



REmarks

Chicago Region RE, Rick Bentson

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I'm late and now I'm in trouble with my editor, Claire Ball. I was supposed to have this month's REmarks to him last week so the June Piston Patter email could go out on June 1, and now I've thrown off the whole schedule. So if this hits your email inbox later than you expected (you all wait anxiously for the first of the month just so you can read the latest Piston Patter, right?) I'm to blame. Actually it's not Claire who scares me so much as the other Ball, Peg. I don't know why, Peg is a REALLY NICE lady. Probably because years ago she was the first SCCA official I ever came into contact with as Solo Registrar. She had a way of projecting an "I don't take no crap" aura.

I do have a good excuse for being late with this article. I was in Indianapolis for the 100th running of the Indy 500, fourth turn, Northwest Vista, section 5, row W, seat 10. Check your DVR if you want proof. I was the guy in the Chicago Region hat. We've been in Northwest Vista since 1985. Was this the best Indy 500 race ever? Probably not, but I'd rank it in the top 5 that I've attended. Indy has a way of confounding the plans of the best teams in the sport and creating instant celebrities of relative unknowns. Who saw Alexander Rossi as a legitimate contender until the very end? His mug will now be forever immortalized on the Borg Warner trophy, and he's 1-for-1 in Indy 500 wins. Rossi is a good driver, but he had luck on his side as well on Sunday. Plenty of good drivers never won the 500, like his team owner Michael Andretti. While Rossi is 1-for-1, the Andretti family is 1-for-70 at the Brickyard.

Speaking of IndyCar – if you don't know the IndyCar circus will be at Road America in 3 weeks time you've been living under a rock. Chicago Region will be staffing the event, providing Corner Workers and other support for the event. If you're an experienced F&C person and haven't yet registered to work the event, there are still slots open. Registration is open on Motorsportreg.com.

The week before IndyCar is Chicago Region's premier event, the June Sprints. We expect over 300 entries for the June Sprints, plus an additional 40-50 MX-5 Cup cars running in the global MX-5 Cup series as part of the June Sprints weekend. If you aren't volunteering for the event (or driving, or helping a driver as a crew member), come on up to beautiful Road America to watch some of the best racing in America. The Spec Racer Ford race alone, with 59 entries, will be worth the drive.

Check the event calendar for other things going on this month – our second PDX of the season is coming up on June 10th and our third Solo event is on the 19th. Each of the first 2 Solo events each had just shy of 180 entries!

That's all I've got for this month – I'm already behind schedule and in trouble with the editor so I better get this submitted before I get fired.

Til next month –

See you at the races!

Rick Bentson
Regional Executive