



## SCCA Southern Indiana Region Monthly Newsletter January 2017 Volume 64 Number 1

January REport from Dave Lehrschaal

I believe we'll all be working on our New Year's resolutions by the time you review this issue of the Southern Indiana Region's Pit Stop. Hopefully, you were present at our awards banquet, but if not, I have to say that you missed a great event. The food and service were very good. As usual, Bob Sonntag made sure that the event was organized and run very well. The highlight of the evening was the actual awards ceremony. I don't think that there were any huge surprises for those who've participated in our Autocross and Rally events on a regular basis. It was my honor to present the trophies to these very deserving competitors,

Tom Bootz took 1st place in our 2016 Autocross competition. He is focused and smooth. He is aggressive without losing control. He hits his mark when he should. Tom is an artist who plays an Autocross course like a concert pianist plays a grand piano. Actually, our top five finishers are all darn good drivers. Paul Dornburg took 2<sup>nd</sup> and Barry Beaman took the 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy. Jeff Jackson and Richard Grav just missed trophies as they finished out the top five.

Terry Davis and Bob Sonntag each finished with 30 points to tie for 1<sup>st</sup> place in our 2016 Rally competition. Steve Yockey and Julia Yockey each finished with 24 points to tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. These four worked especially hard to support our 2016 Rally program. Each acted as the Rally Master for at least one event as well as the Rally Master assistant for another. Their consistent performance in the Rally events earned them additional points.

Bob Sonntag and Steve Yockey tied for the Berry Points trophy. The competition was extremely close. Bob drove in only a couple of Autocross events and earned his points through Rally competition, Rally event support, Patch Party participation, and other SIR activity support. Steve participated in most Autocross and Rally events and finished well in each. He participated in the Patch Parties and supported Rally events. Both of these SIR members worked hard to support our region through 2016 and made the competition for the Berry Points trophy live up to the trophy expectations.

The Yockey's were serious competitors on many levels in 2016. Julia Yockey led the Rookie competition for much of the year and finished a close 2<sup>nd</sup> to Dawn Sturgeon, who took the 1st place Rookie trophy. Both of these ladies are real competitors and supporters of regional events. We should expect to see nothing, but close finishes between these two in Autocross and Rally competition in 2017.

We don't always present the Indian award. This is reserved for those individuals who have truly stood out as a selfless supporter of our Southern Indiana Region. This year we had a unanimous choice for this award. Stacey Grav earned this award. Stacey worked hard at each of our Patch Party activities, attended almost every BOD and Membership meeting, participated in or worked each Autocross event, provided water to protect competitors from heat exhaustion, and more.

Congratulations to all the 2016 trophy winners and a special thanks to all of those who seriously worked to keep the competition close.

As a reminder, we will be working on compliance to the SCCA rules for Autocross vehicle identification. Autocross event tech and registration time can become a little hectic as we work through the paddock trying to verify each vehicle's safety, helmet standards compliance, and we complete registration cards. It's not unusual for those planning to participate for the first time or those who've only competed once or twice to be unsure of how they would like to classify their vehicle. Sometimes, we have struggled with the task of finding available numbers within some of the more popular classes. In the past we have set up our timing and scoring team to be confused by multiple vehicles with the same number.

We are addressing the confusion created with common numbers in different classes by requiring all participants to meet SCCA vehicle identification rules by displaying their class identification letters on their vehicle. This along with the required numbers will make tech inspection, registration, and event management run more smoothly. New participants probably will not show up for their first event with their numbers and letters. However, a few newcomers' vehicles identified with painters' tape should not create a problem if our regular participants are complying with the identification rules.

I mentioned that we were going to more strictly enforce this rule in the last edition of our Pit Stop newsletter and announced it during our last two membership meetings. We're going to build on the idea of a vehicle listing of numbers and classes that Jr. Crowe developed last year. We will have an updated listing of available (and reserved) numbers for each class for use during our tech and registration activity. I have encouraged everyone to order or get creative and make their numbers and letters. It's important that you first check the 2017 number and class listing that will be posted on line before spending any time or money on your vehicle identification. There are members who ran last year with established number and class identifications. We will reserve their 2016 identifications for them and open the other numbers within classes for new participants or for those who wish to change their numbers.

Our next Membership meeting will be held at Smitty's Italian Steakhouse in Evansville on Tuesday, January 10, 2017. We'll gather around 6:00 PM for bench-racing, begin eating around 6:30, and then start the meeting at about 7:30 PM (Central).

Dave Lehrschaal

Regional Executive Southern Indiana Region

## 2017 Board Members

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SIR SCCA

Board Meeting

December 6, 2016

Lehrschaal Home

Present: Dave Lehrschaal, Regional Executive; Richard Grav, Assistant Regional Executive; Paul Blaylock, Activities Chair; Jr Crowe, Assistant Activities Chair; Bob Sonntag, Treasurer; Lora Blaylock, Secretary; Paul Dornburg, *Pit Stop*; MacKenzie Crowe, Terry Davis, Stacy Grav, Suellen Lehrschaal, Ernie Roales, guests

RE Dave called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. Treasurer Bob reported that the club has money following bills from the awards banquet and award shop. LC chair MacKenzi reported that she has been adding addresses and contact information to her group list. She will be scheduling events soon. Paul Dornburg reported that he has contacted 12 expired members, and heard back from about 4 of them.

In old business, the board reviewed Rally #7. It was a good outing for a new Rally master. The checkpoints were a bit close together, but most participants didn't notice until late in the game. Team Yockey has already claimed two 2017 slots, and is thinking about making the "Spooky" rally an annual event.

The fun autocross went well overall. Course setup was easy in the small space. Registration was hectic, as there were 66 folks, including 27 (!) weekend members. Perhaps it would be a good idea to have a dedicated person to process weekend folks. Everyone on the board should know how to fill out a weekend membership form. One key - don't guess if you don't know the answer - go find the person who knows. Paul Dornburg reported that we had 11 charges through the online payment system, which worked pretty well. Money was received quickly and without trouble; the cost for the 11 users was \$10. The board discussed dealing with problematic drivers, and thanked Dave for taking care of what could have been an unpleasant situation.

The board discussed potential improvements to autocross events. Corner workers (especially weekend members) need to be reminded of their responsibilities - flag use, paying attention to cars, replacing cones. Phones or cameras are not to be used while the course is live. Making sure an experienced corner worker has the radio would be a good thing. The popularity of the recent fun autocross could become a problem in terms of managing participants and space. What about requiring non-SIR folk to attend another autocross earlier in the year? What is the possibility of holding another Roberts Park event earlier in the year?

The board also talked about using reusable insurance waiver bracelets - a major concern was being able to tell if someone had signed the form for the current event. The cost for the disposable ones is relatively low. Members can fill out an Annual Waiver at [scca.com](http://scca.com), and will be sent a 'hard card' for free. It was decided to stick with the disposables for now.

The board reviewed the 2016 Award Banquet. There were fewer folks in attendance this year, and everything went very smoothly. The effort to prevent early arrivers worked well, and allowed Bob and the Board to get the room ready for the party. Dave kept the business portion of the meeting short, and Terry and Suellen administered the game with ease. All thought the food was good (what about offering a vegetarian entree?), and the total cost was under \$2,000.

In New Business, Paul Blaylock and Paul Dornburg discussed Rookie points - they are calculated differently than regular points as the member's start date is taken into account in the equation. It is also the only competition category where 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place are not awarded - should this change? A By-Laws committee is needed for 2017. Everyone is asked to read the By-laws and the Comp Regs and be prepared to discuss needed updates at the January board meeting. Dave will work on the Charter Renewal documents.

Paul Blaylock is still receiving corrections, suggestions, and changes to the 2017 proposed calendar. An early-season Roberts event is desired - possibly a Street Survival/AC event. Dave will look into moving the TMMI event to 6/4 or 6/25 as well as having a TMMI class in the regular SIR calendar instead of on a special day. What about pairing a class and test-and-tune day? Watch for an email from Bob to confirm MAAC dates.

After discussion, the board decided not to move the February membership meeting despite that it will fall on Valentine's Day. Dave will talk to Smitty's on Franklin and confirm that the club will not be there in December as well as check availability for February. The next board meeting is January 3, 2017 at Ciholas - thanks to Paul Blaylock and his workplace for continuing to host the Board.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned after the board thanked Dave and Suellen for hosting the meeting and especially for the delicious dinner!

SIR SCCA  
Membership Meeting  
December 2, 2017  
Rolling Hills Country Club

Regional Executive Dave Lehrschall called the meeting to order and welcomed all to the annual awards banquet. A special thanks to Treasurer Bob Sonntag for making all the arrangements for tonight's festivities. Thanks also to Mary Harl, who was unable to attend this evening, for organizing the game, which Terry Davis and Suellen Lehrschall will lead following the business meeting.

The reading of the minutes was dispensed with upon motion and second. Treasurer Bob reported that the club has a positive balance in the checkbook. Activities Chair Paul Blaylock thanked all event participants for a great year of competition. If you have ideas for next year's events, please be in touch! The board is finalizing dates for 2017, and it's not too early to let Paul Blaylock know if you'd like to lead an event - two Event Marshalls have already stepped up! Paul Dornburg reminded all to send in their articles for *Pit Stop* - the earlier, the better! Ladies Committee MacKenzie Crowe reminded women to share their ideas for ladies-only events with her - not just competition, but fun, non-car events, too! She is working with the Board on a ladies-only autocross on a Saturday in 2017. Dave hoped that everyone saw the front-page article in Sunday's *Courier and Press* on the Fun Autocross at Roberts Park.

Awards were presented for the last point event of the season - Julia Yockey's *Driver's Rally* on November 6. 5 teams participated in the day with the top finishers separated by 7 seconds. Team Davis/Sonntag won the day in class A, with team Sturgeon/Moore close behind in class B. Trophy winners received the new-and-improved glasses - featuring a redesigned trophy logo, size change (from pub glass to hi-ball), and a bit of color in the base of the glass.

One highlight of the club's year was the trip to Nationals - 9 of our members went to Lincoln and had a great time, and two of our folks finished in the top ten in their class! Many thanks to Terry and Paul Dornburg for their leadership and encouragement. Mark your calendars, and make plans to go to Lincoln next fall!

Bob presented service pins for those who were in attendance:

- Julia Young, 10 years
- Barry Beaman and Tim Green, 15 years
- Carolyn and Paul Dornburg, 20 years
- Paul Condi, 35 years.

Competition awards were presented next:

- Berry Points - Paul Dornburg, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Terry Davis, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Bob Sonntag and Steve Yockey, tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place
- Rookie of the Year - Dawn Sturgeon
- Rally - Ernie Roales, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Julia and Steve Yockey, tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Terry Davis, and Bob Sonntag, tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place
- Autocross - Barry Beaman, 3<sup>rd</sup> place; Paul Dornburg, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Tom Bootz, 1<sup>st</sup> place

Dave next presented the Ken Andrew Memorial "Indian" Award. This award is presented to the person(s) (non-board members) whom the Board feels has gone over and above in helping the club during the season. The award is presented when merited, not necessarily every year. This year, the board is pleased to present the "Indian" award to Stacy Grav.

Dave congratulated all award winners, and presented 2016 Board members with their service plaques, thanking them for their service.

The business meeting adjourned with a wish for happy holidays to all, followed by "the game".

Read the rules for car numbers at autocrosses.

They are in the downloadable SCCA Solo rulebook, section 3.7, page 33.

<http://www.scca.com/downloads/17208-2016-8-23-solo-rules-w-front-cover-reduced/download>

Hard to read numbers



Don't be this guy



Easy to read numbers



Be this guy



## Women of Southern Indiana Region of the Sports Car Club of America

Hello and welcome to the first ever Women of SIRSCCA committee. I am the chairwoman, MacKenzi Payne-Crowe (I drive the pink Miata), and my husband is Jonathan Crowe (he used to drive a white Corvette and now co-drives a black Pontiac Solstice with Richard Grav).

One of the main reasons this committee was created was to get women more involved SIRSCCA in any capacity and to help us develop bonds with other ladies. I would love any help on this committee and ideas that you may have. Some of my ideas are below:

1. An all Ladies autocross event
2. An all Ladies class at an open event
3. If this committee takes off and grows we will have committee meetings but at fun places like Painting with a Twist, Shopping trips, Sporting events, and so on (ideas accepted and appreciated)
4. To get nominations for Women's scholarships through SCCA to help improve your vehicles for race time
5. To potentially pair ladies up in groups of 2 or 3 to ride with each other and give other tips (new with a veteran)
6. To have fun and make new friends.

Of course, other ideas, thoughts, and potential activities are certainly welcome and appreciated as this is a brand-new thing to SIRSCCA. This is just a welcome message letting you know of some of the upcoming activities you can look forward to. If you know of other women who potentially may want in on the fun, please pass their email address along and I will reach out to them. I will be sending out a mailer in the near future as well.

Let's make this great!!!!!!

Thanks,

MacKenzi Payne-Crowe

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday January 3<sup>rd</sup>, Board meeting, Ciholas, Newburgh, everyone is welcome

Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup>, Membership Meeting, Smitty's Italian Steakhouse, 2109 W Franklin St, Evansville, IN 47712. Dinner is at 6:00 PM followed by the business meeting at 7:30 PM.

## **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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