



REDLINE

Redwood Sports Car Club

Volume 47

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Speed Addiction

By Laura Plant

I never had any intention of racing.

I should have realized it's in my blood, as the daughter of a street racer who wasted a GTO in her Chevelle, and a race mechanic capable of building a 10k rpm Fiat. But by the time I was old enough to enjoy racing, my only experience was with the NASCAR race on TV every Sunday. To a ten-year old, a bunch of cars running in circles for hours is not what you'd call the highlight of a morning.

I've always been only as mechanically adept as I needed to be. I can change my own oil and brakes, but the greater mysteries of the engine were beyond my knowledge or care. I did enjoy working in the shop, but just as a reason to spend time with my dad. Cars were boxes with wheels whose purpose was to

get me to work or school, with regular infusions of money for gas, and an oil change when I remembered to do it.

My friend Dave however has had the need for speed since he was 4. He gave me my first motorcycle ride and I squeezed so hard as to nearly crack his ribs when he did wheelies down what felt like the entire length if H st in Eureka.

One day when I came over to visit him, he had this primer thing in his garage. He told me that it was an Rx7, and he was fixing up its rotary engine for a transplant into his spitfire. I'd never heard of the rotary engine and it intrigued me, by just how simple and different it was. When he had me rev it for him for some tests, I was more than intrigued.

He got it running a little better and invited me to come along as he took it for a little drive along a section of Old Arcata Road. When he floored it and the auxiliary intake ports opened up, the acceleration pushed me back in the seat in a feeling I'd never had before. The excitement I got when he pulled over and let me drive for a section was better than being a passenger had been. I was hooked...damn him. I became determined to get my own.

The need for speed is a powerful feeling, and I'm very grateful to the Club for the opportunity to give in to it in a safe and legal environment, because without it I might be just another one of those dips that race on the streets.

Redwood Sports Car Club
P.O. Box 478
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Drivers School Report

By Marsa Jordan

Well, it's Monday morning 4/10/06, let me tell you about this weekend's autocross event.

Friday night we met for tech inspection at Leon's Car Care Center where we were allowed to put each car on a lift so it could be thoroughly checked over by Mike Hendriks and Loren Fisher for safety. Jim and Leonard generously assisted us through the evening and allowed us to use their tool carts as dinner tables while some of us dined on KFC.

Saturday morning we met at Samoa Cookhouse at 8:30 for registration and our breakfast training session (meeting at 8:30 was a treat, because on regular Autocross events we meet at 6:30 for breakfast at The Chalet, which you are all invited to join us for in the future). We were fed platters of scrambled eggs, toast, biscuits and gravy, sausage and home fried potatoes.

There were 17 drivers for the training, they came from as far away as Legget, Piercy and Santa Rosa. Some of the out of town drivers found us on the web. Thank you Jim Wasetes for all of your hard work on the web site.

Our instructors for the day were; George Ellis, Jerry Hubbard, Judy Sloma and Rich Sloma.

George was the chairperson for this event and taught us about 'heel/toe braking', positioning hands on the steering wheel, the importance of sitting in the car with the seat in the proper position for balance and safety. Rich gave us a presentation with visual diagrams, so we could anticipate what we would experience on a race course. Jerry Hubbard encouraged us with tales of his first racing experiences. Then it was off to the track, where we were divided into four groups and began our training on three preset courses that Mike Hendriks, David Price, Terry Jones and Doug Batt had prepared for us that morning.

We learned tight turns, slaloms and hard braking. There was even an actual race course set up where we could get the feel of a real competitive driving situation.

The weather was scattered showers which was good, as it provided us with the opportunity to train on both wet and dry pavement.

Sunday, we met for the REAL Autocross.(yes, at 6:30 breakfast at The Chalet). The weather was sprinkley with rainbows during registration. The course that was set used elements from the training we had the day before. We broke into our run groups and work groups and the fun started. There was a mix of novices and experienced drivers, which allowed me, as a novice, to observe and continue my learning process (a process which I estimate should take about 25 years).

The weather did take a turn for the worse. Those without proper attire, will probably make a trip to Picky,Picky,Picky for some rain gear. I know I will. My recommended basic attire for poor weather is: rain pants and jacket (ponchos only keep half of you dry and my wet pants were dragging me down by the end of the day), waterproof shoes, some sort of hood or cap (ask Tina Johnson for an example), gloves, and long underwear. It is brutal to stand out in pouring rain and wind for an hour at a time if you are not appropriately dressed (I did it for 15 minutes, and was miserable). Also, dress in layers. If the sun should appear, you won't be overdressed.

The plan, when we started on Sunday, was that each run group would get five runs. But the weather turned foul and with so many of us not having rain gear, we ended the day with just three runs. The last run was in the wet, fun if you were driving, miserable if you were working. I was very apprehensive about going out on the track with so much water standing on the course, but once I got started and tested the car (which I was able to do, since I had been so studious the day before) I found the water splashing up over the windshield exhilarating, and was really able to test what I had learned o Saturday. It was a thrill ride I will remember for a long time.

I want to thank all of the volunteers for Saturday's training. You gave selflessly, knowing you weren't going to get your car on the track. You volunteered hours through planning and working Saturday's training so a bunch of newby's could discover the fun you have known all along. THANK YOU, IT WAS A GREAT EXPERIENCE, and I look forward to racing with you in the future!

Precision Drivers School		April 9 2006		Redwood Sports Car Club, Eureka				Using 2006 PAX values																		
Thanks to:		Leons Car Care Center																								
Chaired by		George Ellis																								
First name		Last name		car		Class		BEST TIME		c's		1ST TIME		c's		2ND TIME		c's		3RD TIME		PAX INDEX		PAX PTS		
DENNIS	ELVEY	QUANTUM FIAT		BM	150.81	3	150.81	138.48				152.9					152.9					104.38	0			
MIKE	SHAPIRO	350Z		BS	145.87		145.87					151.05					151.05					86.92	482			
JEFF	LONG	PORSCHE 911		BS	154.8		156.38					154.8					154.8					94.25	0			
GEORGE	ELLIS	MR2		CS	140.91	1	140.91				2	148.06					148.06					81.74	1000			
DON	ROBERTS	MR2		CS	141.76	1	141.76					144.76					144.76					82.43	931			
OLIVER	TAYLOR	MIATA		CS	149.08	1	149.08				2	205.57					205.57					88.35	338			
RILEY	JONES	MR2		CS	151.7																	90.48	126			
DAVE	TURNNEY	RX7		CSP	138.48		140.46					138.48					138.48					82.53	921			
TINA	JOHNSON	MIATA		CSP	148.8		148.8					159.21					159.21					91.17	56			
CLAIRE	TURNNEY	RX7		CSP	150.26		150.47					150.26					150.26					92.40	0			
DOUG	BATT	MIATA		CSP	152.11		154.87					152.11					152.11					93.95	0			
STEVE	HORVATH	SUBARU WRX		DS	146.5		147.35					150.41					150.41					84.77	696			
RILEY	JONES	PRELUDE		DS	154.34	dnf	158.19				2	154.34					154.34					91.01	72			
DANNY	IDE	MR2		ES	145.57		145.91					147.46					147.46					85.09	665			
DANIEL	RHOADS	MIATA		ES	152.72		203.48					152.72					152.72					90.85	88			
DAVID	DEARINGER	DATSUN 1600		HS	149.35		149.35				2	207.21					207.21					84.86	688			
DON	DOBBS	ALFA SPRINT VELOCE		HS	200.06	dnf	200.06					200.79					200.79					93.17	0			
RANDY	WARD	BMW 320i		HS	204.79		206.07				1	214.47					214.47					96.84	0			
RACHEL	MCLEOD	BMW 320i		HS	207.13	5	221.95				1	214.24					214.24					98.65	0			
KATHRYN	DEVRIES	SPITFIRE		HS	208.83		208.83				5	215.91					215.91					99.97	0			
LOREN	FISHER	MGB		OSP-U	155.24	2	205.87				2	155.24					155.24					98.65	0			
MARSA	JORDAN	MGB		OSP-U	156.14		156.14					158.16					158.16					99.42	0			
DAVID	PRICE	CRX		SM2	145.51		145.51					148.59					148.59					89.58	216			
ANTHONY	SOUTHERN	CORVETTE		SS	151.16		152.97				2	151.16					151.16					93.04	0			
MIKE	HENDRIKS	CIVIC		STS	147.62	1	147.62					151.56					151.56					85.99	575			
																							0	0		
																							0	0		
																							0	0		

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Please visit us at RSCC.NET

**General Club Meetings are on the second Monday of the month at
The Adorni Center @ 7:00 p.m.**