

November 2008

CinChronizer



Cincinnati Region S.C.C.A.

RE-Port

By Regional Executive, Bill Niemeyer, Jr.

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Next Newsletter

Deadline:

Tuesday, December 2

Send articles to Jill
and Allen Tomey at
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Thanks to everyone that came out last month to hear candidate for SCCA National Board of Directors, Steve Harris, speak. There were some very good questions and discussion that continued after the meeting. We are fortunate to have three very strong candidates and you can read their platforms on www.greatlakes-scca.org. If you haven't already, make sure to send in your ballot so it is received by the accountants in Topeka by November 17th. It is very easy, as a no postage required "Business Reply Mail" envelope is provided with your ballot.

November is a very important month for our region with a full slate of candidates nominated for our Annual Meeting and election of officers. Please come out to vote. According to our By Laws, it is next to impossible to nominate from the floor so you are safe if that is holding you back. Besides, with most of the championships now in the book, it is a great time to discuss the outcomes.

The Great Lakes Division Roundtable, the planning process for the 2009 season, was held in nearby Centerville/Miamisburg. Western Ohio (WOR) did a great job of putting on this important event. If there is one takeaway from Roundtable it is the new mantra we should all remember while at events: "Make it Easy, Make it Fun!" Please see the full report on Roundtable elsewhere in this issue.

It is time to start planning for next year's Cincinnati Region events and committees. Our region has an exciting future as the Bluegrass Road Course comes on line, our strong Solo program continues and we have our big event at Mid Ohio next year offering tons of close by opportunities for motorsports events. In addition to the Solo and Race committees, we will be forming a committee this year to do the two PDX events at Mid Ohio and Bluegrass. Our neighboring regions to the south are excited about working with us as Bluegrass comes on line.

Planning is in motion for our annual Awards Banquet and it looks like it will be held at River Downs' banquet facility on January 17. Marty Stringer of River Downs is a great friend of our region, especially the Solo program, and we want to reciprocate by having it at his facility.

See you Tuesday at the beautiful Mill Race Banquet Center, just about a mile west of Winton on Sharon. Remember, the club provides a nice variety of appetizers and a full range of complimentary soft drinks and coffee. A full menu is available in the grillroom downstairs.

Bill Jr.

Make it Easy! Make it Fun!

**Minutes of the October 21, 2008
Meeting of the Cincinnati Region
Sports Car Club of America**

Board members in attendance were E.B. Lunken, Chipp Swindler, Doug Duddey, Kurt Niemeyer, Todd Cholmondeley, and Brian Walker. Also in attendance were David Santel, Andy Stanford, and Bryan Schaefer.

The meeting was called to order by E. B. Lunken.

On the motion of Brian Walker, with Doug Duddey seconding, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

In the treasurer's report, David Santel told the board that he had received the financial records from Bill Niemeyer, Jr., and that he would meet with Bill and Rick Barger. He hopes to have a report ready for the November meeting.

In the race report, Todd Cholmondeley told the board that the region has secured a commitment from Mid-Ohio for the weekend of July 31-August 2, 2009. The next race committee meeting will be November 10.

Brian Walker told the board that the auto shows are over for 2008, and that the first event for 2009 is the Auto Expo.

Andy Stanford gave the solo report. There were three events since the last meeting: a test and tune October 4 with 35 participants, and points events on October 5 with 92 racers, and October 19 with 85 competitors. On the motion of Brian Walker, with Todd Cholmondeley seconding, the board approved the purchase of a \$100 gift certificate for Marty Stringer at River Downs.

In new business, Todd Cholmondeley, for the nominating committee, gave the following slate of candidates: R.E.-Bill Niemeyer, Jr.; Assistant R.E.-E.B. Lunken; Treasurer-David Santel; Secretary-Kurt Niemeyer; and board member at large-Bryan Schaefer, Rodney Sizemore, Andy Stanford, and Chipp Swindler. In other new business, the board discussed venues for the 2009 banquet.

In old business, the board discussed the May 2009 event at Bluegrass Motorsports.

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

GET OUT AND VOTE!

That's right the elections are not over yet! Come to the Mill Race Banquet Hall, Tuesday, November 18th, and cast your vote. Here are some of the perks: No waiting in line; Food and beverages while you wait around the " precinct"; No exit polls and best of all newly elected board members in less than an hour. Those running for the BoD are.....

Bill Niemeyer Jr. for R.E.

E.B. Lunken for Assistant R.E.

David Santel for Treasurer

Kurt Niemeyer for Secretary

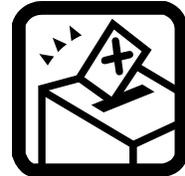
(Vote for 3)

Rodney Sizemore Board Member at Large

Chipp Swindler Board Member at Large

Andy Stanford Board Member at Large

Brian Schaffer Board Member at Large



So come to the meeting on November 18th and Vote!

Remember

to mail in your ballot

for the SCCA Board of Directors Election, Area 4.

Ballots must be received by November 17.

Cincinnati Region is proud to recognize 50-year member, Roger Many

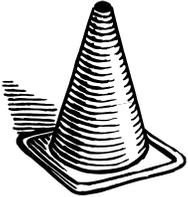
who started racing in an Alfa Spider Veloce and later ran a Lotus Super Seven. Roger and his wife, Mary, now reside in Summerfield, Florida. Roger held a Steward's license and both he and Mary held numerous offices in the Cincinnati Region.





The Finish Line

Walter Scott, better known to fans at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course as Scotty, died Saturday, October 18, 2008 after a battle with cancer. Scott, 61, called races at the Lexington road course for 40 years on the trackside public address system. A fixture in the Esses, he was long a fan favorite at Mid-Ohio. In the motor sports forum at MansfieldNewsJournal.com, fans can leave a few words or recount stories in a thread titled "Remembering Scotty." Messages of condolence may be left at <http://www.newcomernet.com/obituaries>



Between the Cones

Andy Stanford, Solo Chair



Well, it's that time of year again. The summer is over and winter is just right around the corner. The racing season is over, and there is a nip in the air. We are thinking ahead to next year and are already planning some dates for the spring.

We are looking forward to hosting another Evolution Performance Driving School, probably in early April, at River Downs. We are also planning some Test and Tune dates, and possibly some driving schools put on by our own Solo program. Once again, we plan to work closely with Central Kentucky, and Western Ohio regions to maximize the amount of racing each club can fit onto our schedules.

The Solo department is looking into some new things, a Novice class, and expanding on our very popular Novice Mentoring program. We are also looking into a PAX Points Championship for 2009, and of course, the Second Annual PAX Challenge which we started this year.

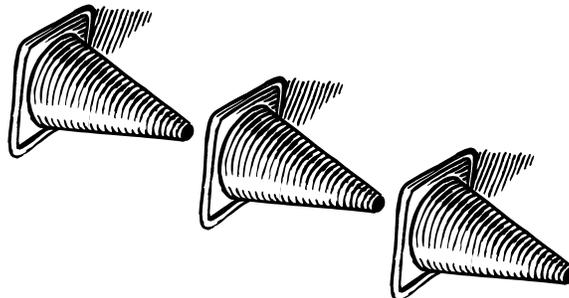
Once again, we are still on the lookout for venues! Don't hesitate to contact one of us if you have a parking lot or airstrip, etc... in mind. We follow up on ALL leads, so don't be afraid to say something.

Now is the season for Bench Racing! Stop by the Forum and shoot the bull with us. All the popular kids are there!! Just go to CincySCCA.com and follow the links to the Forum.

The November meeting is coming up fast, and we need a LARGE Solo turnout. Kurt Niemeyer is anxious to speak to us about possibilities at the Bluegrass Road Course and there is lots of planning for the annual banquet. **WE NEED YOU THERE!**

Your club needs you! We are recruiting volunteers for next season. We are always in need of people to set-up and tear-down events. It's a LOT of work and it is SO much easier when we all chip in. If you enjoy Autocross, think about showing up early and pitching in.

The banquet is coming up also, and we could use some volunteers for that also. If you can help, please contact anyone on the Board of Directors. (See contact information in the sidebar on the front page.)



Fun, Fair and Safe!

Makin' Tracks: The Bluegrass Road Course Update

Kurt Niemeyer, Bluegrass Motorsports Club and Road Course

The paving started at the new Bluegrass Motorsports Park as October drew to a close. The fast paced progress continued at the track near Sparta, Kentucky high atop the plateau just south of the Ohio River. The aerial photos below distinctly show the outline of the first track to be completed and the asphalt process stretching around the western most corners of the track and down the front straight. These photos were taken November 2nd. By the end of the week, the ribbon of asphalt will be complete.

What you cannot see from these photos is the three dimensional aspect of elevation changes which are vociferous at Bluegrass. The phrase " ...plummeting downhill...." applies several times each lap along with ".....compression, steep uphill, off camber blind apex, decreasing radius, increasing radius..." and WOW factor! This course will challenge the driver and the machine with the variety of corners and their placement anywhere the ground was not flat!

The event calendar will give several opportunities for the SCCA to come and play at Bluegrass with a wide variety of cars. The Great Lakes Division Calendar has Bluegrass listed for two SCCA weekends; Cincy Region with a **PDX and Club Trial** in May and the forty-something annual **WOR Games** in September. Other events of note are the **One Lap of America** in early May, the **Midwest Miata Gathering** over Labor Day and the **Oktoberfest** weekend featuring German cars, food and beverages, possibly even a Chicken Dance.

Many of you attended our open-house in October and got the chance to see the course under construction. Over 500 people came to the track to see the progress, become members and reserve event dates. The turnout was outstanding and we appreciate all of you that did come to visit. You saw firsthand the track being carved out of the terrain; many of you drove on the dirt and gravel portions of the track, experiencing the hills and dales along with the twists and turns.

Out next event is Nov. 22 with Lexus Rivercenter hosting a driving tour and clue rally. Reserve your spot on the grid with Ken Kocher at Lexus Rivercenter kkocher@lexusrivercenter.com, 859.547.5300. Check in at 9 am at Lexus Rivercenter, 633 West Third St, Covington Ky, 41011; First Car out at 9:30am, midway check point is the Bluegrass Motorsports Park. Lexus is a recent addition to the SCCA Speed GT series with Jeff Altenburg: the *IS-F* is a serious performance car with potential for big fun on the track. Check out all the Lexus models at a reception at the dealership following the driving portion of the day's program.

Memberships at Bluegrass are still available; each comes with a set number of days reserved for Club Members only, guest passes and weekday usage and more. If you would like to schedule a visit please contact me at Kurt@Drivebluegrass.com or 513.304.1177. See you at the track.



Make it Easy! Make it Fun!

2009 Great Lakes Division Roundtable Re Port

Western Ohio (WOR) did a great job organizing this year's event providing all the attendees with a nice favor bag, a well-planned lunch and refreshment breaks. Cincy Region members in attendance included Todd C., Bryan Floyd, Dave Howard, E.B. Lunken, Phil Osborn, John Peterson, Bobbi Ross and I there for Saturday and Kurt made an appearance at the Friday night launch party.

It was a great opportunity to enjoy a good time and meet folks from other GLD regions, learn from them and get involved in building the '09 schedule. We were very fortunate to have Mike Dickerson, the National VP of Solo Competition and Jeff Dahmert SCCA CFO from Topeka, give very informative presentations.

Jeff stated that SCCA is going to break even thanks to Pro and Enterprises doing well and that while membership is flat and expenses are down, so are revenues due to the challenging economic times. We do have competition for our "product" from several directions and the keys to our growth are "MAKE IT EASY, MAKE IT FUN!". The SCCA sanctions primarily amateur events but SCCA is about "High Level Competition". As we participate as officials, volunteers, drivers or crew it is important to continually ask ourselves, "Am I Making It Easy and Fun" for the others at the event.

Speaking of the benefits of being a member of SCCA, there was a very touching presentation of the National F&C Worker of the Year Award to Ronda Knapp of OVR by John Mills, also of OVR. Ronda was showing some F&C prospects around at Mid Ohio when John had a hard crash. Seeing that the closest workers were across the track she jumped the fence and stabilized John throughout the rescue saving him from more serious injury.

Cincinnati Region was cited for our "Best Practices" for our PDX events, which are seen as an important step in bringing more people into the club, providing another option for Solo participants and growing the road race programs.

Steve Harris and Marcus Merideth, candidates for national Board of Directors, were in attendance and participated in good conversation about the direction of the club and their viewpoints. Make sure to read theirs and John LaRue's platforms on www.greatlakes-scca.org

The seminars were packed with information and very good discussion. The Town Hall Open Forum was a great opportunity to ask questions and make comments on issues related to the club. The best part is the folks from national and the divisional administrators heard them.

I attended the Solo Seminar where there was quite a bit of discussion on site acquisition, noise levels, and the return of Divisional events. Solo is a very important gateway to SCCA and we are fortunate to have some very dedicated participants/leaders in our division seeking to make it better. While that was going on the 2009 Race Scheduling meeting was taking place. Todd C was our representative and it looks like a great schedule was devised with Cincinnati region putting on 2 three-day events. Our traditional PDX/IT Spectacular at Mid Ohio and a new three day PDX/Club Trials at Bluegrass. It also looks like this year's GLD driver's school will be a double event to be held at Mid Ohio in late April. You can see and print the whole schedule at the GLD website.

Roundtable wrapped up with a Great Lakes Division board meeting where it was reported our region is in strong financial condition and prepared for 2009.

Bill Niemeyer, Jr.

Membership Report By: Jerry Cabe

371 Members as of 10-01-2008



**Congratulations,
Ronda Knapp,
National F&C
Worker of the Year !!!**

S.C.C.A.
 CINCINNATI REGION
 CINCHRONIZER
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We're on the Web!
www.cincyscca.com

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 18th
 at Mill Race Banquet Center on W. Sharon Road
 west of Winton Rd. in Winton Woods

Coming A-TRACK-tions

November

- 1 - GLD Round Table
- 18 - Monthly Meeting 8:30 pm
- *****No Monthly Meeting in December*****

January

- 17 - Awards Banquet, River Downs
- 20 - Monthly Meeting 8:30 pm

Hot off the presses. 2009 GLDiv. racing Schedule.

May 2-3	ORP	Indy National w/ restricted regional
May 9-10	Nelson Ledges	NeOhio Double regional
May 16-17	BlueGrass	Cincy PDX
May 23-24	Grattan	WMR Double regional
June 6-7	Mid Ohio	OVR National (tentative may move to May 30-31)
July 4-6	Nelson Ledges	NeOhio/Detroit Double National
July 11-12	Gingerman	SB/WMR National w/ restricted regional
July 31-Aug 2	Mid Ohio	Cincinnati I.T.SPEC*acular restricted regional/ PDX
Aug 8-9	Grattan	SB/WMR National
Sept 4-6	Mid Ohio	OVR Double regional/ PDX
Sept 11-13	BlueGrass	WOR Double regional/ PDX
Oct 10-11	Mid Ohio	OVR Double regional

