

“Mayday”

The M.E.T.A. Newsletter

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APRIL 28, 1982

DRIVER TRAINING

We made it through the first Crash & Burn with no crash & burn! It was a sunny weekend which is unusual for the first event of the year, but this seemed to augur well for how the training went. All the entrants passed, which has not happened for some time and no major incidents occurred. A few rather exotic machines were entered in Driver Training (cars, that is) namely a De Lorean, a turbo Porsche and a TVR. We also had a Lotus and a Ferrari 308 GTB on the track for filming and pace-carrying, respectively.

Worthy of particular note were the Diesel Rabbits (donated by Westminster Volkswagen) of Taralynn Joe of CFOX, Richard Saxton of CKVU and Gordon Hunt of CBC. All passed the course, with Taralynn voted the most improved driver. Since Driver Training, "Parnelli" Joe has given us a glowing report on her "Entertainment Express" spot on CFOX, which was followed up with an interview with Andy Mahood on that station's "Daily Planet" with Valerie Ambrose. Since those shows, the application have been coming in fast and furious for the next Driver Training. It's good publicity for Westwood, obviously, and can only help us in our quest for keeping Westwood alive & racing.

We had a sparse worker turnout with some of the new workers coming out for this event. As it was, they seemed to have little to do, with all the trainees behaving themselves!

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR RACES

If you didn't remember to pre-register for the last race, please start getting into the habit again for the rest of the season. Roger, our beloved Course Marshall, needs an idea of who he has to man &/or woman the corners so phone him or Grace at 522-9447 the Thursday before each race weekend.

GASC REGIONAL - APRIL 11/82

The Easter Bunny was unkind and brought us lousy weather for our first race. However, in spite of a somewhat low entry, some good racing happened in the GT classes and novice group. Unfortunately, the novice open wheel class was really short on entries, so the novices ran with the senior drivers to fill up the grid. An incident involving two novices, one in a Formula Ford and one in a Super Vee occurred on the back straight with the Formula Ford ripping his nose off in the process. This gave our new communicator on the Leap a bit of a start, as the first one like that did for all of us when we began. A good learning experience! And speaking of new workers, we had a whole bunch turn out for this race (and in the rain, too), an eager-appearing crew. By the time the next Driver Training rolls around, they should have the basics down, then they can further their skills at the Worker Training held at the same time. Some of us old-timers might feel the need for some brush-up at that time, too, so we can learn and assist.

SEATTLE - CONFERENCE RACE - APRIL 17/18

The first Conference race of the season was held at SIR this year instead of Westwood (let them have the first race headaches, eh Grace?). Weather was unsettled which caused the workers to play musical clothes, alternating rain gear, heavy jackets, light sweaters, snow boots and runners. Grids were a fair size, though the best race came from the relatively small Formula Vee group. With three Vees jockeying for second position, it was a photo finish with even the Starter unsure of who was second. An unfortunate pile-up in between Turn 2b & 3 caused a red flag on the race group 3 event. A Datsun Z car climbed the bank and rolled just past 23 in a blind part of the track. Two of the three cars that followed headed to the right and passed the incident while the third went to the left and hit the Z, causing her to roll. It was well handled by the communicators and personnel. The interesting thing was that though all stations were on a waving yellow, the drivers didn't want to slow down and were still at speed, though not passing. Something will be said about that, for sure! All in all, it was a pretty good event and as all Conference races are, a lot of fun.

VICTORIA - DOWN THE TUBES IN '82

After much hopin' & prayin' and gearing up for not one, but two Victoria races this year, we found out in Seattle that Victoria has lost their track and there will be no events this year or any year. Rats! River Rats! However, Westwood will be looking to hosting one more event, so stay tuned to this paper for further announcements.

FLASH!!! This is a further announcement.

Westwood will be holding the Conference Race (slated for Victoria) June 5/6.

Yet another race to add to your schedule. Again, the actual event is the Monday, so be prepared to get a day off work. If you wish to work this event, let Grace Lassen know as soon as possible, so she can get a list to the proper authorities.

SCCBC MEETING - April 14/82

The last Sports Car Club meeting brought up a point of interest to the workers. As you know, last race, we had no back-up communications (ie. phones). It has been costing too much to rent and we've had trouble servicing them. Discussions ensued on whether we should buy our own system, use two channels on the radios, etc. A competition meeting will likely be held in the near future to decide what should be done.

NEW MEETING PLACE

From hence forward, META meetings will be held at:

Renfrew Community Centre
2929 East 22nd Ave., Vancouver

Meetings will start at 8 pm sharp and we must be out by 10 pm.

MEETING DATES FOR THIS YEAR

May 26	Sept. 22
June 23	Oct. 27
July 28	Nov. 24
August 25	

SAFETY TIPS

This is a new feature - your contribution is welcome.

From Dennis Paul -

Consider wearing your whistle attached to a button on your shirt or coveralls. It is easy to use, but in the off chance that whistle gets caught in any moving parts, it will only rip off a button instead of your head.

Boy Do I Hate Sunny
Days AT Wetwood



Those DRIVERS ARE So Use To
Rain We Have To Wet Down
The Track Before Races !!!

MAYDAY

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