

Mt. Hood Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club Portland, OR



October 2020 Newsletter

Website: <u>www.mthoodclc.com</u>

Hi All,

Hopefully you have all weathered the storms of Covid-19 and the wild fires and are doing well. The board of directors did meet on September 24th. General meetings are still on hold due to Covid-19. If you have questions or concerns please contact myself or the Board of Directors. Club elections are just around the corner. A nomination form was sent to all members by either USPS or E-Mail. I urge you to fill out the form and return it promptly. A candidate for club office shall have been a club member in good standing for at least two years. You may nominate yourself if you would like to serve the club. Keith Stone, Kathryn Duthie and Bonnie McCauley are the nominating committee. Please contact them if you have any questions. Future events such as The Annual MHRCLC Christmas Party, The Portland Swapmeet and The clubs All Cadillac Show are being scheduled in the hopes conditions improve.

Greg Duthie: Director MHRCLC



Richard Fabbro's Letter 2020 DRIVING TOUR ABRIDGED

Well the Corona Virus may have cancelled the 2020 National Driving Tour, but it didn't stop 13 cars and 29 participants from the Mt. Hood and Pacific Northwest Regions from taking a drive to the Mt. St. Helen's Observatory on August 29th.

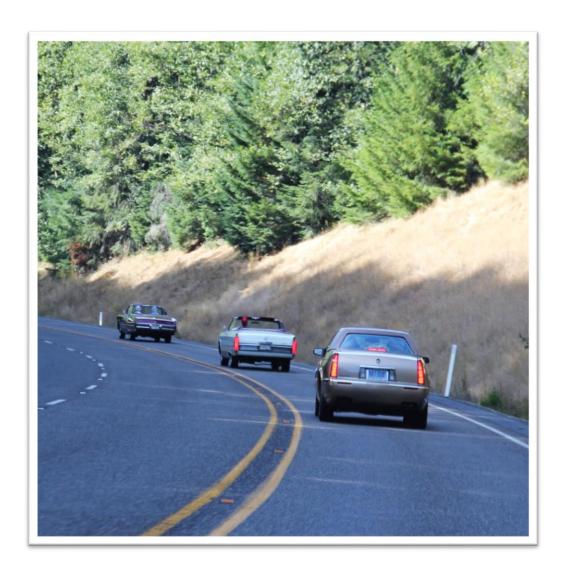
This was the originally planned day - two drive of the NDT. As expected the weather started out overcast but soon turned clear and sunny. Great day for a drive to the mountain and the six drop tops took advantage.

Eight cars and 20 participants met at the Jantzen Beach Denny's restaurant in North Portland with some arriving early for breakfast and others trickling in until we were all assembled and ready to depart at 9:30.

The only freeway driving we had to do was to cross the Interstate Bridge from Portland to Vancouver - about a mile. From there it was all back roads mostly following the Columbia River and Old Hwy 99 - the Pacific Coast Highway. This used to be the main west coast north - south highway before Interstate 5 was built in the mid-sixties.

The drive took us through downtown Vancouver into Hazel Dell and Salmon Creek, up to LaCenter and into downtown Woodland. Leaving Woodland we climbed to approximately 500' elevation where we were able to enjoy some magnificent views of the Columbia River as we proceeded to Kalama and eventually into downtown Kelso.

In Kelso we picked up the old Westside Highway which parallels the Cowlitz River and proceeded to the Castle Rock Visitor's Center where we met up with an additional 5 cars and 9 participants from the Seattle area. The drive from Jantzen Beach to the Visitor Center was right at 50 miles and 102 from Seattle.



At 11:45 the group was ready to start the 52 mile drive to the Johnson Observatory with a picnic lunch detour to Bonnie and

Johnny McCauley's son and daughter-in-law's neighborhood pavilion located on the South Fork of the Toutle River just outside of Toutle, WA. What a perfect spot for a picnic lunch!

By 1:45 we were ready to make the final leg of the journey up the mountain on the Spirit Lake Highway. Leaving Toutle at an elevation of 500' we would eventually climb to 4300' at the observatory.

This leg of the drive follows the North Fork of the Toutle River which is the river that carried the majority of ash, debris and mudflow down to the Cowlitz and eventually Columbia Rivers when Mt. St. Helen's erupted on May 18th, 1980.

Much of the original devastation from the mudflows and the blast is still visible even though 40 years have passed. At the Observatory we were able to see a number of elk pasturing in one of the valleys below. This was a real treat for those who had never seen elk in the wild before.

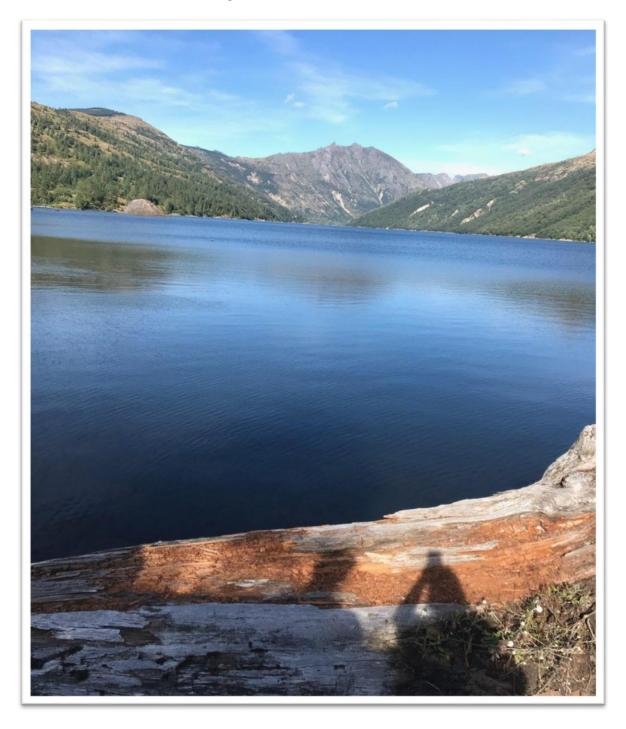
In addition to the mountain's crater and the elk, a new Spirit Lake was also visible approximately 4 - 1/2 miles from the observatory. The new lake is 200 feet higher than the original lake and almost 900 acres larger. A testament to the magnitude of the eruption.

The original Spirit Lake was home to numerous Boy and Girl Scout camps and Spirit Lake Lodge owned and operated by crusty 80 year old Harry Truman (not the former president). Harry became quite a notoriety at the time and was later played by actor Art Carney in the documentary movie "St. Helens".

From there it was off to the parking lot for car photos before departing the mountain. The group posed for a photo op with the crater of the mountain in the background.

On the way down a number of cars took a short side trip to Coldwater Lake. This a brand new lake that was created d when St.

Helen's blew in 1980. Now 40 years later a popular spot for kayaking and rainbow trout fishing







Some Mt. St. Helen's Facts:

- Went from the 9th highest mountain in the state (9677') to the 35th highest (8365')
- 3.4 billion cubic yards of material gone
- 57 lives lost
- devastated over 229 square miles and millions of dollars of timber
- the ash cloud (520 million tons) reached 12 miles into the atmosphere circling the globe several times before falling to earth
- Deadliest and most economically destructive volcanic event in the history of the United States
 Drive participants were: Mona Marsh and Orville Crull (1941 Series 62); Bonnie and Johnny McCauley (1966 DeVille Conv.) and Rob and Deb McCauley; Bob LeCoque and Craig Christy (83 Touring Coup); Don Miholovich and Joni Reis (2014 CTS-V-SW); Mark Seeley (2006 XLR-V); Tom LeCoque and Bob LeCoque Sr. (2014 SRX); Jerry Leighton (1996 DeVille Conv.); Bill Carson, Tammy Patterson and Chris Johnson (1976 Eldorado Conv.); Ron Zahn (2014 CTS-V-SW); Keith and Penny Stone (2017 CT-6); Randy and Sue Rohner (1999 Eldorado Gold) and Rocio Baunsgard and Sue Clifford; Richard Fabbro and Lynda Stoneberg (1967 DeVille Conv.) and Carl and Sandy Payne; John and Alma Moore (1965 DeVille Conv.).

It was great to get our cars out for a terrific drive, reconnect with each other after more than 6 months and enjoy some beautiful scenery.

Although fall is fast approaching, there is talk of completing the 3rd leg of the original driving tour - the run up and down the Columbia River Gorge to Hood River. Planning is in the works for late September weather permitting. All are invited to join. Contact Richard Fabbro for details. fabbrofour@hotmail.com (360)915-4689

2020 National Driving Tour Shirts

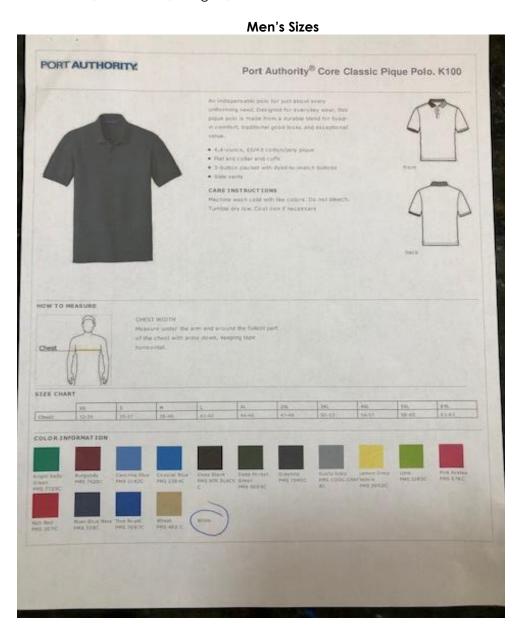
Our Activities Chairperson, Sue Rohner, has organized the opportunity to buy these very attractive polo shirts.

Here is the information about the NDT2020 shirts. Please look at the colors and sizes included in the pictures. Also the sizes are for Women and Men.

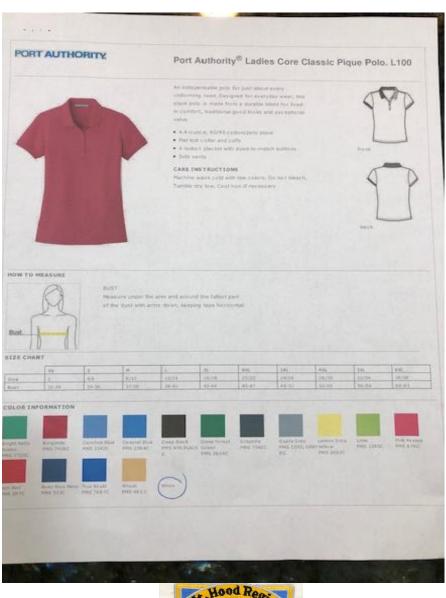
The price is \$28 per shirt. To place an order, please include name, Women or Men sizes, color, number of shirts and a check made out to MHRCLC.

Send your check and detailed information to Sue Rohner

11793 SE 222nd Dr.; Damascus, Oregon; 97089



Women's Sizes





Nomination ballots were sent by email and regular mail (3 recipients) a few day ago. Voting ballots will be sent shortly. Our Club elections are held in November.

Sue Rohner, our Activities Chair, talked to My Father's House regarding our Christmas contribution. Cathe Wiese, Executive Director, mentioned that since they are going to be offering the Crockpot cooking class, they would love to have crockpots as a donation. Apparently the crockpots are given at the end of the class as a surprise gift to the participants. So members, be on the lookout for Christmas sales!

Laurie Abbott, our Membership Chair is currently going through difficult health challenges. Please give her a call or send your well wishes via email.

(You'll find phone number and email address in the list below.)

Good news on Laurie. She is currently home and doing well! (10/16/2020)

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