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precaution to spilling it on the way home, though. Not so early the next morning, the troops held briefing in the banquet room where breakfast was served to the accompaniment of the alphorn from the ledge outside on the hotel balcony. Surprisingly enough, OSHA does not make him attach himself to some sort of security device or tie off his lederhosen to a guy wire. Strictly on his own. Brave guy!



At precisely 1100, give or take a few minutes, the special assault team departed for the Icicle Winery a few miles away for a box lunch meal and wine tasting.. or buying depending on your mood or the size of your credit card limit and balance. There was a slight bit of confusion when the first wave over shot the route and had to beat a hasty retreat back to the fork in the road and regain the route. Fortunately, we met them just as they were returning so were spared the indignity of driving miles out of the way and having to admit temporary defeat or mistake. We only had to back track a few hundred yards. But eventually we arrived and parked the cars on the beautiful grounds next to the orchards and vineyards. Last year, the meal was hamburgers and hot dogs and the lines were huge as each person waited for the grill. This year the meal was fried chicken and salads and went much faster. You've heard no doubt about the troops traveling on their stomach? Yeah! Thought so!



So back on the road again under sunny skies and one quick stop at a fruit stand to stock up on supplies and we were headed once again over Bluett Pass. Not far up the road were two State Troopers checking with a motorist who had evidently met a cow elk rather abruptly. Didn't look like a good encounter for either. The vehicle had a dent in the roof and the elk was totaled. Can you say road kill?

Traffic was very heavy on the return but it seems the pass is always that way on weekends. A pause for the cause in North Bend was a welcome break and a good chance to share a laugh about the BMW that got pulled over by the WSP back up on the pass. Traffic began to look a little better by the time we approached Auburn and entered I-5. This didn't last long though. Just south of Fort Lewis, everything came to screeching halt! So the next hour or so was spent inching along the freeway with all the other three lanes. We managed to exit the freeway early at Mounts Rd. and follow the back roads home or we may still be out there waiting for the road to clear. We never saw the actual holdup, just the aftermath. And of course this was about 1700 and the temperature was 92. Home sure felt good! But we'll do it again next year! Ok?




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Lakefair Car Show

We couldn't have asked for a better night to judge a show. The weather was in the mid 70's and compared to last year with it felt like it was in the 50's and the year before when it hit 100, this was just right. I believe I've been going to the show for 10 years now and I would say this is or was close to a record turn out, the cars stretched both sides of the street for well over a half a mile. Jon Cox and Larry Johnson both from our group worked the event for the City and Jon had his new C6 entered. CdeO had a great showing with no less than 10 entrants. Car winning classes from our group were; Meagan Renick, Bruce Johnson, Rick Thrasher. A special thank you to David Harris for coming in to pick the Corvette class, there were a lot of Vette's and it was no easy task. The following helped out with judging

Tom McAnn, Jeff & Maureen Pretell, Eric Ries, Jim & Peggy Rogers, Lee Smith, Rich Sokso, Dr. Jim and a buddy of his, Jim & Jane Elliot, Dana & Leo Dipola, Larry Weniger.

Here is my legal disclaimer, as you know I was asked Thursday to help out at the booth, I now have a lot more respect for the position as it's a pain to try to keep track of all of the classes, man are there a lot. Plus, there was a disconnect on when and where and who was judging. With that I hope I didn't miss giving recognition to anyone in our group, if I did my apologies go out.



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