

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Reno Region of the SCCA March 5, 2008

Attendees:

Don Smith, Randy Jones, Bob Williamson, Vic Chalk, Renee Fugazi Chalk, Lexes Wallace, Pat Housel, Jeff Pogol, Gina Pogol, Jim Uchtyl, John Riggs, John Riggs III, Nick Hansen, Kevin McDaniel, Mike Bauer, Lee Mitchell, Jim Kunze, Lucas Kunze, Mike Khamis, Carol Deborde, Dave Deborde, Dean Benz, Matt Roy, Jim Gandy, Larry Savage, Chuck Johnson, Patty Evans, Debbie Kerswill, Mark Sipe.

Jim Gandy opened the meeting at 6:45pm, with the announcement that Reno Region was awarded the 2007 Regional Achievement Award for Medium sized regions. An award plaque was presented during the SCCA National Convention, and Jim brought the plaque to the meeting for viewing. In appreciation, Jim picked up the beverage tab for meeting participants.

Prior Meeting Minutes:

Pat Housel motioned and Gina Pogol seconded for approval of the minutes from the February 6, 2008 meeting, and the attendees approved the motion.

Treasurers Report:

Doug Driver provided Jim Gandy with a verbal reporting about the region's finances for the month. The region's finances are in good shape as was the case the prior month.

OLD BUSINESS

Past Events:

Larry Savage attended Track Tour #2 at Reno-Fernley Raceway, as well as the Race Volunteer training. He described the tour as 'wind-swept', with 20+ cars, and remarked that half of the tour was done in the opposite track direction. Larry found the volunteer training to be informative, including the experience of using a fire extinguisher to put out a fire. Dave and Carol Deborde added that several Volunteer School trainees were from the track (RFR), and many joined Reno Region SCCA that day. All attendees receive VIP credit, and, this event also counts as 1 day of Flagging & Communications license participation.

Out of Region Events:

Lucas Kunze informed the group about his Willow Springs track experience. Lucas and others, including Lee Mitchell, Doug Driver and Jim Kunze, attended. Novice permits were earned at this event. Lee added that great camaraderie was shown when Lucas shared his car with Matt Benson (after Matt's car 'got tired').

The Debordes reported on the Drivers' School at Thunderhill. One Reno Region member obtained her Novice permit, despite challenges with her Viper's sound levels which initially exceeded the 103db sound limit at Thunderhill. She will be racing in our Time Trials program as well as in the June National Race at RFR.

Jim Gandy, and Carol and Dave Deborde reported on their trip to the SCCA National Convention. Carol found the sessions informative, and the convention as a whole was an awesome networking opportunity. Dave commented that it was good to hear about the SCCA's positive financial standings, as well as explanations about rules changes. Dave is working with other Time Trials Administrative Counsel members to bring 2008 rules to conclusion and to

address many Time Trials issues. As part of his participation in this, SCCA paid for Dave's conference attendance. Jim networked with decision-makers about conducting the North/South Challenge at Hawthorne. His good news was that, assuming the airport and the town approves, and by involving National Solo Safety Committee member Cal Craner, this event can go forward. We should have confirmation on this event within 2 weeks.

Upcoming Events:

The Boat, Sport and RV Show at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center is March 6-8. Carol is asking for volunteers to help man the SCCA booth. Members' cars will also be on display.

The weekend of March 15-16 is the Double National Race at Thunderhill. While Jim Gandy, the Debordes, and others will be there, they are looking for additional Reno Region volunteers.

March 21st is a tentative date for Solo Safety Steward training. Watch the Yahoo newsgroup for more information on this.

On March 22nd, C&C Automotive Specialties is hosting the Annual Solo Tech Day, 9-11am. This allows drivers who have competed at least 50% of prior season to get a head start on tech inspection. Drivers should bring helmets and a rulebook (electronic copy is ok); contact Matt Roy or Wes Friesen for additional questions.

Special Celebration:

Lee Mitchell was honored for celebrating a milestone birthday.

Website Revisions:

Kudos to Scott Perry - the Reno SCCA website has been updated, and now includes chat forums to allow members to talk about club-related information and news. When signing up for a user account, please also include your real name in the user profile information.

Solo Program Report:

Event schedules are finalized, and schedule cards were distributed in the meeting. Matt Roy is still working on a site for the August events. Matt is also looking for event chair volunteers for the June 7/8 and July 12/13 weekends. (Lucas Kunze has useful literature to share with first-time event chairs.)

The Solo School is scheduled for April 5, and event co-chair Dean Benz is looking for volunteer instructors. Look for more information on the website forums and the email list about this.

Don Smith informed the group that the newsletter will have its own championship standings with year-end trophies, using consolidated groups of classes. The only place to see this information will be the newsletter, so stayed tuned.

Track Events Program Report:

Five track days over 4 weekends are scheduled, with the first event on April 26th. Information is on the website, and on-line registration will soon be available on motorsportsreg.com. Two track configurations will be used – one for Club Trials, one for Track Trials, and PDX on either configuration. Dave is working with Vic Chalk to conduct a Time Trials Annual Tech Day.

The June National Race at Reno-Fernley Raceway will include five national races, two regional races, plus a Vintage race, with Charles Schwab Bank as our major sponsor. RFR has some

work to complete for track certification, but the administrative groundwork is drafted and in review. There is a lot of interest from drivers and volunteers not only locally but from other parts of the country. We should be going to press for this event by the end of March. (Other sponsors are still being sought.)

A PDX Instructor program is being defined. If interested in this, contact Dean Benz.

The cost for logbooks is \$5. Lucas mentioned he obtained a logbook along with his novice permit, but was concerned because of the car number stamped in it. The logbook may be used between Club Trials and Time Trials despite having different car number/classes for each. This may need to be addressed with SCCA.

Spring Street Survival:

Dave Deborde informed the group that he would like to host a school in the Carson City or Carson Valley areas, but has not yet had time to start on this. Many affirmed that it would be very beneficial in this area. Larry Savage suggested that our next school promote (more) parental involvement, i.e., working the course, and to plan for a backup worker contingent.

NEW BUSINESS

Awards Banquet:

Jim Gandy asked the group if there would be disappointment in moving the Annual Awards Banquet to a different location. Several venues were suggested, including Grand Sierra, Harrah's, Peppermill, and the National Auto Museum. Lee Mitchell mentioned that he and Doug Driver were looking into an evening banquet event for Vintage Race participants, and found that the Sienna provided a discount with a minimum of 50 people.

Equipment Purchase:

Dave Deborde is requesting the purchase of timing equipment for the Time Trials program. A \$3,300 single-loop decoder has been identified as a less-costly alternative to the decoder equipment we have been borrowing from San Francisco region (\$8,200 cost). Members are asked to consider this request, and within 7 days should notify a Board member with questions or concerns. After this consideration period, the Board will vote on the request.

North-South Challenge (Hawthorne):

Mark Sipe will be the event chair. Mark will contact the National Solo Safety Committee member Cal Craner for approval to proceed. Contact Mark if you can volunteer to help with this event. Jim asked the group to also provide feedback if there are definite wants, such as the banquet location or other features of this annual challenge.

With no further new business, a raffle was held. Prizes included merchandise from the National Convention, with the following winners:

Jim Kunze, Gina Pogol, John Riggs Jr., Dean Benz, and John Riggs III.

WALK ON ITEMS

The 2008 Time Trials rules were rewritten. SCCA'S Board of Directors has approved them, and the electronic version should be available by next week.

Chuck Johnson told the group about an advertisement for a Racing Trade Show, geared towards Club Races, scheduled in November in Reno. Dave was aware of this event as well, and mentioned that it is being organized by someone involved in Club Racing. The trade show will be held at the Grand Sierra Resort, and is expected to have 400-500 exhibitors. There may also be a parking lot autocross as a demonstration during this trade show.

Jim Gandy has RFR season schedules available, as well as 2007 Winner's patches that are still unclaimed.

With no further business before the members, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Kerswill, Secretary.