

The Write Line

The official newsletter of the Salina Region, SCCA



Greetings everyone!

Here we are with more white stuff on the ground again, but at least the last go-around is melting quickly. Seems like it's been never-ending this winter. Between the cold & the snow I haven't done much with any of my vehicles. I did get the Mustang GT back from the body shop. It has only been moved for that purpose since the last autocross event—not much exercise over the winter for the old horse! I have a few small items I want to do to it. Relocate the battery (nose heavy Mustang's), new driver's seat belt (the old one wouldn't lock) & then the more expensive item, new tires. I ordered & received the seat belt & battery relocate kit, but I'm too cheap to turn the heater on in the shop to work on it. Still trying to decide on tires.

Rocky talked to us at the February meeting about the East Crawford autocross site, now known as the tree limb pile. The city was fairly confident the site would be cleared off before our first event. Government paperwork seems to be the largest hurdle, of course we do have an insider who might be able to help us out.

The awards banquet is coming up February 23rd. If you have never attended one, you have missed out on a good time. Barry & Annel did an excellent job last year & this year looks to be even better. The more the merrier! Everyone is welcome, just get those registrations sent in. The deadline is no later than February 15th. Hope to see you there!

Until next month have fun playing cars!

Dennis Smith, R. E.

2008 Entry Fees and Such

Attempts at the SCCA National Convention to get the Board of Directors to re-think the Weekend Membership program failed. It's a done deal. So the edict is now that every participant in an SCCA Solo event must be a member.

Anyone not a member can obtain a Weekend Membership at registration. This satisfies the membership requirement, covers everyone under SCCA's \$5 million insurance policy, and gets them a free copy of SportsCar magazine.

At Salina Region events, the weekend membership will cost \$5 (that's what SCCA is billing us). Up to two of the Weekend Membership receipts can be used for \$15 credit each on a full membership within 60 days (spend \$10 on two Weekend Memberships, get \$30 credit on a \$70 regular membership, total cost for your first full-year membership = \$50.)

And just to add to the inflationary spiral, our sanction/insurance fees are rising again, which means that after eating last year's increases we must raise our entry fees.

So the 2008 entry fee structure is as follows:

- ♦ Full member entry = \$25.
Get a \$5 discount if you pre-register online at www.salinascca.com.
- ♦ Weekend member entry = \$30
Weekend members are not eligible for online registration.

Looking Ahead...

February 23

Salina Region Annual Awards Banquet
Martinelli's

(contact Barry Stockinger NOW if you still need to make your reservation 620-755-1711 or techpriest@ourlair.com)

March 5

Business Meeting
Jim's Chicken, Salina, 7pm

March 29

Test & Tune
East Crawford Recreation Area

March 30

FSAE Challenge/Solo
East Crawford Recreation Area
(pre-registration opens March 21)

Current Information Phone

785-452-9711



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| Feb 23 | Salina Region Annual Awards Banquet | |
| Mar 5 | Business Meeting, 7pm, Jim's Chicken | |
| Mar 29 & 30 | FSAE Challenge/Solo | |
| Apr 19 & 20 | Evolution School/Solo | |
| May 18 | Solo | |
| June 8 | Solo | |
| June 29 | Solo | |
| July 20 | Solo | |
| Aug 10 | Solo | |
| Sept 7 | Solo | |
| Sept 28 | Solo | |
| Oct 19 | Solo | |
| Nov 9 | Solo | |
| > All events at the East Crawford Recreation Area, Salina, KS < | | |
| MiDiv Solo Championship | | |
| April 19-20 | Kansas City Region | Arrowhead |
| May 25-26 | St. Louis Region | Gateway |
| June 21-22 | Wichita Region | TBA |
| August 2-3 | Kansas Region | Heartland Park |

Business Meeting 02-06-08

The meeting was called to order by R.E., Dennis Smith, at 7:30p.m. Present were Bill Dayton, Rocky & Sandy Enriken, Steve & Teresa Pistora, Dennis & Nancy Smith, Barry & Annel Stockinger. January minutes and Treasurer's report was presented and approved.

Old Business: Sandy presented Teresa with a receipt and a bill. Teresa presented Barry with banquet registrations. Sandy is to make drink tickets for the banquet. Rocky reported that Lisa Noble is unable to attend as she has a prior commitment.

New Business: Rocky visited with Steve Snyder, Salina Parks & Recreation Department, regarding the tree limbs at ECRA. The concern is if they would be removed in time for our first event. Snyder indicated they will. Rocky also talked with Snyder regarding repairs to the site. We had pledged a contribution toward repairs, & now Rocky suggests we raise our pledged amount. Steve is concerned about having no guarantee the site will still be available to our group. He suggested that we visit with the city before we make any decision. Rocky suggested if we do this, we need to stipulate the need for a guarantee for "X" amount of years. Steve motioned that we increase our offer contingent upon the city allowing us use of the site for 10 years in a written agreement. Motion was seconded & approved. Rocky reported on the concession stand availability for Evolution School & our events. We have a contract with the Evolution School requiring us to provide lunches. The same individual is running the concession stand. The concern is for the schools. Rocky confirmed our schedule. Nancy reported that Brock McPherson, President of the Shelby Owners of America, Inc., Great Bend, stated that they will not be sponsoring the National Convention for Shelby Owners this year. Sandy reported that the discount for member referrals is not showing on renewals. She recommended anyone who has a referral, to check for the discount on your next renewal. Rocky reported that the schedule has been set for divisional events. Bill asked about scheduling Mirror Khana XXXII. Rocky responded that it has been scheduled for the weekend of June 8th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Nancy Smith, Secretary

Deadline for submissions for the March issue of *The Write Line* is March 7, 2008. Send your contributions to 2731 Scott Avenue, Salina, KS 67401, or to sandy@spitfire4.com.

The Salina Region Solo Championship ~ 2008

1. Points will be scored at all of Salina Region's Regional Solo events. Points also will be scored at SPS/R&S MiDiv Solo Championship Series events if one is held in Salina (the site of the event hosted by Wichita Region is still TBD), plus the SCCA Solo Nationals in Topeka. (NOTE: for 2008 that is 12 local events, one possible Salina Divisional, and the Nationals, total 13 or 14 events.)

2. Points will be scored for every driver at each Salina Region event using the GCR model – 12-9-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 for the top nine drivers. Then, any driver placing 10th or lower will also receive one point.

3. Points will be compiled at year-end only for Salina Region members. Drivers eligible for the Salina Region Solo Championships must be Salina Region members (Region of Record or Associate) by the end of September. Weekend Membership does **NOT** satisfy this requirement.

4. To encourage participation in the SPS/R&S MiDiv Solo Championship Series events at Salina, as well as the SCCA Solo Nationals, those events will score regular points as in Item 1 above, plus competitors will score up to 10 points for every car they beat. For example, if you place 15th at Nationals (1 point) in a 28-car class, you can score a

total of 11; if you place 4th (6 points) in a 5-car class, you can score a total of 7 points.

5. Of the possible 13-14 events that can be scored in 2007, the best 9 or 10 will be counted. A driver must score points in at least four local Salina Region events. (NOTE: the throw-out total and the minimum total are both calculated by taking the total Divisional+National events included in the series plus two Regional events.)

6. One car makes a class.

7. A driver may compete only once for points at any event. Second-entry runs (fun runs) will not count for points and will not take positions away.

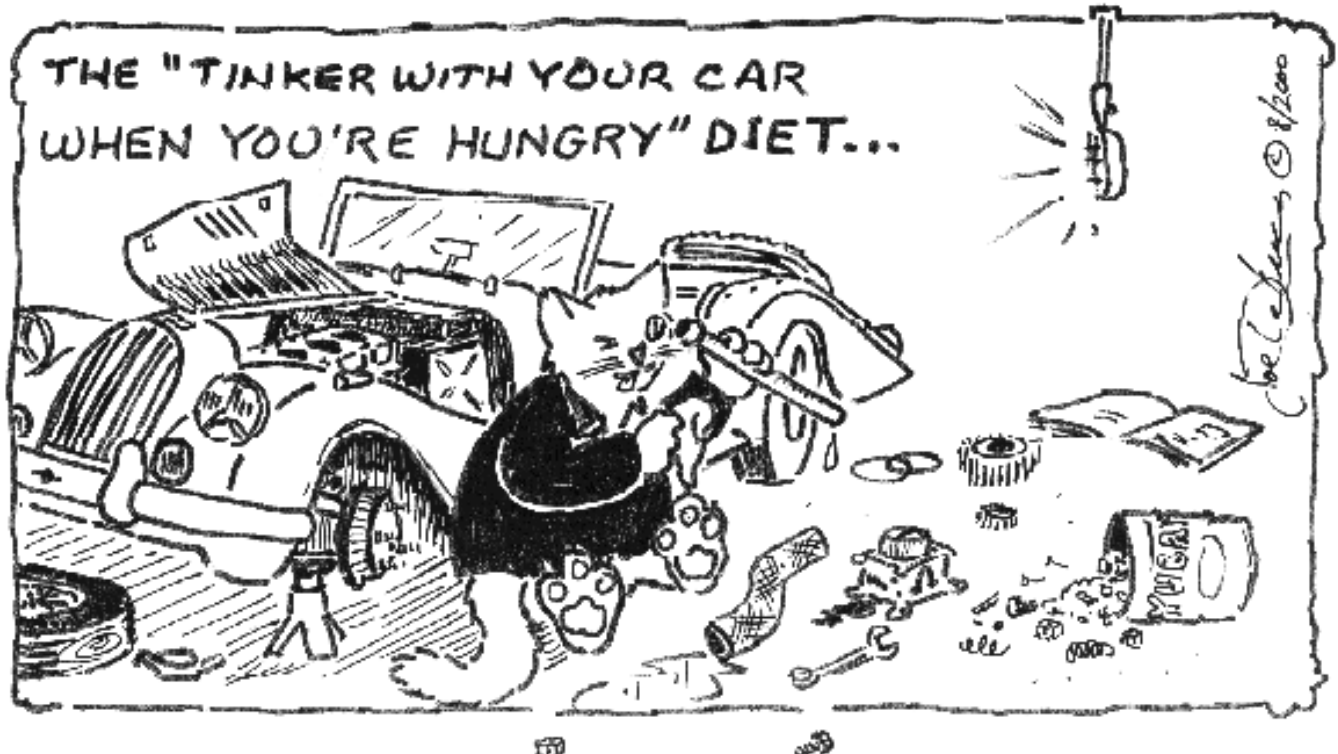
8. A driver competing in more than one class during the year will score points in each class separately.

9. Drivers competing in three or more classes through the year will be considered for the "Wild Car-d" awards. Wild Car-d award winners cannot be an award winner in any other class.

10. Ties for awards will be broken first by going to the driver who scores the most wins; second to the driver who beats the other the most in head-to-head competition. If still tied, it will stand and duplicate awards will be given.

The ADVENTURES of RAYMOND the CAT

By Joe DeLuca



Just Idling Around

Boy, this year is sure off to a snowy, but slow start.

I haven't acquired one new interesting car yet this year, unless you count a low mileage basic Toyota Tacoma from 2000. A nice commuter truck that no one wants because it's not four wheel drive and it's a stick shift. Since gas is only \$2.78 no one cares about the 30mpg potential.

The economy is in such doldrums that a friend of mine had a 91 Ford Aerostar stolen! The thing was wrecked on the right side, so that the sliding door had to be held closed with a bungee cord and it had a painting of a sunflower signed "Van Go" on the left where the rear side window had been broken out and replaced with a sheet of cheap plastic. With all this distinction, the thing disappeared from the parking lot of a Wichita Holiday Inn!

Police were of no help. I can only assume that since it still ran well it made it to Mexico, where hopefully it is serving some needy family or at least making the rounds as a taxi! He who lost it is only slightly miffed, because he only used it in emergencies and for out of town work, preferring to do all his in-town commuting by pedaling a Catrike - high tech human powered vehicle. He even has a rear snow tire and pedaled it to work on our snowiest day. A Trike won't fall over in slippery conditions, which trumps motorcycles and bikes for the exceptionally rugged individualist, living in the age of the end of oil.

Erika, artist friend, who is CEO of the World's Largest Collection of the World's Smallest Versions of the World's Largest Things and Traveling Roadside Attraction (worldslargestthings.com) sent me a sticker for my race car "Hydrocarbon powered Eco Vehicle". Turns out that they are produced by Right Wing Radio Propagandist Glenn Beck as a joke, for people to stick on their SUV's. Anyway, I bought a couple, assuming Smart cars are still on the way later this same year. I've already decided that I'll spring for a vanity plate, if the word is available, so the back of my fortwo will say "smart ENOUGH".

Sorry this isn't about race cars or SCCA, but we've just had more winter than the last three or four years combined and I can't get motivated. To make matters worse, the famed East Crawford Solo Site is still blanketed about 6 feet deep in tree limbs from our big ice storm, and at the rate our fair city is moving them to the landfill burn site, summer will be over before East Crawford is drivable. We - Salina Region SCCA - haven't addressed this issue yet, but I guess we should look at Wichita's website and see if there will be any events down there. Maybe in the alternative we can run Rally Cross, next to the woodpile. Unfortunately, or not, the 1984 BMW I considered for a Rally Cross Car was sold out from under me!

Movie of the month is "No Country for Old Men" in which Tommy Lee Jones, who always stars as Tommy Lee Jones, again plays a West Texas, Big Bend Country, Sheriff, similar to his role in "The Three Burials of Melquiadas Estrada", never quite solving a mystery. But this is much more violent, since the main character is a hired killer, with no conscience whatsoever. I lost track of the body count, but it's up there in video game range. There is a little automobile driving, but not much. I'm not sure if it has any redeeming social value, but it's highly rated. For entertainment though, I recommend the movie of Last Month, "Across the Universe", a musical made up almost entirely of Beatle songs, featuring Joe Cocker and Bono. Don't think it has any redeeming social value either, but at least some of the characters live happily ever after.

Still haven't seen The Saturn Astra or the MINI Clubman up close and in driving range. Have bid unsuccessfully for an Audi A3, and a Yaris Hatchback, so I'm still trying the automotive gambling game for potentially not so cheap thrills to while away the short days of this winter.

Did not bid on the camper made with 4 axles and three Dodge vans, which was certainly one of the strangest homebuilts yet to appear on eBay. So much weird junk, so little time.

Abner, asking "When can we get a few people with cars together on a big piece of pavement for fun?--Perney