



THE PRAIRIE LADY



Rolls-Royce Owners Club - Can-Am Prairie Region

Newsletter November 2009

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EDITORS NOTES

Greetings

This is my first issue of the Prairie Lady following the AGM appointments on October 18th 2009. I am looking forward to the challenge. Of course I will need everyone's help to produce some informative issues. I would welcome your comments on improving the content. We all have an interesting story to tell on the cars we have owned and how we got involved. I would be pleased to assist in putting the articles together if you send me photographs and written content. We need to take more before and after photographs on any maintenance work so that we can all learn from each others experience.

Firstly I would like to thank George & Donna Pope for all their work in producing the Prairie Lady these past two years. I have adopted their format.

At one time George Pope suggested we produce a directory of services available locally. I would like to document details where service and parts supplies have been found to be acceptable. For instance I understand Don Casemore has found an excellent source of leather refinishing. There are places in town where you can get your hydraulic hoses repaired and many other useful services. The best source of parts for different models would also be welcome knowledge. For example Terry Murphy gave me an excellent source of parts for my 1954 Silver Dawn - IC IntroCar in the UK - I had my parts delivered in Calgary in one week! Once the directory is compiled we need to make sure it up to date.

The Can-Am Region covers such a wide territory (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta) and it is difficult to have events that we can all participate in. The membership breakdown by area is:

Alberta 38 with 66% in Calgary region and 34% in the Edmonton region

Montana 7

Manitoba 2

British Columbia 2

Saskatchewan 1

For a total of 50 members

Historically most of the activities revolve around Calgary which is understandable given the demographics of the membership although the attendance is not that great. In the past we have planned some successful meets such as the Spring Tour (1996) and the National Meet (2001). I think the secret is long term planning. Most members have a busy life and need lots of time to schedule an event so that most of us can attend. Maybe a committee would be useful in assisting Don Casemore to plan and promote future events.

COMING EVENTS

December 2009 Christmas Party

David & Marie Baer have graciously offered their home for our 2009 Christmas Party. The date is Saturday December 12th commencing at 3:00pm. As usual the turkey will be supplied by the host and those attending will bring either appetizers, salads, vegetables or desert. The Baer's address is 231 Hamptons Park NW, Calgary, AB T3A 5A6. David & Marie will be on vacation until early December so Don Casemore will initially track the number of members who plan to attend—you can contact him by email



November 15th Technical Meet

Dave Turner has graciously offered to host and instruct us on the "Brake and Suspension on Silver Shadow, Spirit and later cars ." Location at LONE STAR - (MERCEDES)10 Heritage Meadows Road,



SE, Calgary, AB, T2H 3C1 BEGIN TIME: 10:00 SHARP. Lunch at 12:00 noon - bring your own lunch. Topics covered:

Ball joints, Steering joints, Wheel bearings, Struts, Adjustment of the front wheel bearings, Explanation of the suspension and vehicle ride height, Measure the front and rear ride height, Demonstration of the front spring adjustment and explain the rear adjustments, Explanation of the brakes followed by a demo on how to replace front pads

Adjustment and maintenance of the parking brakes. .

Email Don Casemore by November 11th if you are attending

July 1, 2, 3, & 4 International Car Meet, Calgary

Just a note to say that the International Car Meet will be held in Calgary on July 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th 2010 in Calgary. We will look into some form of participation probably on Saturday 3rd or Sunday 4th July. See website <http://www.apaccalgary.ca/2010.htm>

Social Event Survey

On October 24th Don Casemore emailed members a survey to see what events were preferred. If you haven't already replied can you do so ASAP. Thanks.



ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

RROC Can-Am Prairie Region Annual Business Meeting Minutes Sunday, October 18th, 2009 Held at *The Black Knight Inn*, Red Deer, Alberta

Meeting Minutes

Members in attendance:

Ted Carswell, Red Deer
Howard Lengert, Calmar - Archiver
Don Casemore, Calgary
Rob Manderson, Calgary - Chairman
Darcy Collings, Calgary - Secretary
Terry Murphy, Calgary - Social Events
John Doyle, Olds
Hoover Reid, Calgary
Kathy Doyle, Olds
Maurice Tims, Calgary - Treasurer
Wayne Freeman (and guest), Calgary
David Turner, Calgary

With 12 members in attendance including the Region Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary, a quorum was present and the meeting was duly called to order by The Chairman at 1:05 p.m.

MINUTES

Rob Manderson identified one follow-up item from the Annual Business Meeting last year. There was some discussion last year about the region's potential membership in the Special Vehicle Association of Alberta (SVAA). Approximate cost is \$2 per member of the region per year (total cost approx. \$80-\$100 per year) with benefits including being represented as part of the lobby group for the 'old car' hobby in the province with respect to potential new government regulation and remaining current on information related to the association. Ted Carswell advised that the association hosts four meetings each year. Kathy Doyle declared a motion to have the Can-Am Prairie Region of the RROC join the SVAA for the next calendar year. Wayne Freeman seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was carried. Rob Manderson was going to follow-up with the membership application and processing.

The minutes of the last Annual Business Meeting held on October 26, 2008 were referenced as published in the region's newsletter, *The Prairie Lady*, January / February 2009, pg. 2-3. Maurice Tims made a motion to accept the minutes as published. Kathy Doyle seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Maurice Tims gave an overview of the Treasurer's Report to the meeting attendees. The current bank balance is \$5,703 with membership dues revenue being greater than expenses for the newsletter for the year. Maurice reported that there were 47 paid members for 2009 with 3 members of the region not renewing. The Treasurer's Report will be published in the next edition of *The Prairie Lady*. Maurice agreed to email all regional members the current regional membership roster. Can-Am Prairie Region primary member annual dues and spousal dues for next year will remain the same as in 2009.

Can-Am Rolls-Royce Owner's Club Treasurer's Report

November 2008 to October 2009

Cash in Bank Nov. 1st 2008	4,954.54
Income	
Membership Dues	1,500.40
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>1,500.40</u>
Expenses	
Bank service charge	143.40
Prairie Lady	630.45
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>773.85</u>
<u>Net Income</u>	<u>762.55</u>
Cash in Bank October 31 2009	5,681.09

Howard Lengert declared a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Hoover Reid seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Maurice Tims agreed to make up region / RROC 'contact' cards that could be placed by members on the windshields of proper motor cars of prospective new members. Rob Manderson advised that he will follow-up with RROC HQ to have them send a dealership package to Bentley Calgary to provide people buying cars from them with information on the RROC and our region.

Maurice Tims agreed to email all regional members a free winter vehicle inspection being offered by Bentley Calgary.

NATIONAL BUSINESS

Rob Manderson reminded members in attendance that the 2010 RROC Annual Meet will be held in Toronto, Ontario in July and he encouraged members to consider attending the meet if at all possible. Rob also advised that the RROC Fall Tour will be held near us in Washington State / Oregon and members were encouraged to attend.

Rob Manderson advised members that the RROC national organization is operating in its first year under new by-laws which were approved last year.

TECHNICAL SESSION / SOCIAL EVENTS REPORT

Rob Manderson advised that the local dealer, Bentley Calgary is interested in hosting a technical session for the region in the spring - possibly April. The dealer currently offers a discount to RROC region members of 15% off parts and there was some discussion that they may offer reduced shop rates for working on members' cars of \$115-\$120 per hour although this was unconfirmed at this time.

There was general discussion that members in attendance agreed the region should try and support and build a stronger relationship with the local dealer where possible.

There was some discussion on the approach the region should take in hosting technical sessions for next year. A few options were discussed including possibly having Ralph Curzon's son, Simon Curzon come out to perform work on members cars and host a technical clinic for the region either in the fall or next spring (cost is \$600 per day for Simon's time). The other option discussed was to continue with the very successful 'hoist' days hosted by Dave Turner at Lone Star Mercedes-Benz where members can perform their own work on their cars and get advice and assistance from Dave and other members as required. Dave suggested possibly having a 'diagnostic' hoist day in the fall so that members can assess their problems, order parts, and then follow-up with another day in the spring where members can make the necessary repairs before the next driving season gets underway. Dave indicated he was very willing to help members with repairs but given his schedule didn't want to have a set day where he would always be available. Rob and Dave were going to have further discussion on how to proceed and then communicate to members through an upcoming issue of *The Prairie Lady*. No specific motion came out of the discussion.

Rob advised that the region is looking for a new Social Events Chair to organize and coordinate social events for the upcoming year. In the past, Rob had organized one event on the third Sunday of each month with events planned and communicated to the membership at the start of each year. Events should be published in *The Prairie Lady* as soon as confirmed. In the past, the region has also had a Social Event Chair - South (Calgary) and one for the north (Edmonton). Don Casemore volunteered to be the region's Social Events Chair for next year. A related motion is appended under item 5, Election of Regional Officers.

ELECTION OF REGIONAL OFFICERS

The following slate of regional executive positions were proposed to stand for election for a one-year term:

Regional Chairman - Rob Manderson
Treasurer & Memberships - Maurice Tims
Secretary - Darcy Collings
Newsletter Editor - Maurice Tims
Archiver - Howard Lengert
Social Events Chair - Don Casemore

Terry Murphy declared a motion that the above noted slate of officers be elected for a one-year term. Howard Lengert seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Rob Manderson thanked George Pope for serving the region so well as Newsletter Editor for the past two years and he also thanked Terry and Marianne Murphy for all of their efforts as Social Events Co-Chairs in organizing social events for the region. Thanks also went to Ted

Carswell for organizing the venue for the Annual Business Meeting in Red Deer again this year.

bers present were in favor. The motion was passed to terminate the meeting.

The meeting was terminated at 1:53 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was identified by members in attendance.

Darcy Collings
Secretary

MEETING TERMINATION

Upon no further business, Rob Manderson asked that a motion to terminate the meeting be made. Darcy Collings declared a motion that the meeting be terminated. Wayne Freeman seconded the motion. All mem-

September 13th 2009 BBQ at Darcy & Dawn Collings

On Sunday, September 13th Dawn and I hosted a late summer BBQ for the RROC Can-Am Prairie Region at our home. We had a great turnout with a total of 7 proper motor cars and 21 people for the afternoon. We took advantage of the great weather and had five of the cars participate in 3 different gymkana type activities. The allure of tremendous prizes brought out the competitive spirit in all the participants. We began the activities with a driver's meeting to go through the plan for the afternoon and then we randomly paired up drivers with navigators for each activity.

Members who attended included Terry & Marianne Murphy, Rob Manderson & guests, Maurice & Bernice Tims, Cathy & Norm Howarth, David & Lawana Turner, Reg & Lorraine Collings, Don Casemore & guest, Dawn, Darcy, Matthew, & Paige Collings, Dayle Armstrong, and Darleen Tomlinson.



Our first activity involved having the navigator carefully hold an egg on a spoon out the passenger window of each vehicle while their respective driver took the PMC through a pre-determined course – including having to turn the car around to come back through the course. This was a timed event with the fastest car and navigator winning the event as long as they didn't drop the egg! All of our competitors managed to navigate the course with their egg intact – although some did it faster than others. I think there was some advantage to the cars that went later as they learned the course and technique from the first couple of cars.



Our second activity involved blindfolding our drivers. Drivers and navigators were randomly paired again and started this event in a different order. A tall pole was placed in the middle of the driveway (wrapped in a protective blanket just in case) and navigators gave their driver directions on when to stop. The objective of this activity was for the driver and navigator to work as a team and stop the car as close to the pole as possible without touching it, with the driver blindfolded. The only rule was that, once started, the car had to keep going in a forward motion until the navigator directed the driver to stop. Measurements were taken as all the participants looked on to ensure fairness and to yell 'stop' just to try and confuse the driver.



Our last gymkana event was quite simple – a backwards race where the fastest car to go through the course backwards, wins. This was a timed event as well and we once again randomly paired drivers and navigators but no blindfolds this time. As the competition for the prizes loomed and drinks and dinner were promised shortly after the conclusion of the event, competitors went all out and in some cases sprayed gravel widely around the driveway in an effort to beat the clock and their fellow competitors.



Congratulations to Dave Turner and Don Casemore as the winning drivers and congratulations also to their randomly chosen navigators – they couldn't have done it without them!

After the afternoon activities – everyone was ready for food and drinks. We started with appetizers supplied by many of the attendees and after a short ceremony to recognize the winners from the afternoon we moved on to dinner inside. The main courses were cedar plank salmon and beef tenderloin along with most of the side dishes brought by our members. We did our best to polish off 4 pies for dessert and I think everyone in attendance had a great time. Thanks to everyone for bringing your competitive spirit, appetizers and side dishes, and thank goodness the weather was so cooperative.



Dawn & Darcy Collings