

President's Message – October 2020

Well the fair-weather driving season is quickly coming to an end in the Pacific Northwest. We have been able to hold several events during the past month including autocross, social distancing drives and a couple of all member in-person meetings. We continue to hold our board meetings virtually and we expect that our general membership meetings thru the rest of the year are likely to be on-line.

Club meetings: We held our first in-person general membership meeting on Saturday August 22nd at Michael and Melissa Olejniczak's home in Snohomish. Michael and Melissa were gracious to host the club at the home for an outdoor picnic style lunch and general membership meeting. It was terrific to see 20+ Corvettes parked on their lawn and to finally see so many familiar faces in person. We held our second in person all member meeting on Sept 12th at Fort Casey on Whidbey Island. Our Whidbey Island tour and meeting will likely be known as the great smoke-out as we held the event on just about the smokiest day we have ever experienced around here. We had 26 cars join us for the tour to Whidbey Island and general membership meeting. Thanks to Kevin Jewell for arranging and leading the tours for both the August and September general membership meetings.

Social distancing drives: We were able to run a number of very successful social distancing drives during the past couple of months. At the end of July we had a very large group join us for a drive to Mount Baker. We broke the group into two caravans and good news is that I was able to keep pace with Kevin and the first group and not get a dozen cars lost on the backroads of Skagit county. The weather was beautiful for the drive. The only disappointment was that there was still snow at the very top of Mount Baker so we were not able to drive all the way to Artist's Point as we had intended. We had another drive on August 1st to Port Townsend which was organized by Mike Gleeson. We took the land route through Gig Harbor up to Port Townsend where we had specially arranged parking at the local bank and everyone had time to explore the lovely downtown area and find a restaurant to their liking. We also had a Not a Car Show, Just Lunch event at the XXX Root Beer Drive-in on August 2nd. We had nearly 60 Corvettes show-up for the event, including a few C8's. It was terrific to see so many Corvette enthusiasts attend and support the XXX Drive-In. A couple of upcoming events you may want to attend are Not a Car Show Just Lunch on October 3rd at XXX Drive-in and a Dyno day on October 10th. You can register for both events on the web site.

Motorsports: The final two autocross events were held in August and September. The weather cooperated and there were dry runs for everyone for both events. It is my understanding that there are a number of CMCS members that will be recognized for podium finishes at the November NWACC meeting. CMCS had a very strong presence at autocross this year. It's been great to see how the sport has grown participation the past few years. The NWACC and Viper clubs have made significant investments in upgrading the technology they use for the sport e.g. RFID tags to identify racers, electronic timing boards and final race results in your email minutes after the races finish. The result is racers are getting in more runs – many times 8-10 per day and the race day finishes much sooner. If you have not autocross raced recently, I'd encourage you to consider joining in the fun.