

### Rally News

\* Raindrop Rally (April 18) – Rallymaster Steve Richards says it follows tradition: 4½ hours and less than 130 miles in length. Fine driving roads with minimum traffic add up to a pleasant Sunday drive. All roads are paved. There will be a few opportunities to take a short break but there is no assigned lunch.

Start and Finish Location: Shawn O'Donnell's American Grill and Irish Pub, 122 - 128th St. SE, Everett, WA. Take I-5 exit 186 (128th St.) in south Everett. O'Donnell's is 300 yards east, just past the 76 Station. We will be meeting in the large parking area at the rear of the building. O'Donnell's opens for breakfast at 7:00 AM if you so desire. We finish here as well. See their web site (<http://shawnodonnells.com/>) for the menu so you can plan your after-rally repast.

Entry Fee: Pre-registered \$35; Late-registration \$40 (day of the event). Entry is limited to 35 cars.

General Instructions: The event uses Supplemental general instructions that modify the Rainier Auto Sports Club Touring General Instructions. Please note the RASC general instructions were revised in January 2010; previous entrants may wish to brush up.

Schedule: \* 9:30 AM - Check-in and Late registration opens. Entrants will be given route instruction packets as they complete check-in (Tech inspection will be on the honor system).

\* 10:15 AM - Novice Meeting

\* 10:30 AM - Drivers Meeting

\* 11:01 AM - First Car Out

\* 3:30 PM - Approximate First Car finish time

\* The Alcan 5000 (August 16>24) plans to host 40 entrants. Jerry is busy lining up rooms.

\* Marinus Damm and Marvin Crippen won "Trail of the Gnu" in northern Alberta over the March 27 weekend. 24 entries, mostly from Alberta.

### Trivia

\* Pacific Rally Group (PRG), the local successor organization when SCCA got out of the stage rally business, may be dissolved. If you want to volunteer for Olympus, use the Olympus web site. <http://www.olympusrally.com/volunteers/>

\* Jerry has had success replacing H4 bulbs with some HID conversions. The price has come down from about \$140 to \$50!

\* Nolte purchased LED backup bulb replacements. Although a "whiter" light, the measured illumination isn't up to incandescent levels.

\* Petter Solberg, left team-less by the withdrawal of Subaru in 2009, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> O'all at Mexico and Jordan. Very good for a privateer against the factory teams.

### Cordless lug wrench:

Cordless "rattle guns" make it much easier to change tires. Battery packs can pack serious capacity, and seem to get bigger every year. Ray Damitio was seen carrying the Makita 9.6v cordless drill with a socket adapter at a stage rally in the late '80's. That was a drill, a different tool from the impact wrenches that use a hammer mechanism to torque (or loosen) lug nuts. While a drill motor can hurt your wrist, the hammer mechanism makes changing wheels easy, with the tool doing the work.

Even though they look similar, drills and impact wrenches are vastly different tools. The hammer mechanism is heavier than the gears of a drill. The spinning speed of the impact wrenches isn't even listed for many. Torque ratings are all over the place, perhaps because of the various ways to measure.

"I find it so easy to use the cordless that I often leave the air hose unused, and just change tires with the DeWalt", says Ron Sorem of his 18v DeWalt. "I've got a collection of batteries, so I don't have to worry about flat batteries."

The WAG asked for comments in January. Here are the responses:

Ken Lingbloom: "In looking at Hitachi's tool site, I noticed that they comment that their 18v tools are compatible with THEIR NiCad, ni-MH and lithium batteries. The tool doesn't care what the make-up of the battery is, just the voltage."

Robert Gobright: "As per the recent WAG request I ran out and bought a new cordless impact gun! Actually, I have been wanting one for quite some time. I was getting seriously tired of changing wheels in hotel parking lots with just a tire iron. I had used Ron Sorems' DeWalt and really liked it. I have some other 18V DeWalt tools so the choice was clear. The only thing stopping me from purchasing was the approximately \$280 price tag. I then found that Grainger offers a bare tool version of the gun I was looking for. I already had plenty of batteries and two chargers. I got the DC823B for \$129 plus \$11 shipping. 3/8 drive, 125 lb/ft and 18V.

I have been using my new toy around the shop for a few weeks now and I am pleased. The DC823 has no trouble loosening and reinstalling sixteen 80-lb/ft lug nuts. I got so excited that I even welded an extra nut to my scissor jack. The tool has enough power to lift the car about 3/4 of the way up. After that point the impacting mechanism starts to hit hard. I don't dare holding the trigger any longer for fear of damaging the jack. If you have other 18V DeWalt tools, the DC823 is the way to go."

Tom Palidar: "I searched the internet and found a great buy on a Milwaukee 18 Volt 1/2 in. Drive Impact Wrench. It's been a lifesaver. Makes changing wheels almost easy".

Glenn Wallace: "I had a Harbor Freight one that broke. It was huge, but would break a lug nut loose.

I then got a small Makita 1/2" with LED, it doesn't have quite enough torque to break a nut loose, but you need the lug wrench out anyway to do them up tight, so it does the job and is really well balanced."

Lee Sorenson: "I have a Craftsman 18 volt impact gun. The gun is fine, but the batteries are poor. I carry two-three batteries with and the charger and recharge every night at the hotel at events. Then again, my set-up is 6-7 years old. I have had the batteries rebuilt once at Batteries Plus. Of course they sit unused for months at a time and that cannot be very good.

I think any gun using a minimum of 18-volt batteries should have the torque to do the job. Two batteries are the minimum and consider an inverter for the car to charge on the go.

Prices?????? I have not checked lately. Snap-on was the high end at over \$500. I think my Craftsman set-up was around \$250. I have seen stuff at Harbor Freight Tools for under \$100. YMMV

I also use the gun to operate the jack by welding a lug nut on the end. This operation takes a lot of battery power. If the battery is in good shape, I can easily change four tires and up/down with the jack with one charge. I can swap all four tires in about 15 minutes, by myself."

Marinus Damm: "I have a 28v Li-Ion DeWalt - it's loud as heck, and you have to let it rattle on the lug nut for a bit before it breaks loose (it's always succeeded thus far, though). I might go for the 36v next time, even though it's physically bulkier."

## Club News

\* The new General Instructions are published. They matched up with the Raindrop Route Instructions without painful changes to either.

## For Sale/ Wanted

\* **1987 Subaru RX** 3dr, caged, log-booked. 1.8Turbo, 5spd dual-range, locking center diff, Limited Slip. \$3000 (long list of spares for a price)

\* **1987 Subaru GL Turbo Wagon** pushbutton 4wd, \$990 flexible.....E-mail Ron Sorem: [ronsorem@gmail.com](mailto:ronsorem@gmail.com)

\* **2001 Audi Allroad** we bought from Jerry. All the luxury and bells and whistles have become boring. Waterpump and timing belt done, comes on studded Hakkas. Fire sale pricing at \$8500, more details at [blackholeracing@gmail.com](mailto:blackholeracing@gmail.com)

\* '03 Acura MDX, gold, all the options including Nav & back seat DVD player, 4500 lbs tow rating, 113,000 miles, \$12,250, Jerry Hines 206-227-6343

### \* **1991 Audi 200 Quattro 20 valve - \$2500**

\* Pearl white with grey leather interior, factory sport seats (heated of course).  
\* Tinted glass, and nice Kenwood stereo with headphone jack and USB input (wired for subwoofer)  
\* 200k miles, but just 40k since major work like timing belt, clutch & water pump (full list available)  
\* Most everything works (including AC and power windows) except a few warning lights.  
\* Bilstein struts with H&R sport springs (may be slightly low for Alcan, but we'll throw in the UHMD plastic skid plate from a 5000 Quattro I drove on many Alcans)  
\* Nice cat back exhaust system with Magnaflow muffler  
\* Excellent 215/60HR15 tires on 5-spoke Cromadora alloys, plus two spare BBS-style OEM wheels.  
\* Stock headlights, with CEBT Bi-HID conversion for 9004 bulbs (huge improvement).  
\* Steel brake lines, plus upgraded G60 brakes with slotted rotors.  
\* Optima battery, recent tuneup, and full synthetic oil since we've owned it.

Runs great, good highway mpg, and impossible to duplicate for this price. Could make a good TSD or Alcan ride, with vintage class potential (rules say 1984, but that's when this body was introduced).

For photos see <http://www.alcan5000.com/Audi200/>

Jerry Hines: 425-823-6343 home  
206-227-6343 cell

\* **For Rent, Las Vegas house**, \$400 week. Car available. Jerry or Colleen Hines, 206-227-6343.

\* **FREE: 12mm x1.25 lug nuts.** Fits Subaru. Mark Nolte, 425-226-3155

\* **FREE:** Are you a home brewer? Or do you know a home brewer? I have at least 12 cases of empty, **12 ounce bottles** looking for a refill.

Get them before the recycler does. Ken Lingbloom, (360) 733-8897

\* **FREE:** I have a **Bruning drafting machine**. Come and get it before the recycler does. Ken Lingbloom (360) 733-8897

\* Also special one-time deal (this century) on flexible **plastic nipples** to protect the wire coming out of an odometer probe. Originally intended for F-connectors for CATV applications. -Mark Nolte

### RASC Calendar

Rally crosses no listed, but happening.

### Stage in PNW

April 9-11: Primitive Rally School - Hillsboro, OR  
April 24-25: Olympus Rally (RA)  
May 14-16: Oregon Trail Rally (RA)  
June 5: North Nevada Rally  
June 12-13: PRG Pomeroy "Tumbleweed Days" RallyCross - Pomeroy, WA – PRG  
June 12 – Mountain Trials, CARS Nat'l, Merritt, BC  
June 26-27: ORG RallyCross National Challenge - Hillsboro, OR - ORG  
June TBA Primitive Advanced Driving School (caged cars only)  
July 14: Idaho Rally (w/ RallyMoto) - Boise, ID area - Rally Drift  
September 18-19: PRG Pomeroy County Fair RallyCross - Pomeroy, WA  
Sept 23 – Wild West, Pomeroy, WA  
Oct. 23: Mt. Hood Rally - ORG  
Dec 3-5: Big White Rally and SnowX - Kelowna, BC

### British Columbia & Washington TSD

April 9: NWRC Friday Niter by PSRC  
**April 18 – Raindrop TSD by RASC, Everett, WA**  
April 24 – LaConner Tulip Daffodil Rallye, Gimmick, MG Car Club  
May 14: NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA  
May/23- **Cancelled-** Targa Canada West - BC  
**June 5-6: No Alibi TSD by RASC**  
June 11: NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA  
July 9: NWRC Friday Niter by NWRC  
July 17 - Sno-Git TSD, Marysville, WA  
July 24 – Gold Digger, Kelowna, BC  
Aug 13: NWRC Friday Niter by ORCA  
**Aug 16-24: Alcan 5000 by RASC**  
Sep 10: NWRC Friday Niter by PSRC  
Oct 2 – Night on Bald Mountain TSD by ORCA  
**Oct 8: NWRC Friday Niter by RASC**  
Oct 30 – Midnight TSD, Parksville, Vancouver Island, BC

### Oregon TSD

May 7 – Friday Nighter, Milwaukie, OR  
June 4- Friday Nighter, Milwaukie, OR  
July 2- Friday Nighter, Milwaukie, OR  
July 31 – Mountains to the Sea, Milwaukie to Pacific City  
August 31 – Friday Nighter, Milwaukie, OR  
Sept 11 – Rally Against Parkinson's, Portland Int'l Raceway  
Sept 17 – Friday Nighter, Milwaukie  
October 1 – Friday Nighter, Milwaukie, OR

**Rainier Auto Sports Club** will meet this coming Monday, April 12 at 7:30 PM at Café Veloce at the Totem Lake shopping center. Best way I can think of to get there via north on I-405, take the "NE 124th" exit, then keep right under NE 124th and straight at the signal. This puts you on Totem Lake Blvd, not whatever the frontage road is next to I-405. Then right first poss, with the Café on your right at that point.  
Monthly meetings are the second Monday of each month. Past Members, visitors, and spectators are welcomed.

**Agenda:** The Secretary may have an update to the roster. Arm-twisting to get members to pay 2010 dues. (\$25 individual, \$30 family). Raindrop ... stuff.

**2009 Board Members:**

President- Jeff McMillen, [jeff@somepants.com](mailto:jeff@somepants.com)  
Vice-President: Steve Richards, [smrdcatman@comcast.net](mailto:smrdcatman@comcast.net), 425-337-0232  
Secretary: Dan Comden, [dan@comdens.com](mailto:dan@comdens.com),  
Treasurer: Steve Willey: [willey@selby.com](mailto:willey@selby.com)  
At Large: Robert Gobright; [Fundimech@gmail.com](mailto:Fundimech@gmail.com)  
At Large: Eric Horst, [erich@teamd.org](mailto:erich@teamd.org), 206-363-9752

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 **The Wishbone Alley Gazette**

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