



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF M.E.T.A.

Volume 10 No 2

February 4, 1985

Happy Belated Groundhog Day

Editors' Soapbox

First off, a couple of acknowledgements missed in Vol. 10 #1.

Thanks to Brad Velandar for his able and fiscal contributions to the club as Social Director last year. The Travelling Bar and Raffle Road Show helped swell our coffers substantially and his work with the video gear lent a special flavour to our training session at Westwood. Good on ya mate.

Social Director's duties have been assumed this year by Nick Roche while Brad concentrates on video production. Good luck to you both.

A special thanks to our host for last years' meetings, Janos at F1 Automotive, who opened his shop in North Vancouver to us when we could ill-afford to rent a place. This man maintained his sense of humour while we displaced him from his office and it didn't cost us a bean. Sorry for the inconvenience Janos and thanks a lot. Ought to be good for a few, furtive push-starts should you find yourself in the marbles with no juice.

Last, and most definitely not least, our thanks to the members of the Sports Car Club of B.C. for their contributions to our operating capital. It's always appreciated and, more often than not, critical to our financial well-being.

Once again, a reminder that the preferred deadline for submissions to this leaflet is the monthly meeting. Publication may be delayed for works-in-progress-and-not-quite-finished-at-the-deadline.

Congratulations to Ira Young on a very impressive 1st season in IMSA GTU partnered in his Malibu Grand Prix RX-7 by '84 champion Jim Downing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.....ANNOUNCEMENTS

Car Shows

Yep it's that time of year again (almost). Just a little forewarning of the car shows planned to kick off the '85 season:

March 8th, 9th and 10th - the PNE in conjunction with one of them "fancy car" hoo ha's.

March 18th to 23rd - Capilano Mall in North Vancouver.
As we leave there we go right into Landsdowne Mall in Richmond. Dates:

March 24th to 30th

As usual we'll need all the bodies we can get to help the owners in and out with their toys. Arranging the beasts to their best advantage in conjunction with our own display will occupy yet more hardy souls. Volunteers will also be needed to staff the META "booth" during the run of the shows.

So, whaddya say?! Lots of warning so you can set a little time aside to help out. Let's spread the good word re the upcoming season and, at the same time, haul in some new workers.

Give Roger Salomon a call for details of how, when and where. Call Now 581-7189

February Meeting

Same time, same place, (And a very nice place it is, too):

The Music Room
Century House
Moody Park Recreation Centre
8th St.(between 8th & 6th Aves.)
New Westminster
February 27, 1985 - 8:00 pm. Sharp

(Your 1985 memberships are still due. META leading in the restraint program as usual, will still accept the '84 rate of \$10.00 (cdn).)

Honourary members' cards will be mailed to those more fortunate folks.

A reminder to those of you who are planning to volunteer your time to the Variety Club Telethon to set your clocks early on February 9th if you are going to help ferry the cars in on Saturday Morning. Horrible breakfast at the Greyhound Terminal (Dunsmuir Street) at 7:00 am.

January 23rd Meeting

Our first gathering in new, more spacious quarters - Century House at the Moody Park Rec Centre in New Westminster. Fifteen members and 1 guest (Hello Brian) managed to find their way through the fog to kick off the new year.

Topics of discussion included the type of video product we could use for 1) promoting race working and 2) racing in general as well as ideas on how we can improve our performance on-track. Considerable time was spent thrashing out the issue of whether or not we could do without the chase car. Consensus seemed to be that most were in favour of retaining it for pace laps only and that the doctor would be in the ambulance at all other times. A few of us were in favour of abandoning it entirely. The ultimate decision, of course, rests with SCCBC and each race-sanctioning body. Any thoughts from the rest of you out there? Up-and-coming car shows were announced by (new?) VP Roger Salomon (see Announcements) and Nick Roche was introduced as this year's Social Director. New Worker promotion was also discussed briefly with the usual reminder that if we all bring in just one new body our ranks will be bolstered considerably and we won't have to spread ourselves as thin. Sometimes last year we were so spread out that it was downright dangerous. Let's get out there and beat those bushes.

Other things undoubtedly transpired which this reporter has failed to mention. Find out what at the reading of the minutes on February 27.

Movers, Shakers and Rumours (otherwise known as padding)

Some gleanings from On-Track magazine of which most of you are probably already aware.

Tentative arrangements with CART teams see Danny Sullivan moving over to Mr. Penske's organization to partner Rick Mears and, possibly, Pete Halsmer in a March 84C, a Penske PC-12 and an ex-Newman-Haas Lola T-800. Johnny Rutherford will drive a March 85c for Alex Foods Racing while Super Vee ace Arie Luyendyk may second Derek Daly on the Provimi Veal team. They may have a winner if this Dutchman's luck proves equal to his skill.

On the F1 front Nigel Mansell and Lotus have foresaken each other with Ayrton Senna jumping into Nigel's seat as Mansell goes over to Williams. Manfred Winkelhock seems to have a ride with RAM as of this writing.

Over on the IMSA side Klaus Ludwig and Doc Bundy will be driving whatever Ford's SVO division can crank out for GTP. Another Super Vee driver, Chip Robinson, will be taking Doc's place in the Jaguar line-up. Driving with Haywood, Redmond and Tullius in the "new, improved" '85 Jags he promises to give us (and probably Tullius) some interesting moments out there. The DeAtley team has switched to Imsa for 1985 likely retaining Hobbs and

Darin Brassfield for the piloting chores in a March 85c with some form of GM power plant. And Al Holbert will shelve his fledgling CART career to concentrate on co-driving the 962 with Derek Bell whenever the duties of his new position as North American Director of Porsche Competition permit.

The introduction of the 700 kg. "Camel Lights" class for IMSA in 1985 sees many scrambling to put something together along the lines of the aforementioned Ira Young and his MOMO/Mazda. This class could be a lot of fun to be around and those drivers who have railed against the likes of Porsche and March for years will finally have some spirited competition in their own race.

Well, many thanks to On-Track, without whom we could never have covered even this much white paper. Man, January is a tough month in which to write about this sport unless one wished to fill endless pages with year-end stats from the season gone by and, of course, the news from Australia and Japan.

My Experience at 100 Mile House

Having participated in and very much enjoyed racing last year as a worker and in previous years as a crew member, I thought being a spectator at motorcycle ice racing would be fun. It was, but, I certainly wasn't expecting it to be quite the way it was.

My first thought, as I walked to the lake was, if someone ever had to get through here with an emergency vehicle, they could forget it. It was hard enough to walk through all the people and cars. As it turned out it didn't matter because there weren't any emergency vehicles there.

One would think that, because ice is usually icy spectators and workers alike would be extra cautious. Not so. Spectators all stand right beside the track right along with the few workers there appeared to be. (That's if you call someone standing around doing nothing but holding a yellow flag a worker.)

And the drivers!! Suicidal Maniacs at best. I have come to the conclusion that there are two types of people out there: Normal People and Motorcycle drivers. But then this is just one person's opinion.

Joanne Henderson

Since this issue will be wending its way south to some of our mates in the States it seems like a good time to say "Hi" and "hope to see you soon".

Let's get the season going!!!

When putting together this month's news-letter I couldn't figure out why noone sent in an article, however short it may have been so I decided that you all must have run out of paper. So here's your chance. In the space below WRITE and bring it to the next meeting. If you find this absolutely impossible how about an idea something you would like to see mentioned or written about.