



The Panic Slip



2014 Officer Nominations Being Accepted...

We've had a great 2013 season – lots of new drivers, some great events, thrills, chills, and a few unfortunate spills. As we've been advertising, it's time to start our preparations for our 2014 season with our election of officers.

We have at least one member nominated for each officer position (listed later in our meeting minutes) with a much-welcomed strong showing amongst our newer members. We're still accepting nominations through the opening of our November meeting so there's still time to nominate any further members you feel would be a good fit leading us for 2014. Additionally, if you're interested in taking an active role in managing our club's activities there's still time to step up and be counted.

Contact any of our current board members (contact info at the end of this newsletter) for additional information on nominations or to register a nomination (yourself or someone else). Elections will take place at the start of our November meeting.

2013 Race Schedule – Season Complete!!!!



October Meeting Minutes

Our complete October meeting minutes will be reviewed and finalized at our next monthly meeting on November 21st. The highlights of our October meeting were:

- An extensive re-write of our by-laws and competition rules had been proposed. Most changes eliminated redundancy between our regional requirements and the national rules although streamlining our officer positions from 6 to 4 was also proposed. Membership expressed appreciation to Nathan Church for his hard work on cleaning up our outdated current documents and voted to table deciding on any changes until after a committee of three of our most experienced members examined possible implications of the proposed changes.
- Nominations for 2014 officer positions were opened with the following persons nominated at our meeting:
 - o Regional Executive (RE): Stan Howard
 - o Assistant RE:
 - Jeremy Klinger
 - Lane Holmberg
 - o Treasurer:
 - Stan Howard
 - Bob Nommensen
 - o Secretary: Aaron Gray
 - o Competition chair: Clint Oppelt

- Our annual award banquet will be on January 23rd at the Amigo with a free-for-members enchilada taco bar.



Malmstrom racing – returning in 2014!!!

Tips from the Grid

Now that our 2013 racing season has come to a close, it's time to put our equipment and our cars (for those with dedicated summer cars) into storage until spring. This month, we'll discuss how to properly store our toys so they're ready for 2014's season.

First and foremost, you should check the condition of your engine coolant with a tester to make sure it won't freeze over the winter. Throughout the season, some of us have opted to run with pure water (or a water/Water Wetter solution) or have ended up diluting our coolant mixture through having to add water to "top off" the cooling system. For winter, most manufacturers recommend a 50/50 blend of anti-freeze and water; however, check and follow what is laid out in your owner's manual. An improper coolant mixture can freeze in deep winter and end up costing you an expensive engine rebuild!



Be sure to test antifreeze in the radiator, not the overflow

While we're talking about liquids, we need to consider our fuel. If you store your car over the winter, I recommend ensure your fuel tank is full to prevent possible contamination of your fuel with water. The changes in temperature can cause the moisture in the air in your fuel tank to condense and mix with your gasoline. You should use a quality fuel stabilizer to prevent your gas from degrading while your car is not being driven.

If your car is stored for the winter and you have a "specialty" suspension, you may want to consider placing your car on jack stands until spring. Before doing this, again follow the manufacturer's storage recommendations for your suspension components. Jack stands placed under the frame will alleviate the static pressure on your springs/shocks/struts over the winter. Some suspensions should be kept "loaded" with some weight – RV jacks can be used for this purpose as should the picture. At a minimum, storing your car on jack stands prevents your tires from developing flat spots from sitting in one position for several months.



Tire care during the winter is a subject of debate across the tire manufacturing community. Some tire companies don't have any storage recommendations; however, some recommend that you don't let your tires "hard" freeze to prevent changes in the composition of the tire compounds. Personally, I bring my racing tires into my basement for the winter to avoid taking chances on their losing their maximum traction capabilities.



Tire covers keep winter storage tidy

Lastly, we should ensure our racing accessories are properly stored. Helmets can go into the back of the closet shelf in the spot where your winter sport gear resided over the summer. Air compressors or tanks should be drained, the drain valve left open to prevent condensation, and stored in a dry location. Our cleaners and other aerosols/liquids need to be kept from freezing for the winter; however, make sure you screen what you bring into your house and how you store it as many of these items are highly flammable.

Properly storing our cars and equipment takes a relatively small amount of time but will make sure you're ready to hit the track at 100% at the start of the season!

Your 2013 Region 105 Officers:

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