



Last Summer Eve Drive of the Season

(Above) Leader Jim Goetsch and flag bearer Valerie Menely.

(Middle) Carole Hedstrom and Dan Morris going top down.

(Below) Perfect top-down weather.



STORY AND PHOTOS BY HEINZ HOLZAPFEL

We started our Summer Eve Drive last year to see if there was a demand for such an event and received a lot of positive feedback. The idea was to give members an opportunity to leave the office early and attend a short two-hour drive and then get together for dinner. Those drives in July and August were very well attended. So this year we planned three Summer Eve Drives and I volunteered to organize the first as well as the last drive of the season on September 5th. We had 16 cars signed up and of those 12 showed up. We typically have 10-20% no shows or cancellations in our events, and due to the shorter sun light in September the drive started at 4 PM instead of 5. A good lesson. We split into two groups of six cars each and it turned out to be incredibly fun and very easy to keep the group together while we maintained the pace.

Our starting point was the Jessie Mays



Park in North Plains. While this location is further out than our typical Fred Meyer start on the west side, it avoids dealing with rush hour traffic and has direct access to back country roads, increasing the fun factor. The first part of the drive went from North Plains on the flats west over to Roy, Greenville and Kansas City, then turned south to Dilley and Laurelwood with a rest stop on familiar Bald Peak.

The second leg went southeast through the Chehalem Hills, crossing 99 and into the Parrett Hills and ending at the RAM restaurant in Wilsonville, where we enjoyed a cold beer and good food over lively conversations.

Next year? We are thinking of five summer eve drives! Keep the good stuff coming! ■

