

APRIL 1998

OPEN EXHAUST

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DETROIT REGION SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA



50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION! • TENTATIVE 1998 SCHEDULES • WORKER POINTS
CAST IN STONE RALLY INFO • MOONLIGHT MONTE RALLY REPORT • AND MUCH MORE!

FORMULA SAE...



SCCA
Sports Car Club of America

Detroit Region Drivers' School

When: April 17—19, 1998
Where: Waterford Hills
Chairman: Jerry Shiloff
(810) 725-3057



Friday, April 17 Classroom session — 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

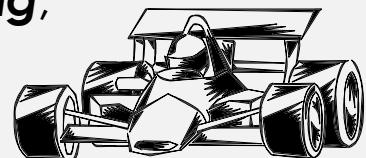
Saturday, April 18 On Course
Sunday, April 19 On Course

Open testing for Licensed Drivers from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday



May General Membership Meeting

with Guest Speaker **Andrew Craig**,
President and CEO of CART



Date: Tuesday, May 19th
Time: 8:00 pm (room opens at 7 pm for Social Hour)
Location: Joey's Comedy Club, 36071 Plymouth Rd -- in Livonia
between Levan and Wayne Rd, across from the Ford
Transmission Plant

For more info: Mike Pickett 248-350-6853

Call for
Pricing
& Specials

MOMO
COBRA
RED LINE
SIMPSON
OPTIMA
PIAA
SCHROTH
COLGAN
BORLA
AEROQUIP

G-TECH
e n t e r p r i s e s

Offering High Quality, High Tech Parts
And Accessories For Club Racers,
Track And Street Cars

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM

4906 Fernlee • Royal Oak, MI 48073 USA
Ph. 248/435-6099 • Fax 248/435-5791

We Ship
Daily

BILSTEIN
BELL
K & N
TAP
VDO
FUEL SAFE
SPARCO
HELLA
RINGERS RESOURCE
EIBACH

Formula Mazda

EXPERIENCE THE RAOFT DIFFERENCE!
Your Central Division Star Mazda Dealer
1997 Sponsor of the SCCA CEN/DIV
 National Showcase Series & The SCCA
 CEN/DIV Regional Race Championship Series

- New & Used Formula Mazda race cars for sale.
- Full Owner-Driver Prep & Maintenance Service.
- Full Parts Inventory-Shop & Trackside
- FM Rentals-Weekend, Season, Testing, Schools.
- Professional coaching included
- Equipped with Stack Dash & Data Acquisition System
- Radio Communications Included
- Full Turnkey "One Price" Racing-Arrive & Drive Owner Driver & Rental Car Program
- Preview Test Ride Program
- 1997 Southeast Winter Racing & Testing Program



24511 North River Road
 Mt. Clemens, MI 48043
(810)466-4400
FAX: (810)466-4943

THE HOTLINE

UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON DETROIT REGION EVENTS

1-800-503-RACE

ABOUT THE COVER

Sam Beckham (University of Missouri-Rolla) in the endurance event of the 1997 Formula SAE competition. Workers needed for this year's event, please see page 7 for more info.

Photo by Tri Gaffney

OPEN EXHAUST

**THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
 OF THE
 DETROIT REGION SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA**

Volume 45 Number 3

CONTENTS

Region Business

RE Remarques - Marcus Merideth	4
Editorial & Stuff - Robert Liu	4
1997 Financial Recap - Pat Pierson	5
February Board Meeting Minutes - Christine Syfert	6
1998 National Convention - Jim Mickle	8
1998 National Convention Notes - Mark Shehan	10
That Was the Meeting That Was! - Suzanne Royce	12
SCCA Membership Application	17
Tentative 1997 Schedules	20

Rally

1998 CAST in Stone Rally Info	9
1998 Moonlight Monte Rally - Jim Mickle	23

Solo

Solo II Driver's School Information	14
Solo Mentoring Program - Jennifer Poloms	27

Miscellaneous

Photos & Stuff	18
Worker Points Update - Pat Pierson	24
Classified Ads	28
Detroit Business Exchange	29
New Members	30
Detroit Region Officers and Officials	31

LEGALS

Open Exhaust is published 10 times a year, with bimonthly issues for November/December and January/February. Views expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of Detroit Region SCCA, or of SCCA Inc. Permission to reprint any material published in Open Exhaust is granted provided full credit is given to Open Exhaust and the author.

Deadline for Open Exhaust is the second Tuesday of the month prior to publication.

Ideas, suggestions, comments, corrections and letters to the editor are welcome and appreciated, but Open Exhaust reserves the right to edit or exclude any submissions. Articles may be hand or typewritten, but electronic correspondence is highly preferred. Artwork should be captioned and identified for return.

Send material to:
Open Exhaust Editor
 Robert Liu
 22202 Pondview
 Novi, MI 48375-5039

Send address changes to:
Detroit Region SCCA
 42240 Grand River, Ste 260
 Novi MI 48375-1836

ADVERTISING

Total price of an advertisement run in consecutive issues (add 25% for the back and inside covers):

	Width	Height	1 issue	3 issues	5 issues	10 issues
Full Page	7 1/2"	10"	\$120	\$305	\$470	\$846
Half Page	7 1/2"	5"	\$69	\$175	\$270	\$486
Full Column	2 1/2"	10"	\$50	\$127	\$196	\$352
or 2 Half Columns side by side						
Quarter Page	3 3/4"	5"	\$40	\$101	\$155	\$280
Half Column	2 1/2"	5"	\$29	\$73	\$112	\$202
Business Card	3 1/2"	2"	\$19	\$49	\$75	\$135

Ad must be paid prior to publication. Camera ready (STAT) black and white artwork at publication scale or most common PC/Windows graphics formats are acceptable (Windows .pcx works well).

RE REMARQUES

by Marcus Merideth

Well another month has gone by and the racing season is upon us. If you haven't heard yet, the first Detroit Region road race at Ginger Man has been canceled. Some of the other nearby regions are trying to get it going but at the time I write this it doesn't look good. When you think about it, it is kind of sad. Here we are one of the largest regions in the nation and we cannot find a chairman and workers for a race.

This is my third month as RE and I feel pretty bad. We canceled a recent rally due to good weather and we canceled the first race due to lack of workers. Not much you can do about the weather but I sure hope there is something we can do about the workers. I would really like an answer to this question if somebody knows, "Why don't we have workers and chairs for specialties and events?"

Kim Lyon has agreed to be the licensing chair for the year. Thanks Kim! If anybody talks to one of the people listed on

the back cover, please tell them thanks for volunteering. On a good note, Mike Pickett has done a wonderful job with the general membership meetings. If you haven't been in awhile, you should attend one soon. New place and new speakers both adding a little excitement to the region. Also, mark your calendars for the 50th Anniversary Celebration in November. Looks like it will be a great deal of fun, thanks Suzanne. I think that does it for me this month. Hope to see you out at an event.

EDITORIAL & STUFF

by Robert Liu

First, I want to apologize to everyone for the tardiness of the March issue of the Open Exhaust. Due to various problems with the printing and mailing services, the delivery of the March issue was delayed about three weeks.

Because of the late delivery of the March issue of the Open Exhaust, the changes to the Detroit Region Bylaws were not discussed at the March General Membership Meeting. Instead, discussion of the changes to the Detroit Region Bylaws will be scheduled for the July General Membership Meeting on July 21st (see schedules for more information on location, time, etc.)

I also want to mention the agenda for the May 19th general membership meeting. Andrew Craig, President and CEO of CART, is the scheduled guest speaker. Be sure to show up early, as seating is limited. See the general membership meeting schedule for more info.

Finally, I am continuously looking for articles and photos. You can earn 1 worker point for submitting an article or photo layout. If you want to send me a photo, please include general information on the photo: photographer, location, date, car/driver, etc. Please contact me for more information. (Robert Liu, 22202 Pondview, Novi, MI 48375, 248-449-8364, bobaliu@aol.com).

Enjoy the rest of the newsletter!

**MICHIGAN SPORTS
CAR CLUB**

AUTOSPORTS HOTLINE

248-545-6733

FROM BEV AND RAD VACH:

Rad & Bev Vach are moving to Southern California. They would like to thank the CENDIV/Detroit Region of SCCA for all the GREAT TIMES they have had at the many events and activities they have participated in over the last eight years. Special 'Thanks!' go out to Mike Burke, Marrion Maassoff, Dave Pearson, and Dick Topping. Rev & Rad will miss Detroit, but are hoping to see all their Detroit/CENDIV friends at Nationals in Kansas every September! 'Thanks again, and take care!' from: "Top Down Racing" !!!... Rad is on: RVACH@BKMOCFA.COM

**RECAP OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 12/31/97**

	INCOME	EXPENSE	SURPLUS (LOSS)
RACE			
5 Events	\$35,975.00	\$31,292.59	\$4,682.41
Deposit for 1998 Double Regional			
Race Director Expenses			
Tech Capital Expenses			
RALLY (CLUB AND PRO)	\$14,544.73	\$16,060.16	\$(1,515.43)
12 Events			
Deposits for 1998 Sno Drift			
Rally Director Expenses			
Laptop Computer (used)			
SOLO	\$21,726.38	\$18,876.95	\$2,849.43
9 Events			
Solo Director Expenses			
Laptop Computer (new)			
OTHER INCOME	\$100,940.56	\$44,372.71	\$56,567.85
Auction*			
1996 and 1997 Banquet			
Grand Prix			
How the Other Side Does It			
Interest			
Membership			
Merchandise			
Rule Books/Novice Permits			
Special Events			
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	\$53,006.79	\$97,625.45	\$(44,618.66)
Officers and Directors			
Chiefs of Specialty			
Hot Line			
Insurance			
Miscellaneous Administrative Expenses			
Open Exhaust			
Service Awards			
Truck Expenses (Insurance & Repairs)			
Web Site			
Worker Points Merchandise			
OE Computer (new)			
TV with VCR (new)			
Tech Capital Expenses			
New Tech Trailer			
TOTAL	\$226,193.46	\$208,227.86	\$17,965.60

*Auction income of \$7,766.00 not disbursed as of 12/31/97. Actual surplus is \$10,199.60.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Jervis Webb
February 10, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by Marcus Merideth.

In attendance: Marcus Merideth, Pat Pierson, Chris Syfert, Hal Goff, Dave Dobry, Jim Fekete, Mike Bodnar, Mark Shehan, Bob Liu, Mike Pickett, Tom Reichenbach, Bob Pierson

Secretary's Report

Jim Fekete moved to accept as corrected for spelling. Mark Shehan seconded. Approved.

Treasurer's Report

Hal Goff moved to accept. Jim Crider seconded. Approved.

Annual Budgets

Medical director, starter, pit, solo director budgets presented.

Mark Shehan moved to accept as amended. Tom Reichenbach seconded. Passed.

Event Budgets

Anniversary Celebration
Pat Pierson moved to approve. Hal Goff seconded. Passed.

Road bond Mount Morency County for Sno*Drift was requested. We need to check with Risk Management in Denver for advice and review status at the membership meeting

Auditor Report

Recommendations for improvement include no reimbursements without receipts. Pat Pierson will implement this.

Membership Report

Junior members will now all be categorized as Speed Freakz who then have all membership privileges including the OE. This only effects ten members. Suggestion made to canvas households that receive more than one OE to see if they will agree to receive one copy.

A secretarial service has been commissioned to handle member records, reports and correspondence. Chris Syfert moved to reduce worker points for membership chairman to one point per month from four points due to reduced work. Dave Dobry seconded. Passed.

Pat Pierson moved to award Ralph "Pappy" Durban a lifetime membership in the Region because he became an SCCA member before there were regions and he has maintained a relationship with Detroit. Hal Goff seconded. Passed.

Policy Review

Hal Goff reported three revisions for policies implemented in 1997: (1) approval for additions to property and equipment, (2) damage to equipment to be charged to events, and (3) bar coding of equipment and annual physical inventories. Pat Pierson moved to accept revisions. Mark Shehan seconded. Passed.

Grand Prix Report

Races will include CART, Indy Lights, Trans-Am, Neon Celebrity Challenge and Barber Dodge. The circuit revisions have been completed. There will be space to have separate Trans-Am pits for practice and qualifying where the old road was.

Marcus asked about possible value for members by having a discount on Grand Prix tickets. Bob will check into it. Marcus also suggested putting 50th anniversary decals on cars at the event, particularly Trans-Am and Neons.

Old Business

Marcus suggested putting the OE pages on the web site. Bob will send files to the webmaster. Pat suggested that the current advertisers get 90 days free on the web, then they can opt to continue for a fee. Hal will investigate what fees might be charged.

Mark Shehan's committee to find trinkets for events has been expanded to include finding any ways to increase member value and will be called Member Value Improvement Committee.

Dave Dobry to inform Denver to correct our phone number to our 800 number.

The auction proceeds for the sale of the race car, truck and trailer have been received and the charities will be paid.

Pat Pierson must be notified of any use of the bulk mail permit a few days ahead of time so the account can be funded.

Dick Cole represented membership at the National Convention. Pat Pierson moved to reimburse him according to the policy. Chris Syfert seconded. Passed.

New Business

Question to ponder: Could the Region award a car of the year at the auto show for our own publicity?

Mark Shehan and Marcus Merideth reported on the National Convention. Finances were a big discussion item including the way dues are allocated based on how you mark your area of interest on your dues statement. The entire club lost \$13m last year and based on the allocation methods, the solo area lost \$72m. Label your dues statement in your favorite area! The membership retention seminar was worth the trip to Denver. They brought back a large number of ideas with many feasible to implement.

Assistant RE Report

Mike Pickett researched locations for the 1999 Banquet. Proposed date of January 16, 1999. Further discussion next meeting.

Mike distributed flyers about the membership meetings for

February 17, March 17 and May 19 and the Dyno test day on April 4 at Power Curve Ltd.

RE Report

Still looking for an archivist and chief of timing & scoring.

Western Michigan seceded Livingston County to Detroit Region.

Special Events

National Office will assist with funding Formula SAE.

Race Report

Marcus asked why we have double regionals instead of regional/national combination weekends. Consensus was that the driver market suited this combination better.

Dave Dobry reported that drivers' school sanction is in process. Jerry Shiloff is chairman. No chairman for the regional or national yet.

Rally Report

Jim Fekete reported on the rally organizers meeting and the revisions to the schedule.

Solo Report

Marcus reported on negative feedback on the awards at the banquet. Trophies will be provided for award winners.

Chris Syfert moved to adjourn at 10:10 pm.

*-Christine Syfert
Secretary*

ADVERTISING ON THE DETROIT REGION HOMEPAGE

HTTP://WWW.DETROIT-SCCA.ORG/

Starting in May, the Detroit Region will charge \$75 for a three month long "banner" ad on the Region's website. Please contact me for more details.
Robert Liu: 248-449-8364 or bobaliu@aol.com

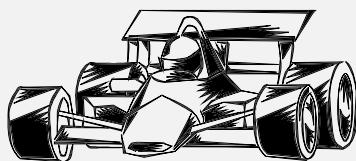
1998 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

New membership directories are available. Each Region household is entitled to pick up one directory while the supply lasts at no cost. They will be available at the membership meetings, Driver School, Solo School, and other selected events.

Extra copies will be sold to Region Members for \$3 each. There is a \$2 charge for mailing a directory.

Contact: Sandy Cole @ 248-685-2853

Formula SAE Workers Needed!



Dates: May 27 - 30

Contacts: Bob Martin Technical Inspection 810-636-7895
 Pattie Klimchuk Chairperson 810-445-2968
 Phil Schilke Dynamic Events 313-295-7363

Schedule: Wednesday evening - Tech inspection starts
Thursday - Tech inspection and practice area
Friday - Autocross, skid pad and acceleration run
Saturday - Endurance event

Open Exhaust E-MAIL

Send articles and other tid bits to me over the internet.

bobaliu@aol.com

1998 NATIONAL CONVENTION

by Jim Mickle

This years convention in Denver was quite a change from previous events. Instead of many seminars on flagging, registration, etc. there were fewer but more focused seminars. In several cases, they were presented by people from outside SCCA in order to bring a new perspective.

After spending all day Thursday (the day before the convention started) in a closed Road Rally Board meeting, Marianne and I met Dave and Naomi Moothart for dinner. Those of you have been around the region for 20 years or more should remember them. Dave is a past RE and also an area Governor (director today). Naomi was our registrar and the first registrar to have a registrars license. (ask me about the hassle in getting a registrars license started). In addition, she was assistant RE when I was RE, one of the first women to take a leadership role in the club. Boy have things changed in the last 25 years.

Friday started with the annual meeting, and reports from the treasurer, board chairs, etc. Treasurer, Chuck Shapiro, reported that the club overall lost a small amount. For a change, the Pro areas made money, including SCCA enterprises! Because of the club loss, dues and some sanction and licensing fees will be increased effective June 1. This may be a time to renew early if you can. Regular dues will increase from \$40 to \$45. Family will increase from \$60 to \$70. The dues for spouses will not increase.

Membership is at a new high for this time of year at 53,200, up from 52,500 a year ago. Unfortunately, only about 40,000 of those are renewals, the rest being new members!

Following the annual meeting, the rest of the morning was spent in an open forum with the directors. At this session, some of the reasons for the cost increases were revealed. It seems that the new, hard to store size, SportsCar is costing us about \$200,000/year more than the

Jr. can find someone who has a field that we can use, we will have one around here this year.

The Rally/Solo Luncheon brought us two awards to take home. CenDiv, of which I am the Road Rally Steward, won the Road Rally Divisional Achievement Award. I also accepted the Regional Rally Achievement award for our neighbors to the north, the Saginaw Valley Region.

Saturday afternoon was an excellent semi-



MARCUS MERIDETH, MARK SHEHAN, AND DICK COLE AT THE RALLY/SOLO LUNCHEON

-PHOTO BY MARIANNE MICKLE

old one. As I, and many others at the meeting remember, it was supposed to be increased coverage without a cost increase. A show of hands on the new size was about 10-1 for going back to the old 8 1/2 x 11 size. Since there is a three year contract in force, any changes will not take place for over a year. It might be wise to share your thoughts on the new format with editor Fred Slick and his boss Dennis Dean. Fred's e-mail address is 76673.2771@compuserve.com. Dennis' is 71601.1313@compuserve.com.

The afternoon brought seminars on how to deal with the "member from hell", communications in SCCA, teamwork, and race track review training. The teamwork seminar was excellent, and provided many ideas for things to do to make a team more effective. A couple of key items are to have vision, improvement plans and defined roles all in writing. How many of you do? I know that I don't and there were few at the meeting who did. I have a copy of the presenters notes that I would be glad to share.

Saturday morning was busy for me. I started by teaching two Road Rally Safety Steward classes. This was followed by a road rally open forum. There was a reasonable turn-out for both, but not the size of the ones that I did at the CenDiv Roundtable.

The new Rallycross program was one of the hottest topics of the weekend. A lot of people seem interested, and it looks like there will be events all around the country. If Scott Harvey

nar on keeping members. While most of the ideas were not new to me, it was nice to hear from an expert about how they are effective. With the high drop-out rate that we have, it is apparent that we need to do more. Personal contact, by phone, shortly after a member joins has been shown to be very effective in keeping members. Of course, personal contact, and opening your circle to include new people is very important. This is something we can all do. When you see a person that you don't recognize at an event or meeting, go over and introduce yourself. Hey, you may get a new crew member or worker. People maintain membership because of the fellowship. It is up to us who have been around for a while to make the new people feel welcome.

Saturday evenings awards banquet was the highlight of the weekend. The evening was great. Desiree Wilson, the first woman to compete in Formula 1, was the feature speaker. She was great, and one of the best, if not the best feature speakers that we have ever had. With one exception, the awards went very quickly. I had the honor of presenting the highest rally award, Robert V. Ridges to Russ Brown from Texas. Wayne Zitkus from Ohio was presented the Carl Haas cup, the highest award that the club has.

In summary, it was a great convention. Sorry that you missed it.



JIM MICKLE ACCEPTING THE 1997 DIVISIONAL ROAD RALLY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (CENTRAL DIVISION)
-PHOTO BY MARIANNE MICKLE