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# Next Newsletter Deadline: Tuesday, June 2 Send articles to Jill and Allen Tomey

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Remember the regular monthly meeting will be at the beautiful Mill Race Banquet Center with an earlier 8:00 starting time. Board Meeting at 6:30 pm Cincinnati Region S.C.C.A.

### Making Tracks

Bluegrass Motorsports Park has announced that the MuscleMilk Trans-Am series will headline the first major sports car races in the Commonwealth of Kentucky since 1959. Elsewhere in this publication is the official announcement from SCCA Pro Racing; watch for more SCCA series to be added in the very near future along with announcements from other sanctioning bodies about their participation in the Labor Day weekend festivities. The front cover from the official program for the Louisville Fairgrounds Races in 1959 has been included elsewhere in the newsletter. Jerry Long, former Cincy Region member supplied the program and entry list that reads like a Who's Who of sports car racing in late fifties. The whole program from those 1959 races will be on display at the Trans-Am event. For more information about those Louisville races, SCCA historian Pete Hylton covers the events in his *Ghost Tracks vol. 1*. These books are available on SCCA.com and from Pete.

The Bluegrass Motorsports Park Tire Barricade Crew is burning rubber every Saturday and selected weeknights as the barricades are built to the new FIA specs. Mark Rivera and the Central Kentucky Region are spearheading the project; tires have been donated by Pirelli, Goodyear and Continental. The new site plan has been submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers, a water runoff retention area was requested to service the new large paved second paddock; this is a large expanse of blacktop that will hold hundreds of competition cars when the primary paddock fills – most of the time the primary paddock will accommodate the entrants. We will be having a contest to name an activity that can take place on a large paved parking area – put your thinking caps on and watch this space.

Bluegrass Motorsports Park is involved in advancing the safety of race tracks internationally. By the time you read this the FIA in cooperation with the SCCA will have been to Bluegrass to use the facility as a venue to train track inspectors. This program was made possible by diligent work on the part of the SCCA National Staff in Topeka to secure funding from the FIA to train SCCA members as track inspectors. More information can be found on SCCA.com about the training. Check the archives around the middle of February.

The gates are open every Saturday from noon to 5 pm for track visits. Come down and see for yourself how a premier race track is constructed, or check for updates at <a href="www.Drivebluegrass.com">www.Drivebluegrass.com</a> - click on the "news" menu.

## **Between the Cones**

Andrew Stanford, Solo Chair, Cincy Region

Hello again Autocross fans! Points event #2 is in the books... and the One Lap of America autocross is over. Whew.. what a couple of weeks we have had....

Points Event #2 at Turfway Park came off without a hitch. We had almost 100 cars come out to play on a beautiful April day, and a great time was had by all. It was the first time in many years that the Cincy SCCA has run at Turfway, and it seems that we have found a new summer home. Check the Cincy SCCA Website for all the results.

The big news this month is the One Lap of America stopping by for an autocross! Thank Danny Popp and Paul Williams for suggesting to Brock Yates, Jr. to come to us when their scheduled event at Bluegrass was canceled due to the track not being ready in time for their time trial there. Brock got back to me and I assured him that my fantastic team could indeed put together a world class autocross in time for their May 3<sup>rd</sup> date.

My SCCA volunteers banded together in record time, along with Turfway Park's employees to pull off a GREAT event. The rain threatened, but held off, and the One Lappers were treated to 3 runs, of which the last two were actually dry. From the quotes I read in various blogs and media reports, everyone had a great time!

After the One Lap competitors were finished, our own volunteers tore up the track for a few hours, as a reward for all their hard work. It was fun to see that our guys could lay down times as good or better than the fancy machinery that showed up for the One Lap. Granted, they were on street tires, but some of us were too... Not to be unfriendly, but it sure felt good.

Our own Tony Wiesenhahn pulled out a second place for the day, and that moved him into 3<sup>rd</sup> overall, and 1<sup>st</sup> in class for the One Lap. Follow the One Lap results at <a href="www.onelapofamerica.com">www.onelapofamerica.com</a>. The event will be over by the time this reaches you... so hopefully our local heroes have done well!

Don't forget, the next Solo event is May 31<sup>st</sup>, and is a joint event with WOR. Please register by following the link on our Solo Page at <a href="https://www.cincyscca.com">www.cincyscca.com</a>, that will take you to the WOR My Auto Events site.

The next Cincy Event is scheduled for June 14<sup>th</sup>, back at Turfway Park! See you on the course!

**Autocross Saves Lives** I love Autocross Sundays. The roar of a prepared engine, the smell of exhaust and burning rubber, squealing tires as a car is given the green flag, stomps on the accelerator too hard, and just sits there spinning its wheels for a second. It's the second solo points event but I'm not racing today because of a recent injury, which hopefully will heal by the next solo event. Instead, I play pit crew for my dad and sister, and observe the atmosphere of spirited competition.

Each person's focus is on getting a better time, but I remember a deeper purpose for this wonderful sport. We race here with all kinds of protective measures, but in real life, there isn't any of this. We do not wear helmets and racing seatbelts every time we get into our cars. A big part of autocross is learning how to drive, beyond what they can teach you in driver's ed. I and my friends are very glad that I have had this training, especially in the car I drive on a daily basis, as the skills I learned here at solo events recently saved my and my friend's lives.

It was late and after our group was done eating at the Clifton Skyline, everyone starts looking for rides home. I commute, so I always have a car. I end up taking Max home, and he lives on Highland, closer to downtown. We're driving, listening to the radio, talking about band gossip and classes, getting closer to his house. We reach the part of Highland where it turns sharply right and then down the hill. We cruise around the corner, nice and easy going the speed limit of 35 mph because I always miss his house the first time we pass it. A couple driveways down from this corner on the right, there's a guy standing just outside the line of parked cars, kind of staring at us like a deer caught in headlights, head tilted to the side, and I think he had a beer in his hand. There was another car slowly approaching from the other direction, going up the hill, but still a ways past the dazed man. We were pretty close to the man, when a big gold pickup truck starts backing out of the driveway behind him, picking up speed. At this point he is entirely blocking my lane, and there is no way that I can stop my car before I would crash into the bed of this truck, nose first. So, on instinct, I pick out the points of this S-turn, swerving around the end of the truck, which finally sees me and slams on his brakes as well, and avoiding the approaching car, who, seeing the truck, also stopped. We cruise down the hill, and for the first time, I don't pass up Max's house. We sit in his driveway for a minute, letting him catch his breath. He's a little shocked at what happened, and vows never to tease me with his "women can't drive" jokes again. That, my friends, is why we race.

-Jacqueline Tomey, 13 STSL

P D X The PDX/Race Committee met on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Those in attendance were: Todd Cholmondeley, Dave Burchfield, David Santel, Dave Howard, E.B. Lunken, Jerry Cabe, Bill Niemeyer Jr., Brian Walker and Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Mullan.

Dave Howard reported that he will have a PDX budget to present to the BoD May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Brian Walker and Dave Howard to use the supps. from the Bluegrass event and the info from our previous PDX's at Mid Ohio to create the supps. for this year's event. It was decided that we will offer a \$25 discount to active Military personal signing up for the PDX. It was also decided that a reimbursement of \$25 a day will be offered to individuals that drive in the PDX and stay to volunteer for the weekend. These individuals will have a slip of paper that must be signed by the Chief of the Specialty for which they are volunteering. That slip of paper must be turned in to either the PDX. Chair, Race Chair or Treasurer within (14) days of the event.

Todd Cholmondeley reported that the race weekend was on track. The June issue of Grassroots Motorsports Magazine is out with the I.T.SPEC\*tacular preview on page 14. Todd is currently working with Motorsportsreg.com for online registration for both the PDX and the Road Race. It was also reported that fliers for the Teen Defensive Drivers School at Mid Ohio and track specialties were distributed at the April 26<sup>th</sup> Auto-X at Turfway Park.

Next meeting will be held May 26<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm at: Uno Chicago Grill Restaurant,9246 Schulze Drive

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## CINCINNATI SCCA needs YOUR help at Mid Ohio July 31<sup>st</sup>- August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

"Come Join Us". Drive in the PDX and you can be reimbursed \$25 per day just for volunteering to help out over the weekend. For more information contact Race Chairs Todd Cholmondeley at <a href="Tefkatt@aol.com">Tefkatt@aol.com</a> or Dave Howard at DH133@aol.com

#### Registration

Everyone needs to register to participate in an SCCA sanctioned event. The registrars are the first people you meet at the track. Working this specialty is very rewarding. You get to meet the drivers, crew and workers and assist them in going on to race. There is a bit of paperwork involved but it is all for the safety of the Registration is usually an inside members. job, out of the weather. And, registration does not stay open all day so there usually is time to see some racing or assisting in another specialty. For more information about registration contact: Starla McCauley. Roamingstars@att.net

#### Technical & Safety (Scrutineer)

Do you want to get up close to the racecars and meet the drivers and crew? The function of "Tech" is to make sure the racecars comply with the GCR and other Club regulations. You could assist in weighing the cars, doing a safety check on race gear, etc. before and after racing. Having some technical knowledge of cars, before hand, is not a requirement. We train. For more information about Tech and Safety contact: Bobbi & Tim Ross. Bobbi.Ross@fuse.net

I. T. S P E C

#### Cincinnati Region SCCA Board Meeting Minutes April 21, 2009

Cincinnati Region SCCA monthly meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Tengen at 6:42pm.

Scott Tengen, Bill Niemeyer, Jr, E.B. Lunken, David Santel, Kurt Niemeyer, Bryan Schafer, Rodney Sizemore, Todd Cholmondeley, Brian Walker, Andy Stanford and Chipp Swindler present.

Minutes of the March Meeting presented, motion to approve B Schafer, 2nd E.B Lunken, passed unanimously

Treasurer's Report presented, motion to approve C. Swindler, 2nd E.B. Lunken, passed unanimously

Solo Report by Andy Stanford, Evolution school was another huge success and surpassed profit projections. Discussion centered on whether to charge participants involved in crashes for damage to the facilities; fear of losing another facility is prevalent within the Solo committee as sites dry up at a vociferous rate. Next event is at another new venue, Turfway Park in northern Kentucky.

PDX Report by Brian Walker; only 19 entries have been received, by April 21 and only one for Sunday. This puts the Region in a very precarious position financially with this event.

Motion to Cancel PDX May 15-17, leave deposit with Bluegrass for 2010 event by David Santel, 2nd by E.B. Lunken, passed with K Niemeyer abstaining and Brian Walker not present for the vote.

Race Report, Todd C; work is continuing to get registration online with motorsportsreg.com, a new service that was touted heavily at the National convention and should be easier to use than the previous system used. Registration should be available by the end of June.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm by Bryan Schafer, 2nd Rodney Sizemore, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted Kurt Niemeyer, Secretary

#### Bluegrass Motorsports Park Completes Trans-Am Schedule

TOPEKA, Kan. (April 15, 2009) – The Muscle Milk® SCCA® Trans-Am® Series will headline the first professional weekend at Bluegrass Motorsports Park, Sept. 5 – 6. The race, to be operated by SCCA Pro Racing, completes the eight-round 2009 Trans-Am schedule.

Opening this spring, Bluegrass Motorsports Park features a multiple configuration, 2.5-mile road course designed by Derek Daly and is conveniently situated between Louisville, Ky., Lexington, Ky., and Cincinnati, Ohio. As part of the first professional motorsports event at the facility, Trans-Am will headline an exhilarating weekend of road racing with a cadre of closed and open-wheel support series to be announced shortly.

"SCCA Pro Racing is thrilled to be taking Trans-Am to Bluegrass Motorsports Park," SCCA Pro Racing President & CEO Robert Wildberger said. "It's a great fit to have a fresh, new venue on the schedule for the rejuvenated Trans-Am series. There are some exciting plans in store for the weekend, and I'm hoping this is the start of a long and successful relationship with Bluegrass Motorsports Park."

The event is tentatively scheduled to hold a promoter test day on Friday, Sept. 4, with practice and qualifying taking place on Saturday, Sept. 5, and racing on Sunday, Sept. 6. Circuit maps and updates on the paving process are available at www.drivebluegrass.com.

"We are honored to have the Muscle Milk SCCA Trans-Am Series for our first professional event," Bluegrass Motorsports Park President & CEO Brad Poppell said. "To have a series with a history as rich as Trans-Am racing at Bluegrass will quickly establish us as a key venue in motorsports. Drivers will find the course both exhilarating and challenging, and I look forward to seeing those beautiful machines racing across the start-finish line."

The eight-race Muscle Milk SCCA Trans-Am schedule for 2009 is now complete. The season is already underway with the first race which took place March 22 at Road Atlanta. The second round is set for April 19 at VIRginia International Raceway. For a full schedule, results, photos and more visit <a href="www.sccatrans-am.com">www.sccatrans-am.com</a>.





#### Ten years ago in the Cincy Region

From Anne Niemeyer

- John Osteen and Larry Schumacher won the PSR (IMSA) GT Class at Road Atlanta in a Porsche.
- E.B. Lunken was the Assistant RE, the more things change the more they stay the same.
- Jeff Loewe was the Solo Chair, he was also driving a car called a "Bedpan"
- Dennis Dougan was the RE and was planning the Freedom Regional at Mid-Ohio.
- Denise Mustain was the Registrar for the event which ended up drawing well over 400 cars and netted almost \$40,000 for the Region.

Those were some of the good old Days.

Official program for the Louisville
Fairgrounds Races in 1959

#### **RACE FAN?**

Bret Frank is looking for some help with Competition Chair duties. If you are already attending events, solo, road race or rally, you too can achieve great notoriety by having a by line in "The CinChronizer" and on the web. Send your observations and/or results to Jill & Al Tomey at their email shown on the front page of this publication.

#### **AFRAID OF COMMITMENT?**

We are always looking for a few folks for some one-time assignments. This is a great way to contribute to the club without the yearlong commitment. If you think you may have an interest but aren't sure what the job entails, any board member or committee member will be glad to explain it without obligation. Our dedicated team puts in a heroic effort to make things happen and can always use a little more help.

#### **NEW AD RATES**

Would you or a company you know, like to target our members and similarly inclined individuals in your advertising? The rate is \$50 per month pro-rated so all ads renew on Jan 1 (one time payment). This gets you not only approximately 1/6 page in "The CinChronizer" that goes out to our roughly 400 members, but a space on our web site and our event entry forms. Please contact any board member to arrange your ad placement.

**Have you seen** Continental Motorsports permanent place at Mid-Ohio? For more information you can contact the Morsch's at 513-459-8888.

**Thanks!!!** To the drivers who came to our Club Racing Annual Tech Days on March 29 and April 19. From Tim and Bobbi Ross, Mike and Lee Hamilton.

#### **Dixie National Solo Tour**

Submitted by Joe O'Gorman

Tom O'Gorman and Scott Bourne of the Cincinnati Region competed in the Dixie National Solo tour and represented the region well driving Scott's 04 Honda Civic in H-Stock. Both ended up with trophies. Tom finished 1st and Scott finished 3rd in a field of 12 competitors. We traveled to Adel Georgia and met the Bourne family just outside of Atlanta where Scott had found a tire dealer to mount tires he picked up along the way. They were the only competitors at the event running on Hankook tires.

# Club Race Recap Indianapolis Grand Prix Regional & National May 2-3

Submitted by Jerry Cabe

Cincinnati Region was well represented at the Indy GP held at O'Reilley Raceway Park. Even though there was a big challenge to find firm paddock space due to earlier rains, the weather improved to allow a great weekend of racing. The Regional qualification and races were held on Saturday. Local Spec Miata drivers were Rick Deerwester, finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in class, Jerry Cabe, 6<sup>th</sup>, and for his debut in SM, Rob Bax finished 8<sup>th</sup> in Tony Brown's car. Rob liked the SM, but he might be looking to convert it to a right-hand drive. Michael Strahm had his new SSB Camero out and finished 1<sup>st</sup> in class in his first race. Rob Bax doubled up and ran the Miata in ITA, finishing 4<sup>th</sup>. Steve Jenks (FM) and Tim Floyd (FE), both took 1<sup>st</sup> place in their classes. Jason Briggs ran 3<sup>rd</sup> in DSR, while Barney Powers failed to get his Bobsey to the Grid for the race. Michael Kolthoff's Swift finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in FF.

Indy Region hosted a great party Saturday evening with plenty of food, drink and live music. To commemorate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of running at ORP (formerly IRP), they had one of the largest cakes ever seen decorated as the track.

In the National races, Rick Deerwester finished 4<sup>th</sup>, and Jerry Cabe finished 6<sup>th</sup> in SM. Tom Patton drove the Tiger to a 1<sup>st</sup> place in GT2. Tim Floyd and Steve Jenks both finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in their classes of FE and FM. The Briggs' DSR was not operational for the National due to clutch issues. Barney Power's DSR was running until it started smoking about lap 6. Could the oil plug we found on track in T-15 have anything to do with his early retirement? Michael Kolthoff drove a very strategic race and finished 1<sup>st</sup> in Formula Ford.

Volunteer workers from the Cincy Region were well represented and enjoyed the weekend. John Pfetzing and John Peterson were there in the Steward capacity, EB Lunkin worked Tech, and Tom Philips, Joe Hennies, Ron Long, Todd Cholmondeley and Jerry Cabe hung out on the corners flagging.

# Fun, Fair and Safe!

### **MARFE Karting Series**

Submitted by The O'Gormans

Exhaust fumes, helmets on the table, the thrill of the checkered flag and birthday cake. That's how the Mind and Right Foot Exercises (MARFE) carting series got started. A group of regular Solo competitors had just finished a one-hour enduro at Competition Racing indoor cart track in Lawrenceburg celebrating Tom O'Gorman's 17th birthday. The conversations quickly turned to the idea of a series; a rulebook and a few forum posts later the series was underway.

We fielded 8 teams of three drivers each for a monthly race. Random grid position was determined by drawing a cart number from a hat at the beginning of each race. We lined up for a standing start and the race was on! Each team had to make 2 mandatory pit stops for driver changes and each driver had to do at least 10 laps in the cart. Points were awarded based upon finishing position and a bonus was given to the team that logged the fastest lap for each session. The carts can go up to 35 MPH in the straights, and in one hour of racing most teams covered between 27 and 28 miles in the cart.

The field consisted of many SCCA members from all facets of racing - Solo, club racing, and corner workers were all represented. We had a number of non-members racing as well - and I wouldn't be surprised to see then join the ranks of the SCCA. The competition was close and a number of rookie drivers showed huge improvement. By the end of the series passing had become difficult for any team - and average lap times for all 8 teams were within .9 seconds.

The teams were: **Black Team: Skinny Boys Racing:** Tom O'Gorman, Dave Santel, Scott Bourne; **Green Team: OK Racing:** Joe O'Gorman, Todd Kime, Mary Beth O'Gorman; **Orange Team: MARFEia racing:** Jerry Cabe, Brian Walker, Dave Kosse **Purple: Team Corvette:** Greg Lloyd, Bryan Schafer / Casey Moore; Rick Deerwester; **Blue Team: Civics R Us:** Christian Moist, Dan Chambers, Jonathan Sexton; **White: Team Sube +1:** Tony Weisenhahn, Tony Barber, Brian Crouch **Red Team: B-17:** Dan Duwell, Chris Duwell, Jeff Sabin; **Yellow Team: Top Gearheads:** Stuart Mullan Tom Phillips Joe Hennies.

Congratulations to Team B-17! They finished 1st with 45 points and an impressive showing by Jeff Sabin - Jeff logged the fast lap in three of the 5 events. Jeff has no racing on his resume and quickly earned the respect of all with his abilities. Team Skinny Boys took 2nd and Team Sube +1 took 3rd, each with 41 points. Christian Moist (WOR Region) logged the fastest lap of the season with a 19.433 second lap in the 4th event. His team, Civics R Us, finished 4th, followed by OK Racing, MARFEia, Team Corvette, and the Top Gearheads. We had a catered lunch and awards ceremony after the final race. There were three ties in the points and required tie breaker decisions for final awards. The final race had a little bit of drama and controversy thrown in and an audit of the final results was required to resolve a question with timing and scoring and determine the winner.

A special thanks to Andy and Nick Stanford for being at every race and handling the web updates and to Jeff Loewe for showing up for the finale and getting some great shots. We are already planning for another season next year and hope to be able to expand it to allow more teams to race. Watch for details in the fall. For information on the track see <a href="https://www.competionracing.net">www.competionracing.net</a>, to see the photos check out <a href="https://www.jlofoto.com">www.jlofoto.com</a>.



S.C.C.A.
CINCINNATI REGION
CINCHRONIZER
c/o The Tomeys
3823 Springoak Drive
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Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 19th at Mill Race Banquet Center on W. Sharon Road in Winton Woods at 8:00 pm - Note the earlier time!

# Coming A-TRACK-tions

May 19 Monthly Meeting at 8:00 pm

May 31 Joint Solo Points event #3 with WOR Kilkare

June 14 Solo Points Event #4 Turfway

June 16 Monthly Meeting at 8:00 pm

July 19 Solo Points Event #5 Tentative date Turfway

July 21 Monthly Meeting at 8:00 pm

July 30-Aug 2 Cincinnati I.T.SPEC\*tacular / PDX Mid Ohio

Aug 9 Solo Points Event #6 Turfway

Aug 18 Monthly Meeting at 8:00 pm

Sept 13 Solo Points Event #7 River Downs

Sept 15 Monthly Meeting at 8:00 pm

Sept 27 Solo TBD event River Downs

Oct 11 Joint Solo Points Event #8 with WOR

Oct 20 Monthly Meeting at 8:00 pm

Oct 25 Solo Points Event #9 & 2nd Annual Tri-Regional River Downs



Visit www.soloseries.org for the latest Great Lakes schedule