The official newsletter of the Motorsport Emergency Turnworkers Association M.E.T.A. c/o 10952 McAdam Road, Delta, B.C., Canada, V4C 3E8

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Mar 2001 Volume 26 Issue 3

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All opinions expressed in the Mayday are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Mayday staff, Club Executive, or the members of META.

META meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Publication deadline is the 30th of each month. Submissions may be faxed or e-mailed to the Editor.

Printed in Canada.

Mar 10&11Monterrey Grand PrixCARTMonterrey, MexicoMar 14SCCBC Meeting – Executive Inn, Turn Marshal's Meeting – MRPNorth RoadCoquitlam, BCMar 17Turn Marshal's Meeting – MRP9:00 amMission, BCMar 17&18Driver Training – MRPSCCBCMission, BCMar 25META Go-KartingTime TBARichmond, BCMar 28META Meeting – Century House7:30New West, BCMar 31Season Opener – Evergreen Speedway NASCAR Northwest Tour and Winged Sprint Cars7:00Monroe, WaMar 31-Apr 1Kart Club Race # 1 TradexWKAAbbotsford, BCApril 7&8Grand Prix of Long Beach April 14&15CARTLong Beach, CaApril 14&15ICSCC Race # 1 - MRPSCCBCMission, BCApril 14&15Kart Club Race # 2 TradexWKAAbbotsford, BCApril 20&21Defrost Kickoff - SIRSOVRENSeattle, WaApr 25META Meeting – Century House7:30New West, BCApril 28&29Texas 600CARTFort Worth, Tex				
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Season Opener #1

March 17 & 18 - Driver Training At Mission
Come on out and see the NEW track. Word is that it will be in use
for this event for the first time. Half day Saturday and full day
Sunday. Dust off your bucket, make sure your whites still fit, and
let's get this season goin'.

Worker meeting at noon Saturday and 8:30am Sunday.

Important Notice #1

March 17 - Turn Marshal's Meeting

9:00am at the Driver Training in Mission. TM's, ATM's, or anyone interested in stepping up to those positions are welcome. Let's get the season started right and have lots of input from everybody.

President's Report

Well here it is, the beginning of March, and we're just weeks away from the start of the season. Like many of you, I'm excited, especially with the new track expansion. This has given us 2 new turn stations, and the need for more workers. Start talking to people, spread the word Mission Raceway is the best place for speed junkies.

We have the approval to add a new awning to the trailer with a heating system. This should keep everyone dry and warm. We'll need some help to get this in place and we will be asking for help when the time comes.

Here's to the start of a successful and safe race season.

Thank you Bernice Zosiak

IMPORTANT NOTICE #2

At the April 14/15, 2001, Conference race at Mission, we will officially dedicate our Club House to the Founding Members of META. All past and present members, and guests are invited to attend the ceremony on the Saturday evening. The following is a list of the Founding Members:

Wally Walker, Gary Woods, Rodney Cockroft, Joe Proud, Jim McRae, Larry Montague, Sue Grace, Collin Morris, John Gercsak, Joe Elkin, Eppy Van Veen, Bill Valentine, Marcia Shortreed, Wes Holliday, Mike Making, Cora-Lou King, Gary Moorcroft.

If anyone knows how to contact them, please encourage them to attend the dedication, or contact any member of the META executive with the Founding Members name and phone number.

Thank you Brian Meakings



...to restore, race, and exchange information concerning vintage sports and racing automobiles.

Meetings held on the second Tuesday of every month at the Officer's Mess at Jericho Barracks

Information contact Andrew Slater (604) 986-0949

Rookie of the Year Acceptance Speech

First I want to thank my Mom and Dad for finding me.

No really I want to thank everyone not just for the award but for a very enjoyable first year. A special thanks to everyone that I worked with on turns, as well as Roger and Thomas and everyone else who helped me feel welcome and helped me become involved in META.

When I came out to driver training in the spring I had no idea that I was going to be working track side.

Want to give a couch motor sport fan a thrill, take them out to a turn like turn one. You don't get a sense of racing from a T.V. like you can out on a turn, and it has been a great experience.

I may have finished my rookie year but I know that I'm a long way from calling myself an experienced turn worker, and I hope everyone will continue to teach, and be on guard for a few possible rookie mistakes this upcoming year.

I had a taste of ice racing a little while ago and except for not being 20 minutes from home, was enjoyable and I plan to do more.

Sorry I didn't make the banquet but travel becomes a problem, with my motorcycle away for the winter. I do plan to be out to Mission in the spring so I hope to see you all there. Again thanks to everyone for the award and everything else, hope to see you in the spring or at the ice races.

S. Wilson

Please convey my personal congratulations to all of the award winners. I am looking forward to meeting Safer Wilson and Ann Josel. The rest are most especially deserving and very special people.

I have not written about my good friend Rick Neyedli yet because quite frankly his passing disturbed me greatly. In all my years of racing, flagging, stewarding, the military for 23 years; and in my work, I cannot ever remember sitting alone and crying out loud for anyone. Rick was important to me in ways I cannot really explain. His death made me cry. I guess it was because Rick was just Rick. I miss knowing he won't be there the next time I visit Mission. It hurts in a very strange way. I just could not write until now and I know I should not, even now. The only thing that makes it a little less hard to take is that Mr. Joe Proud received the Memorial award this year.

Congratulations, Joe. Be Alert!

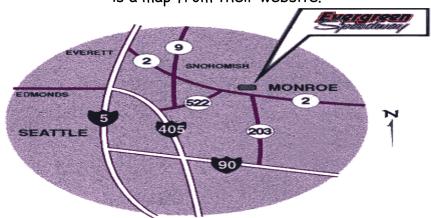
Fondly
Skip Yokam #53
Member at Large

Season Opener #2

March 31 - Evergreen Speedway in Monroe Washington

Called the Super Speedway of the West. It's a 5/8 mile oval featuring NASCAR Northwest Tour and Winged Sprint Cars. Always an awesome event to go down and watch. Qualifying starts at 3:30pm, Racing at 7:00pm. General Admission in U.S. Dollars is; Adult \$20.50, JR. & SR. \$14.50, and Kids (6-11) \$6.50. Monroe is approx. 2 hrs from the border, east of Everett and northeast of Seattle. For more info check there website at www.evergreenspeedway.com or phone 360-805-6100.

Anyone interested in carpooling or convoying contact Andrew at 942-4974. Once I know who's going we can decide on a time and place to meet. If you want to head down there yourself, here is a map from their website.



Season Ender #?

March 31 – WCIRABC Ice Race Banquet and Annual General Meeting
To be held at the Sundance Inn in Delta.

Meeting starts at 11:00am, Lunch at Noon, Cocktails at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00pm.

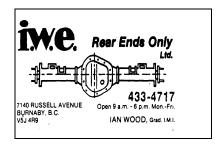
Tickets for lunch and dinner \$35, dinner only \$25.

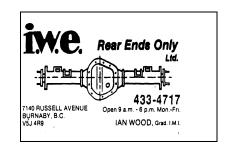
Lots of door prizes, 50/50 draw, dancing and merriment.

Ticket deadline is March 15.

Contact Murray Horsburgh at 271-6598 or

Jo Adair at phone: 540-9654 email: adairjo@hotmail.com





In Memory of Dale Earnhart

A fine Daytona afternoon, the season just begun. My boys were running one and two, and I was having fun. I probably could have won the thing, but something held me back. I was busy watching Dale and Mike -- and holding off the pack. I was looking toward the front and not really to the rear. Something tapped me on my bumper, but still I had no fear. I thought it might be Sterling -- I knew he was nearby. when Sterling smells the checkered flag, I'll tell you, he ain't shy. I slipped a bit. I turned the wheel. I sensed something very odd. It wasn't Sterling's tap I'd felt. It was the tap of God. "Not now," I said. "I'm racing hard. There's work still here to do." "Your time is up," he whispered low, "So say a quick adieu." I wasn't really ready, but I didn't have a choice. He'd tapped me on the bumper and I'd heard His hallowed voice. So I did as He instructed. I just packed it in and left. I guess it can't be helped that I left some of you bereft. Did you see those birds upon the wall as they scattered in the breeze? Will it make it any easier to know that one of them was me? There was also Davy, Dad and Neil and some other guys I've known. and they all came to Daytona just to escort me on home. Hey - congratulations, Mikey! You made a worthy run. I wish you many, many more. You're wins have just begun. All that fun you had in Victory Lane, I was proud as proud can be. Did you see a seagull flying low? Yeah, Mikey, that was me. So, friends and fans and family, don't mourn me for too long. Get on with life - take care of things - be brave and proud and strong I'll surely miss you every one. About that I will not lie. But as long as you remember me - I didn't really die.

CHAMBER'S FAMILY PROFILE THE FAMILY THAT RACES TOGETHER, STAYS TOGETHER

As told to Vic Kennedy

BORNLIVINGGeorgeNorth VancouverCoquitlamIreneTorontoCoquitlamKrystynaTorontoCoquitlam

OCCUPATION

George New vehicle inspection supervisor Irene Sales and marketing manager

Krystyna Office clerk / student

INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF RACING

George Relaxing with the family, hiking,

music.

Irene Spending time with the family, walking

the doa.

Krystyna Reading, writing poetry, drawing,

painting.

REGULAR DUTIES AT THE TRACK

George Chief starter at River's Edge, Seattle

Conference.

Irene River's Edge-Comm and flags.

Cart-Chief course observer and world

traveler

Krystyna Co-starter at River's Edge, Seattle

Conference.

HOW DID YOU GET INTERESTED IN RACING

George Mother watched racing on TV, Went

to Demolition Derbies, Roundy-round

races at local fairs

Irene As a teenager, went to Mosport with

friends. While they were partying, she was talking to the course workers, and

the next thing you know she was

flagging. (29 years ago)

Krystyna Grew up with racing, a track brat. She

has methanol in her veins.

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT META

George Went to Westwood and Molson Indy

as a spectator. Met Dick Coburn at the Indy and he suggested he should try race working. Read an article in a local paper and called the number. Started At River's Edge and was

rookie of the year in '93.

Irene Moved to Vancouver and friends who

were involved in racing brought her up to Westwood where she started doing PR for the track. Then started in pre-

arid.

Krystyna From mom.

WHAT DO YOU FIND MOST GRATIFYING

George At the end of the day knowing I have

done the best job I can, I feel good.

(Stole Krystyna's thunder)

Irene Love of the sport and the people. The

activities and the racing. Whether it is the kids faces at the Soapbox Derby, or flagging vintage cars that she flagged at Mosport The respect and trust the we have with the people.

Krystyna What they said! The intensity of the

situation, the racing and everything that goes with it. The trackside

adrenaline.

ANY PET PEEVE

George Lack of planning and co-operation

between groups, both pro and

amateur.

Irene People who are disrespectful of each

other.

Krystyna Officials who over step their position.

People who have no tact on the radio and don't know when to be quiet. Lack of communication between personnel. **FAVORITE TRACK**

George Pro Laguna Seca

Amateur Seattle

Irene Pro Watkins Glen

Amateur Seattle

Krystyna Pro Toronto ,Fontana

Amateur Seattle

FAVORITE TURN

George Old turn 10 at Portland

Irene Bottom of the corkscrew at Laguna

Krystyna Station 7 at Michigan

FAVORITE FIRST YEAR EVENT

George Vancouver Indy '93 Irene Can-Am at Mosport.

Krystyna Recording at Indy Vancouver for the

Atlantics and GM sedans in race

control

FAVORITE DRIVER(S)

George Anyone who has the guts to put on a

helmet and go racing. Pit road guys.

Irene Wally Dallenbach, Greg Moore

Krystyna Rick Mears, Greg Moore

ADVICE TO NEW WORKERS

George Really love what you do. It's too

dangerous out there not to.

Irene I would like to take every worker to the

morning meeting in Australia." You are here to do a job. If you don't want to do that job, go sit in the stands. Meet appearance standards. You are not here to play games. This is a serious sport, pay attention to what is

going on." Have a good time!

Krystyna Don't get discouraged. Learning every

thing will come in it's own time. Keep your head held high. Laugh every once in a while, have a good time and

be safe.

FAVORITE FOOD

George Sushi Irene Sushi

Krystyna Japanese / Sushi

FAVORITE MOVIE

George Big

Irene Grand Prix Krystyna Twister **FAVORITE BOOK**

George Charlotte's Web Irene Saving Grace

Krystyna Insomnia (Steven King)

FAVORITE CAR

George Lamborghini Countach

Irene Candy apple red '63 split window

Corvette

Krystyna McLaren F1

MOST EMBARRASING MOMENT

George Too numerous to mention.

Irene At Mosport doing quick response,

tripped over a stump and landed by the car. Popped up and asked the driver if he was OK. The driver asked

her if she was OK.

Krystyna First year in the starters stand for the

Sedan race at MIV. Did not know that the camera was on and was caught picking cotton on the big screen.

BIGGEST THRILL IN RACING

George Going to the track every day

Irene Having the opportunity to work with as

many people who have the same love of the sport as I do. And the travel, 20 CART races this year, 22 next year.

Krystyna Being the Asst. Starter for the last 400

miles of the 2000 Fontana CART

race.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO

George Be a starter for a major event.

Irene Make the racing experience better for

the volunteers. Get them more recognition. Bring them more to the forefront at major events as well as local. (Please fill out the survey in the

Mayday)

Krystyna Full time starter for a major series.

FINAL COMMENTS

George We are all volunteers but we have to

have fun in a serious sport.

Krystyna Be good to each other.

MINUTES META Meeting February 28, 2001

Meeting called to order at 7:35 - 27 members. Minutes of the last meeting were adopted as read Moved by Karen, 2nded by Brain M. 2 guests - Al Stewart and James Finning.

<u>Correspondence:</u> Latest Wheelspin, VSMC Constitution and By-Laws along with their Driver Training information, Letter from SCCBC re: Awning Expansion, Government of BC Gaming Funds information, Entertainment Fund-raising information, Leaving a Legacy BC, Ann received an invoice from a company which is a known Better Business Bureau scam and Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Times (front page picture of Brian M. getting his hair cut for charity-donation for a wig).

<u>Mayday:</u> Usual stuff – More articles. More people are encouraged to get onto the Mayday e-mail list. Makes the job a lot easier. Letter from Skip Yokum to be printed in the Mayday. Tom S. stated that Skip is to receive his 5 year pin at the end of this year.

Membership: Brian Meakings nominated Ann Josul for Membership. (Received free membership with worker of the year award) 2nded by Vic; Darryl nominated James Finning for membership – all in favor, no opposed. This makes it 52 paid members + 9 honorary = 61

<u>Treasurer:</u> General \$4,166.58, Equipment \$4,472.83, Gaming \$2,737.11 Paid for 1 more year of storage for the META Truck.

<u>Historian:</u> Maydays are here along with the ramp photo album. Al Stewart brought pictures from the late 70's – 80's from Westwood, Seattle, Portland and Coguitlam Centre booth.

<u>Training:</u> Thomas and Roger walked the new track at Mission. New turn 3 (old 1) flaggers are going to be on a flat bed to see the next station. Ladder will be supplied! Many other changes. CPR training was brought up with the option of also doing a course that includes emergency First Aid along with the CPR training. It would cost about \$60 per person before help from the club. Sign up sheets at the front or you can contact Irene at 944-7759 or e-mail at chamberssw@home.com. Darren would like to do the fire training for the club at Mission. Mike Z. will contact SCCBC in writing regarding permission from Custom Car Club. Looking at Mid to late March. Will supply a car without and engine and use a burn pot in engine compartment.

Brian M. – Has some old belts and a net and train people about trying to get a mock driver out of the car.

Race Chairman: Absent, Tom Roy lives on the island.

<u>Course Marshall:</u> Season about to start soon. Turn Marshalls meeting will be held at 9:00am at the Drivers Training in Mission on Sat. March 17th, workers can be there for around noon. Sun. March 18th you can be there for about 8:30. We will definitely need more people this year with the new track expansion.

<u>Chief of Emergency:</u> Looking for pictures of the META Truck (will get some from Dave B.), need measurements for the decals to put together the brochure for the sponsorship package. Truck needs to be serviced. Will get Caveman to take a look at it.

<u>Old Business:</u> Brian M. – Fridge and Freezer for the clubhouse, are they to be replaced? Ann – Costco has a small freezer for approx. \$300, Money can't come from gaming. Karen – Coast Wholesale, Noel Florak works there, maybe get good deal. Bernie to look into it this weekend and get quotes (looking forward to going shopping!) Brian M. – Plaque that we spoke about last year to dedicate the clubhouse to the founding members of META is completed. Suggest that the first Conference weekend we invite the founding members to the track, try to locate them.

<u>Vice President:</u> Had nothing to add.

New Business: Brian M. – Went Go Karting last weekend for a 4 hour enduro. Most of them did pretty well. Were doing some 34 second laps. Team started 8th, made it to 6th and ended up finishing at 8th. Tentatively booked a club event for go karting on March 11. There is also the 18th or the 25th. \$600 for 1 hour and they will also add a belaclava for no extra charge that is yours to keep. Can have up to 16 cars on the track at one time. For friends and family. Need to know ASAP. Need to pay \$300 to book it. With members present, agreement was made to try and change it to the 25th because it is an event free weekend with no conflicts. Motion by Joe for META to write a cheque to TBC indoor karting for the \$300 needed to secure the booking for the 25th, 2nded by Roger and it was carried. You must pay Brian M. on/ by Driver Training weekend. Maximum 32 people. \$25 per person. Karen – Latest IRDC Newsletter stated that they have changed their banquet from the end of January to Nov. 6th. Ann – Brought up at the SCCBC meeting that META would paint the curbing at the track. Need to get worker party together.

<u>President:</u> META Decals? Ann – Quotes last year were quite expensive. Ian Wood gets a good deal for his, ask him the name of the company. Looking for 2 kinds – static and regular. Got the awning and it is approved. Worker party will be March 11 at about 10:00. Roger - Ask Rick Z. and Thomas to get the crew together. Who knows a gas fitter? Albert knows someone, will ask about the cost. Bernie suggested that everything be set up so all that it is left is the propane tank. SCCBC had its elections: Mike Kaerne – President, Terry Ward – Vice President, Ray Stec – Temp. Secretary, James McComber – Treasurer. Sent a card to George, Irene and Krys for the passing for Irene's Mom. Phone Coyote Creek re: Group sponsor. Awaiting a response. Need more ideas to raise money. Karen – Golf shirts with META Logo?

If this is the last Indy, would like to see something really nice for the workers to remember the past 12 years. Roger – Some white shirts with the crest on them (about 50). Try to sell at the track for about \$25. Mark R. – Some close out sales for golf shirts, get them at a good price.

<u>Good & Welfare:</u> Angus – Genevieve mentioned something about the \$430 raised for Variety Club. Still in the General Account and will write a cheque and give to Krys to send along with a letter to Variety Club. Andrew – Mar. 31st Season opener at Monroe. Organizing something for a trip down there. Also, Mar. 31st Ice Racing Banquet \$25/ person. Brian M. Go Karting this past weekend was sponsored by IWE. Ian also paid for dinner. George – New Indy posters are out. They are very well done. Roger – Thank you card to donators of door prizes for our banquet.

Swap & Shop: Nothing this time.

Draw: Beer - Dave B., Back Pack (sponsored by IWE) - Don S., 50/50 - Mark Miller

Once again a big "thank you" for your patience from our president. March 28th is our next meeting. Meeting adjourned 9:29.

META Banquet Survey

This survey is to provide the banquet committee with the Membership's views of the Banquet held in January, so that they can make next year's Banquet more enjoyable for YOU. Their goal is to provide the most enjoyable and entertaining Awards Dinner possible.

Please don't be afraid to be totally honest, as it is an anonymous survey.

Please mail to: Charmaine Meakings #20 – 20172 113B Ave Maple Ridge, BC V2X 0Y9

Thank you for participating	Date:
What did you like about the Banquet?	
What would you like to see changed for next year?	
Is a hotel location preferred by you, or would a rest have any alternative suggestions?	taurant banquet room be satisfactory? Do yo
Was the meal satisfactory?	
·	
Do you feel that the ticket price was reasonable, be or would you prefer a lower ticket price, even if the	
	
If you did not attend the Banquet, what were your r commitment, last banquet a disappointment, etc.)	easons? (cost, location, other personal
Other suggestions or general comments:	