



# PYLON

## Official Gulf Coast Region SCCA Newsletter

---

September 2011

### **SOLO NEWS**

Another great Solo event in the books. Warm weather with plenty of sunshine welcomed the Gulf coast Autocrossers to the Brookley site. Kicking off Saturday Joe Ricard chaired two test and tune events. Drivers were able to make runs at a relaxed pace and try different shock settings tire pressures and driving techniques. The two courses gave drivers the opportunity to get as much seat time as they could stand with sweepers, slaloms, braking zones and high G lateral transitions.

Sunday Joe again came up with a wonderful course that tested the skill of the top drivers as they battled for the top spots. When the tires finally cooled Jeff Wetzel came away with the top spot of FTD and 1<sup>st</sup> place in open tire. Mark Canekeratne took top honors in Street tire. Alex Sparks in the ladies class and Cory Sparks in the Novice class.

Event results and series points can now be seen on the official GCR web site.

<http://www.gulfcoastregionscca.org/results.html>

**"All GCR members who have competed in other SCCA-sanctioned Autox Events should forward those results to the Solo Chair within 60 days of that event for points to be counted towards the GCR DOY Championship."**

### **Gulf Coast Region SWAG**

Did a little bit of work and managed to join forces with SCCA Gear and Gulf Coast Region now has its own web shopping page.

[http://www.sccagear.com/Gulf-Coast-Region\\_c\\_88.html](http://www.sccagear.com/Gulf-Coast-Region_c_88.html)

Everything from T-shirts, rain jackets and helmet bags. That can be personalized with GCR logo and your name.

So who will be the 1<sup>st</sup> one to be sporting the new GCR items at an event?

### **Tech corner**

"I wanna go faster on course" This past weekend we got to practice some new skillz and the course design required drivers to develop a new skill to put in their bag of tricks. That skill is TURN EARLY. The offset "WALL-um" (slalom with a wall of cones) off set 36" and set 65 feet apart. Cars were traveling near 60 MPH and forced drivers to learn to look ahead FURTHER and turn the wheel much earlier. When a car is traveling at that speed it will go from one slalom cone to the next in one second. If you turn the car as the bumper is even with the car your hands take a fraction of a second to turn the wheel, the car tires take a fraction of a second to pivot on the spindles, then the car starts to turn and change direction which can take ½ a second. When you add up all these fractions you are over 1 second in durations and behind the next slalom cone. So you either hit it or slide, brake or scrub speed to make the next one and your run is blown.

### **R E. Corner**

Dear Fellow Gulf Coast Region (GCR) Members,

Encourage your fellow autocrosser's to acquire magnetic numbers and class letters to make timing and scoring easier. Pick a new member and mentor them through an event.

I am still looking for members to share their knowledge and information with fellow club members and businesses during each monthly meeting. August 18 meeting is your next opportunity.

Regards,

Paul Neal

---

## **Treasury Report**

Balance as of 9/18/2011 11,866.01

## **Meeting minutes**

The SCCA Gulf Coast Region conducted the monthly meetings at Ryan's Steak House in Pensacola.

### **July Meeting Minutes as Approved at the 18 August 2011 Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Paul Neal.

Romesh distributed the minutes from the 23 June meeting and Paul made a motion to accept the minutes as stated. Wally seconded the motion and the floor voted in favor.

Paul reported that there is \$11,019.21 in the GCR Account. Wally made a motion to accept the treasures report and Paul seconded and the floor voted in favor.

Wally said that SSR 7 went very smoothly and he liked the timing slips and printed results. He expressed thanks to Pam (Canekeratne) for handing out the timing slips.

Ed and Joe discussed the format for the night events at SSR. Mainly that with the events ending early none are actually running at night. Joe asked that since the SSR events are barely breaking even if we wanted to run at night because the stadium lights are an additional charge. Ed said that we would have to accept that these events may not break even but that we needed to do what the drivers liked the most. Joe said that we could do some fun runs at night to see if the new people liked this. Wally said he liked getting finished early and getting home before it got too late. Romesh said that since we had only GCR 8 left to run at SSR we would revisit the schedule for the night events before 2012.

Romesh said that Jason Rice had contacted Bob Frassetto and Mark has taken over updating the GCR Website. Mark said that we still have not been able to contact Allen

Givens to obtain moderator privileges for the GCR Forum hosted on Pro-Boards. Paul Neal took this as an action item.

Ed and Romesh said that several GCR members had gone to the MSSCCA events at CAFB and that MSSCCA is working on adding more events by using a new site in Meridian.

Paul Neal made a motion to end the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ed. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Romesh Canekeratne

SCCA GCR 12 Secretary 2011

### **August Meeting Minutes as Approved at the 22 September 2011 Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Ed Rushing.

Romesh distributed and read out the minutes from the 21 July 2011 meeting. Ann made a motion to accept the minutes as stated. Joe seconded the motion and the floor voted in favor.

Ed stated that the club would like to purchase 40 new orange cones with the SCCA logo and give some of our old cones to MSSCCA. There was discussion on the price of the new cones and \$6.00 per cone was established as the budget figure for approximately \$250. Romesh made a motion to purchase 40 cones and donate the old ones to MSSCCA. Bob seconded and the floor voted in favor.

Joe expressed frustration at not being able to hear the various speakers in the room and asked that the phone be handed to each speaker so that the people on the teleconferencing line could hear. Ed said that the air conditioning in the room was drowning out the speakers and that Ed would repeat what had been said.

Walt reported that there is \$11,899.21 in the GCR

Account. Walt also said that he was having trouble with Microsoft Money because they don't support that anymore and that he might have to go back to Quicken. Walt also asked that all money collected at events be sent to him and he will pay out all event bills so he can keep the accounting straight. Romesh apologized for the mistake with sending too much money directly to the SCCA for weekend memberships. Ann said that it was all sorted out. Romesh made a motion to accept the treasures report and Bob seconded. Ed thanked Walt and Ann for all the work that they have put into the club for many years. The floor voted in favor.

Romesh said that Jason is planning to conduct a test and tune day at Brookley on 24 September and GCR Event 9 on 25 September 2011. The test and tune will consist of a morning session and an afternoon session with 10 runs per driver for each session. Ed said that Jason had most details worked out and that this was similar to what was done last year. Ed said that the TnT last year had the largest number of participants. Ed said that several GCR members planned to attend the MSSCCA event in Meridian at the end of August.

Mickey asked when GCR planned to conduct a school. There was discussion that resulted in the school being setup before the 1<sup>st</sup> event of 2012 possibly at Brookley. There was agreement that a GCR Solo II school would not be conducted this year. Ed said that Delta had already conducted their schools. Mickey said that she was fine with whatever the club decided.

Joe said that we needed to get trophy stickers for the last two events. Ed said that he would look into this.

Bob spoke about SARRC circuit racing events that he has been travelling to and that he is currently 3<sup>rd</sup> in points in his series. Bob also talked about a Solo I style hill-climb that is being planned in Northern Alabama.

Scott Blair (Wheelworks in Mobile) and Cale Hollingsworth (Cale's Garage) were introduced as guest speakers. Scott and Cale have teamed up to develop a TV show on Mediacom that highlights auto enthusiasts,

automotive events, lifestyles and the local businesses that provide services all on the Gulf Coast. The shows (Cale's Garage) are planned for weekly broadcasts beginning 15 September 2011. They would like to record TV footage of the next GCR event.

Ed said that it is time to conduct elections for officers to serve during 2011 and that Joe Ricard and Ed would run for RE on the ballot. Jason Rice would run for Assistant RE and Ed would like to see at least two people run for each office. Ann said that the 1<sup>st</sup> step was to form a Nominating Committee (NC) consisting of three people who are not running for office. Romesh said that according to the revised bylaws (20 November 2008) the elected officers are the RE (Regional Executive), Assistant RE, Secretary, Treasurer, and two At-Large members which are all of the nominations needed on the ballot by the September meeting and that positions such as Solo Chair, Editor, etc could be selected by the board from those that volunteered. Ed asked Romesh for the bylaws and read Article IV (Officers) Sections 1 through 4 to those assembled (See attached sections). Ed said that he was not directed to follow those bylaws last year and that he would do so for this election. Bob and Ed both said that there were insufficient members interested in serving last year and all ran unopposed on the ballot. Bob said that we needed to assemble the committee and reach out to all members who might be interested. Ann said that the NC should ask current board members if they wished to serve again in the same position. Ray said that this board needed to follow all the bylaws and not make decisions amongst a handful of insiders. Mickey said that this was not the case and that some people in the room did not know what they were talking about. Bob said that he felt that Mickey was confusing what Ray said with what he (Bob) had said. Some of the discussion that took place between Bob and Mickey could not be followed entirely by the Secretary. However, Bob said that he did not want to get into personalities and asked Ed to step in and bring the meeting to order. Ed stated that there was sufficient discussion and asked that the

discussion end immediately. Romesh said that, to recap, GCR would establish the NC according to the bylaws and that what had been done to date was not a setback which would result in having ample time to present the sleight of officers by the September meeting at which time write-ins could also be added to the ballot.

Ed made a motion to end the meeting. The motion was seconded by Romesh. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Romesh Canekeratne

SCCA GCR 12 Secretary 2011

## **Gulf Coast monthly meetings**

**Next meeting can be attended via teleconference  
Dial 1-605-715-4920 with access number 5447649**

Monthly meeting will be the Thursday before the autocross event, unless stated otherwise.

**20 October 2011 Meeting will be held at Beef O'Brady's on N. 9 Miles Road in Pensacola. Dinner starts at 6:30 Meeting starts @ 7pm**

## **Upcoming GCR Events**

~~October 22/23 Brookley Test and tune Saturday and Solo event Sunday.~~

October 22nd will be GCR points event #10 and  
October 23rd will be GCR points event #11 at  
Brookley Field in Mobile

### ARTICLE IV Officers

Section 1 - Elected Officers: Elected officers shall consist of a Regional Executive, Assistant Regional Executive, Secretary, Treasurer, and two At-Large members.

Section 2 - Terms of Office: The term of office for each of the elected officers shall commence January 1 of the following year and shall end December 31 of that year. No officer should serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 3 - Nominations: The Regional Executive shall appoint three members to a nominating committee in August for the purpose of nominating at least one candidate for each office. The slate of candidates shall be presented at the September meeting, at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Section 4 - Elections: Ballots will be sent to members by postpaid and/or electronic mail within seven days following close of nominations. Completed ballots must be returned prior to the annual meeting.

***Got horse power? Here is Dan Brown piloting his Red Z06***



***Yea He's got Horsepower covered.***

# Stock cars are class killers as Theresa Rice demonstrates.

