

YEAR-END RALLY REPORT FOR THE 2020 OSCC AGM

Jean MacGillivray, Rally Chair

The year started off with the CARS AGM, which was held in Ottawa for the first time that I know of. Kudos to Darryl Malone for bringing it here! Bad weather left me iced in, so President Richard Muise carried the club vote. Other attendees were Terry Dale, Darryl, Mike Koch and Nicki Lachapelle-Beverley. Apologies to anyone I have missed.

Next up was Rallye Perce Neige-Maniwaki on February 1, the first event in the 2020 Canadian Rally Championship series.

Ferdinand Trauttmansdorff ushered in our new Speaker Series on February 25 with an entertaining presentation at the Tifosi. Ferd has much experience in both seats of a rally car, and everyone enjoyed watching his rally videos and asking lots of questions.

We were also preparing for another Lanark Highlands Tour, our popular navigational rally. It was slated for late May to accommodate club members who compete and volunteer in SPDA's Lanark Highlands Forest Rally, held on the first weekend in May.

Darryl Malone was busy organizing the OSCC's foray into rally sprint, along with Jim Morrow. It was to be on September 19, the second of three in the rally sprint series. This was very exciting for us, as speed events on closed roads are very popular with competitors!

Then March came in like a lion, bringing a storm of COVID-19, and our normal lives ceased to be. From then on, we watched as one event after another across Canada was cancelled in the interests of keeping the Rally community safe from harm.

I attended seven virtual RSO meetings, including the AGM. Our OSCC meetings went virtual, and I missed only three, one of which was to be on an RSO call. I've kept our members informed about rally activities in the club's monthly newsletter.

The prep work that's been done on the LH Tour and the rally sprint means we won't be starting from scratch when our world opens up again. For now, we watch, wait and hope that 2021 will start to be "normal" again.

To Ferd, Darryl and Jim, a heartfelt Thank You! You are terrific people who have made a difference to our club. I am probably one of the few who know the extent of your contributions. We are not presenting our Rally Person of the Year trophy this year, because our events have been cancelled. But you three together have made sure that the Rally spark burns bright in the club, and that means a tremendous amount in these very inactive times.

On a personal note, although I feel well most of the time, I need to step back at some point. I am asking for someone to take my place early next year

To those who love the world of Rally, and those who are trying it for the first time, thank you! It's the camaraderie I value most of all. Some of you are accomplished in the racing world. You've found that your skills and knowledge are easily transferable to rally events and have been quick to pick up new skills. Our rallyists include drivers, co-drivers, Stewards, licensed radio amateurs, event organizers (national and regional), technical experts, course-car drivers and navigators, and CARS record-holders — even national legends! Together, we form a well-respected team of worker/competitors.

Stay safe, stay well, and keep the faith. This will end, and we will get together and rally again!

Jean MacGillivray
Ottawa SportsCar Club Rally Chair