

## January '08 President's Message

Well, I'm about a year overdue writing this President's Message. This is my second year as President of ACCO, and I have to say, this is one of the most fun organizations I've ever been involved with. ACCO is comprised of a fantastic group of fun, positive, helpful folks. The core group of Officers put a ton of time in behind the scenes to keep the club running as smoothly as it does. I have to single out one volunteer in particular, Jack Gassaway, our past and current Vice-President. Without his endless hard work, I have trouble imagining how this club would continue to exist. Thank him when you see him.

As anyone who's been a member for a while has noticed, our attendance has been a bit lower than in past years. We really need to get the numbers up a bit in order to maintain the club's finances. Another year of low attendance and the club will be in trouble! I'd really like every single member to make a solid effort to bring at least one new friend each month. As y'all know, once someone tries autocross, they'll be back.

We're working on some new ways to make autocross more approachable to first time drivers. We'll be instituting something new called "Member-Sponsored Fun Runs". They should give first-timers a chance to get their feet wet by trying a couple of runs at the end of the day, at no cost to them, and without the pressure of 'racing' against a bunch of 'vets'. Stay tuned for more details.

We're also discussing bringing back some past events, introducing some new extra-curricular activities, possibly organizing some track time at PIR, and perhaps adding a new ACCO event at a brand new location. You can hear all about these fresh ideas at the first club meeting of the season on February 6<sup>th</sup>; as always, the first Wednesday of the month, at Pappy's Pizza.

In my opinion the Autocross Club exists quite simply for one reason: so we can all have some fun on the weekend. I hope you all had a good time last season, and are excited about another year of racing. If you have any suggestions on how to make our events more fun or more approachable to newcomers, or how to improve our club in any way, please don't hesitate to let myself or another officer know. We want to be sure that our events are safe, fun, and that you all can't wait to come back again.

Eric Meglasson  
recently retired my '06 Subaru STI  
next challenge, a '98 BMW M3