



Fifth Gear

April 2012



www.torontoautosportclub.ca

Toronto Autosport Club

2012 EXECUTIVE:

PRESIDENT: Rob McAuley (905) 335-3141 rob@rmcauley.ca
VICE-PRESIDENT: Paul Moore (905) 898-7483 vicepresident@torontoautosportclub.ca
TREASURER: Rita Moore (905) 898-7483 treasurer@torontoautosportclub.ca
SECRETARY: Graham Tulett secretary@torontoautosportclub.ca
COMPETITION DIRECTOR: Dietmar Seelenmayer (416) 250-7082 dietmar.s@sympatico.ca
SOCIAL DIRECTOR: Jane Worobess

2012 COMPETITION CO-ORDINATORS:

TIMEATTACK /SOLO-I Carsten Gieschen (416) 792-2804 cgieschen@dynamic.ca
AUTOSLALOM /SOLO-II (position vacant)

2012 COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES:

RALLYSPORT ONTARIO: (position vacant)
TIMEATTACK /SOLO I: (position vacant)
MEMBERSHIP: Paul Moore (905) 898-7483 registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca
WEBMASTER: Brooke Jacobs (905) 764-1833 brooke@brooke.net

Club Mailing Address: 275 Court Street, Newmarket, Ont, L3Y 3S6

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 MOOSE AND FIRKIN, 7600 Weston Road at Hwy 7 (SW corner), just west of Hwy 400 in Woodbridge (www.mooseandfirkin.com)...

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME !

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. Past issues of FIFTH GEAR are posted for viewing on the club website.

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.

Advertising rates (per year) : \$150/full page; \$75/half page; \$25/business card size

Toronto Autosport Club is proud to be affiliated with the following sanctioning bodies:



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

If it's felt like spring all winter, when does it start to feel like summer??

It's snowing as I type this - in mid April, and I'm thinking of how great that would be for the learning experience at the Time Attack School we are organizing in three weeks. Though wet weather may turn off some students, it's a great way to learn car control. It makes the skid-pad much more fun!

The Time Attack and Autoslalom seasons have kicked off with their Open Houses on April 1st. Thanks to Jennifer and Ralph at CSC Racing in Newmarket. They do a great job hosting us, and offer good discounts on that day. Though we don't keep attendance, it seemed like numbers were up. There were a few potential novice candidates who signed up with the club, and I heartily welcome them. Come on out to our TAC events: The DDT School, TMP/Cayuga on July 7, and Grand Bend on September 22/23!

I had a great time chatting with people I hadn't seen over the winter, and trying to figure out how to set up my car to run in an good class. I may take out Wife Sue's new (to her) BMW 335xi. With all-wheel-drive, it's a blast in the rain. Maybe if I do well, she'll let me run it as an Ice Racer, or enter it in some performance rallies!

Speaking of rallies, the RSO AGM took place last month. It was comparatively low key compared to last year. All current board members were returned by acclimation. There was some discussion on changes to proxy voting procedures, but the committee that was struck last year decided it was best to leave the existing rules in place. I was on the committee, and though we looked at a number of different processes, I agree that what we have now works very well. The smaller clubs were concerned that a large club could dominate meetings and take over the AGM to get their own members elected. However this has never been the case, and the larger clubs are very supportive of anyone wishing to step up and be on the Board - regardless of which club they belong to.

I thank everyone who sent their proxy to me. I can assure you that you were well represented!

Coming up this weekend is the CASC-OR President's Meeting. The main item up for discussion is their fee structure. CASC is proceeding with license fee increases, but have decided not to increase club affiliation fees. I've found the whole process very frustrating. The TAC Board wrote a letter to CASC expressing our concern that they were pricing themselves out of reach of new members. While President Perry Iannuzzi acknowledged receiving our note, CASC never responded to it. I would much prefer that CASC keep license fees down for individual

members, and charge clubs more, lest they scare away people when they apply for licenses. We also need inexpensive entry level licenses, or waived licenses for novices just coming out for a trial weekend.

Now, be sure to mark some upcoming TAC events on your calendars! The weekend of May 5/6, TAC is helping to organize the Time Attack School at Mosport's DDT track. I hope to see some TA rookies out, and some of our more experienced drivers helping to instruct around the track and skid-pad.

The monthly meeting in May - on the 16th - will take place at 1st Choice Garage. They are at 51 Jevlan Drive in Vaughan, which is right around the corner from our usual meeting place, the Moose & Firkin. We will meet at 1st Choice at 7pm. Please let Social Director Jane Worobess know if you are coming, as she'll be providing food for all. She can be reached at socialdirector@torontoautosportclub.ca.

Our Discover Ontario Rally runs in early June. We are hosting the Alfa Club of North America at a fun rally later in June, and our first Time Attack competition goes in early July.

Our big social event of the year runs the weekend of July 20. This is the ALMS race at Mosport. Watch for flyers in upcoming Fifth Gears. We need 30 people to come out to make this event viable, and continue getting the great deal on tickets that Mosport offers. Please bring your friends. They'll get the same discount as members, and they're invited to the barbecue at the TAC corral!

On a sad note, I have to observe the passing of a dear friend. My 1998 blue BMW 328is was sold by my daughter a few days ago. The car had 400,000 kms on it. It had been driven to British Columbia for a winter of ski patrolling, and even with a new rad it was overheating and leaking coolant. The new owner expressed his appreciation of the Euro M3 suspension and M3 limited slip differential.

This was the car that got me into auto sports. It started off in BMW schools at Mosport and Cayuga, then graduated to Time Attack the following year. The OMP race seat that I installed in it was transplanted into my M3 race car. The Avus Blue 328is will be missed by us all. How fitting that my wife's 335xi is the same colour!

Looking forward to seeing you at the track!

Rob
TAC President



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**We're Going on a
FIELD TRIP!**

**Toronto Autosport Club's May
Monthly Club Meeting**

Wednesday, May 16th – 7:00 pm

DON'T AGONIZE – ORGANIZE!

Do you have a garage, basement, storage room or any other area of your house that could use a little organization? Join TAC's May monthly club meeting at the showroom of 1st Choice Garage Outfitters for a demonstration of the many ways in which to improve your home.

They specialize in many areas – organizing recycling areas, work centres, sports centres, garages, (to name a few) along with installation of overhead storage, wall organization, cabinetry, floors and garage doors. 1st Choice also has a full range catalogue on their website.

Come on out and join us on May 16th. The experience just might give you some ideas as to what you can do on the long May weekend to follow shortly afterwards.

1st Choice Garage Outfitters

Showroom

**51 Jevlan Drive, Unit #1
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Website: www.1stchoicegarage.com

Show Room: 905-264-9111

Email: sales@1stchoicegarage.com

(Hwy 7 and Weston Road Area)

Snacks to be provided.

R.S.V.P. Jane Worobess,

Social Director:

pitajane@hotmail.ca



TAC 2012 EVENTS CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>EVENT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>CLUB</u>
APRIL 2012			
13-15	F1	UBS CHINESE GRAND PRIX (Shanghai)	
14	Rally	KWRC SNATR #1, Kitchener	KWRC
15	TimeAttack	Time Attack Instructor School, Mosport DDT	CASC-OR
15	INDY	Streets of Long Beach	
18	Meeting	TAC Monthly Club Meeting, Moose & Firkin, Weston&7	TAC
20-22	F1	GULF AIR BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX (Sakhir)	
27-28	Regional Race	Spring Fling, Shannonville	
28	ORRC	Spring Runoff Rally , Hastings	PMSC
29	INDY	Streets of Sao Paulo, Brazil	
MAY 2012			
04-05	OPRC	Lanark Highlands Forest Rally , McDonald's Corners	MCO
5-6	Regional Race	BEMC Spring Trophy Mosport	BEMC
5-6	TimeAttack	School Day, Mosport DDT	
5-6	TimeAttack	Time Attack School #1; Mosport DDT	
11-13	F1	GRAN PREMIO DE ESPAÑA SANTANDER (Catalunya)	
12	Club Rally	Blossom Rally and KWRC SNATR #2, Campbelleville	KWRC
16	Meeting	TAC Monthly Club Meeting, at 1st CHOICE GARAGE OUTFITTERS	TAC
20	Mobil1 Autoslalom	Mobil 1/Toyo Autoslalom #1 Mosport DDT	SPDA
24-27	F1	GRAND PRIX DE MONACO (Monte Carlo)	
25-26	CRC	Rocky Mountain Rally	CSCC
26-27	TimeAttack	Event #1 &2; Mosport DDT	
26-27	Regional Race	DAC Trillium Trophy Races, Shannonville	DAC
26	TimeAttack	Time Attack Event #1 ; Mosport DDT	
27	INDY	Indianapolis 500	
27	TimeAttack	Time Attack Event #2 ; Mosport DDT	
27	Mobil1 Autoslalom	Mobil 1/Toyo Autoslalom #2 Picton	St LAC
JUNE 2012			
3	INDY	Streets of Belle Isle, Detroit	
8-10	F1	GRAND PRIX DU CANADA (Montréal)	
9-10	TimeAttack	Event #3 &4 ; Shannonville	
9	INDY	Texas Motor Speedway, Ft Worth	
09	Club Rally	KWRC SNATR #3, Woodstock	KWRC

More events to appear as 2012 Schedules are released.

For more information on any event, please contact the organizing club or sanctioning body directly.



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Totally Hacked: Part Two

It has been a long winter! (Although in the Toronto area, winter arrived and left on the same day. I think it was a Tuesday.) If you remember, Rita and I laid down a deposit on a 2011 Ural motorcycle and sidecar just before Christmas. The day had finally come to pick it up! With the sun shining and a blistering 2 degrees (wind chill of -8 according to the Weathernetwork), we set off to Peterborough and the headquarters of Ural Canada, strangely located inside Peterborough Cycle Salvage.

The pickup process went off without a hitch, although the customer walk around was fairly brief and followed by, "drive around the parking lot a couple of times to see if you can handle it". I was a bit concerned to see on the PDI form that the throttle cables had been replaced (too short) and the rear brake light switch was also swapped out. Well, at least they did a good job on the inspection.



Excerpt for the Ural manual: "It is critical that a beginning sidecar driver becomes thoroughly familiar with the special operating characteristics of sidecar outfits before venturing out on the busy roads".

I have been riding for 33 years now and I spent the winter studying everything I could get my hands on about riding hacks. I would be able to figure it out, right?

OMG moment #1: I pull out of the parking lot and head north up Highway 7 accelerating to a blistering 60 km/h. Both mirrors immediately fold in, each giving me the best view of the other. Quickly followed by.....

OMG moment #2: I signal the right turn to head back into Peterborough on Monaghan and begin to take the ramp at a sedate 40 km/h. The ramp bends gently right and I plow straight ahead and up on to the median! My single-track vehicle imprinted brain counter-steered into the ramp. This has no effect at all with this double track vehicle!

I tooled around the city and toured the quiet subdivisions. The Ural makes a pleasantly deep exhaust note and is virtually vibration-free. Subtle power delivery and very linear brakes make it stress free to plunk around town. I was getting the hang of this! I ventured back out of town in search of some quiet country roads to build up some speed.

OMG moment #3: Rounding a left hand curve at about 70 km/h, I see two deer dart out from the left side of the road and bound across the roadside fence on the right about 50 meters in



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front of me. I come to a complete stop. A third deer ambles out of the brush, wanders across the road about 10 meters in front of me. It attempts to clear the fence, however snags the top wire and is slingshot back onto the road at high velocity directly towards me. Great, the bike now with 40 km on the clock gets written off by a deer while sitting stopped!?! The deer misses me by inches and runs off into the bush.

I had a few accessories added to the Ural from the dealer. A second seat on the bike (it uses old styled “tractor” seats) as well as an aftermarket clear windshield on the bike and a Ural folding windshield on the sidecar. Both do a great job of directing the freaking cold April air away from the rider and passenger.

Other standard equipment on the Ural is a 100-watt spotlight on the nose of the sidecar (presumably for jacklighting deer), spare wheel and tire, and a huge luggage rack. One of the coolest features is a fully functioning reverse gear which is great for maneuvering in tight places and keeping you out of trouble.

OMG moment #4: I found a nice, quiet gravel “no winter maintenance” road heading over to the river. The township had laid down a layer of soft fresh gravel. While cruising along, the front wheel suddenly decides to veer left. I counter steer to correct, which exacerbates the sudden left turn and sends me straight for a canal of icy water. Full application of those linear brakes cause all three wheels to burrow into the soft gravel about thirty centimeters, but I stop about a hand’s width from the water. Time to try out reverse and back out of the situation!



The sidecar has a very large lockable trunk. In fact, it is larger than my three hard bags on the BMW combined. Those bags set me back \$2000 when I bought the BMW in 2005! Just yesterday I had the following in the trunk: full size foot pump (standard equipment), 25-pound tool roll (also standard equipment), tonneau cover for the chair, Dow canvas cover for the entire rig, Rita’s Aerostich jacket, Rita’s helmet, owner’s and shop manuals, extra gloves, a bunch of binders (Rita was in Peterborough on a course). I still had room to spare. I am guessing that the trunk will hold about a week’s worth of groceries.

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The second day of ownership was spent poking around the bike. I discovered why the spare tire and rear rack were bouncing so much. The four bolts holding the mounting bracket to the trunk were not tight. Good thing nylocks were used or we would have had a “flying bike tire incident” for Cam Wooley to report! Other than cleaning up some dangling wires in the chair and removing the incredibly cheap looking brand stickers from the bike, everything else seems to be in order.

OMG moment #5: Road camber. For those who don't ride a motorcycle, motorcycles are always perpendicular to gravity when not in motion. They lean to turn, but when stopped, the rider has to hold them upright regardless of the camber of the ground beneath the wheels. Not true on a Ural! The entire rig leans with the camber causing me to quickly slam my foot down to the ground to “catch” the tipping bike. I hope that one isn't on youtube!

Reflecting back on my handling difficulties of the first day, I should have heeded page 71 of the Ural owner's manual.

“Warning: Left-hand and right-hand turns may be dangerous”



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and 1000SP these beauties are in very
restorable shape they are not running I
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PACKAGE OR NONE AT ALL!!!!!!! (sic)



Toronto Autosport Club - March 2012 Executive Conference Call Notes

Call date: March 7, 2012

Call time: 8:06 pm

Present: Paul M, Rita M, Dietmar S, Rob M, Graham T

- President's Report:
 - o RSO AGM upcoming March 17 in Peterborough – Rob to attend; one member one vote with unlimited member proxies
 - o CASC-OR competition license fees have gone up with no further discussion however the club affiliation fee increase will be discussed at the upcoming CASC Presidents meeting.

- Vice President:
 - o Now 93 total members – 6 life + 54 primary +33 family with some pending applicants.

- Treasurer:
 - o Chequing account balance \$4755.37; PayPal \$127.77; savings \$16,251.12
 - o Ice race accounting not final but the club appears to have made some money despite cancellation of racing early Sunday resulting in lots of refunds.

- Competition:
 - o Ice race weekend – successful as a competition event.
 - o Ice racing drivers meeting was discussed and some rule changes likely including street studs and a question mark about the full stud menard classes.
 - o Time Attack – Open House upcoming April 1 at CSC Racing

- Social
 - o Jane is working on an alternate menu venue as a special event

- New business:
 - o Possible changes in government regulations regarding non-profit corporations will be investigated by Paul M.

Call adjourned: 9:02 pm

Notes recorded by G. Tulett.

Toronto Autosport Club – Minutes of March 2012 General Meeting

Meeting date: March 21, 2012

Meeting opened: 8:08 pm

Attendees: 9

Motion to accept the minutes of the February 2012 general meeting was moved by Dietmar S, seconded by Jane W and carried. New club member Jonathon was welcomed.

1) President's report:

- a. Rob M attended RSO AGM. Steven Denaka has replaced Alastair Robertson as windup trustee. Proxies were not an issue.
- b. CASC-OR fee increased for club affiliations to be discussed at April 15 Presidents meeting
- c. Volunteer awards for 2011 have now been finalized. Program will continue for 2012.

2) VP Report :

- a. 91 total members now – 6 life, 46 primary and 39 family. Some variance in processing.

3) Treasurer's Report:

- a. Chequing account balance \$4,618.37
- b. PayPal balance \$224.27
- c. Investment account balance \$16,265.46
- d. Ice race profit expected to be approximately \$1,000
- e. Interim CASC-OR \$300 affiliation invoiced and is expected to increase post April 15.

4) Competition Report:

- a. Ice racing season concluded with six events despite weather and no full studs.
- b. Time Attack Open House on April 1
- c. ORRC DOCR Rally by TAC to be held in June
- d. Contract Rally on June 22 will need volunteers on the Friday.

5) Social:

- a. May 16 Club meeting to be held at First Choice Garage Organization company
- b. ALMS racing weekend July 22 – ideally need 30 participants

6) Old Business: Rob M has followed up with Malcolm and will resume in April.

7) New Business: Petro Canada is running the Ultra94 promotion and TAC will participate again.

8) Items for sale: nil / Items wanted: Dietmar is looking for a new ice racer for next season.

9) Loonies in the bus: Rob won the \$9 loonies in the bus as we are out of gas gift cards.

Adjournment: about 8:58 pm - Minutes recorded by G. Tulett.



Membership Application

Mail: 275 Court Street,
Newmarket, Ontario, L3Y 3S6

Email: registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca

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

(You may PAY ON-LINE or by Cash or Cheque; Please see below...)

- TAC Membership includes CASC-OR (Race, Solo) & RSO (Rally) affiliation for the year
- Family rate is limited to family members domiciled at the same mailing address.
- Renewals : Indicate membership number [#] (if known)
- Assigned membership numbers will be reserved until February 1st.
- All memberships and affiliations expire December 31.
- Please be aware that membership data may be shared with CASC-OR and/or Rallysport Ontario.

Date _____

1st Member _____ [#] email _____

Address _____ Home Phone (____) _____

_____ Bus. Phone (____) _____

Province _____ Postal Code _____

2nd (Family) Member _____ [#] email _____

3rd Family Member _____ [#] email _____

4th Family Member _____ [#] email _____

5th Family Member _____ [#] email _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash Cheque # _____ PayPal Other TOTAL \$: _____

To pay by PAYPAL/Credit Card, please visit the Club website at: www.torontoautosportclub.ca.

This Application Form must also be filled out and submitted so we have your information.

You should begin receiving the FIFTH GEAR newsletter within 2 months. Please let us know if you don't.

FIFTH GEAR is also available on the website. Check here if you do NOT need a mailed copy

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 autosport interests for the coming year :

- TimeAttack (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 this year :

- 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