



Clutch Chatter Newsletter

October 2016

Editors Circle: *Maggie Vang*

Welcome back to Clutch Chatter all! I apologize for the absence but I hope I can make up for it. This month was a very fun, loving, and heavy month.

Many of us are aware of the passing of Tony Rietdorf (Fort Wayne region). I was able to attend his funeral and I haven't seen that much love in one place in a long LONG time. The charity event held by Fort Wayne at Grissom was, in my opinion, a great success! Michelle and little Tyler were both overwhelmed by the love and support and would like to thank everyone for that.

As the new Editor I would like to pass the ball to everyone who reads. If there is something you would like to see changed or added please do not hesitate to ask or e-mail me and I can see what I can do.

1) R.E. REPORT CHRIS BRAKE

Welcome back to our newsletter! This year has certainly had its ups and downs for the region. The loss of *Lou Byer* was a hard loss for the region. I considered Lou not only a member but a friend who had contributed to the region greatly over

the years.

After a few months without a newsletter editor, *Maggie Vang* stepped up to help out the club. I am happy to get new people involved with this, and I am sure she will do a great job!

We have had some exciting happenings in all of our programs all year. Solo continued to have a great year. Rally has had some successful events and continues to do well, and PDX has provided our members with a new outlet for having fun with cars. I am proud of all of our accomplishments as a region through the year.

I would also like to invite all of our members to consider running for a board of directors position. The board is the backbone of the region that makes our fun possible. Our current board runs very well, but we love to welcome new ideas, and I would love to see more people involved with the running of the club. Even if you aren't on the board, all members are welcome at the meetings.

2) SECRETARY: JOEL HARLEMAN

Approval of August Minutes - Approved

PDX - The August PDX was a success financially and logistically. We only had one incident for the day. Putnam Park is closing in October for a repave and will be raising their rates for next year. SCCA Nationals will talk to IRP about the possibility of reopening their road course for PDX events. NCM would like to have us back for another PDX and would be cheaper than Putnam Park next year. *Gingerman* is possible as well. Discussion about whether the region should continue to lose money on the PDX program or do we redirect to another venue or area of the Time Trials programs. Track Night in America is not a good business model for our region the way it was run this year.

Old Business - Bylaws revisions will be ready for discussion for next month's meeting. National convention preparations are waiting on Convention costs and room rates.

Website - We have one. Get stuff to them to be posted.

Clutch Chatter - June's edition was sent to website.

Membership - 610 total members with 21 new.

Treasurer - 4 Checks are outstanding. Year to Date Time Trials is up, Rally is down, Solo is down but still had events to run and payments yet to come in.

Activities - Banquet date is tentatively Saturday January 28th. Talking with

Speedway Indoor Karting about hosting this year but they need a 100 minimum. Ricks Boatyard is also possible. Both are being checked into for rates. We will have another booth at World of Wheels in 2017 and a budget was passed for that event. A winter karting league at *Fastimes Indoor Karting Center* is in the works. It would be once a month for 5 months with one drop. 40 driver maximum for each event and would be \$30 for 2 sessions on league nights.

Social Media - Events are being posted.

Solo - CAM Challenge was a success! Test and Tune also had a good turnout of 41 drivers over the 3 days. Speedrome is out next event. South Bend Region's event on Sept 25th will be a charity event for the family of Tony Rietdorf. The upcoming Drag Cross event will be fully handicapped throughout the elimination rounds which should make it fun and interesting! October 2nd will be the Solo Trials event at Grissom and October 16th is the Swap n Drive Fun Event to end the Solo season.

Rally - Had 7 cars for the August rally with new SCCA member attending. It was a good and fun event. Next event of the season is the annual Halloween Rally and it will start in Martinsville this year.

New Business - Discussion of moving the region to a different bank which would allow for Corporate Credit Cards for the RE and Treasurer. These cards would have cash back to the region, online banking, and make the banking for the region easier. This was motioned and approved. Also it was decided to take donations for Tony Rietdorf's family at each event for the rest of the season and to promote the Fort Wayne and South Bend charity events.

3) Velma Boreen

Second and Final Installment – Indy's 70th Anniversary Celebration

In last month's Clutch Chatter, I wrote an article about the 70th Anniversary Celebration that was held at Cool Creek Park in Westfield at the end of July. At that time, several people filled out a very unscientific form, listing when they started driving, when they joined SCCA and then all of the cars that they have owned since they started driving. After much tabulation and verification by the infamous accounting and law firm of Dewey, Cheatum and Howe, the results are in! Some pretty interesting vehicles have graced the lawns, garages and outbuildings of Indy Region members. Of course, there were the expected answers from folks like Dave Dusterberg with his monumental list of Plymouths, Dodges and Chryslers with an unusual TR3A thrown in. Then who could forget Warren LeVeque with his many variations on the Corvair. Daniel Vang seems to be stuck on Hondas, Acuras and one Mitsubishi, as Wendy Harrison seems to be very much in love with VW's of all sorts. Then you have

the Brinkerhoffs – bringing home anything with wheels..... Dave Dusterberg gets the prize for the best printing.....

Of the 70 people in attendance, 26 took the survey. The number of cars on those 26 surveys totaled 640! That averages out to 9.1 cars for all at the picnic or 24.6 cars for just those who took the survey! We are indeed are car crazy group of folks! But it was truly fun to see what everyone has owned through the years.

Some of the more notable totals are:

Chevy – 83 Ford – 52 VW and Dodge – 44 Pontiac – 43 Toyota – 40
Pick ups – 65
Campers and motorhomes – 18

Several manufacturers that I thought would have more people owning them were Saab, Volvo, Datsun, Triumph, Renault, Audi – these were all single digits. Perhaps this is an indication of the generations changing. Doesn't matter – we just want to drive cars that we really like and cars that we can have fun with!

It appears that the earliest that any of those in attendance started driving was 1955 and most recently 2014. The person who has been a member the longest joined SCCA in 1969 and the most recent in 2016.

If anyone is interested in seeing the sheets, I still have them, carefully sealed in a mayonnaise jar and buried in the back yard.

Thanks to those who participated! We'll see what another 70 years brings!

Velma

