



# Tell Tale

*Repeat after me: "I resolve to write one article for the TT this year."*

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AUGUST 2010

## CHUMPCAR SPOKANE

I'd like to thank everyone involved in this race for a great race. The Lawn Tractor VW rabbit wasn't the fastest car there but us probably out handled most of the cars in the corners. We had an oil leak early on that put us behind, but we were steadily moving towards a top ten finish. At about the 3am mark, we were involved in a shunt in turn 1, destroying the left front corner of the car. Unfortunately this ended our day. Fortunately we have already acquired a new tub and hope to be ready for Portland

TC members Pete Belfanti, Andy Robottom, Sir Colin William Danger Waltz, Terry Amundsen, and I made up the drivers, and our crew guy was Charlie Peake.



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**Race Chairman**

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**Submissions:**

Electronic submissions are preferred.

Don't spend a lot of time on fancy formatting.

The editor rarely exercises her right to edit all submissions for length and grammar.

editor@teamcontinental.com

**The Tell Tale**

**The Official Publication of Team Continental**

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**MEETINGS**

**G e n e r a l  
M e m b e r s h i p  
meetings will be  
held the third  
Wednesday of the  
month at Mar's  
M e a d o w s a t  
7:00pm.**

*General Membership Meeting will be held the third Wednesday of the month at Mar's Meadows at 7:00pm.*



# Grand Prix - \$1,000.00

Paid at the conclusion of the race day following  
Team Continental's Event at O.R.P.  
October 1-2-3, 2010

Cuz what's a Grand Prix without a Grand for a Prize?

STAR Projects division of Master Mechanics is posting a \$1,000.00 prize fund and you (and that dubious ride of yours) have just as much chance of winning it as the big spenders (maybe better).

- Here are the rules:
- There must be an Official existing lap record in your class previously established at either of this year's two T.C. Races.
- Your car must be legal for the class entered. Conference legality rules apply.
- You must finish the race.
- The Driver to lower the official race lap record the most wins.
- The prize fund will be distributed as follows: \$500.00 for most improved, \$300.00 for second most improved and \$200.00 for third most improved.
- The lap record you beat may be your own record from a previous race. (Aren't you glad you sandbagged).
- Sponsor reserves the right to increase or extend the prize fund as additional funds are available.
- In the event of an exact tie, both competitors will be awarded the full amount of their winning position. (at a thousandth of a second I am feeling safe).
- Sponsors (or maybe someone else's) decision will be final.
- Female winners also get a kiss from a handsome mechanic! (sorry to disappoint anyone).



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## BOD MINUTES

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Team Continental  
Board Meeting  
Mars Meadows Restaurant  
August 4, 2010

Meeting called to Order by President Eric Howell at 7:10pm

Board Members in attendance:

President Eric Howell, Treasurer Mitch Lea, Secretary Kristine Craine, Executive Board Rep Scott Hanken  
Driving Master Duane Starr., Race Chair Steve Leonard, Communications Director Jeff Hanken,

Board Members absent:

Vice President Mark Hanken, Contest Board Rep Jonathan Clark

Guest Members in attendance:

Gail Fetterman, Peter Linssen, Bill Murray, Russ Newhouse, Bobby Smethers

I. Call for Agenda Items

II. Board Reports

- a. Vice President: Mark Hanken Absent. No Report.. b. Treasurer: Mitch Lea presented current financial reports
- i. Balance Sheet: All current bills that Mitch received been paid. 1. Steve questioned if a few items payment status
- a. Driver Levy: Paid. b. Ambulance for June Race: Unpaid. Mitch has not received a bill- projected expense \$4,250
- ii. Bank Charges: 1. Savings Account: Currently saving account is paying around a 1% interest rate-earning interest of just over \$1 every month. The cost to keep the account active is \$15 a month. Mitch is purposing we close account as it is costing the club money to keep open every month. Mitch will look into other options.
2. Merchant Account: Currently TC's B of A Merchant Account is charging the club \$25 as a minimum to keep the account open. Mitch questioned what the merchant account was used for & if it was even still used now that the majority of our transactions are done thru motorsportsreg. This led into a discussion regarding Motorsportsreg and the amount of money the club is spending by processing credit cards thru the website. The club spent \$2,358 processing credit card race entries for Race 1 & 2 (excluding drivers training) with Motorsportsreg. Steve purposed we consider using an alternate credit card processing machine. Steve has a company that he has worked with for several years that would rent a processing terminal for \$20 for the weekend then offer a rate of around 2-2.5 as opposed to the 5% Motorsportsreg charges. Concern was brought up by Peter Linssen that he was not supportive of outsourcing the credit card processing, as that is how Motorsportsreg makes their money. The club is not charged for the service of using the website, but only charged for credit card processing, and by bypassing them TC is screwing the company that provides us with a great service. Duane purposed instead of using a different credit card processor to instead try to encourage customers to pay with cash or check reducing the fees incurred with using credit cards. There was much discussion regarding this topic and it was decided that the board would table the discussion until we looked further into pros/cons of all options.
- iii. PO Box: Mitch expressed concern about who was checking PO Box- that he wanted to make sure he was receiving all bills. Eric informed him the Membership Chair, Ali Montgomery was in charge of checking it. Ali regularly checks it and passes all mail along to Eric who then distributes it to proper members so all bills have been given to treasurer. This led to conversation regarding all billings; Steve Leonard commented that he would like to see the treasurer deal with all bills as opposed to going thru multiple hands. Mitch said he was happy to do whatever needed to be done, just needed to know how the board would like it done. Steve will work with Mitch on billings from race.
- iv. Race Finances: Steve expressed concern on how we are reporting our accounting for races. Steve feels he is struggling to try to run a business without a clear P&L. Steve asked Gail Fetterman to assist in Race finances to try to get a clear picture of exact costs of putting on a race. Mitch said he would complete a further break down of race expenses; Mitch was unaware that the reporting needed to be so detailed. The board asked Mitch to complete an expense report for each race, broken down with detail. Steve feels we have lost a lot of money putting on these past two races & that is not reflective in the balance sheet-as the club went from having \$25k in the bank in April to now having \$10k in the bank.

*General Membership Meeting will be held the third Wednesday of the month at Mar's Meadows at 7:00pm.*



Steve will get together with Mitch to ensure all bills are accounted for, make sure we have an organized break down of each event & determine if we are making it or breaking it.

c. Secretary: Kristine Craine No Report. Secretary was informed Tonya Kihlstadius is the new Tell Tale editor-all minutes need to be sent to her by the Friday preceding the Board Meeting.

d. Executive Board Rep: Scott Hanken. No Report. Report will be given with Eric Howell under Old Business.

e. Contest Board Rep: Jonathan Clark Absent. No Report.

f. Driving Master: Duane Starr reported the last event did take a loss but with a smaller car count was able to try a different format and learned a lot. Duane changed format to 2 groups running rotating 30 minute sessions, feedback was people really liked increase track time, and shorter gap between session. Board considered not having October date after a weak turn out for June event but decided June was a rough date with a heavy June race schedule & the club shouldn't make decisions based on outcome in June. Duane is looking forward to event and looking for suggestions on improving event as well as enticing new customers. Jeff purposed trying to run hour-long sessions, but the board felt new drivers learn more when they have time to reflect between shorter sessions. Steve purposed running the drivers schools as half driver school/half test day to get increased participation out of experienced drivers not interested in a lapping day, but more of a test/practice day. Duane will consider all options. Eric questioned new ways we could market event, suggestions were given to market to specialty car shops, and Friday & Saturday night drags. Jeff will look into further advertising options.

g. Race Chair: Steve Leonard reported we are going to have a race! October 2-3 2010. This is the last race TC will be putting on for the year, and the last event on the ICSCC schedule. Looking to have a great event, leaving customers with a fun, long lasting impression, having them excited to come back & race ORP next year.

i. Track Rental: Track rental will be less for this event. TC is receiving promised credit from ORP from sale of trailer totaling \$3k. TC is also receiving credit for enduring expenses to bring Bob Bernard out to ORP to certify track, totaling in expenses around \$2,200-Steve Leonard will ensure ORP has all receipts so reimbursement may be made.

ii. Entry Fees: Steve was considering the possibility of raising entry fees for last event, there was much discussion about topic & board decided that they would support Steve in whatever decision he made to ensure a successful race.

iii. Special Race Group: Steve has been looking at doing a special race group to try to increase car count. Steve still has to look into logistics and receive permission from conference but looking to invite Vintage as a special race as they are one of the largest & most viable classes. It was also suggested to consider Spec Racer Fords as an option since SCCA cancelled their October race they will not have an opportunity to race ORP this year. They have one of the largest classes in OR SCCA and could potentially have a large turn out. SRF cars could then also run in group 6 as a 2nd race entry. Board will talk to contacts within SRF community.

iv. Community Bite: Steve has been looking at a way to increase participation between the local grass valley community & ORP. Steve recently meant with The Sherman County Judge to discuss ideas and came up with an idea to have a "Community Bite" Saturday night of Race #3. Event would be held at Morrow Fair Grounds, rental cost is still undetermined but looking to be around \$100-\$150. Idea would be to invite 3-4 restaurants to set up at fair grounds & offer a \$10 a plate meal, have someone running a beer garden, offer music, and have a really fun night. Looking to work with locals on this event as it is going to take a lot of local support to make this happen. So far feedback from the community has been really positive. Steve is hoping to pass this project off to Spiritual Leader to take over responsibilities of coordinating event from TC's side. This event would be TC's Saturday night race dinner. Each racer, and possibly one crewmember would receive a ticket in their registration packet-any additional crew or family would be \$10 a ticket. Board thought this was a really fun creative idea, just hoping its not taking on too much with under 2 months until next race. Board supported idea pending local participation.

v. Race Announcement: Steve announced race announcement has not been sent out as Steve has been waiting to send announcement until last minute to try to include "Community Bite" in announcement. Bill Murray requested that Star Projects \$1k incentive for October race also be included in announcement. Steve will work with Bob to try to get all information in announcement without additional charges.

h. Communications Director: Jeff Hanken requested that TC purchase a laptop computer for communications director's position. The communications director's position is virtually impossible to do without a computer as his duties include and are not limited to updating website, forums, and social networking sites, all needing to be done from a computer. Jeff is currently without a computer forcing him to do all board responsibilities at work, which really isn't an option.

Board supported idea but discussed that it really wasn't in budget at this time. Bill Murray suggested asking the general membership for a laptop donation before spending the money on a new one. Board decided seeking out donation was the best option at this time. Kristine will be in contact with Tonya about placing ad in Tell Tale seeking Laptop donation for Communications Director.

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i. President: Eric Howell. No Report. Report will be given with Scott Hanken under Old Business.

III. Old Business:

a. Picnic Announcement: Picnic Chair Bobby Smethers announced that there WILL be a picnic this year. The membership decided at the July general meeting that TC will put on a picnic with out funding from the club, picnic will be put on based on donations only. Currently the club has received over \$250.00 in donations. Donatio Pledges were also made by members, the amount is unknown at this time as Lynn was keeping track of the pledges; Bobby will follow up with Lynn to get those names & collect funds. Picnic will be August 20-21-22 at the Flying M Ranch, North River Meadows Camp Site. The August general meeting will be held at 5pm at Picnic, pot-luck food & fun to follow. Bob is currently working with Flying M to get \$5 per car per day fee waived. Members interested in camping overnight will be charged a \$17 per car per day fee. Bob has requested a \$100 check from TC (from the donations already made by members, not out of the general fund) so that that he may take care of necessary expenses. Motion was made by Steve Leonard for TC to write Bob Smethers a check for \$100 for Picnic, and to also be in charge of collecting pledges from members. 2nd by Duane Starr. No objections. Motion Passes. Bob thanked everyone, and reminded the board again that there will be a picnic August 20-21-22 at the Flying M Ranch.

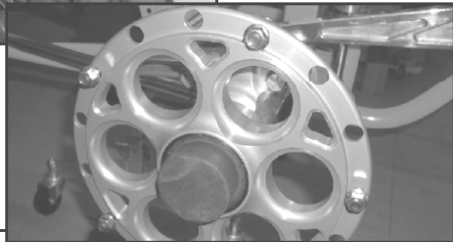
b. Misconduct at May Race Investigation: Eric & Scott reported Eric has been in contact with Tom Miller and Kevin Skinner regarding misconduct that occurred during the weekend of the May ORP Race. Eric sent Kevin/ICSCC a letter stating action had been taken against individuals involved w/o being named & matters were resolved with bunk house owners. Kevin was not satisfied with response not including names and has now requested turn worker assignments for May ORP Race. Russ Newhouse (TC Chief of Flags) reported he has been in contact with Lynn Rimmer who has original list of turn assignments & she should be sending complete list to Russ & Steve Leonard by this evening. Board is more then willing to cooperate with providing turn assignments. Eric will forward list to Kevin as soon as he receives a copy. Scott reported an emergency E-Board meeting has been called to address this matter. Scott will be attending meeting as E-Board Rep, and will invite Steve Leonard to attend as alternate. Eric & Scott will keep board updated as he communicates with Kevin Skinner & Tom Miller.

IV. New Business: No new business was brought up at meeting.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Kristine Craine. 2nd by Duane Starr. Meeting adjourned by President Eric Howell at 10:27pm



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## **Tell Tale**

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**TO:**

**General Membership Meeting:**

**Held the third Wednesday of the month at**

**Mar's Meadows at 7:00pm.**