

Revised Heartland Park promises faster Runoffs

The big news this month is that the track at Heartland Park has changed for the 2007 Runoffs. To see the track changes in detail go to: www.scca.com/_FileLibrary/File/07-hpt-2.5_900.jpg and check out the revised, and much faster, course.

Also, while you're browsing the soon to be improved and revised SCCA Web site, have a look at this link: <https://ams.scca.com/netforum/eweb/membership/membershippackage.aspx?WebCode=MbPkList&MbPkListType=Ind>.

That's where you'll find the up-to-date scoop on the new "First Gear" program because as I am reminded every morning when I look in the mirror, this club is still getting grayer. SCCA has three really great programs that appeal to the under-30 crowd: Solo, Rally, time trials and Rallycross. From there, hopefully "we" can hook them on race working or club racing.

It is with a sad heart that I report on the recent passing of an icon. For decades, Bob Dunsmore was the pre-eminent race photographer on the left coast. He was more than a photographic artist and may have well been racing's answer to Ansel Adams. R.I.P. Bob. Racing just will not have the same look without your touch. A memorial will be held during the CSCC race at P.I.R. in June. Exact details have not been worked out at this time. Coleen Rugh thought it would be neat if everybody brought his or her best Dunsmore photo to show off.

Due to the deadline for this column I do not have the usual business snapshot figures to share with you on the club's membership, finances and club numbers. Events are still being put on and the numbers are holding true to last year's numbers. But word comes to me that a club racing event may be canceled in the SEDiv because of a worker shortage. Let's make every effort to recruit so this never happens in Area 13.

Pro Racing is running approximately \$44,000 ahead of budget for the year to date. March came in a little behind budget due to the timing of the Long

Directly Duck

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AREA 13 DIRECTOR**

Beach race being budgeted in March with the income arriving in April. This should even out next month. Pro Racing had an operating loss of \$3,000 compared to a budgeted operating income of \$10,000. Bottom line was a net loss of \$8,000 compared to a budgeted net income of \$4,000. By the end of April this should have cleared up (timing issues) and a corrected picture should appear. Pro entries so far are up in two categories, Speed GT and Miata Cup with Speed Touring down somewhat. Sponsorships for Pro are ahead of last year also. The search for a Pro sponsors has been turned up a notch with the retention of a professional headhunter.

Speaking of Pro Racing, I was downhearted to see that NORPAC Driver of the Year Andrew Caddell had a DNF at the Houston opener for Pro Spec Miata. But all of us in Area 13 know that in long run we will prevail. Caddell qualified third and finished fourth at Road Atlanta. I look forward to seeing him race

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during the June Champcar race here in Portland. Also a tip-of-the-helmet goes out to Naykid's Cindy Lux (17th) and Scotty B. White (21st) in their Speed Challenge GT debut at Long Beach.

Terry Ozment, the head of club racing, will be making a visit to the Northwest for the Rose Cup races, and Erik Skirmants (President of SCCA Enterprises) will also be in attendance that weekend. If you have any comments or complaints I will be glad to hook you up with them.

The first event of the SCCA Arctic Alaska Region Championship Solo Season, at Alaska Raceway Park, will be history by the time you read this but you may just want to keep a date open for them. Check out all the action at www.alaskascca.com/drupal/.

You'll need to register for this site.

The sit-down board meeting in Topeka is coming up, so hopefully next month I will have a lot more good news and updates.

Until then, Duck out.



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