

February 2007



2007 Lone Star Region
Board of Directors

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

Danny Benzer
re@lonestarscca.org

ASSISTANT REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

Chris Taylor
are@lonestarscca.org

TREASURER

Cliff Maxwell
treasurer@lonestarscca.org

SECRETARY

Paula Taylor
secretary@lonestarscca.org

DIRECTOR

Antonio Garza
director2@lonestarscca.org

DIRECTOR

Eric Jones
director3@lonestarscca.org

DIRECTOR

Don Batson

DIRECTOR

Greg Ward
director5@lonestarscca.org

PAST REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

Cliff Maxwell
director4@lonestarscca.org

DRAFT EDITOR

Eric Jones

Website: www.lonestarscca.org

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Lone Star Region
Sports Car Club of America
P O Box 302648
Austin, TX 78703-0045

LONE STAR DRAFT

REview

Greetings, my name is Danny Benzer, I am your newly elected Regional Executive. I've been racing with the SCCA since 1987, mostly in Mazda's, but also an occasional Datsun. For the last several years I've been serving on the executive board and now I've been called to lead the Region.

I don't have any great ambitions or political agenda for the Region other than to continue forward. I will, however, look for any opportunity to increase member participation, as we have fallen short over the last several years despite various attempts otherwise. So, as you're new RE, I implore you to invest a little time in the management of your favorite hobby and give a little back to the sport you love.

The executive board meets the first Wednesday of every month at Athena Manufacturing, off Hwy 290 across from UPS. The board member's contact information is on the lonestarscca.org web site. Please feel free to contact any of us regarding club matters or information.

Our Region is currently very

busy with the SowDiv corporate meeting in Houston, the annual awards banquet at Brentwood Tavern, the SCCA Convention in San Antonio, and especially our first race of the year coming up the second weekend in March. If any of you are interested in seeing what it takes to put on a race or could offer a little help, please contact myself, Chris Taylor, Paula Taylor, or Antonio Garza. In the mean time, enjoy the winter and be safe.

Danny

LSR Double National!
TWS 2.9
March 9-11, 2007

It's not too late to sign up for the LSR No Name Double Nationals.

Go to <http://www.dlbracing.com> and register online. It's fast, easy and free! And it will make your registrar **very** happy!

Race Registration: Why Online?

Why online??

The Southwest Division (SOWDIV) has been working toward using an online registration system for all our races. Many regions and divisions throughout the SCCA have been using various systems for a number of years. SOWDIV opted to use the DLBRacing.com system because it is a simple, easy to use, proven system. Donovan Brown is a soloist who has worked with many solo groups to handle all their registration online and is familiar with our organization. He has worked with us to create a system that does just about everything we, the registrars, need while keeping it user friendly and easy for the driver to use. The only thing missing is having ALL our entrants use it!

What's in it for you?

- Fill in your entry form information only once – the system remembers who you are, what your member number is, etc.
- You can have as many cars you want in your garage – racing the ITA car this weekend? Just click on that one in your garage. Running the SM this weekend, well, just click that one and you are done!
- You can see who else has entered the event – not only in your class! You can even see if any of your buddies from Oklahoma are coming in.
- Check what numbers are available if you haven't paid for your SOWDIV permanent number.
- Pick your garage space – how cool is that?!?!?

ALL ON LINE and you'll know immediately – no need to wait for a confirmation from the registrar.

Not all regions are using paypal or taking credit cards for online at this time. Some are still taking checks at registration. The online system can handle what ever the region needs.

Using the online system does help the pre-event paperwork. Timing can download the information they need BEFORE they get to the event – saves them time and reduces any errors that might happen. Same with registration. Our lists are as accurate as can be – and all can be done with just a few mouse clicks. We are hoping that going high tech will entice some of our newer members to join the registrar ranks, too – nothing like having a computer to draw some techies into the fold!

Additionally, using the online system eliminates the need for handling so much paper. Entries are logged in automatically and group lists can be generated easily.

DLBRacing has been used by Topeka for the runoffs in 2006 and they are looking forward to providing more registration help in 2007. Start using the system NOW so when you head to the runoffs, you'll be comfortable with the system and be able to enter painlessly!

See you at the races,

Paula Taylor

Registrar - Houston & Lone Star Regions

RallyCross! Let's Do It Again!

EVENT INFO:

Our last trip to Taylor Rotorsports Rally Ranch was soooo much fun, we're doing it again!

This is a little bit of what you missed last time: <http://www.pbase.com/cwilliams/rallyx101506>
(photos by Chris Williams)

When: MARCH 18th, 2007

Where: Taylor Rotorsports: <http://tinyurl.com/2tbxwu>

Course map: <http://www.axwaresystems.com/axorm/files/SPOKES/RX31807.JPG>

Flyer: <http://www.cone-designs.com/flyers.html> (Scroll down to the bottom of the page)

REGISTRATION INFO:

Preregistration: <http://www.axwaresystems.com/axorm>

Classes are:

Rally Stock (Cars as they might have left the showroom)

Stock FWD = SF

Stock RWD = SR

Stock AWD = SA

Rally Prepared (Some things are modified/upgrade)

Prepared FWD = PF

Prepared RWD = PR

Prepared AWD = PA

Rally Modified (Almost a rally car, swapped engine etc)

Modified 2WD (FWD/RWD) = M2

Modified 4WD = M4

SPOKES has created 3 other classes:

Trucks (Anything that is considered a truck)

Trucks 2WD = T2

Trucks 4WD = T4

Junkyard Dog = JD

Any car costing less than \$1000 (In theory a claiming class but I doubt anybody will try to claim your car. We just want this to be a class for beater cars, rust buckets, etc...)

Zach Barnes

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 Eric Jones (director2@lonestarscca.org or 512-249-6432) or Danny Benzer (re@lonestarscca.org)

Thank you for your support.

Minutes

Lone Star Region
Board of Directors Meeting
February 13, 2007

1. Meeting called to order at 7:27 pm at Athena Manufacturing. Present: Danny Benzer, Eric Jones, Cliff Maxwell, Antonio Garza, Chris Taylor, Paula Taylor, and Craig Lehmann (guest). A quorum was present.
2. January meeting minutes were approved electronically.
3. Treasurer report. Accepted as distributed. Expenditures included memorial contribution for Dick Conole, convention registrations, and sanction fees for March N/N. Audit of the books was discussed. Cliff will also be moving the bank account from Smithville to an Austin bank that has a branch in College Station. All officers will have signatory. Cliff will look into bonding the officers.
4. March N/N.
 - 1 Budget is done; most chief positions have been filled.
 - 2 Kathy Krebs is handling hotel and party arrangements.
 - 3 TWS contract is ready to sign – total rent is just under \$25,000 for three days.
 - 4 Discussion followed on paying in advance for all 2007 online registration with dlbracing.com. Consensus was we would reassess at the end of this year for 2008.
5. March Rallycross. Spokes have taken the lead again on this one. March 18 will be a Spokes/LSR event. Sanction form should be submitted within the week. Discussion followed on Lone Star Region hosting future events– need for timing lights, cones, etc. May try to hold a “divisional” in April to get a foot-in-the-door should there be a national championship next year.
6. The Draft. Eric will work on getting a Draft out in early March. Deadline for input is 2/21/07. Discussion followed on sending out postcards with information on the link to the website and determine if we are getting any traffic on the site.
7. SOWDIV meeting. Highlights of items discussed:
 - 1 When minutes from SOWDIV meetings are distributed. It was determined they are usually distributed just before the meeting. There was discussion about Laurie sending them out and voting electronically so they can be posted on the website.
 - 2 Tech trailer. Texas and Houston talking about one or both buying a tech trailer and selling us the current trailer at a low cost, discussion on if LSR needed a trailer if TWS went away.
 - 3 SRF drivers wanted their own group.
 - 4 SM driver came up with a plan for teching Spec Miatas every race, including a lottery system for who gets inspected, etc. After a lengthy discussion, it was determined we do not have the staff at races to do extensive techs every event.

Minutes (continued)

- 5 Susan Balon announced this is her last year as treasurer. Members were asked to think about candidates to replace her.
 - 6 Payments to the SRO fund were suspended, effective immediately. It was requested that for the next meeting the SRO have a plan to make something happen or we will look at options for disbursing.
 - 7 Worker counts – still low. Attitudes of existing long-time workers contributes to the problem.
 - 8 Tech requested a lap top – no action was taken since no proposal was presented.
 - 9 Pro race fees to Division – instead of a 10% of the gross or net, motion passed to a region pays a flat fee of \$1,500 for 2007 Champ Car race. Need to get a disclosure of net and gross by July so we can make an informed change.
 - 10 Web site administration is changing.
 - 11 Med pouches now free for all!
 - 12 Next meeting (July) will be hosted by Texas Region. Lone Star will host the January 2008 meeting.
8. Charter Submission. Paperwork sent to Topeka, including officer updates, 2005 tax return, and our certificate of good standing from the state.
- . Website steering committee. New host offers a newsletter management system for \$15/mo. This will be checked to see if it worth doing for the Draft.
10. Awards banquet. Final cost was \$573.41. Feedback was positive—good food, enjoyable music, fun crowd.
11. Leadership positions and responsibility
- 1 Need someone to check PO Box for mail. Check who has working keys. Paula will check with Bill Johnson and see if he has checked it lately.
 - 2 Jerry Hooten is interested in working on a tech license. Need to encourage him and anyone else who is willing to step up and work on getting national licenses.
 - 3 Board members charged with seeking out and grooming replacements. Let's get busy on this!
12. National convention
- 1 Members attending: Danny Benzer, Chris Taylor, Paula Taylor, Eric Jones, Kathy and Roger Krebs, and James Place.
 - 2 Comments: Sessions were OK. On the whole, the convention seemed a little on the 'cheap' side – nothing really first class. Fewer vendors. Not much substance to the program. Everyone had a good chance to visit with old friends, build new relationships with other regions.
13. May race.
- Need chair. Chris won't do a national – might be willing to co-chair a regional event.
 - Discussed doing a regional/enduro. Look at getting a co-chair so Chris can run the event and help but not be the point person at the event. Discussed possibly many possibilities and ways to do this.

Minutes (continued)

- Antonio will do a timeline for the race. Danny and/or Paula will check with Gregg Matocha to see if he still has the one he created several years ago.
- Don will work on supps and other paperwork.

MOTION: Plan a Restricted Regional/Enduro for Memorial weekend. Motion by Chris Taylor, second by Danny Benzer. Motion by Chris Taylor, second by Danny Benzer. MOTION AMENDED by Chris Taylor, second by Antonio Garza to state that if a regional fits, do a regional/enduro. If it doesn't, restricted regional/enduro. Time of enduro TBD. PASSED as amended.

- Possible format for enduro: Warm up at 8- 8:30, enduro at 9 am to 4:33 pm. Mandatory drivers meeting before the party at the track. P&Q on Saturday for enduro. Regional practice and race on Saturday.
- Consensus was to put effort into getting people to staff 2.9. Since track is on the market, we may lose this venue.

14. No other business was brought up. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Taylor
Secretary

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

Coming Up:

March 7 — LSR Monthly BOD meeting
March 9-11 — LSR No Name Double National at TWS
March 18 — LSR/Spokes RallyCross at Taylor Rotorsports
April 4 — LSR Monthly BOD meeting
May 2 — LSR Monthly BOD Meeting
May 26-27 — LSR Regional Enduro races at TWS
June 6 — LSR Monthly BOD meeting