



# Fifth Gear

*February 2008*



[www.torontoautosportclub.ca](http://www.torontoautosportclub.ca)

# Toronto Autosport Club

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## 2008 EXECUTIVE:

|                       |                                    |                                       |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| PRESIDENT:            | Dietmar Seelenmayer (416) 250-7082 | dietmar.s@sympatico.ca                |
| PAST-PRESIDENT:       | Rob McAuley (416) 478-4320         | rmcauley@ca.ibm.com                   |
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| COMPETITION DIRECTOR: | Serge Gushin (905) 773-4286        | serge_guschin@hotmail.com             |
| SOCIAL DIRECTOR:      | (open position)                    |                                       |

## 2008 COMPETITION CO-ORDINATORS:

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| RALLIETTES: | (open position) |
| SOLO-II     | (open position) |
| KARTING:    |                 |

## 2008 COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES:

|                     |                              |                                   |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| RALLYSPORT ONTARIO: | Paul Moore (905)-898-7483    |                                   |
| SOLO I:             |                              |                                   |
| MEMBERSHIP:         | Andrew Kinal                 | registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca |
| WEBMASTER:          | Brooke Jacobs (905) 764-1833 | brooke@brooke.net                 |

**Club Mailing Address: 2267 Lakeshore Blvd. W., Suite 1214 , Toronto, ON M8V 3X2**

The TAC MOTORSPORT CLUB OF TORONTO Incorporated, (known as the "Toronto Autosport Club") is a general interest motorsport club involved in rallying, Solo I, Solo II, ice racing, road racing and social events. Club Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (except August & December) at 8:00 p.m. at the Fox and Fiddle: 1285 Finch Avenue West, one block east of Keele...

## GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME !

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FIFTH GEAR is the monthly publication of the Toronto Autosport Club. Articles concerning Club members' activities are of special interest and members are encouraged to submit their writings to any member of the Executive or send them to the Editorial Offices.

FIFTH GEAR is normally published on the Tuesday preceding the second Wednesday of each month. Certain scheduling changes will be made to accommodate major motorsport events which are of interest to the members.

### DISCLAIMER

*Opinions and views expressed in this newsletter are for entertainment purposes, are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions and views of the TAC MOTORSPORT CLUB OF TORONTO, its Executive members, or affiliated governing bodies such as CASC-OR, CARS, RSO, or the ASN (Canada) FIA.*

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Please contact the Executive member(s) directly or through the Club Address listed above, for matters not pertaining to FIFTH GEAR.

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Here we are in February looking at all the snow that fell on Toronto and the GTA. There is lots more up north.

So while the Solo guys are waiting for the tracks to clear, I thought I would give an update on Ice Racing which is in full swing right now. Three of the 6 scheduled weekends have been completed. There are 22 TAC members competing by my count, in 12 different classes. Some run in more than 1 class. There are 3 main categories for classification: rubber to ice, street studs, (the ones that are banned in Southern Ontario) and race studs. Further, the cars are divided by drive type and wheelbase. Class 1 is rear wheel drive, 2 and 3 are front wheel drive, with 2 being the shorter wheelbase. Class 4 is 4 wheel drive and specials. There are also second driver classes for rubber designated by a 1 preceding the class number, for example class 2 is the main driver and 12 is the second driver. The prefixes are S for stud and SS for street stud, example S3 and SS3 respectively.

I missed the second weekend but have given the standings up to then. This last weekend, organized by BEMC, was very well run on Saturday and people were heading home, the motel or Rockcliffe by 4:00 pm. The weather was a little mild, about -1 or so. The track was a little soft with holes starting to show, however Sunday was colder, -6 and dropping. Also there was snow and the wind was picking up. The first event on Sunday, the LBT shootout, a mixed class handicap race, had quite a pileup after 1 lap due to good traction (high speed) and no visibility due to the snow and wind. The final outcome was that Sunday's event was cancelled for safety reasons.

Peter Clifford and I compete in my car. He runs rubber, class 4 and I run SS4. This requires a number of tire changes each day. Saturday our 3 races ran back to back, 10

minutes from the checkered to the green to change tires. Thanks go to our pit crew, Paul and Rita Moore for their invaluable help.

The TAC organized event on March 1 and 2 will be the last one this year unless a weekend is cancelled prior to that date. Cancellation would be due to mild weather, causing melting. So come on up to Minden to see the races, on the TAC weekend or before. Find me, Car 88, and I will get you a ride as a passenger.

So the standings as of the second week are:

## **Studs**

Class S1, Nick Majors 2nd.

Class S3, Matt Michella 10th

## **Street studs**

Class SS3, Andy Hughes 6th.

Class SS4, Andrew Vernon 1st,  
Graham Tulett 4th,  
me 6th.

## **Rubber**

Class 1, Rodney Schmelter 3rd.

Class 2, Dan Douglas 2nd,  
Heather Hughes 5th,  
Dan Brinklow 6th,  
Matt Minchella 11th,  
Paul Moore 16th.

Class 3, David Lynch 6th,  
Robert Lynch 11th,  
Chester Mickelborough 16th.

Class 4, Peter Clifford 2nd,  
Kiyo Tabuchi 3rd,  
Dan Zorica 6th,  
Bill Vickery(r) 7th,  
Chris Martin 10th.

Class 11, Rodney Schmelter 2nd.

Class 12, Tammy Douglas(r) 4th.

Class 13, Gary Vernon 2nd.

Class 14, Graham Tulett 4th.

Come to the next meeting at the Fox and Fiddle on February 20 and find out how the standings have changed!

*Dietmar*

# TAC EVENTS CALENDAR 2008

| <u>DATES</u>         | <u>CATEGORY</u> | <u>EVENT/LOCATION</u>                             | <u>ORGANIZING CLUB</u>   |
|----------------------|-----------------|---|--|
| <b>February 2008</b> |                 |   |  |
| 16-17                | Ice Race-Magnum | Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds                      | BARC   |
| 16-17                | ORRC            | Maple Leaf Winter Rally                           | MLRC   |
| 20                   | Meeting         | <b>TAC Monthly Club Meeting, Fox &amp; Fiddle</b> |  <b>TAC</b>   |
| 23-24                | Ice Race-Magnum | Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds                      | TLMC   |
| <b>March 2008</b>    |                 |   |  |
| 1-2                  | Ice Race-Magnum | <b>Ice Race, Magnum Series, Minden</b>            |  <b>TAC</b>   |
| 8-9                  | Ice Race-Magnum | Ice Race,RAIN DATE, Minden Fairgrounds            |  |
| 8-9                  | School          | RSO HAM School                                    | RSO  |
| 16                   | FI              | AUSTRALIAN Grand Prix, Melbourne                  |  |
| 18                   | Rally School    | RSO Beginner Rally School                         | RSO  |
| 19                   | Meeting         | <b>TAC Monthly Club Meeting, Fox &amp; Fiddle</b> |  <b>TAC</b>   |
| 23                   | FI              | MALAYSIAN Grand Prix Sepang                       |  |
| 25                   | Rally School    | RSO Beginner Rally School                         | RSO  |
| 29                   | IRL             | Homestead-Miami Speedway                          |  |
| <b>April 2008</b>    |                 |   |  |
| 1                    | Rally School    | RSO Beginner Rally School                         | RSO  |
| 5                    | ORRC            | Spring Runoff Rally                               | PMSC   |
| 6                    | FI              | BAHRAIN Grand Prix , Sakhir                       |  |
| 6                    | IRL             | Grand Prix of St. Petersburg                      |  |
| 6                    | Solo            | SOLO OPEN HOUSE - CSC Racing, Newmarket           | SPDA   |
| 14                   | Mini Rally      | Mini Rally, Service Centre #400-North             | MLRC   |
| 16                   | Meeting         | <b>TAC Monthly Club Meeting, Fox &amp; Fiddle</b> |  <b>TAC</b> |
| 19                   | IRL             | Twin Ring Motegi                                  |  |
| 20                   | CHAMP           | Streets of Long Beach                             |  |
| 23                   | Ralliette       | <b>Ralliette Series Event 1, Tim Hortons:</b>     |  <b>TAC</b> |
| 27                   | CHAMP           | GP of Houston, JAGFlo Speedway                    |  |
| 27                   | FI              | SPANISH Grand Prix Barcelona                      |  |
| 27                   | IRL             | Kansas Speedway                                   |  |
| <b>May 2008</b>      |                 |   |  |
| 10                   | ORRC            | Blossom Rally                                     | KWRC   |
| 10                   | SoloSprint      | SoloSprint School Day #1, Mosport DDT             | OMSC/SPDA  |
| 11                   | FI              | TURKEY Grand Prix Istanbul                        |  |
| 11                   | SoloSprint      | SoloSprint School Day #2, Mosport DDT             | OMSC/SPDA  |
| 12                   | Mini Rally      | Mini Rally, Service Centre #400-North             | MLRC   |
| 21                   | Meeting         | <b>TAC Monthly Club Meeting, Fox &amp; Fiddle</b> |  <b>TAC</b> |
| 23-24                | Rally-CRC       | Rocky Mountain Rally                              | CSCC   |
| 24                   | SoloSprint      | SoloSprint Event #1 ; Mosport DDT                 | OMSC   |
| 25                   | FI              | MONACO Grand Prix                                 |  |
| 25                   | IRL             | 92nd Indianapolis 500                             |  |
| 25                   | SoloSprint      | SoloSprint Event #2 ; Mosport DDT                 | OMSC   |
| 27                   | CHAMP           | GP at Mazda Raceway, Laguna Seca, Monterey CA     |  |

ORRC : Ontario Road Rally Cup  
 RSO : Rally Sport Ontario  
 IRL : Indy Racing League

CLUB : Non-Status Club Event  
 CARS : Canadian Association of Rally Sport  
 CRQ : Championnat de Rallye Du Quebec  
 CRC : Canadian Rally Championship

OPRC : Ontario Performance Rally Championship  
 CASC : Canadian Automobile Sport Clubs  
 ALMS : American LeMans Series  
 WRC : World Rally Championship

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*A Note from Jennifer at CSC-*

Solosprint rule changes are mandating full neck to toe coverage in a non-synthetic fabric for all SOLO SPRINT drivers in 2008. A one piece Proban suit is only \$150.00 - and will be tax free for any that remain instock at the open house - it's an easy way to meet the requirement and look professional! They come in red, blue or black and there are plenty in stock. Driving boots are \$99. and all of the above applies to them too!

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# ICE RACE 2008

*Presented by the  
Toronto Autosport Club  
at the Minden Fairgrounds  
March 1-2, 2008*



## *AN EVENT IN THE 2008 MAGNUM Ice Race Series*

### **HELP WANTED !!**

No experience necessary.  
Call Dietmar Seelenmayer  
at 647-221-7082  
(or Organiser Andy Hughes  
705-286-6668  
or email [andhughes@sympatico.ca](mailto:andhughes@sympatico.ca))

Work one day or both.  
Registration, marshalls, gridding, etc.  
Call for more information and directions.

### **SATURDAY SCHEDULE**

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Registration and Scrutineering Opens | 8:00 am |
| Drivers' Meeting                     | 8:30 am |
| Practice Starts                      | 9:00 am |

### **SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Registration and Scrutineering Opens | 11:00 am |
| Drivers' Meeting                     | 11:30 am |
| Practice Starts                      | 12:05 pm |

CALL CASC-OR at (416) 667-9500 or 877-667-9505  
for Ice Race hotline  
Friday before each race weekend

# the Soapbox Derby

...by Malcolm Elston

## Personal Plates part 1:

In the December '07 Derby I wrote about the Ministry of Transportation being childish about editing personal plates.

Well, they're gnawing on the same bone again, but from a different angle. A recent MoT press release stated that when personalized plates expire, they 'disappear'. The MoT alleged this has been a constant policy right from the introduction of personalized plates.

Not so. I first saw the plate 'WHT RBT' on a – not surprisingly – white VW Rabbit cabriolet, here in Toronto. Years later, after Gail had started her 'White Rabbit Rally Report' column in Fifth Gear, she was about to buy a new car – and I went off to the MoT to check about a gift, and that particular plate's availability.

Sure enough, Gail's cars have carried the WHT RBT plate ever since.

If there's something you've seen that you'd like for your own, don't hesitate to ask them... just be prepared to ask at a higher level than the sublet-franchise store-front operation in your neighbourhood. I've had the best luck dealing with Head Office, which is at Wellesley St. W. and University Ave. (that's the Government's location).

## Personal Plates part 2:

Apparently, the MoT is also missing a revenue opportunity with this "Once it's Gone, it's Gone" policy.

Seems that a British businessman recently paid £440,625 to buy a vanity plate bearing the Formula One initials, "F1". That's just inside \$1,000,000 North American bucks, folks...

Mr. Afzal Khan smashed the previous record price of £331,000 (paid only 18 months ago for a plate that reads 'M1') to purchase the historic F1 number plate from Essex County Council.

The Bradford entrepreneur, who owns a specialist car design company, plans to display the number plate on his Mercedes SLR McLaren.

F1 was the first number plate issued by the Essex County Register of Motors in 1904, the year it became compulsory for motor vehicles to bear a registration plate.

Its first owner was the Essex county surveyor, Percy John Sheldon, who attached it to his 15 hp, four-seater Panhard Levassor.

After a period in private hands it was given back to the county council in 1955 and subsequently used on a variety of civic limousines including a Darracq Torpedo, a Humber, a Daimler and a Jaguar.

The authority will use its windfall to fund an advanced driver-training program to improve the skills of young motorists in Essex.

FYI, the world record price for a registration plate (\$7 million bucks) was paid at an auction in Abu Dhabi last year by a prominent Gulf businessman, Talal Ali Mohammad Khouri, for the single-digit number 5. That record is expected to be broken later this year, when Abu Dhabi Police auction the most sought-after number plate in the United Arab Emirates, the single-digit 1.

## F1 Hypocrisy:

The FIA wants more teams in Formula One, a point Max Mosley has raised on many occasions. To encourage larger grids, two of the newer teams were allowed to 'piggy-back' on already-established teams.

Super Aguri grew out of Honda (and used their previous years' car), and we all know that Scuderia Toro Rosso is Red Bull under another name.

I was excited by David Richards' early 2007 announcement that he intended to contest the 2008 season with cars purchased from McLaren, complete with Mercedes engines...

The FIA approved his application (there were two others), and the FIA cashed his \$500,000 entry fee.

And then announced the deal was off. No refunds, either.

Seems Frank Williams led a revolt that led to Max & Co. changing their minds; no "customer cars" were to be allowed into F1.

So here's the hypocrisy;

Frank Williams started life in Formula One in the 1960s as an entrepreneur who bought and ran "customer cars"; a Brabham first, and then a March. Making this whole thing even richer, March Racing Cars was – at that time – a team partly owned by – drum-roll, please – one Mr. Max Mosley.

Yep, the same guy.

Now, given that TAC is an FIA member-club in good standing, and that we pay our FIA dues every year, I think it would behoove the TAC Executive to send a strongly-worded letter up the ladder to the FIA President (Max Mosley), and complain about this atrocious and hypocritical behaviour.

## F1 Profits in 2008:

So how has our lad Frank Williams done since he started racing "customer cars" some forty years ago?

Well, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the 'Team Williams' own-built F1 cars, they will be testing with a variety of liveries in the run-up to the 2008 season-opener (which is in Australia on March 16th).

*continued...*

The car they rolled out recently carried the names of all the current 519 team employees, as well as the logos of the 85 brands and sponsors who have appeared on the Williams cars since the Argentine Grand Prix of January 1978.

That's success for you – a current payroll of 519, a budget generally agreed to be about or above \$400,000,000 per year, and a history-book of 85 sponsors who have been paying the bills.

So now you can see why Frank doesn't want anyone else to have the same opportunity he got all those years ago; every new team coming into Formula One means two extra cars, which is an expansion of about 8% (from the current grid of 22 cars). 8% more real estate available to sponsors, an 8% share of the TV revenues, etc., etc.

In fact, look for Frank to actively try to get Super Aguri out of the '08 season; taking two existing cars out of the equation effectively delivers a 10% increase to each of the remaining teams.

Good for business, eh?

### Good-bye, Gas Caps:

Not counting door handles or driver controls, your gas cap may be the most frequently touched mechanical component on your vehicle... and now it is going away.

Yep, Ford has announced that their new F150 pick-em-up truck (due this fall) will follow in the footsteps of the their recent GT40; no gas cap, or in other words, the cap-less fill-up has arrived! All new Ford products are expected to follow this lead.

Ford feels that gas caps are an annoyance to drivers. In their world, you'll just do a flap flip, and stuff the nozzle into a self-sealing hole...

Me? I'm skeptical... since the modern gas cap must completely seal the fuel system (if it doesn't, you get a 'Check Engine' or 'Service' light glowing on your dash!), I prefer a system that allows me to 're-set' the current system by simply removing the cap, then replacing it and counting a few more than the three clicks reco'd in the manual.

This new 'cap-less' system eliminates that opportunity, and forces the driver into the shop for a computer re-set if the new hole doesn't seal properly. More \$\$\$ for the service guys, less autonomy for drivers and owners. As always, that's just my opinion... I really don't think this is a step forward.

### New '08 F1 ECU's:

Leveling the playing field and reducing team costs has also been on Max Mosley's mind in recent years, and for 2008 the rules demand that all the teams use the same electronic control unit in their cars. This new ECU will eliminate drivers' aids (such as traction- and launch-control software), and Max figures it will also reduce development costs for each team.

Maybe so, but what else might it mean in this billions-of-dollars-a-year series?

McLaren are at a clear advantage this year because they built the electronic system which all Formula One teams must now use, Ferrari chief executive Jean Todt said recently.

The SECU (Standard Electronic Control Unit) produced by McLaren Electronic Systems (with help from Microsoft) is a major development for the new season.

"We would have preferred that the single control unit for all Formula One teams was built by another company. We must accept the fact that McLaren with Microsoft put forward the most economic proposal," Todt told reporters.

"It is clearly a situation to monitor. But it is obvious that, at least at the start, McLaren will have an advantage in the championship," added the Frenchman.

Further, Renault engine head Rob White agreed that Formula One's switch to the SECU has given McLaren a head start.

"Everything is different for us," White told reporters at the Jerez test circuit. "The control system is different, all of the tools are different, the environment in which the engineers work is different.

"It has taken a huge amount of time and effort simply to understand the things that are different.

"Clearly the kit is the same for everybody and the potential is the same for everybody. But those people that start further away have got a longer road to travel to get to their optimum," he added.

"It's clear that McLaren were closer than other people to the system that we all now have in 2008. They haven't had to do the work necessary to adapt to this new system."

Red Bull technical head Adrian Newey, who was at McLaren before joining his current Renault-powered team, agreed; "Renault has used a lot of effort simply trying to get their engine to run properly on the new SECU, and of course as soon as you do that you are not putting that effort elsewhere," he said at the launch of the new RB4 car. "So it has been a slight disadvantage. I guess it has been the same for everybody except Mercedes (McLaren's engine partners)".

In other words, McLaren is tipped for some early successes... fans of the Fantasy Racing League, take note!

### Lewis Hamilton, '08 updates:

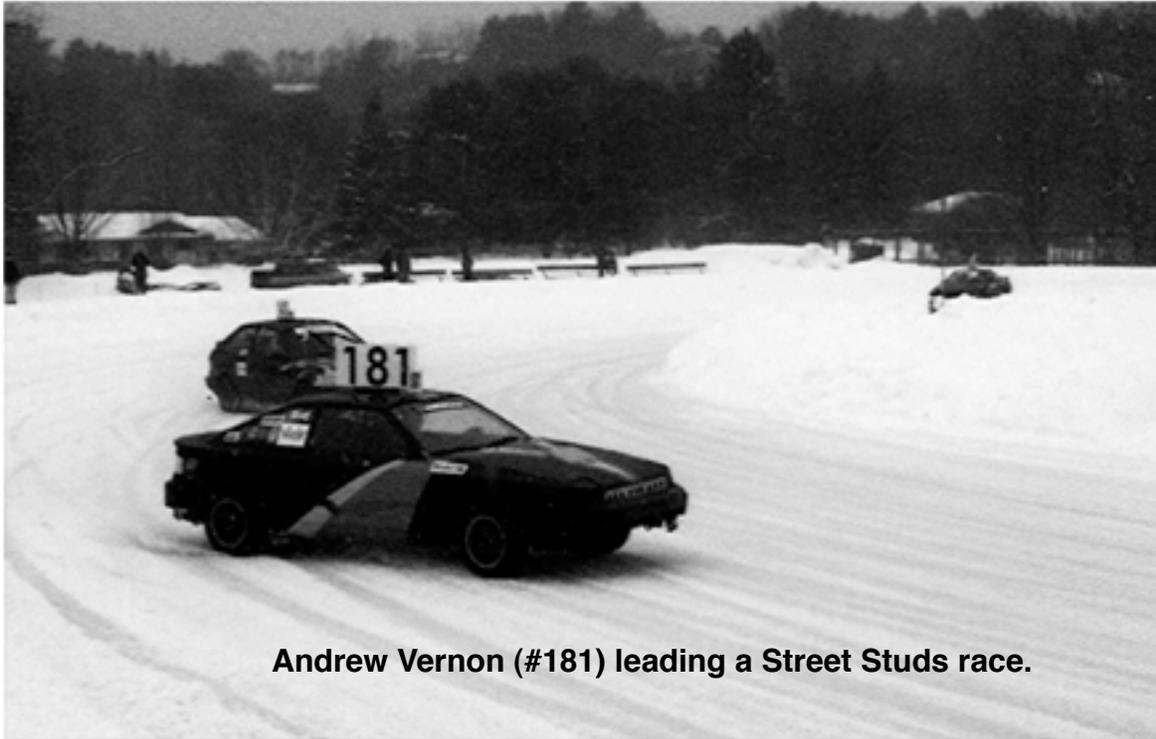
- he has signed a new, five-year driving contract with McLaren. (this means he will achieve a 15-year, continuous relationship with Ron Dennis and the team, a feat no other driver has accomplished).

- he has moved from Britain to Switzerland, for tax reasons. (nothing to do with those very rude Spanish fans, I'm sure).

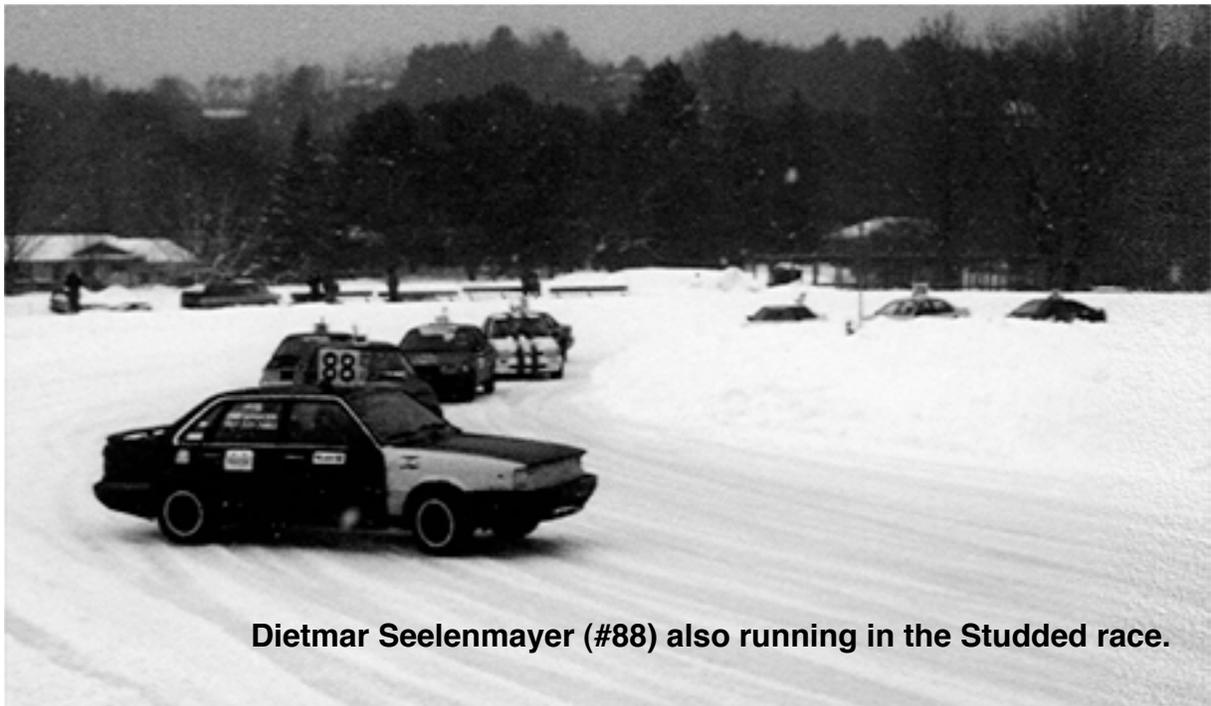
- he has confirmed that his father (Anthony) will be his personal manager (can you think of a better way to keep 15% of everything you earn within the immediate family?).

# ICE RACING AT MINDEN

---



**Andrew Vernon (#181) leading a Street Studs race.**



**Dietmar Seelenmayer (#88) also running in the Studded race.**

# **NOTICE of 2007 RallySport Ontario AGM**

**Saturday, March 15, 2008**

**10:00 A.M. – The Granary Restaurant  
1292 Hwy. 7A & County Rd. 32  
Bethany, ON**

Directions can be found at: <http://www.thegranaryrestaurant.ca/location.html>

**The meeting will begin at 10:00 A.M. sharp.** Refreshments will be provided.

The official Agenda for this meeting will be posted separately but will be the usual AGM Agenda.

Worthy of special mention and your consideration in advance:

**ELECTIONS** – Two positions –

Vice President of Navigational Rally – two year term (position currently held by Rita Moore)

Secretary – two year term (position currently held by Ross Wood)

**MOTION RE RDF** (Road Damage Fund) – placed on Agenda by RSO Board for consideration by the full RSO membership

Respectfully submitted,  
Ross Wood, Secretary RallySport Ontario

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## **RSO AGM PROXY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a 2007 member in good standing of  
\_\_\_\_\_, an RSO affiliated club, hereby appoint and authorize  
\_\_\_\_\_ to vote on my behalf at the RallySport Ontario

Annual General Meeting to be held in Bethany on Saturday, March 15,  
2008, and any adjournment thereof.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (e mail identification acceptable)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Rita's Rebuttal to Rich's Recent RallySport Ramblings?

by Rita Moore

Last issue, Rich Sullivan wrote an excellent article covering many topics, some of which were about navigational rallying. As the vice president of Navigational Rallying for RallySport Ontario, I thought I'd give some background to some of those topics for the benefit of members who are not so familiar with RSO.

Rich expressed puzzlement at the near-cancellation of the 2007 Greenspond Go-Round rally, and for the curious, I can explain why the event was temporarily marked as cancelled. The original organizer found himself without the time to write a rally, and announced its cancellation. Since he is both the President of RSO and a member of MLRC, that would seem pretty final. In spite of that, I contacted the MLRC President asking if his club did not have some archival rally that another organizer might dig up to present on the date in question, and he did; so the Greenspond went ahead after all.

Another subject is taken from the RSO December meeting minutes. I believe it was referred to last issue as 'untimely discussion regarding "the type and nature of ORRC events"', so here is a bit more explanation on that. It was not a case of RSO calling for events and then later deciding their 'type and nature', as you might infer from the article! What was being discussed was the importance of avoiding old-style "drivex" events in this new world of "street racing" laws and similar legislative attitudes. As some of you may remember, the original concern of the rallying community when these laws came out was that they covered any 'timed contest on public roads', which could broadly have included performance stage rallies and navigational rallies, not to mention Molson-Indy type events. After heavy lobbying by rallyists and especially the RSO Legislative Affairs representative, Alasdair Robertson, we were able to convince the lawmakers that their wording was inaccurate, and a clause was actually added to the law exempting sanctioned events. This huge victory is as fragile as the fickleness of politicians, however, and we all must now tread lightly to avoid causing a change of heart among them. Thus RSO was discussing the inadvisability of any future rally which might call for excessive road speeds. If you are old enough to remember past "drivex" events, you will agree that it is easy to set a CAS which, while it may be only 90% of the posted speed limit, is still clearly too fast for conditions on open, narrow twisty backroads or in the snow. We definitely cannot afford to have an officer decide that an event was asking for unsafe driving, or our sanctioned exemption will be worthless; and that, not some reactive conversation about the ORRC calendar, was the actual subject of that item.

On the subject of the 2008 event calendar, however, Rich is right that the RSO calendar meeting did not work well last year as a "virtual meeting". We have already agreed that it will be a real meeting this year. But in our defence, 2006 was the first year it was done as a virtual meeting, and it worked very well that time, which is why we thought to do it again in 07. I am not sure why it worked really well in 06 but poorly in 07; but in any case we won't be trying that same method for 08.

Readers may have noticed that Rich also had some ideas regarding increasing attendance at future ORRC events (night events, different venues, more flyers, followup with competitors). Some of these factors are more the domain of the individual event organizers than RSO, but I have passed all suggestions on to the RSO Growth Committee, and will be personally following up on their progress. Also please, if any other readers have suggestions or comments to offer towards RSO, I would welcome and appreciate hearing from you. You can contact me directly at [vpnavigational@rallysport.on.ca](mailto:vpnavigational@rallysport.on.ca), or you can pass things through the TAC rep to RallySport Ontario, Paul Moore, at [bjornbsrkr@ca.inter.net](mailto:bjornbsrkr@ca.inter.net).

I hope that this additional background has helped to further explain a few subjects from Rich's Ramblings! As VP, I am trying my best to keep the ORRC series viable, and the website current. All helpful ideas are always invited.

# HAM RADIO COURSE FOR RALLYISTS

Have you ever wondered what all that talk on the radio is at rallies? Do you want to be part of it? Do you want to talk to your friends from your car without cellphone fees? Do you want to talk around the world? You too can be part of the wide world of Amateur Radio!

RallySport Ontario will be offering a two day intensive course to get your Amateur Radio Licence. It will take place on Saturday and Sunday, March 8/9, 2008. It will take place at the Girl Guides of Canada Office, 38 Parkside Dr., Newmarket ON.

It will run from 10:00 am till about 4:00 pm each day. The cost will be \$25.00 plus the cost of the books.

Since two days is not a lot of time to teach all the concepts, we use a study and review format. Students are expected to read the RAC (Radio Amateurs of Canada) Study Guide <http://www.rac.ca/store/basic-guide.htm> and come prepared to ask questions and be quizzed on the content.

If you have further questions, contact:

Roger Sanderson VE3RKS  
[rsanders@kwrc.on.ca](mailto:rsanders@kwrc.on.ca)  
Rob Metcalfe VA3RBM  
[va3rbm@hotmail.com](mailto:va3rbm@hotmail.com)

To sign up for the course, go to: <http://www.kwrc.on.ca/hamclass/>



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# 2008 January Jaunt Results

With slightly warming winter conditions, the 2008 January Jaunt beat the annual false spring thaw literally by hours. Road surfaces were snow and slush covered, with some slippery sections, and a lot of gravel to provide traction. With instructions progressively more challenging from the Novice to the Expert classes, the 2008 Jaunt was a classic winter navex.

This was the fifth running of the Jaunt in its current location, and with 26 cars, the best attended – and also one of the best attended regional navex rallies of recent years! And with all but one car finishing, I would say the event went very well – so thanks to all, competitors and workers alike, who made this year's event a success.

The Novice class saw a healthy mix of first-time ralliests and seasoned Novices from previous seasons. The instructions provided some challenge, with a mix of tulips, columns, straight-line instructions, Minis and snowmen looking left and right, and even a simple mapping section. The class was quite competitive, with only 0.7 points separating the top 5 teams, and second place determined by a tie-breaker!

Congratulations to Jane and Bruce Leonard on the win with 5.2 points, and the teams of Martin/Martin and Novak/Santor for keeping them honest at only 5.5 points.

The Intermediate class ran Expert instructions with a free cheat-sheet, providing hints and partial solutions to almost every section of the rally. New intermediates (and TACcies) Tim and Steven Laye finished in first place with an impressive 4.5 points!

The Expert class faced some challenging instructions to be sure, but the production of the instructions made this even more difficult, with maps scaled to be too small to read, and Fortran cards with poor contrast. But not to worry – next time, the Fortran cards will be much more legible! Night visibilitiy issues affected all Intermediates and Experts, but Bryn and Terry Epp persevered to take first place in the Expert class. Full results for all classes are listed below.

The people who work on this rally really are the key to successful execution, and I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to a great event! This year's workers are listed below:

|  |                                      |                                     |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Peter Clifford & Dietmar Seelenmayer           | <i>Course Open</i>                   | Paul Henshall                       | <i>Checkpoint &amp; ORRC Steward</i> |
| Paul & Cheryl Emmerson Taylor & Blair Emmerson | <i>Registration &amp; Checkpoint</i> | Martin Loveridge & Neils Jensen Jr. | <i>Scoring &amp; Checkpoint</i>      |
| Brian Maxwell                                  | <i>Checkpoint</i>                    | Rich & Eloise Sullivan              | <i>Checkpoint</i>                    |
| Peter Fenwick                                  | <i>Checkpoint</i>                    | Paul Leonard & David Jones          | <i>Greencrew</i>                     |
| Robert Roaldi                                  | <i>ORRC Guru</i>                     | Kurt & Dietmar Seelenmayer          | <i>Organizers</i>                    |

So a final thanks to all the competitors and workers who made this a fun experience. Hopefully we'll meet up at other navex events throughout 2008!

Kurt Seelenmayer VA3KSE  
Organizer, 2008 January Jaunt

## 2008 January Jaunt - Overall Results

| Car | Driver                 | Club | Navigator         | Club | Vehicle         | Score | Position |
|-----|------------------------|------|-------------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------|
| 21  | Bryn Epp               | MLRC | Terry Epp         | KWRC | 05 Mazda B3000  | 15.2  | E1       |
| 13  | Paul Moore             | TAC  | Rita Moore        | TAC  | 07 STI          | 49.2  | E2       |
| 24  | Tim Laye               | TAC  | Steven Laye       | TAC  | 95 Tercel       | 4.5   | I1       |
| 6   | Roger Sanderson        | KWRC | Christina Chinn   | KWRC | 02 Mini         | 10.6  | I2       |
| 22  | Toby Link              | --   | Connie Williams   | --   | 89 Civic        | 78.4  | I3       |
| 3   | Jane Leonard           | MLRC | Bruce Leonard     | MLRC | 00 Imprezza     | 5.2   | N1       |
| 18  | Chris Martin           | --   | Stephan Martin    | TAC  | 02 Imprezza     | 5.5   | N2       |
| 4   | Nicola Novak           | MLRC | Kari Santor       | --   | 04 WRX          | 5.5   | N3       |
| 2   | Steven Deneka          | SPDA | Opal Aristizabal  | SPDA | 04 WRX STI      | 5.9   | N4       |
| 23  | Maxine Petersen-Lee    | SPDA | Ray Brazeam       | --   | 02 WRX          | 7.2   | N5       |
| 5   | Trevor Hancher         | SPDA | Ted Doig          | SPDA | 04 STI          | 8.5   | N6       |
| 10  | Howie Beattie          | --   | Greg Leskien      | --   | 90 WV Jetta     | 10.9  | N7       |
| 12  | Jeff Lantz             | KWRC | Steve Van Rees    | KWRC | 03 Legacy       | 12.9  | N8       |
| 11  | Chris Leskien          | --   | Jenn Leskien      | --   | 94 Saab 900S    | 13.8  | N9       |
| 14  | Ian Wright             | --   | Stephen Caulfeild | --   | 07 BMW X3       | 14.5  | N10      |
| 16  | Tashko Sarakinov       | SPDA | Jim Snider        | --   | 91 Eagle Tallon | 14.8  | N11      |
| 25  | Scott Merrithew        | TAC  | Wayne Merrithew   | --   | 06 Jetta        | 19.8  | N12      |
| 7   | Peter Brownhill        | --   | Gary Corbett      | MCO  | 93 MX3          | 24.2  | N13      |
| 20  | Jeff Lehmann           | TAC  | Matt Mincella     | TAC  | 95 Accord       | 28.6  | N14      |
| 17  | Nicola Narini          | MLRC | Phil Narini       | MLRC | 92 Legacy       | 38.7  | N15      |
| 8   | Shawn Muis             | --   | Mike Hummel       | --   | 97 Impreza      | 43.3  | N16      |
| 26  | Michael Niewczas       | --   | Arkadiusz Najman  | --   | 97 Golf         | 49.7  | N17      |
| 1   | Steven Lusby-Blackburn | --   | Nicola Narini     | --   | 97 Legacy       | 81.9  | N18      |
| 15  | Kevin Schoenwiese      | --   | Brian Sexsmith    | --   | 02 Imprezza     | 93.7  | N19      |
| 19  | Andrew Kulikowski      | --   | Demetrius Michael | --   | 02 WRX          | 99.2  | N20      |
| 9   | DR Davies              | --   | Stephan Turner    | --   | 03 Infinity G35 | DNF   | --       |



# TOOLS FOR SALE!

Inherited a lot of tools from a licenced mechanic who owned and operated his own Texaco station in the '60's.

We now have a whole bunch of hand tools (buckets of sockets, screwdrivers, wrenches, saws, knives, etc), power tools (skilsaw, drill, jigsaw), and a lot of obscure automotive tools (eg: timing light, battery pliers) including some we may not even know what they are! If you need something to work on your car, we probably have one in the pile. Here's a photo showing some of the more inexplicable tools in the collection.

Contact Paul or Rita Moore, 905-898-7483, orrc@ca.inter.net for your garage-sale wish list.





**Toronto Autosport Club  
 Monthly Members Meeting Minutes  
 Wednesday, November 21, 2007  
 8:05PM**

|   |  |                       |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Present:</b>                         | Board - Dietmar Seelenmayer, Todd Presswood, Peter Clifford, Chuck Atkins, Serge Guschin<br>TAC Membership – Christian Sorensen, Nick Beck, Rob Jones, Janet Tse, Peter Fenwick, Margaret Fenwick, Malcolm Elston, Rob McAuley, Todd Coles, Rita Moore, Paul Moore, Eloise Sullivan, Rich Sullivan, Nelson Reposo, Brian Reynolds, Andrew Kinal,   |                       |
| <b>Regrets:</b>                         | Russ Harding,  |                       |
| <b>Guests:</b>                          | Jag Bhogal from Guru Nanak Social Club.  |                       |
| <b>Recorder:</b>                        | Todd Presswood   |                       |
| <b>Location:</b>                        | Fox and Fiddle – 1285 Finch Ave West. (at Keele St.)   |                       |
|   | <b>Items/Discussion</b>  | <b>Tasks/Deadline</b> |
| <b>1. Introduction</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Margaret motioned to approve the October meeting minutes. Second by Paul Moore.</li> <li>- Russ is unable to attend today’s meeting.</li> <li>- Dietmar reported that TAC currently has 196 members, 118 are primary.</li> </ul>  |                       |
| <b>2. Treasurer’s report</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We have 23 members signed up for the Holiday party</li> <li>- Current balance of \$17,493 not counting Fifth gear expenses</li> <li>- No other outstanding debts.</li> </ul>  |                       |
| <b>3. Social Director Report</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chuck is looking into the 2007 volunteer rewards program points. As you recall, it was determined that the 2006 rewards points would be combined with 2007.</li> <li>- We are hoping that more people will sign up for the Holiday party on December 8.</li> <li>- The club will incur costs for a minimum of 40 people regardless of the actual attendance. Please join us in celebrating a successful year!.</li> </ul> |                       |
| <b>4. Competition Director’s Report</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tall Pines Rally this weekend competition.</li> <li>- Dietmar read a notice from CARS elections taking place on January 11, 2008.</li> </ul>  |                       |
| <b>5. New/Other Business</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None</li> </ul>   |                       |
| <b>6. For Sale or Wanted</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Corvair rims from Peter.</li> </ul>   |                       |
| <b>7. Loonies in the ‘Hotel’</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Won by Paul Moore</li> </ul>  |                       |
| <b>8. Adjournment</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:30 hours.</li> <li>- After the meeting, Peter and Dietmar presented Jag Bhogal with a TAC umbrella for being associated with TAC for 9 years through the Guru Nanak Rally.</li> </ul>  |                       |

*Next scheduled TAC Members meeting is located at the Fox & Fiddle commencing at 8:00PM on Wednesday January 16, 2008.*



**Toronto Autosport Club**  
**52<sup>st</sup> Annual General Members Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, November 21, 2007**  
**8:45 PM**

|  |  |                       |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Present:</b>  | Board - Dietmar Seelenmayer, Todd Presswood, Peter Clifford, Chuck Atkins, Serge Guschin<br>TAC Membership – Christian Sorensen, Nick Beck, Rob Jones, Janet Tse, Peter Fenwick, Margaret Fenwick, Malcolm Elston, Rob McAuley, Todd Coles, Rita Moore, Paul Moore, Eloise Sullivan, Rich Sullivan, Nelson Reposo, Brian Reynolds, Andrew Kinal,   |                       |
| <b>Regrets:</b>  | Russ Harding   |                       |
| <b>Guests:</b>   | None   |                       |
| <b>Recorder:</b>   | Todd Presswood   |                       |
| <b>Location:</b>   | Fox & Fiddle, Finch and Keele.   |                       |
|  | <b>Items/Discussion</b>  | <b>Tasks/Deadline</b> |
| <b>1. General</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dietmar called for all proxies to be given to Todd.</li> <li>- Todd reported that we have 21 members present and 17 valid proxies submitted.</li> <li>- The constitution requires 15 members to be represented for a quorum.</li> <li>- Peter F motioned to approve the Minutes of the 2006 TAC AGM. Second by Rob M. Carried.</li> </ul>   |                       |
| <b>2. President's Report (Dietmar Seelenmayer)</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please refer to the November edition of Fifth Gear.</li> <li>- TAC organized a number of events this year including an ORRC event, an ice race in February, a SoloSprint school, several SoloSprint events, Discover Ontario Rally as well as a ralliette series which ran from April to September.</li> <li>- Thank you to everyone for helping make the club the great success that it is.</li> </ul>   |                       |
| <b>3. Vice President's Report (Dietmar for Russ Harding)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please refer to the V.P. Annual Report available to the membership. (please contact Todd if you would like a copy of this report)</li> <li>- 196 current members, 118 primary members and 6 life members.</li> <li>- We changed our web hosting service to Afirma Innovations, a CASC-OR sponsor.</li> <li>- Eliminated the message forum as it was used more by spammers than members.</li> <li>- Dietmar read the entire report from Russ including personal notes from the year.</li> <li>- Will not be able to continue as VP.</li> </ul>                             |                       |
| <b>4. Social Director's Report (Chuck Atkins)</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please refer to the November edition of Fifth Gear.</li> <li>- ALMS was a huge success and had 35 people show up.</li> <li>- Looking forward to the year-end party.</li> <li>- Chuck is moving on to spend more time volunteering with SoloSprint and ASN.</li> </ul>   |                       |
| <b>5. Secretary's Report (Todd Presswood)</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Been on the TAC Board since 2005.</li> <li>- Enjoyed volunteering at the autoshow and meeting various people interested in Motorsports.</li> <li>- Finished second place in my class this year, first place went to Andy, who finished second overall in the series.</li> <li>- Helped Rob organize the SoloSprint Nationals at Mosport which had members from as far West as Edmonton as well as a strong contingent of Quebec residents.</li> <li>- I enjoyed my time working with the TAC BoD and look forward to competing under the TAC banner next year.</li> </ul> |                       |
| <b>6. Competition Directors's Report (Serge Guschin)</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Autoslalom – We have almost no TAC presence in these competitions.</li> <li>- SoloSprint – TAC members finished 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the overall standings and had solid representation throughout the season.</li> <li>- Rally – TAC has had 3 or 4 'regulars' competing successfully. There are three events and 6 ralliettes on the Calendar.</li> <li>- Ice Racing – TAC hosted an event this year that was well attended.</li> </ul>   |                       |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>7. Fifth Gear Report (Nick Beck)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Circulation is approx 120-135 copy's month.</li> <li>- The highest expenses stem from postage and copying.</li> <li>- We appreciate relevant photos and even more importantly, written content is highly useful.</li> <li>- It is important to remember that Fifth Gear is put together for the members... we appreciate content being submitted to <a href="mailto:fifthgear@torontoautosportclub.ca">fifthgear@torontoautosportclub.ca</a>.</li> </ul>   |  |
| <p><b>8. Treasurer's Report (Peter Clifford)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please refer to the upcoming December 2007 edition of Fifth Gear for a copy of the written report.</li> <li>- Peter drew the members attention to the importance of net revenue generated from Rally and Ice racing.</li> <li>- With a net income of a couple hundred dollars. The club does not have sufficient funds to offer early renewal rewards etc. (Last year's Umbrella's cost approx \$2,000)</li> <li>- Rob Jones asked about clarification of several points on the report. TAC's equity in SoloSprint was reported for 2006 and not 2007. Peter answered that the 2007 final equity position is not yet available.</li> <li>- Rob J. asked to clarify the details of the food &amp; social line of the P&amp;L statement. Peter responded that the costs are made up of the Hannaford 'feast' at the ALMS weekend as well as some costs incurred by Rob M. such as ice and water.</li> <li>- Rob J. asked about the advertising revenue line being low compared to the amount of advertising in Fifth Gear. Peter is looking into the accounts that have not yet been collected.</li> </ul> |  |
| <p><b>9. Procedure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eloise Sullivan motioned to accept the Director's reports as presented. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rob McAuley seconded</li> <li>- Motion voted and carried.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |  |
| <p><b>10. Elections (Vice President)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rob M. was nominated as returning officer.</li> <li>- Dietmar reported that Andrew Kinal has been approached by the committee and will be running for the position of Vice President.</li> <li>- Andrew accepted the nomination</li> <li>- Dietmar asked for nominations from the floor. (none came forward)</li> <li>- Rich moved to close nominations. Second by Malcolm.</li> <li>- Andrew is acclaimed as the new TAC Vice-President. (2 year term) <b>Congratulations Andrew!</b></li> </ul>  |  |
| <p><b>11. Elections (Secretary)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nelson Reposo has been approached by the committee and will be running for the position of Secretary.</li> <li>- Nelson accepted the nomination</li> <li>- Dietmar asked for nominations from the floor. (none came forward)</li> <li>- Rich moved to close nominations. Second by Malcolm.</li> <li>- Nominations are now closed.</li> <li>- Nelson is acclaimed as the TAC Secretary. (2 year term) <b>Congratulations Nelson!</b></li> </ul>   |  |
| <p><b>12. Elections (Competition Director)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Serge will be running for re-election as Competition Director.</li> <li>- Dietmar asked for nominations from the floor. (none came forward)</li> <li>- Rich moved to close nominations. Second by Margaret</li> <li>- Nominations are now closed.</li> <li>- Serge is re-elected as Competition Director. (2 year term)</li> </ul>   |  |
| <p><b>13. Procedure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As Chuck has given notice of his resignation from the position of Social Director, Dietmar asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none at this time.</li> <li>- Nick motioned to Ratify and Sanction the actions of the previous year. Second by Rich. Voted and Approved.</li> </ul>   |  |
| <p><b>14. Adjournment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Motion to adjourn by Rob M. Second by Rich. Voted and approved.</li> <li>- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10PM.</li> </ul>  |  |

*The next scheduled members event is the Year-End Party on Saturday December 8, 2007 at the Fox & Fiddle. (6:00pm)*



# 2008 Membership Application

**Mail:** 14 Princess Anne Crescent,  
Etobicoke, Ontario, M9A 2P1

**Email:** [registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca](mailto:registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca)

- New Members – Single or Family \$50.00  
 Renewal Members – Single or Family \$50.00

**JOIN or RENEW ON-LINE :** JOIN-> [www.casc.on.ca/joinAClub.php](http://www.casc.on.ca/joinAClub.php)  
 RENEW-> [www.casc.on.ca/welcome.php](http://www.casc.on.ca/welcome.php)

- TAC Membership includes 2008 CASC-OR (Race, Solo) & RSO (Rally) affiliation
- Family rate limited to family members domiciled at the same mailing address.
- Renewals : Indicate membership number # (if known)
- 2007 membership numbers will be reserved until February 1st, 2008.
- All memberships expire December 31 2008. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1st Member \_\_\_\_\_ [# ] Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

First Member \_\_\_\_\_ [# ] email: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd (Family) Member \_\_\_\_\_ [# ] email: \_\_\_\_\_

3rd Family Member \_\_\_\_\_ [# ] email: \_\_\_\_\_

4th Family Member \_\_\_\_\_ [# ] email: \_\_\_\_\_

5th Family Member \_\_\_\_\_ [# ] email: \_\_\_\_\_

The Newsletter FIFTH GEAR, is available on the website. Check here if you do NOT want a mailed copy

**PAYMENT METHOD:**

Cash  Cheque # \_\_\_\_\_  MasterCard # or  VISA # \_\_\_\_\_

Card Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Cardholder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Amount:  \$50  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL \$:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TAC works only because volunteers make autosport happen!**

So that we know *your* interests (and where you can help out) and can therefore plan the right mix of events – please complete the information checklists below ...

Please indicate your 2008 autosport interests

- Solosprint (Solo 1)
- Autoslalom (Solo 2)
- Navigational rallying
- Performance rallying
- Road racing
- Vintage Racing
- Ice racing
- Karting

Please indicate three areas that you can help with in 2008

- Solo (1/2) organizer / worker
- Road Rally/Ralliette organizer
- Contract Rally organizer
- Rally Checkpoint/Green-crew
- Social Event Organizer
- Ice race organizer / worker
- Event timing / scoring
- Performance Rally organizer