

**NORTHWEST CRUISERS  
SPOKANE AREA PT CRUISER CLUB**  
*March/April 2009 Newsletter*



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## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We are all so ready for Spring and it seems like a long time coming. I think this long winter will make us enjoy all of our Spring and Summer activities so much more. We are ready as a club to start out the outdoor activities. We have a great web site, new business cards, a fun calendar focused mainly on local activities, at least one new sponsor, Sonic Drive-In, and a whole lot of enthusiastic members. The initial sign-ups for activities have been really good so thank you for your ownership of the club.

### The March Meeting

Minutes by Terry Hontz

President Donna Madej opened the meeting by introducing Kathy Kovalesky, the Volunteer Coordinator from the Spokane Veterans Administration Hospital, who showed a DVD and briefed the membership

on the upcoming National Veteran's Wheelchair games scheduled to be held in Spokane July 12-18, 2009. The purpose of the briefing was to inform the membership of the need for volunteers to help staff various activities scheduled during the games. The need ranges from assistance with check-in, food service, and of course the scheduled sporting events such as basketball, softball, bowling, swimming, etc. Most events will be held at the downtown Spokane Convention Center, with other events scheduled at Spokane Falls Community College, Whitworth and a few other venues. A signup sheet was passed around, as well as volunteers enrollment forms, as a fair number of club members indicated a willingness to volunteer. Additional information on precise days, times and events, with which we will assist, will be forthcoming as that information becomes available.

Following the Wheelchair games presentation, Donna briefed the attendees on the status of various members. Richard and Joan Ramirez have indicated they will be returning from a winter's hiatus in Arizona approximately mid April. Rico and Patty Rodriguez have indicated they will be returning to active club status following recovery from health problems. And new members David and Joanna Brown were introduced.

Following was a recap of the recent outing at Hogan's on the South Hill. The gathering was deemed much fun as the group participated in various games and new member David Brown provided DJ patter and music.



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Judy Hansen discussed the upcoming Spokane Guild School Penny Drive scheduled for April 25, 2009. This activity is an annual volunteer activity for the Cruisers, and this year, as last, we will split the day into two shifts. The morning shift will run from 8:00am-11:30am while the second shift will run from 11:30am-3:00pm. While the signup sheet was passed around at the meeting, additional volunteers are welcome for either shift. Our group will be staffing the area in front of the Wheatland Bank, 10801 N. Newport Highway, just north of the Northpoint Shopping center, very near Frank's Diner.

Vice President Mike Peart discussed the Show-No-Shine DVD which consists of some 50 pictures of club activities and is set to music. While the initial cost to purchase the DVD was projected to be \$6.00, the actual purchase price is \$4.00. These DVD's are available from Mike.

Donna updated the membership on the search for a new sponsor to replace departing club sponsor Eljay Oil Company. A potential sponsor, Shell Oil located near Exit realty declined, while the Sonic Drive-In on Sharp and Ruby near the Gonzaga University campus, remains a possibility. In addition David Brown will check with his employer, Cenex.

Signup sheets were passed around for the upcoming YakiVegas cruise which Donna discussed in some detail. In addition, signup sheets for members willing to assist with the detail work for scheduled events throughout the year were passed around. These sheets provided an opportunity for club members to choose a scheduled activity and do the legwork involved so event planning and detail doesn't fall on a small number of members who provide the bulk of the planning.

At the conclusion of the meeting Judy Flemmer was the winner of the monthly raffle drawing.

## April 25th Penny Drive

Things are lining up well for the Penny Drive. Judy Hansen is organizing this and there will be 10 members collecting from 8-11:30 am and 12 members collecting from 11:30 -3:00. Mary Jane Weis-Hengler will be coordinating the afternoon shift. Make sure your cars are shiny and park them in formation at the front of the bank. Thank you for giving of your care and time to help in this endeavor for the Guild School.

## Wacky-Vegas

Yes, it is time to register for our wacky weekend with the Yakevegas friends. We have 26 members signed up so far – about 14 cars. Last year we had 20 cars registered and won the club participation award so we're only a few cars short. Remember to sign up on your own for the event and the hotel. The registration form was sent by e-mail recently.

## National Veteran's Wheelchair Games

We have 27 members signed up to volunteer at the games in July. Our club will be volunteering as a group to serve the veterans lunch on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of July for around 10am to 2pm. If you did not turn in your volunteer registration yet, please do so at [www.wheelchairgames.va.gov](http://www.wheelchairgames.va.gov). The deadline was April 1<sup>st</sup> but since they know we are coming as a group, you can still send in your form. The coordinator has all our names and is watching for the applications.

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## Anniversary Cruise

You may think this is a little early for our focus but we are doing the Anniversary event a little different this year. Matt and Shirley have signed up to plan the event and already have hotel information. We need to make reservations early as we are going to Glacier National Park and lodging fills up fast in the summer.

More details will be coming at the April meeting but we decided as a club to go to Glacier this year on the weekend of August 29-31. We want to celebrate our anniversary as a whole club by going to breakfast together on Saturday morning before those who are going on the cruise take off. This breakfast could be open to former members too since we are celebrating our anniversary and all that led us up to this 8<sup>th</sup> year.

Matt tried to get us places to stay under \$100 dollars a night and came up with the Best Western Rocky Mountain Lodge in Whitefish, MT. It is close to the park entrance. The PT discount is \$95.75 +tax for a single queen bed in the annex and \$120.99+tax for a double queen or king bed in the main building. You can check out the hotel on [www.rockymtnlodge.com](http://www.rockymtnlodge.com) but make your reservations by phone at 1-800-862-2569. Make sure you ask for the PT Cruiser discount.

## Speaking of Volunteers

At the last meeting a sheet was passed around asking for volunteers to help plan this year's events. Judy Hansen and Mary Jane volunteered for the Penny Drive coordination; Michael said he would arrange for the Fairfield parade; Matt and Shirley signed up to plan the anniversary cruise, and Terry and Debbie will plan the Silver

Mountain trip. We still need volunteers to plan the cruise to St. Regis in June and the Tom's Turkey Drive/Car Show in November so don't be shy. The other events the officers will plan with member's help along the way.

## web site

Oh there are some wonderful new goodies on the web site. Look under PT Cruiser History and also there is something new under "Whimsical" and a few new car shots under member cars. If you have a nice picture of your car, send it in to Rocky.

## Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be at The Timber Creek Grill in Spokane Valley on Wednesday April 22<sup>nd</sup>. We'll plan on dinner at 6:30 followed by a meeting at 7:00. We have a room reserved. You do not have to buy a meal to come to the meeting but if you do want dinner the prices are \$11.35 for those of us 55 and older and \$12.39 for you young things. This includes beverages. Take exit 287 and go South on Mullan Rd. Bear right on to North Argonne (Super 8 Motel on corner) and the right on Montgomery. It is in the shopping center there.

## Is that all there is?