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DESERT TO THE MOUNTAINS FUN RUN, Hermiston, Oregon, May 26h, 27", 2007 RAC' IN MEMORIAL FUN RUN

Beautiful scenery, good maps, great roads, a little rain and challenging wind made for a wonderful Memorial Day Fun Run in Hermiston. Ivan and Judy Dike hosted the event ably assisted by Jim and Betty Patterson, the Three Rivers Model T Club, local people and all the contributors to the delicious hospitality room offerings.

We enjoyed a unique collection of collector cars and cute trailers belonging to Rusty and Thelma Roe, all parked in their shaded estate yard in the country. A popular choice was the gorgeous red 1961 Corvette. He also had several Mopars and 5 or 6 A and Ts including a Montana 500 car. Most of the cars were low mileage originals. Thanks to them for sharing their collection.

The Oxford Suites Hotel was a perfect host with plenty of parking and an enticing hospitality bar. The Saturday night barbecue in the city park was delicious and fun.

Some 27 cars were entered in competition. It was a pleasure to see so many from Washington. There were several new cars that got a close inspection by the crowd, especially car #618, the 1920's French Amilcar owned by Ed Go&halk. It has been mechanically restored but still has the original paint with a gorgeous patina. Don Snyder brought his dad's high school ride that has been in storage since about 1949. It has a rusty finish that added to its appeal. There always seemed to be a crowd looking at these unrestored cars.

Brief Sunday morning rain showers gave way to a brisk wind which continued throughout the day. Turnbleweeds were blowing left and right although the story of the seven foot tumbleweed provided a good laugh. Wonderful rolling mountains, forests, small towns, lunch in Ukiyah, and no breakdowns for the trouble trailers created a rewarding day.

Jim Cunningham and Walt Berdan, Kent, WA, captured first prize, John and Sue Muller from Sumner, WA the second prize and Lee and Candy Burgess, Spokane, the third prize. Jim Patterson, master of ceremonies, recognized all the excellent work of Ivan and Judy Dike in organizing the run. Jim also thanked Coca Cola for all the drinks, the Union Pacific for the plentiful bottled water, the 3 Rivers Model T Club for all of their support with trouble trailers, checkpoints, music, and refreshments, Joanne Jepperson for the patches, and the Eagles Lodge for their hospitality of the banquet.

This Rac' in Memorial Fun Run honors RayAnn Murray who died in an unfortunate accident three years ago at our speedster event in Spokane, so her memory and speedster enthusiasm will carry on when we commemorate her passing every Memorial Day at our annual spring Fun Run. Barbara Baker made a beautiful photo poster commemorating RayAnn and it was passed on to the NWS club for future use. A minute of silence was also held in her honor at the start of the closing banquet.

Gene Kicha extended an invitation to the Montana 500 to be held in Havre, MT the week of June 17th. This 3 day event has proved very popular for really getting to know each other and a beautiful area.

The Labor Day Endurance Run will be in the Bellingham area; for information contact Charles Reichlin at 360-856-1681 or Jim Cunningham at 253-852-5371. Explore Whatcom County!

Thanks again to Ivan and Judy Dike for a wonderful run in the beautiful deserts and mountains of northeastern Oregon.