

# Rally faithful gather again for annual Sprints

**S**prints, again, was a two-day event and was held at Ray and Janice Damitio's property on the Wynochee River near Montesano. The Sprints are just for fun and are really a thank you effort for those that work and compete in rallies. It is a campout, picnics, a big fire on the beach, sometimes live entertainment and a mini rally.

I could not attend this year due to other commitments. It is my understanding that seven cars started the rallycross-like course and six finished.

The Damitios sponsor the Doo Wops Rally and the Brooklyn Bash (one or two rallycrosses per year). They own the Brooklyn Tavern, which is as much a museum as it is a watering hole. It is also the home of Saginaw Days, the loggers' jubilee. Both Ray and Janice are rally drivers and co-drivers.

**Wild West Rally** is coming up soon. Once again it will be based out of Pomeroy (the southeast corner of Washington near the Snake River). The locals there are very hospitable and work hard to get the Wild West up and running. They include us in their parades, the Garfield County Fair, provide us space, grade the dirt and gravel roads that we race on and so on.

Like all of our larger events, Northwest Subaru is the primary sponsor. In addition to helping with the overhead of these events, Subaru funds worker appreciation banquets. The local Economic Development Council, the port, the Chevy dealership, the Up and Up Tavern (food more than drink), the county fair, the Pataha Flour Mill bed and breakfast and museum, property owners and others pull out all the stops and really support us. The en-

## RALLY REPORT

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ASSISTANT RE, RALLY**

thusiastic support from Sheriff Larry Bowls, Fire Chief Larry Bunch, the power company, the local hospital and staff and the board of county commissioners has been wonderful. We thank them all greatly.

Wild West is Sept. 25-27 and is headquartered at the Garfield County Fairgrounds, in town. The weekend before is the county fair, so that makes this a weeklong event. There is a lot to do in Pomeroy for a small town. There are good places to eat, RV parks, three museums, art galleries, antiques, pubs, groceries, parks, churches and several fuel sources. They are a little short on motel space. There are many motels in Clarkston, 30 miles south of Pomeroy, on or near Highway 12 and more campgrounds.

**Litter pick-up** was scheduled recently for the Pacific Rally Group. Two weeks before, the state's Department of Ecology sent the Youth Litter Crew kids out to our two miles of freeway and did the clean-up without notice. I usually coordinate that with the county litter crew (prisoners) who do the interchanges at each end of our turf. The kids did a nice job. I drive by there almost daily. PRG will do the next round in the fall.

**Busy boy:** I regret to say, I will be missing two major rally events this year and have not been able to help out at SCCA competitions in other venues. As a business owner, a fire commissioner, and involved in two local elections this year, I have been up against the wall for time. I'm supposed to be retired. What's up with that? I will try to do better next year.

*Frank Hamilton, Assistant RE,  
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