



H U I L A



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SCCA HAWAII REGION NEWLETTER

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FROM THE RE's DESK

On May 30, 1992, SCCA wheel to wheel racing in Hawaii became a reality. Everyone that I have talk to feels that the event was a tremendous success, and at the end of the day everyone was laughing, smiling and eagerly looking forward to the August first and second race and driver's school.

The star drivers of the day where Art Sonen and John DeSoto, who made winning look easy driving the Mirage cars to victory. Steven Lee, driving his Formula Ford, was considered the most improved driver and did so well, that the instructors waved the requirement for a second school. Bill Gibson was our most impressive driver in the closed-wheel cars, and proved not only his driving skill, but also his ability to build a fast and durable race car. On the subject of durability, John Shrum decided to test his TR-6 by driving head on into the guard rail. Although tires flew and the guard rail broke, both John and his car emerged without a scratch. Who says British cars are not strong.

I would like to say a special thanks to Art Sonen, our driver coordinator, has been the "spark plug" who has kept me fired up through the long process of making this first event happen. Thanks again Art, it would not have been a success without you. Stewards Bob Snow, Pete Foster, Joanna Foster, and Flagging & Communications Specialist John Dillon, not only made our event run smoothly, but also contributed many hours training our local workers. Chief Instructor Al Gambetti, Jack Roose, Dave Vodden, and Tom Cahalane presented a program of instruction that was excellent in every way. Aloha to all who came from the mainland, we will remember you.

Our local chiefs all looked like pros, and even the mainland officials were impressed. Gerald Luke (Flagging & Communications), Robert Remington (Scrutineer), Jessi Weinberger (Timing & Scoring), and Keith Corenevsky (Registrar) deserve our thanks. John Grossetto (Chief Starter), P.J. O'Reilley (Pit Marshall), and Angie Gibson (Communications) looked as if they were seasoned professionals.

I just want to say, a sincere thank you to everyone involved in making our first event so successful. Without the help of all of our workers and drivers, club racing in Hawaii will not work. EVERYONE IS IMPORTANT! Let's do it again in August.

M.G. Lewis
Regional Executive
Hawaii Region

ALOHA RICH TILLSTROM

1991 H Stock Runoff Champion USAF Colonel Richard Tillstrom will be leaving the islands in July of this year. He and his family are moving to Universal City, Texas, a suburb of San Antonio.

Richard Tillstrom has been autocrossing off and on since 1967. His first autocross car was a 1967 VW Bug. Since then, he has autocrossed in a 1960 Porsche 356 Super 90, a 1966 Porsche 911, a 1973 A Modified car, and a 1990 Toyota Tercel.

The A Modified car that he built in 1973 was powered by a VW engine. He used that car to win the 1974 Southwest Divisional Championship, and he placed 4th in the 1974 National Runoffs.

He won the 1991 H Stock Champion with his 1990 Toyota Tercel.

We will all miss the challenge that Rich has been giving us in H Stock. ALOHA and good luck Rich!

RACING UPDATE

Our next wheel to wheel event will be a Driver's School and Regional Race on August 1 & 2. The time to start planning is now. Several of our drivers were unable to complete their cars in time for the first event and we can all learn a lesson from this. Preparing a race car takes time, especially in Hawaii where so many things must be ordered from the mainland.

August will be our first official race in a three race series, and will be open to all drivers who complete the driver's school requirements. We need more drivers! If you want to race, but do not own a car, Formula Fords, Formula Mirage, and Spec Racers will be available for rent. Call M.G. Lewis at 672-8255 for more details.

Be a part of racing history, and compete in Hawaii's first SCCA regional race!

QUOTES OVERHEARD FROM THE DRIVER'S SCHOOL

"The best time I've had at an SCCA event in years."

"When I saw the green flag drop for the first race, it hit me that racing really is happening in Hawaii."

"Everything went so smoothly."

"The quality of the Hawaiian drivers suprised a lot of people."

"Reminds me of the early days of SCCA."

"It's so exciting that everything seems to be moving in the right direction."

"When can we do it again?"