



The GRID

March 2009



Letter from the President's Desk

The 2009 racing season is officially underway with four events already under our belt. From March onward we will run on average three events per month which take lots of time and energy from the event managers to the workers that we so dearly depend on. If you haven't worked a club event lately, you may want to come out get some time in before the sun beats down and bakes us in the summer months. July 3-5th we will again be working the United States Grand Prix which calls on the club to get ALL workers out. If you have friends that are interested, please sign them up now, we want to get them trained prior to the MotoGP.

This year's Board of Directors includes five new board members. Four of the five are returning board members from some past time frame and one is new to the board. Average years of service to USARM for the board members is quite high, 2 over 30 years, 3 over 20 years of service. The club by-laws say that we vote four board members in even years and three on odd years. Last year ended with only two board members left that were elected. Five members ran for election, of which four with highest vote numbers are elected. Mike Otell was the fifth member on the ballot so he is filling the shoes of one of three board members that will be elected this fall. I hope that you will re-elect Mike this fall since he's already shown he's ready to jump in and really help. In the first month we had two board meetings, one to deal with our normal agenda which included election for Director positions and assignment, and a second one to deal with our club's by-laws. The proposed changes to the by-laws were placed on our web site and have been receiving comments and suggestions from our membership. Action items from our minutes have been assigned and follow-up will be timely in the future. This takes commitment from not only the directors, but others on committees and event managers. We all have other jobs, so volunteering to work another 10 hours or more a week could be a burden.

There are club members that want to know what really happened last year and why those board members stepped down from their duties. I can't answer that for you. There are no notes from that time period and each director made their decision by themselves for personal reasons. Rumors serve no good purpose, so let it go forward and live for today. There is an old saying, "the past is but history, the future is full of uncertainty, and the present is the first day which presents possibility." Let's take today as the first day in which we can have a positive influence on our future as a racing organization.

What's new with our club for 2009? First is our commitment to training. This includes worker as well event managers. All members will be going through required worker training/refresher course prior to the GP. Cross training is also on our agenda for event managers as we have only a few and when someone becomes ill or has a family emergency, we're left trying to fill those shoes on short notice with only a limited number of members available. Some directors/members will be doing cross-training at different club events to relieve the strain on those managers now. We all need time off for our soul. More news will follow as we set up this program.

Be safe and enjoy life,
Ron Vlastelica
USARM 2009 President

New Post Office Box for USARM

USARM has had a change in the mailing address. Please update your address books with the new address for USARM. The new address is Post Office Box 127 Gilroy CA 95021.



2009 Membership Costs



Some changes have been made in regards to the cost for both renewals and new members. It has been decided that anyone renewing their membership, or joining USARM, after May 1st, **after May 1st membership dues will be \$35 instead of the current cost of \$25.** So, if you want to save \$10 on your membership, it's in your best interest to get your membership taken care of soon.

Those that receive this newsletter, The Grid, will not receive another issue till they renew their membership. In other words, only 2009 members will receive another Grid via regular mail after this issue. Get your membership in now so you don't miss another issue and are ready to go work an event.

Applications

Enclosed are both membership and MotoGP event applications. Feel free to fill them out and send them in. You can send MotoGP and membership applications together to Ted Kuwada. His address is on the MotoGP application.

New Membership Website

We are proud to announce that we have a new website for our members, <https://www.usarm.net/>. This website is for USARM members to be able to renew their memberships and update their contact & medical information, etc. You can also **pay for your membership via PayPal** when you renew. You can also allow (or not) other registered USARM members to be able to view your contact information. You choose whether your email, phone numbers, mailing address is displayed or if all three can be displayed. **Only registered and confirmed USARM members will be allowed in to the password protected areas of this website so you don't have to worry about just anyone being able to view your information.**

This website uses an SSL certificate which means that any and ALL information passed between your computer and the website is encrypted with 256 bit encryption. This means that someone can't just intercept the communication and get the information you are giving and receiving. In order **to be able to use this website to renew your membership or update your membership information, you must first be registered.** Those that have already registered can use the username and password that you have. If you have registered previously but don't remember your username and password, please contact the USARM webmaster via email at webmaster@usarm.org

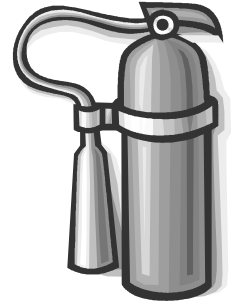
If you have not yet registered, there's a Register choice on the menu of the new website. Please fill in as much of the information on the registration form as you can as that information is to verify that you are a member. **The registration information is manually verified so please realize that you will not be able to login immediately.** You should be contact within 48 hours of registering to let you know that you are verified or asking for more information. You must have a unique email address for each member, if you need an extra email address there are plenty of places to get one such as Google Mail (Gmail), Yahoo Mail, HotMail (Live.com), etc.

Feel free to check out the new website at <https://www.usarm.net/> If you have any questions or problems with the new website, please contact the USARM webmaster via email at webmaster@usarm.org

Training - Fire Extinguisher



This is the first in a series of training articles you will see coming from the USARM Training Committee. We'll be picking a different topic each month to review with you through the Grid. This will also be covered in upcoming training that will be rolled out across USARM.



How often have you had to use a fire-extinguisher? Not often I hope. It's a rare situation that you would actually have to use one. Here are some of the steps to take when addressing a fire... No... you don't say... Hi Fire!

(Note: Fire extinguishers are referred to as "bottles")

A Fire extinguisher "Bottle" is made up of several parts...

There is the canister which is usually metal.

Inside the canister is powder. We normally use what they refer to as "ABC" powder which is used for most any type of fire you would encounter at a race track. Along with the powder the unit is pressurized with air or gas to help push the powder out of the bottle when it is used.

On the top of the canister is the screw on top that is usually referred to as the handle. There is a small meter on the side that will show you if the bottle is charged or not. Be sure to check that the gauge is pointing into the GREEN zone before you take the bottle out to the corner and replace it if it is low. Getting to a fire with a defunct bottle is like having no bottle at all.

There are two levers. The bottom lever is fixed and should be used to carry the bottle. The TOP lever is the one that moves when you "squeeze" it. It should be noted here that one of the major problems encountered by respondents is squeezing the handles before pulling the pin. This results in bending the top lever, sometimes so badly that the pin cannot be removed (rendering the bottle completely useless).

There is a Pin slipped into a hole on the handle and keeps the bottle from expelling the powder. **Do NOT** remove the pin unless you have to use the bottle to put out a fire.

There is a small tie that holds the pin in place. **Do NOT** remove that tie unless you have to use the bottle to put out a fire. The tie that holds the pin in place is fragile and will sometimes break on its own. When this happens it is very easy to discharge the bottle unintentionally (in your car, all over your feet, places you do not want this powder to be).

There is a nozzle that is usually a hard rubber. You use the nozzle to point the powder towards the fire.

If a fire starts on a racing vehicle grab your "bottle" and get to the fire as quickly as possible. Be sure to keep a safe distance between you and the fire. But do not be too far away from the fire. 1-2 feet is recommended. Besides the wind, the pressure in the bottle is not high enough for long distance spraying. If the fire is too big to get that close, it is too dangerous to be there. The basic rule-of-thumb about using a bottle is that it will provide precious seconds for the driver / rider to escape the vehicle. Beyond that, it is up to the emergency folks to put out the fire.



On your way to the incident grab the metal or plastic pin at the top of the bottle on the handle and twist it. That twist will break the tie that holds the pin in place.

Note: Be sure to hang onto the PIN. Keep it on your finger or slip it quickly into your pocket. That Pin will be used again when we get the bottles recharged.

When you get to the incident point the nozzle towards the base of the fire and pull up on the bottom lever. This will release the powder. You can use a sweeping motion moving the bottle left and right to get the powder across the entire base of the fire. The powder will basically suffocate the fire and it should go out.

The important part is to be sure to put out the fire at the base first. It's also recommended to shoot the powder in a series of short blasts but that depends on the fire. Using the short blasts allows you a second or two to see if the fire is going out. It also saves on the powder just in case the fire erupts again or there are other small fires that started - i.e. grass or something close by. However, don't be stingy with the powder. Some of the powder can lodge in the valve of the bottle and allows the remaining charge of gas to escape preventing further use. So... "use it or lose it".

So to make it easy to remember here are a few words that might help you remember what to do.

TPAS - Twist, Pull, Aim, Shoot

Twist the Pin

Pull the Pin out and hold on to it

Aim the nozzle

Shoot the powder at the fire



A helpful suggestion is to try to be up-wind from the fire. That means... try to ensure the wind doesn't blow the powder back into your face.

The first priority in any fire situation is **YOUR safety! Don't put yourself at risk - EVER!** A racecar driver has all kinds of safety equipment surrounding them - roll cage, on board fire system, Nomex Drivers suit, etc. Your best safety mechanism is your brain and you don't have any other protection between you and the fire so here is one other suggestion... When you are working a corner we always encourage only cotton clothing. Cotton will burn away but anything with nylon or synthetic materials can actually melt onto your skin.

Another point to make here is that if you have to go to a fire, your communicator or another corner will be watching. They will call into Race Control to keep them updated on the status and to request back-up emergency response.

So.. **Safety first. YOUR Safety first!**

Your USARM Training Committee

Minutes USARM Board Meeting

January 20, 2009

ATTENDEES

Ken Berri
Jan Kaufman
Jim Short
Ron Vlastelica
Chris Vlastelica
Rosebud Vlastelica
Mike Otell

Special Guest - Jim Hileman

REVIEW MINUTES

from Dec 2008

Welcome to New Directors - The Board and our Special Guest introduced themselves to each other.
Board Elections - Nominations all around and voted on. The Board responsibilities for this year are...

President - Ron Vlastelica
Vice President - Ken Berri
Secretary - Jan Kaufman
Treasurer - Rosebud Vlastelica
Social - Chris

Motion to move PO Box to Gilroy. MSP

Action: Rosebud to get the PO box.

Leave Salinas PO box open for now . It will be closed sometime after Moto-GP .

Add Ted's email to Directors alias and add Jim Hileman's address to the Directors alias. MSP

Action: Mickey to add Ted to Director's alias and add Jim back onto that alias.

FINANCIAL REPORT

1.) Review of Financials - Balance \$16K-\$17K Jim will send details in the next couple of days.
Ted paid the Tri-County bill with Moto-GP funds

We are on a cash only basis with Skippy. Jim Hileman coordinated those activities and follows through with them.

Discussion regarding our bank account, charges and how we can make our money work better for the club.

Action: Jim H. and Rosebud to get together to go over the books.

OLD BUSINESS

A.) There are fully stocked equipment trailers at Sears Point and at Laguna Seca.

1.) Hats - Jim Hileman was checking on this . Discussed further.

Action: Rosebud to check further and will forward his information to the board.

2.) Corporate Status - Rosebud will check on taking the by-laws to a company in San Jose where his daughter works.
Flat rate varies between \$1,000 to \$2,000. Jan was provided with Rachele's personal phone. MSP

Action: Jan to contact Rachele about working with one of her attorneys.

3.) Trailer Status - Greg working on this. Jim H. and Greg were checking with Skippy on valve stems and will get the stands for the trailer. Already MSP to buy jack stands for the trailer.

Action: Jim H will get the jack stands and the Skippy people will fix the valve stems

4.) By-Laws - Recommended changes to be sent via email directly to directors for review.- Board members to send information.

Action: Jan to send copies of By-Laws

Motion to go over by-laws in a separate meeting. MSP - Meeting on the 27th at 7 pm Pacific.

Awards - Jan sent question out to the "list" alias. Received 2-3 replies, discussion regarding awards.

5A.) Event Managers Discussed. Motion to ask Jim Hileman to take over Skippy - MSP

Action: Two letters to be scripted. One to Skippy and one to Kati to send to Ron for signature.

Discussion about membership and when a member or new person must submit their membership due to issues found last year. New person and any member must pay before their first event of the year.

5B.) POC has new contact. Dave Jansen has that under control.

Action: Jan to send copy of contracts to the new board.

6.) Board Duties - Need to clarify duties for each member of the board by responsibility, committee and assignments.

7.) Scholarship possibilities to aid USARM in the non profit status - Board to come up with criteria for the scholarship - Talk to Corporate Attorney

8.) Back-up training on how to take over events - Jan working on this. Need input from other board members.

9.) GRID - Out to the members 1st week of the month.

10.) Elections - Discussion regarding 5 positions filled this year due to Carl resigning. Mike filled that spot so Mike's Board activity will be for 1 year.

(This Board is looking forward to Mike running again!)

11.) USARM 50th Anniversary - 2009 - Jim H. to check with Laguna regarding 50th Anniversary T-shirts.

Action: Jan to send history to Jim.

12.) Banquet - Moto-GP Banquet again. We will contact same company as last year and will arrange for non-Moto-GP workers to access the worker camping area.

Action: Rosebud to meet with vendor

13.) Moto-GP - Applications will be in Grid coming out soon.

Action: Jan to get with Ted on the application and Rosebud to get with Ted about PO Box

14.) Contracts -

a.) POC Contract - Do we need a new contract with them?

b.) Skip Barber - Contract - Jan to look for copies of the contract if we have them.

15.) Rosebud will inventory the merchandise.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD MEMBERS

Rosebud	408-842-6849	
Mike	424-222-2898	
Jim Short	707- 539-4854	
Ken	408-892-0823 Cell	408-842-4624 Home
Ron and Chris	661-775-6242 Home	661-645-7070 Cell
Jan	408-623-4090 (Cell)	

February 17 - Next Board Meeting

Reminder: By Laws Meeting - January 27th - Same call in number and same time.

2009 USARM Schedule

March 7-8th	Skip Barber	Laguna Seca	Jim Hileman	(FULL) - Wait List Only
March 21-22	POC	WSIR	Dave Jansen	
March 27-28th	Skip Barber	Laguna Seca	Jim Hileman	(FULL) - Wait List Only (Please note this is a Friday/Saturday event – hopefully more people will stay for the banquet)
April 18-19th	Nor-Cal Shelby Club	Thunderhill	Ron Cowen	
April 18-19th	Russell Races	Infineon	Jim Short	
May 16-17	POC	Cal Speedway	Dave Jansen	
May 9-10th	Russell Races	Infineon	Jim Short	
May 25-26th	Green Flag Driving Association	Laguna Seca	Ron Cowen	
June 5-7	POC	WSIR	Dave Jansen	
June 13-14th	Russell Races	Infineon	Jim Short	
July 3-5th	US Grand Prix	Laguna Seca	Ted Kuwada	
July 3-5th	Nor-Cal Shelby Club	Mini Nats 26	Thunderhill	Ron Cowen
July 11-12th	Russell Races	Infineon	Jim Short	
August 15-16th	Russell Races	Infineon	Jim Short	
August 21-23	POC	Laguna Seca	NOT CONFIRMED	Dave Jansen
September 12-13th	Russell Races	Infineon	Jim Short	
September 19-20	POC	Cal Speedway	Dave Jansen	
September 26-27th	Green Flag Driving Association	Thunderhill	Ron Cowen	
October 17-18th	Nor-Cal Shelby Club	Thunderhill	Ron Cowen	
October 17-18	POC	Buttonwillow	Dave Jansen	
October 17-18th	Russell Races	Infineon	Jim Short	
November 14-15th	Russell Races	Infineon	Jim Short	
November 28-29th	Green Flag Driving Association	Buttonwillow	Ron Cowen	
December ??	Green Flag Driving Association	Laguna Seca	Ron Cowen	
December 5-6	POC	WSIR	Dave Jansen	

Contact information for Event Points of Contact for Schedule:

Dave Jansen -- DJansen831@GMail.com (831) 633-8674
 Jim Short racingjim@earthlink.net (707) 539-4854
 Jim Hileman ftaway@hotmail.com 530-917-0781
 Ron Cowen breracer@sbcglobal.net (831) 394-9405
 Ted Kuwada twkuwada@earthlink.net (408) 848-2820

2009 USARM Board of Directors

			
Ken Berri Vice President 408-892-0823	Jan Kaufman (Weaver) Secretary 408-623-4090 qbweaver@aol.com	Mike Otell Director 424-222-2898 pbguy68@aol.com	Jim Short Director 707-539-4854 racingjim@earthlink.net
			
Chris Vlastelica Director 661-775-6242 friscochris@comcast.net	Ron Vlastelica President 661-775-6242 g3home@comcast.net		Rosebud/Rich Vlastelica Treasurer 408-842-6849 2badbud@live.com

Board Meetings

Board Meetings are regularly scheduled on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. At this time the Board Meetings for the remainder of the year should be...

March 17th, April 21st, May 19th, June 16th, July 21st, August 18th, September 15th, October 20th, November 17th and December 15th.

The concall information is (800) 204-5502 then enter the PIN number. The USARM PIN is: 945851#.



USARM RACE WORKER APPLICATION
FIM MOTOGP / AMA SUPERBIKES
MAZDA RACEWAY AT LAGUNA SECA
JULY 3, 4, 5 2009



APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MAY 8, 2009

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

- * ALL SPACES IN THIS APPLICATION MUST BE FILLED IN.
- * WRITE "N/A" IN SPACES YOU DON'T HAVE INFORMATION FOR.

NAME _____ (one name per application please)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ ALT PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

ARE YOU A CURRENT MEMBER: YES NO (CIRCLE ONE)
(NOTE: YOU **MUST** BE A CURRENT DUES PAID USARM MEMBER WITH A CURRENT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION **ON FILE** TO WORK THIS EVENT)

WE TRY TO ACCOMMODATE AS MANY PEOPLE AS WE CAN, AS FAR AS TURN REQUESTS GO. BUT YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T PLEASE EVERYONE. **PLEASE KEEP THIS IN MIND. WE NEED 92 FLAGGERS, 20 COMMUNICATORS, 136 HANDLERS & NUMEROUS OTHER POSITIONS TO FILL.**

****FILLING OUT THIS APPLICATION DOES NOT GUARANTEE YOU WILL WORK THIS EVENT. YOU WILL RECEIVE CONFIRMATION IF YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR THIS EVENT. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS FORM OR THIS EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF YOUR BOARD MEMBERS. CONTACT INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.USARM.ORG****

(USARM RESERVES THE RIGHT OF FINAL SELECTION FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS FOR ANY & ALL EVENTS)

NAME _____ (Insert your name)

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE _____ T- SHIRT SIZE _____

SPECIALITIES: FLAG _____ COMM/RADIO _____ HANDLER _____

OTHER(LIST) _____

CAN YOU PHYSICALLY PICK UP A MOTORCYCLE ? YES NO

DID YOU WORK LAST YEARS RACE? _____ IF SO WHERE? _____

LUNCH TYPE: REGULAR _____ VEGGIE _____

WHAT POSITION ARE YOU APPLYING FOR? _____

THERE ARE 92 FLAG POSITIONS, 2 AT EACH STATION. A PRIMARY AND A SECONDARY FLAGGER. THE PRIMARY FLAGGER SHOULD BE MORE EXPERIENCED THAN THE SECONDARY ONE. BOTH WILL BE ON RADIO TO RACE CONTROL. THE PRIMARY FLAGGER DOES MOST OF THE FLAGGING. THE SECONDARY FLAGGERS MAIN JOB IS TO RUN THE NUMBER BOARD AND MECHANICAL BLACK FLAG.

THERE ARE 136 RESPONSE POSITIONS, 4 AT EACH STATION. ONE PERSON ON A RADIO TO RACE CONTROL, ONE PERSON WITH A FIRE EXTINGUISHER AND TWO HANDLERS (PICK UP AND MOVE DOWNED BIKES TO A SAFE LOCATION). ONE PERSON WILL BE DESIGNATED THE TEAM CAPTAIN.

THERE ARE 20 COMMUNICATOR POSITIONS, TWO PER TURN ON LANDLINE TO THE TOWER.

MOTORCYCLE EXPERIENCE (Please fill out as completely as possible. If needed attach a separate sheet)

EVENT _____ DUTIES _____

EVENT _____ DUTIES _____

EVENT _____ DUTIES _____

EVENT _____ DUTIES _____

EVENT _____ DUTIES _____

EVENT _____ DUTIES _____

NAME _____ (Insert your name)

TURN # REQUEST

POSITION

1ST _____

1ST _____

2ND _____

2ND _____

3RD _____

3RD _____

DAYS AVAILABLE: FRI(3rd) _____ SAT(4th) _____ SUN(5th) _____
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

WILL YOU BE ABLE TO WORK ALL DAY SUNDAY? YES ___ NO ___

IF THE ANSWER IS NO, PLEASE GIVE REASON WHY _____

THERE IS A WORKERS CAMPING AREA FOR WORKERS ONLY. ANY NON WORKER STAYING IN THE WORKER CAMPING AREA WILL HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY THE MOTOGP COMMITTEE

WILL YOU BE STAYING IN WORKERS CAMPING? YES ___ NO ___

WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK WITH:

WHO WOULD YOU NOT LIKE TO WORK WITH:

(YOUR REASONS ARE NONE OF OUR BUSINESS & WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL)

ANY OTHER INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH US?

USARM Membership Application/Renewal
P.O. Box 127, Gilroy, CA 95021

Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Country _____

Email: _____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Crew Experience: _____ # of Years _____

Occupation: _____ T-Shirt Size _____

Type of Application: New _____ Renewal _____ Address Change _____ Update _____

Emergency Medical Information

Medication Used: _____

Allergies : _____ Blood Type: _____

Emergency Notification

Name : _____ Relationship: _____

Address : _____

Phone : _____

USARM dues are \$25. All new memberships received after October 31 will apply to the following year. Membership must be paid for in advance before any events are worked. Membership is to be paid to USARM and will **NOT** be taken out of any reimbursement a member receives for a weekend. All membership renewals/new memberships **MUST** submit a completed application with their current information (no matter how long you've been at your current address). Make your check/money order payable to USARM and mail to the address listed above.

I hereby apply for membership in the United States Auto Race Marshalls, and agree to abide by its bylaws.

Signature : _____ Date : _____

For USARM Use:

Date Received ____/____/____ Date Processed: ____/____/____

Membership Number: _____ Member Type: _____ Card Sent? Y ___ N ___

Payment Type: Cash _____ Check # _____ Other: _____

Revision Date - 11/11/2008