CANADIAN RACE COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

THE MARSHALS' CLUB











August 2007

WRITER'S BLOCK—MY APOLOGIES

~ EDITOR

Well, believe it or not, this is the first time in the 5 years that I've been editing the newsletter that I've been stuck for something to write about. I've been wracking my brain for several days and I'm still faced with "writer's block" so I've given up. This space for this issue will be donated to things you may or may not find interesting, amusing, annoying or foolish-hopefully equal parts of all of the above. By the way, you will notice that the usual last page has been temporarily removed to accommodate the Annual Awards Nomination forms-please complete and return them! Speaking of which, the banquet will be on Saturday, 27 October so put that date aside and plan to come out for great food, entertainment and prizes. Tickets go on sale this month, so make sure you see any Board member for yours!

No piece of paper can be folded in half Old accounttheir baldie, they just lose ance...



What is the difference between a terrible marksman and a constipated owl? The terrible marksman shoots and never hits.



Some days all you can do is smile and wait for some kind soul to come pull your ass out of the bind you've gotten yourself into.

most popular professional spectator NASCAR is now the second most popular processionar spect

True pedigree: 1/2 Cocker Spaniel, 1/2 sneaky neighbour's dog.



Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
Marshals' Corner	3
The Helman Report	4
Rick Helman	
Reader's Choice Awards—Inside Track	5

Special points of interest:

- People Behind the Racing
- **Annual Awards Ballot**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here it is the end of August and we about to enter the last month of racing for 2007. Where have the racing season and the summer gone! On the positive side the past three weekends at home have given me time to catch up on things around the house that have gone undone until now.

Next year will likely see one less Formula One race in North America as the US Grand Prix at Indianapolis has been dropped from the calendar. As happens so many times when one event disappears, another event winds up replacing it and it looks as though history will repeat itself. For those of you who would like to see or marshal at a Moto GP event and find that a trip to California for the United States Moto GP is out of the question not to mention outside the budget mark, September 14th, 2008 on your calendar. That is the proposed date for a second Moto GP in the USA, this time to be held at, you quessed it, Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS)!

"Any time you think you have influence, try ordering around someone else's dog."

~The Cockel Bur

This will be the first motorcycle race to be held at IMS in nearly a century and it will be sponsored by Red Bull. A new 16-turn, 2.601-mile (4.186 km) course has been built especially for this event with bikes travelling in a counter-clockwise direction.

While I am on the topic of bike races in the US, a number of CRCA members are planning to head south in March of next year for the Daytona AMA races scheduled for March 4th to 8th. If you are interested in attending and would like more information please feel free to contact me.

Hope to see you trackside again soon,

Mlooper

The 50th Anniversary Committee

Chair—Paul Meyer (905) 274-6318 pimeyer@sympatico.ca
Co-Chair—Paul Seaman (905) 839-7028 paul.seaman@tel.tdsb.on.ca
Secretary—Barb Wong (905) 471-2109 petershall@rogers.com
Member—Peter Angelidis (905) 763-6007 marving@pathcom.com
Member—Dianne Bos (905) 986-9660 mdboss@bbste.com
Member—Paul Clarke (416) 244-1326

If you have some experience and a few contacts and would like to help create a "celebration to remember", please contact any of the above committee members.

THE MARSHALS' CORNER

GET WELL WISHES

Our very own Larry McMillan found himself in hospital recently, and in the middle of his holidays no less! He's out now and on the mend, but on behalf of the entire membership, we'd like to wish him a "hi-speed" recovery and return to the track!

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The last GMM of the season will take place on the Saturday of the National SuperMoto event (15 September) immediately following the end of racing. If you have any items you would like added to the agenda, please forward them to the club secretary prior to the meeting dates. The usual Saturday BBQ will take place immediately following the meeting so we will keep it as brief as possible. Please plan to attend.

TIME TO CAST YOUR VOTES

Although there is still plenty of racing left in the season, it is time to put your thoughts together to determine who you'll nominate for Rider and Driver of the year and the Gilles Villeneuve and Barb Browne award recipients.

The ballot and background/instructions are included with this newsletter but for trouble-free convenience, you can also submit your ballot online from the CRCA website.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY—UPDATES



Note: For confidentiality, this info will not appear in the website version.

FULL CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

As you will see when you look at the schedule for September on page 7, we're closing out the season in grand fashion. September is blessed with 5 weekends, and we are contracted for 4 of them!

First up is the PMP Final Round and RACE Round 6, immediately followed by the Runway Romp



with VRRA in North Bay. We know it's a pretty long trek for some, but the weekend is always a

lot of fun, VRRA treats

us extremely well and there is some pretty awesome runway racing to boot!

Next on the schedule is SuperMoto on the 3rd weekend in September. This is a brand new contract for the



club and we anticipate a lot of exciting action. One of the organizers, Frank McDonald, thought enough of what we do that he even sat in on a New Marshals' School this spring!

We get 1 weekend off and then it's the RACE SuperSeries final round with the traditional season closeout dinner at Mike's Restaurant (Marysville Rd). CRCA foots the entire bill for

all of the workers that weekend-come on out-the more, the merrier!

We've enjoyed higher numbers this season than in the past several years, and we'd very much like to continue this trend to the end. If there is any way possible for you to commit to at least 2 of the September event weekends, we should be able to meet our goal. After all, this is the LAST month to top up on racing before the winter blues set in...!

DESIGNER T-SHIRTS—FOR MARSHALS

Melanie Freeland will be putting in another order on September 19th and they will be available at Round 7. The cost of this highquality t-shirt is \$25.00. If you're are not going to be at Round 7, you can add \$5.00 for p&h and leave your shipping address and size preference with Mel. If more than one t-shirt is going to the same address, shipping will be combined for a reduced rate. Accepted payments are PayPal, money order or actual cash (in person or very concealed, if through the post).





"Have you fallen for a marshal today?"

THE YEAR (WELL, PART OF ONE) OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY (WELL, SORT OF...)

~RICK HELMAN

It's all down to Mike Batty, BTW. Last summer, as a treat and reward for our hard working and dedicated marshals, Mike arranged for us to have an evening on the track at Shannon-ville with our own cars, along with a couple of professional drivers to show us the ropes. (For more information on that evening, please see Bob "Weed Eater" LeClair...). Mike also arranged for those of us more into two wheels (or whose cars are too leaky to be allowed on the track ©) to attend a RACE school...

Which I did, on the Friday of the RACE round on Fabi (and probably the rainiest day of the year). Because of the rain we only got a couple of track sessions in (turns out the Hog is a pretty good tack bike in the wet – whoda thunk it?), but I was hooked. A couple of my classmates were planning to go vintage racing; sounded like a cool idea to me.

So I started gathering equipment. First purchase – a set of used leathers from FAST (also boots and gloves). I looked around for a bike here and there, especially at Mosport at the VRRA event in August, but did not find exactly the perfect one. I wanted cheap, reliable, easy to work on – speed was a secondary consideration ©. Finally I found a small ad in Inside Motorcycles; sent off an email to a fella in PEI, and eventually my new (old) toy arrived (a '75 Honda CB 450 all race prepped) – on the back of a potato truck! 53-foot trailer containing the bike and various spare parts, and 65,000 (!) pounds of loose (!) potatoes - I wish I'd taken a picture.

Her name is Nellie, BTW – this from her previous owner in PEI... I tell everybody she's my Honda factory ride, which is true at least to the extent that she at one time came from the Honda factory ③. Her number was 411, but Larry Tate had prior claim to that number down here in Ontario, so I converted her to 711 using some red electrical tape ③.

That was last September...fast forward to May of this year, when I took the FAST school (worth every penny, BTW; even if you're not intending to go racing). That was my first real introduction to how physically and mentally demanding riding a racing motorcycle actually is....during my last track session of the day I got all crossed up coming out of Corner 3 (I wasn't even going very fast) and rode off into the grass. (Michel said, "(If you go in the grass, pull in the clutch, and DON'T TOUCH THE BRAKES!)" Managed to keep it up; and got back on track down by 4; but it was just because I was tired. Unfortunately, Marty and Frank Wood were there to witness it; otherwise I'd never have told a soul \odot .

Okay – first real racing event – VRRA at SMP in June. I gathered up my pit crew (Ray Zschuppe; the umbrella girl I had lined up (Uma Thurman) unfortunately had a conflict that weekend and couldn't make it. I entered two classes – P3 Lightweight, and Middleweight Production. Practices and heat races went fine, except that the bike kept jumping out of gear between 5 and 6 (turns out I was nudging the lever with my toe; bad form ©). My ace mechanic adjusted the shifter slightly; problem solved....

For the final Sunday morning, I was elated to find I was NOT at the very back of the grid – how'd that happen? ③. I was

also a bit less nervous (read: scared witless) on the start line than I had been for my heat races. The bike was running great....I was ready... had my race face on...the flag dropped.... I STALLED THE BIKE!!. (40 years of using a hand clutch was evidently not enough practice:-P). Had to push over to the wall on the front straight – right in front of Larry and Lorie in the tower – and watch from there. Of course, as soon as the race was over I restarted, no problem...

I didn't get to race at Mosport; my tow vehicle let me down – so that was my first season of racing. And thanks to Mike for lending me his truck to bring the bike and trailer home (along with a custom-made wrought iron planter for a certain someone's garden which we picked up on the way back – but that's a story for a different time ③).

Here are the lessons I learned from my first (abbreviated) season:

- riding on the track is far and away more exhilarating than on the street; likely much safer too;
- the FAST School taught me more in one day than I've learned in 40 years on a bike (except for the clutch part :-P);
- it's better to be slow and smooth than fast and ragged (me, I was SLOW and ragged; but one out of two ain't bad @);
- even though I *thought* I was flyin' around Nelson, knees and elbows dragging, Jack's pictures prove I may not have been as fast I felt ©. (BTW, Jack (Flair Photo) very generously furnished me with CDs of pictures of my FAST day and the VRRA weekend at SMP, no charge. Thanks much, Jack ©.
- it's amazing how hard it is to see the flags at corners. That's because you're focused on the line, the apex and exit. Now I understand why riders sometimes seem to miss the flags they're not dumb, just busy ©;
- don't buy your tow vehicle at a wrecker; and
- don't let your dog eat your leathers ©.

Can't wait for next year ©.



THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE RACING

~ PAUL MYERS

From "The Tach", the official newsletter of the St Lawrence Automobile

Club, July 2007

Calabogie's inaugural race weekend is just over a week away. An event I am very much looking forward to. An event that almost didn't happen. As it is, we will only be running the East track and not the full track. The event was both reduced to the East track, and saved at the eleventh hour, by the people behind the racing

For every event we attend or participate in there are a host of volunteers that make it happen. Whether it be the people that organize the event, regulate it, run it or marshal at it, it is the volunteers that allow us to enjoy an event as spectators and drivers. The full track at

AUGUST 2007 PAGE 5

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE RACING (CONT'D)

Calabogie has 23 corners and requires 60 marshals to safely run a sanctioned race. After several high profile events such as F1 at Montreal, CART race at Toronto and SCCA at Watkins Glen, the resources of the marshalling community have been exhausted. The marshals are all volunteers. Just like us they have houses to maintain, families to spend time with, jobs to pay the bills, hobbies of their own and time commitments outside of racing. Less than one week before the Calabogie race weekend there were only 14 qualified marshals confirmed to attend an event that needed a minimum of 60. In the end 16 additional marshals signed up and the organizers shortened the course to the East track which required 30 marshals. These marshals have volunteered their time and altered their plans to save the event.

At the CRDA event at Shannonville in June there were significant problems with timing. In the end the officials had to grid cars based on partial information from the timing system and their best guess. One of our crew members quietly mentioned to the officials that two of the cars should be in front of us. While this was happening I was watching from my car to see another driver berating a grid marshal regarding his grid position. The volume level was such that I could hear most of what they were shouting with my helmet on, ear plugs in, sitting in my car at least 30 feet away. Maybe the timing problems were somebody's fault, maybe they weren't, but surely this is no way to treat someone who has volunteered their time to allow us to enjoy racing.

Every car event we attend, whether it is a high profile international race, regional race weekend, Solo I, Solo II or even an impromptu lapping event, takes volunteers to make it happen. Next time you are at an event think about all those volunteers. Take time to thank them. Without them there would be no events.

I keep feeling guilty because after time spent fixing or preparing the car, enjoying my race weekends, doing home chores and family commitments I have trouble finding time to volunteer. This makes me appreciate those that do find the time.

Here are some good philosophies to remember when you are being critical of a job a volunteer is doing:

- Someone did the job in the first place to give you something to criticize, and it wasn't you
- It is ok to offer calm, quiet, constructive criticism or discussion, but if you are complaining, you just volunteered to do the job next time. I'll bet you don't do it any better under similar circumstances.

Thank you to all People Behind the Racing that make the events possible.



SZOKE & MCCORMICK WINNERS IN INSIDE TRACK

June 14, 2007- http://www.cdnsuperbike.com

TORONTO, ON – The votes for the fifth-annual Inside Track Readers' Choice Awards, presented by Castrol, have been tallied, and the winners were announced in the July 2007 issue of Inside Track Motorsport News.

In a return to the format used in previous years, Inside Track

supplied a list of potential nominees in most of the 12 categories representing various popular forms of racing in Canada, along with space for write-in nominations. Inside Track wanted to ensure that every single Canadian racer had the chance to win, regardless of whether or not they were a 'popular' choice.

The category winners are: Stock Car Racer of the Year – J.R. Fitzpatrick (CASCAR); Up & Coming Stock Car Racer of the Year – Tyler Brown (Delaware Late Model); Road Racer of the Year – Ron Fellows (ALMS, SPEED GT); Up & Coming Road Racer of the Year – Robert Wickens (Formula BMW USA); Motorcycle Racer of the Year – Jordan Szoke (Parts Canada Superbike Championship); Up & Coming Motorcycle Racer of the Year – Brett McCormick (SUPERSHOW Amateur 600 Sport Bike); Drag Racer of the Year – Daniel Mercier (NHRA Northeast); Kart Racer of the Year – Scott Campbell (RotaxMax Team Canada) and Rally Racer of the Year – Antoine L'Estage (Canadian Rally Championship).

Ron Fellows picked up a trio of additional awards. For the third time in Inside Track Readers' Choice Awards history, he was chosen as Overall Canadian Racer of the Year, previously taking that title in 2004 and 2005. Also, he was once again selected as the Canadian Racer of the Year Competing at the Highest Levels of International Competition and Most Deserving of Induction in the Canadian Motorsport Hall of Fame.

Inside Track Motorsport News is Canada's top racing magazine, and the Readers' Choice Awards are a key component of the magazine's commitment to shine a bright light on this country's current and future stars. The program is supported by title sponsor Castrol Canada, and the Canadian Motorsport Hall of Fame has incorporated several Readers' Choice Award winners into their induction celebrations.

All voting for the Inside Track Readers' Choice Awards, presented by Castrol was conducted via a controlled balloting procedure at the official Inside Track web site (www. insidetracknews.com). Polls closed at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 31, 2007. Previous Overall Canadian Racer of the Year winners include CASCAR driver Steve Robblee (2002) and former Champ Car champion Paul Tracy (2003).

SMP September 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					31 RACE Rnd 6 & PMP FINAL Rnd	1 RACE Rnd 6 & PMP FINAL Rnd
2 RACE Rnd 6 & PMP FINAL Rnd	3	4	5	6	7	8 VRRA North Bay
9 VRRA North Bay	10	11	12	13	14	15 SuperMoto & GMM
16 SuperMoto	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 RACE FINAL Rnd	29 RACE FI- NAL Rnd & Dinner at Mike's!
30 RACE FINAL Rnd						

2007 AT A GLANCE

RACE:

4-6 May—RACE Rnd 1 18-20 May—RACE Rnd 2 22-24 June—RACE Round 3 20-22 July—RACE Round 4 3-5 Aug—RACE Round 5

31 Aug-2 Sep—Nat'ls Rnd 7 & RACE Rnd 6 28-30 Sep—RACE Round 7

MCO

27-29 Jul—Ted Powell Memorial Race Weekend (Calabogie)

VRRA

15-17 June—SMP

8-9 Sep—North Bay

CRDA

1-3 June—SMP

norial Race Register online at:

www.

crca1.com



CONTACT FOR MOSPORT EVENTS

If you're planning to participate at any Mosport events this year, we recommend that you call Dorothy Manganelli at 905-434-8821. She'll ensure you are registered with MMS and that your credentials are waiting for you when you check in at registration.

Preview for October

CRCA Contracted Events

DONE!

Mosport Events

DONE!

AUGUST 2007 PAGE 7

Annual Awards

Annual awards presented by CRCA to its members, recognizing service to the Association:

Events Marshalled

30 events - a dash plaque

60 events - a small, pedestal-type trophy with space to attach the above plaque

100 events - a Hekaton 150 events - a pewter stein

500 events - (200 if member prior to 2003) a Life Membership, subject to resolution by the Board

□ For each succeeding 50 events, a small plate (bar) to be mounted on the Life Membership plaque

Special Awards

With the competition year almost over, the following are the terms of reference for awarding the 6 Special Awards:

- Founders Award
 - o Instituted in 1962, this award is presented for outstanding service by a member (not a Director or Committee member) and is the <u>choice of the Board of Directors</u>
- □ Presidents' Award
 - Instituted in 1976 in memory of Harry Clarke, a President who appreciated and valued the assistance
 of the members of his Board of Directors and Advisory Committee members. The award, to recognize outstanding service of a Director or Committee member is the choice of the President.
- □ Rookie of the Year Award
 - o This award was instituted in 1979 and is awarded, at the <u>discretion of the Board</u>, to the first-year marshal who most embodies the requirements of the ideal marshal.

The Board of Directors would welcome names of possible recipients with reasons why you think they qualify for any of the above awards, but the decision rests with the President/Board of Directors, and is final.

Club Awards

Driver of the Year

Each trophy is awarded for



Rider of the Year

"Sportsmanship – dash and colour"

Gilles Villeneuve Award

Trophy and Keeper donated by CRCA to the member of CRCA who has contributed most to motor sport during the year

Barb Browne Memorial Trophy

Awarded annually to the member who does the most to encourage, support and guide the new marshals – <u>chosen by the new members</u>

Please return this ballot by 5 October 2007

PAGE 8

Please complete any or all of the following, and either drop it off at the Knap Shack or mail it no later than 5 October 2007 to:

CRCA Member Services P.O. Box 307 Shannonville, ON K0K 3A0

						KOK	5110					
A.	My c	hoice for	r:									
			ER of the						RIDER of	the Year		
В.	My c	hoice for	r:									
	The	e Gilles '	Villeneu	ve Awar	d 							
C.	My c	hoice for	r:									
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