



The *Pit Stop*



SCCA Southern Indiana Region Monthly Newsletter - May 2014 - Volume 61 Number 5

May 2014 REport

Viva Las Vegas! Before we get to the official business of this report, I thought I would share a few items from my recent trip to Las Vegas. I'll skip the part that resulted in a mystery photo showing up on my cell phone - a photo of a public restroom toilet. Still not sure when I took that picture - some of the events of that week are a bit, um...fuzzy. Anyway, the highlight of the trip was driving an Audi R8 V10 on the road course at Las Vegas Motor Speedway thanks to the folks at Dream Racing (<http://www.dreamracing.com/drive-audi-r8-v10-in-vegas>). Driving a car with a mid-mounted V10 is quite an experience...what a sound!

The seven laps I drove at the event were the first laps I've ever driven on a real road course. I say "real" because, prior to the event, I probably drove over 100 virtual laps on the same course in iRacing. In fact, Dream Racing uses the iRacing simulator as an introduction to the course. When you participate in a driving experience at Dream Racing, your first session is on the iRacing simulator. On a side note, I didn't mention to the simulator instructor that I had already spent hours driving the Las Vegas Motor Speedway road course in iRacing prior to attending the Dream Racing experience. I think he figured it out after I reeled off several clean fast laps and finished several minutes ahead of the other guy in my group. When I completed my last lap in the sim, all he said was "Wow, that's a pretty fast lap time."

Besides driving one of the cars on my dream car list, what intrigued me most about the experience was the opportunity to find out first hand if my sim driving experience would prepare me for a real road course. It's an argument I've heard many times before...does sim racing translate to the real thing? I came to the conclusion that, for me at least, sim racing had a very positive impact on my ability to successfully navigate a real race course. In fact, I thought driving on the real course was easier than driving the sim because of the extra sensory input provided by the G-forces. In a sim, you are limited to using the sound of the tires to determine when the car is reaching the limit. Obviously, you also do that in a real car, but, in a real car you have the additional input from the forces in your seat.

Overall, I found the two experiences (sim vs. real) to be quite similar. So similar, in fact, that while driving the real laps, I kept shifting at the points I had learned in the sim. Those shift points didn't always line up with what the instructor was expecting so there were a couple of times that he had to tell me to shift back to the previous gear.

At Dream Racing, you have a choice of several street cars including the Audi R8, a Ferrari 458, a couple of Lamborghinis, and a Nissan GT-R. You can also drive one of their race prepared Ferrari F430s - something I plan to do when I return there. If you are ever in Las Vegas, I highly recommend that you book a driving experience with them. It was a lot of fun.

Recent Events

April started with an Evolution Performance Driving school in Louisville and was attended by five SIR/SCCA members. Unfortunately for the rest of us, two of the attendees finished the 2013 SIR/SCCA season in the top three of our autocross championship so they will likely be even harder to unseat this year. All who attended, including myself, learned a lot at the event and are looking forward to putting those new skills to use this season. I think I FINALLY understand what "backsidng" a pylon means.

On Saturday, April 12th, we were finally able to start a rally event without the weather getting in the way. Though it was initially intended to be Rally #2 of 7, Ben Davis' West Side Warm Up became our season opener and was

well attended. We had seven cars including two cars in guest class. We all had some cobwebs to shake out during the event, but, most of us made it to the post event social...most. Check out the results posted later in this issue. Hopefully, Ben will be nice and keep Team Beasley's Leg 2 and 3 scores sealed. No one needs to see that.

At the end of April, the club received some bad news. The autocross scheduled for April 27th at Roberts Park had to be cancelled. The cancellation was due to a scheduling conflict with the ABATE group (the group that conducts motorcycle classes at the Roberts Park site). They have a contract with the city to hold weekly classes at Roberts Park starting in April and running through the summer months. Even though we booked the site back in February before the ABATE group had added April to their schedule, we had to surrender the site to them for their class. We are planning to try to get an event scheduled at Roberts Park later in the year once the ABATE group is done with the site.

Since we already had the April 27th date set aside for an SIR/SCCA event, we decided to change the autocross to a rally event. On that date, Bob Sonntag hosted his previously postponed Newbie Rally. The weather once again tried to put a damper on the event, but, after an ODO check that included hail (yikes!), heavy rains, and high winds, the conditions improved and Bob's event was a huge hit. And, in case you were worried, my garage queen Audi was not damaged by the hail (whew!). Check out the results of Bob's rally in this issue. Be sure to note the Leg 1 and 2 times for Team Beasley/Davis (Ben).

Upcoming Events

The May schedule starts with our first autocross of the season on Sunday, May 4th. Terry Davis will be designing the course. It will be our first opportunity to try out all the new concrete we installed at the Mid-American Air Center in March. Setup starts at 9:30.

The board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 6th at the Townsquare Media offices in downtown Evansville. We'll be starting around 6:30 and, as always, guests are welcome.

On May 13th, we'll return to Smitty's for our May member meeting. We'll gather at 6:30 for dinner and the meeting will start around 7:30. Our program this month will come in the form of a video from Dave Lehrschall. On the video, Dave will be talking about a couple of his favorite books on performance driving and will also discuss his experience at the recent Evolution Performance Driving school.

The Southern Illinois Region will open their season at the Mid-American Air Center on Sunday May 18th. That event is a great opportunity to iron out some bugs in your autocross car, get some extra seat time, or just show up to support the Southern Illinois Region.

That's all for now. I'll see you all in May!

Matt Beasley
RE.2014
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SIRSCCA Events Calendar

(All times listed are Central Time. The following dates and times are provisional. Visit the calendar at <http://sirscga.org/calendar> for event details.)

May			
05.13	6:30P	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	5:45P	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	6:30P	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	5:45P	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
07.08	6:30P	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	TBD
08.05	5:45P	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
08.12	6:30P	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	5:45P	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	6:30P	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	5:45P	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
October continued from previous page			
10.14	6:30P	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	5:45P	Board Meeting (Guests Invited)	Townsquare Media - Evansville, IN
11.09	TBD	Road Rally #7 of 7	TBD
11.11	6:30P	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	6:00P	2014 Awards Banquet and Membership Meeting	Rolling Hills Country Club, Newburgh, IN
12.31		Pit Stop Deadline	Deadline for Article Submission

Autocross Times:

Times are for Lawrenceville autocrosses, and will be different for other locations.

9:30AM – Course Setup
 10AM – Registration/Tech Opens
 12 Noon – Registration/Tech CLOSED!
 12:10PM – Guided Course Walk
 12:45PM – Driver's Meeting
 1P – First car off!

Rally Times:

Times are approximate

12:30PM – Registration/Tech Open
 1:00PM – Registration/Tech Closed
 1:00PM – Driver's Meeting
 First car off shortly after Driver's Meeting

Membership Meeting Times:

6:30PM – Social Hour and Meal
 7:30PM – Meeting Begins

Board Meeting Times:

5:30PM – Arrival, Social Hour, and Meal
 6:30PM – Meeting Begins

Please contact Bob Sonntag beforehand if you will be attending the Board Meeting and wanting to eat with us so we can order extra food. bob.sonntag@att.net
 Cost of the meal is around \$5

Sports Car Club of America - Southern Indiana Division - Board of Directors Minutes - April 1, 2014 (No Foolin'!)

Attendees:

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

Officer Reports:

The minutes were accepted as sent.

This is (former) Treasurer Mike's last meeting. Bob and Matt have been added to the checking account, and Bob and Terry will share Treasurer duties for the rest of the year. We have paid for the equipment and supplies from Patch Days, and still have a positive balance on the books. Looking ahead, the insurance bill will be due next month, and the domain registration for the website is due this week.

Ben will be in touch with Gene Young about the domain registration. He has been busy updating the website, changing the look and feel. Details will follow later in the meeting.

Barry has been in touch with a guy who is writing a history of tri-state racing. He is doing extensive research, which he expects to take two years. He might be available toward the end of the year to give a program at a membership meeting. Terry and Barry will continue their history reports during the membership meetings, including providing next week's membership meeting program.

Old Business:

Mike Buente reports that he has found a new quick patch product available at Lowe's. It is very inexpensive, sets very quickly (under an hour!) and is available in small quantities. It was agreed that he would obtain a kit to keep in the trailer.

Bob will order the 60 new pylons and a current copy of the official rule book.

Paul is working on emergency numbers for the trailer.

New Business:

A discussion of the service at Smitty's followed the late start of the March membership meeting. No one noticed that the waitress (new to serving our group) was waiting to take everyone's order before sending it to the kitchen. Everyone is reminded to watch out and remind the wait staff to serve folks as they arrive, not in one large group so we may begin meetings in a timely fashion.

Terry will check with the Parks and Recreation department to see if we could park trailers in the grass at the first Autocross on April 27 at Roberts' Park. Setup will begin at 8:00 am, with the first car off the line expected at 11:00 am. ****Note: it was learned after the membership meeting that Roberts' Park was in fact not available to SIR/SCCA on the 27th. The Board discussed and decided via email to use the day to reschedule the Bring A Noob rally, and make it a points event.****

Ben has been busy with the website again, customizing the look and feel. Among the yet-to-be-finished list: tidy up the calendar, tweak the menus, move the archives, remove comment opportunities from some pages, and fix the contact us page. He is working to make the main page more current - stories will age out sooner. Ben will contact Paul about how to update the points section. It was agreed that points would be updated to the website once a month as part of the Pit Stop process.

Matt reported that Rick Myers from SCCA is sending along marketing materials for us to review and use. Hopefully, they can be easily customized.

The Patch Party was a huge success - all planned holes (approximately 50) were dug out and filled in! The rented equipment was a huge help and saw-cutting ahead of time made a big difference. Splitting up the tasks by day and planning which holes would be filled by which truck proved most efficient. A mathematical error was made in purchasing the concrete, and we had 3 cubic yards too much. (Notes have been made to keep the calculation error from happening again.) However, we used the 'leftover' to fill some areas for the airport.

We spent: nearly \$1800 on concrete, \$493 on equipment rental, and \$525 on saw blades (one is left over for next year). The bill for lunch is yet to be received.

The pneumatic jackhammers worked really well, but we need a significant number of people to work them. 2 spray bottles work best, as well as two walk-behinds. If we only have one pour day, perhaps a 'short' order should be considered, with the opportunity to order more later. We had about the right amount of workers for the tasks and tools at hand. Matt will have a special thank-you in the next Pit Stop.

Mike will look into products/techniques for firming up the soft/low area.

Due to quirks of the calendar, it's a little tougher to earn those coveted extra autocross runs this year. Following considerable discussion, it was decided that no new opportunities to earn extra runs would be offered this year.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm

Westside Warm-Up April 12th, 2014								
Rallymaster: Ben Davis								
Class	Position	Team	Car	CKPT 1	CKPT 2	CKPT 3	Total	Trophy
A	1	Terry Davis / Bob Sonntag	Blue C4S Porsche	-48	-247	43	338	T
A	2	Matt Beasley / Leslie Beasley	Gray S5	355	X	X	DNF	
B	1	Jim Cannon / Darlene Cannon	Red Miata	161	586	159	906	T
B	2	Dave Lehrschall / Suellyn Lehrschall	Gray GTO	1800	107	256	2163	
B	3	Paul Blaylock / Lora Blaylock	Black Mazda 3	1115	X	X	DNF	
G	1	Zac Parker / Ian Welsh	Silver Silverado	2263	1800	1800	5863	T
G	2	Ed Antonacci / Derrick Lewis	Red Eclipse	1161	X	X	DNF	

Sports Car Club of America - Southern Indiana Division - Membership Meeting Minutes - April 8, 2014

Regional Executive Matt Beasley gavelled the meeting to order at 7:38 pm and welcomed members and visitors alike. A motion was made, seconded, and accepted to receive the minutes as printed. Despite spending \$3,400 on the Patch Party, we still have funds in the bank. Pitstop/Website caretaker Ben Davis reports that the website is being updated with a new 'automotive' feel.

In new business, it was announced that Bob Sonntag and Terry Davis have volunteered to fill in the Treasurer's position through the end of the year, following Mike Hutchens' resignation due to work schedules.

Sixty new pylons are on the way, which will be worked into the current stock. Watch out for news of uses for the old pylons.

Last month's Ice Cream Rally as postponed due to poor weather conditions. A new date is yet to be determined, as the calendar is very full until late in the year.

The Patch Party weekends were a great success. Some 50 holes - our most aggressive effort to date - were dug out and filled in. Due to the weather, the pouring happened all on the second Monday, which turned out to work well. New concourse areas were added, and many rough areas were improved. A huge thank-you to everyone who helped make the event a success.

Activities Chair Paul Blaylock reminded everyone of upcoming events: The first points rally of the year will be hosted by Ben Davis, and will take off from Towne Square Media downtown on Saturday, April 12 at 12:30 pm. A Berry-Points only autocross will be held on Sunday, April 27 at Roberts' Park. We are awaiting word about parking trailers in the grass that day. Setup will begin at 8:00am with registration starting at 9:00. John Memmer has agreed to assist Mike Buente with tech that day. *(It was learned later that Roberts' Park would not in fact be available on April 27. Following discussion via email, the board decided to reschedule the Bring A Noob rally for that day and make it a points event.)* Looking ahead, Autocross #1 will be May 4 in Lawrenceville, with a course by Terry Davis. Jim Cannon is working on a rally to be held in June, and is looking for someone to run the course with him for comments/suggestions.

Five people from Evansville attended last week's Evolution Performance Driving School in Louisville. There were eighteen total students for the three instructors, one of which was the SCCA Driver of the Year. Nearly everyone shaved seconds off their times, and picked up lots of pointers.

Berry Shonenberger and Terry Davis shared the history of "George Beckerman's Rally", an annual event held in the late 70s/early 80s. Held at night, the rally covered old coal mine roads in the flood plains of Illinois. Instructions were given by "tulip" diagrams, which were primarily pictograms with very little text. The nighttime event provided ample opportunity to add lots of extra lighting to the cars, and was very popular.

Paul Blaylock won the door prize. All are welcome to the Board of Directors Meeting on May 6 at Towne Square Media, as well as next month's membership meeting on May 13 at Smitty's.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.

2013 Board Members

Regional Executive	Matt Beasley	812-626-0596	matbeas@gmail.com
Asst. Regional Exec	Barry Schonberger	812-425-1315	teamtiger21@aol.com
Secretary	Lora Blaylock	812-760-8693	blaylock@ieee.org
Treasurer	Mike Hutchens	812-250-6408	mike@mhutchens.com
Activity Chair	Paul Blaylock	812-484-6944	blaylock@ieee.org
Asst. Activity Chair	Michael Buente	812-479-1444	mbuente@vpsarch.com
Pit Stop/Web Editor	Ben Davis	812-204-4508	benjamindavis@live.com
Board Advisor	Bob Sonntag	812-477-5936	bob.sonntag@att.net

Newbie Rally

Rallymaster: Bob Sonntag

Assistant Rallymaster: Terry Davis

Class	Position	Team	Car	CKPT 1	CKPT 2	CKPT 3	CKPT 4	CKPT 5	Total	Trophy
A	1	Matt Beasley / Ben Davis	Gray S5	0	1	6	47	12	66	T
A	2	Sue Roales / Ernie Roales	Buick	220	66	116	360	87	849	
B	1	Jim Cannon / Darlene Cannon	Red Miata	-60	5	33	34	6	138	T
B	2	John Memmer / Brent Memmer	Silver BMW	33	3	25	94	-23	178	
G	1	Scott Collins / Kathy Collins	Red Miata	209	62	918	73	745	2007	T

- Denotes Early + Denotes Late X is no time DNF is Did Not Finish

Berry Points		
Position	Member	Points
1	Bob Sonntag	29
2	Terry Davis	28
3	James Cannon	24
4	Matthew Beasley	21
	Ernie Roales	
5	Michael Buente	19
	Jay Wolf	
6	Richard Grav	17
7	John Memmer	15
8	Barry Beaman	14
	Ben Davis	
9	Paul Blaylock	11
	John McCarthy	
10	Darlene Cannon	10
	David Lehrschall	
	Cooper Lilly	
	Kevin Smalley	
11	Barry Schonberger	9
12	Don Kelley	7
13	Lora Blaylock	6
	Ron Jochum	
	Joab Schultheis	
14	Steve Backer	5
	Teresa Bailey	
	Jonathan Crowe	
	Tim Green	
15	Chris Moore	4
	Mike Hutchens	
17	James Barrow Sr.	2
	Carrie Moore	
	Susan Roales	
18	Kenny Dilger	1
	Paul Dornburg	
	Terry Keating	

Rally Points		
Position	Member	Points
1	Darlene Cannon	10
	James Cannon	
	Ben Davis	
	Terry Davis	
2	Bob Sonntag	7
	Matthew Beasley	
3	David Lehrschall	4
4	Lora Blaylock	2
	Paul Blaylock	
	Mike Hutchens	
	John Memmer	
	Ernie Roales	
Susan Roales		

Rookie Points		
Position	Member	Points
1	John Memmer	0.1389

April Membership "Anniversaries":

Andrew Phipps, 1 year
Sean Lips, 2 years
Lora and Paul Blaylock, 4 years
Ben Davis, 4 years
Mike Hutchens, 4 years
Jim Breidenbach, 6 years
Yancy Smith, 6 years
Steve Backer, 12 years
Ryan Bootz, 17 years
Gene Young, 17 years
Jim Cannon, 22 years

April Birthdays:

Steve Backer
Ryan Bootz
Tom Bootz
David Crews
Eric Eplee
Charlie Posey
Sue Roales

Patch Party 2014 Thank You!

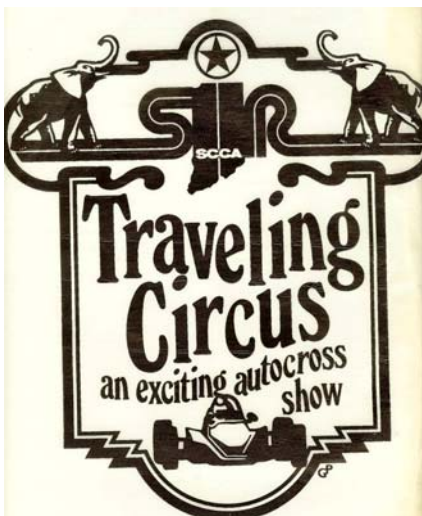
This year's patching effort at the Mid-American Air Center was a huge success. We installed over 11 cubic yards of new concrete, beating our previous high by about 3 cubic yards. Below, you will find a list of all those who helped make the 2014 patch parties a success. Thanks again to all who participated!

- Steve Backer
- Teresa Bailey
- Barry Beaman
- Matt Beasley
- Paul Blaylock
- Mike Buente
- Jim Cannon
- Jon Crowe
- Terry Davis
- Richard Grav
- Scott Grav
- Stacey Grav (Dig Day 1 Lunch)
- Tim Green
- Ron Jochum
- Don Kelly
- Dave Lerhschall
- Maurie Light
- Cooper Lilly
- John McCarthy
- John Memmer
- Brent Memmer
- Ernie Roales
- Barry Schonberger
- Joab Schultheis
- Kevin Smalley
- Bob Sonntag
- Jay Wolf

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, I hope you have a wonderful Mother's Day! I'll remind Paul to call you!



Be sure to join us at our monthly Membership Meetings, where Terry Davis and Barry Schonberger provide a little history about our club's past like last month's lesson on the SIR/SCCA's Traveling Circus.

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it"

– George Santayana