

The Official Publication of the Detroit Region SCCA



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Spring 2014

A recap of last year and a preview of the upcoming race season!



Michael Nienhuis driving his 1996 ESP mustang at the 2012 Solo Season Ender

Photo Credit: Jennifer Merideth

Region Executive Ramblings: Spring 2014

By Patrick Barber

Photo Credit: Patrick Barber



This article represents my first article for Open Exhaust and my first article as Regional Executive. I refer to it as Region Executive Ramblings. While my writing may not be long winded, it definitely jumps around a bit. I will try to keep to the subject.

I thought about titling this short article "Enough Already!!!" I have heard this expression time and time again this winter. Enough of the winter, enough the cold, and above all, enough of the snow. As our roads, our cars, and our wits take an absolute beating this winter, I know it will not last. Spring is going to be here soon enough. Are you ready?

While winter in our region has it's issues, it also has it's benefits. Our Region's Rally and RallyCross enthusiasts, it has been active and eventful winter. My hat goes off to you members who have braved the snow for Son of Sno*Drift and our winter editions of RallyCross. Your driving skills have been tested and your cars abused (or is that your skills have been

abused and your cars tested? I am not sure). One thing is for sure; you have had one fantastic start to the year. One would have to look far and wide to find SCCA members who have had the great driving experiences as our Region's members.

For those Club Racing and Solo participants, the winter is giving us an opportunity to reflect, review and recharge (our wallets, that is). It really is an ideal time to re-think our strategies for the upcoming season. Look forward to the Drivers School on April 27-27 at Waterford Hills. Also, for the first time in many years, our Region will be co-hosting a Regional Club Race at Gingerman Raceway the weekend of May 11-12. It is a great opportunity for our novice drivers to progress toward their full competition license.

Many of our Solo participants are reflecting on some major rules updates this year, particularly in the area of the newly titled "Street" classes. These changes are intended to keep the events fresh while keeping the costs to participate under control. The SCCA National Office will be hosting the Solo Starting Line school again this year on May 24. This is part of a 3 day Solo holiday weekend at the Silverdome including EVO Driving School on May 25 and our traditional Memorial Day Solo on May 26th.

I look forward to seeing you out there.

Service Awards: January - May 2014

60 Years

Harry G. Constant

45 Years

Jack H. Broomall
Robert W. Layman
Russell A. Theus
John C. Thomson

40 Years

David A. Finch
Lon G. Hake
H. F. Hostetler
Jim Winkelman

35 Years

Jack C. Bennett
Anthony Brakora
John J. Gacioch
Robert J. Garner
Michele Jeanette Grimm
Steve Myers
James Termote
Richard W. Topping
Russell J. Wakeman

30 Years

Norman Anderson
Barry L. DeWitt
Susan M. DeWitt
John W. Heinricy
Steven L. Hudler
Cynthia Hodges
Krolkowski
Edwin W. Maklenburg

Thomas J. Shaver
Gerald P. Shiloff
Mary E. Shiloff
Mike Starwas
Dirk Vanveen

25 Years

Mark D. Henderson
William P. Jordan
Robert H. Varcoe

20 Years

Georgia M. Beckwith
Rodney J. Beckwith III
James A. Crider
Michael A. Devins
Nathan D. Drummond

Carlos Franca
Carl F. Galeana
Jana Miller
Eric Penn
John A. Turzewski

15 Years

Grant Bennett
Michael L. Bennett
John R. Buttermore
Rachel C. Chan
Sally Chan
Mike Deleeuw
Geoffrey Grimm
Kevin Groot
David R. Harkcom
Raymond E. Huffmaster
Robert W. Kay
Kimberly Lindberg
V. Paige McClintock
Richard E. Miller
Richard E. Robinette
Cindy Rushbrook
Adam D. Spieszny
Scott Schweitzer

10 Years

Robert Adler
Zoe Adler
Steve Balanecki
David Richard Bednarz
Ken Davis
Joan Goppold
Keith Wayne Hamilton
Eric M. Hill
Jim Lamb
Duane A. Leinninger II
Dr. Gina Marie Leinninger
Michael H. Rodriguez

5 Years

Steven Aiuto
Colene Allen
Brian Joseph Anthony
Dennis George Baran
Tamara Barber
Lewis Dean Clason
David Doehler
Timothy Drotar
Edward Joseph Frank
Sean Grogan

Bruce Hammond
Ross Harvey
Daniel R. Harkcom
Kenneth R. Knight
Brad Legris
Dr. Eric Malone
Brian (Mac) McNamara
Hunter Napieralski
Landon Napieralski
Peggy Napieralski
Craig Joseph Rice
Robert Smith
Matthew Spicuzzi
Anne Tijerina
Louis Tijerina
Gregory Brian Valade
Karla J. Wallace
Cynthia F. Wisner
Mark Womack
Roger Wyatt

Formula SAE is right around the corner – May 14-17

By Mike & Carol McClintock

Photo Credit: WMU FSAE



VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME!

Please let me give you my perspective of how this event goes down. Keep in mind that this is a Club event and all of the expertise of the Club is needed.

The Schedule:

Wednesday

- I hope by this point all equipment is loaded and ready to go,
- Transport everything to MIS: 700+ cones, 45+ fire extinguishers, brooms and flags, oil dry, 4 set of timing lights, scales. This is basically all the equipment between Solo & Rally cross & Race. In addition, all the food for Turn 2 Dinners, etc., will be set.
- Review dynamic areas for safety and traffic flow, scales are set up, brake area coned, sound is set, and fuel.
- The practice course needs to be set in place. (This does not include the work for timing and scoring in loading all the teams to the computer.)
- Eat, have spirits, and sleep.
- Then take Endurance course down.
- Set up Autocross course, obtain approval and then mark All cones. Students can walk until 3 or 4pm. Then take Autocross course down.
- Set up Acceleration and Skid Pad events for Friday.
- Eat, have spirits, and sleep.

Friday

- Set up Timing for Acceleration and Skid Pad. By 12 at latest, these dynamic areas close.
- Set up Autocross for the afternoon. Once Autocross is done, tear down course and set up Endurance Course for Saturday. Finish Timing the Solo while teardown and set up is completed.
- Eat, have spirits, and sleep.

Thursday

- Students start the competition fuel, scales, brake area, noise, tilt and then to practice course if they are lucky.
- We set up the Endurance course, obtain approval and then mark it (Yes All Cones are marked).

Saturday

- Run the Endurance until 4pm.
- Pack up all equipment and go home.

Now that's FSAE!

What is Our Role

Besides the explanation stated above (set up and tear down), Friday we need 6 experienced corner workers to be "Corner Captains" for the Solo. As Corner Captains, they will be in charge of the clip board. On top of that, the 6 Corner Captains assist to be in charge of the clip boards for auditing purposes. In addition, in the Timing and Scoring Vehicle, we need a great team for control and computer work. Things can move really fast. The timing/computer group needs to be able to stay in control and remain proactive.

The volunteers from Ford and GM come out to shag cones; however, they have to be monitored for safety by the SCCA corner workers. The safety issues include things like: too close to course, turning their back on cars, not noticing cones down, etc. This is where the Michigan Turn Marshalls come in and watch out over this Dynamic event keeping us all (even the students) safe. Remember we are here for the students. Keep in mind that the cars competing were built by young adults, in most cases within a year. Some of the cars work well and others, well, they just work.

Saturday is the Endurance and this is where our brother and sisters from Michigan Turn Marshalls come into play. This is a race that takes ALL day. If you are a licensed corner worker or would like to learn to work race corners, this is a great opportunity to get your feet wet. Remember these Turn Marchalls also work the Gran Prix. (Just letting you know, and so can you!!) At this point, from a Solo perspective, we make sure things for the Dynamic event stay safe and run smoothly (i.e. if a car breaks down)

If you, a Detroit Region SCCA member, feel you have the expertise in any of the abovementioned areas and would like to have a great time, let me know. MIS & FSAE allows us to camp on Turn 2 (either camper or tent) with a port-a-john availability. In addition, you will receive worker points, a T-shirt, and gain friends and good times.

January 2014 Rally Cross At Crystal Motor Speedway

Article and Photos By: Brian Thorpe

In the past twelve months, RallyCross in the Detroit Region has exploded with popularity. A sold-out event within days of registration opening has become the norm and the January 4 event at Crystal Motor Speedway was no exception. Just after dawn, 60 cars showed up, eagerly awaiting four runs in the morning and four in the afternoon.

Conditions were par for the harsh winter we've seen. The snow lay thick as the thermometer read far below freezing. The course design and conditions proved challenging, even for the AWD cars which reluctantly kicked the morning off. A loop near the start added complication for everyone, adding a few more seconds of seat time and relief from the cold.



John Kytasty provided snow bank extraction with his trusty 4x4 truck, although on one occasion, even he needed additional help from the Subaru of Team Finn. John entered his Porsche 944 in Stock Rear, only to find he was alone in that class so he joined the Modified Rear group.



The Lone Ranger (a Ford Ranger pickup driven by Dan Hutchinson) had his hands full keeping his steed on course and once collected 3–4 cones at the same time! He may have been at the back of his class, but certainly appeared to be having the most fun.

The Porsche 911 of Paul Eddlestone is always a delight to see and hear. Typically, Scott Harvey Jr. beats Paul in his own car and this event proved no different with Harvey Jr finishing on top of Modified Rear. Eddlestone claims he has the wrong genes, but most likely, they are a tad too tight!



In Prepared Front, the Porritt husband-and-wife duo competes against each other in their Mini Cooper S. The first time I met them, Hannah beat Jason, but she wisely lets him win now.

In Stock Front, Doug Harvey won again, but only by 3 seconds from Bjorn Soderstrom in a Saab. That's a famous name and reminds me of Eric Carlson, a Saab works driver from decades ago. He was the first of the left foot brakiers. The car was so underpowered that the throttle was wide open most of the time and he controlled speed with the brake.

Modified AWD was won once again by Matt Price in his turbo RAV 4 against a gaggle of Subarus. He also recorded the fastest time of day.



Thanks to Jon Jareo for chairing the event (his first time), Mary Shiloff for registration, Bob Martin for Safety Steward, Jerry Shiloff for lots of things, Ken Wiedbusch for timing, and everyone else for making these events run smoothly and provide fun for all.

Trophies:

SF

- 1st Doug Harvey, Neon
- 2nd Bjorn Soderstrom, Saab

SR

- 1st Sean Grogan, MR2
- 2nd Nathan Usher, Miata

SA

- 1st Jon Trudeau, Subaru.
- 2nd Kurt Northrop, Subaru
- 3rd Adam Spieszny, Eagle Talon

PF

- 1st Jason Porritt, Cooper s
- 2nd Bruce Eddy, Beetle

PA

- 1st Eric Heinze, AMC
- 2nd James Dietzel, Subaru
- 3rd Marcus Daubaras, Subaru

MR

- 1st Scott Harvey, 911.
- 2nd Sean Murphy, Miata

- 3rd Jon Armstrong, Miata

MA

- 1st Matt Price, Rav
- 2nd Rob Sakyta, Subaru
- 3rd Todd Tortorelli, Subaru
- 6th Brian Thorpe, Subaru*

*The writer reserves the right to list his own shortcomings. First time with no cones. Beat my daughter Emily, but only by 19 seconds.

A Word From the SOLO Director: Getting Started!

Photo and Article By Jeremiah Mauricio



Autocross preparation is something that is often talked about and any google search and 20 minutes of reading will get you detailed enough information to know what to expect.

www.bauerracing.net/prepare/autocross.htm, has a good page that is long enough to cover the subject, but short enough to be interesting.

If you are new to the sport and unsure if this is something you will like to do then I would recommend coming to an event and hanging out. Talk to some people, if you are feeling really adventurous volunteer to work course for a heat. Ride along with someone in a class you would most likely compete in, and make some friends. If you want to give it a go, we have loaner helmets to lend but they are limited, and you will have a day of new experiences to build on if you decide to stick with autocross.

I pretty much knew I was going to love it; so I order a helmet, became a member and signed up for my first event. I love autocross, and wanted to learn as much as I could. I came early, I helped set-up and worked course during my work heat. I talked to anyone who would interact with me, mostly asking questions. If you want to grow, you have to put effort into it, which means trying a lot of new stuff in the sport. It is amazing how many people took me under their wing and walked the course with me, gave me

advice about my car and even the competition system.

Get there early, we have guys that show up 15 minutes late because they ran into traffic, and we have to turn them away because we are wrapping up registration and getting the cars set up. Once you get to the event, park, check in with registration, and get your car set-up, (emptied, numbers and letters on the car, make sure things are tightened down). If you can help with set-up, nothing helps to understand the course better than being there to place cones. Walk the course, talk to people who have similar cars or are in the same class.

There is a spectrum of skills needed to do well in Autocross, no single skill will be sufficient to get you to national level competition even help or an amazing amount of luck. Fortunately for you the Detroit Region has an amazing mix of skilled competitors. The vast majority of competitors are friendly and willing to help, but you have to be willing to step out and interact with them. You need to seek them out, but the effort is well worth the benefits you can gain.

As I start my 4th year doing autocross, I'm shocked to think that I am the Detroit Region Solo Director. I have a great foundation to base this season on, and I look forward to seeing all of the friends I've made come back for the new season, and all of the new people who will come out and become the future of the sport.

Words from the Editor: Winter 2014

By Michael Nienhuis

Photo Credit: Larry "Lefty" Macleod

When I ran for the Detroit Region SCCA one of my platforms focused on improving member communication. Although I am off to a slow start with this issue coming out several months later than I had intended, I am working towards this publication being a quarterly communication to our members on the happenings throughout the region. This will include recaps and results of previous events as well as features on upcoming volunteer opportunities and outstanding members.

We are also working towards an electronic distribution to be rolled out in the next issue. We will provide members the choice to receive either a paper copy or an electronic copy of Open Exhaust.

Also worker points are available to those who submit articles to Open Exhaust! If you are interested please contact me with submissions as I can always use the help! Please feel free to email me at openexhaust@detroit-scca.org

Thank You and I look forward to the future publications!



2014 Detroit Region Event Schedule : Solo

Date	Event	Location
April 27, 2014	Season Opener	Pontiac Silverdome, Pontiac, MI
May 24-25, 2014	Starting Line / Evo School	Pontiac Silverdome, Pontiac, MI
May 26, 2014	Memorial Day Solo	Pontiac Silverdome, Pontiac, MI
June 8, 2014	Summer Heat Solo	Pontiac Silverdome, Pontiac, MI
June 21, 2014	Tech Center Trial Solo	Great Lake Tech Center, Flint, MI
July 18-20, 2014	After The Fireworks Solo	Wurtsmith AFB, Oscoda, MI
August 15-17, 2014	Great Lakes Solo Series Divisional w/ SVR	Wurtsmith AFB, Oscoda, MI
September 14, 2014	Fall Into Autumn Solo	Belle Isle, Detroit, MI
October 5, 2014	Season Ender	Belle Isle, Detroit, MI

2014 Detroit Region Event Schedule : RallyCross

Date	Event	Location
January 4, 2014	Rallycross #1	Crystal Motor Speedway, Crystal, MI
February 15, 2014	Rallycross #2	I-96 Speedway, Lake Odessa, MI
April 26, 2014	Rallycross #3	Calhoun County Fairgrounds, Marshall, MI
May 24, 2014	Rallycross #4	Thistle Hill, South Lyon, MI
June 14, 2014	Rallycross #5	Calhoun County Fairgrounds, Marshall, MI
July 26-27, 2014	Rallycross #6 - 2 day event	I-96 Speedway, Lake Odessa, MI
August 16, 2014	Rallycross #7	Crystal Motor Speedway, Crystal, MI
September 20, 2014	Rallycross #8	Thistle Hill, South Lyon, MI
October 25, 2014	Rallycross #9	I-96 Speedway, Lake Odessa, MI
November 15, 2014	Rallycross #10	Calhoun County Fairgrounds, Marshall, MI
December 13, 2014	Rallycross #11	Thistle Hill, South Lyon, MI

2014 Roadrally TSD Schedule

Date	Event	Location
January 11, 2014	Son of Snow Drift XV	Mexico Lindo Restaurant in Waterford, MI
March 29, 2014	TSD Rally School	Captain Joe's, Whitmore Lake, MI
April 12, 2014	Twilight Tour	Banfields, Ann Arbor, MI
June 7-8	Cast In Stone (June 7th) and Letters of Intent (June 8th)	The Comfort Inn, Chelsea, MI
August 9, 2014	Moonlight Monte	Captain Joe's, Whitmore Lake, MI
September 6, 2014	Press On Regardless Sponsored By Ralph Thayer Automotive	Hometown Inn, Indian River, MI
October 4, 2014	Clare Color Tour	Ruckle's Pier, Clare, MI
December 6, 2014	Pavement Ends	Claddagh Irish Pub, Lansing, MI

2014 Race Schedule

DATES for 2014	DRIVER'S SCHOOLS	REGIONALS	NATIONALS/MAJORS	PDX or SCCA PRO EVENTS or OTHER EVENTS
March 7 - 9	SCCA National Convention in Charlotte, N.C. @ Charlotte Convention Center			
March 15	Spring Training in Findley, Ohio @ Findley Inn			
April 19 & 20 (Easter)				
April 26 & 27	WHIRRI/GL @ WAT			
May 3 & 4				WHRRI #1 @ WAT
May 10 & 11 (Mothers Day)		SBR/DET/WOR @ GM (D, C)		
May 17 & 18				FSAE @ MIS
May 24, 25 & 26 (Memorial Day)				
May 30 & June 1			OVR @ MO (D) M	
May 30 & June 1				Chevrolet Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix (CDBIGP)
June 6 & 8				WHRRI #2 @WAT
June 14 & 15 (Father's Day)				
June 21 & 22				
June 28 & 29		WMR @ GRA (D) (C)		SVRA at MO
July 4, 5 & 6 (4th of July)				
July 12 & 13			SBR/DET @ GM (D) M	WHRRI #3 @ WAT
July 19 & 20				
July 25, 26 & 27				WHRRI Vintage @ WAT
August 2 & 3				INDY @ MO
August 8,9 & 10		Cincy @ MO (D) (C)		Cincy Aug 8 PDX @ MO Cincy Aug 9 Club Trial
				WHRRI #4 @ WAT
August 16 & 17				NASCAR @ MO
August 23 & 24			WMR @ GRA (D) M	
Aug 30 & 31		OVR @ MO (D) (C)		
Sept. 6 & 7				WHRRI #5 @ WAT
Sept. 13 & 14				
Sept. 20 & 21				
Sept. 27 & 28				WHRRI #6 @WAT
Oct. 4 & 5				
Oct. 10, 11 & 12		OVR @ MO (D) (C)		OVR Oct 10 PDX @ MO
Oct. 11 & 12	2014 National Runoffs Laguna Seca			
Oct. 18 & 19		NeOhio @ PIRC (Q) (C) *		
Oct. 25 & 26				
Nov. 1 & 2 (DL Save Ends)				
Nov. 8	GLD Scheduling Meeting in Dayton, Ohio @ RIXAN			
Nov. 15 & 16				
D=Double	R=Restricted	T=Tentative	C=Champ Series Event	ST=SuperTour
PIRC - Pittsburgh International Race Course	GM-GingerMan	GRA-Grattan	Q= Quad Only 1 sanction per day counts	SC>ShowCase
	NL-Nelson Ledges	MIS-Mich Internat. Speedway	WAT-Waterford Hills	M=Majors
means something unconfirmed date? Location ? \$\$		MO-Mid Ohio	PUT - Putnam Park	ADS Alternative DR School
* Great Lakes Division Race Held at an Out of Division Track				



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Photo Credit: Willie Perez

Cindy Wisner (left) and Steve Balanecki (Right) receiving their 5 year and 10 year service awards at Waterford Hills May 3rd!

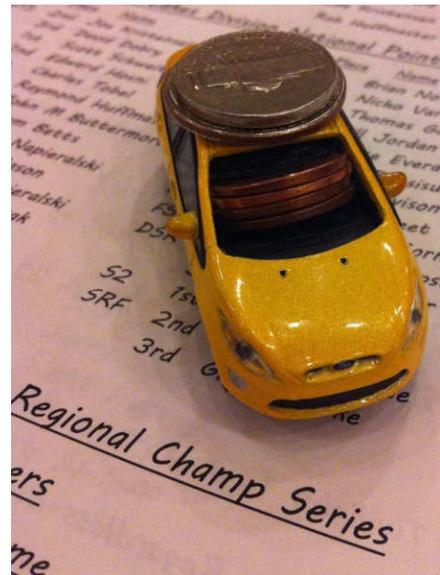


Photo Credit: Greg Anthony

The Championship winning entry from Table 8 Racing in the 2013 DRSCCA Awards Banquet Matchbox Derby. Code Name: Heavy Weight!