

RoadRally Town Hall, SCCA Convention
Friday, January 20, 2017, 4:02 pm

RRB members present: Rich Bireta, chairman, Jim Crittenden, Clyde Heckler, Mike Bennett, Peter Schneider, Jeanne English, secretary, Mike Thompson, NEC chairman, Bob Dowie and Earl Hurlbutt, BOD liaisons, and Howard Duncan, Rally/Solo Director.

Rich began the Town Hall by introducing those present, and asking the new RRB members to tell us about themselves: Mike Bennett is from Detroit region, has been involved 19 years, recently retired so feels has more time to devote to the RRB; Peter Schneider, Northern New Jersey region, rallying since 70s, travels for rallies.

New SCCA website (finally!): Rich believes that the positive response from the competitors on the recent Targa Southeast helped to move Road Rally "up the list" of things to do in Topeka. Jim Crittenden (RRB) and Jon Krolewicz (SCCA Staff) worked together to reorganize the Road Rally information at the scca.com web site. The only tasks that remain are to update the information that is found there. Jon wants to get information into the news section, especially for National rallies this year; he will attempt to put the USRRC on the SCCA website front page; Jon likes that rally has low barrier to entry (in terms of cost), and that it is easy for people to get into rallying. Jon's model for the website is newspapers; the information is intuitive to find, i.e. it is no longer necessary to go to the downloads section on the main page. The new Road Rally page includes RReNews, the events calendar, etc. Jim really likes the link to 'supplies and equipment', which includes a subset of rally apps including an app for \$6 for Class E versus buying \$2000 rally computer. If you haven't already seen the new RR webpage, check it out.

Rich introduced Jamie Mullin, who is Howard's administrative assistant, liaison to the RRB

The RRRs are now available in hard copy from Amazon (\$5.95), thanks to Jim Crittenden; he got it done through Createspace.com, an Amazon company. The link to the RRRs is:
https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1541076001/ref=oh_aui_detailpage_o00_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1. Thanks, Jim!

There was some discussion about classes, in particular how to classify people using GPS, and apps that use GPS. Per the RRRs, because of the GPS/odometer link, many are classed in Class E according to the current rules. In Class E they are not competitive with Timewise and Alfa computers. Apps are targeted to those new to the sport, to see if they are interested. At some point, we may need to redefine classes to take this into account. Most people who use GPS use it for map function, and most GPS units do not have mileage to 0.01; most units can't do both at same time. There is no Novice class at national level, many local events have novice class.

Cheryl Babbe asked if RReNews was reformatted as a PDF annually, with each author compiled, would people want this? Not much interest; those present preferred each month separate. The RR page on the SCCA website has issues starting with June 2016, up to and including January 2017.

Cheryl encouraged the RRB to do webinars on various topics; the videos can be posted on the SCCA website or YouTube; target audience primarily regional people.

Sasha Lanz said there are three new regions who have promised to put on rallies this year - Austin, TX, Houston, TX, and Utah; they are all in the same boat – how do we support Regions such as these? Cheryl asked if there can be a simple, directed, guidebook for putting on a first rally, including timeline, simple generals for GTA, tour, or course; there is lots of stuff available but it is in lots of different places.

Peter reported on the Targa event; it had to be done in six weeks; it was hard to do, but it got done.

Cheryl asked about the timeline for revising RR Safety Steward training? Rich said that at Sunday's RRB meeting, they will decide the relative importance of the projects the RRB is going to tackle in 2017. Risk Management says that they (Risk Management) do not require a RRSS per se license, but road rally events do need to have the rally prechecked by someone with appropriate knowledge. How is it determined that one has the appropriate knowledge and experience? A RRSS license is one answer.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne English, RRB secretary