

January 2005

Unfortunately, not all of the news from the December Board of Directors meeting is good. SCCA Inc. is working to increase our cash reserves, after what appears to be a barely profitable year for the corporation.

Membership numbers are down. Figures from the end of September indicate that Northwest Region has lost 117 Subaru members and 116 Rally members over the last year. Offsetting new memberships, the net loss is 206 members or 18%. Oregon Region lost 85 Subaru members and 42 Rally members, with a net loss of 166 members or 13.1%. Northwest and Oregon Regions are two of the harder hit Regions, but membership is down nation-wide. Total membership was 53,475 at the end of October compared to 54,333 at the end of the July.

In addition, race entries were down somewhat for the year. However, most of the financial problem can be traced to an under-performing subsidiary. The Board of Directors is closely examining the future of this unit.

In response to the financial shortfall, membership fees may increase slightly in 2006. The sanction fees will increase by \$150.00, insurance will increase by \$1.00 per car, and there will be belt tightening at all levels. There is concern about the impact that an increase in membership fees could have on our worker base, which is already seriously low.

Fortunately, there is also good news to share. Bob Introne of New England Region was elected Chair of the Board of Directors, and R.J. Gordy, former R.E. of San Francisco Region, was elected Vice Chair. This means that recent former R.E.s of the two largest Regions hold the two top jobs on the B.O.D. The new Board is looking at a stronger focus on leadership from the Regional level up.

Enterprises is on track to make a profit of over sixty thousand dollars for this year. A total of 98 FSCCA cars are in the field. Nine SRF's have been sold since the Run-Offs and Ken Brown has found fifty transmission cores for rebuilds.

The BOD has formed a RallyCross board, with the rules pack being finalized as this is being written. I have been assured that the rules will be ready by the first of the year. There were 133 Rallycross events in 2005. Road Rally has sanctioned 166 events this year. That is an increase of 10% over last year, but car counts are static.

The Solo Nationals at Topeka were a huge success, with 1131 entries. It now appears that Heartland Park, as a venue for the 2006 Solo Nationals, will offer 40,000 square feet more space for solo than Forbes field did.

Lifetime memberships will soon be available at a cost of \$1,000.

The 2006 goals for the Club Racing Department include:

- Run-Offs - successful move to Heartland Park.
- Volunteer Program - review of structure, licensing, field support, and HR assistance.
- New Drivers—new events and programs to attract them.
- Expanding the Time Trial National Program / Series
- Determining the licensing program for time trials officials.

- GCR work— front-of-the-book consolidation.

Membership services, headed by the able Colan Arnold, has taken on these initiatives this year:

- Online membership (averaging ten a day)
- Regional race worker auto renew (see note below)
- Crew license auto renew online
- Family member auto renew online

Online license renewal should be possible soon for Solo Safety Stewards and competition licenses. With the log card requirement, Race workers online renewals are not practical at this time. This is still under study and will be brought up with the Divisional Administrators at the convention

The BOD interviewed three finalists in December for the job vacated by Steve Johnson; a decision is pending

I want to extend a warm welcome to Area Thirteen's newest region - Southwest Montana.

I hope to see many of you in Reno, where we can discuss some of these issues in more detail.