

# Detroit Region SCCA Rally Newsletter

## Winter 1997

This newsletter is intended to keep the people who participate in Detroit Region Road Rallies informed of results and upcoming events. If you have any information that you think would be of benefit to the readers, please contact the editor so he can include it in the next issue. Unless otherwise credited, all information/articles are the responsibility of the editor, Jim Mickle. 810-739-6565, 71564.646@compuserve.com. Permission is granted to republish any information in this newsletter if credit is given to the author and Detroit Region

### THUMBS UP DIVISIONAL TOUR RALLY

November 11, 1995

Marianne Mickle and her stalwart crew of organizers, including husband Jim who was rallymaster, presented the eighth annual Thumbs Up on Saturday, November 9, 1996. From all reports, it was a successful event with 24 teams from as far away as Covington, KY and Milwaukee WI competing with the locals for 225 miles and 33 open controls.

Early in the week before the event, the area was inundated with heavy rain. As you could expect, the rain didn't improve the condition of the mostly unpaved roads. Fortunately, the rain went away and was replaced by relatively clear but cold weather.

The first car started the event at 1:01 PM from the usual place, the Burger King in the little town of Imlay City. Before returning to the Burger King the competitors had covered some 75 miles and had encountered 10 checkpoints. At this point, the local team of Jim Fekete and Rob Moran, in a 1996 GMC Jimmy, led with only 8 points. Because Jim and his regular navigator, Jim Shaffer were leading the Limited class in the Divisional Championship, Fekete elected to run in the hotly contested Equipped class using only limited equipment, making his overall leading score even more remarkable. Second, in a 1996 Saab 900 were Dave Parps from Milwaukee and Greg Lester from Akron, only one point behind with 9 points. Third at this point were the perennial Detroit Region champions Rick Shue and John Townsend with 17. First in the Stock class were the 1997 Stock Class champions Scott Radabaugh and Marlina Baerkircher with only 53 points. Just behind them, with 62 points were the Limited class team of Art Welch and Terry Palmer with 62. Second in Stock, only two places further back were Scott Harvey and Dreux Jacques with 81 points. A real story here. Scott's regular navigator suddenly had to work and Scott had sent out an open plea on the Internet for a navigator. None had arrived, but Scott came to the start anyway. Hope springs eternal! It so happened, one of the Hams from the USECA radio club Dreux, KB8YYA, was there, planning to help with registration and the radio net. With a lot of arm twisting, Dreux was convinced to give it a try. He and Scott ran totally SOP (seat of pants) with no calculating what so ever. They even took two zeros, the first that Scott has had all year!

At the second break, also at the Burger King, Parps and Lester had moved up to first with 22 points. Second were Shue and

Townsend with 33, followed by Fekete/Moran with 48. Gene Henderson and Jeff Boris were tied with Jeff and Deb Secor, only another 10 points back. The top places were still undecided. Radabaugh/Baerkircher continued to lead Stock with Welch/Palmer leading Limited. Harvey/Jacques continued to hold on to second in stock, but not by much. The third section would decide it all.

The third section proved to be the downfall of Shue/Townsend. It started with a 100 point error on a time allowance. This was compounded by their skipping 7 instructions and going off course in a big way. By the time they found their way back, the controls were closing and they had run out of time allowance. Parps/Lester had the best score for the third section with 17 points, closely followed by Mark Henderson/John Puffenberger with 19, and Randy Wittine/Les Talcott with 20. Unfortunately for both Henderson/Puffenberger and Wittine/Talcott, earlier mistakes had them out of the running early.

When all the scores were totaled, the overall and Equipped Class winners were Parps/Lester with 39 points. Second overall and second in E running L equipment were Fekete/Moran who, by the way had never rallied together before. Radabaugh/Baerkircher won every section in winning the Stock Class with 164 points. A long series of CAST 24 cost a bunch of points in the third section, dropping them to third with 359, just behind Doug Pratt and Richard Worden who had 342. Limited was won by Welch/Palmer with 248. Mark Nowak and Frank Aiello won the Novice class with 593 points, having led from the start. This was their last run as novices and will now have to move up to the Stock Class for their next event. Second place in the Novice class were first timers Carol Golanski and Eric Zalewski, who averaged less than 50 points per control, a very good showing for first timers.

A large thanks goes to all the people who made the event possible, both competitors and workers. Without you all, we would have to stayed home and watched TV.

### Jim Mickle

Name	City, State	Vehicle	Cls	Pts	O/A	Cls
Dave Parps	Cedarburg, WI	96 Saab 900S	E	39	1	1
Greg Lester	Akron, OH					
Jim Fekete	Canton, MI	96 GMC Jimmy	E	72	2	2
Rob Moran	Westland, MI					
Gene Henderson	Pinckney, MI	Subaru Outback	E	91	3	3
Jeff Boris	Grand Rapids, MI					
Jim Muir	Sterling Hts, MI	97 Bravada	E	102	4	4
Bruce Taylor	Traverse City, MI					
Randy Wittine	Rochester, MI	91 Chev Caprice	E	118	5	5
Les Talcott	Rochester, MI					
Mark Henderson	Dearborn Hts., MI	91 Subaru Legacy Turbo	E	133	6	6
John Puffenberger	Bloomdale, OH					
Jeff Secor	Hudsonville, MI	88 Mazda 323 GTX	E	134	7	7
Deb Secor	Hudsonville, MI					

Scott Radabaugh	Milford, MI	95 Ford Contour SE	S	164	8	1
Marlena Baerkircher	Perrysburg, OH					
Dick Foster	Covington, KY	1985 Audi	E	234	9	8
Bill Secrest	South Shore, KY					
Art Welch	Albion, MI	88 Toyota All-Trac	L	248	10	1
Terry Palmer	Somerset Ctr, MI					
Doug Pratt	Memphis, MI	1996 Chevy Pickup	S	342	11	2
Richard Worden	Sterling Hts., MI					
Scott Harvey Jr	Waterford, MI	91 Eagle Talon	S	359	12	3
Dreux Jacques	Detroit, MI					
Brian Scott	Flint, MI	91 Ford Ranger	S	473	13	4
Matt Martinchick	Southfield, MI					
Cappy Murphy	Waterford, MI	85 Chev C10 Pickup	S	481	14	5
Bryan Murphy	Waterford, MI					
Tom Bell	Traverse City, MI	88 Mazda 323	E	571	15	9
Andy Bell	Traverse City, MI					
Mark E. Nowak	Hunington Woods, MI	97 Ford Escort	N	593	16	1
Frank J. Aiello	Livonia, MI					
Dan Kirby	Farmington, MI	75 MG Midget	S	606	17	6
Jon DePentu	Canton, MI					
Brian Mahnken	Pinckney, MI	97 Saturn 4dr	S	633	18	7
Jeff Wernberg	Rochester, MI					
Mark Rinkle	Hinckley, OH	89 Ford Thunderbird	E	655	19	10
Donna Rinkle	Hinckley, OH					
Herb Spencer	Portage, OH	88 BMW 325IX	L	743	20	2
Mark Hainen	Lambertville, MI					
Rick Shue	Dearborn Hts, MI	95 Mark VIII	E	751	21	11
John Townsend	Rockwood, MI					
Bert Miller	Midland, MI	95 VW GTI V-6	S	865	22	8
Jerry Pat Miller	Midland, MI					
Carol Golanski	Washington, MI	Turbo Sprint	N	1621	23	2
Derek Zalewski	Sterling Hts., MI					
Pete Padden	Sterling Hts, MI	Geo Metro	L	4152	24	3
Betsy Padden	Sterling Hts, MI					

## OHIO WINTER ROAD RALLY

### Saturday, February 1, 1997

NEOHIO Region, SCCA will host the 27th annual Ohio Winter Rally on Saturday, February 1, 1997. The Ohio Winter Rally is a straightforward nighttime Time-Speed-Distance (TSD) road rally of approximately 190 miles through the "snowbelt" counties of Northeast Ohio. It will be the inaugural event of the 1997 CENDIV SCCA Road Rally Championship, as well as the 1997 NEOHIO Region Rally Championship.

Since its inception in the 1960's, the Ohio Winter Rally has attracted many top rallyists. The list of past winners reads as sort of "Who's Who" of Great Lakes area rallying. Road and weather conditions during the rally will dictate its difficulty. Conditions have ranged from near-blizzard to absolutely dry. If Lake Erie remains relatively ice free, and a cold northwest wind appears, substantial amounts of snow can accumulate in the rally area rapidly. Few have ever found the Ohio Winter Rally boring.

The Holiday Inn, located at State Route 43 and I-76, in Kent, Ohio will serve as headquarters. The first car is (tentatively)

scheduled to start at 7:01 pm. Registration, novice rally school, etc. will be held beforehand.

For entry information, schedule confirmation, etc. contact either John Hinkle, 330-855-2238, or Thomas Benham, 216-641-5113 (HINT - If you would like an entry form, leave a message with your address right away. The organizers are planning to do a mailing before 1/5/97).

Greg Lester

## SNO\*DRIFT DIVISIONAL PRO RALLY

### Saturday, February 8, 1997

The Sno\*Drift will be a coefficient 3 rally this year, so will count for national points. This will mean that we can expect a large turnout of national competitors. It should be great fun to participate in. If you haven't been to a stage rally in the snow, you won't hardly be able to believe that speeds that they run on snow covered roads.

Lots of control workers and marshals are needed. If you have not already volunteered, now is the time to do it. Contact information is at the end of this article.

Headquarters will be in Atlanta, at the Win-Sands Motel. Atlanta is about midway between Gaylord and Alpena. Unfortunately, rooms are tight already. Reports have Gaylord, Atlanta and Lewiston full, with rooms available in Alpena. If you do not already have reservations, you would be wise to make them as soon as possible.

Registration will be at the headquarters from 7:00-10:00 PM on Friday night and 8:00-10:00 on Saturday morning.

Layout of workers will begin about 10:00 on Saturday. First car is due to start at noon, with the finish about midnight.

For more information, call Carl Redner at 810-669-6208 or Mike Bodner at 810-474-6075. Carl also has an Email address at [crredner@aol.com](mailto:crredner@aol.com). Another contact is Barb Steenken at 810-685-2773. Paul Bacina, N8DLT, is coordinating the communications. If you are a ham operator, and want to help, call him at 313-425-2746.

## MOONLIGHT MONTE ROAD RALLY

### Saturday, February 22, 1997

#### NOVICES WELCOME

The Moonlight Monte will be a straight forward, 150 mile, TSD event conducted on unpaved rural roads of Lapeer, St. Clair and Sanilac counties. Speeds will be reasonable but challenging depending upon weather conditions. We will provide the choice of two speed sets. This will allow those with cars that are somewhat less suitable to snow covered or icy roads to still be competitive. The use of winter tires is recommended. Studded tires are not permitted in Michigan and therefore will not be allowed on the Monte. Timing will utilize the latest Timewise rally clocks. The event will start at the Burger King at M-53 (Van Dyke) and I-69 in Imlay City. The finish will be in Imlay City at Tietz restaurant/bar. Car numbers will be assigned at the end of registration.

The event will follow the 1997 Road Rally Regulations for Tour rallies. Mileage will be given frequently to help prevent anyone from leaving the course. One break, with a time of

day restart, will be used to keep the rally together and on time. The ability to stay consistently on time, be alert at all times, and the ability to develop and maintain an accurate correction factor, will challenge both the driver and navigator. Depending on weather conditions, the driving could be a bit challenging.

A block of rooms are being held at the Imlay City Super 8 Motel until February 6th. Please make your reservations early and mention the rally. Phone 810-724-8700 or 800-800-8000.

#### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

2:00-3:00 PM	Registration & Safety Inspection
3:00 PM	Assign car numbers
3:16 PM	Car # 1 Receives Route Instructions
3:31 PM	Car # 1 Starts Rally
9:00 PM	Car # 1 Finishes (approx.)
10:30 PM	Preliminary results posted
11:00 PM	Awards presented

#### COMMITTEE

Organizer: Jim Mickle, 810-739-6565  
Rallymaster: Tom Woodside, 810-828-3438  
Registrar: Marianne Mickle, 810-739-6565,  
6715 Chatsworth, Shelby Twp, MI 48316

ENTRY FEES: Received by 2-15: \$25 After 2-15: \$30

#### CLASSES

Equipped: Unlimited equipment.  
Limited: Any mileage measuring equipment and any calculation equipment without direct odometer input. (lap top computers, hand held calculators, etc.)  
Stock: Stock odometer system and any non programmable electronic calculator with not more than one memory.  
Novice: Any team where the total number of rallies run by the driver and navigator combined does not exceed six (6). Equipment limitations the same as Stock Class.

Counts for points in both the Central Division and Detroit Region Rally Championships

Sponsored and sanctioned by Detroit Region SCCA, Inc.

### DAWNBUSTER IV

**Saturday/Sunday, March 15-16, 1997**

Dawnbuster will continue with the Saturday night "Dusk-to-Dawn" format. Length is planned at approximately 300 miles, in three sections of about 100 miles each. Because the event will occur when a spring thaw is likely, most of the event will utilize paved roads.

The headquarters location has not yet been determined, but will be shortly. A 24 hour restaurant along the I-96 corridor is the most likely location.

With the all night format, workers are in high demand. Please contact Bryan Murphy at 810-674-8148 or Scott Radabaugh at 810-685-9425 to volunteer to work or for more entry information.

### A GRAND ADVENTURE

**Saturday, April 12, 1997**

Presented by Jeff Secor, the Grand Adventure will follow the path of the Grand River for much of its length. It will be a straight forward tour event, approximately 140 miles long. Both paved and good unpaved roads will be used, with about 60% of the route unpaved.

The event will start and finish near Ionia, MI at the Corner Landing restaurant on M-66 about 2 miles south of the center of town. 616-527-2169

The event will follow the 1997 Road Rally Regulations for Tour rallies. Mileage will be given frequently to help prevent anyone from leaving the course.

Super 8 Motel 616-527-2828 or 800-800-8000  
Heritage Motel 616-527-3180  
Midway Motel 616-527-2080

#### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

1:30-2:30 PM	Registration & Safety Inspection
2:46 PM	Car # 1 Receives Route Instructions
3:01 PM	Car # 1 Starts Rally
8:30 PM	Car # 1 Finishes (approx.)
10:00 PM	Preliminary results posted
10:30 PM	Awards presented

#### COMMITTEE

Organizer: Jeff Secor 616-662-9154  
Rallymaster: Tom Inman 616-642-9779  
Registrar: Deb Secor 616-662-  
3637 Curtis, Hudsonville, MI 49426

ENTRY FEES: Received by 4-5: \$25 After 4-5: \$30

#### CLASSES

Equipped: Unlimited equipment.  
Limited: Any mileage measuring equipment and any calculation equipment without direct odometer input. (lap top computers, hand held calculators, etc.)  
Stock: Stock odometer system and any non programmable electronic calculator with not more than one memory.  
Novice: Any team where the total number of rallies run by the driver and navigator combined does not exceed six (6). Equipment limitations the same as Stock Class.

Counts for points in both the Central Division and Detroit Region Rally Championships

Sponsored and sanctioned by Western Michigan and Detroit Regions SCCA, Inc.

### RIGHTS OF SPRING

**Sunday, May 4, 1997**

As is typical of a Rick Shue event, the Rights of Spring will deviate slightly from the normal tour format by adding lettered instructions that may or may not be used. Rick's idea for the lettered instructions is to make the event more challenging for

the “expert” teams, while not overburdening the less experienced teams. He does not plan to use any “traps” at this time.

The start will be around noon with an early evening finish to allow everyone to return home in good time to prepare for the Monday workday. More detailed information can be obtained from Rick at 313-278-1431 or Dan Lyons at 313-561-2240.

## 1996 DETROIT REGION ROAD RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

Below are the results of the 1996 Detroit Region Road Rally Championship. Trophies will be presented to the first place finisher(s) in each class at the Region's annual banquet on January 18th.

### EQUIPPED CLASS

1	Jim Mickle	46
2	Rick Shue	45
3	Mark Henderson	38
4	John Puffenberger	33
5	Gene Henderson	28

### LIMITED CLASS

1	Jim Fekete	50
1	Jim Shaffer	50
2	Terry Palmer	40
3	Pete Padden	12
3	Betsy Padden	12
4	Rick Shue	10

### STOCK CLASS

1	Scott Radabaugh	50
1	Marlena Baerkircher	50
2	Bryan Murphy	41
3	Scott Harvey	29.8
4	Andy Giacobone	18
5	Brian Scott	15.9
6	Andrew Duthie	14
7	Cappy Murphy	12

## Detroit Region Road Rally Championship Rules

We have nine events which would count toward the season championship on the tentative schedule.

Competitors must be members of Detroit Region SCCA at the time of an event to earn points for that event; this includes organizer and worker points. Regular, spouse, family and dual members are eligible.

Individuals may count their best five finishes (of nine championship events) for Class Championship points.

**All finishes in all classes may be counted for the Overall Championship.**

Championship trophies will be awarded in Equipped, Limited and Stock classes as defined in the 1997 Road Rally Regulations.

Points will be awarded following the National Rally Championship schedule (10, 8, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.9, 1.8, 1.7, 1.6, 1.5, etc.). All entrants will earn points based on finishing position in class.

Championship rally chairs and assistant chairs will be awarded points equal to their highest finish in competition. The class in which these points will be awarded must be declared on the results list submitted to the championship points keeper. Individuals may earn organizer points for only one event.

Individuals must work one championship event in which they do not earn points to be eligible for the season championship. Course pre-check counts as working an event. Chairing or assistant-chairing a second event counts as working an event.

## 1996 CENTRAL DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP

Once again, the Detroit contingent finished very well in the CenDiv Road Rally Championship. Of course, with many of the events in the series here, it was easier for us to finish well. Congratulations to all that participated in the championship. Trophies will be awarded at the Detroit Region Annual Award Banquet on January 18th.

Here is how it all worked out:

### Equipped Class

1	Greg Lester	NeOhio	38
2	Jim Mickle	Detroit	30
3	Gary Starr	LOL	26
4	John Puffenberger	Detroit	23
5	Mike Thompson	LOL	22
5	David Head	NWOR	22
6	Lois Van Vleet	LOL	20
6	John Emmons	LOL	20
6	Dave Fuss	LOL	20
6	Brian Mickle	Cincinnati	20

### Limited Class

1	Jim Fekete	Detroit	30
1	Jim Shaffer	Detroit	30
2	Terry Palmer	Detroit	16
2	Arthur Welch	Detroit	16
2	Ken Swarm	NeOhio	16
2	Greg Lester	NeOhio	16
3	Joe Browne	Detroit	14
4	Rick Shue	Detroit	10
4	Julie Howard	Chicago	10
4	Marty Howard	Chicago	10

### Stock Class

1	Marlena Baerkircher	Detroit	40
2	Scott Radabaugh	Detroit	34
3	Helen Boricic	Chicago	20
3	Rich Kamo	Chicago	20
4	Bryan Murphy	Detroit	16
5	Scott Harvey	Detroit	14
6	Richard Ehrenberg	Detroit	10
6	Richard Worden	Detroit	10
6	Kent Young	Detroit	10
6	David Zelkowski	Detroit	10

Additionally, Dave Head, the 1995-1996 CenDiv DRRS awarded the CenDiv DRRS Team Achievement Award for 1996 to the Class L team of Jim Fekete and Jim Shaffer. He said "Their performance in the Divisional series was extremely good, enough to win class L, and they did an outstanding job in winning the Press On Regardless Detroit Region rally overall, from class L. Finally, they competed at the US Road Rally Challenge, and out of division event. This latter point is

like points for putting your name on your paper at school - nothing really to do with your achievement, but it shows initiative. Congratulations to Jim and Jim for an outstanding season. May the next one be equally rewarding."

## DETROIT REGION SCCA 1997 RALLY SCHEDULE

Feb. 8 Saturday	Sno*Drift Div. PRO Rally (Coef 3)	Carl Redner Mike Bodnar	810-669-6208 810-474-6075
Feb. 22 Saturday	* Moonlight Monte (CenDiv Champ Event)	Jim Mickle Tom Woodside	810-739-6565 810-828-3438
Mar 23-24 Sat-Sun	* Dawnbuster	Bryan Murphy Scott Radabaugh	810-674-8148 810-685-9425
Apr 12 Saturday	* A Grand Adventure (CenDiv Champ Event)	Jeff Secor Deb Secor	616-662-9154 616-662-9154
May 4 Sunday	* Rights of Spring	Dan Lyons Rick Shue	313-561-2240 313-278-1431
Jul 12-14 Fri.-Sun	How The Other Side Does It II Detroit Region Race/Rally/Solo	Scott Harvey Jr. Jim Mickle	810-683-0207 810-739-6565
Jul-26 Saturday	* CAST in Stone (CenDiv Champ Event)	Rob Moran Brian Scott	313-454-0975 810-767-8464
Aug 23 Saturday	TSD Rally School	Dan Lyons Marlena Baerkircher	313-561-2240 419-874-2515
Aug 24 Sunday	* August Madness Tulip	Jim Fekete Jim Shaffer	313-454-1498 810-851-1546
Sep 12-14 Fri - Sun	* Press On Regardless(tm)	Gene Henderson Jeff Boris	313-464-1458 616-364-9677
Sep 19-20 Fri - Sat	Grand Tour for Children (Charity Event)	MACA Bruce Fisher	517-485-0840 517-646-8579
Oct 11 Saturday	* Crossing the Line (CenDiv Champ Event)	Terry Palmer Art Welch	517-688-3609 517-629-4230
Oct 17-19 Fri-Sun	US Road Rally Challenge Blue Ridge Region, Roanoke VA	Earl & Jean Hutson	540-890-5883

Nov 8 Saturday	* Thumbs Up IX (CenDiv Champ Event)	Marianne Mickle Jim Mickle	810-739-6565 810-739-6565
Nov 28 Friday	After the Feast "Armchair" Map Rally	Dan Lyons Rick Shue	313-561-2240 313-278-1431

\* Indicates Events Counting For Detroit Region Season Championship  
Dates are tentative, call organizers or hotline for confirmation  
**Detroit Region SCCA Events Hotline: 1-800-503-RACE**

In addition to the Hotline, you can call Bryan Murphy at 810-674-8148 or Jim Mickle at 810-739-6565 for more information on these or other rally events in the area.

For those who would like a little more challenge, and don't mind traveling a bit, there is the CenDiv Road Rally Championship. The schedule, as it stands at this time, is below. I hope that many of you will consider running an event or two out of the local area. It can be great fun meeting people from out of the local area. Also, the trophies are neat. There may be another event or two added later in the year, so watch this space for further information

## 1997 CENTRAL DIVISION ROAD RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Date/Day	Name	Region	Organizer(s)	Phone
Feb-1 Saturday	Ohio Winter Tour	NE Ohio	John Hinkle Tom Benham	330-855-2238 216-641-5113
Feb-22 Saturday	Moonlight Monte Tour	Detroit	Jim Mickle Tom Woodside	810-739-6565 810-828-3438
Apr-12 Saturday	A Grand Adventure Tour	Western MI	Jeff Secor Deb Secor	616-662-9154 616-662-9154
10-May Saturday	Hot Moon Tulip Brisk Tour	Western OH	Dan Coughnour	937-836-5278
Jun-14 Saturday	Chippewa Trail National Tour/Course	LOL	Dave Fuss	612-424-4219
Jul-26 Saturday	CAST in Stone Tour	Detroit	Rob Moran Brian Scott	313-454-0975 810-767-8464
Oct-4 Saturday	Johnny Appleseed National Tour	NE Ohio	Greg Lester	330-836-9003
Oct-11 Saturday	Crossing the Line Tour	Detroit	Terry Palmer Art Welch	517-688-3609 517-629-4230
Nov-8 Saturday	Thumbs Up IX Tour	Detroit	Marianne Mickle Jim Mickle	810-739-6565 810-739-6565

For more information on the CenDiv Championship, contact Jim Mickle at 810-739-6565, Email 71564.646@compuserve.com