

March 6-8 brought a large field of stock cars to the auto club speedway of California for the route 66 classic sanctioned by Vara. It was our first event back with Vara in some time and it was an extremely professional, well run, and well attended racing weekend. After some wet moments at the end of Friday's practice sessions, the weather was exceptional and the SCRS members and guests all had a great time.

Saturday's qualifying race showed that everyone came to run hard with Steve Thomas and his #11 Budweiser t-bird outrunning the field for the pole. Dan Verstuyft's ups #88 Taurus, Dick Young's #28 Texaco/Havoline Taurus and Wes McNay's Pennzoil #30 Pontiac were all in close pursuit and set up a great field for Sunday's race.

Saturday night, the stock car race series hosted a tasty taco BBQ event for all and as the food and beverages disappeared, the stories, laughter and fun for everyone reminded us all of how much fun not only the racing but also the friendship and camaraderie the group has.

Sunday's race was competitive and exciting with the fastest lap going to the #22 Caterpillar Dodge of Craig Johnson but the win going to Dan Verstuyft by a slim margin of .01 seconds. It may be that the extra taco that Dan ate on Saturday night gave him just the edge he needed for the drag race to the finish line. In 3rd was Wes McNay in the beautiful yellow #30 with Gary Cosgrove and Garland Self close behind in 4th and 5th. Steve Thomas led early but a flat tire took him out and caused Dick Young to spin while avoiding the bud car. Strong runs by Russ Romer's #18 Interstate Battery Pontiac and Steve Beck's #75 Carolina Pottery T-Bird added to the competitive show.

Bill Rhine of Rhine Enterprises has once again supported SCRS with trophies for the podium winners of each class which at Fontana were:

Historic stock cars

- 1st Wes McNay
- 2nd Garland Self
- 3rd Steve Beck

Contemporary stock cars

- 1st Dan Verstuyft
- 2nd Craig Johnson
- 3rd Gary Cosgrove

More exciting new events and opportunities will be announced soon and we hope to see everyone at Laguna Seca for the SCCA Vintage event April 4-5.