

The Write Line

The official newsletter of the Salina Region, SCCA



I hope everyone had a good holiday season and your winter car projects are well under way. Our trunk *just* got unloaded from the November event, including a very ripe banana! That should be a good indication that my car projects have not begun. If we could at least repair the body damage that would be terrific. (Note-Don't let your kids drive your vehicles!) I have been looking for cars on the internet, but can't decide whether to get a different car or just keep driving the pony. I'd really like to start road racing, too.

I would like to thank all the officers and other volunteers for all their time and effort. All members are welcome to attend our meetings. If there's something you would like to do, volunteer. Our Solo chair will be looking for 2007 event chair volunteers. It's an opportunity to design and set up a course. This is a great group of people and without them there would be no Salina Region events.

Our awards banquet is the 24th of February. Registration details are in this newsletter. You don't want to miss this. Great food, a good time and you may win an award! I hope to see you there and at the 2007 events!

Dennis Smith
Regional Executive

Inside This Issue!

It's Party Time Again!

**Send in your registration for
Salina Region's
Annual Awards Banquet**

**This year promises to be one to
remember with
good food,
good friends,
and lots of fun!**

**We even have door prizes and
other freebies this year!**

Don't miss out!

**Registration deadline is
February 17, 2007.**

Looking Ahead...

February 7

Business Meeting 7pm
Jim's Country Style Chicken, Salina

February 24

Salina Region Annual Banquet
6:30pm Cocktails, 7pm Dinner & Awards
Martinelli's, 158 S. Santa Fe, Salina

March 17&18

Twin Solo/FSAE Challenge
East Crawford Recreation Area, Salina

Current Information Phone

785-452-9711



The Write Line is the newsletter of the Salina Region of the Sports Car Club of America, Inc. Address correspondence to 2731 Scott Avenue, Salina, KS 67401. Opinions expressed herein are strictly those of the individual authors and do not express official policy of the Salina Region or of SCCA, Inc. Permission to reprint material from The Write Line is hereby granted to all SCCA affiliated regional and national publications, provided that credit is given the author and The Write Line.

Officers – 2007

Regional Exec.

Dennis Smith
785-243-4148
smnck@kansas.net

Assistant R.E.

Jared Adamson
785-825-7704
team_catastrophe@yahoo.com

Secretary

Nancy Smith
785-243-4148
smnck@kansas.net

Past R.E.

Steve Pistora
785-825-8769
sccapistora@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer & Webmaster

Teresa Pistora
785-825-8769
sccapistora@sbcglobal.net

Solo Chair

Rocky Entriiken
785-827-5143
rocky@spitfire4.com

Newsletter & Membership

Sandy Entriiken
785-827-5143
sandy@spitfire4.com

Deadline for submissions for the February issue of *The Write Line* is February 9, 2007. Send your contributions to 2731 Scott Avenue, Salina, KS 67401, or to sandy@spitfire4.com.

Salina Region 2007 Schedule

Feb 7	Business Meeting, 7pm, Jim's Chicken
Feb 24	Awards Banquet
Mar 17-18	Solo/FSAE Challenge
April 20-21-22	Twin Solo/Evolution School
May 13	Solo
June 3	Solo
July 1	Solo
July 22	Solo
Aug 26	Solo
Sept 16	Solo
Oct 7	Solo
Oct 28	Solo
Nov 11	Solo

k All events at the East Crawford Recreation Area, Salina, KS **I**

MiDiv SoloChampionship

TBA	Kansas City Region @Arrowhead
TBA	Arkansas Region @ Walnut Ridge
TBA	Wichita Region @ Salina E. Crawford Rec. Area
TBA	Kansas Region @ Heartland Park Topeka
TBA	St. Louis Region @ Gateway

Special Solo Events

Sept 22-23	Pro Solo Finale – Heartland Park Topeka
Sept 25-28	Solo Nationals – Heartland Park Topeka

Business Meeting 01-03-07

The meeting was called to order by Assistant R.E., Jared Adamson, at 7:21p.m. Members present were Jared Adamson, Rocky and Sandy Entriiken, Abner Perney, Teresa Pistora, Nancy Smith and Barry Stockinger. The December minutes were presented. One correction was made in the sentence: "Dennis reported on the MiDiv convention regarding the *Event* Chair (not Solo Chair) and Safety Steward pre-driving the course." The December minutes were approved with this correction. The Treasurer's report was presented and approved.

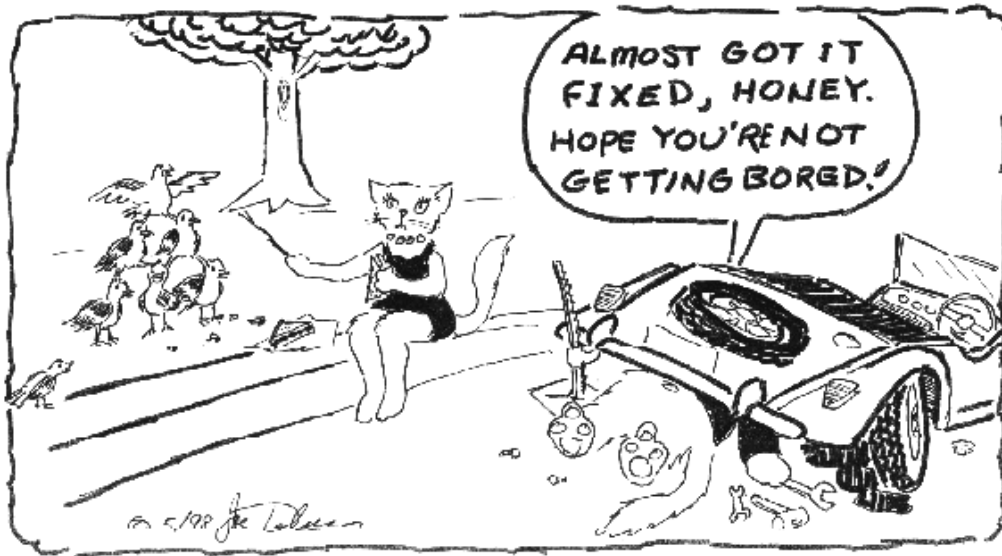
Old Business: Barry presented ideas and budget for the banquet at Martinelli's. Discussion on the plans was held. The cost will be \$12.00 per person, children 12 and under will cost \$6.00 each. The deadline for registration is February 17, 2007. One drink ticket will be issued for each \$12.00 reservation. There will be cocktails at 6:30p.m., with dinner beginning at 7:00p.m. The awards ceremony will follow the meal. The party plans were approved. Sandy reported that the membership pins for Region of Record members will cost less than reported originally. There are some minimum quantity requirements. Rocky reported that the 2007 schedule is pretty much set with the exception of MiDiv event dates. He will reschedule any of our events which might conflict with the MiDiv event dates. Sandy asked if we wanted to do the magnet schedules again this year. The response from members present was favorable.

New Business: Sandy asked about new signatures at the bank for the checking account. Arrangements will be made with Past RE Steve Pistora to get the signature card updated. Teresa reported on the website for pre-registration for this year's events. Rocky asked Jared if he wants to take over as Solo Chair. Jared wants to discuss it in depth with Rocky at a later date.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13p.m.
Minutes submitted by Nancy Smith, Secretary

The ADVENTURES of RAYMOND the CAT

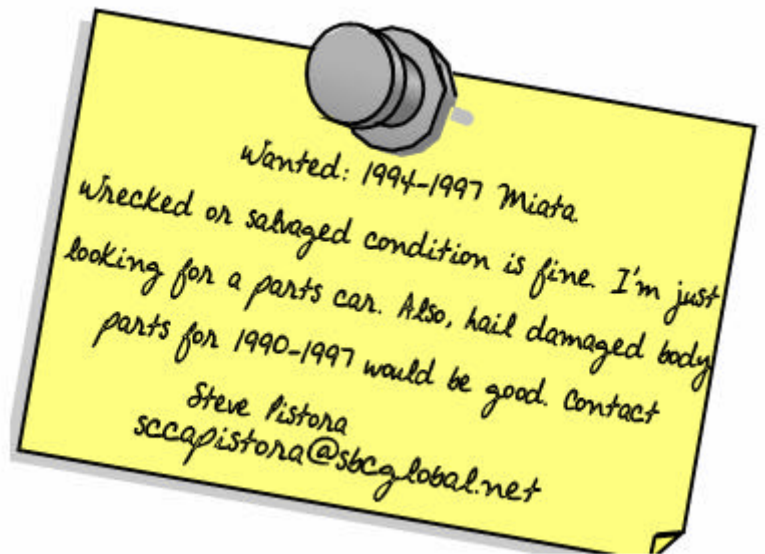
By Joe De Luca



Used Hoosier Autocross tires for sale

2 - P245/45ZR16 A06 (16 runs)
\$275.00 for both or OBO;
2 - P205/50ZR15 A06 (30 runs)
\$200.00 for both or OBO;
and 2 - P205/45ZR16 A3S04
(half tread) Free.

Ann Commerford 402-884-5333 (acommerford@cox.net).



For Sale: 1986 Mazda RX7

Will make a better FSP Solo car (that is where it will end up if it doesn't sell) or EP club racer

Roller, no running gear except for wheels and diff
Big brakes, five lug car
No sunroof
Aluminum hood
Windshield is gone
Several rear hatches
New delrin bushings and rear steer eliminators.
Front bushings installed

Brake bias adjuster
Hub for quick releases welded to steering column
Bottom stripped and repainted
Engine bay repainted
Extra rear cradle and diff
Plus other stuff I can't think of
Hole in trunk for fuel cell
Hood pins

This car is rough, I won't kid you. But no rust and a good project starter. Asking \$550 and I will deliver in Kansas or western Missouri/Southern Nebraska if desired for a little bit of gas \$\$.

Contact: Michael E. Dickerson, 800-770-2055, ext 358; 785.862.7158 or mdickerson@scca.com.

Just Idling Around

Today's topic is Ethanol. That'd be your basic 197 proof grain alcohol, plus or minus, distilled from what just as well could have become perfectly acceptable whisky or vodka. But politicians, under the influence of greed based corporate lobbyists, have charged full speed askew into production of the stuff as fuel, supposedly to reduce our need for oil, or as I prefer, irreplaceable subterranean liquid hydrocarbons.

Now ethanol works well as a pollution reducing agent when mixed into gasoline at a 10 per cent rate. It even increases octane and keeps the fuel injectors clean, at no significant change of performance. Strangely enough, even though they are pushing the production of Ethanol as fuel at the 85 percent level (E85) mixed with gasoline, they also pushed through the Kansas Legislature, and many others, I suspect, a provision that filling stations no longer have to post E10 notices on the pumps that deliver such fuel. Are they trying to hide something? If so, what? I think they'd want to keep their positive image out there on their fuel additive that works.

But, that's a digression. The real problem is the concept of E85 as a step toward energy independence. The stuff is fraught with negatives. Here are the four worst.

1. Poor performance in comparison to straight gasoline. This is most directly seen in the fuel economy figures provided by our Federal Government. Here are the figures on two E85 Vehicles I have owned: Shown as Gas/E85 mpg.

2003 Ford Explorer 4.0 V-6 Flex Fuel
City 15/11 - Hwy 21/15 - Combined 17/12

2001 Ford Ranger 3.0 V-6 Flex Fuel
City 17/12 - Hwy 21/16 - Combined 18/14

Here's one of the newest: 2007 Chevrolet Impala -
City 21/16 - Hwy 31/23 Combo 24/19

There is a 24 to 29 percent loss in fuel mileage with E85. That's not a good deal.

2. All credible scientific analyses of the total energy involved in the production of ethanol conclude that as much oil energy is required to produce the stuff as it can deliver, so all it amounts to is a different channeling of the cash flow related to energy. The new cash flow of energy money in ethanol is through the farm economy. Thus all the excitement in the Midwest and our own humble state of Kansas.

3. The production of ethanol requires 4-5 gallons of water for each gallon of alcohol, not counting the water used in growing the corn or other grain stock. Most of the locations in Kansas proposed for ethanol production are already short of water. In the nearby town of Concordia, the proposed ethanol plant plans to use twice as much water as the whole town does now.

4. The basic concept of converting food to vehicle fuel seems immoral in a world where millions are hungry. But if you believe that it's OK to convert food to vehicle fuel, in the big energy picture, it would be more effective to simply burn the grain and stalks in boilers to generate electricity than to go to all the trouble to make alcohol out of it and then burn it in cars.

There are better alternatives for cars. First: small conventional cars. Second: Hybrids. Third: Diesels. Fourth: Diesel hybrids, even though no one offers one now. Fifth: battery electrics. Sixth: bicycles.

Happy New Year Trails,
Abner, shopping for a small gasoline powered race car,
Perney

