

October 2004

At the end of August membership renewals went up by over five hundred members. Hopefully, the club has turned the corner on this software snafu. This makes the club's financial outlook and budget projections much, much better for the year-end. With eight months down ProRacing is still projecting a profit.

The club is projecting that we will receive up to five bids for the Runoffs (none from the West, SORRY). This year's Runoffs had over eight hundred entries and on Monday seven hundred twenty four took the track — both are records. Mid-Ohio has embraced the Runoffs like no other venue and should get credit for the growth of this event.

The Richland County party Monday night also had a record 2400 people served in three hours. At least once before you leave this club, the Runoffs are a must.

The board is looking into B & D Production as a regional class as a place not only for newer cars to race, but as a place for the World Challenge cars to club race. A task force will be formed soon to make up class rules.

The "almost" final version of the Safety Symposium DVD was on display at the Runoffs racer assistance center. A copy has been promised for my mail very, very soon. I have promised Jay Bratton that I will share it with ALL in Area 13.

My first trip to the Solo2 Nationals was a true pleasure as a Director. For those of you that have not been you should make it a point to go. Like the Runoffs it is a must for a member.

Even as a spectator it was a sight to behold. In many ways it is much more grassroots, like Club Racing was twenty years ago.

Club Racing may have moved on but not entirely for the best in all areas. It was refreshing and replenishing for my soul to attend. Unfortunately I missed the first awards night where the one & only Scotty B. White received the "Sprit of Solo" award. Congratulations Scotty and I am SORRY all did not go well for NayKid at the Runoffs. May it get better for the team in 2005 — how about an all-NayKid podium at Mid-Ohio?

Solo is very much a "couples" sport and that is to be commended. Club Racing guy Greg Fordahl placed third in A Street prepared and his wife Jodi placed second in ASPL.

Spec Miata racers Ron Bauer took forth in B stock and Annie Bauer won in BSL! In his spare time Ron sounded GREAT on the P.A., which is why the Solo national has that great feel to it: when you are not racing, you are working. The way Kathleen Barnes, a former director, races the first days and is Steward for the next two days.

By the way B Stock has that NW look to it with Andrew Howe from Salem in fifth and Joe Goeke in sixth. In BSL lets not forget Anna Goeke and Heather Howe who also trophied. Another couple that brought home the bacon for the NW are L.J. Moffet with fourth in B Street Prepared and Angela came home a champion in BSPL.

Let's not forget Bill Buetow, who was third in BSP.

Would you believe that Jennifer Lee came all the way from Hawaii to win in C Stock Ladies in a rental/loaner to beat out Tami Daniels (from Gladstone OR).

Ron Babb was forth in D Modified, with Karen winning yet another NWR Championship in DML. They also loaned their car to Bud Bohner who came in fifth in DM. The Babbs also celebrated their twenty-fifth Solo Nationals.

In D Stock Glen Hernandez was second. In a Formula 125 Kart, Karen Snarr was second. F Stock Ladies found Tristan Kotizian-Coul second. H Stock found Keith Brown first and Stacey Molleker was Super Stock champion with Kevin Dietz fourth. Super Stock ladies class found Laura Mollekar in third.

I would also like to THANK Kevin Dietz who was one of the many masters of ceremony at the Friday awards banquet. He kept me out of trouble as I handed out all the trophies on stage.

Sorry that I did not mention all the NW people who trophied at the Nationals I will try to do better next year when I attend again.

Solo2 is definitely alive and well in the Northwest and I will do my even more homework before next year's event. John Kelly has personally promised to make me "Solo ready" by then. I will look forward to the Pylon each month, as I am now a subscriber.

So don't look now but you may just have a new cone snagger next year at your events. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you.

Now on a sadder note, Sandy Abrahams, our Vice President for Finance, has followed her heart into marriage and away from our club. She brought the financial reports into this century, kept a steady hand on the club's money and gets a huge amount of the credit for the club's turnaround. She WILL be missed and leaves huge shoes to fill.