

SSCC May Club Meeting

May 11, 2009

Meeting brought to order at 6:15pm by Vickie Livengood with 20 present.

Old Business

Recent club events

Driving School- This event was held May 9th at TCR. Lynn and Victor began planning this event last November. Initially, the date was chosen as a one-day event, but they decided to make it a two-day event to tempt instructors from Seattle and Portland. Unfortunately, the two-day was Mother's Day, but it was too late to make the change to the schedule. This may have had a negative impact on the numbers, but it didn't change the end result. First Lynn and Vic found six willing victims, er, instructors including Jim and Tammy Daniels, Morris Green, Glenn Austin, Brent Vitorin and Des Toups. They supplemented these instructors with our own local guys Rex Ayers, Jens Darsell, Mike Parker and Mike Ellsworth. The plan was to pair complimenting instructors together, which seemed to work well. A big thanks to Rex for offering his home to the out of town instructors. The ratio of students to instructor was 3:1, which is twice as good as the ratio offered by the Evolution driving school. This ratio allowed the students to get a lot more one-on-one time and there were no over-heated or car-sick instructors which is good for our student's upholstery. After lining up instructors, Victor had to design the course. With the idea of planning more than just a fun course his design reflected one that would have many teachable areas. The course was complex enough that an instructor would always have something to teach but still had enough open areas to be exhilarating. Lynn digitized the finished product. After course set up on Friday afternoon, almost all the instructors got a chance to run several times to familiarize themselves with the elements. On Saturday, the students were handed a map and a place to log their times. After the usual course walk and drivers meeting they did an A course / B course format. The infield was run as one course then immediately ran the oval and continued to do this for 14 timed runs. Shannon brought Subway sandwiches for lunch which saved the club almost \$150. During lunch the instructors drove the course in their cars with a student passenger. We saw a lot of smiles after those runs. During lunch the A and B courses were connected into one course by using turn 3. Each student got 5 timed runs for a total of 19. We were finished by 4:30pm. Thanks to Taylor who did timing all day and Josue who served as the concierge. Everyone met at Sterlings in Richland for dinner. All instructors and volunteers were treated to a very nice meal on the club. Vic thought the event was a success on a couple of levels. It was a great recruitment tool; there were many new faces with huge smiles. By bringing in new instructors, our intermediate level drivers had much to gain. The gross profit for the school was about \$2100. After subtracting insurance, dinner, lunch and miscellaneous expenses our net profit was about \$1100. With the event at the end of May, this will be a good dollar month for the club. Victor wanted to know everyone's opinion of the school and what improvement could be made. The most frequent concern was not being able to see the display board as it was not able to be placed in the most opportune site due to limits of power cords. It was suggested that the course design next year accommodate the need for power and/or electrical equipment.

Timing equipment purchases: Lynn did an assessment of all timing equipment and found that we were in need of a few repairs, etc. He ordered a storage box to replace the broken one for timing lights, antennae for timing light boxes, 2 way batteries, and cables reaching a total or about \$1,044. Vickie agreed that having good equipment keeps our race days running efficiently and keeps the club in good ranks with the drivers. Spending money on upkeep for equipment before it becomes an emergency ultimately keeps us profitable.

Treasurer's Report

The check book balance is \$16,000. Our upcoming expenses include \$800 to Axware. Insurance has been paid for remainder of year. Almost all receipts have been turned in from driver's school.

New Business

The Novice Chief position is still not filled. Rod Tidd, who has stepped up and taken part of the position at registration, has been nominated by Vickie to take on more of this role. No opposition was voiced so Vickie will approach him with this suggestion. Mitch wishes to continue to post pictures and minutes to the website.

Vickie brought up a concern with slow moving lines at the gait waiting to get through waivers line. She proposed that more than one clipboard could be utilized so at least two cars could be signing the waiver at the same time and thus speed up the line. A questions was raised about how that would work with the use of two different types of waiver needed. Jamie suggested having different colored clipboard to differentiate between adult and minor waivers to make it easier. Decision made to try this approach at next event and then further evaluate effectiveness.

Vickie asked for clarification of who was responsible for the radio care. It was determined that Lynn is responsible for the care and charging of the radios. Vickie probed into whose responsibility it is to make sure the radios get to and back from the stations and placed into the charging bays correctly. Mara indicated that she was taking on the responsibility because she noticed no one else was but admitted it was not part of her job description. It was eventually pinned down to the Worker Chief who should be keeping track of radios coming and going from stations. This led to the question of whose responsibility it is to get the worker station buckets ready to go. Again it seems Mara is noticing that need and taking care of it. It was decided that this job also should be given to the Worker Chief. Ken brought up the need to look for someone to replace Ricky when he leaves. Vickie suggested Ken find someone interested and start training them. Lynn suggested Kelly McCleary would be a great candidate. Ken agreed and will ask her if she is interested.

Vickie asked how important it is to hold starting the first driver if we are still missing a few workers reporting to their worker positions. Ken says it is not so bad if we are pretty well covered but if it is a key position like starter you have to wait to start. Vickie doesn't want to see the event slow down because a few people are reporting late to the stations. Suggestion was made to start using the PA more to announce who needs to report to their worker position. Ken can let Vickie know if any missing people are critical and if we can start. Dan, our previous Worker Chief, was concerned if we start before all workers are in place those lagging behind don't feel the pressure to hustle and get out there. Lynn says he knows some workers feel almost punished if they go out early because it is so long before the first car runs they decide they can afford to be lazy. It could help if we tried to get all cars in grid before the drivers meeting so at least all the cars would be ready. Lynn said that even getting started 10-15 minutes earlier can offset a lot.

Ken reiterated concern over workers leaving before the end of the day or before they have completed their worker obligation. Mike P. suggested that spectators park outside of the fence and walk in which would leave all cars in pits as participating drivers or support vehicles making it obvious if a driver was attempting to leave early. If someone runs and then doesn't work they are on asked not to run at the next event to make up for the misbehavior.

Vickie shared her recent experience at a Packwood event a few weekends ago in regards to the registration line. They designated one person to work the line with a box of alphabetized index cards. That person approached each individual in the line and if they were pre-registered found their card and gave it to them and then checked their driver's license. This made it easier when they made it to the registrar to have their card and ID already and simply needed to pay and go to worker assignment. Vickie asked if this would help our long registration lines to try something

similar. Lynn was concerned that people who are given their card could easily skip the pay line and go to worker assignment. Jodee suggested Lucas, who assists with registration, could work the line and initial a designated spot on the card to show he has looked at their ID. Jodee would then mark the card when they paid and send them to worker assignment or registration if they were not pre-registered or needed a classing change. It was agreed to try this approach at the next event and then evaluate the benefits. Another idea is to announce the approaching of registration closing time which is 8:30 to make everyone aware of the need to get registered by then or they can't run that day.

Upcoming Events

May 16th – Evolution Driving School-ASNW sponsored (ASNW event May 17th)

May 30th & 31st- Event #3 and #4- TCR

Road Trip-Harold and Lynn working on

Mustang Car Show-20 per car, 20 per booth memorial day, cruise/lunch

Brian Bogdon e-mailed Vickie to announce there is a practice weekend at Packwood on July 3-5th put on by NWAutosports from OR. The 4th and 5th there is also an ASNW event.

Miscellaneous:

Vickie has been approached by a couple of people who are interested in placing a link to their website on the SSSCC website. One is Travis Overbee from a site called Carseat.com. Vickie checked out the site and it seems to be valid. Another site, Autotropolis.com, sponsored by Ashley Howard wants to add her link to our website. Vickie has hesitations about putting other car business on our website and distracting the focus from SSSCC. Vickie is concerned about people coming to our site and not staying because they immediately pick a different link and are off our site. Lynn doesn't think we are in a big enough area to be concerned with this. Dan says the Porsche site has banner ads at the top of the site which he considers annoying and slows down the site. Jodee vouched that this type of advertising does make revenue. We do not have anyone presently within the club who has the knowledge and wants to put in that much time to manage something like banner ads. Victor suggested they be treated like any other sponsor and pay the club to be listed on our website. Final decision is if someone wants to come up with money to be included on our site, then we'll talk.

Ken and Lynn have been agonizing over the balancing of the run heats at events. Lynn believes it would help to hold all novice worker assignments until the close of registration at which time Ken could equally dispense them between the run heats. He could then report the positions to the novices at drivers meeting or at the novice walk. Ken agreed to try this at the next event.

Discussion was started on putting up an awning close to the bathrooms to accommodate workers who need to take a short break out of the sun during their work time. Workers would have to take turns in a responsible way so majority of workers are still at posts when course is hot.

Lynn needs to talk to the Port regarding watering the grass. They have not started yet and the field is getting dry. Lynn is also considering talking to Derek Alexander who farms the adjoining land and is in control of the water setting schedule. He could show Lynn what setting is allowable instead of waiting for the Port.

Kelly McCleary gave Lynn some contact names at the Hammer Facility where she works in our ever enduring vision on being allowed to use that site for an event.

Next meeting is June 8th, 2009.

Meeting adjourned by Vickie at 7:30pm.

2009 Event Schedule

JANUARY	12 th	Club Meeting
FEBRUARY	9 th	Club Meeting
	21 st	Winter Heat #1
	22 nd	Winter Heat #2
MARCH	9 th	Club Meeting
	21 st	Winter Heat #3
	22 nd	Winter Heat #4
	28 th	Design School
	29 th	Design School
APRIL	13 th	Club Meeting
	18 th	Event #1
	19 th	Event #2
MAY	9 th	Driver School
	11 th	Club Meeting
	30 th	Event #3
	31 st	Event #4
JUNE	8 th	Club Meeting
	27 th	Event #5
	28 th	Event #6
JULY	13 th	Club Meeting
AUGUST	8 th	Event #7
	9 th	Event #8
	10 th	Club Meeting
SEPTEMBER	14 th	Club Meeting
	19 th	Event #9
	20 th	Event #10
OCTOBER	10 th	Event #11
	11 th	Event #12
	12 th	Club Meeting
NOVEMBER	9 th	Club Meeting
	21 st	Annual Banquet