

September 2005



2005 Lone Star Region
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Lone Star Region
Sports Car Club of America
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LONE STAR DRAFT

REview

The other night, Danny Benzer and I had what I would consider a very productive discussion over dinner with Greg Ward, a Lone Star Region member and president of the Spokes organization.

For any of you that may be familiar with Spokes, they are the organization that produces autocross (Solo 2) events, essentially in and around the LSR area, and there is a significant member overlap between LSR and Spokes. I attended a Spokes produced / LSR sanctioned event back in June and got my first exposure to (i) how serious these guys are about their sport, (ii) how good an event they produce, and (iii) how much fun they are to hang out with.

Ironically, neither Greg, Danny nor I know how it came to be that autocross and club racing effectively split into two clubs in our area, but we are both pretty comfortable that given the size, focus, and resources of our respective organizations, that it works pretty well that way.

The discussion was not how and/or why we are differently focused, nor about combining the two, but rather (i) what interests we have in common, (ii) what problem issues we had (both in common and unique to each respective organization), and, (iii) how our two clubs might be able to help each other, in the common interest of local motorsports.

From the discussion, I think it is accurate to say that although there are many others, currently, club racing's largest problem is adequate event staffing, and that autocross' is site acquisition.

The discussion evolved into a free-thinking session, and some very good ideas came out of it, including possible combined events at TWS, wherein, for example, Spokes would gain use of a site, while committing a nominal number of Spokes members to work corners. A cooperation of this nature would be beneficial to both clubs, and would be consistent with our SCCA charter, which is to further activities broader than just club racing. Lot's of logistics to work out, but it all starts with an idea, right?

Greg also expressed interest in having better access to SCCA member services (e.g. Solo 2 event sanctioning, representation of Solo 2 issues and concerns, etc.), and I think this is a very legitimate request.

Where does this dialogue go from here? In my opinion, a good next step would be to include on the LSR Executive Board for the next term, a representative of the Solo 2 community who can also be a conduit between LSR and Spokes, and elevate the frequency of, and level at which efforts to work for mutual benefit of the two factions of the sport take place. Greg Ward might be the guy for the slot.

A lot of Spokes members are us, and we have some interests in common with all the rest of them that are not SCCA members. Let's see if we can't get the two organizations doing more cooperative stuff together, for our mutual benefit. Could help us both solve some problems.

Cliff

cmaxwell@att.net

Annual Meeting/Election of Officers for 2006

Our annual meeting is coming up November 9. Other than paying your dues, have you stepped up to help Lone Star Region? If not, it's time you did!! Lone Star is run by its Board – the Regional Executive (RE), Assistant RE, Treasurer, Secretary, and four directors comprise that Board. The Directors and Treasurer serve a two year term - two Directors expire in even years, two in odd years. No experience is necessary for any of the positions – we believe in the 'on the job training' for our board positions! If you're interested, there's a place for you.

All the officer positions (Kerry's term expires this year) and two Director slots (Mark VonBargen and Ed Gilfus were appointed to complete the terms of Cliff Maxwell and Danny Benzer when they were elected as officers last year) are open for 2006. Now is the time to do a little soul searching – isn't it time for you to give a little back to the sport you enjoy?

According to our bylaws, here are the board positions and duties:

The **Regional Executive** shall preside at all meetings of the members and Executive Board and shall perform all duties pertaining to this office. He shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the region. The Regional Executive shall be authorized to appoint such committees as are appropriate to assist him in his duties and to outline the duties and responsibilities of such committees. The Regional Executive shall be a member ex-officio of all committees, but shall not be counted in determining a quorum. The Regional Executive shall appoint individuals to serve in such capacities as he deems necessary with the consent of the majority of the Executive Board, such as but not limited to: Activities, Publicity, Specialty Licensing, Programs, Special Events, Races, Rally, Membership, Competition Chairman, Newsletter Editor, etc. in the absence of the Regional Executive, or in the case of being unable to act, or the resignation of the Regional Executive, the duties usually performed by him shall be performed by the Assistant Regional Executive for the remainder of the term.

The **Assistant Regional Executive** shall perform any and all duties needed by the Regional Executive and he/she shall take over all duties in case of an absence or a vacancy of the office until the next election.

The **Secretary** shall keep a complete record of all proceedings and pertinent correspondence of the Region and shall send notice to all members as required via the Region's newsletter and shall keep a roll of the members and perform other duties normally pertaining to the office of Secretary.

The **Treasurer** shall, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be made by the Executive Board, have custody of all moneys, debts, obligations, belonging to the Region. He/she shall receive all moneys of the Region and deposit same in the Region account. He/she shall make all payments of Region debts. All contracts, checks, drafts, notes, or other payment of money shall be signed in the name of the Region by the Treasurer. He/she shall give a report on the financial status of the Region at the annual meeting and, if required, any other meeting of the Region or Executive Board.

While the **Directors** have no specific duties in our Bylaws, they are members of the Executive Board, which shall be responsible to the membership for the proper and just administration of the Lone Star Region. All Lone Star Region business to include but not be limited to: expenditures, borrowing of money in the Region's name, major decisions regarding rallies and races to be held by the Region. The Executive Board holds regular monthly meetings, and a report of actions and decisions will be made to the membership as soon as possible.

Nominations for officers shall be made in writing by members in good standing by mailing same to the Secretary during the period October 1st to October 25th of each year. For the name to be placed on the ballot, a written nomination signed by three (3) members in good standing must be received by the Secretary on or before October 25th.

The time is now, folks – give a little, get involved, get more back from the organization than you'd ever dream possible!!

The Draft...

Welcome to the electronic version of the Lone Star Region *Draft*. We hope you find this an easy way to keep up-to-date on activities and enjoy our newsletter in color! Future issues of *The Draft* will include more pictures along with information on what is happening in the region.

Submission deadline for articles and photos is the day of the board meeting. Comments? Questions? Contact Paula Taylor (racemom13@hotmail.com or 512-338-4008 or Cliff Maxwell (cmaxwell@att.net))

Thank you for your support.

Membership Meeting Info

The Lone Star Region Board has been busy—not ONE but TWO MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS being planned!! Flyers will be sent and you'll find more details on the website (www.longstarscca.org) as we get closer, but put these dates down and plan to attend. I hear rumors of a great program in October and cash exchanging hands. Here's what is the basic info:

When: Saturday, October 22, 2005, 5 pm
Location: TBA
Program: Lone Star Region and where we are heading

Come hear what we've done, what we're doing, and how much fun we've had so far. From there, we will hear what's in store for us in 2006. Can you believe Lone Star Region will be celebrating our 40th anniversary in 2006? Who knows what will be in store for us!!

Our Annual Meeting and Elections are coming up in November.

When: Wednesday, November 9, 2005, 7 pm
Location: TBA
Program: Election of Officers, update on 2006 activities and events

Watch for flyers and check the website for details!

BE THERE!

What's a McCroskey Award?

The McCroskey Award [named for Colonel Joe McCroskey, a founding member of and the original "can do" guy for Lone Star Region] is given to an individual who has contributed the most time and effort to promote the Region's ideal and purposes above and beyond his or her position within the Region. Any member in good standing may recommend candidate(s) for the award at any Board meeting, and the Board will act on the nomination(s) by a general vote.

This award is not given annual – it's given when someone has contributed significantly to Lone Star's success and presented at our annual Awards Banquet. Past recipients include Mike Swensen (he made the 1985 Aqua Festival race happen against unbelievable odds), John Hancock (served as Area 7 Director) and Gregg Matocha (served as RE, Asst. RE, Secretary and Director for multiple years and race chairman for several events – bringing the Lone Star standard for fun events to an all time high). Know someone who is deserving? Contact any Board Member to submit your nomination.

Minutes

Lone Star Region, SCCA, Board Meeting September 7, 2005

1. Call to order

Time—7:14pm

Place—Athena Manufacturing

Attendees—Mark Von Bargen, Paula Taylor, Kerry McEntire, Joe Lamping, Bill Johnson, Ed Gilfus, Danny Benzer, John Zentner, Cliff Maxwell

2. Minutes

August meeting minutes approved electronically

3. Treasury - McEntire

Balance report

Unfunded liabilities—Owe ~\$200 to Paula Taylor

4. Member participation planning

Review functional areas

task definitions—All functional area (FA) leaders clear on what is needed, some clarification for the Sponsorship FA was provided and some ideas were thrown around (e.g. Cadillac XLR pace car, etc.). All FA's will have to work closely with at least one other FA (e.g. Marketing & Advertising and Sales & Merchandising, etc.). Social Services FA has some ideas on worker/driver integration but requests more ideas.

staffing requirements—All areas clear on what kind of help is needed.

recruitment presentations—Formal Powerpoint presentation will be done during the meeting. Bill Johnson or Mark Von Bargen can provide a projector. Antonio Garza will coordinate getting the presentations together and ensuring the projector will be available for the meeting.

5. General meeting

Time—October 22, 2005 at 5pm

Place—Austin Park and Pizza, Dave & Buster's, or Bowling Alley. Mark V.B, Antonio G. and Joe Lamping to check on price and availability.

Organizer appointed—Paula Taylor with help from Ed Gilfus, will do food selection, location, and notices. Also, will get board members to take a few phone numbers to call for notices to get more people to attend.

Budget allocation--\$3000 including the \$500 inducement below.

Inducements to attend—serialize the post cards, get 5 sequential numbers together and win \$500. Must be

Minutes (continued from page 4)

present to win, etc. Also, door prizes. John Zentner will talk to Van's Auto Parts to see about prize donation.

Invite Spokes to attend—Cliff get list from Greg Ward and provide to Paula. Spokes are also eligible for the prizes.

Agenda

recruit event production staff

Safety forum video - McEntire

6. Other event possibilities

O. March date—Everyone is on board, the only question is registrar burn-out. Looking into the possibility of getting Paula her national license and also getting her help for the week before the event and on the mail-out. Antonio will work with Paula on coordinating that help before the race and also on getting more info on the mailout. We have other possibilities for a March event, such as time trials/HPDE and cooping with STBR, etc. Motion to request the March race date is approved unanimously. Cliff will let Jim know we want the date.

P. Stringer / EaglePicher series concept—Possibility of 2 race series for our March and May race dates.

7. Draft

Q. Select next "My Turn" rotating board member column. Joe Lamping in September and Bill Johnson in October.

8. For the record

R. Received notice of subrogation from Sarah Mixon health insurance carrier for May 29th incident. Everyone in agreement that letting national deal with this is the best option.

9. Miscellaneous

a. Motion to approve budget for Cliff & Greg Ward to meet for an inexpensive dinner to talk about possible cooping an event approved unanimously.

10. SRO Report

They have something like \$44k balance and have only handed out something like \$1600 total since inception

They want to hand out \$25-30 gas cards for the next couple of events. There is an issue with this in that this would subsidize events by two regions and that would not be equitable.

Motion to have Mark V.B. as our SRO rep to state the following opinion from the L.S.R.: *Do not submit/recommend any request that is not equitable to all regions.* Passed Unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 9:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Antonio Garza
L.S.R. Secretary

Coming Up:

October 5 – Lone Star Region Board Meeting, Athena Manufacturing

October 15-16—Double Regional hosted by Texas Region at TMS

October 22 – Lone Star Region Membership Meeting

November 2 – Lone Star Region Board Meeting, Athena Manufacturing

November 9—Lone Star Region Annual Meeting

November 19-20—Annual Enduro/Regional races

December 3-4—Super School, TMS

December 7—Lone Star Region Board Meeting, Athena Manufacturing

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**We're on the web—
www.lonestarscca.org—
check out the latest on activities!!**