rochester, there was little to slow us and eventually we turned north onto Moon Road for some more twists and turns. We did have to ruffle the bike shorts of a bevy of about a dozen bike riders who insisted on traveling abreast on a narrow road with no shoulders. I guess that's why they wear helmets and colorful tights.



I think they still may be shaking in the air wake we created as we passed. Hope the only thing wet on their bike seat came from a leaking water bottle.

Waddell Creek was our next section and a few more twists and turns to enjoy before turning onto Delphi Rd and Black Lake Road where the official tour ended at I-5 for most however there were some who decided they had not had enough Corvette-ing for the day and decided a stop at Titus Will Chevrolet was in order to view the two C 7s for sale there. A blue coupe and a green convertible. No matter which end you look at, inside or outside, they are an awesome, aggressive car. The only thing I can find wrong with them is that you sort of need to pay for them! Otherwise, I'm a believer!!! Guess I'd better start buying Lotto tickets. Was a fun way to kick off spring and the "official" start of the CdeO season! Now if Mother Nature will just cooperate a little better, we can all spend some more quality 'butt' time with our Vettes. Maybe we can interest Mother Nature in one of those new C 7s. She'd look good in the convertible, don't ya think?

One more remarkable thing about the 2 hour tour. We did it without a pit stop!!!! Now that is remarkable. Maybe the medication is working after all!!!! Although I did notice that the first stop at Titus Will Chevrolet was a trip to the restrooms, not to drool on the new Vettes. Guess you can only change so much.

Lacey Sunrise Lions want to sincerely thank CdeO for their continued support of their biggest fund raising project, the Pancake Breakfast. Having the Vettes there is a big plus and a draw for others. The Lions greatly appreciate their relationship with



CdeO. CdeO's participation in the fund raising event insure the Lions will be able to continue to do many good thing in the community. Proceeds fund wheelchair ramps, eyeglasses, hearing aids, service animal programs, American Flags displays, street cleaning projects, camps for kids with diabetes, returning veteran's retreats, senior citizen's programs, foreign student exchange programs, food and other banks, backpack programs for homeless students, boy scout troops, and many, many other local and worldwide programs.

We think of a tour as two or more Corvettes traveling together to a destination. This can mean anything from a short trip to a parade, or a several hours long trip through the countryside. The following are tips for touring safely while having fun.

Preparing for a Tour

When you find a tour you want to attend, find the designated date, meeting place/time, and leader for a tour on the CdeO website, or contact the event coordinator.

- Register for tour on the website or at our monthly meeting.
- Also, we recommend that you buy a Motorola RDU2020 hand-held radio so you can really participate in the tours.
- On tour day, make sure you have fully charged your radio. Our radios are useful for keeping in touch during the trip.

Beginning the Tour

Come on out early so you can shoot the breeze with your fellow Corvette enthusiasts and be prepared for the tour to leave on time.

- So that the rest of us don't hang out waiting for you, if you can't make the trip, let the event coordinator know.
- Take advantage of the "driver's meeting" just before trip departure to learn who will play the "Tail Gunner" role, and about rest stops, meals, etc.
- Consider your driving style and your passenger's preference when deciding where you want to be in the convoy. The more aggressive drivers should start in the front and the rest of us line up towards the back.
- Before you leave the parking area:
- Turn on your radio and test it by reaching out to the group.
- Turn on your parking lights (older Vettes, C1, C2, & C3) or your running lights (C4, C5 & C6.)

During the Tour

And then the reason for the event begins as we hit the road. You will find it ever so enjoyable to belong to a string of bright, shiny corvettes moving down the road as one.

- You will find that staying with the car ahead of you as much as possible will enhance the experience.
- Don't worry if our ranks are broken when someone squeezes in front of you. You will have plenty of opportunities to pass and/or the tour leader will pull over or change lanes to allow everyone to rejoin the pack.
- Use your radio to listen for news from the First Car and Last Car. They will make sure the group stays together, and warn about any road hazards.
- Avoid the temptation to pass the Corvette in front of you if you find them too "pokey." Either talk to them via your radio about changing

places or you can use the next stop to shift in the line-up.

Handling Problems

None of us ever want to have mechanical problems on the road, but if it has to happen, then it is best it happen on one of our tours. Just pull over – the tail gunner will pull over with you while notifying the leader to stop when he/she can.

The Return Trip

Usually, we maximize our driving pleasure by touring as a pack all the way back to Olympia. Notify the leader if you do not intend to return to Olympia with the group.



2014 Stingray gets 4x4. Ok, you got me - April Fools! This is a pic of someone having wrecked in a Stingray as titled "Car Crash: First 2014 Corvette Stingray Wrecked" from the www.gtspirit.com website.

RDU2020 radios

by Anne Wax



Two-way radios provide a way for CdeO members to stay in touch while driving in a group.

This can be important for safety, to keep the group together, and to report mechanical problems and to entertain each other with sights and quips along the way.

The club uses Motorola RDU2020 radios, which can be purchased on-line.

They usually cost between \$180 and \$200 dollars, but sometimes you can find a good deal on eBay or Amazon.com. Just search the web, and find the best deal you can from a reliable shipper.

If you have any questions, contact Anne.

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 for February. Will can provide copies.

Committee Reports

Sponsorship Update (Peggy Rogers) Nothing new.

Membership Update (Fred Millstead)

Membership will be up to date by the end of the week. Please make sure to pay your dues for the year. John Zink is back! He said it's good to be home again. Gary Mortenson has also returned.

Sunshine Chair (Brenda Johnson) Nothing new.

Webmaster (Allison McFadden and Wendy Forcier)

Big thanks to Allison McFadden for her hard work last year! The calendar is up to date through July. Tip: Really helps to use the Register button when going on trips – it lets group leaders know that you will attend their event.

Historian Update (Marilyn Trogden)

Marilyn reported that the committee continues to work together to take pictures and organize pictures.

Scholarship Fund (Mark Twardzicki)

Mark introduced the recipients of the South Puget Sound Community College Automotive scholarship CdeO sponsors.

- Austin Amos is 23 years old and from Tumwater. He is a graduate of Black Hills High School and currently in his last quarter in the automotive program in which he has a 4.0 GPA.
- Edward Matautia is originally from Samoa and is in his first year at the school. The scholarship is definitely helpful as at 33 he has a wife and five children.
- James Morris, the other recipient did not attend the meeting. The scholarship recipients thanked the club for our support. Ps. Mark would like some help with Scholarship committee!

NWACC (George Schwartz)

All the autocrosses are scheduled. Check out the autocross school – you don't have to have a Corvette. They will have one instructor for 2 students, so space is limited. Then you can try out your new skills the following day by attending the autocross event at Sanderson field. A flyer available on the NWACC web site next week. Talk to George to learn more. Arthur Green will be our backup NWACC representative this year.

National Corvette Museum (George Schwartz)

Update on the sinkhole: Repairs are in progress - Insurance covers a portion, but the museum will have to cover the deductible. The sink hole itself is up to them to resolve – how far it goes, filling it, etc. That repair alone can go anywhere from 200K to 1M. Donations are tax deductible, go to the website to donate. For more, please check out the live web cams on the museum website.

Vette Fest X (Arthur Green)

Email from British Columbia and they would like to visit the Vette Fest. They will bring about 5-10 cars!

- Decided on T-shirts and trophies
- Have some new ideas for raffle
- Have a budget, our goal is to raise \$2000 for the scholarship fund.
- Requested approval to use the Rally account as seed money to pay for preparations. Fred motioned, and the motion passed unanimously.

Fun ways you can get involved in Vette Fest:

- Sponsor a Trophy! They are \$30 a Trophy, and optionally display the trophy in your name.
- The raffle really needs volunteers to provide baskets and/or connect with vendors that can contribute raffle prizes.
- Talk to Arthur or Anne to help out on the day of Vette Fest – lots of fun stuff to do.

Events and Activities (Josette Miller) See event calendar for details.

Where we've been:

- **Spontaneous Valentine's Wine and Chocolate** at a local winery – Karen organized an impromptu visit to Medicine Creek Winery in Nisqually. It is beautiful inside – 100 year old bar imported from England with a back bar. Amazing desserts and wine. Tried about 8 local wines, and 7 cars went.
- **9th Annual Tacoma Corvette Club Open House** at Corvettes of Auburn. See picture on website! Excellent open house - there was a C7, a lime green corvette, and very nice hosts. A lot of clubs told the group about upcoming events.
- **10th Annual Poverty Bay Wine Festival** (Sun, Mar 2th): The Mini cooper club, Classical Glass and TCC joined CdeO at this event. Arthur and Karla have about 58 pictures on website! Chowder was amazing, great food and service. The building was an old Mason Lodge. Amazing place with live music – definitely worth going again!

Coming Up (see website for details)**March**

- Bremerton Sports Car Club—**Novice Autocross School** (Sat, Mar 15th) -- very fun way to learn autocross. No free spots – wait list only now.
- **St. Patrick's Day Parade** in Ocean Shores with Blue Slough & Lunch (six car minimum required) (Sun, Mar 16th). Will leave at 10am. We have 6+ cars coming, and we may do Blue Slough twice!
- Lacey Sunrise Lions Club is hosting the **Pancake Breakfast** on March 22nd at North Thurston High School. Adult is \$8, child \$4.

April

- **Annual Tulip Rallye** (Sat, April 19th). This is favorite tour for many. It's a big mystery tour through tulips. Starts at Burlington at 8am.
- **Sunday Drive and Lunch** (Sun, April 27th) destination to be determined.

Other Announcements

- **Show and Shine in Moose Lodge**, Yelm: April 26th first one of the year.
- **BFW Wounded Warrior** event August 30th. May be auctioning off a plane trip to Charlotte that includes sitting in the VIP booth with Richard Petty – and an opportunity to be in the pit!

(Continued on page 7)

Minutes of the General Meeting

(Continued from page 6)

- **Bremerton Glass Odyssey** show on June 21st in Port Orchard. A group of us will caravan up, and go for ice cream. There will be a live band (Born to Be Wild, including former Steppenwolf members). Will be \$25 pre-registration, \$30 day of the event. Free food – hot dogs, hamburgers. Expect about 110 cars. Will have raffle prizes, 3-4 C7s in attendance, and probably one for sale! Check out the website for more.
- **Vettebration** – Duncan will lead a tour to the event in June starting in Bonnie Lake, leaving at 9:30am. Check out the website for details. Steak dinner Friday night. If you are going, make your hotel reservation NOW, because block of hotel rooms are going fast. Duncan will be taking roads our club haven't taken before, should be fun!
- **Lakefair Parade Picnic** - Jim and Karen have volunteered to host the Lakefair parade picnic. They have a beautiful lakeside home. Thanks Jim and Karen!

Old and New Business

Sweatshirts – Belize Tees was not able to complete our sweatshirts, so we will move on to a new vendor. Several people in the club had ideas of people who could do the work. If you have someone, please email Anne.

Insurance – Last year we voted as a club to purchase insurance to make sure the club and officers are covered against being sued. We said we would do it for a year, then vote again. The club voted unanimously for renewing this year.

Raffle (Will Trogden)

Lee S. provided a great basket with goodies and French wine, and Randy-provided some really great Corvette fleece for the next few months of prizes.

Winners

- \$5 Starbucks Gift Card – Mark
- Choice of sweatshirt/T-shirt – John Zink
- French Wine and Cheese Basket - Don and Cynthia
- 50/50 of \$29 went to Marilyn, who will provide next month's prize.

2000 Corvette For Sale



2000 Corvette Convertible
 Dark Metallic Blue w/Tan top & Tan interior
 80 K miles
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Upcoming Events

April

Wed 9th

CdeO Meeting at Hawks Prairie Inn Restaurant at 7:00 p.m.*

Sat 19th

33rd Annual Tulip Gimmick Rallye Sponsored by MG Car Club NW Centre.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Burlington, WA Mall; first car out at 9:00 a.m.

Sun 27th

Sunday Drive and Lunch* We will take mostly back roads going to and coming from our lunch destination at the Fire Mountain Grill on Hoffstadt Bluffs. Lunch at the Grill. Leaving at 9:30 a.m. from QFC on the Corner of College Street and Yelm Highway.

May

Sun 4th

NWACC Autocross #1 at Sanderson Field in Shelton

Wed 14th

CdeO Meeting at Hawks Prairie Inn Restaurant at 7:00 p.m.*

Sun 18th

SW Washington Day Tour*

June

Wed 11th

CdeO Meeting at Hawks Prairie Inn Restaurant at 7:00 p.m.*

Sat 14th

Ocean Shores Flag Day Parade*

Sat 14th

NWACC Autocross Training (Sanderson Field in Shelton)

Sun 15th

NWACC Autocross #2 at Sanderson Field in Shelton

Fri-Sun, 20-22nd

Yakima Valley Vettes "Vette-A-Bration"

Sat 21st

Glass Odyssey Corvette Club Show –n– Shine at Grey Chevrolet

Thur 26th

Yelm Prairie Days Parade*

Sun 29th

One Lap Around Mt. Rainier Day Tour*

* 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>