



The

Checkpoint

Official Publication of the Arrowhead Sports Car Club

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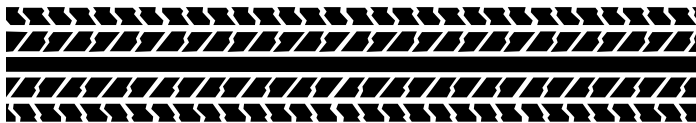
Volume 42

March 2001

Number 2

Skid Marks

----by Bill Taylor



A Passing of the Order

There can hardly be a publication with any automotive bent that hasn't noted the tragic passing of Dale Earnhart. I'm going to miss seeing him around. Although I grew up a "Ford guy," and thus "hated" Chevy drivers, his skill always inspired my grudging admiration. I could even resolve that by recalling that he had driven a few Fords in his career.

Regardless, he had proved over a lot of years that he was the best.

As several others have better noted, Dale Earnhart was a warrior from the old-school NASCAR mold. Meaning that he didn't mind "trading paint" and making black doughnuts on the sides of other cars, or pushing them out of his way, even when it meant pushing them into the wall. His public mood was probably not a whole lot different from his private mood. That is, he could be ornery, endearing, philosophical or jovial, depending on how he felt. While "NASCAR nice" had been imposed on him enough to keep sponsors and broadcasters happy, you could always tell what he really meant.

Dale Earnhart didn't get his nickname "The Intimidator" because some marketing exec thought it

would draw spectators. If he were remotely in contention, he would slug it out in the best "bare knuckle" tradition of the moonshiners who founded the sport. After a race, regardless of its outcome, it was obvious that he had enjoyed a good fight.

It was fun watching Dale Earnhart drive a Corvette in the Daytona 24. He probably would have become a very good endurance racer. Turning right didn't seem to bother him at all.

Somewhere, in a small compartment in the back of my mind, I think I imagined him finally retiring from the NASCAR grind and doing geezer commercials with Richard Petty. Something on the order of racing each other in wheel chairs or walkers. Too bad, it won't happen.

While my personal, rather eclectic religious outlook doesn't have a real good, clear picture of what Heaven might be like, I can easily imagine that at least one small corner of it smells like 110 octane mixed with equal portions of hot oil, burnt rubber and brake dust. Dale, we will miss you.

--Nuff Sed

ASCC Winter Rallye Series Update

Found elsewhere in this issue is an update and wrap-up of the 2000-2001 ASCC Winter Rallye Series.

Included are the results of the Northwoods Drift Winter Rallye and the Keweenaw Winter Rallye, as well as a summary of all points for the five event series.

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None this month.

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Submissions

Submissions to *The Checkpoint* may be typed, handwritten, composed on diskette or transmitted by e-mail. All submissions should be sent to the editor at the above address

Computer disks with text should be in an IBM compatible format. If material is submitted as an attachment to an e-mail message, notify the editor before submitting. No unknown e-mail attachments will be opened. Deadline for submission is the last Thursday of the month for the following month's issue.

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Matters of Record



Minutes of Meetings

Thursday, March 8, 2001
James Supper Club
4767 W. Arrowhead Road
Hermantown, MN 55811

Executive Board Meeting Waived

Called to Order at 8:17 PM

Roll Call: Waived

Members Present:

Jon Anderson
Tim Winker
Bill Taylor

Guest : Masataka Yoshida, UMD Rotary Scholarship Student from Japan.

Reports

Vice President:

Northwoods Drift Rallye: We got good coverage of the event from the Duluth News Tribune (appearing 2-8-01, p. 2B) and on WDIO/WIRT TV, channels 10/13.

Keweenaw Winter Rallye: Randy & Jon did well enough but did not win. Tim ran with Carl Seidel, a Houghton high school senior in a VW Jetta with no odometer error. Also did not win.

Minneapolis Auto Show trip is next Saturday. Meet at 9:00 AM, Stage Stop at Carlton exit, earlier for breakfast.

World of Wheels coming up March 23-25. Jon will enter his racecar.

Son of Yucatan Rally coming up in April. Also Glacier Trails (date not certain.)

Wisconsin Winter Rallye: \$90.00 owed to IIRA for use of the ice-racing track at Ashland. Will find out whom to send it to.

Treasurer: \$762.87 in club account. All ATW bills have finally been paid off.

Secretary: Winnipeg Vintage/Classic sports car meet coming up this summer.

Membership/Competition: No change.

Checkpoint: 40 copies printed, 32 mailed.

Old Business

Northwoods Drift Winter Rallye: 7 entries. There were a couple of minor errors, easily corrected. There was a Duluth News Tribune photo car in the event for a while. The Carlborns from Houghton won.

2000-2001 Winter Rallye Series: Trophies will be procured and sent.

New Business

Thunder Bay Vintage Auto Club is planning an Around the Lake (Lake Superior) tour the first or second week in August. We will get more information and find out if they need assistance on this side of the lake.

Longest Day: ASCC should put on a Longest Day event. Type to be determined. Tentative date June 23 (the longest weekend.) This would be in place of a previously discussed vintage sports car event.

Raffle: Jon provided the raffle item. Masataka won. Proceeds of the raffle were used to tip the waiter.

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 PM.

Quote Seen Elsewhere

"If General Motors couldn't sell Oldsmobiles, what makes them think they can sell Alfas?"

(Wish I could remember where I saw that, I'd love to give proper credit. --Ed.)

Amen, Brother! They don't even seem to understand Saturns. But, they sure know how to build Cadillac trucks. Now, it seems they are going to build Buick trucks, too. This is truly indicative of a major U.S. corporation being run by out of work laundry soap brand managers. The General is in deep trouble, indeed.