

A Letter from Art

May 25, 1994

Dear SCCA Members,

I often wish that I had a more exciting tale to explain my physical disabilities but the truth of the matter is that I woke up one morning with a bad headache (like the one you have when you've had too much to drink the night before) and after a trip to Emergency I entered a coma from which I awoke with my right side inoperative.

As I slowly regained focus on the world around me, I felt thankful and appreciated by the many visitors who took time out from their busy schedules to come to the hospital and visit me. I enjoyed seeing many of my SCCA "family" and I am sorry that a few of you couldn't get to say "Hi!" because I was either asleep, out to the x-ray dept., or in at least one case had so many visitors already present that they object to any more. I was told by a nurse that I had established a new record for the number of visitors (always a competitor). I want to thank every one of you very much. You don't know how good it made me feel to know I had so many friends who cared.

At first I was limited to watching races on T.V. Then as my recovery permitted I looked forward with great anticipation to being able to attend the races at Hawaii Raceway Park as a spectator.

Now I am happy to report that I am back to driving a car with an automatic trans on the street. I recently made my first attempt at driving a manual transmission and I expect soon to be able to take a parade lap with my race car. I hope one day to compete again but in the meantime I'm fortunate to have Bob "Madman" Sato as my substitute driver. I'm also pleased to have been granted an SIT (Steward-In-Training) license to help operate the races and remain a part of the activities.

See you at the races!

Mahalo & Aloha,
Art Sonen