



# The Pit Stop!



SCCA Southern Indiana Region Monthly Newsletter February 2016 Volume 63 Number 2

February REport from Dave Lehrscha

I want to talk about cars and SIR activities, but first I want to apologize for missing the January SIR membership meeting. First impressions are always important and often indicate how the relationship can be expected to go afterwards. Unfortunately, I was in Atlanta on business and missed my first meeting as the new SIR Regional Executive. Hopefully, this will be the last meeting that I miss. This was not the first impression I wanted to leave you with.

Speaking of first impressions, I have no doubt that things went well without me. I know this because my first impression of the SIR Board of directors in action was nothing short of great! I'm sure that Richard and the rest of the team handled everything well. I had asked your SIR Board of Directors to meet informally over the holidays after we had cancelled the regularly scheduled meeting. Your BOD didn't just show up for pizza and introductions, they stayed for several hours and seriously worked on ideas we hope will make SIR members' experiences as rich as the SIR can make them. There will be more information coming as these plans are developed.

As I look out the window I can see that the snow has piled up and any Rally or Autocross competition is still many weeks away. But that doesn't mean that we're not working on Rally and Autocross activities. Last year we had a great Rally Class presentation! I know that I benefitted greatly from the route challenges we worked through and the supporting instruction. We have another Rally Class scheduled for this year. As I'm writing this Matt Beasley is finalizing the training to focus on Rally basics or to focus on Rally course design. I believe that any Rally participant would enjoy and benefit from either class. This year's Rally class will take place at the Evansville Central Library in the Large Group Room on February 2, beginning at 9:00.

We've also scheduled a Solo Safety Steward class and an Autocross School on March 5, at the same location. Paul Dornburg will lead the Solo Safety Steward class. Paul does a very good job with this class. It is a critical part of our Autocross program. We must have SCCA licensed Solo Safety Stewards available to conduct Autocross events. The training is serious, but like most SCCA training, the course content can make our events more enjoyable and certainly safer. I'm working on the organization of the Autocross School. I won't present myself as an expert. I'm at the stage where I recognize there are (other) competitors, who have more successfully mastered autocross challenges. I've asked a few of these successful drivers to speak. We're going to talk about car set-up, classing, how points are calculated, and include an open questions and answers segment. (You can start sending questions to me at this time). The best part of this school will include the advice from some of our best drivers. I don't know about you, but I've watched Paul Dornburg consistently set the mark at almost every Autocross event. I can't wait to hear what his thoughts are on how to drive a course most competitively and I'll be taking notes!

March will also mark the start of this year's work at Lawrenceville's Mid-American Air Center. Each year's work on the old airfield has added to the surface we can use for our autocross events. The work is serious, but it comes with rewards. We continue to add to the available surface which allows us to vary course designs. Workers enjoy bonus Autocross runs through the season. This year we are working on potential changes on how to earn bonus autocross runs and this may require more work than in past years to earn bonus Autocross runs. Last month I spoke about the value this bonus runs have. You'll want to earn those. The Patch Parties are scheduled for April 9, 10, 17, and 18. There will also be a 'recon' visit to plan and mark repair areas. I hope to see you there!

Dave Lehrscha

## 2016 Board Members

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## **SIRSCCA**

### **Membership Meeting**

**January 12, 2016**

Advisor to the Board Matt Beasley introduced Assistant Regional Executive Richard Grav, who called the meeting to order, welcoming visitors and members alike. Regional Executive Dave Lehrschall was called out of town for work.

It was moved, seconded, and agreed to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

The death of 63-year SIRSCCA member Jim Barrow was reported. Many fond remembrances of Jim were shared.

Treasurer Bob Sonntag reported that the club is operating in the black.

Activities Chair Paul Blaylock reported that the club has events on the calendar! He congratulated all in attendance for earning their first participation point of the year, and noted that the points tracking spreadsheet is ready to go. The tentative events calendar is available on the website - coming up in the next few months are a few 'schools', workdays at MAAC, and an early Rally.

Finally, if you are interested in chairing an event, please be in touch with Paul Blaylock.

Advisor Matt encouraged all to come out to a rally and have some fun!

ARE Richard thanked all who worked on the trailer over the holidays, particularly Jay Wolf, Bob Sonntag, Paul Dornburg, and Ernie Roales. The trailer has been gutted and re-built from the framing up, including new shelving and electronics. A pictorial inventory of the trailer will be made as items begin to fill the shelves.

Awards were presented for Ben Davis and Matt Beasley's "Don't "Fall" Behind" rally in November 2015. Seven teams participated in a rally filled with good times and ending with a party at the house of Beasley. There were four teams in class B. Team Roales lead the pack with a total of 478. Three teams filled out class A, with team Davis/Sonntag winning the day with a score of 125! At the party, Richard Grav was the winner of the simulated racing contest.

A few 'leftovers' from the 2015 Christmas party were shared: service plaques for former ARE Ernie Roales and former *Pit Stop* Ben Davis, Stacy Grav's Rookie of the Year plaque, and Maurie Light's third place Autocross plaque. Congratulations and thanks again to all our 2015 winners and board members!

In upcoming events, mark your calendars for a Rally School on February 20 and a combined Solo Safety Steward/Autocross School on March 5. Locations and exact itineraries to be determined. Interest in a test-and-tune day was sought. It was noted that we are awaiting confirmation from MAAC on our proposed autocross dates, including a few extras. Patch Parties are scheduled for April 9, 10, 17, and 18, with a 'recon' visit on March 30. Currently, the board is hoping for one 'pour' day. Watch for changes in how to earn bonus points - more work may be required than in past years to earn those bonus runs!

ARE Richard reminded the assembly that all are welcome at Board meetings, the next of which will be February 2 at a location to be determined. The next membership meeting is February 9 at Smitty's on Franklin Street.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

## **SIRSCCA**

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

**January 5, 2016**

Present: Dave Lehrschall, Regional Executive, Richard Grav, Assistant Regional Executive, Paul Blaylock, Activities Chair, Bob Sonntag, Treasurer, Lora Blaylock, Secretary, Paul Dornburg, *Pit Stop*, Matt Beasley, Advisor to the Board, Guests Terry Davis, Stacy Grav, Suellen Lehrschall

Dave called the meeting to order and noted that he wanted to focus on sharing ideas and goals as well as a few select topics instead of the regular meeting format. He invited comment from all regarding goals - regional, national, membership, and personal. His aim is to be sure club activities are supporting our goals. Ideas and goals shared included:

- membership growth
- more members involved in events/activities
- create business cards with club info including calendar
- hold non-competitive events (car shows)
- highlight the fun of hanging out with car folks
- increase rally program attendance
- improve/tweak website (Richard interested)
- use the talents of a publicist (Junior interested)
- trips to regional events (Historic show in Indy, Lane Motor Museum,
- Solo Nationals [Dave interested])
- law enforcement participation at autocrosses
- coordinator for membership programs
- solicit specific ideas for rally improvement/participation (Matt interested)
- entry discount for special event winners

Dave invited folks to submit activity ideas that will help the club reach its goals via email. He'd also like to take several of these ideas to the membership meetings - discussion can fill the program slot. This may also lead to more participation, as people may be interested in coordinating a particular project, but not have interest/ability to fill a board position.

Paul Dornburg reported that Ben Davis sent him a note updating his work on the website, including preparing areas for 2016 information. Ben is planning on contacting Richard about site hosting and other web items. He is available for board meetings, but asks that the board find a new meeting site - many board members have spaces available.

Paul also reported that he has been receiving membership updates from national and has been giving the mailing list a thorough going-over, including adding weekend members to the Yahoo group and *Pit Stop* list.

Jay Wolf and Richard have done a terrific job of updating and cleaning the trailer. A few electronic checks will likely be completed in February, but the bulk of the work has been completed. Thanks, Jay and Richard!

Calendar items were reviewed, and Paul Blaylock will work to prepare a provisional calendar by next week's membership meeting.

- February 20 - Rally Safety Steward School, led by Bob Sonntag
- March 5 - Solo Safety Steward School, led by Paul Dornburg, followed by an "Intro to Autocross," led by Dave Lehrschall
- June 5 - Rally - Dave and Suellen Lehrschall, Rally masters
- July 24 - Autocross - Dave and Suellen Lehrschall, Event Marshalls
- August 7 - (Ice Cream) Rally - Paul Dornburg, rally master

Dave has reached out to Scott Milam at TMMI about SIR leading another autocross event for them, and suggested September 17 as the date as well as a move to MAAC. Terry agreed to be the club contact for Scott/TMMI.

Finally, Dave reported that he has had a change in his work schedule, which is going to take him out of town about two weeks of each month. He will endeavor to make the meeting schedule work, even if he needs to attend via telephone. Everyone thanked Dave and Suellen for their hospitality as the meeting adjourned.

2016 SIR/SCCA Schedule			
2.02	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	The Beasley's
2.09	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
2.20	Saturday	Rally Safety Steward School	Bob S
2.24	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
3.01	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
3.05	Saturday	Solo Schools -- Safety Steward & Intro to Autocross	Paul D & Dave L
3.08	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
3.30	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
4.03	12:30PM	Pt Rally (1 of 7)	TBD
4.05	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
4.09	TBD	Patch Party -- Cutting Day	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.10	TBD	Patch Party -- Dig It	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.12	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
4.17	TBD	Patch Party -- Dig It	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.18	TBD	Patch Party -- Fill 'em	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.25	TBD	Patch Party -- Fill It (Rain Date)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
4.27	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
5.01	12:30PM	Pt Rally (2 of 7)	TBD
5.03	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
5.10	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
5.15	TBD	Southern Illinois Autocross?	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
5.22	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (1 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
5.25	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
6.05	12:30PM	Pt Rally (3 of 7)	TBD
6.07	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
6.12	TBD	Southern Illinois Autocross?	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
6.14	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
6.26	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (2 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
6.29	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
7.05	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
7.10	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (3 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
7.12	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
7.17	TBD	Southern Illinois Autocross?	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
7.24	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (4 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
7.27	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
8.02	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
8.07	12:30PM	Pt Rally (4 of 7) -- "Ice Cream Rally"	DQ on KY144, Owensboro KY
8.09	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting follows)	Log Inn, Warrenton
8.14	TBD	Southern Illinois Autocross?	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
8.21	TBD	Southern Illinois Autocross?	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
8.28	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (5 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
8.31	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
9.06	Tue	Solo Nationals	Lincoln Airpark, Lincoln, NE
9.06	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
9.09	Fri	Solo Nationals	Lincoln Airpark, Lincoln, NE
9.11	12:30PM	Pt Rally (5 of 7)	TBD
9.13	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
9.18	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (6 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
9.25	TBD	Southern Illinois Autocross?	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
9.28	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
10.02	9:30AM	Pt Autocross (7 of 7)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
10.04	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
10.09	Sunday	Autocross (extra day in case of a rainout)	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
10.11	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
10.16	TBD	Southern Illinois Autocross?	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville
10.23	12:30PM	Pt Rally (6 of 7)	TBD
10.26	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
11.01	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
11.06	12:30PM	Pt Rally (7 of 7)	TBD
11.08	6:30PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse
11.23	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline (early because of Awards Banquet)	Articles, results, points, minutes due.
11.25		Awards Banquet Reservations Are Due!	Respond to treasurer@sirscca.org
11.27	TBD	Fun Autocross	Future Roberts Park location, EVV
12.02	6:30PM	Awards Banquet & Holiday Party	Rolling Hills County Club, Newburgh, IN
12.06	5:45PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD
12.30	Wed	Pit Stop Deadline	Articles, results, points, minutes due.

As of this publication all autocross dates are 'pending some form of government approval'.

## **SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA**

### **SCCA: 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. The avenues available range from amateur or professional road race driver to weekend rally or autocross driver to 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.

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Be sure to join us at our monthly membership meetings.  
Unless otherwise noted they are held at Smitty's Italian Steakhouse  
Restaurant, 2109 W. Franklin St., Evansville, IN 47712  
Dinner is at 6:00 PM followed by the business meeting at 7:30 PM.  
This month, Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016