

April 2008

CinChronizer



Cincinnati Region S.C.C.A.

RE-Port

By Regional Executive, Bill Niemeyer, Jr.

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The winter has officially ended with the start of the Solo season. By the time the next monthly meeting at the beautiful Mill Race Banquet Center at Winton Woods rolls around, our region will have presented four events including a road rally. We're on a roll again, maybe even approaching full speed. Thanks to all those members who organize and staff these events.

Thanks to Jim & Jenny Morsch and Continental Motorsports for putting on a fine (and timely) program on Safety Equipment at the March meeting, another reason to join us for the regular monthly meeting at the beautiful Mill Race Banquet Center at Winton Woods, third Tuesday of the month.

We want to welcome all the new participants and members that have joined us at our events. I look forward to meeting you at a future event or our regular monthly meeting, the third Tuesday of the month at the beautiful Mill Race Banquet Center at Winton Woods. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend the first event due to my real job but I heard it was a huge success. I did get to stop by the Evolution School on Sunday the 30th and was very impressed by the quality of instruction and the number of runs at that event. If you are serious about Solo you should plan to attend next year - register early as it fills up quickly.

By the time you read this, our first road rally will have taken place; previous events have been nothing more than a great time. An opportunity to get to know some roads you haven't driven and maybe some you didn't intend to know. You also get to know some of the folks you haven't had time to meet in the heat of competition and enjoy a few laughs. Of course you can also meet some of those same people at our next monthly meeting at the beautiful Mill Race Banquet Center at Winton Woods, third Tuesday of the month.

Big excitement this month as ground was broken for nearby Bluegrass Motorsports Club and Road Course near Sparta, KY, only about 50 miles from downtown Cincinnati. It promises to be a great facility to satisfy our need for speed with facilities for road races, track days/PDX and a nice big skid pad for Solo. You may want to give serious consideration to the GLD Driver's School at Nelson Ledges April 19 & 20.

Elsewhere in this publication is my second in the series of articles about the 2008 SCCA National Convention. This month's edition gets into the "Solo" program.

(Count them; 2 whole paragraphs with no mention of the monthly meeting).

Last but not least, why not join us for the regular monthly meeting the third Tuesday of the month (April 15th) at the beautiful Mill Race Banquet Center on W. Sharon Road west of Winton Rd. in Winton Woods. Invite a prospective member or friend, as the region will again be providing complimentary appetizer trays. Wow, I heard there were chicken wings last month. A full cash bar is available for liquid libations. As I have said before, YOU are the key to making our region great in '08!

See you at the track!

It's Solo Time!

The first points event was Sunday, March 16, 2008, at River Downs with 102 participants. The second points event will have just occurred during publication. Results for both events can be found on the website. Catch the third points event April 20th at the Kentucky Speedway. Pre-registration is encouraged. Questions? Contact Solo Chair, Andy Stanford, at quaddawg50@fuse.net.



**Minutes of the March 18, 2008 Meeting
of the Cincinnati Region
Sports Car Club of America**

Board members in attendance were Scott Tengen, E.B. Lunken, Rick Barger, Chipp Swindler, Todd Cholmondeley, Jerry Cabe, Kurt Niemeyer, Doug Duddey, and Brian Walker. Also in attendance were Andy Stanford and Bryan Schaffer.

The meeting was called to order by Scott Tengen.

Rick Barger presented the treasurer's report. On the motion of Jerry Cabe, with Todd Cholmondeley seconding, the report was approved, with Kurt Niemeyer voting no. The board discussed conducting an audit of the region's financial records. E.B. Lunken, acting as Assistant R.E. in the absence of the R.E., offered to appoint an audit committee. On the motion of Kurt Niemeyer, with Todd Cholmondeley seconding, the board decided to have a committee report at the April meeting, with the final audit report due by the November meeting.

Brian Walker reported to the board on the region's activities at the 2008 Auto Expo.

Todd Cholmondeley gave the race report, and presented a budget for the race. On the motion of Chipp Swindler, with E.B. Lunken seconding, the race budget was approved. On the motion of Todd Cholmondeley, with Jerry Cabe seconding and Kurt Niemeyer abstaining, the board approved the expenditure of \$250 for trophies for the IT Triple Crown Challenge if sponsors cannot be secured by September 1.

Kurt Niemeyer and Scott Tengen gave the PDX report, informing the board that Mid-Ohio will be conducting a test session at the conclusion of the PDX activities on Friday, August 8.

Andy Stanford gave the solo report. The first points event, March 16 at River Downs, drew 102 participants. The next event is April 6 at Kentucky Speedway. Andy briefed the board on the novice mentoring program that the solo committee has instituted.

In the membership report, Jerry Cabe informed the board that there were approximately 100 new member contacts from the Auto Expo.

In new business, the board discussed several items including region involvement in more area auto activities such as the Concourse D'Elegance and the British Car Show. On the motion of Kurt Niemeyer, with Todd Cholmondeley seconding, the board approved allowing Bluegrass Motorsports to use the region logo on its website, in exchange for the region putting the Bluegrass Motorsports logo on our website. Brian Walker briefed the board on the 2008 LaSalle High School Car Show.

On the Motion of Kurt Niemeyer, with E.B. Lunken seconding, the meeting was adjourned.

Bluegrass Motorsports Club & Road Course presents



PDX - Performance Driving Experience - PDX

FRIDAY AUGUST 8, 2008 8/8/8

MID-OHIO SPORTS CAR COURSE



LEXINGTON, OHIO

Updates on the Eights 08-08-08

Eight is the Date! What is a PDX? It is your chance to experience the thrill of driving your car around the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course at speed! Inexperienced, novices, newbies, first timers, etc. will be assigned an instructor to help you learn the track widely known as the "most competitive road course in the United States." The instructors are championship-winning racers that know the fast way around the challenging and twisting 2.4-miles of asphalt, and drive their own cars in the PDX. This event is a non-competitive instructional event: passing is permitted in designated areas; off course excursions are not permitted. Loads of fun in your car with a minimum four adrenaline-pumping sessions on the track.

What do I need? A valid driver's license (SCCA competition license NOT required). A helmet, Snell M95 or newer; if you don't own one, the Cincy Region SCCA Loaner helmets will be available. Eye protection, sunglasses, safety glasses or goggles, long sleeve shirt, long pants, racing or athletic shoes that fully cover your feet, earplugs and racing gloves, if needed. A car is required for this event, preferably a safe car. Each car must pass inspection prior to going on the track; convertibles must have a hard top or an SCCA approved rollbar. This is a road course event that takes place whether it's sunny or raining.

Where do I turn for detailed information?

Scott Tengen, Registration questions and having fun at the racetrack; scott@tengen.com or 513-702-1969. Advance Registration is required. Available soon online at Cincyscca.com. Click on the "PDX" page.

Space is limited for this event; contact Scott now to ensure your place in the fun!

Kurt Niemeyer, cincywdx08@yahoo.com or 513-304-1177 with questions about eligibility, cars, rules, rollbars, groups, sponsors, volunteering, doing math in public places, instructing, or having some fun at the racetrack.

What will this cost me?

\$225/driver includes weekend SCCA membership

\$199/driver for SCCA members

\$50/driver SCCA members instructing, staffing and driving

SPORTSMANSHIP DEMANDS SAFE DRIVING!

I.T./SPEC*tacular Bulletin Board

Race Dates: August 9 -10, 2008 Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course
Race Chair, Todd Cholmondeley, Tefkatt@aol.com

Pit Volunteers Needed

Do you want to be up close to the cars? The pit marshal's job is to provide a controlled and safe area in pit lane. However, they also assist the drivers and crew, if necessary. There are pit marshals stationed from the entrance to the exit of the pits to guide the race cars onto the track or into the paddock. For more information about volunteering contact Todd Cholmondeley at Tefkatt@aol.com or Chief of Pits Dave Howard at DH133@aol.com.

PERFORMANCE ALIGNMENT

11551 Grooms Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242 (513) 489-8500

WWW.PERFORMANCE - ALIGNMENT.COM

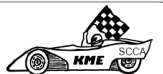
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IN THE SPOTLIGHT



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Keirn Motorsports Enterprises is a true full-service prep shop that can take care of all your racing needs. Owner Philip Keirn and his staff provides race preparation, transportation, storage, trackside support and parts inventory. KME can facilitate your racing experience through their "Arrive and Drive" program with their rental fleet of competitive Spec Racer Fords. The Cincinnati Region is proud to have KME as the Class Sponsor for the 2008 I.T./SPEC*tacular Spec Racer Ford races.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By: Jerry Cabe

Current membership in the Cincinnati Region is 413.

From our booth at the Cincy Auto Expo we sent an invitation and membership application to 97 prospective members. Our drawing from these prospects for the SCCA Fleece Vest was won by Miguel Alemany of Cincinnati. He indicated that he previously Rallied in college in the 70's and is interested in maybe getting back into road rallies. We hope to see him at our Spring Rally on April 13th.

There are several types of memberships in the SCCA. One of the best deals for the young (cash challenged) is the First Gear Program. This is a special discounted membership designed for anyone under the age of 25. It carries all the benefits of a regular membership, including the ability to have a competition license, for the special rate of \$45 per year (inclusive of national and regional). Invite your young people to get involved in the many aspects of SCCA at this attractive rate.

Wanna Be a Member?

The simplest way to join is go to www.scca.com and click the JOIN NOW button. Be sure to list Cincinnati Region (070) on the form so you are affiliated with our local group.

Cars for a Cause

2008 LaSalle High School Car Show - Saturday April 26, 2008 - 11:00a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Registration fee: \$10 pre registration \$15 at the show

Location: LaSalle High School, 3091 North Bend Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

Purpose: The show has been held over the years to raise money for the mission to Honduras and Give Kids the World. All proceeds go towards the cost of the trips. visit <http://www.cincinnati.lasalle.net> to register. Navigate to the Student Life link then car show is on the right.

SCCA will have a small booth at the show to promote the club. If you would like to help please call Brian Walker at (513) 519-3876.

FREE TIRES

(4) 205/60-13
Kumho Victoracer
Joe 513-731-5679 or
vamoose5@juno.com

2008 SCCA National Convention Report

Second in a series-Solo

I was not only very impressed with how valuable the convention was to me as a new R.E. but also by how much info is available on all the SCCA Programs and Initiatives. As I stated previously, there is so much information I will do a monthly article for the "CinChronizer" describing some of the high points from the seminars and workshops I attended. I strongly recommend you log on to SCCA.com to view the presentations and hear some of the keynote addresses under the "Convention" tab.

This month is all about the "Solo" programs that are extensive and varied. Solo draws the most participants (over 83,000 in 2007) for competition events in the club and is a great way to get started in SCCA. Solo is defined as "A non-speed competition event in which one races against the clock around pylons and is usually held in parking lots." Speeds should not normally exceed the low 60's (mph) for the fastest Stock and Street Prepared cars.

There are several major programs within Solo.

The Tire Rack National Solo Tour - Takes the Solo National Championship experience on the road. Average attendance in 2007 was 232 entrants.

The Tire Rack ProSolo Series - A nine event series throughout the country assisted by the local regions. A drag race "Christmas Tree" is used for the start. These events are well-suited to corporate programs for entertainment or showcasing products. 171 average entrants in 2007.

Divisional Cup Championships - Divisions create their own series.

Regional Solo Programs-are put on by over 90 regions. These are typically 6-20 events each year put on by local regions.

Safety is the major push in the Solo programs this year as nationally there were several expensive insurance claims in 2007 related to Solo incidents. Nobody wants to pay higher entry fees to compete or, worse yet, repair their car. I sat through the "Course Design for a Safe Event" session and was impressed by the level of detail. I learned there is an extensive manual for course design and that many regions actually have scale drawings of their sites and lay out courses in advance to be approved by the safety stewards.

A national Solo Site Acquisition Committee is in place to help regions to identify and procure new solo sites. This committee has done extensive work since it was formed in 2005. They are there to assist regions find sites for their events and provide all kinds of data about attendance at various types of venues. They have published a brochure and a CD that regions can use to approach site owners, all available through the Topeka national office.

We have a very dedicated group in the Cincinnati Region that organize and manage Cincinnati Region events along with the volunteer efforts of the competitors. I attended a Solo Committee meeting in early April and was impressed to see Cincinnati Region Solo Chairman, Andy Stanford, had 15 or 16 people there with an extensive agenda. We are extremely fortunate to have such a well-organized program and hard working group that provide fun and exciting events.

Solo is a major draw for new members and it is important we all think "membership" as we go about enjoying Solo events. Along that line, I was very impressed with the formal "Mentoring Program" the Solo Committee has designed to make sure all new competitors have someone assigned to them to "show them the ropes". Lets make sure to use Solo and all the other benefits of belonging to the great group of people that are the SCCA to grow our region and remember to thank those who put in extra effort.

Think about a friend, co-worker, or neighbor and invite them to an event or meeting!



"lost rallyists. If seen do not approach. Follow to finish" submitted by Joe Kohls

2008 SPRING TAX RALLY

Sunday, April 13th

Registration 9:00 - 11:00

Starting location at

Colerain Town Center, Rt. 27

just North of I-275 Exit 33

More Info on Rally Page

at www.cincyscca.com

Federal Tax Return 1040EZ

If your taxes are done - come out and Rally!

If your taxes are not done - extension forms will be available!

Well the new racing season is here. The 24 hours of Daytona starting off speed week, with the Good ol' boys of NASCAR and the Daytona 500, big 50th party for them. Bike week at Daytona, the 12 hours of Sebring and our club had over 100 entries for the first solo, "Man that is so cool" and the Evolution school just finished running, with another good turnout. Also there is a spring rally planned, "YES!".

I'm now back in the garage checking, oil, filters, beer, spares, body work, paint, alignment, brakes, beer, connections, "towhog" & trailer, schedules, budget, beer and drivers/worker gear all needs a good look. Whether it is for solo or road racing, there is a list of needs.

My friend David has returned my "garage fridge", as his business is doing better and has purchased one that is frost free. Thanks. While watching the Rolex 24 at Daytona at Greenies, I ran into Dave Crist and his wife Gloria. Dave's still retired from racing. Good to see you guys!

We have so much going on, there's a car show at LaSalle HS, solos with Western Ohio region (WOR) SCCA and the IT Spec-tacular with the 2nd PDX. Get involved. Tighten your belts and lets go racing.

...get out and do car stuff. joe>.....

THE MOTORSPORTS CAPITAL OF KENTUCKY

House Resolution Recognizes Gallatin County

Judge Executive, Kenny French, and Bluegrass Motorsports Club President, Brad Poppell were honored on the House floor in the Capitol Building today as HR 226 that was introduced by State Representative, Royce Adams (D), was successfully passed by a vote of 98-0. "The House of Representatives hereby recognizes Gallatin County as the Motorsports Capital of Kentucky and urges all Kentuckians to take part in celebrations and events honoring this designation. The existence of the Kentucky Speedway, Thunder on the Ohio River Champ Boat Grand Prix, and the start of construction last week of Bluegrass Motorsports Club & Road Course which will allow driving enthusiasts to indulge in their passion for racing in a unique Kentucky setting, have all shown in a myriad of ways, that Gallatin County and its business leaders have demonstrated a commitment to Motorsports unmatched in the Commonwealth", stated Rep. Adams during the legislative session held March 26, 2008.

Governor Steve Beshear will be attending the ground breaking ceremony on April 10th along with the Judge Executive, local State Representatives, and Formula One legend, Derek Daly to kick off the first and only road course in the Bluegrass state. Mr. Poppell stated "We are not just a motorsports club for gentleman racing, but a competitive race track that that will host a multitude of high-performance driving, club racing, testing, and sanctioned events to the public. I want Gallatin County to look back 10 years from now and see us as a key partner in business development along with our commitment to making Kentucky a model state in terms of driver capability and safety for adult, teen, and law enforcement driver training".

Several SCCA members will take part in the ceremonies including some Cincy Region members. Several Board Chairs, Bobbi Ross, Scott Tengen and Bill Niemeyer Sr. will be there as distinguished guests also. This is a most exciting chapter for local sports car enthusiasts in many years. Next year at this time we will be talking about SCCA's first events being held at this wonderful new venue.

Bluegrass Motorsports Club and Road Course is a new sponsor for the Cincy Region SCCA. Brad Poppell, President, sees the value in teaming with the SCCA to impact the performance car enthusiast. Brad and his team are working closely with the proper SCCA officials to ensure the track is built in compliance with the SCCA's specifications and standards to host Performance Driving Experiences, Club Trials, Road Races and other SCCA activities.

For more information, please contact Brad Poppell at 513-257-7625 or Visit them at www.DriveBluegrass.com

National BOD Report edited from Larry Dent Area 4 Director's comments

The new FastTrack is out and contains many interesting items, including a recommendation that has been made to the BOD, by the SEB, that A Mod be exempted from the minimum participation requirements for the solo championship in Topeka. This will be voted upon soon so I would suggest the A Mod people email the BOD in support of the SEB recommendation.

The second very important thing is to make sure you all realize an INCORRECT press release and item in "Sports Car" indicated that the new classes created last year would be invited to the RunOffs® this year. This year's RunOffs® will consist of the 24 classes that have qualified in the old fashioned way of being the top classes in participation nationwide, plus a one-year addition of GT 3, making a total of 25 classes. My personal belief is that all National Classes should have a National Championship race, but that is a minority view at present on the BOD.

A committee has been formed with the urgent task of looking at the RunOffs® and making recommendations as to what needs to be done to improve the event. Everything is on the table, including worker facilities, class participation, location, cost and anything else considered important to the future growth of the RunOffs®. I can say unequivocally that the RunOffs® are the prime focus of the BOD at present and we are determined to do what is necessary to insure the growth of the RunOffs® and the pleasurable experience of spectators, workers and drivers.

You are likely aware that the big bru-ha-ha over the Formula C engines, was resolved. It generated more emails than any subject in the past several years. Thanks to the very public discussion and comments the matter was solved to the satisfaction of ALMOST everyone.

The next face-to-face meeting of the BOD is May 7-11. Anything you wish to comment on should reach the writer and BOD before then. We meet face-to-face 4 times yearly and by conference call the first Monday of every month.

I have had a lot of folks question me about my decision to not run for a second 3 year term as your Director. In some ways I feel that I am letting you all down, because the first year is a learning experience, the second is time to get with the programs and the third, and three more if re-elected, are the years to become a real influence on the direction the club is taking. I was fortunate to be appointed Chairman of the SCCA Foundation BOD and we have made great progress in re-formulating the Foundation after several years of stagnation. Having said that, I must say that due to the demands on my time, the effects on my health (major heart surgery last summer, NOT caused by the work, but certainly a factor) my age (74 and counting) and the strain that being a Director places upon one, I will not be a candidate for re-election. One very good person has already stated he wants my job and I hope to see several other qualified persons step up to the plate and take a swing.

On a very positive note, SCCA, Inc. is doing well financially. Enterprises paid back a substantial portion of the debt it owes SCCA Inc, Pro did the same and the club wound up with a profit in '07 of somewhere between \$300,000 and \$400,000. Really good news!

I hope to see you all at the Nelson Ledges Drivers School April 19/20.

Great Lakes Division Driver's School

The only Driver's School being held in the Great Lakes Division in 2008 is scheduled for April 19-20 at Nelson's Ledges in NE Ohio. There are other schools scheduled in other divisions, but you will be traveling a long way to attend them. Check the GLD website at www.greatlakes-scca.org to obtain more information.

S.C.C.A.
CINCINNATI REGION
CINCHRONIZER
c/o The Tomeys
3823 Springoak Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45248



We're on the Web!
www.cincyscca.com

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 15
at Mill Race Banquet Center on W. Sharon Road
west of Winton Rd. in Winton Woods

Coming A-TRACK-tions

April

13 - Road Rally
15 - Monthly Meeting
20 - Solo Autocross, Kentucky Speedway
19/20 - Great Lakes Driving School, Nelson Ledges

May

20 - Monthly Meeting at Mill Race Banquet Center

August

8 - PDX at Mid-Ohio
9/10 - I.T./SPEC*taacular at Mid-Ohio

Will someone pleeeeeease tell
the editors that our meetings
are the Third Tuesday of every

MS Society Night at Go Bananas
Comedy Club, advertised in last
month's CinChronizer, was a complete
sell-out. Thanks to all who helped
make this fundraiser a success!

