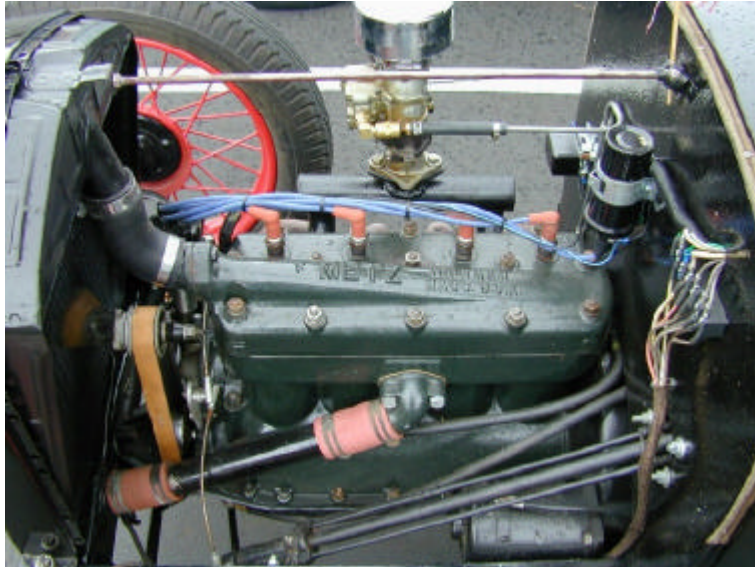




Don Shreve “Parked-It” while navigator Andy Shreve dashed out to count “teeter-totters” at one of the Portland areas many wonderful parks visited Memorial Weekend by the NWVS.

“U-Park-It” and We Did !!!

Portland, OR—The Eighth Annual Memorial Weekend Fun Run, presented by the Northwest Vintage Speedster (NWVS) Club and hosted by Phil and Beth Horine, offered yet another innovative way to enjoy these 4-banging wonders called Speedsters!! Instead of the usual format of a competitive run only on Sunday, the Horine’s devised a plan to start the timed competition early on Saturday along with a Sunday event. Both days would record win, place and show prizes. Even the event title added to the mystery of what was to face competitors over this 2-day affair to remember. Veterans and newcomers were treated an extra helping of “Horine Hospitality” too.



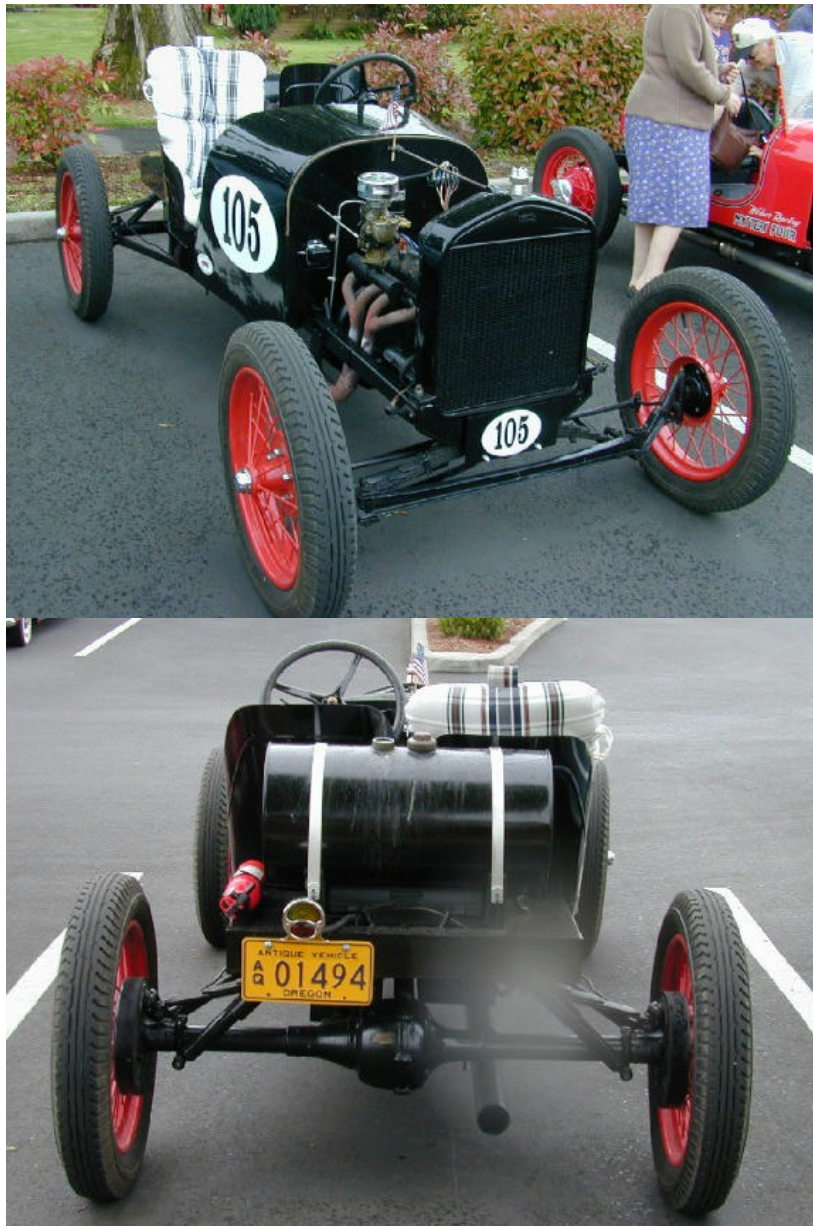
Ken Montgomery, from Dundee, OR, in Car #105 proudly displayed his “Metz” flathead equipped 20’s era Model T Speedster!!

Renewing acquaintances usually begins in the parking lot as cars are unloaded and shifts to the hospitality room where registration occurs too. It is here that the handiwork of Phil and Beth’s team began to take shape. They picked a newer out of the way Best Western Express Hotel as the Run headquarters on tiny Hayden Island along the banks of the mighty Columbia River. The location was just off of I-5 and tucked away nicely near all the services one needs for speedstering. They employed Delores and Lloyd Bertrand to set up and coordinate all the fine finger lickin’ goodies for the Hospitality Room, as Beth “wo-manned” the registration desk.



Beth Horine checks starting positions with Don Shreve from Garden Home, OR and Walt Berdan (r) from Bellevue, WA

Some of us in the parking lot got a first glimpse of the fine Car #105 that Ken Montgomery brought from Dundee, OR. Roger Brown who is putting the finishing touches on his own speedster navigated Ken's Model T Speedster on Saturday.



Ken Montgomery's lightweight Model T eagerly awaits the green flag to drop on Saturday's Run during the "U-Park-IT"

Saturday's run started at 1pm and was a 2hr and 33min delightful warm up to the west of Portland with just two checkpoints.



The route crossed the “cathedralesque” St. John’s Bridge taking drivers and navigators over the Willamette River after passing Delta Park. That was just before entering Forest Park south of the River. Once in the park, speedsters were tested on Germantown Rd. A twisty switch back laden climb that warmed radiators and deafened the ears with roaring exhaust notes. On top of the hill, this driver’s navigator instructed to turn left on Cornelius Pass Rd. It was supposed to be “OLD” Cornelius Pass Rd. We had just driven past Sunset Highway and about to the visit the Hills house in Hillsboro before turning around to find the correct route. Later counseling from Padre Jepperson calmed the nerves.

As tough a time each navigator had in finding road names, they were also multi-tasked to find answers to questions within the directions for roadside attractions. Like, “What can you buy at a certain address on Phillips Rd?” Or, “What year is the model train display?” “Where is Henry?” Not “Ford”, but “Bishop” buried in a turn of the century church park graveyard. The local Portlanders may have thought they had an advantage on this run, but some of the out of towners faired well enough to end up in the top three. The bottom line is that in order to answer some of the questions you had to “Park It” and get out of your vehicle to go look. Not all answers were on the side of the road. It just so happened that any time you had to “Park” your car to find some thing, you were usually at a “Park” too. On two levels, “U-Parked It” just like the run theme promised. It was an excellent way to stop and enjoy the many Portland area parks, stretch your legs or use the park facilities. Things you wouldn’t see from I-5 as you pass through going somewhere else.

Once past the old church park above, the route turned northward on Logie Trail Rd. It climbed straight up and over Skyline Blvd with lower gear ascents and brake burning descents back towards the Willamette River and Highway 30. Tom and Kelly Godish were responsible for route instructions, which were superb, if we just read what was on 'em. They turned us Southeast to Portland on a four-lane that allowed the speedsters to stretch their legs with speeds in excess of 50mph. Of note here is that the route returned to Island driving within the Sauvie Island Wildlife Area. Smack in the middle of this island is a huge lake called Sturgeon Lake. It was the answer to one of the questions too. This loop was worthwhile for the flat easy driving and because there was a checkpoint hosted by Beth. She gave out candy for the short ride back to headquarters. No test is complete without "extra credit" so the directions also contained clues for different auto makes or types like "Messenger of the Gods." Answer: *Mercury*. You could score extra points with a correct name.



Rattler and Friday Olsen, of Victor, MT in their "Fronty Powered" Model T speedster get checked in by hostess Beth at the Sauvie Island checkpoint. It was the 2nd of only 2 checkpoints for Saturday.



Rattler Olsen explains that there will be no gravel roads in Montana on the Labor Day Run at the Saturday evening BBQ.

John and Gloria Adams were responsible for feeding the horde of hungry speedster buffs a potpourri of BBQ goodies at our friend's playhouse, er' garage later on Saturday evening. Petrolania signs and other items of interest kept everyone mesmerized looking at the walls while packing the food away. Awards for Saturday's run were displayed, but not distributed until Sunday's banquet.

Sunday's run was a little different too. Instead of the early wake up to start at 8am, the 9am starting time offered a chance to get a few more winks in. Driver's meeting at 0830hrs sharp. This driver missed the meeting removing and replacing #40's carburetor three times to sort out a fast idle condition. Turned out to be a missing lock screw on the throttle lever. My thanks to Paul Daun for having a complete hardware store in the trunk of his car. Already the weather was warming up and de-layering clothes began in earnest early on. First stop was Kenton Park to count backstops then Arbor Park to see who made a sculpture in the middle of the park. The route traveled south through Portland's downtown core. It was a good time to traverse, as there was little traffic in the heavy construction zones.

At Sellwood Park the group was now south of Portland and east of I-5 and the Willamette River in a quaint neighborhood of

many antique shops. Here we also enjoyed welcome relief of coffee, juice and sweet choices that stuffed the cockpits even further. We continued south paralleling the Willamette River's East Side as far south as the Clackamas River. At the confluence of the Willamette and Clackamas River navigators had to learn what to do in case of an earthquake in Clackamette Park. You guessed it...RUN !! It was also here that we reached the southern most point of the route in Oregon City. Crossing the Willamette River again and north along the West Side of the great river to Mary S. Young park for lunch.



On the “U-Park-It” lunch was served, where else, in a Park.

Here, a huge submarine sandwich was the centerpiece of every kind of food that makes a great picnic in the park. But, don't forget, just because it was lunch didn't mean you didn't have to answer questions. Upon exiting the parking lot we were asked to count blue disabled parking spots on the pavement.

One of the most interesting sights in the George Rogers Park was the 32-foot high pig iron smelting furnace. I know it was 32 feet high because that was one of the questions on the instructions. Our route continued north to Lake Oswego to the massive Tryon Creek State Park where we learned inside the “Nature House” that we all live in a watershed. Can you imagine the sight of white coverall bedecked navigators rushing about, with a look of panic, trying to find this answer?? Still further north and now west of I-5 at Council Crest Park we answered what the Indian name for Mt. Adams is. Don't know?? You can look it up!! Mt. Adams is visible from this vantagepoint, but was shrouded in cloud cover only 75-miles away. That steep low band smokin' climb was worth the view.

We maintained our altitude along Skyline Blvd seeing why folks in Portland like to live there. The views were stupendous. But,

what went up has to come down sooner later. Saturday we went up Germantown Rd, on this day we would go down. I love the smell of hot brakes in the afternoon. Across St. Johns bridge again and back to the hotel for cool adult beverages and the usual stories of getting lost, missing checkpoints, and comparing answers to all the questions.



Under St. Johns Bridge is the entrance to the aptly named Cathedral Park

The Sunday banquet was a catered affair inside the Best Western. Door prizes and trophies greeted participants upon their arrival. No host cocktails and bench racing began promptly at 5:30pm follow by dinner at six. The meal was excellent. Exquisitely prepared in every detail. Phil and Beth passed out awards for the top three spots on both Saturday and Sunday.

Local Don Shreve captured top spot on Saturday in Car #130 with Tim Knapp navigating. His Rajo powered Model T Speedster finished just one minute off the preset time. Unlike typical Speedster runs point accumulation was a good thing here. Don and Tim answered a lot of the questions correctly to help get them to the top spot. Don claimed that it was the first time he had won a NWVS event.



Don Shreve drinks from the Cup of Victory after taking the top spot on Saturday's Fun Run the "U-Park It"

The Sunday winners, also from the Portland area, were Bill and Jan Hills. They finished in their flathead powered Model T speedster Car # 72 only six minutes later than the pre-set time and missed only four of the twenty-six questions accumulating 266 points out of a possible 280.



Jan Hills of Hillsboro, OR, is all smiles after taking the HUGE trophy for navigating to 1st place on Sunday's "U-Park It" Fun Run.

At least twenty-two parks were visited over the two-day period and many more were passed by along the route. We can appreciate the Portland areas large park system even more, now that we experienced it up close and personal. Expedia Streets guide describes Portland as “One of the fastest-growing cities in the United States. It began life as a clearing in the woods near the confluence of the Columbia and Willamette rivers. Although the city had its share of rough and rowdy characters early on, it quickly acquired the forward-thinking character that persists today. Civic leaders set aside thousands of acres of parkland, built bubbling fountains throughout town, and planted the trees that give Portland boulevards their signature charm.”

Our thanks to “forward-thinking” Beth and Phil for taking a chance and trying something a little different and carrying on the great traditions Portlanders are known for. They hosted some “rough and rowdy characters” for food, fellowship, and FUN that were all in plenty supply at this great event.



Beth and Phil Horine