



The Downshift

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Transition From Snow to Road Racing



Rob Fike's GT3 Porsche at "That Looong Race" in 2006

It was a hard season to sell the Global Warming scenario when ice and snow lingered for weeks on end in the Chicago area and across most of the Midwest. The flannel lined Carhart's will get traded for double layer Nomex in less than one month, and we'll be racing at all of the favorite tracks.

The "Full Throttle 500" weekend will start on Friday, April 20th as Madison Sports Car Club opens the Midwestern Council Season at Blackhawk farms with a Lapping and Test Day. The Spring MC Driver's School will follow on Saturday for Wheel to Wheel and Autocross students, followed by a traditional W2W Road Race Program on Sunday sponsored by Full Throttle. The complete season schedule is included on Page 2.

More than a weekend, May 16-20th will see CSCC members in Romeo Michigan, near Detroit for the Formula SAE Annual competition. With our team from Northern Illinois University wrapping up one of their most comprehensive designs to date, we'll be spectating this International Design/Engineering competition for Formula cars.

Lakeshore Sports Car Club has also planned for a 3 day MC Weekend over the Memorial Day weekend. The schedule calls for a Wheel to Wheel event on Saturday, May 26, followed by a HPDE on Sunday, with an Autocross on Monday at Blackhawk Farms.

The 2007 schedule will feature 2 competition weekends at the Autobahn Country Club circuit, featuring AX and Wheel to Wheel weekends. North Suburban Sports Car Club has a 2 day event planned at Road America in late September, and Great Lakes Sports Car Club has an event at the famous Milwaukee Mile (road course) on the schedule for early September. There are a total of six competition events scheduled at Blackhawk Farms this year, making for a competitive MC Championship Series even if you don't venture far from home.

Two weekends stand out in the 2007 schedule. Chicagoland Sports Car Club will be co-sponsoring the July 21/22 Driver's School and Wheel to Wheel event at Blackhawk Farms with Lakeshore Sports Car Club. We'll need the participation and support of the membership to assist in staffing and planning this event.

The second CSCC event of the year will close the MC Championship Series for 2007. "That Looong Race" will celebrate the 37th annual event over the October 20/21 weekend at Blackhawk Farms. This event will also close the 49th consecutive season of Midwestern Council road racing. You can expect that the "Big Wheel" event, Trick-r-Treating, and 100 mile road races will be featured as in previous years.

All of these events take a lot of planning and dedication from the Clubs to get to the first green flag lap of the day. If you would like to be a part of the teams that put the plans in place and staff the events, you are welcomed and needed. Contact any Board member or come to a Club meeting and take the first step.

2007 Event Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Venue</u>
March 31	Annual Tech	MC	Beloit
Apr 20-21-22	HPDE/DS/W2W	FTR	BHF
April 28	Tire Wall Day	GLSCC	MM
May 16-20	FSAE Comp	SAE	Ford
May 26-27-28	W2W/HPDE/AX	LSCC	BHF
Jun 9-10	AX/W2W	NSSCC	ACCN
Jun 16-17	Vintage	VSCDA	BHF
Jun 23-24	AX/W2W	MSCC	BHF
Jul 21-22	DS/W2W	LSCC/CSCC	BHF
Aug 25-26	AX/W2W	SCCR	BHF
Sep 8-9	AX/W2W	GLSCC	MM
Sep 22-23	TBD/W2W	NSSCC	RA
Oct 6-7	AX/W2W	SCSCC	ACCS
Oct 20-21	W2W	CSCC	BHF

ACCN/S: Autobahn Country Club (North/South Track) Joliet, IL

AX: Time Attack Autocross Championship Series

BHF: Blackhawk Farms Raceway, Rockton, IL

DS: AX & W2W Driving School

Ford: Ford Michigan Proving Grounds, Romeo, MI

FSAE: Formula SAE National Competition

HPDE: High Performance Driving Event

MM: Milwaukee Mile, West Allis (Milwaukee), WI

NIU: Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, IL

RA: Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI

Vintage: VSCDA event staffed by MSCC

W2W: Wheel to Wheel Championship Racing Series

The Downshift Information *(The fine print)*

"The Downshift" is the official news publication of The Chicagoland Sports Car Club. The monthly publication is provided to Chicagoland Sports Car Club members as part of the annual membership deliverable and commitment from the Club. The Downshift is also available to interested parties for \$1.50 per issue (U.S. Domestic postage prepaid).

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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Board of Directors of Chicagoland Sports Car Club, the Midwestern Council of Sports Car Clubs, or it's Board of Directors and Members, or in some cases, the opinion of anyone.

Article submission is encouraged and accepted in MS Word format or as ASCII text format via eMail. When submitting photos or artwork, please request the material to be returned if that is desired. Submissions should be received by the third Tuesday of the month when publication for that month is requested.

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February 2007 CSCC Club Meeting

Minutes of The February 28TH, 2007 CSCC monthly Membership and BoD meeting

Attendees: Frank Reimann, Larry Best, Mike Schindlbeck, Frank Hartl, Rich Cwik, Alden Wells, Lois Berg-Wells, Jay Busse, Bill Martin, Paul Schindlbeck (with tardy slip), Jack Packer, Kevin Carr, Gary Weis.

Meeting called to order by pres MS at 7:46 pm.

We began with a discussion of our co-sponsored DS/W2W date with Bill Martin from Lakeshore Sports Car Club. Discussion of proposed entry fees (approximately \$200.00 this year, we think), since the track rental went up again, insurance is up as well, and most clubs took a financial beating last year. The budget for the DS/W2W weekend will be in the vicinity of \$32,000.00. The responsibility split will be the same as last time, with CSCC responsible for registration, trophies, the entry form and mailings, and LSCC responsible for race staffing and gofers, etc.

We are looking for "Sponsorship" Gifts (door prizes, etc.) worker gifts (ideas?). We need a name for the event, and an idea for trophies. Who will be chief steward of the event? Jay will talk to Gary Weis, Bill will talk to Keith Van Kampen. Bill will return for next month's meeting, to communicate with us further.

The "real" meeting then started at 8:10 pm.

M (RC) & 2nd (LB) to accept minutes of the December meeting & Banquet as published-no objections-passed.

Treasurer's Report: (LB) Larry passed out copies of the Treasurer's Report to all board members, who then discussed the end of 2006 balance, Jan 2007 and interim Feb. 2007 balance sheets, and our ongoing efforts in improving financial reporting of club expenses. MTA (AW)-2nd (JP) - pass.

2007 Officers: Decided amongst the Board of Directors:

President: Jay Busse

Vice President: Frank Hartl

Treasurer: Larry Best

Secretary: Rich Cwik

Chief Steward: Alden Wells

Membership: Jay Busse

Downshift: Larry Best

Membership Report: (JB) Currently we have 61 members- we need to update the website for newbies and CSCC Club history sections.

Banquet Report: (RC) Everybody seemed to have a good time and enjoyed the event, the room, and the food- price was good, quality and presentation were terrific- we'll probably use the same place next year- Come and join us!

The presentation by the NIU team was excellent, and the room with the waterfall was great. Prior to the guest meals the club would have broken even on the event, a first! Maybe next year...

February Meeting Minutes *(continued)*

That Looong Race: The track deposit is in for That Looong Race (still opposite from a NASA date at Elkhart, so entries may be a challenge). We will have to promote That Looong Race more heavily this year.

Steward's Report: (AW) The February Contest Board meeting was quite short.

Pertinent Topics Included:

MCSCC is still trying to get the "Rookie Of The Year" trophy back (apparently legal action has now ensued).

MC 50th Anniversary logo contest - still open, get your ideas submitted! The

MC worker party will be March 10th.

SCCR will host the 2007 MC Awards Banquet in Rockford.

The Milwaukee Mile event will probably be dropped from the schedule (track rental and costs went up, combined with low entry last year).

MC is still looking for a GCR chairman for 2008. This is a paying position-apply now!

MC needs a new Race Staff Director for 2007.

Bill Milner and Nancy Harlan will split Chief of Grid responsibilities for 2007.

There was a long discussion about allowing 16 year olds to enter MC Autocross events. Discussion regarding liabilities vs. advantages.

There is a proposal to do away with MC print "Klaxon" Newsletter and replace it with an e-mail edition. Since we are currently paying MC \$22.00 of your CSCC dues/year for these printed mailings of the Klaxon and a GCR disc, there was much discussion of what we would be getting for the \$22.00 if the print editions were discontinued.. Do we get to keep the money, or are dues going to go down, or what?

MC online Apparel Store is up and running.

There will be a line on all entry forms this year: "Do you wish to make an additional contribution to the 50th Anniversary celebration fund?"

Dan Pogbee will be Chief of Fire and Rescue.

The MC Spec Miata rules will be altered to follow SCCA's rules regarding weights, etc.

FSAE- sponsorship- should we continue? (AW) Move to donate \$1000.00 to the NIU FSAE team. 2nd (PS)- pass. We may have the March club meeting at NIU (they want to debut the new car).

Gary will Steward the July event AND That Looong Race.

Move to Adjourn: (MS) @ 9:35 pm -2nd (PS) -pass.

Minutes taken and transcribed by Rich Cwik, Secretary, CSCC

Put That Old Car in the Movies

If you get a Paddock Publication newspaper (mine's the Daily Herald) you may have seen this small ad in the Neighbor section on Monday 3/12 "WANTED: CARS FROM ALL ERAS"

CLASSIC CHASSIS books cars for movies - and pays the owners to rent them. This particular time they need 60's and 70's American luxury cars that "show their age". They actually say "the more beat up the better. As long as it runs we can use it NOT show cars". They're shooting in March and April, and will pay \$100 per day.

They are encouraging anybody that wants to put their car in the pool for this or other times to go to www.classic-chassis.com and visit the "Television and Picture Car" section to submit your car. Or call Sarah or Jean at 847-301-7656.

I haven't tried it yet because I have nothing in my garage worth offering them at this time so I can't vouch for the instructions I just quoted from the ad. Good Luck to those who want to get their ride famous!!

Larry Noble

NSSCC

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MARCH 8, 2007 MEETING OF MIDWESTERN COUNCIL BOARDS

Regular Executive and Contest Boards meeting, Sam's Ristorante, Rockford IL. President Cassaro called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM. It was ascertained that a quorum was present. All officers were present and clubs represented as follows: CSCC-Hartl, Best; FTR-S.Green; GL-0; LSCC-Martin, Jerominski; MSCC-Wood, McNicol; NS-J.Boldt, Serra; SC-Humphrey, Lewis; SCCR-P.Green, Rehberg. M(P.Green) & 2(Wheeler) to approve Feb. minutes with the following corrections: Paper copy of KLAXON would be available free for 2008 to those without email; Steve Belling steps down as AX chair after the 2nd AX school; AX co-chiefs' last name is "Merwyn"; the rescue truck tuneup is paid for out of the equipment fund. Pass. Cassaro wished to thank the MC and members for their condolences on the passing of his mother.

Treasurer's Report: It was suggested that since there is a large equity balance in the treasury, some money be put to work. A CD or an interest-bearing checking account were suggested. Such a checking account couldn't be used for a not-for-profit corporation, but Harlan will look into procuring a CD. It was noted that the large balance could be rapidly used up due to the fact that per-member expenses are much greater than per capita amount paid by clubs, so a large amount should not be tied up. Electronic KLAXON will help alleviate that outflow. All banquet beverage donations have been received. At the LSCC banquet a raffle netted \$241 to be put toward the worker travel fund. This will help out the negative gas card expenditure amount.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Cayo lawsuit update:** Cassaro reported that there is a court date for next week. Cayo's justification for keeping the trophy was that he believed it is not a traveling trophy.

- **MC 50th Anniv. Logo design:** more ideas have been received. Deadline is the May Board meeting.

- **Electronic KLAXON:** LS discussed it and likes the idea as long as the same format is kept. A new editor is needed, since Rakowski wishes to work on the 50th Anniv. project.

- **Staff Party:** More donations: \$100 from VSCDA, \$100 from LS. \$200 from MSCC, \$200 from High Point Farms Motorsports & West Wind Racing (Rankin, Jans, T.Green, Madsen, Patterson, M.Durbin). Adkins is donating a digital camera to raffle off. The party will be at the Doubleday in Cottage Grove WI (same place and format as last year), with a Race Staff meeting at 3:00 and festivities beginning at 6:30. Sandwiches will be provided; please bring a dish to pass. There will be bowling again. P.Green purchased 29 door prizes and more are needed.

- **'07 Banquet:** SCCR is organizing it. Location is the Clock Tower Resort in Rockford, which has an indoor water park. Special MC rate on rooms is \$99. Date is Jan. 26.

NEW BUSINESS

- **GCR:** It has been posted on the web and can be downloaded. Members wishing it on a CD can contact Cassaro. In '06 the CD took 2 months to produce and many members didn't use their mailed copy because they had already downloaded what they needed. With the GCR online (a CD will no longer be mailed to all), it is feared that members are not getting what they pay for. Counter to that, per-member assessment in '06 was \$22, but the MC spent \$33 per member. Electronic distribution of KLAXON is a first step to reduce expenses. GCR errors and omissions will be taken care of on the fly. It was suggested to reinstate a Finance Committee to evaluate overall expenditures and do some long-range planning. M(J. Boldt) & 2(various) that Cassaro call a Finance Comm. Pass. Volunteers are P.Green, Rehberg, Schneider. MC Treasurer and all other club treasurers sit on this committee. All names will be presented at Apr. meeting. KLAXON will have instructions on ordering a paper copy of the GCR. Paper copies will be printed soon and are given to MC officers, bridge stewards, club stewards, committee heads, tech, and several others. Wheeler has '06 GCR CD's and clubs can use them for their indoor schools and new members.

- **Milwaukee Mile Sept. 8-9 AX & W-W event:** GL sponsorship fell through and there is no other club volunteering to co-sponsor the event, so the date will probably be dropped. Cassaro will investigate the large increase in track costs because it was wondered if the track would have raised the costs if it knew that dropping of the date could result. One thought was that the MC co-sponsor with GL.

- **K & K Insurance:** Further umbrella coverage is available for errors/omissions and other contingencies, which would include clubs' boards of directors. Of the two policies presented it was M(Wheeler) & 2(J.Boldt) to obtain policy B which provides \$2 million coverage plus pays (to no maximum) defense costs and covers anyone acting in any position of authority. Pass. Cost would be an extra \$187.50 per club. There is no info yet on regular event insurance rates.

COMPETITION

OLD BUSINESS

- **Autocross Committee:** AX school is sold out. Proposed (for '08 that AX helmet year coincides with W-W helmet year. Tabled. Proposed: change program name from Time Attack/Autocross to High Speed Autocross. Tabled.

- M(Committee) to certify the following for AX instructors for '07: Bolwerk, Fossbender, Marquardt, Guldberg, Churchill, Dudek, Gobey, Gee, Forman, Simpson, Woodson, Qualich. Pass. There are more possibles, but they need paperwork in.

- **Proposed for '07:** to allow licenses drivers under 18 to participate in AX. They would have to have valid state driver's license, have a vehicle that meets safety requirements, and vehicle would be restricted to the following Stock categories: Y, X, A, B, C, D, E. Much discussion for and against.

(Continued on Page 5)

MARCH MEETING OF MIDWESTERN COUNCIL BOARDS *(continued)*

Next meeting – Mar. 31 at Annual Tech Day.

-A new AX director is needed after the 2nd AX school, since Belling is stepping down. Also, a new GCR editor is needed, since Belling previously did that job. John Haydon, Jr. will do the GCR for '08.

- **Race Staff Committee:** Will meet at worker party. A new director is needed.

- **Steward Committee:** Meeting was on Mar. 4. Next meeting is on Apr. 20 at Sam's Pizza in Rockton, 8 PM.

Names of drivers receiving sanctions will be run in the minutes in the KLAXON.

Stewards licensed for '07: J.Boldt, Falconer, Jackson, P.Martin, McNicol, Reeder, Saccameno, Schneider, Snively, von Kampen, Weis; stewards in training: Backus, Schmiechen, A.Jahn, Willert.

Schedule for rotation of groups and for groups where annual tech stickers will not be honored was approved.

'07 Supplementary Reg's draft was approved.

Falconer has rewritten a draft of the steward manual, which will be evaluated.

Steward Peer Review is planned for '07.

Recommended that drivers 60 and older be required to have an annual physical beginning in '08. Tabled.

HPDE events are on MC weekends even though they are not MC-sanctioned events. Liability for them was questioned. M(Schneider) & 2(McNicol) that MSCC's lapping day rules as published on the MSCC website by adopted as MC HPDE rules. M(J.Boldt) & 2(several) to waive tabling. Pass. Motion passed. The rules will be included in the '07 GCR revision, and these events will be MC sanctioned.

Drivers are encouraged to participate in the planning and preparation of the worker party in the future.

Committee went on record as opposing AX participation for 16-17 year olds.

- **Driver Sanctions:** Tim Lynn's racing privileges are suspended (due to on-track behavior) through Aug. 26. He will be on probation for 13 months from the date of driving privilege reinstatement. Notification has been given to driver by Wheeler.

- **Annual Tech Day:** Wheeler's on Mar. 31, 10 AM – 3 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Driver School:** Entry form will be out in the next KLAXON and is online at MyAutoEvents.

- **Long Term Planning Commission:** Would work with recruitment of staff and competitors, long-term financial risks, and more centralized management. Finance Committee is a start. Club input will be requested. McNicol is willing to serve on it.

- **Rule-a-Thon Revisited:** Wheeler stated that he was the only one bringing changes to the GCR last year. Committees should look at changes for their classes in relation to changes made by other organizations. M(Jackson) & 2(Cassaro) to reinstate the practice. Pass. Jackson will chair Rule-a-Thon.

- The Official Brass Gavel was passed from White to Cassaro to aid in meeting control.

M(P.Green) & 2(Harlan) to adjourn at 10:38. Pass. Minutes taken and transcribed by Sue Boldt.

Get Ready for the MC Championship Series - Class Movement

I would like to add a reminder or if you have not heard about the class changes. The production cars in ASR class last year are now SP (S-Production). We know that the GCR has a miss print and is being fixed. It came out as XP, should be SP. Also DP class, EP class is now in with the big bore group (that is group #5 for April 22nd). And the A-Sport Racer (ASR) class is with the S2000, CSR, DSR, TR and so on. The TR class is the Thunder Roaster cars. If you know someone that may not know this, please let them know.

Thanks,
Jerry Machula
Lakeshore Sports Car Club

Editors note: The 2007 Midwestern Council of Sports Car Clubs General Competition Rule book (GCR) is available for download from the MC Web Site (<http://www.mcsc.org/gcr.htm>). If you are unable to Download the document to your computer, you can contact MC President Chuck Cassaro directly to obtain a CD that includes the complete GCR in a PDF format that can be read on most all computers. Chuck's email address is President@mcsc.org, or if you don't have a computer, his number in the directory is: 815-885-2222. As errors and omissions are identified, the downloadable GCR will be updated with corrections throughout the year.

GoKart Expo Features Karts, Cars, Stars and Accessories



Subaru hopes to make an early customer connection via their Robt-Driven Industrial Engine line that is well suited to Kart racing.



The business end of a modern water cooled shifter Kart. On board starter makes it a one person show.



Rob Howden, Publisher of *Formula Car Magazine* shared his booth space with the Formula First team.



Bill Bonnow takes a virtual trailer for a drive with a new electric nose wheel that allows one person to easily move a large trailer.



Champ Car Series Champion Sebastian Bourdais made a scheduled stop to Kart Expo.

Meadowdale International Raceway - In Carpentersville IL.



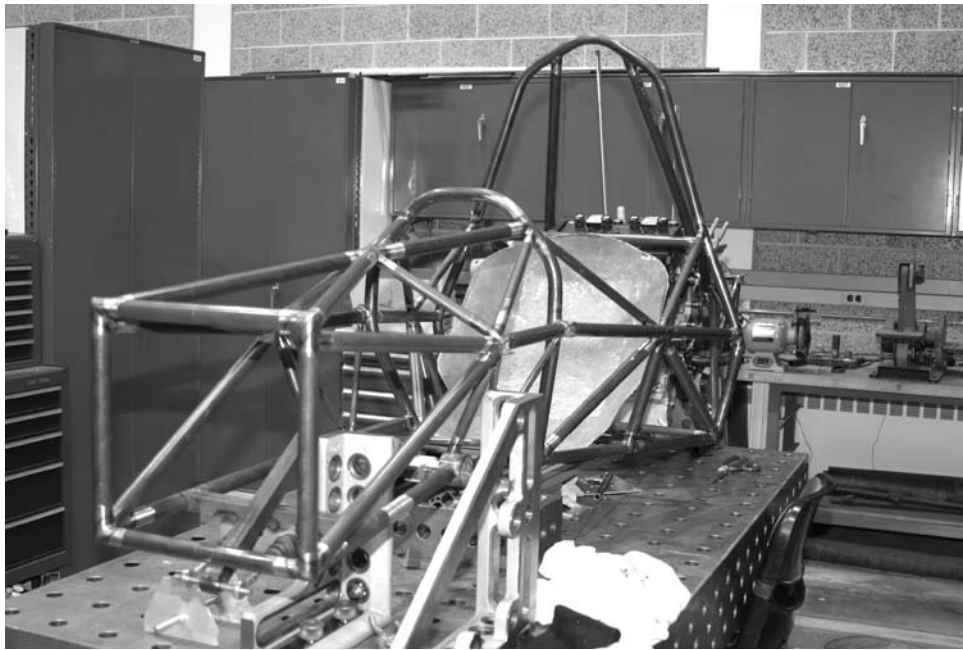
The Meadowdale International Raceway (MIR) has made a peaceful transition to a series of hiking trails. Most of the road racing course is walkable, and it provides an appreciation for the elevation changes that the course featured during its active years of 1958 - 1969.

Located in Carpentersville just West of Rt. 31, there is an entrance and park near the "Pure Oil" Silo, and one just North off of Huntley Rd. There is no charge for admission, and facilities are limited.

The framework for the foot bridge that crosses over the main straight (shown at left) is still in place and based on the size of the iron, will be for some time to come. Trees have grown through the platform.

Web: www.meadowdalraceway.homestead.com

Northern Illinois University - NIU Motorsports FSAE Build

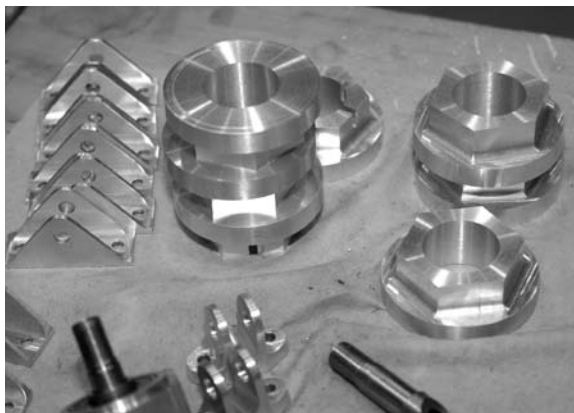


Uprights for the 2007 car were machined from 7075 Aluminum.



The Rapid Prototype derived air intake with 20mm restriction.

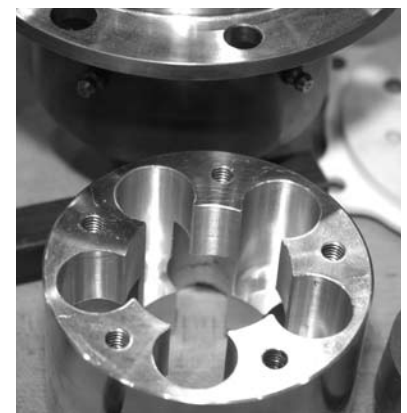
The 2007 NIU Motorsports chassis is in the build stage on the fixturing table. An evolution of the previous car, this design features a stressed engine design.



Suspension mounts and wheel nuts, ready for finishing operations.



Brake Rotor hat - machined in foam prior to committing to aluminum.



Aluminum Diff housing made for Quaife internals.

British Car Swap Meet - Search For The Lost MOWOG



Proof of Arrival!



Walter Modelski found the last part he needed to finish a project.

Corvette Racing Scores 1-2 Finish in Sebring Gavin, Beretta and Papis Claim GT1 Victory in Legendary 12-Hour Endurance Race

SEBRING, Fla., On a perfect day for racing at Sebring International Raceway, Corvette Racing ran a perfect race. America's premier production sports car team scored its fifth GT1 class win in six years in America's classic endurance race, the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring. Oliver Gavin, Olivier Beretta and Max Papis drove their No. 4 Compuware Corvette C6.R to a 17.863-second victory over their Corvette Racing teammates Johnny O'Connell, Ron Fellows and Jan Magnussen in the No. 3 Compuware Corvette C6.R.

The Corvettes ran like clockwork throughout the grueling 12-hour race, completing 341 laps around the 3.7-mile, 17-turn circuit. Both cars made 12 routine pit stops for fuel and four Michelin tires after 55-minute stints, and then made their final stops with five minutes remaining for a splash of gas. "The Corvette C6.R was a joy to drive all day, and there wasn't a single thing that went wrong," said Gavin, who drove the victorious Corvette to the checkered flag. "The team performed fantastically, and there wasn't one misstep on any of the pit stops.

"To finish with less than 20 seconds between the two cars after 12 hours of racing is quite remarkable," Gavin noted. "You can't get a stronger test than 12 hours at Sebring, and we've come through with flying colors." After two days of downpours, race day began with a sunrise surprise as Corvette Racing unveiled the No. 3 Compuware Corvette in brilliant Arctic White paint, a salute to the limited edition Ron Fellows ALMS GT1 Champion Corvette Z06. The race began under clear skies with cool 60-degree temperatures. Fellows and Gavin started the 12-hour enduro in the No. 3 and No. 4 Corvettes respectively, with Fellows taking the point in the GT1 class when the green flag fell. The two cars held first and second in the class standings through the first two pit stops and driver changes. After 2 hours and 40 minutes of racing, Gavin took the lead following the third round of pit stops.

"We had a great battle with the No. 3 Corvette, and I think the turning point was when I was able to get through traffic and gain some distance when I came in for my pit stop," Papis reported. "Then with Gavin's out-lap, it made just enough difference for us to get around the No. 3 car. "After that it was continuous perfect pit work by the mechanics and great strategy by our engineer, Steve Cole," Papis continued. "There is a lot of pressure when you have one of the best crews and three of the best drivers in the world on the other side, but my guys never missed a beat. This is the first win since my Dad passed away in December, and I know that he guided us today."

"Our Corvette was fast, strong, and fantastically reliable," added Beretta, who scored his record-setting 29th career ALMS victory. "Everything went very smoothly in the race. I stayed out of traffic and stayed off the curbs." The drivers and crew of the No. 3 Corvette were quick to congratulate their winning teammates. "You can't say enough about how Corvette Racing prepares their cars - both cars were very strong, and this was a good test for the 24 Hours of Le Mans," said O'Connell, who was aiming for a record seventh class win in Sebring. "I'll try for No. 7 next year. I want to get that record, and I know in a Corvette I'll be able to do it."

Audi TDI Diesel Power Wins Again at Sebring 12 Hour

Despite new regulations, the Audi R10 TDI remains the sports car to beat. By achieving an impressive victory in the 12 Hours of Sebring (USA), AUDI AG made a perfect start into the 2007 motorsport season with its revolutionary diesel sports car and also a successful dress rehearsal for the Le Mans 24 Hours on 16/17 June. It was the eighth victory in a row in the classic American endurance race for the manufacturer from Ingolstadt.

The Audi R10 TDI, which remains unbeaten in its ninth consecutive race, had to start for the first time with a 10 percent smaller fuel tank (81 instead of 90 litres). This meant the Audi had to come to the pits for refuelling up to five laps earlier than their competitors. Despite the R10 TDI being the fastest car on the 3.7-mile track, also setting a new track record, newcomer Acura/Honda was able to get into the lead on various occasions with its 150-kg lighter LM P2 cars. Only in the penultimate hour, Frank Biela (Germany), Emanuele Pirro (Italy) and Marco Werner (Germany) took the lead for good in an extremely exciting and competitive sports car race.

Frank Biela equalled Tom Kristensen's record of four overall Sebring victories. The 2007-spec R10 TDI ran without the slightest technical problem during the whole 12 hours on the extremely demanding track. The only unscheduled pit stop was caused by a puncture in the second hour costing the winning car two laps. Also two time penalties and a stop-and-go penalty were imposed against the winning Audi team.

The updated engine, featuring among other things more compact diesel particle filters from Dow Automotive, further developed suspension, latest generation of Michelin tyres and the weight-optimised transmission of the R10 TDI worked perfectly during the Le Mans dress rehearsal. Meanwhile the Sebring week did not run to plan for the second Audi team with the defending champions of the American Le Mans Series, Dindo Capello (Italy) and Allan McNish (Scotland) plus Le Mans record winner Tom Kristensen (Denmark). Following an accident in Thursday evening's night practice session, the R10 TDI had to be completely rebuilt over night. Despite not having the opportunity to set up the car perfectly, Capello/McNish/Kristensen were leading the race before the starter and the battery had to be changed twice. Finishing fourth overall, they finished second in the LM P1 class scoring precious points.

Frank Biela (Audi R10 TDI #2): "Of course it's nice to equal Tom Kristensen's Sebring record. I'm very pleased. After the problem in the warm-up and the puncture at the beginning of the race I was not really expecting the victory anymore. It's just superb that it ended this way."

CHAMP CAR TO DELAY INTRODUCTION OF STANDING STARTS

INDIANAPOLIS Citing the need for further testing of its standing-start procedures, the Champ Car World Series today announced that it would not use standing starts for the first three races of the 2007 season.

“Safety is our concern and we feel we need to fine-tune our standing-start process before we implement it,” said Champ Car Vice-President of Operations Tony Cotman. “We will continue to work with the teams and the manufacturers to find the safest and most reliable option for the standing-start process with an eye toward using them at Portland if possible.”

The Cooper Tires Presents The Champ Car Atlantic Championship Powered by Mazda adopted standing starts last season, introducing them in Cleveland only after extensive testing to ensure safety for all of the participants. This season, Champ Car has practiced standing starts at the Houston and Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca test sessions, the latter of which took place this past weekend.

The series will open its 2007 season with the Vegas Grand Prix, April 6-8, to be followed by the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach April 13-15 and the Grand Prix of Houston April 20-22.

First Round of 2007 Formula 1 Championship Goes To Ferrari

First round of the championship and first victory for Scuderia Ferrari Marlboro. On his debut in a Maranello car, Kimi Raikkonen secured the Scuderia's seventh win in this race, thus bringing the total number of victories to 193 in 742 Grand Prix participations. This was the tenth time from 106 starts that Kimi has been the first past the waving checkered flag.

Jean Todt: “That was an exciting Grand Prix! We started with our drivers at opposite ends of the grid, with Kimi on pole and Felipe in last place because of an electrical problem in the gearbox management that had hampered his qualifying yesterday. Both of them put on a great performance. Kimi maintained his first place after the start and then did a very good job of managing the race, while Felipe staged a great climb through the field to take him up to sixth place. A new chapter in Ferrari's history has got off to a very good start. The chassis-engine package proved to be competitive, the team worked with dedicated professionalism and the drivers were impeccable. This all means that we can look forward to the rest of the championship with prudent optimism, even if we have seen there is some very strong and well prepared opposition and some very talented young drivers. We have not yet reached the desired level of reliability and we have to do a lot of work on this as well as on improving our performance. I was very happy to get two telephone calls, the first from Michael as I was going up to the podium, which I handed to Kimi and the other from Luca di Montezemolo who was jumping for joy as if this was our first win in of the season, and indeed that is the feeling for us all!”

Kimi Raikkonen: “A fantastic victory! It is great to be winning again with my new team whom I want to thank for giving me a great car. The race was not as easy as it might have looked from the outside, partly because shortly after the start, the radio failed so it was almost impossible to talk to the pit wall. Fortunately we had prepared well for the race and I knew what I had to do, but there were a few difficult moments. I was not flat out all the time, adapting my pace to the way the race was going. It was nice to hear my national anthem again on the podium as it had been a while. I have to say that last year it seemed to be the Italian one I was hearing usually. This is a great way to start the championship. We know we have a very competitive package but we still have to work to make it even better and above all, reliable.”



Felipe Massa: “After what happened in qualifying yesterday it would have been difficult to do any better than this sixth place. I was able to run at a good pace even with a full fuel load facing a race that would be one long climb through the field. The F2007 was very competitive and so I am optimistic about the next few races. But I cannot forget the disappointment for the failure in qualifying, which meant I had to start from the back of the grid. If not for that, I would definitely have been fighting for the win. But I am happy with the overall result in terms of what it means for the team and I am happy for Kimi who won on his debut with Ferrari.”

Luca Badoer: “This is a very important result for the whole team, as it is the result of the hard work from everyone in the Gestione Sportiva throughout the winter. We took on a significant reorganisation and seeing its efforts rewarded like this is further motivation for pushing on even further. We picked up thirteen points thanks to extraordinary performances from our two drivers. Starting from pole, Kimi was able to control the race right from the start, while Felipe, hampered by yesterday's gearbox failure in qualifying, started last and put on a really impressive climb up the order to finish sixth. The F2007s were competitive and the only problem was a radio malfunction on Kimi's car, which happened soon after the start. Now we must carry on working to improve still further our competitiveness and to get the overall reliability that is still eluding us.”

For Sale and Trade

Club Member ads are free and may be submitted via US Mail, eMail, or by telephone. Non-member and Commercial ads are \$5.00 for 3 months. Contact Larry Best via phone (847-683-9283) or eMail at LJBEST@Foxvalley.Net.

For Sale: 79 Mazda RX-7, Original paint, Stored every winter, 13b-240 HP rotary engine, Rikon aluminum rims w/ 9 inch Hoosier slicks. Streetable and wins B-race \$4500. Contact Roger at: 920-788-7292

Wanted: Info. I am *still* in the process of restoring a 1969-71 Formula Ford made by BEATTIE, in Great Britain. I mainly am in need of original style body work -- especially a nose. Any help will be greatly appreciated! Contact: Bruce Weatherston 708-957-8322.

For Sale: Sprite/Midget Axle Shafts - 3 Magnufluxed, not hardened, 26" long, \$120.00 each. Sprite 62-69? Midget 70-74? Grille, So-so condition \$35.00. Brakes:

- 1960 Sprite Brakes 7" Drums (5) \$20.00 each.
- Front Backing Plates: (2) \$20.00 each
- Rear Backing Plates: (4) \$20.00 each
- Front Shoes (1 set of 4 std linings - used) \$10.00
- Rear Shoes (1 set of 4 std linings - used) \$10.00
- Rear Shoes (3 Metallic linings - used) \$5.00

Contact Ken Rochocki: 815-943-3592 in Harvard

For Sale: 1964 MG Midget solid rolling chassis, RHD, disc wheels, 1275 engine, ribcase trans, spare steel hood, front suspension, some trim included. Southern car stored inside, British Heritage documentation. Clear Illinois title. Great for vintage race car or restoration project. \$2,000 OBO. Craig (309) 256-8551

For Sale: 1973 Porsche 914 Prod or G.T. - You decide now. Engine: 1700cc. Many New Parts, Trans-Axle is a Brad Mayeur rebuild close-ratio box. New 19mm master cylinder, rotors, steel lines. New Fender Flares. Finish this car and go racing. Call Phil Paradiso today at: 563-557-9431

For Sale: 1970 Titan Mk 6, Andressen engine, plated suspension, Weller wheels, Jones tach, Racetech gauges, Sabelt belts, Momo detachable steering wheel, AMB Transponder, excellent show quality condition, Current VSCDA logbook, recently serviced by Lindstrand Motorsports, Extensive spares including: four Weller wheels, gear sets, 711M block, head, crank, rods, pistons, cams etc., rear uprights, new starter, battery, plus much more. \$22,000 OBO. Craig (309) 256-8551

For Sale: 2005 Pace American 16 ft. enclosed trailer. Dual axle, torsion suspension, ramp door with extension, tool chest, cabinets, work bench, tongue mounted spare tire. Excellent condition. \$4,000. EasyUp 10' x 15' canopy. Like new \$500.00. Craig (309) 256-8551

For Sale: New, never mounted (2) 22.5x7.5x13 R60 and (2) 20 x 6 x13 R60 slicks \$500; new, never used Smart CamberKit with handsfree attachment \$125 and Smart Strings Toe Alignment Kit \$250; used quick-lift jack \$75. Craig (309) 256-8551

For Sale: Check with Prix Parts for NOS parts used on 60's and 70's imported cars.

- Brake Rotors, pad & shoe sets
- Clutch - pressure plates, disk plates & bearings
- Engine bearings, pistons, valves, etc.
- Filters, Air, Fuel, Oil
- Hydraulics - Brake & Clutch
- Water Pumps

Rebuilding Service for:

- Carburetors
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- Ignition Distributors
- Generators & Starters
- Wiper motors

Sale Specials:

- Isky Cam Kit for Porsche 914 / 1.8L **NEW** \$250.00
- Porsche 911 Alternator (78-83) 75 Amp **NEW OE** \$350.00
- Porsche 928 Alternator (77-P) 90 Amp **NEW OE** \$350.00
- Porsche 914 / 1.8L SS Header kit **USED** \$350.00

Prix Parts, PO Box 39, Wasco, IL. 60183 Phone Ron at 630-377-3033 or on the web: www.prixparts.homstead.com.

For Sale: Simpson Driving Suit & Gear. 2 Layer Black one piece suit, underwear, socks, head sock, arm restraints, shoes, gloves, and SA2000 Helmet. Fits 5'-10" Driver, 190-200 pounds. Lightly used, and not abused. \$600.00 for package. Contact Bill Milner 708-747-1269

Available For Rent: 2 Bedroom ranch style duplex apartment, Basement, One Car attached garage. \$700.00 per month plus deposit. West Side of Aurora. Call Mike at 630-308-4456

For Sale: Buy and Drive Opportunity at GingerMan

1998 VanDiemen RF 98 Formula Ford Excellent condition \$18,000 OBO.

1993 RX7 ITE Fresh engine, ready to race. \$18,000 OBO.

1968 Corvette Vintage race Car total nut and bolt creation, \$44,000

3 Free Evening Practices on Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:30pm - 8:30pm at GingerMan Raceway with purchase. Call Dan 269-207-0913

Opportunity: Endless Summer is your answer to "Where do I keep my toys?" No longer will you have to worry about where to store your race car, boat, snowmobile or RV. Custom build your secure ultimate garage for less than a smaller condo unit. An investment that is fun. Call Dan 269-207-0913 or Gary 269-906-5133

Available on Amazon.com! Tommy Fennell's Second Edition of the classic story of his life, motorsports career, and passion. **"From A Dirt Floor Garage In Ireland To An American Retirement"** is required reading. This book is available now on Amazon.com and at many of the usual book sellers. If you raced with Tommy, get this book and catch up on what was going on behind the scenes. If you have it, Order another one for a friend!



Chicagoland Sports Car Club



1958 – 2007 49 Years of Service to the Motorsports Community

2007 Membership Application & Renewal

Membership Information (CSCC & Midwestern Council) Fee: \$45.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone: _____ - _____ - _____ (Home)

Telephone: _____ - _____ - _____ (Work)

Telephone: _____ - _____ - _____ (Cell)

Email ID: _____

Racing Interest & Specialty

Driving – Autocross or Wheel to Wheel: _____

Racing Car and Class: _____

Race Staff Specialty: _____

Special Events Planning: _____

Year You First Joined Chicagoland Sports Car Club: _____

2007 Membership Fee Payment Methods

\$45.00 Total for both 2007 CSCC and MC membership

Enclosed: _____

Make Checks Payable to: Chicagoland Sports Car Club

Mail to: Chicagoland Sports Car Club Membership
203 Jake Lane
Hampshire, IL 60140

Use PayPal? Send in this Form and PayPal your Membership Dues to: LJBEST@Foxvalley.Net

CSCC Members receive the Midwestern Council of Sports Car Clubs monthly "Klaxon" Newsletter and the Chicagoland Sports Car Club's "The Downshift" newsletter. Through this CSCC Membership, applicants are granted annual membership in both organizations.

The Downshift

March, 2007

Chicagoland Sports Car Club
203 Jake Lane
Hampshire, IL 60140



First Class Mail

Chicagoland Sports Car Club is a member of the Midwestern Council of Sports Car Clubs that was founded in 1958.



Chicagoland Sports Car Club: Next Meeting on March 28th, at Aurelio's

The March 2007 BOD/General Membership meeting will be held Wednesday, March 28th, 2007 at Aurelio's Pizza in Addison, IL. The BOD Meeting start time is officially 7:30 PM.

The BOD will meet to review the Club Business agenda, with the General Membership meeting following immediately afterward at 8:00 PM. Plan to come early and enjoy a snack with some of your Club members.

Aurelio's Pizza is located at 1455 W. Lake Street in Addison, IL, just East of I-355, and West of John's Pizza, the old CSCC meeting location. An easy route is to exit I-90 at Rt. 83 (Southbound), proceeding South toward the Lake Street Exit (Route 20). Proceed Westbound on Lake Street -or- Exit East from I 355 and proceed East on Lake Street (Route. 20) to Aurelio's.

We will review the plans for 2007 and the upcoming CSCC events. We'll also see how the 2007 schedule is shaping up.



Nearly 40 years ago, walking through this tunnel was one of the most anticipated passages from Winter to the Spring Road Racing season in the Chicagoland area. Today, a sculpture of automotive related scrap is highlighted in the flooded tunnel that runs under the main straight at Raceway Woods -or- Meadowdale International Raceway in Carpentersville, Illinois. Meadowdale has transitioned from an aggressively competitive Road Racing facility to a series of peaceful hiking trails.