



# The *Pit Stop*



*SCCA Southern Indiana Region Monthly Newsletter March 2009 Volume 56 Number 3*

## March Report

It is with great sadness that I must tell you that one of our club members, a long time SCCA member, is no longer with us. On February 11<sup>th</sup> John Coen died from cancer complications. It seems to me it was just last month that I saw him at a club meeting. He had his grandson Jay in tow and proudly sat back while Jay showed off his photography prowess. Then I thought back to the hot July day at Lawrenceville as he sat under his canopy making sure everyone had signed the waiver. He was talking with a lady from a local charity while taking in the pleasantness of the day. I can see him asleep at the wheel of his tractor on a warm Patch Party day oblivious to the noise around him. He was a good man. We will miss his smile and kind ways.

Planning for our first Rallycross was well underway when it hit a snag. The venue is having some problems and is not sure the site will be available so we've decided to postpone the event. We'll be looking for another site if Windy Hollow is not available.

In place of the Rallycross event we will be holding an autocross. We're trying to get the Centre parking lot for the last Sunday in March. Keep reading your email for the notice.

I went to my first SCCA Convention this month. I attended a lot of meetings and gathered a lot of information about the SCCA and how it functions. One thing that stuck in my mind dealt with new people that show up to our meetings or events. When they show up do we ask them to join the club? I've not ever done that but I will in the future.

I sat in a meeting of Rallycross enthusiasts and picked up quite a few pointers for putting on a Rallycross. There were a lot of good conversations about timing and scoring, course setup and event planning. I had to laugh when they talked about putting spectators upwind, so they could see what was going on.

I attended another meeting about Road Rallies. The presenter had kept Rallies put on by a 5 time Rally champion from the early days of the Rally program. It was called a Month of Rallies and consisted of 28 different rallies written by the champ. One that stood out in my mind instructed the teams to drive to a place, stop the car, remove and install the spark plugs then go back to the start. The spark plug R&R was timed and penalty points assessed after all teams had completed the task. Then it returned them to the same place where the navigator had to carry the driver around the car. It also was scored after all teams had completed the task. You'll have to attend the March club meeting to hear about more of them.

One of the things I was looking forward to at the convention was the Region awards handed out at the Thursday luncheon. In the past our region had been the recipient of the Small Region Achievement Award on numerous occasions and I was hoping that this year would be no different but alas the award went to the Chattanooga Region. This year the awards were determined statistically and we didn't do as well in the measurement areas. I believe we need to put more effort into converting the weekend members into full members and making sure we retain the members we currently have. It's a topic the Board will talk about in the next few meetings.

While at the convention I talked with the guys that run motorsportreg.com and learned a few more things about their service. They told me about some options with their system and I told them I'd come back and talk to you about them. I'll do that at the March club meeting.

The Great Lakes Division, of which our region is a member, is holding a Solo Series. Unfortunately for us the events are centered around northeast Indiana at Toledo, OH, Columbus, OH, Oscoda, MI and Peru, IN. Here's what the SCCA says about these Divisional Championships.

### DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Currently an optional program for all of SCCA's nine Divisions, the Tire Rack® SCCA Divisional Championships have been developed to create a clear ladder to National Solo competition. Participating Divisions will crown class champions in whichever manner they chose, whether it be through a point series or one winner-takes-all event.

Beyond the experience and confidence gained by taking part in events at the Divisional level, Soloists competing in the Tire Rack SCCA Divisional Championships will benefit via contingency programs and National Championship eligibility. Divisions enrolled in the new program can expect increased support from the National office in the way of fees and promotional items.

Additionally, Divisions will compete against each other in the Tire Rack SCCA Division Cup Challenge at the Tire Rack Solo National Championships. Each participating Division will earn points based on their total entries, number of rookie drivers and number of trophies earned. The Division accumulating the most points will earn the "Tire Rack Division Cup."

Bridgestone has already signed on as a contingency sponsor for the Tire Rack SCCA Divisional Championships. Soloists competing on Bridgestone tires in select classes will be eligible for cash awards if they finish in the top three of their Division's Championship standings. Drivers must register for the program before competing, and run with the required decals. Online registration will be available soon by logging in at [scca.com](http://scca.com) and selecting Contingency from the Events tab.

I'm hoping to make a couple of these events probably at Peru. Judging by the other division's calendars our division has a pretty good chance at "Tire Rack Divisional Cup". I hope some of you soloists will join me in supporting the series.

Bob's got a Rally School planned for Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup>. If you'd like to know more about Rallys and what it takes to devise your own devious route through the country you should attend this class. Sign up for it on [www.motorsportreg.com](http://www.motorsportreg.com).

Ice Cream Rally I is scheduled for Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The starting location is the Dairy Queen on US 60 East in Owensboro. Those of you have run this route will appreciate the changes while you newbies will be rewarded with a fun time and a good score. I expect a good turnout for our first rally of the year. Perhaps there will be a special reward for the best score.

We are planning another Street Survival school this time in Evansville. The Board is working on a site that we hope to have nailed down soon. I'll have more information in the coming weeks.

That's it for this month. Check our on-line calendar at [www.sirscca.org](http://www.sirscca.org) and look for events on [www.motorsportreg.com](http://www.motorsportreg.com) and [www.myautoevents.com](http://www.myautoevents.com)

Racingly, Paul Dornburg *Regional Executive*

### March Activities Update

Wow! It is already March. Those "over the winter" projects have become "spring projects" or items topping the lists for next winter. There are several adjustments to the March activities.

- The proposed March 8<sup>th</sup> gimmick/game/fun rally has been postponed and is now in need of an event marshal.
- **The Time/Speed/Distance rally school is on!** It will be Saturday, March 14, 9:30 A.M. at the North Park Branch Public Library, 960 Koehler Drive, in Evansville. On-line registration at [www.MotorsportReg.com](http://www.MotorsportReg.com) or by e-mailing [bob.sonntag@att.net](mailto:bob.sonntag@att.net).
- The March 22 rally will be the Ice Cream Rally. It will start from the Dairy Queen on US60 East in Owensboro.
- The "Sodbuster" rallycross has been transformed into the "Snowbuster" autocross and relocated to parking lot of the Centre in downtown Evansville (100 East Walnut Street).
- Latest details to be shared at our March membership meetings.

I want to thank Carrie Moore for volunteering to put the May 3<sup>rd</sup> rally together. There are still rally and autocross events available for those that are willing to accept the risk of being assigned an event.

Hope to see lots of you at the March meetings and events.

Bob Sonntag

Activities Chair

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<b>Berry Points</b> (as of February 21)	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Points</b>
Bailey, Darrin	2
Bailey, Teresa	2
Cannon, James	2
Davis, Terry	2
Freeman, Mke	2
Jochum, Ron	2
Moore, Carrie	2
Moore, Chris	2
Sonntag, Bob	2
Barrow, Jim	1
Beaman, Barry	1
Buente, Charline	1
Buente, Mike	1
Christy, Allen	1
Christy, Cathy	1
Dornburg, Carolyn	1
Dornburg, Paul	1
Grundhoefer Seeber, Julia	1
Keating, Terry	1
Nichols, James	1
Schonberger, Barry	1
Strobel, Shelby	1
Young, Gene	1

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Activity/Event</b>	<b>Event Marshal</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>3.00</b>	<b>MARCH</b>			
3.01	Sunday	Free Weekend		
3.02	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Bob's House
3.08	Sunday	Free Weekend		
3.10	Tuesday	Membership Meeting	Paul	Lone Star Steakhouse, Evansville
3.12	Thursday	Alternate Membership Meeting	Paul	El Toribio's, Owensboro
3.14	Saturday	Time/Speed/Distance Rally School	Bob	North Park Branch Library, Evansville
3.21	Saturday	Patch Party Preparatory Visit		Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
3.21	Saturday	Pit Stop Deadline	Gene	
3.22	Sunday	"Ice Cream" Pt Rally (1 of 7)	Paul & Carolyn	Dairy Queen, US60 East, Owensboro
3.29	Sunday	"Snowbuster" Autocross	Terry	The Centre, Walnut St, Evansville
<b>4.00</b>	<b>APRIL</b>			
4.05	Sunday	Palm Sunday		
4.06	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Paul's house
4.12	Sunday	Easter Sunday		
4.14	Tuesday	Membership Meeting	Paul	Lone Star Steakhouse & Saloon
4.16	Thursday	Alternate Membership Meeting	Paul	El Toribio's, Owensboro
4.18	Saturday	Pit Stop Deadline	Gene	
4.19	Sunday	Patch Party #1	Board Event	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.26	Sunday	Patch Party #2 -- Rain date	Board Event	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
<b>5.00</b>	<b>MAY</b>			
5.03	Sunday	Pt Rally (2 of 7)	Carrie	
5.04	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Bob's house
5.10	Sunday	Mother's Day		
5.12	Tuesday	Membership Meeting	Paul	Lone Star Steakhouse, Evansville
5.14	Thursday	Alternate Membership Meeting	Paul	El Toribio's, Owensboro
5.16	Saturday	Pit Stop Deadline	Gene	
5.16	Saturday	Test-N-Tune (Entry Level Permitting)	Board Event	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
5.17	Sunday	"Opening Bookend" Pt Autocross (1 of 7)		Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
5.24 (M-day Wknd)	Sunday	Free Weekend or 93rd Indianapolis 500		Indy Motor Speedway, Speedway
5.31	Sunday	Pt Rally (3 of 7)		

Date	Day	Activity/Event	Event Marshal	Location
<b>JUNE</b>				
6.01	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Paul's house
6.07	Sunday	Southern Illinois Autocross (1 of 2)	So Illinois Region	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
6.09	Tuesday	Membership Meeting	Paul	Lone Star Steakhouse, Evansville
6.11	Thursday	Alternate Membership Meeting	Paul	El Toribio's, Owensboro
6.13	Saturday	<i>Street Survival Event?</i>		
6.20	Saturday	<u>Pit Stop</u> Deadline	Gene	
6.21	Sunday	Father's Day		
6.28 ??	Sunday	<b>Pt Autocross</b> (2 of 7)		Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
<b>JULY</b>				
7.03-05	Fri - Sun	SCCA Tour Event		Grissom Aeroplex, Peru, IN
7.04	Saturday	Independence Day		
7.06	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Bob's House
7.12	Sunday	<b>Pt Autocross</b> (3 of 7)		Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
7.14	Tuesday	Membership Meeting	Paul	Lone Star Steakhouse, Evansville
7.16	Thursday	Alternate Membership Meeting	Paul	El Toribio's, Owensboro
7.18	Saturday	<u>Pit Stop</u> Deadline	Gene	
7.18 ??	Saturday	<b>"Day At The Drags" Pro Tour Autocross</b>	Board Event	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
7.19 ??	Sunday	<b>"Day At The Drags" Pro Tour Drag Racing</b>		Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
7.25 ?? (Parents' Day)	Saturday	<i>Street Survival Event?</i>	Paul	
7.26 ??	Sunday	Brickyard 400		Indy Motor Speedway, Speedway
<b>AUGUST</b>				
8.00	Sunday	<b>Pt Autocross</b> (4 of 7)		Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
8.02	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Paul's House
8.09	Sunday	Southern Illinois Autocross (2 of 2)	So Illinois Region	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
8.11	Tuesday	Membership Meeting	Paul	Log Inn, Warrenton
8.13	Thursday	Alternate Membership Meeting	Paul	Diamond Lake, Owensboro
8.15	Saturday	<u>Pit Stop</u> Deadline	Gene	
8.16 (may change)	Sunday	<b>"Sillyness Repeated" Pt Rally</b> (4 of 7)	Bob & Terry	Wink Construction, Evansville
8.23	Sunday	<b>Pt Autocross</b> (5 of 7)		Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
8.29 ??	Saturday	<i>Street Survival Event?</i>	Paul	
8.30	Sunday	<b>Pt Autocross</b> (6 of 7)		Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
8.31	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Bob's House
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
9.05	Saturday	Solo Nationals (Pro, Travel, Warm-up Day)	SCCA	"Lincoln Air Park," Lincoln, NE
9.06	Sunday	Solo Nationals (Pro, Travel, Warm-up Day)	SCCA	"Lincoln Air Park," Lincoln, NE
9.07 (Labor Day)	Monday	Solo Nationals - Off Day	SCCA	"Lincoln Air Park," Lincoln, NE
9.08-11	Tue - Fri	Solo Nationals Competition	SCCA	"Lincoln Air Park," Lincoln, NE
9.12	Saturday	Solo Nationals Travel Day		
9.13	Sunday	Grandparents' Day		
9.15	Tuesday	Membership Meeting	Paul	Lone Star Steakhouse, Evansville
9.17	Thursday	Alternate Membership Meeting	Paul	El Toribio's, Owensboro
9.19	Saturday	<u>Pit Stop</u> Deadline	Gene	
9.20	Sunday	<b>Pt Autocross</b> (6 of 7)		
9.22-24	Tue - Thu	National Championship Runoffs - Qualifying	SCCA	Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI
9.25-27	Fri - Sun	National Championship Runoffs - Competition	SCCA	Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI
9.27	Sunday	Free Weekend - sort of		
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
10.00	Sunday	<b>"Sillyness Returns" Pt Rally</b> (5 of 7)	Terry & Bob	Wink Construction, Evansville
10.04	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Paul's House
10.11	Sunday	<b>"Closing Bookend" Pt Autocross</b> (7 of 7)		Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
10.13	Tuesday	Membership Meeting	Paul	Lone Star Steakhouse, Evansville
10.15	Thursday	Alternate Membership Meeting	Paul	El Toribio's, Owensboro
10.17	Saturday	<u>Pit Stop</u> Deadline	Gene	
10.18	Sunday	Free Weekend		
10.25	Sunday	<b>"Ice Cream Rally II" Pt Rally</b> (6 of 7)	Carolyn & Paul	Dairy Queen, Owensboro
10.31	Saturday	Halloween -- Night Fun Rally?		
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
11.01	Sunday	Halloween rally OR Free Weekend		
11.02	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Bob's House
11.07 or 08	Sat or Sun	<b>Social Event ??</b>		
11.10	Tuesday	Membership Meeting	Paul	Lone Star Steakhouse, Evansville
11.12	Thursday	Alternate Membership Meeting	Paul	El Toribio's, Owensboro
11.15	Sunday	Free Weekend		
11.21	Saturday	<u>Pit Stop</u> Deadline	Gene	
11.22	Sunday	<b>Pt Rally</b> (7 of 7)		
11.26-29	Thu - Sun	Thanksgiving Day Weekend		
<b>DECEMBER</b>				
12.00	Friday	<b>Awards Banquet &amp; Holiday Party</b>	Paul/Gary/Mary	Rolling Hills County Club
12.04	Monday	Board Meeting	Paul	Paul's House
12.19	Saturday	<u>Pit Stop</u> Deadline	Gene	

*BTB*

*John, our very dear buddy, was just passing through.*

*Life's a temporary thing, what can we do?*

*He left gifts of gold right where it counts.*

*And he had the best tractor one ever did mount.*

*The Coens are our mentors; what good individuals should be.*

*Truly generous, kind and compassionate, I know you see.*

*He was the best of the best just the natural way.*

*Any meeting with John was the Best Time of the Day!*

*I will not accept that he is gone.*

*He is just somewhere racing and carrying on.*

*John, Keep carrying on! We will miss you immensely.*



Arriving late? Contact Paul Dornburg in advance by E-mail or phone by 6:00 PM the preceding day or register at [www.motorsportreg.com](http://www.motorsportreg.com)  
Paul Dornburg - [a911sc@bellsouth.net](mailto:a911sc@bellsouth.net) - (H) 270-685-4470 - (C) 270-570-4107 - (W) 270-683-6553  
Lawrenceville Autocrosses are at Mid-American Air Park near Lawrenceville, IL.

Centre Autocrosses are held at the Evansville Civic Center parking lot

Owensboro Autocrosses are at Owensboro/Daviess County Airport, Owensboro, KY

### **2008 Board Members contact list**

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