



The *Pit Stop*



SCCA Southern Indiana Region Monthly Newsletter - March 2015 - Volume 62 Number 3

March 2015 REport

Howdy, folks! Time for another report from your favorite RE! With March fast approaching our 2015 season is starting to gain some momentum. I can't wait to get things rolling (literally).

I'd like to start this report with a big "Thank You!" to Jim Spicklemire for taking time to share his Can-Am stories with the club at the February meeting. Everyone in attendance really enjoyed hearing about Jim's history in auto racing. I think it's safe to say that we'd like to have Jim come back for another meeting in the future. Thanks, Jim!

Also, there have been some new developments on our efforts to host an autocross at Toyota. They contacted me in February to ask about the club's safety policy. I got them in touch with Bob, one of our most experienced Solo Safety Stewards. Bob spoke with them a couple of weeks ago and will have a follow-up meeting soon. If everything is still looking positive after that meeting, the next step would likely be a site survey.

Recent Events

Other than the board and member meetings, there were no events in February.

Upcoming Events

Finally! We've got some driving events to talk about! In March we'll host a rally school and our first points rally of the season. Also in March, a few of us will head up to Lawrenceville to begin preparations for our April patch parties.

Rally School

The school will focus on terms, main road rules, and in-car operations. Rallyists of all experience levels are encouraged to attend including those who have never participated in a rally before. After the classroom session, we'll have a short practice leg that will lead us to our lunch destination.

Date: Saturday, March 14th

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Evansville Central Library, 200 SE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Instructor: Bob Sonntag

Rally #1 of 7

Date: Sunday, March 22nd

Times:

- 12:30pm - Registration/Tech Open
- 1:00pm - Registration/Tech Closed
- 1:00pm - Driver's Meeting
- First car off shortly after driver's meeting

Location: Fetta Specialty Pizza, 118 St. Ann Street, Owensboro, KY

Rally Master: Don Kelly

Upcoming Meetings

Member Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 10th

Time: Dinner at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at approximately 7:30 pm

Location: Smitty's Italian Steakhouse Restaurant, 2109 W. Franklin St., Evansville, IN 47712

Program: TBA

We haven't confirmed a program for March's member meeting yet.

That's it for now. See you all soon!

Matt Beasley

RE.2015

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SIRSCCA Events Calendar

(All times listed are Central Time.)

No autocross sites have been confirmed yet and should be considered tentative. We will let everyone know when they have been solidified. Rally Masters and Event Marshals are still needed for rallies and autocrosses. Please contact Paul Blaylock if interested in running an event. Pit Stop Deadline is the last Wednesday of the Month. Board Meetings are the 1st Tuesday of the Month, 5:45PM, Townsquare Media.

March			
3.10	6:30PM	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
3.14	9:00AM	Rally School – Bob Sonntag	Evansville Central Library, 200 S.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
3.21	TBD	Patch Party Preparatory Visit	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
3.22	12:30PM	Pt Rally (1 of 7) – Don Kelly	Fetta Specialty Pizza, 118 St. Ann Street, Owensboro, KY
April			
4.11	TBD	Patch Party -- Cutting Day	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.12	TBD	Patch Party -- Dig It	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.14	6:30PM	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
4.19	TBD	Patch Party -- Dig It	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.2	TBD	Patch Party -- Fill 'em	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.27	TBD	Patch Party -- Fill It (Rain Date)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
May			
5.09	12:30PM	Pt Rally (2 of 7)	TBD
5.12	6:30PM	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
5.17	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (1 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
June			
6.07	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (2 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
6.09	6:30PM	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
6.28	12:30PM	Pt Rally (3 of 7)	TBD
July			
7.12	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (3 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
7.14	6:30PM	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
7.26	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (4 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
August			
8.02	12:30PM	Pt Rally (4 of 7) -- "Ice Cream Rally"	DQ on US 60 East, Owensboro KY
8.11	6:30PM	Membership Meeting	Log Inn, Warrenton
8.16	12:30PM	Pt Rally (5 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
8.3	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (5 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
September			
9.08	6:30PM	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
9.2	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (6 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
October			
10.04	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (7 of 7) - "Closing Bookend"	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
10.13	6:30PM	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
10.18	12:30PM	Pt Rally (6 of 7)	TBD
10.25	TBD	Southern Illinois Autocross (2 of 2)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
November			
11.08	12:30PM	Pt Rally (7 of 7)	TBD
11.1	6:30PM	Membership Meeting	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
11.15	TBD	Fun Autocross	Soccer Tournament?
11.25		Awards Banquet Reservations Due	
11.29	TBD	Fun Autocross	TBD
December			
12.04	6:30PM	Awards Banquet & Holiday Party	Rolling Hills County Club

Please plan to pay for events with cash. SCCA members may pay by check.

We are unable to accept electronic payments. Not all of our event locations offer easy access to ATMs.

Autocross Events:

\$25 per Driver

\$15 Weekend Membership (as needed)

All times are Central. If you will be late, call Paul D. at 270-314-9069

8:00AM - Course Setup

9:30AM - 10:30AM Tech

10:00AM - 11:00AM Registration

11:45AM - Drivers meeting

12:00PM – First car off

Rally Events:

\$25 per car Entry Fee, or \$20 for those who have ran the previous rally

12:30PM – Registration/Tech Open

1:00PM – Registration/Tech Closed

1:00PM – Driver's Meeting

First car off shortly after Driver's

Meeting

Membership Meetings:

6:30PM – Social Hour and Meal

7:30PM – Meeting Begins

**Sports Car Club of America - Southern Indiana Division
Board of Directors Minutes - February 3, 2015**

Attendees:

Matt Beasley, Regional Executive; Paul Blaylock, Activities Chairman; Bob Sonntag, Treasurer; Paul Dornburg, Advisor to the Board; Ben Davis *PitStop/Website*; Lora Blaylock, Secretary, Ernie Roales, Assistant Regional Executive; John Memmer, Assistant Activities Chairman.

Matt called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting noting that, unusually, no visitors were present!

Officer Reports

Treasurer Bob reported that the club continues to operate 'in the black'. He received an acknowledgement from Cathy Heck for the memorial gift the club sent in memory of Gary. Bob has been in contact with Rick Meyer at national in an attempt to have Jim Barrow's membership fee waived, and has confirmed that there is still no charge for weekend memberships at rally events.

Activities Chair PaulB noted that he is having difficulty finding a rallymaster for the initial outing on March 22. He also offered to create/procure a new monitor mount for the trailer.

Assistant Activities Chair John has spoken with Bob about membership, and will look into the information available on the web. Matt added that membership numbers are up 3 from January.

Ben reported that *PitStop* is on the web and at the printers.

Assistant Regional Executive PaulD has updated the email list, and been in contact with the national office on the progress separating the Western Kentucky chapter's finances from SIR. He is also updating the autocross cards.

New Business

PaulB and Ben will get the SIR online calendar updated to remove tentative from all but the autocross dates, as the insurance has been approved. The airport board will meet next week regarding autocross dates; no difficulty is expected.

Matt will send an email asking for interest in the March 14 Rally School. Bob has two potential locations, but has not made a firm reservation at either.

The Club Charter renewal is in progress. Matt expects no problems with it.

PaulD reported that he has secured a former CanAm crew chief to speak as the program at next week's board meeting.

Ernie shared an idea of creating posters that could be posted as a recruitment tool in local repair/part stores.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

**Sports Car Club of America - Southern Indiana Division
Membership Meeting Minutes - February 10, 2015**

Matt Beasley, Regional Executive, called the meeting to order and welcomed all, including new members Breeze Grav and Greg Ballou, transferring from central Kentucky, and guests Jim Spickelmire and Rick Walker.

Treasurer Bob Sonntag reported that the club has funds available, and reminded all to keep buying tires and other supplies from *Tire Rack* through the link on sirscca.org.

Activities Chair Paul Blaylock thanked Don Kelley for stepping up to lead the first rally of the season on March 22. Many of this year's events are still lacking an event marshal, so check the dates on the website and be in contact with Paul to claim your event! A Rally School is planned for Saturday, March 14; watch for an email from Matt Beasley with details and to RSVP.

Pit Stop/Webmaster Ben Davis reported he is looking into a problem with the automatic email reminder about tonight's meeting.

Secretary Lora Blaylock reported that Assistant Regional Executive Ernie Roales sent a report via email that the conditions on the beach in Florida were lovely, and he was glad to be there.

In new business, Regional Executive Matt Beasley reported he has been in contact with a representative from Toyota about an autocross there. He is working with them on questions about SCCA safety rules.

Matt also reminded everyone of upcoming dates, including Evolution Driving Schools near the area as well as the upcoming Patch Parties on April 12, 19, 20, and 27 (if needed). These are your opportunities to earn those extra autocross runs, so be sure to mark your calendars and show up to help get the autocross track ready for the season.

Barry Shonberger introduced Jim Spickelmire, who worked as a crew chief in the CanAm series in the 1970s. Jim entertained all with stories of how he became involved in the series while still in college, as well as answered numerous questions from attendees. Many thanks to both Barry and Jim for the great program.

Matt reminded everyone of March meetings and invited all to share program ideas with him.

Kenny Dilger won the door prize, after which, the meeting adjourned.

Rally School - Pi Day

In hopes of encouraging more people to participate in our rally program and to make our rallies more fun for all, we are having a rally school on Saturday, March 14. Staying on course and being able to follow the route confidently GREATLY enhances the fun of rallying. Though there are some drivers that think the best part of rallying is getting back on course and back on time, this school will focus on staying course through understanding rally terms, concepts, and basic in-car operations.

There won't be much specifically on running our "equipped" class with computers, GPS devices, or fancy slide rules. As one who does run in A, I have too much experience (damn it!) proving that being on and staying on the proper route trumps being exactly on time on the wrong road. Plus, I'm pretty sure that last year's best checkpoint scores were set by Class B Teams.

Class will start at 9:00 A.M. in the "large group room" of Central Library in downtown Evansville. The room is up the stairs and circle to the left. The classroom session will be followed by real-world "final exam" to showcase your new knowledge...and to get to lunch. The cost for the school and its supplies is \$10 per person.

The "final exam" will begin from the parking garage, so you might as well park there. Google shows the parking garage drive to be about 812 Chestnut Street.

For additional information or to reserve your study materials, contact me.

Bob Sonntag
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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! Hope it's been warmer where you're at!

2015 Board Members

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