

# FAST TIMES

The Official Newsletter of the  
Alaska Sports Car Club  
August, 1991

## Accident Claims Past President

Terry Bowden lost his life preparing for what he loved to do most: drive. I heard him say this many times, he loved to drive. He had so much enthusiasm for driving that I couldn't help but share in it each time I was with him. He inspired much in me that is the racer today.

It was Terry who instructed me early on. He ran the first Autocross school that I attended. And when the time came to participate in ground school for my first dry track race, Terry filled in for Dwight when he had an unexpected appointment. It was Terry who was in the car the first time I buried it in the snowbank at Big Lake. I remember that he got out and hitched a ride back to the pits, leaving me alone to contemplate my error. He made me feel special, that he cared about how I did and was proud of my achievements. What made this most unusual is that he found the time to help

many other novices at the same time.

His concern for the novice drivers was beneficial to each individual. But it was more beneficial to the club as a whole. He knew that a strong club is one that has strong members. During his last term as President of this club, I had the privilege of serving with him. Terry made some hard decisions and withstood the wrath of some members, but he acted for the good of the club. He did what had to be done. And he made the club stronger by doing it.

Now that he is gone, I believe that he is still making the club stronger. Once again I am aware of the fact that anyone of us could be gone tomorrow, and that I had better be prepared for it. What if I never see this person again, what are their last thoughts of me? Are they the thoughts I want them to have? I believe that Terry thought well of me before he died. Now I try to act as if people may be seeing me for the last time. I'm making it count.

Now I have his driver number on my race car and we have an event named after him. The only thing left to honor his spirit is to strive to drive like him and to contribute to as he had.

**Greg Mowlds**

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# V. P. News

I would like to start off by thanking all of the people who made the Soldotna event happen. I think that the Soldotna race was one of the best events that I have been to in a long time. Thank you all for helping out.

Here are the results from the Spring Tanacross:

- ITA 1. A. J. Criswell
- ITS 1. Jon Schneider
- ITB 1. The Bowdens (Dwight, Barbara & Terry)  
2. Travis Maxim  
3. Mike Smith
- ITC 1. Rob Winfree  
2. Mike Thomas
- Overall 1. A. J. Criswell  
2. Jon Schneider  
3. The Bowdens (Dwight, Barbara & Terry)

Here are the results from Soldotna:

- ITA 1. A. J. Criswell  
2. Ray McGoldrick
- ITB 1. Travis Maxim  
2. Dwight & Barbara Bowden  
3. Mike Smith
- ITC 1. Rob Winfree  
2. Robbie Lochner  
3. Dave Greco
- PPX 1. Terry Estey  
2. Jim Rogers  
3. Nate Laningham
- PPIII 1. Bruce Lee  
2. Cort Phalp  
3. Chip Larson
- Overall PP 1. Jim Rogers  
2. Terry Estey  
3. Cort Phalp
- Overall IT 1. A. J. Criswell  
2. Travis Maxim  
3. Dwigh & Barbara Bowden

Those of you who have good picture of the race or video tape, please get copies to me. We are making a club scrapbook to help show off our events to potential sponsors.

**Brian Andrade**

# Mirror Images

Gonna Camp out at the races!!! Soldotna, Tanacross... we still do that here in Alaska - Hallelujah! Many places have excluded that possibility for some time now - at least at track-side and on professional race week-ends. However, I remember in 1969, the TransAm Race at Mid Ohio Sports Car Course, Lexington Ohio. Jim and I drove down in my '59 Bugeye, canvas pup-tent, sleeping bags and a cooler stuffed behind the seats. Driving the Bugeye a hundred miles was always an adventure in itself. Would the oil pressure hold up? Would Brother Lucas strand us in the boonies? Would N-5 Champions be too hot? Would N-3s foul in traffic? But to go to a TransAm and camping, I can still feel the electricity of hyper-sensitive nerve ends anticipating "what next?"

Sure THEY were all there - Penske and Donohue; Moore and P.J.; Adams and Titus; Shelby and Bucknum; even some upstart with, would you believe it, a pair of AMC Javelins. Yes Camaro, Mustang, Firebird, Javelin, and a bunch of U2 Liter Alfas, 911's Datsuns and a Volvo were all there. We found a nice spot to pitch the tent after Saturday's practice, opened the cooler, ate supper and watched the sunset. A little later it began to rain and there was a commotion down hill from us, and I remember peering out to see the sky light with the torching of the out houses - nice blaze for the middle of the downpour. Cops and firefighters wandered in some time later, saved the foundations and left. The next day Jim and I reduced our fluid intake, as points of relief were much fewer and much longer lined. Raceday dawned threatening, but cleared by grid time, drying all but the Bugeye.

That was it for camping at Mid-Ohio, the Watkins Glen "Bog" was already developing a reputation, and those in charge put an end to camping freely in the infield. I'm glad we all know one another and respect this great privilege. Check your mirrors at the races, I'll be there! **R. V. Mirror**

## President's Notes

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Hi. I would like to thank the club for the support they have shown for the last two months. Soldotna was a wonderful success and we are trying for two races there next year. I would like to ask all of our members to attend the September meeting as we will be discussing the 1992 Rony Grand Prix, 1992 Summer racing and the ice racing season. We need input from our racers as to how many and what types of events you want. We still need workers and event Chairmen for the coming year. "See you in September". **Chuck**

## Biographies Due Early This Year

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Biographies and photos for the 1992 Anchorage Rony Grand Prix are due to Rony by the 15th of September. We will set up a place for you to get your photo taken and will be mailing out biography forms. This program will probably be sent out in the newspaper with a circulation of 100,000 or more. Let's get this taken care of so that we can make it great! Contact Chuck Singletary at 349-7575 for information.

## Tanacross Race Info

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Date: August 31st - September 1  
Place: Tanacross - 16 miles north of Tok Alaska  
Event Type: Wheel to wheel racing on asphalt track.  
First Grid: Noon each day  
Last Race: About 4:00 PM  
Tech Inspection: Nye Frontier Toyota  
821 E 5th  
Anchorage, AK.

Tuesday August 27th, 7:00 PM until 9:00

Registrar: Greg Mowlds

Entry Fee: \$125

Race Chairman: Greg Mowlds

This racetrack, with its extremely wide straights and large run off area, is WIDE OPEN. It is a great place to top end your car or for drivers to gain experience on asphalt at high speeds. There are plenty of camping areas, nearby showers, and restaurants. Tok has several hotels with reasonable rates. Bring your family as this is a great time. Much camaraderie is enjoyed during the evenings with Super Dave and L.J.'s campground a favorite stop for thirsty campers.

# Super Dave Sez

The weather at Soldotna was perfect! Anyone wishing to thank the person responsible for the weather can call me. See, I guaranteed the weather would be great because I bought new rain tires. The last two years I bought slicks and was accused of causing the rain. In lieu of a thank you, I'll gladly accept monetary contributions.

The racing at Soldotna was the BEST! The last time I had that much fun was last Soldotna. Even though I had some problems, broken fan belt, plug wire falling off, I had a ball. There is nothing quite like watching Terry Estey spin out directly in front of you and being engulfed in his tire smoke. Or threading your way between three spinning cars right after receiving the green flag. WHAT A RUSH! The following are some of the past months observations I would like to pass on:

1. Never say "I wonder who the idiot is that lost part of their car in the middle of turn four". Right after the race L.J. asked me if I picked up my front spoiler from turn four?

2. Always try to conceal your smile when one of the drivers in a higher class says, "My car has to be faster than yours, it has a larger motor. I don't understand why I couldn't pass you".

3. Always thank the person who's motor you borrowed. Especially if you return it

with half the case blown out.

4. Don't try to win the race in the first turn of the first race when there are five races counting for points.

5. The easiest way to ensure your car will finish all the races and keep you from whining is to do a good job of race preparation. Why didn't I think of that before the race? Whine! Whine! Whine!

6. Mr. Rogers does an unbelievable imitation of Linda Blair. All you have to do is give him Chinese food and let him wash it down with 8 pitchers of Canadian beer. What a disgusting sight.

The next ASCC event is the Fall Tanacross. I strongly recommend that everyone, who didn't destroy their cars at Soldotna, be there. This is the best place to learn to go fast, safely. Rumor has it, at a minimum, Dwight, Jim Rogers and Henry will be representing the PP cars. How about it Chip, going to drag that Datsun up? I love watching the IT racers going at it, they sure put on a good show. Come on folks, show up and have a ball. As an added incentive, Super Dave's Magic Margaritas will be available to all. Not only that, I'll be auctioning off Tess's undies during the festivities, See ya all at Tanacross.

S.D.



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