

Heartbeat of Olympia

Volume 35, Issue 8

Minutes of the General Meeting
July 11th, 2007

August 2007

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Overview

Brian brought down the gavel promptly at 7:00 p.m. As you will see from the minutes, it's proving to be yet another busy Corvette summer. Opportunities for you and your Corvette abound!

Agenda

Introductions and Approval of Minutes
June Recap, Treasurer, Committee Reports
Bucking the Trend of "Bowling Alone"
Executive Board Recommendation
Other Business

Business Topics

A. Introductions and Approval of Minutes

Introductions were made for "you and you Corvette," and the minutes were approved.

B. June Recap

Ocean Shores Flag Day Parade

12 CdeO cars participated. It stopped raining just in time for the parade—a fun crowd!

Tacoma Corvette Club (TCC)/Bret Chevrolet Car Show

Vinnie noted that it was a nice show held at the main sponsor's dealership. There was a \$20 entry fee, and both Meagan and Dee won trophies.

One Lap Around Mt. Rainier

16 cars participated. 3 cars joined us from the Corvette Forum—plus, one fellow spotted all of the Corvettes as he picked up his mail in Enumclaw and decided to join us. Just like the year before, it was a fun trip!

Tumwater 4th of July Parade

We had 17 cars for this event. Great weather and a good picnic afterward. Randy thanked everyone who stopped by and hoped everyone had enough to eat. There were about 50 people at the picnic.

Shadow of the Mountain (Hosted by the Tacoma Corvette Club)

Seven CdeO cars joined in a weekend of fun in Leavenworth—four won trophies. TCC put on an excellent event. A great hotel with a terrific breakfast. 88 cars in the Show and Shine —25 C5s alone. An all-around nice event that ended with a catered lunch at Icicle Ridge Winery to say goodbye.

C. Treasurer and Committee Reports Treasurer's Report

Denny reported that there has been little activity except for normal expenses—we are in pretty good financial shape. He increased the newsletter budget since most everyone so far prefers a hard copy. We have fewer members than we projected at this time, but our miscellaneous expenses have been reduced so we're balanced out.

Reports from Standing Committees

Membership

Shoshanah Bain was voted in as a new member of the Club. Congratulations, Shoshanah, and welcome to CdeO!

Sunshine Committee

Everyone is well.

Sponsorship

Nothing new to report.

Scholarship

Nothing new to report.

National Corvette Museum (NCM)

Nothing new to report.

Web site

Art posted pictures for the Shadow of the Mountain, Bret Chevrolet Show and the 4th of July Parade.

Historian

Nothing new to report.

NWACC

Meagan asked that everyone take a look at the signup sheet. If you can come out and help with the September 9th autocross, it would be greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Events

It's a very busy time of year—much to do from now until September.

July

Windy Ridge – leaves at 9:00 from the Royal Bean. At Randall, we are going to separate those who want to drive up front and press a little harder from those who would like to enjoy the scenery.

Lakefair Car Show—if you have been there before, you know how much fun it is. It's held down by the lake. Meet at Tumwater Falls at 5:30.

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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. Newsletter subscription rate for non-members is \$10.00 per year.

Heartbeat of Olympia Editor-in-Chief: Randy Harris

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 on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, at 7:00 pm, at a suitable location in Thurston County. Meetings are open to any and all Corvette enthusiasts.

Visit us on the web at: www.corvettesdeolympia.org

Next Meeting

August 8th, 2007 7 PM

Tumwater Valley Bar & Grill, Tumwater, WA

President's Message



I got excited last week and no one knew!
It was a quiet moment—the kind that starts with an inner nudge and grows until it threatens to explode. It happened while preparing flyers alongside fellow Club members for the September 9 Open House/Hospitality Day.

Karen Johnson thought there was something wrong. "Is

Brian always this quiet?" she asked Betsy. No way could I express how the simple act of preparing flyers prompted such excitement over showing off our Corvettes—and celebrating 35 years of CdeO—with car enthusiasts from all over! Come to think of it, last month I also got excited about (1) swooshing up and down Windy Ridge, (2) driving in the Lakefair parade (despite the weather), and (3) chowing down at Vince and Tammy's picnic. And this month, what's not to like about a two-day romp around the Olympic Peninsula, a special display of Club Corvettes at Merrill Gardens, Operation Backpack and Barbeque, and the one-of-a-kind South Bend Parade on September 2.

That's what I like about CdeO—there's something for everyone to get excited about. Looking beyond our summer fun, we have some great events coming up this fall. Besides the Open House/Hospitality Day, there's the NWACC Autocross, the

Titus-Will Car Show, and, of course, the CdeO Christmas party. The success of these events quite literally depends on all of us. It occurs to me that at CdeO we don't have a problem with participation so much as with our ability to communicate the excitement of our activities. So to take on that challenge, we're looking for a few good "champions" to catch the fire of our upcoming events and let our members know just how much fun they are.

Yep, I got excited last week—and now EVERYONE knows why!

Brian

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
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Randy

I guess sooner or later, the great weather that we have been enjoying would come crashing to a halt and the overhead sprinklers would catch up with us. After all, this is not the Evergreen State for no reason, occasionally it rains. And unfortunately it happened on Lakefair week this year. What a contrast to last year when it was so hot many of the cars overheated while waiting to enter and park their cars for the car show on Friday night. This year the only steam was from rain drops hitting open headers. But as usual, CdeO didn't let that dampen the festivities too much. Friday evening we met at the Tumwater Falls Park to travel the short drive down Deschutes Parkway to Marathon Park and serve as judges for the Lakefair Car Show. Last year there were about 200 cars, this year there were 81, but even that was not bad considering the steady rain showers all day long. Those attending were Rich, Vinnie & Tammy, Wayne & Linda, Leo & Dana, Russ & Ann, Meagan, Dr. Jim, Tom Mc., Hill & Becky, and myself.



We were joined by Tom a bit later at the show and assisted in the judging capacities by two members of Mustangs West, the local Mustang club. Promptly at 7 PM judging began and in some classes it didn't take too long to determine the winner, like long enough to determine there was an entry. However, out of 34 classes, only three were not represented, 20s, C6 Corvettes, and Motorcycles.



The band played on while most everyone walked carrying umbrellas and snapped pictures quickly to avoid getting camera lenses spotted or streaked by the rain drops.

Awards were scheduled to be presented at 9:15 PM but were moved up a half hour due to popular demand. Each year the Lakefair Royalty Court makes and presents their favorite choice of the cars entered.

However, there have been occasions when their duties elsewhere that evening have detained them from arriving with enough time, if at all, to make their own choice. So each year, one of the judges makes a choice for them, just in case they are unable. This year, as always, a choice was made for them by Meagan, however, with just minutes to go until the presentations, they arrived. I explained the situation to them and asked them if they would like to see the car they choose. They followed me to a light blue '79 Corvette Coupe, owned by John & Linda Ricks and they were overjoyed with their choice. They all agreed they had made a great choice! Crisis averted!



So with that, the award ceremony began. Winners in the Corvette classes from CdeO were Russ & Ann, Hill & Becky, and myself. Competition was fairly limited in the C5 class as there was only Vinnie & Tammy and me entered. But! I smoked 'em! Here that Vinnie? I smoke 'em! And no! I don't want to talk about Leavenworth! Thank you very much!

At the conclusion of the award ceremony, the raffle prizes were distributed and people began an orderly exit from the banks of Capital Lake. Most were tired of packing the umbrellas around. Of interest was '94 Honda painted bright pink with "Barbie" decal across the upper portion of the windshield. The owner was dressed in a Barbie costume and had glitter sprinkled around the outside of her car. Obviously, she was having way too much fun to not share it and fortunately, her husband and friends were there to support her. She earned an award in the 90s category. So, back home, my car didn't get to sleep in it's regular bedroom that night. Too much water and road grime dripping from the wheels and fenders. So it slept in the portico, but bright and early, and I say bright because the sun was shining nicely Saturday morning, it received the needed attention required after driving on wet roadways from the show. Two hours later, it was shining once again and I am sure it forgave me for making it sleep outside, albeit under cover. Of course by the time I finished washing and wiping it down, the clouds had returned but no rain. My first thought was just to wait until Sunday morning after the parade to clean it thoroughly but as sure as rain, if I didn't clean it, the weather would hold and I would have a dirty car for the Lakefair Parade that evening. So at 2:30 PM, with a clean and shining car, I met the rest of the group at Tumwater Safeway to drive the short distance down Capital Way to our staging spot at Number 9. Arriving there we found that they had allowed us only room for about 4 cars even though I had requested room for 12 to 15 cars. We had a total of 16 cars. The solution was to take up a side block by parking a line of cars along the curb. Not the first time this has been a solution. Traditionally we have carried the outgoing Lakefair Royalty in the parade and unlike the last couple of years, the club's entry was right behind the Lakefair's entry with the Royalty. Those carrying '06 princess were Rich, Jim, Lee, Denny, Shoshana, Hill, and Brian. Following them were



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Its July and we're busy. With a Corvette function almost every weekend for the next couple of months, you would think some would be in danger of burn out. But not the case with this group. Besides, it's Windy Ridge, nice curves, hairpin corners, scenic views, and hopefully nice weather. Well, we got all of that on this run.

The weather cooperated with nice balmy skies, a few drops of rain from a passing thunder storm on the way back home but nothing more than just a few drops not even enough to require wipers or concern. Pretty hard to beat all of that. So we all met at the Royal Bean once again at 9 AM. There was Hill & Becky, Lee, Denny & Josette, Brian & Betsy, David & Shel, John, Dusty, our friend from Enumclaw, Don, Shawn & Casey from Elma, Darrin from the Corvette Forum and a couple that drove all the way from Monroe after reading about the tour on the Forum. We left south on Old Hwy 99 to Tenino and turned onto SR507 where we encountered the first of the Seattle To Portland bike run. They of course, were riding in packs and hampered our travel until the middle of Centralia where they split from our route and were never seen again, well other than a couple of bicyclist who were somehow separated from the group and trying to make it to the Windy Ridge Viewpoint. Man do they need a new map!



We made our usual stops along the way, Junction of US12 and Jackson Hwy, and Randle in route to the real fun, FSR25. At Randle we picked up our necessary parking permits and promised to notify the clerk at the grocery store of when we plan our trip for next year so she could take the day off and avoid writer's cramp. They have to record each permit sale by hand in a ledger. Not sure if they have computers in Randle but I didn't want to ask her and risk an axing. Those that wished to drive a little slower and enjoy the scenery stayed to back of the pack and those that chose to be a little more aggressive, but not stupid, remained at the front of the group. It worked very well and most of the group stayed pretty close together. At first, vehicles we encountered reacted pretty well to our rear approach, even the Prius quietly purring up the mountain road pulled to the side of the road to allow us to continue. Then a couple of motorcycles leisurely putting along gave way and a Honda, and a couple more non descript SUVs, until we ran up behind a red Ford 150 who refused to yield despite his slow ascent. Finally, begrudgingly, he let us pass but not before displaying his displeasure with a one finger salute. Maybe it was the horn honk that irritated him. He did have one advantage though and that was with his ride height



clearance. A couple of blind turns turned up surprises when there were rocks, not gravel, but real rocks laying in the roadway and some real maneuvering was required to save the low clearance of the Vette's bottom side. A couple of the cars were not so

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lucky and did hit a few rocks however, there was no leaking fluids leaking at our stops. We rounded one corner to find four motorcycles



parked in the roadway. I suspect one of the riders had accidentally laid his bike down and they were checking for damage. There were a great many bikes in the area and it seems that the biking community rates the roads in the state for enjoyment and driving fun. This stretch of the road is rated as number 3 in the state, enticing many bikers to test their skills.

Eventually we were at the summit and were rewarded with the beautiful views of the volcano's crater, Spirit Lake, Mt. Adams, and surrounding landscapes. Still hard to believe that after over 20 years, the



mountain has not yet re-established trees in the blast zone area. Still a magnificent view and awesome display of Mother Nature's strength. Leaving the viewpoint, we headed down to have lunch at the Cascades Peak Viewpoint

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Mother Nature almost over did it on this one. It was hot, nearly 100 degrees and on the 4th of July. In an area where the saying is that summer begins on the 5th of July since it usually rains on the 4th, this year was a huge exception. Not a cloud in the sky and hot sunshine. But that's what convertibles are made for, summer weather! Use it or lose it! We used it!



Meeting at the usual spot, Royal Bean Coffee Shop in Tumwater at 9:30 AM were the CdeO faithful.

Rich & Frankie, Lee, Denny & Josette, Brian & Betsy, Shoshana & Anne, Denny & Sher, Pete & Becky, Jim & Jane, Jim & Peggy, Hill & Becky, Jon, Art & Linda, Ted & Stephanie, John & Brenda, Mea-

gan, and Leo & Dana were waiting for me when I arrived after checking in for the annual Tumwater Parade. Since we were carrying the Lakefair Royal Court on their next to the last public appearance, we had been placed behind the Lakefair entry in the parade and that put us at #46. That meant about mid way in the parade. It is so much more convenient to have one car check in ahead of time rather than waste everyone's gas and time to sit idle while the group checks in as a whole. So we were able to breeze past the check in booth and go in search of our staging spot. With all the traffic trying to do the same, all the jockeying for position, unloading and loading parade entrants, and who knows why the car was in the middle of the staging area, it was no easy feat to inch our way past all the later participants and find our staging number. But eventually we found it staging the cars that were to carry the Royalty on one side behind the Lakefair float and the rest of the CdeO entry on the other side. But we've been there before and are good at this and settled down to the cleaning, puttering, and chit chat that is the regular pre-parade ritual.



However, this time there was something out of kilter, something not really aligned with the stars! Leo and Dana were busy under the hood of their red C4. Seems the heater core had decided it had experienced just about enough of this carrying on and decided to leak coolant down on



Dana's feet. It looked like curtains for the red Dipola machine! Time to limp home with your tail pipe hanging low between the back tires. But no Mechanic Man to the rescue!!! Rich suggested plugging off the heater hoses and bypassing the leaking core. So after asking everyone in the area if they had some pliers, wrenches, or any tools at all, they were able to come up with a handful of zip ties and a couple of pliers. The heater hoses were squeezed with the zip ties and effectively sealed shut not allowing the coolant to enter the heater core and thus curing the leak. Leo and Dana were able to complete the parade without incident. Not like the old Buick convertible carrying the Olympia Mayor that had steam and

smoke pouring out of the over heated radiator. No one else knew!



So, after passing out the antenna flags, and some suction cups for those carrying royalty, the Lakefair Princesses were

handed their signs and told to choose a car to ride in for the parade. It is always a wild rush for them to be the first one to their car of choice. They all settled and had their signs affixed to the car doors just slightly before the parade began. We started moving about 11:25 for a parade that began at 11 AM. That's not too bad for being no. 46.

The crowd was extremely appreciative and gave it up for the princesses and the cars. And there were lots of them lining Capital Way from one end of Tumwater to the other end and then some. I am sure there were some serious sunburns before the parade ended, both to the entrants and to the spectators.

Following the parade, the next destination was the picnic grounds. That would be at the usual spot, the Harris household and eventually most everyone ended up there and were joined by Cliff & Betty, Brian & Sheryl, George, and Miranda with her two children, Cameron & McKenzie. It was extra special to have Miranda with us as we have missed both her and Eric. Great to get caught up on all the info.

Now the serious cleaning began, cleaning up plates. Some serious eating. With the grill blazing, hamburgers and hot dogs sizzling, beverages flowing, and salads sloshing, there was a strange silence that fell over the group. No room to move the tongue to talk with your mouth full of food. As usual, the table was piled high and extra room on the tables was at a premium. If you left hungry you were just not trying or really need to get out more often. No room service but you didn't need it, only a couple of steps to the buffet table. There was plenty to go around and then some. Lots of desserts too, and none of that low calorie diet stuff. This is the stuff that puts those bulges in the lycra and the bumps in the spandex. But worry about that tomorrow. Today we feast! Some really good food and some great company. As usual, it was all great fun so when you add the great weather, you have a winner! I think we should do this again! Don't you? Maybe next year! Yah! It's a date! Randy



What's not to like about another trip over the mountain passes in summer? With tops down and warm breezes, it don't get much better. And that's the way it was. With temperatures in the upper 80s to 100 degrees all weekend, you'd best be putting some miles on the Vette. So Friday afternoon, at 1 PM Vinnie & Tammy, Denny & Josette, Brian & Betsy, Wayne & Linda, Jon, Felix & Joan, and Susan & myself left the Martin Way park & ride headed for Leavenworth and the Shadow of the Mountain Car Show put together by Tacoma Corvette Club. Rich & Frankie had left earlier in the morning since they were taking the "54 in the trailer. After a couple of



pauses at the rest stop on I-5, once in North Bend and again in CleElum, we zeroed in on Leavenworth. The drive was a bit hectic with traffic at times but more than made up for that with the beautiful scenery and the pleasant weather. We managed to stay together and arrived intact at the Enzian Inn in Leavenworth about three hours after we left. We traveled north on I-5, east on Hwy 18 to North Bend, east on I-90 to CleElum, east on 970, and north on US 97 until we hit US 2 at



Peshastin. It was a beautiful drive in an open top Corvette. Rich and Frankie were waiting for us when we arrived already checked in and registered. We followed their lead and did the same and soon were congregated at the hospitality room across the street for some

beer, sandwiches, and BS. The room overlooked an 18 hole putting golf course and a hill side groomed by three nimble goats who were more than happy to accept handouts from passer-bys, even if it meant scampering all the way up the hillside from the bottom. When the action at the hospitality room began to dwindle, most of the group headed for the pool and spent the remainder of the evening floating, splashing, dunking, and telling sorted jokes or tall tails. Some chose to sit in the hotel lobby listening to a pianist entertaining the guests. Very relaxing either way. Before long the rigors of traveling and reveling caught up with us and it was lights out time but not before a walk to the closest pub for a brat and beer.



Early next morning, well ok, at about 7 AM, the real work began. Having made arrangements to meet for the complementary hotel breakfast



at 9 AM, most began the clean up on the cars. A nice layer of dust had been deposited overnight and masked the bugs and road debris from the day before. The sun was already getting warm so 9 AM came as a nice break. Break-

fast was not your ordinary complementary meal, looking every bit like the meal you would receive at a restaurant complete with omelets made to order. In the middle of the meal, the owner of the inn arrived in full Bavarian costume to serenade the diners with a traditional Alphorn. He started on the railing of the outdoor's balcony, 4 floors above the street level and concluded inside the dining room, pushing his horn along the floor as he played. When he finished he left in his Bavarian chariot, a CJ3 Jeep with a Buick V6.



With full tummies and a fresh cup of coffee, it was back to the detailing process. It was pretty tough wiping down the car when you were leaking sweat and dripping on the nice clean surface. Wonder which leaves a better finish, sweat or Speed Shine? But by 11 AM the question was left



to the judges as it was rags down and all you could do was try to humor them into going easy. Next time I want old judges who can not get up and down to look under front ends or inside wheel wells! The women left immediately after breakfast on a strenuous shopping safari and would not be

back until the bearers gave out or the shopping bags were full. Well, all but Tammy who sweated just as much on their car as the rest of us on ours. Vinnie spent his time offering to "pre-judge" fellow competitors for a service fee. Don't think he had any success but not for lack of effort. His only interest came from the drive by bicyclist who took on Vinnie in a hit and run incident. Since there was little for us to do for a while but watch TCC draw and post raffle tickets, several of us headed to another pub to pick up where we left of the night before. Turned out to be an educational trip. Tim with a red C5, from Portland accompanied us and introduced us to a "Shandy", beer with 7 Up added. Yuck you say? Oh contraire! It was good! 10 points for Tim!

The rest of the day was spent adding several layers of sun screen and finally slipping into the pool. The evening banquet started with the Social Hour at 5 PM and dinner at 6 PM. Dinner was excellent, probably the best buffet I have ever experienced at an event.



Hats off to TCC and the kitchen staff at the Enzian. Brats, sauerkraut, chicken, beef, and potatoes, all cooked with a German accent were only a few of the entrees, ending with apple strudel. No leaving hungry that night.

Next came the awards and CdeO was not timid. Vinnie & Tammy, Wayne



& Linda, Brian & Betsy, and Rich & Frankie all took home hardware. Congratulations! This was followed by a live auction and a silent auction that concluded at close to 10 PM. It was a full day and the bed sounded like a great retreat at that point.

Sunday morning started with the traditional layer of dust removal and breakfast in the dining room with more of the musical serenade. A tour was planned to a local winery with a brunch included. At 10 the cars amassed in front of the inn and paraded through town to the Icicle Ridge Winery about four miles outside of town. The tour there began with an introduction to the log home built there and



some interesting facts about the winery. The winery is a converted orchard replanted with grapes and almost entirely constructed by the owner in recent years. It even included a nice little "rat rod" parked in front of the main bottling building.

Wine was offered for those inclined and a brunch of polish dogs, hamburgers, with all the fixin's, salads, and ice cream bars capped the event. A first class event for certain. Top notch all the way. All that was left was to find our way home back over Snoqualmie Pass. No easy feat as the traffic was heavy with 4th of July travelers returning home. We arrived home at about 4 PM, weary, sunburned, and tired but what a ride. My hat's off to Tacoma



City Corvettes. They did one heck of a job and we had a great time! Randy

(Continued from page 4)

Gift Shop and Grill. The same slow pair are still working there and have not added any speed to their food preparation but then we weren't in a big hurry so it all worked out well. The remaining ride down to Cougar and Woodland was filled with more scenic views, Corvette turns, and tire testing corners. There were no sections of gravel on the south side of the mountains like we had occasionally encountered coming up from



Randle but there were several cracks in the roadway and bumps that tested the front air dam on several Vette front ends. In fact, John's new C6 air dam showed signs of road contact when we stopped in Woodland for the usual ice cream at

Dairy Queen.

After the refreshments in Woodland, the tour became a little less formal as we entered I 5 and traffic headed north. Most of the group stayed together as best they could but it was difficult. Darren left us in Woodland as he was headed for Corvallis, about a three hour drive south. It was a great way to spend a July Saturday. It is my favorite road in Washington but I now I need to see those other roads the bikers know about! Randy



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(Continued from page 3)



Meagan, Jerry, Leo & Dana, Marty & Mary, Tom Mc, Nick, Dennis (driving Nick's C5), myself, and Lee & Terry, prospective members. So then we began the two hour wait for the beginning of the parade at 5 PM.

Now up till this time, the skies had been covered with clouds for most of the afternoon, occasionally a bit of blue would peek through, but for the most part, dark clouds had been hustling by. But it had been dry with nothing falling from Mother Nature's drip system. In fact, several of the group had taken their tops down and were ready for the parade action to begin. This is where the luck runs out and Mother turns on the sprinklers. With about 45 minutes to go, the raindrops began to fall and as fate would have it, never stopped the rest of the evening. It was the first wet Lakefair Parade I can remember. It didn't rain hard, just steady and never paused once.



The parade started promptly at 5 PM and since we were so close to the front of the lineup, we were done in just under a half hour. Surprisingly, the streets were pretty full of spectators huddling under umbrellas or plastic sheets for protection from the rain. Kids of course, just stood in the rain and let it drip down their backs. Not a lot of concern on their part.



Nick took advantage of the wet conditions and sported a fishing pole with a lure hanging out his TOPLESS Vette. He got lots of comments on the parade route and made lots of people chuckle!

At the conclusion of the parade, most of the group headed to Vinnie & Tammy's home and joined up with several other members of the club for some of what we do best, eat, drink, and shoot the bull. Vinnie had been busy all day preparing the Number 2 Best chicken in town and it certainly was all of that. The Colonel would have been proud. Chicken hot off the grill, hot dogs, salads, and a bonanza of desserts. Did I mention that the prospective members, Lee & Terry are co-owners of Tasha-Nicole Desserts? Beside the assortment of cheesecakes they brought, there was peach pie, strawberry-rhubarb pie, Marion berry pie, brownies, ice cream, cookies, and more calories than you'd normally find on a cruise ship! Add some of that to the two pieces of chicken I had and Sunday' morning's Vette clean up needs to be an aerobic marathon or I'll need a bigger set of shorts! Got to find some way to work off the extra poundage!



So even though both events were a bit damp and instead of driving with our tops down, and sitting in Vinnie & Tammy's back yard we were huddled under umbrellas and dining in the garage, it was a lot of fun. Nothing like a dead chicken and some desserts to bring out the best in a situation. Oh, add in the cold beer and wine and its another winner.

Lakefair Parade—we will meet at 2:30 at the Tumwater Safeway. Immediately afterwards there will be a picnic at Vinnie's and Tammy's. Vinnie will be cooking chicken and hot dogs. We are in the front of the parade this year, so it should go pretty fast. Parade starts at 5:00.

Rose City Classic—we will meet at the Hawk's Prairie Safeway parking lot. Leaving at 8:00 a.m.

August

Olympic Peninsula—we will be spending the night at Port Angeles. Let Lynus know if you need a reservation—his is available. We will be leaving at 8:00 a.m. from the Royal Bean. We'll be going around Crescent Lake, and plan to make a run up Hurricane Ridge.

Car Display on August 10th—organized by a friend of Randy's at Merrill Gardens. Includes: food, music, and a magician. A free, two-hour show from 6:00 to 8:00.

Operation Back Pack on August 16th—Peggy will send around a signup sheet and a supply list soon. Start gathering your back packs. North Thurston is doing a barbecue for us this year.

D. Bucking the Trend of "Bowling Alone"

Brian referenced a book by Prof. Robert Putnam titled "Bowling Alone," in which the author described the declining participation in social activities (like clubs) over the last 25 years. Brian noted that we have good participation in terms of bringing our cars on cruises and shows, but probably about 20% of our members do most of the actual work in terms of organizing events. Brian thought maybe we're just not asking the right way. We have a lot of events coming up that require many volunteers--the underlying trend is that it will be difficult to recruit volunteers. Brian proposed that we pick a "Champion" for upcoming events to market their event to Club members. More coming on this topic in August.

E. Executive Board Recommendations

All-City Rally (2008) – The E-Board has had several discussions about the future of the rally. After two meetings, the E-Board decided that something needs to change, but the decision is the membership's to make. At tonight's meeting, there was a lot of passion and discussion as to options for future rallies—including canceling the rally. A motion was made for a Go/No Go decision—the motion carried unanimously to continue holding the rally. The Club will be looking to everyone who said 'Yes' for participation. There will be communication going out soon. The official dates: the pre-run is set for April 6th, the official rally date - April 20th.

Corvette & High Performance Open House/CdeO Hospitality Day – Will be held on September 8th. A joint venture has never been done before—your support is still needed!

Other Business

Miranda gave an update on Eric—he is doing well other than it is hot and dusty. She has his address if we would like to send him a letter. He may come home in August for a couple of days and may be able to participate in an event.

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Upcoming Events

- Aug**
 Aug 3-6th Thunder in the Mountains, Whistler, BC (www.bccorvetteclub.ca)
 Aug 4-5th* Olympic Peninsula Weekend Cruise, Leave Royal Bean Coffee Shop, Tumwater 8AM, Randy Harris (360 459-8670)
 Aug 8th* CdeO meeting, 7 PM Tumwater Valley Bar & Grill, Tumwater, WA
 Aug 10th Car Display at Merrill Gardens, Olympia, WA 6-8 PM, Randy Harris (360 459-8670)
 Aug 16th* Operation Backpack, North Thurston Bus Barn, Carpenter Rd. Peggy Rogers (360 491-7432)
 Aug 25th Harold LeMay Open House, Spanaway, WA
- September**
 Sept 2nd* South Bend Parade and Day Tour. South Bend, WA. Duncan Johnson (253 845-2424)
 Sept 8th* CHIOP Open House & CdeO Hospitality Day, Olympia, WA. Larry Johnson (360 754-7890)
 Sept 9th NWACC Autocross, Shelton Airport, George Schwartz 360 456-1242
 Sept 15th Summer's End Car Show, Huntamer Park, Lacey, WA, Randy Harris (360 459-8670)
 Sept 22-23rd* End of the Summer at Ocean Shores, Ocean Shores, Vinnie Puntaney (360 491-7379)
- October**
 Oct 6th* Titus Will Chevrolet Corvette Display, Olympia Auto Mall, 9 AM, Peggy Rogers (360 491-7432)
 Oct 10th* CdeO meeting, 7 PM Tumwater Valley Bar & Grill, Tumwater, WA
 Oct 14th* CdeO Mystery Tour, TBA, Randy Harris (360 459-8670)

* indicates Club sanctioned events that count for membership qualifications. For more information and additional events, visit <http://www/corvettesdeolympia.org>

Minutes from the General Meeting July

(Continued from page 8)

Today's Raffle

\$18.50 went to Wayne with the black C6; he will bring the August door prize. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m. due to a full agenda.

See you at the next meeting on August 8th!

Submitted by Josette Miller, Secretary

The Official Publication of Corvettes de

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Olympia, WA 98507-2154

