

Northwest Region hosting NORPAC gathering in Reno

BY J. TOM MASTERSON
For Northwest Sports Car News

Well you have read it here before and I'm saying it again. NORPAC Division Convention in Reno at the Atlantis Casino Resort on Jan. 5-7 is the deal for you to attend. Thanks to the hard work of Northwest Region and your Executive Convention Committee, this round will be the best ever.

SCCA President Jim Julow will be there to listen to your suggestions and answer questions. Other national staffers will be present as well, including Jeremy Theonnes, Howard Duncan, Colan Arnold and others. All these good people are very open and do their best to answer your concerns. But that is only the beginning. In three days you will be

able to choose and attend a huge variety of seminars.

The list currently reads as follows: Worker Safety; Ask your Steward! (open forum); How to Sell the Region; IRS and the Region or Race Team, Non-Profit vs. Not-for-Profit; RallyCross; Time Trials; A Healthy Car: Repair, Refurbish, Restore (panel); Marketing for Your Region and Race Team; Trophies That Work; Solo Safety Steward Refresher; Region Issues for Solo; National Classifications (Solo); Find Them, Keep Them, Make Them Happy; Risk Management, Keeping Protected; and many more.

There you go, and if you paid attention you will notice a couple of always-hot-button subjects.

Now for the fun stuff: the Friday night get-together and the silent auction on

Saturday night.

Welcome to the Party Suite to match the party region. Yes, we are back in a suite with bartending RE John Fore-spring.

Saturday silent auction and party, the bidding becomes hot and heavy by the end of the evening. Breakfast buffets anyone? Gambling? Night shows? Remember its Reno. The Town Hall open forum with national staff, area directors and REs up on the podium ready to field your questions and comments is on Sunday morning.

This is your chance to listen, learn and be heard, so come on down it will be fun. Earlybird registration saves you money so do it now: \$90 earlybird special prior to Dec. 5. Registration form on line at www.norpacsc.ca.org/convention.

Race program still needs help

We have reached the end of another race season, other than the final party and trophies. It was a relatively successful year despite not being able to run regional groups at our Double National races.

We have had some problems that we will work hard to correct, like a lack of people to help clean up after the Bremerton events. Next year we will be encouraging drivers to stick around after those events to help us clean up so we can get the job done quickly and everyone can go home at a reasonable hour, instead of a few of us having to be there until midnight.

I am also asking for drivers who will be willing to have their name and phone numbers given out as sources of information and mentoring for new drivers.

I would like to thank those drivers

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and workers who showed up to our events this past year and encourage all of you to show up and work again next year. For drivers, remember, if your car isn't running you are always welcome to work in any specialty you choose. Even if you have some spare time, feel free to stop by and help on grid or in Tech (Scutineering). In fact, we are really looking for people to help us man tech this next year, so if anyone wants to help please let us know.

Looking forward to next year, we have our traditional date back at Pacific, so Double National will again be on Memorial Day weekend and we should

be able to get some regional groups scheduled. We should also have our end-of-April event at Bremerton and our end-of-July event will be a double regional co-sanctioned with the new Big Island of Hawaii Region as well as our usual SOVREN groups.

I would encourage those who want to be included in any regional group at Pacific to encourage their friends and co-drivers to show up at Bremerton and/or to let us know they are interested as we don't want groups of 10 or less for our regional grids. We need to make it worthwhile for both an audience as well as potential sponsors, and I really want to give the opportunity to those who support the entire program.

Remember that the race party is at Bison Creek Pizza on Saturday, Nov. 18, and I hope to see you there.

Play safe and have fun.