

Heartbeat of Olympia

Volume 35, Issue 9

Minutes of the General Meeting
August 8th, 2007

September 2007

Corvettes de Olympia	
2007 Officers	
PRESIDENT	Brian Cousineau 360-413-7645
VICE PRESIDENT	Randy Harris 360-459-8670
SECRETARY	Josette Miller 360-413-7645
TREASURER	Denny Miller 360-413-7645
NWACC REP.	George Schwartz Meagan Renick (alt)
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ALL CITY RALLY	Brian Cousineau
WEB SITE	Art Carter Jon Cox
NCM AMBASSADOR	George Schwartz
SUNSHINE COMMITTEE	Frankie Sokso

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Overview

Brian began the meeting promptly at 7:00 p.m. The main focus of this meeting was a joyful review of the many upcoming activities, and how we are going to organize ourselves for this much fun! Usually as summer tapers down, so do Corvette activities, but not so this year—please read on for details.

Agenda

- Introductions and Approval of Minutes
- July Recap, Treasurer, Committee Reports
- Lots of Events and Activities Coming Up!
- Open House/Hospitality Day
- Other Business
- Business Topics

A. Introductions and Approval of Minutes

The usual round of introductions was made, and the motion to approve the July minutes passed.

B. July Recap, Treasurer's Report and Committee Reports

Windy Ridge Day Tour - Shoshanah summed up the trip very well—we went up really fast; and came down really fast. It was a very fun day with great weather.

Lakefair Car Show - Meagan reported that although it rained, and only half the number of cars participated, everyone had a good time.

Lakefair Parade and Picnic - It RAINED—but as Randy noted, it was still a good parade. The picnic afterwards at Vinnie's and Tammy's was superb with Vinnie's special grilled chicken, salads, wine, toasted loaves of bread, and desserts.

Open House/Hospitality Day Work Party – As Chris reported, the work party met on a Sunday morning—a group of 15 people who worked in teams folding, sealing and stamping flyers. We completed the job in 2 ½ hours, and had a good time doing it.

Olympia Peninsula Weekend Tour –An all-around fun trip from start to finish. We made a detour to the Lake Quinault Lodge, drove around Lake Crescent, and an hour after arriving at the

hotel, drove up to Hurricane Ridge. On the way home, we drove up and down and around Chicken Coop Road. As Randy noted, “you could catch air on this road.” Closer to home, Larry and Maggie had an opportunity to meet a nice State Trooper who discussed the right and wrong way to use the turn lane.

5 Star Event, Classical Glass (Tacoma, WA) – Meagan and George spent a very nice day at the LeMay Museum. Many, many cars! Meagan and Michela received first place as driver and navigator.

Rose City Classic (Portland, OR) – A car show on Saturday and an autocross on Sunday. A great time too! Both Meagan and George attended.

Treasurer's Report

Denny reminded the club that a majority of our income comes in the first of the year—our dues. Then we spend down our funds the rest of the year. Denny reviewed the details of the revised budget. He emphasized that we're doing fine! Expenses are far less on average than the budget we set up. We haven't touched the \$100 miscellaneous budget. Denny will have a print-out of the budget report available at every meeting. If you have specific questions, please see him after a meeting.

Reports from Standing Committees

Membership – Up-to-date. Welcome to new visitors!

Sunshine Committee - Neither Frankie nor Vinnie attended the meeting. Larry J. mentioned that Mark T. broke his leg parachuting out of a plane. He is expecting to make a full recovery. Eric is expected to come home for a short visit soon.

Sponsorship – Everything is current. Nothing new to report.

Scholarship - Nothing to report.

National Corvette Museum (NCM) – They are auctioning off a special Corvette –a 2006 with VIN #1—it's Monterey Red. Should be quite a vehicle for someone—probably close to six figures.

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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

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

Next Meeting

Sept 12th, 2007 7 PM

Tumwater Valley Bar & Grill, Tumwater, WA

President's Message



I remember when I was 35—that's the year I started a new career in computers. So I can relate to Corvettes de Olympia being 35 this year!

I learned a lot about those 35 years as Betsy and I researched the Club's history for a slide show for the September 8 Open House/

hosting the NWACC awards banquet this November—just as we did for NWACC's very first awards banquet 35 years ago.

As we enjoy our fall events like the Ocean Shores Fun Run, the Titus-Will Open House, and the Mystery Tour, let's also begin planning for a really outstanding banquet for our NWACC friends. Let's treat them to a great time that they will remember for the next 35 years!

Brian

Hospitality Day. Turns out the Club went through many of the same experiences that we all go through as we grow up and live life.

Over those 35 years, we've had some exciting times—and also some growing pains—but the Club has come through in fine shape. We're having fun, we're growing, and we're poised to enjoy another great period together.

And speaking of 35, did you know that NWACC—the North West Association of Corvette Clubs of which CdeO is a member—also turns 35 this year? Our Club will be

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Well the car is still warm, parked in her bedroom, and the bugs are still clinging to the front of the nose, not having been cleaned off at this point, but I have to sit down to tell you about the trip around the Olympic Peninsula. In all, I think this was among the top few the club has done. We had a great time! A little excitement, a little drama, and a whole lot of fun. If you are missing these CdeO tours, you're missing the real deal. Saturday morning at 8 AM, Vinnie & Tammy, Lee, Brian & Betsy, Larry & Maggie, Dick & Sharon, Shoshana & Ann, Hill, Jon & Cindy, Bill & Judy, and Susan & myself met at the Royal Bean Coffee shop, the usual jumping off spot for the club lately. The young lady taking my mocha order asked where we were headed today as the Corvettes began to congregate in the parking area. "Around the loop" was my reply. She says "What's the loop?" so I had to explain we were heading to Aberdeen, along the Pacific coast to Forks, beside Lake Crescent to Port Angeles, and then back home the next day along Hood Canal. Her comment was "OH!!!"



Uh, mine too! So off we headed under scattered clouds but predictions of a decent weekend with no hint of real rain. Out to Littlerock and Moon Road to hit Hwy 12 just west of Rochester and then through Porter and Malone to arrive in Elma where we joined Hwy 8 already in progress. Our usual customary stop is Montesano and this was no different. There was a pretty low cloud cover at this point and even some mist on the windshield but not enough to require wipers or



any real concern. Becky joined the group at this point but was slightly behind us so Hill stayed there to pick her up and would catch up with us later.

On to Aberdeen and Hoquiam with the plan that if we got separated in town, we would regroup on US 101 north of town. But as luck would have it, we emerged on the north side of town without even an outside car in the midst of the shining Corvettes. Now there was some open road cruising past glimpses of the ocean and all the forested and re-forested areas. Vinnie kept the group entertained with a constant dialog on the club radios. Better that satellite radio and almost the same material. Still tops up though because the clouds kept everyone at bay although there was the hint of blue sky every so often. The nice open roads made for some experimentation by a few of the tour participants. A new game was invented called "Slingshot". Here is how it works, you lag back from the group, get the front runners to radio back if the road is clear of impediments like vehicles with blue light bars, then see how fast you can get the speedometer to read while catching up. It appears the winner was Denny with 125 mph. Here's your award!

The plan called for our second rest stop to be at Amanda Park just north of Lake Quinault however, we arrived there to find the establishment closed and the port-a-potti missing. This was of grave concern because as you know, our diuretic tendencies are legendary and totally necessary. You try enjoying a ride when your eyes are

floating. Quick revisions were made and we back tracked a couple of miles to the only Chevron Service Station for miles but again we were foiled! It was only a gas pumping station with no other amenities. However, it was only a scant few feet from the Lake Quinault Lodge so the water logged travelers slogged the distance to find relief at the beautiful lodge. This is where Vinnie had his first epiphany of the trip but I think you may want to question him personally on those events. Far be it for me to try to relate such a surreal experience (or moreover to understand it!)



We arrived in Forks for lunch to witness their 1/8 mile drag strip in full operation once again just like last year. This is mainly grudge racing however, they are sanctioned by NHRA and occasionally offer cash prizes for class racing.

Started by a bunch of loggers that owned some hot cars and wanted to earn bragging rights, they race on the average of twice a month on one of the airport runways. Pretty nice for a community that far removed from the rest of us and pretty impressive that they come up with that many cars. They average about 3000 people at each event between competitors and spectators.

But we had more urgent needs, some tummies that were grumbling and a date with a meal. The group split just about evenly here and some went to find Chinese cuisine while the rest walked next door to the grocery store for sandwiches or pizza. Either way, no one was leaving hungry. We had no sooner ordered and found seating when in walked Hill and Becky, having caught up with us already. Reports were at that point that Denny still held the record however they had not let any moss grow on their Goodyears!



After the group reunited from the meal we headed north once again on US 101 and prior plans were to shirt along Lake Crescent rather than travel north to Joyce and experience the coast line of the Straits of Juan de Fuca as we did last year. The plan was good except for one

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Web site – Everything is up to date except for pictures of the Peninsula tour.

NWACC—it was agreed to discuss the year-end banquet later in the meeting.

C. Lots of Events and Activities Coming Up!

Merrill Gardens Car Show (Aug 10) – A low key event to display your car. Have some pop and a hotdog at a senior retirement home. Will be held from 6:00 p.m. until 8 p.m. 616 Lily Rd.

Operations Backpack and Barbeque (Aug 16) – Meet at Woodland Elementary. Depart for the NT Bus Barn at 5:45 p.m. We should have a nice supply of back packs stuffed with school supplies for children whose parents can't afford them. Can drop off back packs at Sterling Savings Bank where Peggy works if you are donating a back pack, but can't attend.

All Corvette Show & Burger Bash (Aug 26) – A yearly event for the Corvette Marque Club of Seattle in Issaquah. Pretty big event. Fun time to hang out all day. Meagan will be coordinating. Leaving from the Martin Way Park & Ride at 7:00 a.m.

South Bend Labor Day Tour (Sept 2) – Heading down for a parade in conjunction with the Miata Club. Meet up for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at the Country Cousins Restaurant in Centralia. For those who would like to travel as a group, Randy proposed meeting at the Royal Bean at 7:00 a.m.

Rod Run to the End of the World (Sept 7 – 9) – Meagan reported that it is phenomenal—an all weekend long event in Long Beach, Washington. All cars, mostly hot rods and vintage cars. Cars have to be 1975 vintage or older to participate in the car show, but everyone is welcome.

Open House/Hospitality Day (Sept 8) - covered in more detail later.

NWACC Autocross (Sept 9) – Autocross at Shelton airport. Still room for people to come out and help. Contact George if you are interested.

Summer's End Car Show (Sept 15) – People's Choice collector cars. Vote for your favorite at Huntamer Park on Woodland Loop in Lacey. Live music and food booths. Great prizes. A lot of fun. Check our newsletter.

End of Summer Run to Ocean (Sept 22-23) – Hurry and reserve a room. Vinnie has just invited other clubs to participate.

CdeO Cars at Titus-Will Chevrolet (Oct 6)

CdeO Mystery Tour (October 14th)

NWACC Banquet (Nov 3) –NWACC holds a banquet every year to recognize participation and award trophies. We voted on a motion to host the banquet this year. The motion carried. The host club sells raffle tickets, buys prizes, and keeps half of the raffle proceeds. Vinnie has agreed to MC the door prizes. We already have reservations for Chamber's House Restaurant at Panorama City. The event draws people from Seattle, Tacoma, Bremerton, and Oregon.

CdeO Christmas Party (Dec 1) – Be sure to add that date to your calendar!

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All-City Rally XXVIII Pre-run (Apr 6, 2008)

All-City Rally XXVIII Rally (Apr 20, 2008)

D. Corvette & High Performance (CHP) Open House/CdeO Hospitality Day

Come celebrate our club's 35th anniversary. The biggest event we have on the horizon. This will be the first time we have had a joint venture such as a hospitality day. Some highlights include:

Big display of Club Corvettes, CdeO hospitality tent area, good food, hot cars and vendor demonstrations organized by CHP, and lots of people.

Visit with Corvette owners from area Corvette clubs (and also other clubs).

Free lunch to the first 125 people to register.

Show hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 8th.

Anyone that wants to buy a really cool, full-color design on a white T-shirt let Larry J. know tonight (or right away if you couldn't attend the meeting). There won't be any extras.

E. Other Business

No other business.

Today's Raffle - \$23.00 went to Sugar Murphy; she will bring the September door prize.

The meeting was adjourned after the raffle at 8:20. See you at the next meeting on September 12th!

Submitted by Josette Miller, Secretary



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Mission accomplished! Another successful operation in the books! Better than last year and many needy students will be reaping the rewards and start

year in school.

This began three years ago with a suggestion from Lynus that the club



find a worthy charity to help and give back to the community. Peggy discovered the need for school supplies and worked with North Thurston School District, obtaining a suggested list of items for each grade, and arranging a time to drop off the backpacks. The first year CdeO donated 30 full backpacks. The idea arose that we include the Mustang Club and challenge them to a friendly competition of collecting more packs that CdeO. Together the clubs donated 96 full backpacks last year and although there was a trophy waiting for the winner, it was never claimed because everyone felt it was more about the kids and not the competition. As of May 2006, about 4,400 students - 33 percent - in the school district qualified for free or reduced lunch. There were 200 students in the district who were homeless at some point in the 2005-06 school year. Couple that with the need for new school clothes and several children in a family, and the price of sending the children back to school each fall is overwhelming for many families. This year was the best collection so far and North Thurston School District held a barbecue for both clubs at the Bus Barn on Carpenter Road with hot dogs, chips, and drinks. CdeO met at the south end of Carpenter Road and caravanned in together to meet the Mustangs already there. Even Mother Nature was pleased with the cooperation of the two clubs and replaced the rain showers earlier in the day with some nice sunshine. The collection of Mustangs and Corvettes was almost as stunning as the collection of the colorful backpacks. It was another example of the car community giving back to the local community and having the children benefit. Families in need of school supplies who attend North Thurston Public Schools can collect backpacks and other items Aug. 30 Who is to say that some day a child who was a benefactor of our generosity will graduate to become a successful doctor, politician, or scientist, urged on by the gift of a full school year supply of articles and a wish. With out the encouragement and help, it may never have happened. And that's what it is all about.

Thanks to all those in both clubs that donated and supported Operation Backpack. Now we can start looking forward to next year.

school on an even par with the rest of the children. "There's nothing sadder than seeing a little one walk into a classroom and see what the other children have," Jackie Crowley, district director of partnership services, said as she viewed the growing pile of backpacks unloaded from the club members of Mustangs West and Corvettes de Olympia.

Partnering with the Mustang Club there were 106 full backpacks donated amounting to about \$5500. For the third year, this has been a godsend for those families in need and those children struggling to keep pace with the other children in school. Shoshana quoted Peggy who said it is like Christmas for the kids when they open the backpacks to find all their school supplies bright and new inside. Included in each backpack was a short note to say this was a gift from Mustangs West and Corvettes de Olympia and wish them a fun and successful



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flaw, TRAFFIC!!! Motorhomes, RVs, and slow SUVs. We were in pretty good shape until the sun came out shortly after leaving the immediate coast and we decided to stop along side the road to take the tops off. That allowed several slow vehicles to get in front of us and since we were only a few miles from the west end of the lake, we were denied the fun of driving the twisty, curvy road along the pristine lake. Three of us took advantage of a passing lane to get around the slower traffic and follow a "Beamer" who was booking along. We stayed pace with him but didn't catch him, mostly because we were already driving at 25 mph over the posted speed limit of 35 mph along the lake. Eventually the rest of the group caught us just as we were leaving the east end of the lake shore. So eventually we arrived at Port Angeles under clear skies with the tops down and congregated at the Port Side Inn on First St. We arrived about 3 PM so after check in we reassembled for a drive up to Hurricane Ridge. Here again the road was ruined by slow vehicles that seemed oblivious to the fact that there were 11 Corvettes behind them chomping at the bit to test their suspension on the curves. But not to be, we all arrived at the top together, slow cars and Corvettes. But the view was certainly worth it even though a huge single cloud sort of blocked the sun and the wind was



me to sit in without having to crunch or slouch. However, you are sitting shoulder to shoulder with your passenger rubbing elbows. One of the ladies who was more than happy to fill me in all the details of a Smart Car had bought 5 of them from her local dealership, one for herself and one for each of her 4 sons who were there with

her. Just another group of car nuts enjoying the same things we do. Sunday morning, the group lazily assembled to drive down to the ferry terminal to have breakfast at the same restaurant we laid siege to last year, complete with parking on the upper floor. The fog laying just over the water front added a surreal cast to the area but it didn't effect breakfast at all. Good food and plenty of it.



Shoshana took this opportunity to add a little engine coolant to her Vette after having received the "low coolant" warning. It was only down a slight bit but evidently the car computer was a little nervous. Everyone enjoyed the food except Bill and Judy. They were still parked at the hotel waiting for a locksmith to arrive from Forks! Seems in the hurry to pack the Vette, someone inadvertently shut the trunk with the keys inside while the windows and doors were locked. Our efforts at retrieving the keys or gaining access were futile and professional help needed to be summoned. Once breakfast was over and while the locksmith was enroute, the rest of us headed out to Ediz's Hook and watched the waves and surf put on it's show. The



fog precluded a glimpse of Vancouver Island but some of the boats hugged the shore as they passed, using the beach as a guide to their destination rather than venture into open water. By 11:30 we were ready

to check head south after picking up Bill & Judy who were by this time allowed access to their car again. So off we headed figuring all was well. And all was pretty much well until we made our last rest stop at the Twin Totems Casino just outside of Hoodspport. Traffic was pretty heavy on 101 and it was pretty difficult to cross a lane of traffic, a center turn lane, and merge with the south bound vehicles. Especially when one of the north bound vehicles was a Washington State Patrol Trooper. Most of us made it except Larry & Maggie. Larry spent a little too long in the center turn lane and had a conversation with the trooper who let him continue with only a warning. WHEW!!!! We waited for the felons at the Shelton Airport to hear the story.



One more stop in Tumwater at Baskins & Robbins for ice cream and the weekend came to an end. It was another great outing and the weather was kind. Made some new friends and learned to speak Canadian, eh? Found one new



somewhat chilly. One the way up, we passed two groups of deer quietly feeding along side the roadway with little interest in the vehicles passing by. At the top there were more deer feeding on the slope above the center but these were keeping an eye out for any handouts from the tourists. Reminded me of Jellystone Park and Yogi Bear. Pic-a-nic Baskets?

After taking the required number of photographs and spending the required amount of shopping at the Visitor's Center and Gift Shop, we headed back down the hill to Port Angeles. Here again, slow traffic but then again, no one broke a shock or bent wheels like the last mountain adventure the club was part of.

Back at the hotel, plans were made for dinner with some going downtown, some going next door to a restaurant, and some choosing to snack on munchies by the pool. Eventually, everyone returned to the pool to share the area to a large group of families that were part of a baseball team in town for a weekend tournament. Needless to say, there was plenty of activity at the pool and not to be outdone, we added as much to it as they did. This was about the time we noticed a group of Smart Cars pulling into the parking area and of course these



"adult roller skates" attracted some attention. Hardly bigger than a good size shoe, these cars get about 85 to 100 mpg and can park perpendicular to the curb in a regular parking spot being no longer than a car is wide.



Turns out, this was a Smart Car Club from Canada that originated on the internet in a Forum and were here in the states to attend the Raspberry Festival in Joyce, participating in the parade there. Surprisingly enough they were comfortable for even

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Upcoming Events

September

- Sept 2nd* South Bend Parade and Day Tour. South Bend, WA. Duncan Johnson (253 845-2424)
- Sept 8th* CHIIP 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 Puntney (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)

November

- Nov 3rd* NWACC Banquet, Chamber's House, Panorama City, Lacey WA.

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

Olympic Peninsula Weekend (con't)

(Continued from page 6)

road, Chicken Coop Rd. at Blyn and it's a keeper. A narrow, tight road with lots of bumps and turns that will definitely keep you guessing! It would be so much fun to have that road closed to other traffic and get to run it as hard as you liked. It presently has no center line and you have to worry about oncoming traffic as you top each little bump in the road but definitely an "E" ticket ride. Made for Corvettes.

Now I got to get out there and clean my car. There are some bugs that may have enough parts left after collision to possibly regenerate and return to life! I know they'll be angry and probably come looking for me!

Randy



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