



NEWSLETTER

P O Box 166
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President: Bill Eldridge
Secretary: Mike Hammers

Vice President: Ron Rogers
Treasurer: Karl Jacobsen

Newsletter Editor: Gayle Thorne

President's Message

It was at the August 2, 2005 meeting that we were asked to help restore the **Choo Choo** Parade Vehicle that was originally built by employees of the Paper Mill in 1970, using a 1951 Buick chassis with its straight eight-engine and 6-volt electrical system. George Earl a long time teacher, principal and alumnus of Port Townsend High School spoke on behalf of Kiwanis. When George had finished, several members offered to help and the restoration of the **Choo Choo** began. The work place location changed, thieves stole equipment, the original plan changed, and the hope to have it in the 2006 Rhody Grand Parade did not happen and on a sad note George Earl passed away, but through it all the project moved forward.

At the meeting this week Jim Franklin acknowledged the Raker members who worked on and contributed to the project (see **Choo Choo** in the minutes). Ken Brink, Kiwanis President came by to thank us and said "the project could not have been done without the help of The Rakers Car Club."

Watch for the **Choo Choo** as it returns in the *2007 Rhody Parade* on May 19th.

This is what giving by the **Club** should be about. It is about giving of time and making the effort to accomplish something that has a lasting impact. It's of the "Time" that club members give freely of.

My "Thank You" to all of you who gave of themselves to make George Earl's request turn in to a reality.

Bill

Rakers' Minutes – May 1, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Bill Eldridge.

The minutes of the April 3, 2007 meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Karl Jacobsen read Treasurer's Report and all approved.

Jan Merritt introduced a guest, Jenny Reynolds. Jenny has been designated "Mrs. Jefferson County" and will compete in the "Mrs. Washington" competition. She is looking for donations to help with travel and expenses and is looking for a convertible to ride in for events functions.

Committees:

Activities – Mike Keller said the June 16th trip will include a stop in Ashford where members can ride an old steam train for \$15. Members will meet at the Poulsbo Wal-Mart at 8:00 a.m. Plans are to drive through Nisqually & Yelm to Ashford. On the return trip will go through Spanaway to attend a car show. Everyone is on their own after the car show.

The Sequim Irrigation Festival parade is on May 12th.

Monroe swap meet is May 19th and 20th.

Port Townsend Rhody Parade is May 19th.

Port Ludlow Fanfest by the Bay is September 15th and 16th.

Choo Choo – Jim Franklin acknowledged Rakers members who worked on the project. They include Don Riggle (sprayed rustproofing), Bob Pontius (donated the bell in memory of his late wife), Don Thorne (steel stock and welders), Mike Ryan and Robin Bergstrom. Jim introduced the members who worked nearly every Saturday on the project. They are Fred Edwards, Vic Olsen, Jan Merritt, Mike Hammers and the team leader and the driving force behind the mechanical restoration, John Tyner. Jim introduced Ken Brink, Port Townsend Kiwanis President who said the project "could not have been done without the help of The Rakers Car Club."

T-Shirts – Jerry Hampton said Rakers logo apparel would be available for purchase after the meeting. Jerry said he would not be able to attend the next meeting of the club.

Rhody Parade – Don Riggle said he sent the paperwork to the parade committee but has not yet received confirmation. Don said the parade announcer will be provided with information about the club's 50th anniversary. Ken Franklin said participants will be required to provide proof of liability insurance on parade day. The pre-parade assembly location is not yet known.

50th Anniversary Party – Bob Pontius said he has 80 people signed up for the party.

Old Business:

President Bill Eldridge said the insurance quote has not yet been received. He reminded members to get photos of their cars to Sandy Hershelman at hershelman@olympus.net.

New Business:

Keith Marzan commented on the club's position regarding donations to individuals or organizations who ask The Rakers for contributions.

John Franklin said the annual Clouse/Franklin barbeque will be on July 7th at H. J. Carroll Park. The poker run will start at 1:00 p.m. with food to follow.

Karl Jacobsen said Rakers member Jim Arrabito has offered to take photos of the members' cars at the June car show. It was suggested that the photos be taken after the show since everyone will be so busy at the beginning.

Bill Smith said Baxter's Auto Parts has invited the Rakers to their car show on June 9th.

Announcements:

Don Riggle's Firebird won the award for "Best Paint" at EXPO. Rick Nelson and Derry Dillingham also won awards.

Mike Keller said the weekly cruise-in at Port Gamble will begin on May 3rd and will be held every Thursday weather permitting.

Jan Merritt said he would not bring a motion to the floor regarding a club donation to Jenny Reynolds.

Volunteering to bring door prizes to the June meeting were Kyle Downs, Rick Raber, Derry Dillingham, Ron Rogers, Joel and Sharon and Mike and Linda.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Mike Hammers, Secretary

Thank You Newsletter Contributors!

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June 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Rakers Meeting 7:00 pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Rakers At Rainier Road Trip
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Rakers Car Show & 50 th Anniversary Party
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Current [May] 2007 Events

May 12th - Sequim Irrigation Festival Parade

May 19th - Port Townsend Rhody Parade

May 19th & 20th - Monroe Swap Meet

July 7th - Clouse & Franklin Picnic at H.J. Carroll Park

14th & 15th - Hadlock Days (14th) Parade & Car Show (15th)

August 9th-12th - Hot August Nights, Reno

18th - Kiwanis Classic Car Show, Port Townsend

25th - 30th Lemay Car Show & Open House, Marymount (Parkland)

September 8th & 9th - Rod Run to the End of the World, Ocean Park

15th & 16th, Port Ludlow Fanfest

22nd - Quilcene Car Show & Burn Out Contest

October 6th & 7th - Monroe Swap Meet

14th & 15th - NW Collectors Car Show & Swap Meet, Portland Expo Center

November 3rd & 4th - OVAC Swap Meet, Bremerton Fairgrounds