

Fell Tal

Planning for 2017 events is starting now, volunteer to be a part of it. And don't forget to RSVP and attend the Christmas Potluck!

VOLUME 26, ISSUE 12

December 2016

TC President's Message

Good friend, long time TC member and past president Chris Billings passed away the evening of November 15th in his sleep.

I first met Chris Billings in 1990 at a Conference race, we were both racing in G production. I had a red MGB and he had a white Pinto. We soon became friends. I was an ac-





tive TC member and he soon joined. Chris was a Mechanical Engineer and understood that math and science was the key to tuning race cars. My tuning skills

consisted of hearsay, luck, and other people's advice. He taught me not to make a change to my car until I understood the reasons why it would effect my car and what direction the change should go. He quickly became quite knowledgeable in race car chassis tuning and helped me to become a better tuner.

Over the next few years our friendship grew and we decided to be partners and build a SCCA American Sedan car. In our first trip to the Runoffs in 1996, we started the 45 car field race on the front row and led the most laps proving that using sound engineering skills to construct and tune a race car was a valid theory.

Throughout the next 15 years my racing priority was with my son Dylan and our adventures took us racing Quarter Midgets, Road Race Motorcycles, Midg-

ets and Sprint Cars. Chris helped us with shock absorber tuning and general set up advice on the wide variety of racing machines we chose to play with including coming to the track. Chris' advice helped us be nationally competitive. Most of my cars had his shocks on them and I never saw an invoice.

Chris played a major role in bringing me back to Sports car racing, which resulted in Me, Darcy and Dylan becoming involved in Team Continental again. Chris was my go to man when I had set up questions and didn't understand the math or

theory. He always had the answer and if he didn't know off hand he would find the answer, no matter how long it took.

Chris was my friend and I will





2016 TC President - president@teamcontinental.com

2016 TEAM CONTINENTAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Scott Olsen president@teamcontinental.com 360-430-4521	Vice President Your name here!! vicepresident@teamcontinental.com	Past President Ben Weaver pastpresident@teamcontiental.com 425-299-0602
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Darcy Olsen	Stacey Smith	Dylan Olsen
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503-522-2016	503-803-6627	503-668-6998

Tell Tale Submissions: editor@teamcontinental.com

Electronic submissions are preferred. Please don't spend a lot of time on formatting.

The editor may edit all submissions for length and content.

Kevin Smith, Editor 503-522-2016

The Tell Tale

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MEETINGS

General Meeting At the Christmas Potluck

Board Meeting

Wednesday December 7th, 7 PM Laurelwood Public House 5115 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland, OR

Christmas Potluck

Saturday December 10th, 6 PM Red Lion Jantzen Beach 909 N Hayden Island Dr, Portland, OR

Team Continental 2017 Board of Directors & 2016 Driver of the Year Voting

If you are receiving the Tell-Tale print edition, please feel free to use this page as your ballot. Mark your votes and send to:

Team Continental Voting

PO Box 2273

Portland, OR 97208-2273

If you receive the Tell-Tale via email, and are a registered member, please vote online using motorsprtsreg.com at: https://www.motorsportreg.com/index.cfm/event/survey/uidSurvey/92FFA84C-04D0-6EC8-

AE28FA722F4E751E

Ballot:

President	Scott Olsen	Driver of the Year:
Vice President:	Jim Larfield	Todd Harris Craig Johnson
Secretary:	Darcy Olsen	Kevin Smith Jon Wilson Skip Yocom
Treasurer:	Stacey Smith	
Executive Board Rep:	Carl Clinton Skip Yocom	
Contest Board Rep:	Joe Harlan	
Race Chariman:	Bob Smethers	
Driving Master:	Dylan Olsen	
Membership Chair:	Dennis Roberts	
Communications:	Pete Belfanti	

December 2016

TELL TALE 4

Team Continental General Meeting Minutes Mars Meadows-Portland, OR

November 16, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by President, Scott Olsen.

GUESTS: Glenna Conklin

ANNOUNCEMENTS: From Scott - With a heavy heart I have sad news. Long time TC member and Past President Chris Billings passed away this morning in his sleep. He was my good friend and will be sorely missed.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

PRESIDENT, Scott Olsen: Scott thanked Ben for running the last BOD meeting in his absence as he was out of town on business.

PAST PRESIDENT, Ben Weaver: Absent.

VICE PRESIDENT: Position vacant.

CONTEST BOARD REP, Kevin Smith: Met at SeaTac for the ICSCC Fall Meeting. I cast our votes as TC voted. Everything went as expected. Some interesting items -Triple race weekends can have 25 minute race sessions. Clarification on number of Novice races required for single and double races.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR, Dennis Roberts: We have a total of 7 paid 2017 members. Our new membership dues are \$45.00.

DRIVING MASTER, Dylan Olsen: No Report.

RACE CHAIRMAN, Steve Leonard: We have multiple race dates on hold. After a bit of discussion Kevin Smith motioned to use August 5th and 6th as our race dates. Jon Wilson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Lynn Coupland says the Monday following is a Canadian holiday so we may draw some racers from Canada. Discussion led to looking at Lucky Dog to find more entries.

SECRETARY, Darcy Olsen: No Report.

TREASURER, Stacey Smith: Hand outs are on the table. Total loss for race is \$1934.72. Total loss for Driver's Training is \$1000.93. Combined loss for race weekend is \$2935.65. Checking account balance is \$8897.72.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REP, Skip Yocom: Absent. Filling in for Skip is Alternate E-Board Rep, Carl Clinton: I attended the ICSCC Fall Meeting. Out of 509 drivers 49 received trophies. The tone of the ICSCC Board was one of concern regarding downturn in entries. Choosing the Aug 5/6 race dates is good since it will not be back to back racing. We discussed combining groups 3 and 6. Soliciting from Lucky Dog racing was discussed.

COMMUNCATIONS DIRECTOR, Pete Belfanti: Absent. Pete sent a note to Scott with an update on the fire extinguishers donated by Nike. It looks like they will be ready to be picked up sometime next week.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Banquet: Darcy reports that the MSR is up and running to register for Banquet meals. Sonjia announced that Jon Wilson will be providing Friday night beverages and Gayle Kovacs and Don Crawford offered to host a Saturday wine tasting event.

Christmas Party: Scott reports that the Christmas Party will be held at the Red Lion at Jantzen Beach on Saturday, December 10, 2016 at 6pm.

(Continued on page 5)



(Continued from page 4)

OLD BUSINESS: Was discussed under Race Chairman's report.

NEW BUSINESS: Bill Murray reported that he met with Duane, Michael and Kyle from ORP to attend a meeting hosted by Andy Collin's at Pacific Raceway to discuss shrinking grids. There was standing room only. Topics included: Accessibility, credit's for Driver Training's and Conference participation.

New Nominations for 2017 Board of Director's

Race Chairman Kevin Smith nominated Gordon Jones who respectfully declined

Updates or changes from October nominations:

Peter Linssen respectfully declined to run for Contest Board. Jim Larfield respectfully declined to run for Driving Master and accepted nomination for Vice President. Dylan Olsen rescinded and will run for Driving Master. Scott Olsen accepted nomination for President.

A motion was made by Steve Leonard to close nominations. Gordon Jones seconded. Motion passes.

A motion to adjourn meeting was made by Duane Starr. Dylan Olsen seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Olsen, TC Secretary



Wanted: Your unneeded/unused shelves.

The TC container at ORP is in need of some organization! If you have unneeded shelves, or other items that may be useful for organizing TC's container, please contact Ben Weaver at <u>pastpresident@teamcontinental.com</u>



Please Return TC Trophies

It's time to return the Team Continental perpetual trophies to Jon Wilson so that he will have time to get them prepared for this year's lucky recipients. If you have one of these trophies, please return to Jon Wilson at the November or December general meetings, or contact Jon to arrange an alternate time/method of returning the trophy.

Jon can be contacted at (971) 219-3184, or by email jonwils@ppps.net

Team Continental Christmas Potluck 2016

Red Lion Jantzen Beach, 909 North Hayden Island Drive, Portland (503-967-4066) Saturday December 10th, 6PM to 10 PM, dinner at 7PM

Bring your own beverages, bring a side dish, salad, or dessert for the potluck.

Hot dishes will need to be in a crockpot or electric warmer, no oven/stove will be available. A small refrigerator will be available. Main course meat will be provided by Scott and Darcy Olsen.

Bring a wrapped gift (under \$20) if you would like to participate in the White Elephant Gift Exchange.

Space is somewhat limited. Please RSVP to Scott Olsen at <u>president@teamcontinental.com</u>, or by calling 360-430-4521

Team Continental Annual Banquet 2017

Shilo Inn, Newport 536 SW Elizabeth (541-265-7701)

January 27th, 28th

Call and mention <u>TC group</u> before 12-27-16 *Deluxe rooms \$99. plus tax

Standard rooms, \$89. plus tax - pet \$25. per night, plus \$75. deposit refundable if no damage

(Standard rooms are for up to 2 dogs-plus dogs must be in a crate when left alone in room)

All banquet meals \$40, gratuity included

Old Guard Beef Tri Tips

Trophy Chicken and Prawns

Chef Michael's Vegetarian Special

Go to MotorSportsReg.com (<u>http://msreg.com/TC2017Banquet</u>) to reserve/pay for dinner All other questions please call 503-310-8511

December 2016

REAL OFFECT	Team Continental Membership Application/Renewal				
Full Name:					
Nickname or Preference	e:				
City:	State: Zip Code: Work Phone:				
Home Phone:	Work Phone:				
Other Phone:					
New Membership					
	Status (See explanations below)				
	aining ICSCC Senior Competition or SCCA Regional License or a member in good standing for				
ship, or at least ten first in class v ing for more than three years will Inactive Member – An Active or S Continental, but who wishes to m	has won an ICSCC, SCCA Regional or National Championship, or other recognized champion- wins in races comprising more than four cars, or who has been an Active Member in good stand- lattain Senior status when present at a formal meeting. Senior Member who no longer wishes to, or cannot take an active part in the activities of Team haintain an allegiance with the Team may assume Inactive status by so advising TC in writing of nay attend meetings and may resume membership at any time by advising TC, and paying the				
	on volunteers to put on our racing, driver training, and other club below any areas where you would be willing to help:				
Driver services Registration Tech Inspection Scales Timing & Scoring Pre-grid Turn Worker Flat tow Paddock Marshall Driving Master Driving Instructor Other	President Secretary Treasurer ICSCC Executive. Board Rep. ICSCC Contest Board Rep. Race Chairman Driving Master Membership Chairman Communications Director Telltale/Newsletter Editor Picnic Chairman Banquet Chairman Christmas Party Chairman				
TC Membership Chairm	npleted form to the TC Membership Chairman or send it to: nan, PO Box 2273, Portland, OR 97208-2273. 00 membership fee along with your application/renewal.				
Signature	Date :				
Notes: Status Novice Active Senio	Membership Number: or Inactive eck # or Cash) New card sent:				

TELL TALE 8

Remembering Chris Billings

by Kevin Smith

I don't recall exactly when I met Chris. It may have been before I was a TC member at one of several TC driver trainings that I did in 1992-1995. But I know for sure that I knew him soon after I joined TC in 1995. In the fall of 1995, at the Port Orford race, I totaled my 1982 Camaro, and Scott Olsen & Chris offered to sell me a Camaro that they had decided not to use. I took them up on that offer, and Chris delivered the Camaro that I ended up turning into my first AS car on a flat bed trailer, and helped me push it into the garage to start work on it.

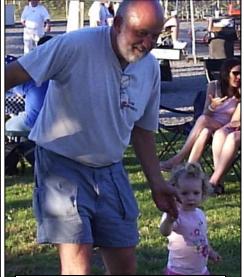
Over the winter of 1995 and into 1996 Chris and I corresponded over email about the build of the Mustang that he and Scott were doing, and about the work I was doing to turn the Camaro into an AS car.

I first raced my AS car in spring of 1997, and was doing strictly ICSCC races in 1997, 1998 and 1999, so I really didn't get a chance to race with Chris, as he concentrated solely on SCCA racing with the Mustang. In 2000, I started doing some SCCA racing, and by that time, Chris was the fast guy to beat in AS in the Northwest. I first raced against him the in March SCCA regional in 2001. I remember that day as being pretty cold and wet, but during our race, the track was dry, and Chris was racing just fast enough to stay ahead of me, and make me work. I had a blast that day. You can see the results here: http://www.oregonscca.com/index2.php? option=com content&task=view&id=559&pop=1&page=0&Itemid=113

As we raced together more, he was always the fastest guy, and the person I most wanted to beat. In 2003, Chris built me a set of rear shocks for the car (which I still am using in my current AS car), and which helped me drop just about 1 sec/lap on my times at PIR. Also, during one of these years, at a TC driver training where I was both instructing and driving, Chris hopped into the passenger seat of my AS car, and gave me some instruction in how to better drive it, and some things that I should try regarding the car's setup.

Chris raced at the SCCA national championships in 1997-2004, and his best finish was in 2004 when he came in 4th. During the 2004 season I finally got my first win over Chris in the May national at PIR. The weekend had been on and off rainy, and when we went to grid the track was mostly dry. We had to sit on grid for a long time due to track cleanup from the previous group, and while on grid it started sprinkling and the track got wet. Chris pulled off grid to get rain tires. I stayed on grid with my dry tires (mostly because I didn't have enough crew to change tires quickly), and when the race started the track was wet, and Chris took off and left us. But the track started developing dry lines and I got faster. With not too many laps to go I saw that I was catching up to Chris, and on the dry tires, got a good launch out of 12 and passed him on the front straight. That was my first national win, and it was particularly satisfying because it was against the fastest guy around in American Sedan.

The last time I raced against him was in July 2006 at an SCCA regional. He'd had car problems, and hadn't gotten a qualifying lap, so he was starting at the back of the grid. I took off trying to put as much space as possible between us while he had to work through traffic. He ended up having engine problems, and I won. But after the race



Chris dancing at SCCA evening gathering. July 2006 (I think).

he wondered why I took off so fast as the beginning. I told him he was too fast for me not to use every advantage I could get.

I've missed racing with Chris since then. Now I'll just miss him.



Chris Billings in the Mustang at SCCA Runoffs, Mid-Ohio.

TC Networking

Send your business card to the TT editor. We will publish it so other club members know what it is you do to support your habit and they can refer you additional business.







Tell Tale Kevin Smith - Editor 1440 NW 317th Ave Hillsboro, OR 97124

Deliver to:			