

The 24th annual Northwest Vintage Speedster Classic

.The Valley Rallye

The Valley Rallye for 2006 was held at the Willsonville Holiday Inn. Thirty-Seven Speedsters were entered. People came from California, Washington, and Oregon.

Saturday was sunny and 97 degrees hot. Before, during and after the Speedster run the group consumed two hundred and forty bottles of bottled water, six cases of soft drinks and ninety bottles of beer.

I don't believe any of the water ended up in radiators. We were kept busy keeping the coolers full of ice. What a thirsty group.

After the tech check and registration the cars were blessed by "Nuns". Sisters Mary (McConnell), Tara (McConnell), and R.J. (Steed). Visitors at the Hotel were shocked. They thought they were real nuns.

A brief tour took us to a PotLuck dinner for an assortment of food and Bens famous Chili. A NWVS meeting was held with VP Scott Elliott taking the president's place as President Ben was tending other details of the run.

The day of the run was very warm, but not as hot as Saturday. Ben arrived in a dress Top Hat. Drivers meeting and pledge of allegiance to the flag was done. Maps were passed out. The air was full of excitement. Some of the Rookie drivers and navigators were apprehensive. Jordon (Ben's ten year old Grandson) waved the starting flag and off they roared. All cars started.

The first check point had Mary and RJ with Rabbit ears. Jill Howie was clutching a Bouquet that had been given to her to celebrate her 50th anniversary coming up soon. She was to carry it the entire route and would receive a special gift if she had it at the end. It was up for grabs if she left it unattended. She carried it past the finish line.

The second check point was done by Dolores and Lloyd Bertrand. They also drove a trouble trailer. They ended up trailing three cars back to the start line because of mechanical failures.

The third check point was manned by Jordon and Ben in a field of Dahlias. The drivers arrived earlier than anticipated.

Because anticipated time was later, the coffee break was only partially set up. They had homemade cinnamon rolls, scones, brownies, and bagels and cream cheese. Starbucks coffee was served. Several cars missed the stop. The cars were given check points as they were seen passing the site.

The fifth check point was a covered bridge where photos were taken. Mary and RJ gave Drivers and Navigators a black and white checkered scarf for the pictures.

A checkpoint in the afternoon was a surprise. RJ dressed like a baby. Mary dressed like a clown. Pictures were taken.

The last checkpoint had Tara and friend Phyllis in funny hats.

At the Banquet awards were:

Rookie driver-Jessica Ryan car #418 (California)

Rookie navigator-Amber Daun Car #69 (Age 11)

Hard Luck trophy was voted on by the people at the Banquet. Bob Rankin won this award

First place Winner :Terry Thompson (Washington)

Second place: Jeanne Nelson-(California)

Third place: Steve Carruthers (Oregon)

First place navigator: Karen Kelsey

Second place navigator: Steve Nelson

Third place navigator: Dixie Kroll

The VERN STOREY MEMORIAL TROPHY was awarded to Andy Voytilla

Door prizes were given and presented by Gary Nelson.

First, second and third place trophies were made by Roger Brown

Patch designed by Beryl Brown

Marble for navigator, and Rookies furnished by Bergerson Tile and Stone

Plaques designed by Ben

Many thanks to:

Lloyd and Dolores Bertrand and Diana and RJ Genco for driving trouble trailers.

Mary McConnell, Tara McConnell, RJ Steed, Jordan McConnell, Phyllis Rutherford, that did check points, registration and many other duties. Jim McKinney, (Cooked Chili in 97 degrees and helped with a check point)

Tom Rutherford that took pictures and was almost ran over.

Ben McConnell :That ran it all.

Thanks for coming. See you in 2007

