



The

Checkpoint

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Skid Marks

--by Bill Taylor

May and June are particularly good months for motor sports fans. The Indy 500, Monaco's Formula 1 Grand Prix, the 24 Hours of LeMans all fall in here. Classics all. Unfortunately (in my opinion,) NASCAR is in the "bull ring," short track portion of its schedule. Not very interesting unless you like to run video of a California traffic jam at fast forward.

Indy was very interesting. More CART teams joined in this year. Think it might have been mere coincidence that the first five finishing spots were taken by CART teams? The IRL has firmly established itself as a good AAA racing organization. CART is still the "major league" of American open wheel racing. Too bad they can't seem to get their internal house in order.

Loved watching Helio Castroneves climbing the fence after his win. When the rest of the team followed him up, I started looking for the silver locks of Roger Penske in the group.

Indy is probably still the greatest spectacle in racing (Jim Nabors, thousands of balloons, umpteen marching bands and the worlds worst renditions of the U.S. national anthem.) But, it has been a long time since it was the greatest race around. Still, you have to give proper respect to the level of fitness and concentration required to go the distance without becoming a footnote.

Monaco rates highly, if only because of its history and color and location. Too bad that its outcome is largely determined in qualifying and the dive for the

first turn. Besides, its hard to find as many "beautiful" people in any other spot at one time. Looking at the crowds, I start to wish that I had gone to medical school and become a plastic surgeon.

LeMans is coming up, shortly. Something of note this year is the return of both Bentley and Cadillac to the race. Yes, Cadillac was there last year, but their efforts quickly went for naught. This year, it looks like both the Bentley and Cadillac teams are very well prepared and will put on quite a good show.

Somehow, I think R. O. Bentley would be pleased with the machine racing under his name. VW is working hard to reestablish the real racing heritage that gave root to the Bentley marque 70 years ago.

Hope Cadillac will decide to continue at LeMans (and racing in general) for the foreseeable future.

Unfortunately, GM's being dominated by marketing wienies and not car people will conform to their track record. They will get close to getting things right and then dump the program before it can really flourish. Witness the Pontiac Fiero and the entire Oldsmobile division.

Prediction: Cadillac will do acceptably well this year. Next year, they will come very close to winning, use their performance in advertising to hype some apparent technical prowess and then dump the program. Bentley, on the other hand, will keep hammering at it until they become regular contenders and be counted among the favorites to win, year after year. Chrysler, Panoz and Saleen will make the race interesting to watch.

--Nuff Sed

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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

April 12, 2001

James Supper Club
Hermantown, MN

Meeting called to order at 8:05 PM

Roll call waived.

Members present: Jon Anderson, Joel Evers, Tim Winker, Randy Jokela, Diane Sargent, Paul Rosholt
Masataka Yoshida, Bill Taylor

Reports:

Vice President

Minneapolis Auto Show Trip: Four went along and saw lots of ugly vehicles.

World of Wheels: Jon didn't get his race car into the show for the lack of a tow vehicle.

Son of Yucatan Rally - cancelled

Glacier Trails Rally - May 5, Richland Center

Rim of the World PRO-Rally - May 4-6, Palmdale, CA

Headwaters Club-Rally - May 12, Park Rapids MN

SCCA National/Regional race event May 19-21, Brainerd International Raceway, MN

Ojibwe PRO-Rally August 17-19, Bemidji, MN

Treasurer: No report

Membership/Competition:

16 current members of record.

Club authorized to purchase a set each of the SCCA Solo Rules and SCCA Rally rules (both rules for organizers and rules for competitors.)

Checkpoint: Both March and April issues were published, keeping us current with the USPS.

Old Business:

Winter Rallye Series. Trophies-Jill and Jon are working on stained glass trophies. Jon has surveyed all available results and figured out winners for each season from 1995 to present.

Around the Lake Rally: Nothing more known about this event proposed by the club in Thunder Bay.

New Business:

Simple Tour Rally: Randy is working on a "Back to the '60s rally. It will feature written instructions and mileages figured to the 1/10th of a mile. An analog timepiece will be required. Target date is somewhere around June 23, 2001.

An Extraction School is scheduled for will be held May 5, 2001, at Plymouth, MN. Diane Sargent will be going to learn her "Sweep" job better.

Paul Rosholt suggested that a gravel pit behind the Lake Superior College Fire School might be a good spot for a rally cross. Also suggested the gravel pit located on the site of LTV Steel in Hoyt Lakes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM. More general BS-ing followed.

May 10, 2001

James Supper Club
Hermantown MN

Meeting called to order at 8:24 PM

Roll Call waived.

Members Present: Jon Anderson, Tim Winker, Masataka Yoshida, Randy Jokela, Bill Taylor, Hary Aro.

Minutes: Not available.

Reports:

V.P.:

Headwaters Club-Rally Trip: Meet at 8:00 AM at the Cross Roads Grocery Store at the intersection of Highways 2 and 33.

Susquehannock Trail Rally will be held on June 1.

Matters of Record



(continued from Page 3)

Treasurer: No Report

Secretary: No Report

Membership/Competition: No Report

Checkpoint: Report for the last two issues will be presented at the June meeting.

(continued on Page 4)

Old Business:

Driven: The movie is funny like a cartoon. A Japanese location is portrayed by placing a huge Japanese flag over a California swimming pool. It was a story... (nuff sed)

June 23 Rally: Randy is continuing to work on it.

New Business:

Adopt a Highway participation will continue. We will sign up for another stint. First pick-up session will be on May 26. Meet at Noon at the Sunset Lounge on Rice Lake Road.

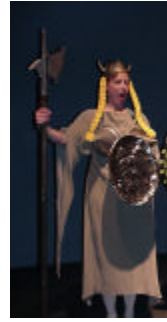
June Sprints: May 19/20 will consist of a Double National and a Regional Enduro. Jon Anderson and Mark Strohm have entered.

Spirit Valley Days parade will be held Thursday, August 2, 2001 at 5:30 PM. Meeting place will be determined later.

Autocross/Rallycross: An event might be held in September or October, possibly at the Miller Hill Mall. Work will continue on this, assuming we can get SCCA sanction and not conflict with other events.

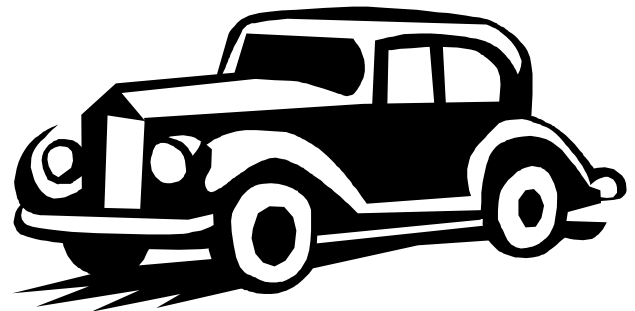
Meeting adjourned at 9:34 PM. Masataka Yoshida won the raffle.

Next meeting will be, Thursday, June 14, 2001.



ASCC Treasurer, Char Taylor, announces a proposed new stringent requirements for expense reimbursement.

Coming Soon



Classic Car Show July 11, 2001

- The Duluth Greater Downtown Council, in conjunction with several local car clubs, will sponsor a **classic car show** on Superior Street the evening of **Wednesday, July 11, 2001**.
- Superior Street will be closed from Lake Avenue east to Second Avenue East from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Cars will be on display along both sides of the street.
- This event will be an extension of Downtown Duluth's Sidewalk Days. Watch local media for more information as additional details become available.

