

2008, a year in review... 2009 a year of opportunity.

Well, well, well, it has been quite a year! Having made the decision to continue my membership with the DAC, Mary, Margaret and I have been very busy. Part of being a member is to participate as a club member. This has been a difficult challenge since we are located 450 kilometres away in Ottawa.

My first responsibility was to take control of the archives left to us by the Bartels family. This has been a most gratifying project. We as a club have almost 99 percent of all club newsletters created since we were formed. We also have over 1000 photos through those years. Digitizing them for our 50th anniversary dinner was a great pleasure. I have received some great feed back from that slide show and display.

Our ice race weekend was great to be at. It was over 10 years since I was there last. It was perfect weekend weather wise and we had a great turnout. It is nice to see the DAC get a good race date! I have to say, I enjoyed bunking with Ray Brezinka. It was good to chat about life that Saturday night. Something I will remember for a long time.

So, from ice race to a few more meetings with the DAC at the Musket. The logistics for me are fairly simple. Leave work at about 1:00. Drive 4 to 5 hours to get to the Musket for dinner. Eat drink and enjoy the company until whenever. I have to thank those who contributed to my drinks those evenings! I drive to the other side of Toronto and check into a hotel. Get up early, and head back to Ottawa. Four times a year is about the best I can manage.

The summer unfolded with a flurry. Living in Ottawa, Mary and I make use of the rally and solo events of the Motorsport club of Ottawa (MCO). Here are Mary's, Margaret's and my schedules for 2008:

Scrutineering

Annual techs -	9 house calls to review cars (Mike and Mary)
Drivers school -	2 classroom sessions for new drivers (Mike)
CDRA Shannonville -	3 days (Mike and Mary)
VARAC festival -	4 days (Mike and Mary)
MCO Calabogie -	3 days (Mike and Mary)
BARC Mosport -	1 day (Mike and Mary)
CRDA Mosport -	3 days (Mike and Mary)
Celebration -	2 days (Mike and Mary)

DAC club activities

Club historian (Mike)
DAC 50th anniversary banquet helper (Mike)

MCO club activities

Club historian (Mike)
MCO race organizing committee (Mike)

TSD Rally competitor, 4 events (Mike and Mary)
Solo2 competitor 1 event (Mike)
Solo2 competitor 7 events (Margaret)

SCCA activities

Sound tech NYR region, Mosport (Mike and Mary)
Sound tech NER region, New Hampshire Intl. Speedway (Mike and Mary)
Sound tech FLR region Watkins Glen (Mike and Mary)
Qualified for National licenses

Other Activities

CASC trailer inventory (Mike, Mary, and Margaret)
An answer guy for questions from the Canadian Motorsport Historical
Group (Mike)
Canada Class race car historian and web site keeper (Mike and Mary)

We ended the year with the CASC banquet. Mary and I were awarded the Rally Marque trophy, re-dedicated to recognize outstanding service as a race official.



It was great recognition for our efforts in 2008 and we were very honoured to receive it. Our final DAC event was to go to our local German restaurant for dinner and to talk about our membership year. The Lindenhof (<http://www.thelindenhof.com/>) was very pleased to have our DAC dinner with them.

So what of the future for 2009?

Mary and I have been busy already booking events and hotels. We are very pleased to be part of the 2009 DAC ice race weekend. The rest of the summer will unfold as follows:

Nilson / McClure Race 2009 schedule (tentative)

Feb 6/7/8	DAC Ice race Minden	Assistant Clerk / Registration
Mar 7/8	MCO Ice Race Ottawa	Chief Scrutineer / Scrutineer
Apr 24/25	CASC Spring Fling	Scrutineer / Scrutineer
May 2/3	MCO CASC driver school	Scrutineer / Scrutineer
May 9	CASC, Mosport	Scrutineer / Scrutineer
May 9	MCO Lanark Rally	Checkpoint / Checkpoint
May 23/24	CASC driver school	Scrutineer / Scrutineer
May 29/30/31	DAC CASC, Shannonville	Chief Scrutineer/ Scrutineer
June 19/20/21	VARAC CASC, Mosport	Chief Scrutineer / Scrutineer
June 27/28	WNY SCCA, Mosport	Sound Tech / Sound Tech
July 11/12	FLR SCCA, Watkins Glen	Sound Tech / Sound Tech
July 24/25/26	MCO CASC, Calabogie	Chief Scrutineer / Scrutineer
Aug 8/9	BARC CASC, Mosport	Scrutineer / Scrutineer
Aug 29/30	NER SCCA, NHIS	Sound Tech / Sound Tech
Sep 5/6	CRDA CASC, Mosport	Chief Scrutineer / Scrutineer
Sept 19-27	SCCA Runoffs	Sound Tech / Sound Tech
Oct 3/4	CASC Celebration	Scrutineer / Scrutineer

Now, we do not know what solo events and rally events we can do. Margaret may not be in Ottawa next summer and we haven't seen the rally schedule yet. I may be doing some more solo events myself. Time will tell.

The DAC archives will be moving forward. I have a new scanner and plan on digitizing much of the newsletters we have. I'm also looking into software that allows us to present our archives in an interesting way.

What else for 2009?

I think Mary and I will continue to have our monthly DAC meeting at the Linedhof on the second Wednesday of each month. We may even have some guests to join us!

Mary brought up an interesting question about our club. What can we offer the new club member? As we look back at the last year, we do have to answer this serious question. With no paper newsletter and sporadic updates on the E-Presse, no messages from the executive, little information about activities in CASC and CARS, it is hard to sell the concept of membership. Something for us to think about.

Until next month! Mike and Mary