

Tell Tale

REPEAT AFTER ME: "Before I close this Tell Tale, I am going to make a couple of copies of my favorite flyer and post it at work."

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 4

April 2013

President's Report

2013

May is coming up on us VERY quickly, and Pete and Ben and their race and promotions teams have been spending every free minute out pushing the events. I was excited to see such a huge and well done promo flyer in the Men's room at PIR this weekend when I was out there at the Chump event. Very nice work!

While the promotions for our weekend have been great, with Ben and Bill and others making it out to the Swap Meet and Roadster Show, and Pete and Al pressing for registrations during driver trainings at PIR and The Ridge, **entries are still low** and **volunteer needs are still high!** Please enter soon, enter multiple races, tell your friends, rent out your car – do whatever you can to help us actually make a few bucks in May! Volunteers are needed. Talk to Pete Belfanti, peterbelfanti@yahoo.com about helping out with SCALES, BASE COM, RUNNERS, CORNER WORKERS [CRITICALLY NEEDED], and/or BACKUP RACE ANNOUNCING! Time to step up and help make all of his prep lead to a smooth weekend of fun racing!

We're not stopping in May though... Having only a single race weekend this season, my goal is to keep the momentum going this summer and begin planning other TC events. We've started the discussions on ways to expand and promote Team Continental beyond our long-standing reputation for putting on great conference races, and while we have hurdles to running schools at PIR, it's time we continue the conversations on holding local [PDX] alternative events and promotions to draw new people out to ORP and our races and schools. Star Projects has been working to do just that, and I think whatever we can do to continue to help cross-promote Bill's Rat Race on Sunday and Monday following our race weekend is a huge step in the right direction. I'm anxious to race in the dark and looking forward to Sunday night!

Thanks for all of the hard work over the past couple months!



This is going to be a great *racing4fun*weekend!

[Can I still use that phrase Mitch, or was that your personal catch phrase!?]

-Terry

2013 TEAM CONTINENTAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Terry Amundson president@teamcontinental.com 503-539-4300	Vice President Duane Starr vicepresident@teamcontinental.com 503-318-6722	Past President Mitch Lea 503-702-9821
Secretary Bob Smethers secretary@teamcontinental.com 971-207-5147	Treasurer Valorie Starr treasurer@teamcontinental.com 503-693-7394	Driving Master Jim Larfield drivingmaster@teamcontinental.com 503-234-3721
Membership Director Kevin Smith membership@teamcontinental.com 503-693-7394	Race Chairman Pete Belfanti racechair@teamcontinental.com 503-803-6627	E-Board Rep Kevin Smith eboard@teamcontinental.com 503-693-7394
Contest Board Rep Jon Wilson cboard@teamcontinental.com 503-788-7825	Communication Director Ben Weaver communcations@teamcontinental.com 425-299-0602	Team Continental Registrar Valorie Starr RaceRegistrar@TeamContinental.com 503-668-6998

Tell Tale Submissions: editor@teamcontinental.com

Electronic submissions are preferred.

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

The editor rarely exercises his right to edit all submissions for length and content.

Bill Murray, Editor

The Tell Tale

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MEETINGS

The General Membership Meeting will be held April 17th at Mar's Meadows @ 7 pm.

Notes from the Driving Master

Entries for the May 24 Driver's Training are slowly trickling in. History shows this pattern will continue until about the first of May. I was one of the group of TC'ers promoting our event at Cascade's first driver training on March 23. There were some of whom I talked to who were very interested but just have never taken the plunge and others who had never heard of ORP.

The TC instructor seminar came off Sat April 6 without a hitch. We had several new instructor candidates in attendance ready and willing to learn what it takes to teach performance driving techniques. My unofficial count for attendees was around 25. Our special guest speaker Todd Harris started off the morning with his talk on how to read the student so you know when you can push them harder and when it's time to back off so they can absorb and gain confidence in what they are learning. Todd's talk ran beyond the scope of his original outline and it was a good



thing as we were running overtime on the rented room. After Todd's presentation we broke down our standard training information with an open discussion that our more experienced instructors were able to expand on so the new instructor candidates could understand what is required to be a TC instructor.



Todd had graciously donated a Pro Drive SkidCar course that was raffled off at the seminar. The winner was John Rissberger who donated it back to the club to be used as a promotion for our driver training event. We also raffled off a couple of TC hats and 3 tee shirts from the inaugural race at ORP (only 2 more tubs of XL tee shirts to go).

Early last month I was approached by a member of the local Shelby club wanting to know if we would be interested in doing a presentation for them about our driver training program and ORP. I accepted this invitation and started working on my presentation without carefully checking my (our) social calendar before realizing that we had made plans to be out of town on the day of the presentation. After checking around, Kevin Smith said he would fill in to make the pitch. Hopefully we can pick up a few entries from them since they have given up putting on their own track days.

Keep promoting our driver training to your friends, family and co-workers.

Jim Larfield

TC Race Chairman report

Peter Belfanti, April 3rd, 2013 3338 sw 153rd Drive Beaverton, Oregon 97006

5330 SW 13310 DINE Beaverlon, Olegon 97000 51 DAYS until ORP Bruce Baggett Grand Prix

Budget:

- 14 entries \$5390 or 18% of 30,800 budgeted
- 5 2nd group entries 50% of 1,250 budgeted
- 12 meal bands %26 of goal
- Current income to budgeted expense P/L -(\$28,944)

Worker Status:

- 28 workers required
- 6 confirmed as of today for Fri-Sunday
- 1 confirmed Sun-Sat
- potential expense to the club \$3000 out of budget if workers are not recruited from membership.
- contract for pavilion received, Grass Valley is requesting certificate of insurance for rental. How do we get this?
- Urgently need Base com person to work with Ciera.

ICSCC status:

- ICSCC required Novice Closed Wheel on Sunday Schedule updated to add NCW. Re-posted, and re-published.
- NEED Certificate of insurance! Please Kevin! Please!

Motorsports Reg Status:

• MSR is up and running all documents are current.

Promotion plans/dates:

- Roaming motorsports registration brought in \$1,100 in pre paid entry fee's.
- Need to follow up with Pro3 Group and do more co-promotion.

Trophies: No report at this time. Andy Robottom says he has it handled.

Equipment

 Need Tony Houser to visit ORP and confirm vehicles two weeks before event.

Stickers

Proofs completed and stickers ordered to budget allowed

Key issues and action items.

- Worker sign up.
- Need a pace car.
- Need Tech and Scales Chief.
- 3rd party vendor contracts, porta potty, GV fire
- Event worksheet to ORP

It may be over by the time you read this, but the last Race Committee meeting is April 15 @ Laurelwood on Sandy. Ed.

TC Race Committee 2013

RACE CHAIRMAN Peter Belfanti
RACE CHAIRMAN, Asst. Alan Kolkemo
RACE CHAIRMAN, Asst. Andy Robottom
RACE CHAIRMAN, Asst. (past rc)
Steve Leonard

ANNOUNCER Bill Murray / Jeff hanken Looking for additional help

COURSE MARSHAL
DRIVER SERVICES, Chief
EQUIPMENT, Maintenance
EQUIPMENT, Logistics
EQUIPMENT, Logistics
EQUIPMENT, Logistics
EQUIPMENT, Logistics
EQUIPMENT, Logistics
EXAMPLE TONY Hauser
Lynn Coupland
Tony Hauser
Lynn Coupland
Tony Hauser
Expended to the service of the service

BASE COMM, Chief

BASE COMM, Asst. Chief Cierra Newhouse

FLAGGING, Asst. Chief
HOT PITS, Co-Chief
HOT PITS, Co-Chief
PACE CAR, Co-Chief
Jim Larfeild

PACE CAR, Co-Chief PACE CAR, Co-Chief

PADDOCK, Chief Gordon Jones

PADDOCK, Asst. Chief
PREGRID, Chief
RADIOS, Chief
REGISTRATION, Chief

PADDOCK, Asst. Chief
Linda Blackburn
Ric Farrar
Val Starr

REGISTRATION, Asst.

SAFETY, Chief Ken Killam

SAFETY, Asst. Chief SCALES, Chief STARTER Chief

STARTER, Chief Erin Ebelmesser

STARTER, Asst. Chief

TECH, Chief Kevin smith declined possible Brian

Rissberger. Will confirm by 3/14

TECH, Asst. Chief TECH, Asst. Chief

TIMING, Chief Don Smethers
SCORING, Chief Holly Remington
CHEF, Chief Robert Waco
CHEF, Asst. Chief Johnathan Hines
Worker Liaison Steve Leonard



TEAM CONTINENTAL

&

STAR PROJECTS EVENTS

Memorial Day Weekend - May 24th - 27th, 2013





THREE EVENTS COMBINE AT ONE OF THE COOLEST TRACKS IN THE NATION TO BRING YOU THE BIGGEST AUTO RACING WEEKEND TO BE HELD IN NORTHWEST THIS YEAR!

FRIDAY MAY 24th: Team Continental Track Day and Driver School featuring one-on-one instruction by some of the most experienced drivers in racing! Most street cars are eligible. Instructor fee included, only \$205. Jim Larfield, Driving Master: 503-539-2677 drivingmaster@teamcontinental.com

SATURDAY & SUNDAY: It's race 3 & 4 of the International Conference Of Sports Car Clubs 2013 Championship Racing Series. **Team Continental** presents The Bruce Baggett Memorial, a double race weekend featuring the Pro's And Joe's event for BMW PRO-3 cars. Run groups for all Conference race classes.



Pete Belfanti, Race Chairman: 503-806-6627 racechair@teamcontinental.com

SUNDAY EVENING & MONDAY, MEMORIAL DAY: STAR Projects presents **the first ever night race at O.R.P.** A split eight hour endurance race for "crap can" RAT Race cars and most Conference production cars. Four hours Sunday night / four hours on Monday. Entry fee for one car and up to four drivers \$645.00. Prize fund: \$1,000.00 to win! Competition license not required. Check the website or call for car prep requirements. Bill Murray, Event Coordinator: 503-358-2617



www.starprojectsevents.com

REGISTRATION FOR ONE, OR ALL THREE EVENTS NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE: www.motorsportsreg.com Or call the numbers above for more information.

GUESTS WELCOME! ADMISSION IS FREE!

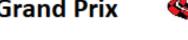
COME FOR THE DAY OR STAY FOR THE WHOLE EVENT.



Team Continental

Announces the

Bruce Baggett Grand Prix





May 24-25-26, 2013

This event is sanctioned by ICSCC under the 2013 Competition Regulations featuring a 2-DAY,

DOUBLE RACE Championship points format, plus world class driver's training, presented by Team

Continental at Oregon Raceway Park in Grass Valley, OR.

In addition if you desire more Oregon Raceway track time (1 HOUR), Team Continental is featuring the PROs vs. Joes German Touring Car Challenge Saturday Evening group 8 featuring PRO3 (PRO3 Class rules), PRO44 (PRO44 Class rules) & Unlimited German Touring Car Class.

Entries Open: Upon receipt of this announcement

Entries Close: Postmark, fax or register on-line by May 20th, 2013

Driver's Training (all day Fri)	
Test and Tune for race entrants (Fri)	
1-Race (sat or sun)	\$235
2–Race Combo (sat and sun)	\$385
Additional Entries (per day)	\$125
Late Fee (registered after May 20 th)	\$ 50
PROs vs. JOEs Entry	\$125
Each Additional Driver	\$ 25
Single Novice (sat OR sun only)	\$199
Novice 2 race package (sat and Sunday)	\$380
Crew and Spectators:	FREE
	e entrants (Fri) 1-Race (sat or sun) 2-Race Combo (sat and sun) Additional Entries (per day) Late Fee (registered after May 20 th) PROs vs. JOEs Entry Each Additional Driver Single Novice (sat OR sun only) Novice 2 race package (sat and Sunday)

Submit all Entries To: <u>www.motorsportreg.com</u>

Or contact: Team Continental Race Registrar

Valorie Starr 36801 SE Proctor Rd. Boring, OR 97009

RaceRegistrar@TeamContinental.com

Race Chair Peter Bellanti: (503) 803-6627 (cell), <u>peterbellanti@vahop.com</u>
Asst. Race Chair Andy Robottom, (971) 226-7459 (cell) andymr113@yahop.com
Asst. Race Chair Andy Robottom, (971) 226-7459 (cell) andymr113@yahop.com
Competitor's Liaison Gordon Jones, gracer25@msn.com

** <u>Driver Training</u> will be held Friday, May 24, 2012 – contact Jim Larfield at <u>DrivingMaster@TeamContinental.com</u> for additional information.

<u>Paved paddock spaces</u> will be assigned once your entry is processed and will be issued upon your arrival at the event. Only full size tractor trailers, driver training participants, and driver training instructors will be allowed to paddock before the end of Friday drivers training at 5:00pm. All others must form a single file entry line starting at the south edge of the gravel paddock area. <u>Please Do Not attempt to paddock without paddock marshal direction.</u>

A Meal Armband can be purchased @ \$30 for Saturday and Sunday Breakfast and Lunch as well as the <u>Saturday Evening sourmet dinner Social</u>

<u>Everyone Welcome!</u> Free beer Sat Night!! Please Drink Responsibility!!



Team Continental

Announces the

German Touring Car Challenge

With Pros vs. Joes May 25, 2013



The PROs vs. JOEs German Touring Car Challenge is a one hour special feature race event for German built race cars, held at the end of the day Saturday, May 25, 2013.

ELIGIBILITY: Licenses – ICSCC IRR/ARR, SCCA, CACC, FIA, ASN or NASA. Other licenses subject to ICSCC License Director approval. No novice license drivers. ENTRY FEE: \$125.00 USD per car and first entry, \$25.00 USD per each additional driver.

CLASSES: Enter in SPECIAL RACE GROUP 8 for the following classes:

- ULGT (Unlimited German touring Class)
- PRO3 (PRO3 Class rules) Pros vs. Joes participation encouraged
- PRO44 (PRO44 Class rules)

Trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in class.







PRESENTS:

BAGGETT'S LEGACY

EIGHT HOURS OF ENDURANCE AUTO RACING!



This is a split event and ends at 1:00 p.m. Monday, Memorial Day......Be home for dinner!

\$1,000.00 TO WIN!



SUNDAY NIGHT, FOUR HOURS RUNNING THE SOUTH COURSE.

THE FIRST NIGHT RACE AT O.R.P. EVER!

MONDAY MORNING, MEMORIAL DAY, FOUR HOURS FULL COURSE COUNTER CLOCKWISE.

THE FIRST RACE EVER IN THE REVERSE DIRECTION!

- STAR Projects welcomes all Rat, Chump, Lemons and other "\$500 format" Race Teams.
- Most Conference, NASA, and SCCA production based cars are eligible to run in the "overqualified class."
- The entry fee for one car (includes four drivers) is \$645. Extra drivers (more than four) \$100. each.
- A minimum of two drivers are required for this event
- To qualify as true RAT Racer, cars must run on a 300 tread ware tire or harder.
- Teams that have one or more drivers entered in the Team Continental Driver Training on Friday the 24th can earn a \$100.00 discount on their Rat Race entry.
- We have rental cars available and also help drivers meet a team to race with.

Registration on: <u>www.motorsportsreq.com</u> Rules etc. <u>www.straprojectsevents.com</u>

Questions? Bill Murray Event Coordinator 503-358-2617 10:00 a.m. to Midnight

* "Never build a track that only runs one direction" Bruce Baggett



The cream rises to the top! It is a proven concept: This "Race within a race" was won at P.I.R. by Ronnie Swyers, and at Thunderhill by August MacBeth. \$100. 1/3 to operational costs, 1/3 to the prize fund, 1/3/ to a local charity. So, I know what your thinking..... Do I have the talent?.........Well do ya?



TEAM CONTINENTAL – GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 20, 2013

Location: Mars Meadows, Delta Park

Meeting was called to order at 7:01PM by TC Vice President, Duane Starr;

TREASURER (Val Starr): (see handouts)

- Current bank balances were presented via TC General Funds Report dated March 6, 2013:
- ICSCC insurance payments are split in 3rds, 1st of the payments has been paid to ICSCC;

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR (Kevin Smith):

 Current membership consists of 111 total members, notifications have been sent to previous year members encouraging renewals;

SECRETARY (Bob Smethers):

- Meeting minutes are available for review at each BOD and General Membership meeting;
- Discussion on whether full financial disclosure should be published & distributed. Balances and cash flow reports are presented at TC BOD and TC General meetings – inquiries will always be addressed.

DRIVING MASTER (Jim Larfield):

- TC Driver Instructor Training Seminar is scheduled for Saturday April 6th;
- Todd Harris will be guest speaker Todd would like to become a TC Member Membership Director Kevin Smith will take this as an action item;
- Registration for this event is currently available through MotorsportReg.com, 17 are registered so far;
- Chef Robert Waco is seeking total number of attendees for food planning;
- Jim Larfield reminded us that every entry registered through MotorsportReg.com for any TC event builds an ongoing database of entries;

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR (Ben Weaver):

- TC hosted a booth at the recent Portland Roadster Show 1 out of 20 attendees visited the TC booth;
- PIR Swap Meet booth is available in 2 weeks (\$50 cost), need volunteers to staff outdoor 20 x 20 booth which is still available, however power to feature multi-media presentations may not be available;
- Jim L Shelby club had a display at Portland Roadster Show w/numerous inquiries about ORP events;
- Ben W inquired whether MSR provides a metric to define how attendees hear about this event;
- Cierra asked how TC advertises volunteering for events at ORP? Flyers, emails and videos are available through TC Driving Master Jim Larfield;
- Bill M is presenting a volunteer training scheduled for March 30th at ORP featuring a classroom session and fire suppression training with F&C session with go-carts on track;



RACE CHAIRMAN (Pete Belfanti):

- Registration through Motorsportsreg.com is available, 13% of total projected revenues received so far;
- ORP documents have been completed including insurance certificate;
- Expenses to be paid prior to the event include worker lodging, sanction & track fee and food expenses;
- RATS meeting TC Race Chairman had a good conversation with ICSCC Steward Terry Overdiek;
- ROD director Transportation may be an issue to attract needed workers out of Canada;
- (M/S Pete B/Bill M) Motion that TC does not participate in the ICSCC request to host worker registration questionnaire event through MotorsportReg.com; Discussion: Cierra N What about volunteers that don't have internet access; Peter N We already have a process in place to determine club affiliation through MSR, including workers who may not have direct access to MSR web site:
 - Russ N Do volunteers have to register for each weekend to be included in this database? Kevin S we don't need to create a separate event through MSR to provide a benefit to the club; **Motion passed**;
- Chef Extraordinaire Robert Waco Wristbands will be available for purchase for all meals for the weekend which gives visibility for food planning prior to the event;
- Steve L Attended worker training last Friday where some confirmed volunteers were recruited:
- The Grass Valley RV park is available for showers, overnight camping and provides internet access;
- ICSCC Insurance costs are close to budget and announcements have been submitted for publication;
- Current goal for the event is budgeted for 80 entries, participant event stickers have been ordered;
- Registration is open for Pros vs. Joes special race group and include promotional plans for facebook, social media, etc;
- TC Race Committee is scheduled for (tomorrow), Tuesday March 21st at Laurelwood Brewery;
- Pace Car may be provided through Duane Starr or Mitch Lea;

TELLTALE (Bill M) – March TellTale is available for distribution and is posted to TC Web Site;

EXECUTIVE BOARD REP (Kevin Smith): no report; VICE PRESIDENT (Duane Starr): no report; PAST PRESIDENT (Mitch Lea): no report; CONTEST BOARD REP (Jon Wilson): no report; DRIVING MASTER (Jim Larfield): no report;

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

OLD BUSINESS: (none)

RATS Race attendees had a great time at Thunder Hill;

NEW BUSINESS:

 NWAA (NorthWest Autosports Association) to be held April 12th featuring ground school &autocross;

 Ben W – Upcoming possible publicity opportunities include show & shine event, Marque Club events;

M/S – Motion to Adjourn, **Motion passed**, meeting adjourned at 8:20PM;

Respectfully Submitted, Bob Smethers, TC Secretary

TEAM CONTINENTAL – BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 3, 2013

Location: Laurelwood Brewery - Portland, OR

BOD MEMBERS: Bob Smethers, Ben Weaver, Jim Larfield, Pete Belfanti, Kevin Smith,

Jon Wilson, Mitch Lea, Terry Amundson, Val Starr, Duane Starr

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Bill Murray

Meeting called to order at 7:10PM by TC President, Terry Amundson

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TC wishes Skip Yocom a speedy recovery from recent surgery;

 The Memorial honoring Gordon Baron's passing was well-attended, see TC Web Site for memoriam;

OFFICER REPORTS:

RACE CHAIRMAN (Pete Belfanti): (see handout);

- 51 days remaining until Bruce Baggett Grand Prix!
- Review of current 1st race entries, 2nd entries and meal armband sales with % received to budgeted goal;
- Discussion of financial exposure and whether event cancellation contingencies should be planned;
- (M/S Kevin S/Ben W): Motion to move forward with the scheduled ORP race without further discussion on the (pre-event 30-day deadline) April 23rd. Motion passed, 1 opposed;
- Discussion regarding number of volunteers committed vs. number required to host a ICSCC event;
- ORP Schedule has been revised to include Novice groups on Sunday, per ICSCC Steward & PPM;

CONTINUE

- ICSCC Insurance Certificate pertaining to the ORP event has been requested;
- Promotions and Marketing efforts are being implemented at various events and opportunities;
- Pros vs Joes German Touring Car Challenge are being featured at the ORP event need more entries!
- Trophies are in process, event stickers have been ordered;
- Pace Car will be staffed by Duane Starr;
- Early prepaid race entries will be entered into a raffle to win 2 races for price of 1;
- An additional Base Communications volunteer is desperately needed for safety crew dispatch;
- The next TC Race Committee meeting will be held 7pm Monday, April 15th at Laurelwood Brewery;

TREASURER (Val Starr):

• ICSCC Insurance premiums have been paid in full, TC has a positive bank balance;

VICE PRESIDENT (Duane Starr):

March General Meeting was brief and well-attended;

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR (Kevin Smith):

- 113 paid members, only 2 recent member renewals since March general meeting, target of 120 for 2013;
- 5-6 long time TC Members have not renewed from 2012 for the 2013 season;
- Kevin had sent email to pre-2011 TC Members soliciting membership renewals;

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR (Ben Weaver):

- TC will NOT be participating in the upcoming PIR Swap Meet due to unforeseen time constraints;
- Bill Murray has generated a flyer for TC and Rat Race Event weekend for advertising & distribution;

DRIVING MASTER (Jim Larfield):

- 4 driving school entries, 10 hpde entries & 8 test & tune entries have been received to date:
- Driver Instructor Training Seminar is this weekend, 9am noon Saturday April 6th at Oxford Suites Jantzen Beach 12226 N Jantzen Dr, Portland, OR 97217. Featured presenter Todd Harris (ProDrive) has donated a SkidCar course entry to be raffled at the Seminar. Approximately 20 driver instructors have responded indicating their attendance;
- Discussion regarding a small number of potential instructors who do not have current competition licenses. These folks may be given the opportunity to serve as spare instructors and would be evaluated & approved to be driver instructors by currently licensed TC Instructors. This group would be required to attend the 2013 TC Driver Instructor Training Seminar;
- Jim asked if TC has the capability to video tape the Driver Instructor Training Seminar;

PRESIDENT (Terry Amundson):

• Mark Hanken has reserved the Newport Hallmark for 2014 TC Banquet, 3rd weekend in January;

 TC Financial Committee is proposed to include Don Smethers, Mark Hanken, Mitch Lea and Val Starr. This committee will report action items to the TC BOD for discussion, recommendations will presented to the TC General Membership for approvals, when necessary;

EXECUTIVE BOARD REP (Kevin Smith): no report;

PAST PRESIDENT (Mitch Lea): no report;

CONTEST BOARD REP (Jon Wilson): no report;

SECRETARY (Bob Smethers): 2013 BOD and General Meeting Minutes are available for review;

OLD BUSINESS: (none)

NEW BUSINESS:

• Bill Murray expressed concern as to how TC Driver Training Certificates indicate whether the Student is/is not eligible for novice license;



COMMITTEE REPORTS: no reports;

(M/S – Kevin S/Jim L): **Motion** to adjourn, **Motion passed** (unanimous), meeting adjourned at 9:03PM;

Respectfully Submitted, Bob Smethers, TC Secretary



It's a guy thing

Wimp.com: http://wimp.com/tirejump/

Submitted by Bill Bachofner

Gordon Barron, Jr – Past Member of TC

We've lost another TC friend, a member of Team Continental since the 70's until he stopped racing in the 90's, Gordo was an active part of TC. He was one of a string of Porsche drivers to be helped along by our favorite 'unauthorized' mechanic, as he always said in his ads, Nick Feoderhoff. That string of drivers included Gary Wright, Todd Webb, Gordo, Chris Rockweit, myself, and others. Gordon raced a Porsche 914-4 in Conference G Prod for a few years, then moved to a 914-6 in D Prod, and eventually to SCCA Vintage, usually running #76 with the familiar colors, to correspond with his business, Portland 76 truck stop south of Portland.

Gordon was a man of many trades over the years, from his work at Abbott Laboratories, to the huge Portland 76 auto-truck stop, to his gopher extermination business Gopher Blasters, then to his Barron Wahl Vineyards. Gordon was proud to share some of his award winning wines with friends.

Gordon was born June 12, 1933 in Belen NM, and passed away at home in Sherwood on March 17, surrounded by his family. Gordon will be missed by his wife, Joan; son, Bud; daughters, Leanne, Leslie, Tricia and Noel; and adored grandchildren; great-grandchildren; friends; and faithful animal companions. Gordon and Baggs were good friends, and visited each other frequently last year.

A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at Barron Wahl Tasting Room in Sherwood.

TC red

Some personal thoughts on Gordon Barron:

Team Continental marks the passing of yet another of our past members Gordon A. Barron Jr.

Gordon served as T.C. President in 1973, the year I started racing. His personal push was to promote the club and solidify the T.C. brand by having all our race cars painted the club colors of red and black (That explains both my TR-4 and early Javelin paint schemes). He was also adamant that T.C. should take on full "Member Club" status in Conference and put on our own race. It would be another 14 years before we could bring that dream to fruition.

Gordon was a proud man of extreme drive and very high personal expectations. He hated to lose at anything. His life path and self-made success was set against a background of wide contradictions. In many ways I think he was a true enigma, as much to himself as anyone. His origins were a mystery, and one with which he never truly came to grips. The various permutations of his life story were embraced and discarded, evolving as he was always looking for his roots.

When I first met Gordon he was of Spanish / Mexican heritage born in New Mexico, He told me once that he was raised in the Barrio of Los Angeles. He escaped the prevalent L.A. gang life of the post war years and at one point did a stint in the Army serving in a medical capacity, the details of which, he never was very clear.

By the late 70's he had traced his ancestry to the Navaho and was a devotee of their culture. One time in Reno he treated a bunch of us racers to a fine meal at an excellent Basque restaurant; he theorized over dinner that he was genetically disposed to have an affinity for that kind of food. By the turn of the millennium he was identifying with the Sephardic Jews as a member of the lost tribe of Israel.

From wherever he came, and from whomever he descended, he was relentless in his work ethic. In the mid 70's Gordon was a V.P. with United Biologics, located just a couple of blocks up the street from Celebrity Attractions where I worked. I was the youngest T.C. President to ever be elected and was taking the job quite seriously when I dropped into his office to ask, rather apologetically, if he could help me with some matter of club business "I know you're busy" I began....Already committed to the task he offered, "What do you need" "If you need something done ask a busy man to do it....there is a good reason he is busy". Obviously those were words I never forgot.

Gordon had a beautiful wife, beautiful children, and a beautiful house with some acreage off the then much more rural Bull Mountain Road in Tigard. The 1974 club picnic was held there and he loved the place. Shortly thereafter a job promotion he could not turn down took him back to Los Angeles. He lived on an airplane for nearly two years commuting home to Joan and the kids on the weekends and finally moved the family to Southern California where he had a one way 90 minute daily commute.

The next thing for Gordon was the '76' Truck Stop South of Portland and his cars were to give up the red and black for the orange and blue of Union Oil Company. To lure in the truckers for fuel, Gordon insisted on top notch food and service in his restaurant. Like everything he did in life he worked it hard and the business flourished.

Gordon eventually sold the truck stop and his next enterprise was the winery. This brought on a natural linear expansion into the gopher blaster business. After he had purchased equipment for injecting air and propane into the ground he liked the tool so much he became a dealer for the manufacturer. Another friend of mine (and short time T.C. racer) Ron McKay got a demonstration of Gordon's machine: After pumping a tunnel system full of the explosive mixture he would turn and say in a very earnest voice "This is not a toy" and then with obvious pleasure create a minor earthquake when he detonated half an acre of gopher condo. Ron told me Gordon insisted that "one demonstration was never enough" just so he could repeat the process, again with the same admonition "This is not a toy". By the time he left, Ron was pretty sure there wasn't a gopher alive in the county.

I don't know if Gordon ever grew comfortable with his lineage, whatever it was, or with the fact that he didn't need a pre-packaged identity. He was one of a kind, unique in every way. I have never been one to be easily impressed. Gordon impressed me when I first met him, and he continued to do so for forty years. We didn't spend a lot of time together, but I will miss knowing he is around, working hard on something.

He was my friend.

Bill Murray







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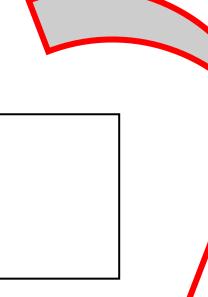






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