



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION SPECIALISTS

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Schedule of ACTAR Accreditation Examinations

There's no better way to demonstrate your qualifications as a reconstruction professional than by earning your ACTAR accreditation. The following is a list showing upcoming test dates and locations, so you too can earn your accreditation.

Date	Location
Oct. 5, 2004	Ocean City, MD
Oct. 27, 2004	Santa Rosa, CA
Nov. 8, 2004	Golden, CO
Dec. 3, 2004	Salem, OR

You may contact Al Baxter, ACTAR Administrator, at the address below or by phone at (800) 809-3818.

P. O. Box 5436,
 Hudson, FL 34974
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CA²RS Contact Information

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CA²RS 2004 Conference

Motorcycle Investigation & Reconstruction

CA2RS is pleased to announce the presentation of our 2004 annual conference. This year our conference will focus on motorcycles and will include sessions on motorcycle design, tire and tire mark interpretation, rider habits, brake systems & physical evidence, motorcycle helmets and injuries, applicable vehicle code laws, pocket bikes, lane sharing, perception/reaction times, regression formula derivation & basic physics principles.

Mark your calendars for the conference for Thursday October 28th through Saturday the 30th. It will be held at the beautiful Flamingo Resort Hotel and Conference Center, which since its opening has been a favorite with celebrities and film crews. Founded in 1957, the landmark Flamingo Resort Hotel is located on 11 acres of beautifully manicured grounds. It is a popular destination for both San Francisco Bay Area residents and Sonoma County business and leisure visitors.



We will have live crash testing, motorcycle vs. vehicles, on Friday morning with crash test data review on Saturday.

Speakers this year include; **Steve Anderson** from MacInnis Engineering Associates, **Al Baxter** from Suncoast Collision Analysis, **David Thom** from Collision and Injury Dynamics, **Steve Haverkamp** from **Kerry A. Berg** and Associates, **Rudy Degger** from Rudy Degger and Associates, and **Bruno Schmidt** from Southwest Missouri State University. In addition to the wonderful conference there will be vendors and a vendor reception on Thursday evening.

An ACTAR Prep class is being offered at the hotel on Tuesday, October 26, 2004 and the ACTAR Test will be held on Wednesday, October 27, 2004.

Anyone wishing to take the ACTAR Test must contact Al Baxter at www.actar.org or (800) 809-3818 to register.

You **MUST** register on-line at www.regonline.com/14841. On-line registration is necessary even if you are paying by check or purchase order. If for some reason you can't complete your registration on-line, please call Karen Haverkamp at (951) 358-2701 for assistance.

You **MUST** contact the hotel directly to make reservations and mention CA2RS to secure the discounted rate of \$82.00 single or double occupancy. The rate will be honored 3 days before and 3 days after the conference for attendees. Rooms at these rates will be available until September 25, 2004. Please call early to secure your rate.

Flamingo Resort Hotel & Conference Center

2777 Fourth Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95495

(800) 848-8300

www.flamingoresort.com

CRASH!

If anyone has an interesting collision reconstruction related photograph that could be published in a future issue of Skidmarks, please forward it to Jim Holder at jamesh@ci.garden-grove.ca.us



Our first cruise was well received and a whole lot of fun, so the plans are in the works for the 2nd Annual CA²RS Cruise.



We will be boarding on Friday, April 29th and returning on Monday May 2, 2005. During the cruise we will have 8 hours of training, which will be broken into two segments. The 1st segment will be after boarding and will last about two hours. The 2nd segment will be on Sunday and last about six hours. There will be plenty of time during the cruise for relaxation as well. Saturday will be spent in port in Ensenada giving everyone the chance to either go ashore or just kick back on board the ship.

The training topic will be on DUI issues. Retired Sergeant **Ken Whitley** a Drug Recognition Expert Instructor and long-time instructor in 11550 issues will be teaching us how alcohol affects the body and the senses. We will also be conducting an alcohol wet-lab that will allow attendees to watch test subjects perform Standardized Field Sobriety Tests and take tests aimed at examining the differences in their ability to perceive and react at different levels of intoxication.

This training will allow you to testify in court that you have participated in controlled testing of people under the influence of alcohol. This can be very beneficial whether you are an officer testifying during criminal proceedings or a private reconstructionist testifying to how alcohol affects the reactions of a driver.

The cost is \$400 for an inside stateroom or \$420 for an outside stateroom, per person, double occupancy. The training itself is free to CA²RS members; non-members will be charged an additional \$25.00 per person, which can be applied towards membership. Karen Haverkamp will be our cruise director again. If you did not receive registration information in the mail, it will soon be available on the website at www.ca2rs.com. Register by December 1st for a complimentary surprise on board!

Momentum Review

For our 3rd training session of the year, Rudy Degger, of Rudy Degger & Associates, Inc, presented a Momentum Review. This was an excellent preparation for the ACTAR exam. Just to cover a few of the key points for those that were unfortunate enough to miss the training...

- Newton's 1st Law explains momentum in the simplest terms – "An object at rest tends to stay at rest and an object in motion tends to stay in motion with the same speed and in the same direction unless acted upon by an unbalanced force."
- Momentum is not energy! Do not attempt to perform a crush calculation and "add" that into the results of a momentum equation figuring that the energy that resulted in the damage to the vehicles is not accounted for.
- An overview of the process:
 1. Get vehicle weights
 2. Identify the direct contact damage
 3. Identify the PDOF (impulse) for each vehicle
 4. Align vehicles to each other at AOI/ME/Separation according to PDOF and direct contact damage
 5. Align vehicles to physical evidence at AOI/ME/separation
 6. Identify the pre-impact directions
 7. Assign V-1 pre-impact direction to align with an angle of 0 degrees
 8. Align vehicles at their respective post separation point(s)
 9. Identify the post-impact directions
 10. Identify the post-impact friction based upon the dynamics, rotation, translation combined
 11. Calculate the post-impact friction values and speeds
 12. Calculate impact speed.

All in all this was another example of excellent training provided by Rudy Degger to CA²RS members, and on a topic that is often misunderstood and sometimes misapplied. Thanks to Rudy for his time and efforts in providing the training and putting together the excellent handouts, which were very professionally presented.

Blurbs from the Board



Gordon Gray
Chair



Kent Boots
Vice Chair



Bill Focha
Director



Karen Haverkamp
Director



Jim Holder
Director



Chris Kauderer
Director



Richard Shin
Director



Rudy Degger
ACTAR Rep.



Kevin Cassidy
Membership Chair

Greetings to all! We have made some changes to our web site. We now have our own web domain. You can visit us at www.CA2RS.com. If you still have not obtained your password to enter the "Member's only" area please contact Vice-Chair Kent Boots via e-mail only at vice-chair@ca2rs.com

AUGUST TRAINING

"*Momentum Review*" is in the history books. This was a well-attended session at both training locations. Our presenter Rudy Degger (ACTAR), from Rudy Degger and Associates, Inc. did a fantastic job of presenting this topic. This training was an outstanding precursor for anyone with thoughts regarding taking the ACTAR exam. The next ACTAR exam will be the day before the Conference in October.

One of the most important parts of our training sessions is making sure we have enough setting, snack items, and training materials. We the board are asking everyone planning to attend to simply reserve your spot. Everyone who attended the last training received a binder filled with different training tools and at the end of the training every one who attended received a certificate. This was only made possible by those who did call or e-mail their intentions of attending the class. Please keep in mind if you reserve a spot you will be guaranteed to receive a copy of the handout material only if you attend. If you don't you run the possibility of not receiving the training material. Additionally, if you do reserve a spot please attend the class. We had quite a few members fail to show after they had reserved a spot.

CONFERENCE 2004 ~ OCTOBER 28-30, 2004

It's almost Conference time!!! This year's conference is in Santa Rosa, October 28th – 30th at the Flamingo Resort Hotel & Conference Center in the heart of the beautiful Sonoma Wine Country, located at 2777 Fourth Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95495.

Congratulations to the following CA2RS members, who won the free conference registrations in our drawing: Ed Torres - Private practice and long time member, Tamara Tavarez - Los Angeles PD, David Heinbaugh - San Ramon PD, Frank Terrio - Private practice in Corona, and Dennis Houser - San Bernardino PD. Each of you should have received your notification by now, if you have not please contact Karen Haverkamp who will assist you in completing your conference registration.

As a reminder our theme this year will center on Motorcycles. Our featured speakers are Al Baxter – Suncoast Collision Analysis, Steve Anderson – MacInnis Engineering Associates, Steve Haverkamp – Kerry Berg and Associates, Bruno Schmidt – Southwest Missouri State University, David Thom – Collision and Injury Dynamics, and Rudy Degger – Rudy Degger and Associates, along with a host of others. Additional Conference items will include: * Exhibitor Displays & Reception: * Continental Breakfasts * Catered Lunches * Evening Reception * Conference Discounts * CAARS Member discounts for the ACTAR exam fee *

We are planning live crash testing; we are looking for rolling motorcycles we can deliver into the side

of a target vehicle. If you have any contacts at your local tow companies who would be willing to donate a motorcycle or two we'd welcome your assistance. Please contact Board member Bill Focha for details.

ELECTIONS

There are three Board positions up for election this year, the Board seats of James Holder and Karen Haverkamp as well as my position of Chairperson. I'd like to encourage anyone who feels they can contribute to the growth and direction of the association to put their name on the ballot. Talk to your Board members and see what's involved. You can make many worthwhile contacts and have the opportunity to help organize training for your fellow members.

TRAINING CRUISE 2005

We have made arrangements for our 2nd annual Training Cruise. Next years dates are April 29 – May 2, 2005. We'll be having classes on DUI Human Factors & a controlled DUI Lab. Learn how alcohol affects the body and how it relates to the collisions we investigate. In the DUI Lab we'll

use volunteers to show the differences in alcohol absorption rates and physical reactions. Gain first hand experience to make you a better witness in court! Contact Karen Haverkamp, our Cruise Director for further details. Hope to see you all on the Seven Seas!

Lastly, I'd like to once again encourage anyone who has ideas for future training meetings to contact one of the Board members and pass it on. We're also looking for meeting places in both Northern and Southern California areas. In considering a meeting place, we take into account the number of members in the area and the ease of commuting to the location at the time the training is offered. In this way we can be assured of maximum attendance.

As always, the Board welcomes any suggestions regarding future training topics or how to improve the organization.

Gordon Gray
CA²RS Chair

Training for 2005

We will soon be putting together the dates for our 2005 quarterly trainings. Anyone with ideas on what they would like to see covered is encouraged to contact any board member. Your input is not only valued but needed! Tell the board what training you want and they will do their best to make it happen.

We anticipate having the first quarterly training be presented by Kenneth Zion, Ed.D. who will teach "Vehicle Inspection Analysis for Repair and Insurance Fraud". This is a course that he teaches at U.C. Riverside. Topics include vehicle identification and construction, inspection procedures, equipment, lamp filament analysis, identification or implications of prior damage, staged accidents, reference data, witness marks, damage impact analysis and VIN swapping or cloning.

Check the website for additional information and updates. 