Last Minute Run

Randy

When Mother Natures decides to do something she seldom does it without a little flair. And when summer arrived in the middle of spring, Mother Nature was obviously not messing around. She delivered with a powerful punch. Keep in mind that only a few short weeks ago, when we were preparing for the All City Rally the next day, there was suddenly an inch and a half of snow on the ground. This time, she went totally in the opposite direction. So at the regular club meeting on Wednesday, it was suggested that we take advantage of the upcoming weather boon and put together a tour on Saturday. The idea was to use the old route we normally took when used to participate in the Grapeview Parade, just skip Grapeview.

Well, Saturday morning at 10 AM with temperatures already nearing 80, 16 cars gathered at our normal jumping off spot, the Royal Bean Coffee Shop on Tumwater Blvd, and after lathering up with sun screen, departed with tops up not being an option. Before heading for Shelton via 101, we headed south on the Littlerock Rd and jogged over to Waddell Creek and then north on Delphi Rd to Harrison and Mud Bay where we finally picked up 101 north. The sunshine shining through the trees in the capital forest and the coolness of the damp carpet of moss and underbrush were refreshing and scenic, not to mention the curves here and there on Waddell Creek. It was a nice drive along the tree lined route. Then we arrived at the freeway and once we all finally regrouped together continued north to Shelton. With 16 cars in the tour, getting through intersections and stop signals as a group is a challenge but grouping together on the freeway is a lot easier to attain. Our first pause was as we entered Shelton at the convenience store for a drink, snack, and rest stop. We accomplished this by parking across the street in an open parking lot since it would have been very disruptive to try fitting 16 cars around the gas pumps of the store. The parking lot was in front of a shop selling heating stoves, not exactly a primary thought on a day when the temperatures were already approaching 90 at 11:30 in the morning. Lots of bottles of water and sports drinks made the trip back to the cars from the store. This being in stark contrast to our most recent outings that required sweat shirts and coffee stops. Driving the Vettes is always fun but sunshine really amps things up and you can see the drools of those you pass as they look at you enjoying the sunshine topless. And speaking of those you pass, I was struck by the amount of vehicles on the roads with gas prices as they are. The complaints and concern about the high prices doesn't seem to have affected the amount of cars on the roads. Either we are so dependant on traveling this way we just continue on our way complaining as we go or we just bite the bullet and reduce our expenses some where else. I know I don't plan to not enjoy my Vette because it cost me $60 to fill the tank now. I may consolidate my travels during the week to conserve fuel but

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