

# Review: WCRA Novice Workshop

April 2<sup>nd</sup> marked the first WCRA Novice Workshop of 2005, and what an event it was. 19 teams came from all over BC (some as far away as Powell River, and Kamloops) to attend the first TSD school in the series. This workshop was different from ones in the past; this one was the first all paved novice event that the WCRA has put on as a Novice TSD Workshop.

It started out at the White Spot Restaurant in Port Coquitlam where all the cars and entrants met up for breakfast and a very comprehensive TSD rally school taught by John McLaren. Once John educated everyone about TSD, it was time to go through tech inspection and then hit the road.

The cars did their odometer checks and headed out to Pitt Meadows for the first regularity of the day. After the first 28km section of back roads through the farm lands of Pitt Meadows, the teams transited to the second regularity of the day, "Maple Ridge". The Maple Ridge regularity took the participants along a

19km route through the rural sections of Maple Ridge and popped them out at the Ruskin Gas Station. When the teams arrived at the gas stop, there were instructors ready to answer any questions and enough time to swap stories with fellow competitors before heading out to the last and longest section of the TSD. The Mission regularity took teams over multiple dams, up in to the hills of Mission and through some of the windiest roads in the lower mainland. Once the 45km Mission regularity was over, teams transited back to the Red Robin Restaurant in Maple Ridge for good eats and awards.

First Place went to Luc Girouard & Bernd Schmitzer in their 2005 Subaru WRX. The team took home some great prizes donated by Pacific Parts – Auto Parts Plus that should hopefully have them pretty much prepared to enter full regional TSD's now. Prizes were also awarded to the second place team of Dean Little & Jeff Bachman in their 1985 Toyota Supra and third place team of Jennifer Holter & Kevin Holter in their

1997 Toyota Tercel. Also, Ohan Korfikian & Richard Cox in their 1967 Sunbeam Alpine V were awarded with the Clint Goss book "The Road Rally Handbook", which is a wonderful book full of anything you could ever need to know about TSD and to succeed in it. They were awarded the prize for being the last place team to finish the rally.

Between all the hard work of the volunteers and the wonderful sponsors like Pacific Parts – Auto Parts Plus, Wilkinson's Automobilia, Helius Odometers, and of course, Specialty Subaru, the event turned out to be a huge success that will hopefully continue on for the rest of the WCRA Novice TSD Workshop season. The next event will be held on gravel in Kamloops BC on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> 2005. For more information on this event, upcoming events, or just general information on rally in BC visit [www.RallyBC.com](http://www.RallyBC.com) or email [shawn@rallybc.com](mailto:shawn@rallybc.com).

By Shawn Edstrom

## Review: Heart of Darkness 2005

The 5th annual Heart of Darkness rally was held April 30th, 2005 and it started with 11 brave competitors setting out into the night at 11:00pm on the 471km rally. They departed from Rollie's in Hope and headed for the hills! The rally took them from Hope up the Coquihalla Hwy towards Merritt. The first leg of the rally spanned 248kms of challenging gravels roads on the way to the Gas stop. With the only incident being Car#3 of Gary Webb and John Kisela blowing out their rear windscreen on a cattle guard, but they did not let this stop them. They continued on to take Fourth overall. The second leg of the rally saw the competitors head back out into the dead of night shortly after 3:30am for

another 222kms. As the Sun returned to its place in the sky, we all arrived back in Chilliwack for much needed food and rest. With all 11 teams making through the whole rally with no DNF we saw the top four teams only separated by 4 points! The honor of first overall went to team Rycel! Peter and Tim took first with only 11 points and only 2 points separated them and second place finishers Dan Comden and Marvin Crippen with 13. Third place went to the team of RJ and Ren Carroll with 14 points. It was my first rally as Rallymaster and I just have to say thanks to all those who helped out, all the awesome volunteers who took time out to sit around in the dark in the woods all night and Congratulations to

The logo for "Heart of Darkness" features the letters "H", "O", and "D" in a large, stylized, serif font. The letter "O" is replaced by a solid black heart shape. Below the "H O D" is the text "Heart of Darkness" in a smaller, italicized serif font.

all the Competitors who came from far and wide to participate in the event! I have to say that with great competitors and awesome volunteers like I had this year, it makes me hope that I can only make it better for them next year! And just in case you do volunteer for an all night rally and you decide that a portable DVD player is a good idea! Take my advice, DON'T bring a horror movie!!!

By Kevin Holter