



MICHIGAN TURN MARSHALS

2006 Pre-Season Newsletter

Hello MTM Members!

The racing season here in the frozen north is fast approaching despite the recent ice storms. A few of us have already travelled south to the Florida races, and we hope you all had a warm, wonderful time.

This newsletter will deal mostly with the numerous website upgrades our awesome webmaster John Lisiecki has implemented. We'll get to that later. But first...

SIGN UP FOR RACES AT THE MTM WEBSITE

Web registration is now available for the 2006 season. register.MichiganTurnMarshals.org Please sign up for the races you can do as soon as possible so we may provide a list of volunteers to the chiefs of these events. Remember, you MUST still sign in at registration at the event even though you signed up here.

CENDIV SCCA TO SPLIT INTO TWO DIVISIONS

For the past year we've all known that this was coming, but there have been a few developments in the split. For 2006, Area 4 and Area 5 will run as separate entities with their own race officials.

In 2007 the divisions will be formally split and Area 5 will retain the CenDiv name and Area 4 will become Great Lakes Division (GLDiv). GLDiv will be comprised of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky and CenDiv will include northern Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, northeast Iowa and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

For 2006 our F&C Divisional Administrator for Area 4 is Debbie Martens, with Dennis Hand serving as her Deputy Divisional Administrator. Ann Hefty will continue as Area 5 F&C Divisional Administrator with Doug Johnson as her Deputy Divisional Administrator.





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ADVANCED WORKER TRAINING AVAILABLE

You've received the emails, but in case you missed it here it is again. WHRRI, Detroit Region SCCA, and MTM will be holding an advanced worker training at 2:00pm on Sunday, February 26th. The event will be held at WHRRI in the club house. Please contact John Firment at jmfirment@aol.com if you plan to attend.

MTM ROAD TRIP 2006

Last years trip to the Brat Bash was such a blast, we decided to take another trip.

This time we're heading in a different direction as we invade [Blackhawk Farms](#) on July 8th and 9th. This is their Firecracker regional event which usually brings in a decent car crowd. The CenDiv Formula Ford East-West Challenge will be racing at this event. If you've never heard of this group you should know that they bring between 30 and 40 Formula Fords to their series races and put on an amazing show. Talented drivers and a class act all the way.

We'll provide more information regarding camping accommodations (water, electricity, showers, bathrooms, etc.) soon. Mark your calendars for July 8th and 9th, we'll have a blast!

MTM WEBSITE UPGRADES

Over the last couple of months, the MTM Internet website has had a number of changes and enhancements. Here is an update ...

This past December, our previous Internet web hosting service ceased operations, and we were forced to move to a new company. The transfer to '[HostExcellence](#)' was done without interruption on December 28th, and with our new service we gained a number of new features including a new enhanced email system with an automated mailing list and the ability to incorporate a Bulletin Board system. **Over 100 changes were made, How many have you spotted?**

[Home Page](#) – the schedule has been updated with 2006 events including a couple of winter events and also F&C training dates.

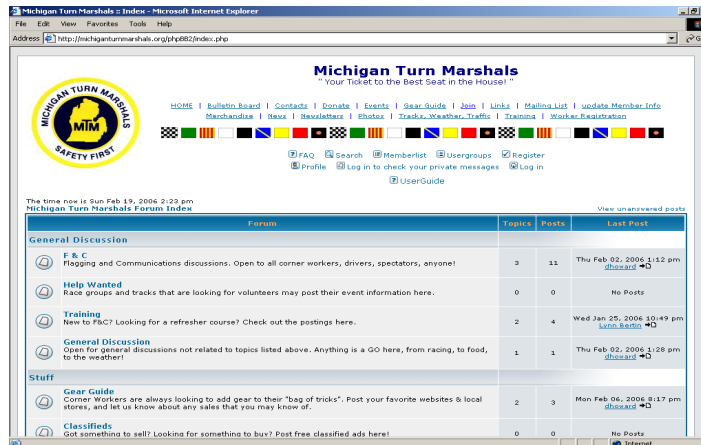
Also on the Home Page, in the upper left corner, there is now a link to **our new F&C Recruiting and Training website**. Check it out and forward the website name > www.joinFandC.com < on to any potential new workers.



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Bulletin Board – this is a new interactive chat forum which allows anyone to discuss F&C topics such as Training, Help Wanted, Gear Guide, Classifieds, and a Suggestion Box. This is where you can throw-in your two-sense, but you must register to post, and please “keep it clean”!



A new '**Contacts**' page was created to list all of the current MTM representatives with their email addresses. This page also lists open positions that you may apply for or make a nomination. There are probably a few things that you never knew about MTM - read '**About Us**'.

The '**Join**' page has been updated to include an overview of exactly how to join MTM.

The '**Donate**' page has been spruced-up. Did you know that our website is advertising free? and as such we are very dependant upon donations to pay for annual costs such as the Internet web hosting fee. Please help to keep our website online and to keep screens clutter-free by making a small donation to MTM. We are partnered with PayPal to make the donation process secure and easy.

For added privacy, the 2006 '**Events**' screen now requires you to enter your UserName, and will no longer display participant's cities and email addresses. Check out the new MTM Internet Privacy Statement on the '**Privacy**' page. Your personal data is safe with us!

The old '**Gear Guide**' page has been renamed the '**Gear Index**', and has been expanded to include just about everything that a corner worker would ever need (including Worker Whites and RainGear) and where to buy it.

Have you outgrown that old MTM T-shirt? It's time to order a new one on the '**Merchandise**' screen.

A new '**Links**' page includes many interesting and useful Internet webpage links, including many to our F&C colleagues (including Cornerworker.Net, Lake Erie Communications, MMS, and the Texas Turn Marshals and Racer Chasers).

You can now add or remove your email address name from the MTM Mailing List anytime by clicking on the new '**Mailing List**'. We're doing our part to reduce Spam and Junk Mail!



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The '[Update Member Info](#)' and '[Worker Registration](#)' pages have been clean-up and are now both SSL secured. Make sure that you register for upcoming events so that we know that you're coming.

Click on '[Security](#)' at the bottom of any page for an explanation of exactly what SSL is, and how it works with our site.

Last year's News postings have been archived to the '[Newsletters](#)' page. Anyone can [submit announcements](#) and news-worthy items to be posted on the '[News](#)' page.

The '[Tracks](#)' page was updated last year to include the weather & traffic and the direct links to the race venues where you can find race track schedules, directions, lodging info, etc.

The old '[Training](#)' page has been renamed '[Reference Library](#)', and has been greatly expanded as an excellent reference tool that includes all F&C training information, manuals, and forms. Also including in the Library are updated '[Flag Descriptions](#)' and '[Hand Signals](#)' pages.

Finally, for your convenience, we have added a couple of new website names > [TurnMarshals.com](#), [TurnMarshals.org](#) & [joinMTM.org](#) Each of these "easy-to-remember" names will simply redirect you to our primary site.

We are working very hard to make [MichiganTurnMarshals.org](#) the very best F&C website out there, and are always looking for any suggestions, which may be submitted on the Bulletin Board or by sending an email directly to the Webmaster@MichiganTurnMarshals.org.



SEE YOU SOON!

We hope to see lots of people at the advanced worker training and at our events this season. Thanks for being a member!

Dennis Hand

- MTM Newsletter Editor

