



Home Race Solo Rally Social Worker Club Information Member Area Contact Us

News

## POR 2004 - By Jim Mickle

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Bruce Fisher, ably assisted by his son Matt and a cast of thousands, well at least tens, presented another great POR. In line with the tradition of the 55 previous events, it was long and grueling, coverering some 600 miles of mostly unpaved roads in the northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan. Because it didn't go into the UP this year, there were no long transits to catch your breath. The event started on Friday with registration in the morning and first car out at 12:01 PM. After 14 hours and over 350 miles, the competitors returned to the Quality Inn for a short rest before resuming at noon on Saturday. First car was in at about 9:30. As soon as all the control workers arrived, about 10:15, the awards banquet began. After we finished an excellent baked chicken dinner, Bruce handed out awards to the various winners.

In addition to POR, there was also the regional rally, SPOR (Second Part Of Rally), run on Saturday for those who couldn't get Friday off work, or weren't quite up to a 600 mile event.

POR was won by the team of Scott Harvey Jr. and Jim Fekete running in the limited class in Scott's 1991 Eagle Talon. Their score was 49 for 63 controls. Second place was another L team, John Smiskol and Harry Ward with 100 points. Third overall, and first in equipped, was Mark Henderson and Dave Harkcom with 138 points. Forth overall, and first in Stock Class were the Line brothers, Brian and Kevin with 226 points. Eric Jones and Bill Potvin were eight overall and first in Vintage in Eric's venerable MGB.

On interesting note: Scott Harvey Jr's name will be engraved on the big trophy right across from his dad who last won it ten years ago.

SPOR was won by Robert Kay and Mike Bennett with 128 points, running stock equipment. Adam Spieszny and Fabien Redon were second with 623 points.

The Sportsman award went to Doug Sheperd and his daughter Katie who stopped to pull Jones and Potvin out of the deep sand that they found themselves stuck in.

Al Weaver and Rich Bireta were presented the Press-on-Regardless award for continuing to preserve in the face of multiple problems.

As usual, the event could not have been run without all the workers who used vacation time to participate. Mary & Jerry Shiloff did registration and also worked about 9 controls. Bob & Mary Martin did their usual outstanding job with scoring, often having completed, and printed, scores available before the competitors finished their break. Nobody does it better or faster. Rich & David Line in Big Red

swept the entire course and kept teams like Johnsonbaugh and VonKanel, who were well and truly stuck, in the event. Other workers included Tom Bell, who also did the pre-check with Rob Moran, Tom Woodside who was also the Safety Steward, Renee & Mitch Fisher, Jim & Marianne Mickle, Pete & Jim Padden, Mike Bennett, Bob Kay, Dave Parps, and Jim & Nancy Schaffer.

A great time was had by all, and we all look forward to the 57th running next year.

Jim Mickle