

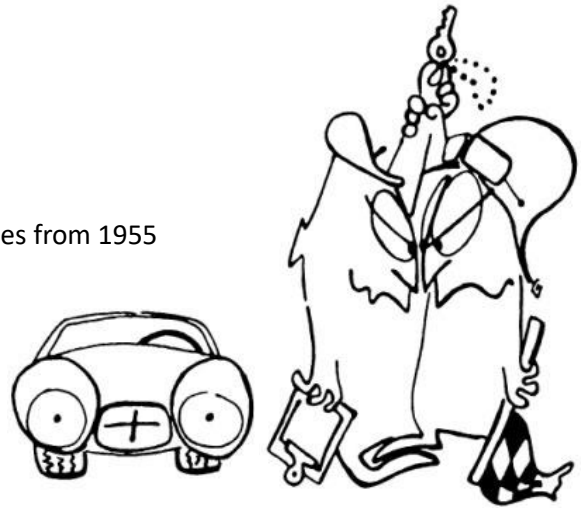
Geargrinders News

Cascade's Rally History - Early Years

by Victoria Saager, Geargrinders Co-Chair

I recently had an opportunity to read through club meeting minutes from 1955 through 1961, looking for some history of Cascade road rally.

In the beginning (October 1955 actually) the Four Cylinder Sport Car Club Executive Board created the Activities Committee to oversee all club activities (which then consisted primarily of road rallies) with the exception of activities under the Race Committee. So the club had two umbrella committees - Race and Rally - governed by a Board.



Bud Kinder was Cascade Sports Car Club's Activity Chairman in February 1958 when three rally squads were set up within the Activity Committee to put on rallies, buy trophies and dash plaques, and purchase Kodak timers. The Board voted to reimburse rallymasters five cents a mile for each rally. Conference rallies were run according to conference rules, and a points system tallied driver and navigator points toward yearend trophies. Cascade formed a three-car team for conference rallies.

By August 1959, Henry Pittock was in the Activities Director seat. He announced upcoming rallies and presented trophies for recent rallies. After-meeting rallies were common (when there wasn't a film being shown).

The last few months of 1959 were rally-tastic! Cascade's Annual Two-Day Event on Sept. 26-27 ended at Timberline Lodge. (This two-day event was identified in the club's bylaws as a standing event at that time and it had its own perpetual trophy. In 1960, Seaside was mentioned in reference to the two-day event. I wonder if it was the precursor to our Mountains to the Sea Rally.)



The Halloween Rally was Oct. 30 (best pumpkin prize was a subscription to Road and Track) followed by the Timberline Torture Trek Gymkhana on Nov. 1. The annual Thanksgiving rally, the Turkey Trot, was on Nov. 22. And a Frick and Frack Rally was on Dec. 27. Plus a Conference rally in Seattle on Nov. 14-15 and Touring Club of Oregon's Hare and Hound Rally on Dec. 13.

Of historic note, Hank Pittock announced at the November 1960 meeting that Cascade was "separating the Rally Committee from Conference." A resolution approving the formation of the Northwest Rally Council passed and in March 1961 Cascade endorsed the Northwest Rally Council Rules. The first NWRC event, the Ponderosa Sweepstakes Rally was held March 25-26 in Spokane. The second NWRC rally was Cascade's Oregon Trailblazer held May 13-14, 1961. The Wapiti Rally put on by the Evergreen Sports Car Club of Seattle on June 17-18 was the third NWRC event.

Meanwhile, clubs throughout the Northwest continued to put on rallies, including Cascade's Fowl Play, Campus Capers, Fools Frolic, the Flaming Fourth, Frick and Frack, and many more. Although there were a lot of rallies, they were popular and attendance was high. A Reliability Run sponsored by the Kings of Portland on May 20, 1961, drew 183 cars. In November 1961, it was reported that the annual Halloween Rally had the largest turnout to date. The Cold Turkey Rally was just around the corner on Dec. 3.

And there the story ends, until I get more source material. I'm hoping more meeting minutes and perhaps a trove of old Auspuff copies will find me so I can continue this history of Cascade Sports Car Club's road rally program.



CASCADE SPORTS CAR CLUB GEARGRINDERS

2020 TSD Road Rally Schedule*

Rally School

February 15 – Novice or Nervous – Classroom review of Cascade Geargrinders' time-speed-distance road rally rules and procedures, followed by a practice road rally. Class starts at 10 a.m., rally starts at noon and ends about 2 p.m. at Helvetia Tavern. North Plains Senior Center, 31450 NW Commercial Street, North Plains, OR 97133. \$20 per car for CSCC members, \$30 per car for non-members.

Saturday Road Rally Series

March 21	Registration: 9 am
April 18	Drivers meeting: 9:45 am
June 13	First car out: 10 am
July 18	\$20 per car for CSCC members ((\$30 for non-members))
August 22	



Coming soon - Optional: Online registration at <https://www.motorsportreg.com/>

Save with a Series Pass

\$80 for 5-event Series Pass. Register once for the entire Saturday Rally Series. Keep the same car number all season. Available to members only. CSCC membership available at every rally.

Start location

Northeast corner of Lowe's parking lot, 13631 SE Johnson Rd, Milwaukie, OR 97222

Special Events

May 16 – Mountains to the Sea – Full-day road rally from Portland to Long Beach on Washington's scenic back roads. Includes famous beach party. Beginner level time-speed-distance road rally.

September 19 – Game / Gimmick Rally - Test your trick-and-trap road rally skills in this fun rally. Without average speeds and checkpoint timing, scoring is based on correctly answering questions about things you see along the rally route.

October TBD – Ghouls Gambol – A Cascade tradition, this Halloween road rally explores the autumn colors around Portland's foothills and farmland. Caution: May include frights.



* For all 2020 Cascade road rallies, each car must have a cell phone (or other smart device) running the Richta Competitor app in order to participate.

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#CSCC Road Rally