



The *Pit Stop*



SCCA Southern Indiana Region Monthly Newsletter - February 2014 - Volume 61 Number 2

February 2014 REport

Winter!...As I write this we are once again experiencing single digit temperatures and wind chills in minus territory. Is anyone else getting tired of the cold weather? I know I'm itching to attack my cars with a soapy sponge and some polish. I'm looking forward to getting them out of the garage for some rallying and autocrossing too. We still have a few weeks to wait before our first driving events take place, but, to help pass the time, we've lined up a great program for our February member meeting. Jack Rogers will join us to talk about his driving history which includes driving the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah and Pikes Peak in Colorado. This is sure to be an entertaining program that you won't want to miss. Please plan to join us on February 11th at Smitty's, 2019 West Franklin St. in Evansville. We'll be gathering at 6:30 for dinner. Our member meeting will start around 7:30 and Jack's program will begin shortly after the meeting.

The board and member meetings are our only club activities in February. Hopefully, that will give everyone plenty of free time to finish their to-do lists at home because in March our season gets rolling (and digging and pouring) in a big way. March has five weekends and we have activities on every one of them. Those activities include two rallies and a return to the Mid-American Air Center for our annual patch parties.

Note: The schedule will be finalized during the February board meeting so the following dates are subject to change.

The March Rallies

The month starts with a Berry points only, educational rally on Sunday March 2nd. Bob Sonntag will be our rally master for this event. We would like all veteran rally teams to split up and each bring a first timer to drive or navigate for you. The goal is to introduce some rally novices to these great events.

These rally "noobs" will have a chance to put their new rally skills to the test two weeks later when we return to Owensboro for Paul and Carolyn Dornburg's annual Ice Cream Rally on Sunday, March 16th. Note: In the event of cold weather for this rally the name may be changed to The Hot Chocolate Rally.

The Patch Parties

Due to April's Easter schedule, we've moved the annual MAAC patching effort to March. Remember, working at least one Dig or Fill day qualifies you for our bonus program. The patch parties are your first chance to earn that valuable 4th run per heat at our autocross events.

Here are the dates (we'll share start times for these events as soon as they are determined):

- Saturday, March 8th - Site Survey
- Sunday, March 23rd - Dig Day 1
- Monday, March 24th - Fill Day 1
- Sunday, March 30th - Dig Day 2
- Monday, March 31st - Fill Day 2

What better way to celebrate all that new concrete than with a fresh set of tires? If you are in the market for new tires, even if they aren't for your autocross car, don't forget to use the Tire Rack link on the SIR/SCCA site (www.sirscca.org). Check out last month's Pit Stop for more details on how to make sure your Tire Rack purchase qualifies for the club commission.

Finally, I'd like to mention the work that Ben Davis, our new Web Site and Pit Stop Editor, is doing on our club's website. If you have visited our site at www.sirscca.org recently, you have probably noticed some big changes. Ben is working hard to add new features to the site including an improved event calendar, social media connectivity, and much more. Ben gave us a brief tour at the January member meeting, and we'll continue to show off the new site at future meetings as new features are added.

See you all at Smitty's on Tuesday, February 11th. Remember that date...you won't want to miss Jack Roger's program!

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RE.2014

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SIRSCCA Events Calendar

(The following dates and times are provisional. Visit the website calendar at <http://sirscqa.org/calendar> for the most up to date information.)

February			
02.26		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
March			
03.01	9:00	Safety Steward Class with Paul D.	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
03.02	12:00	Road Rally: Bob & Matt "Bring A Noob"	TDB
03.04	17:45	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
03.08	TBD	Patch Party Prep Visit	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
03.11	18:30	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Restaurant and Steakhouse - Evansville, IN
03.16	TBD	Road Rally: Paul & Carolyn D.	TDB - Owensboro
03.23	TBD	Patch Party – Dig Day 1	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
03.24	TBD	Patch Party – Fill Day 1	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
03.26		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
03.30	TBD	Patch Party – Dig Day 2	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
03.31	TBD	Patch Party – Fill Day 2	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
April			
04.01	17:45	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
04.08	18:30	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Restaurant and Steakhouse - Evansville, IN
04.12	TBD	Road Rally: Ben Davis "Townsquare Media"	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
04.27	TBD	Autocross: Ernie Roales, SS Needed for "Roberts Run-up"	Roberts Park - Evansville, IN
04.30		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
May			
05.02		Midwest Muscle Car Challenge	TBD - Putnam Park? (We will not be hosting.)
05.04	TBD	Autocross: Terry Davis, SS Needed	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
05.06	17:45	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
05.13	18:30	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Restaurant and Steakhouse - Evansville, IN
05.18	TBD	Autocross: Southern IL Autocross #1 of 2	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
05.28		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
June			
06.03	17:45	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
06.08	TBD	Autocross: Mike Buente, SS Needed #2 of 7	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
06.10	18:30	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Restaurant and Steakhouse - Evansville, IN
06.25		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
06.29	TBD	Road Rally: Jim Canon "Left 6th Opp"	TDB
July			
07.01	17:45	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
07.08	18:30	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Restaurant and Steakhouse - Evansville, IN
07.13	TBD	Autocross: Matt Beasley	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
07.27	TBD	Autocross: Kevin Smalley, SS Needed	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
07.30		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
August			
08.03	TBD	Road Rally #4 of 7	TDB

08.05	17:45	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
08.12	18:30	Membership Meeting	The Log Inn - Warrenton, IN
08.17	TBD	Autocross #5 of 7	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
08.24	TBD	Road Rally #5 of 7	TBD
08.27		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
September			
09.02	17:45	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
09.07	TBD	Southern IL Autocross #2 of 2	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
09.09	18:30	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Restaurant and Steakhouse - Evansville, IN
09.14		Road Rally Possibility	Possible date to either move a rally to, have a gimmick rally, etc.
09.21	TBD	Autocross #6 of 7	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
09.24		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
October			
10.05	TBD	Autocross #7 of 7	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
10.07	17:45	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
10.10	TBD	Bowler Day At The Strip Setup	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
10.11	TBD	Bowler Day At The Strip Day 1	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
10.12	TBD	Bowler Day At The Strip Day 2	Mid-America Air Center(MAAC) - Lawrenceville, IL
10.14	18:30	Membership Meeting	Moonlite BBQ - Owensboro, KY
10.26	TBD	Road Rally #6 of 7	TBD
10.29		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
November			
11.04	17:45	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
11.09	TBD	Road Rally #7 of 7	TBD
11.11	18:30	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Restaurant and Steakhouse - Evansville, IN
11.26		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission
11.29		Awards Banquet Reservation Deadline	Reservations should be sent to Mike Hutchens, Treasurer
11.30		Tentative "Black Sunday Shopping 'Brake'" Autocross	Tentative Date for a "fun" autocross at Roberts Park.
December			
12.05	18:00	2014 Awards Banquet and Membership Meeting	Rolling Hills Country Club, Newburgh, IN
12.31		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission

Sports Car Club of America - Southern Indiana Region – Membership Meeting Minutes - January 14, 2014

Regional Executive Matt Beasley gaveled the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 p.m. *Pit Stop*/Website editor Ben Davis moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and passed along the Treasurer's report that the club 'has money'. Ben also welcomed submissions to *Pit Stop*, noting that the deadline to do so is the last Wednesday of the month.

In new business, feedback was requested following the annual awards banquet. Folks had a good time, though the peppermint cheesecake was not a good menu choice.

Trophies from the December 1 Autocross were presented by Bob Sonntag and Terry Davis. The event was graced by cool, but clear weather and lots of participants - as many guests as weekend members - including a car-full from Lexington KY who arrived early and slept in their car! Results from the day were printed in the January *Pit Stop*. Fastest Time of the Day was awarded to Matt Beasley, who accepted a thermal mug and a large container of hot chocolate mix.

Event Chair Paul Blaylock reported that the 2014 event schedule is still in flux. The next board meeting, to which any and all are welcome, is Tuesday, February 4, with the next membership meeting a week later on February 11. Event marshals, workers, and membership meeting program ideas were solicited - just contact Paul! Paul noted that the calendar of events will soon be available on the new website, and members will be able to add it their own calendars electronically. Of note in the calendar is that the patch parties will happen in March; a Berry-points only autocross is set for April 27 at Roberts Park; and a "bring-a-noob" rally for March 2. This will be a shorter-than-usual rally with more instruction, and regular teams will be encouraged to split up and pair with new-to-rally people.

Ben displayed the new website which is still under construction. Features include calendars that one can subscribe to, tie-ins with popular social media sites, an area on the main page for 'breaking' news (reschedules, etc), pages for autocross, rallies, event results, copies of *Pit Stop*, and so much more. One important link on the website earns the club money - a link to *Tire Rack*. Shop at TireRack.com, put your items in a wish list on their site, and then return to the site via the link on sirscca.org. Purchase your wish list, and help the club. Stop by www.sirscca.org soon! (Continued on next page)

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Matt shared a few of his 2014 goals for the club: more participation in the rally program, purchase of new pylons for autocross, and refurbishment of the trailer. An idea for boosting rally attendance was shared - offer a purse - token prize package. Paul Blaylock shared that a goal of his was to make an inventory of club equipment, so if you have items stored at your home/business, please be in touch.

Matt noted that a coordinator for membership meeting programs is being sought. This person would not be expected to give the program, just coordinate those who will. Barry Schonberger reported that local motorsports enthusiast Jack Rogers will share anecdotes from his adventures at Pike's Peak, Bonneville, and Baja. Bring a friend to February's Meeting!

Barry and Terry Davis will add a new feature to this year's membership meetings: A Moment in SIR History. Upcoming topics include: SIR Roots, history of SOLO, Schlitz Slalom Series, proSOLO, SIR Traveling Circus, Freedom Festival National Tour Autocross, Dash Plaques, Club Racing, and many more.

The door prize was won by Bob Sonntag, after which the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Sports Car Club of America - Southern Indiana Region - Board of Directors Minutes - January 7, 2014

Attendees:

Matt Beasley, Regional Executive, Bob Sonntag, Advisor to the Board; Barry Shonberger, Assistant Regional Executive; Mike Hutchens, Treasurer, Ben Davis, *Pit Stop*/Website; Paul Blaylock, Activities Chairman; Lora Blaylock, Secretary

The meeting convened at 6:30. Mike moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Officer Reports

Mike shared a comprehensive treasurer's report for the 2013 year. "We have money". Matt noted he has two invoices to turn in. Thanks to Bob, who handled Treasurer duty while Mike was away on business in December. Bob will send Mike a new ticket spreadsheet.

Ben reported that the last Wednesday of the month remains a good time for the *Pit Stop* deadline. He is still working on the website, and will report further in new business.

Bob reported that he has been in contact with the folks at Mid-American Air Center. No changes in the agreement are anticipated. The trailers will hopefully be gone by "spring".

Barry noted that he hasn't yet been in touch with Jack Rogers to provide a program for the February Membership meeting. Barry and Terry Davis plan to give a 'minute in SIR/SCCA history' report at each Membership meeting. He is also beginning to make more frequent posts on the club's Facebook page.

There was no membership news from Kevin Smalley. According to SCCA reports, we have 118 members in good standing with 4 non-renewals from the past two months. A pin is needed to acknowledge Mike Buenté's 5 year anniversary (last year), and JanaLee Bootz' 40th anniversary is this year. Matt will have a conversation with Kevin regarding duties of the Membership Chair, now that Kevin's been in the position for a year.

Old Business

Refurbishment of the trailer was discussed at length. New computers and equipment racks were donated too close to the opening of last year's autocross season to get them installed. In addition, a thorough cleaning and fresh coat of paint is warranted. Ben will come up with a task list and ask Gene Young if the club could borrow some of his garage space to work on the trailer. The target is February or early March to accomplish the refurbishment.

Mike needs to set a time to pick up the standardized trips hardware from Wink construction after he returns from a business trip.

Timing on purchasing the Quick Patch product was discussed. It was agreed that it would be better to purchase it closer to the autocross season, as it has a limited shelf life.

Competition Regulation changes were discussed. It was decided not to change the way that Berry Points are calculated. Berry Points will continue to be based on the best raw (but corrected) timed run for autocross. Regarding tire divisions, the thinking is to update our regulations to say that we follow the national rules. Bob will look into details from national for this year and 2015 to inform a discussion at next month's meeting.

Matt continues to invite new ideas on how to get more out of events such as Bowler. No new information was received from Paul Dornburg on this year's events. *(Continued on next page)*

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New Business

Matt highlighted a few early events:

The first Rally will be a Berry Points only event. Folks are encouraged to bring newcomers, and regular teams will be asked to split up and take on a 'newbie'. This will be a shorter rally than usual, with more instruction before takeoff on March 2.

In further efforts to boost the rally program, a Saturday date has been chosen: April 12.

Patch Party work will begin earlier than usual - in March. Paul will check with Yancy to confirm the March dates are good for him.

The first Autocross day is May 4.

Matt will confirm Midwest Muscle Car dates with Paul Dornburg.

Paul will work on getting rally masters and event marshals.

Bob and Matt will work on contacting Craig Straub about adding Southern Illinois SCCA events to our calendar, as well as to make sure we are not double-booking Mid-American Air Center.

Matt will send Paul a checklist of his membership meeting tasks before the January meeting. The December 1 Autocross awards are to be distributed. There is currently no program scheduled for the meeting, but Barry will provide the aforementioned 'history minute'. It was noted that a coordinator for membership meeting programs is still being sought.

The rescheduled banquet seemed to go very smoothly. It was noted that the 'peppermint cheesecake' was not a great menu option, and that keeping the room at a happy temperature for all was difficult. The slide show and awards on the screen were a plus. The room has been booked for the 2014 party on December 5.

Ben is working on the new website - there is no easy way around the issue of AT&T users being blocked from the current site, so it appears they may just have to wait until the new site is up and running. In two weeks, when people go to sirscca.org, they will arrive at the new site. Old content (past issues of *Pit Stop*, etc) will be moved over more slowly. Ben expects to show some of the new website at the January membership meeting.

Matt will check with Terry Davis on a Indiana State Business Entity report which may be needed for the Chapter renewal paperwork. This is due by February 15.

Goals for 2014 include:

Boosting Rally attendance - newbie rally, different days, video on website (see comeroadrally.us)

Purchasing new equipment - wish list includes:

New pylons - It was decided to use board restricted funds to purchase 60.

Tires for the trailer/handcart

Radios - An inventory is needed, but it was decided to ask Paul/Carolyn Dornburg to watch for them to go on sale in preparation for buying up to 6 new radios.

Better reflector - Mike will look into this.

New switch for the backpack blower

No changes are needed at this time to prepare for reporting new Autocross data to national. However, we need to remind/encourage everyone to bring membership cards when participating in autocross - this is a big help in having our data ready to report to national, as the names can then be entered as they are on the national list.

After a brief discussion, it was decided to encourage members interested in EVO school to attend nearby events. There are many available, and it does not appear that there is enough demand in our area to bring one to Evansville. Matt will include these dates in the SIR/SCCA schedule.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

February Membership "Anniversaries":

Eric Eplee, 2 years; Ivan Bonenberger, 5 years; Terry Keating, 6 years; Don Kelley, 10 years; David Crews, 15 years; Cathy and Gary Heck, 18 years; Tom Tippsword, 27 years; Greg Goebel, 34 years; Jeff Jackson, 36 years; Mike Smith, 43 years

February Birthdays:

Jim Butler, MD; Carolyn Dornburg; Alexandra Goebel; Angela Haehnel; Cathy Heck; Don Kelley; Kurt Krodel; Jim Lilly, Jr.; Sean Lips; Ernie Roales; Carson Sandy

SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA: A club with many interests

Many faceted in its endeavors, the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) might best be described as a service organization. It serves over 50,000 members throughout the United States by sanctioning and administering a variety of automotive related activities through more than 115 independently chartered regions. No other single motor sports organization in the world conducts more events than the SCCA. These events range from amateur and professional road racing to road rallies, autocrosses, rally crosses, hill climbs and auto shows. The SCCA is an ever-growing organization for the automotive enthusiast. Because the SCCA is member oriented, the club stresses participation on a broad basis. Regardless of your experience or background, if you are an automotive enthusiast there is a place for you in the SCCA. These avenues range from amateur or professional road race driver, to weekend rally or autocross driver, and from race worker or official. In order to successfully sanction and conduct a comprehensive autocross/rally/road racing program many experts in timing and scoring, communications, safety inspection, medical, flagging, course/race control and other skills are needed. Schools are held to train the drivers and workers and various degrees of licenses are awarded based on knowledge, ability and experience.

Pit Stop is the official publication of the Southern Indiana Region of the Sports Car Club of America, Inc. and is published monthly at PO Box 1112, Evansville, IN 47706. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors or editor and are not necessarily those of the Southern Indiana Region, its officials, members or advertisers. Permission to reprint material from **Pit Stop** is granted to all SCCA regional publications and its national publication, **Sports Car**, with regards for full credit to the author and Pit Stop.! Hi Paul's Mom, are you having as much snow and ice as we are?