



**SCCA Southern Indiana Region Monthly Newsletter April 2017 Volume 64 Number 4**

**April Report from Dave Lehrschall**

The Rally season is set to begin on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>! Paul Blaylock has put together our first points Rally of seven we plan to present this year. Paul has named this one, "Brew to Bru". The Rally registration and tech inspection will begin at 12:30 pm (Central) at the Donut Bank located at Plaza East, 5 N Green River Rd, Evansville, IN 47715. Paul says you are invited to arrive early and have a donut and coffee lunch. We should finish at around 4:30 pm.

Our Autocross season will begin on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> with a Test and Tune (no points) event. I will be the event marshal for both the May 20<sup>th</sup> event and our first points Autocross to held the next day on May 21<sup>st</sup>. The Test and Tune will run from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm at the Mid-American Air Center on Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, IL 62439. This will be a great opportunity to make handling adjustments and then run the course to see what setup works best for you and your car. This could be the day that you figure out your best tire pressure settings. This will also present a great value for weekend members. The cost will be \$30 for members and \$50 for non-members. Non-members can compete the next day for just \$30 if they participate in this event.

The Women of SIR are having a Ladies Autocross on Saturday, June 10, from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm at the Mid-American Air Center. The event will be an Autocross event for Ladies only. The cost will be \$30 for members and \$50 for non-members. Non-members can compete the next day for just \$30 if they participate in this event. We'll need help from all club members to put on this event. Guys, like our TMMI events, workers may get a sneak preview of the course for the next day's Autocross. Please commit to support this event and send an e-mail to me to confirm at [davelehrschall@aol.com](mailto:davelehrschall@aol.com). Contact Mackenzi Crowe if you think you may be competing in our Ladies-only Autocross.

Yesterday, I worked with a team that reviewed and marked the SIR Autocross area of the MAAC. It looks like a combination of really good work by recent Patch Party teams combined with perhaps a mild winter has left the "course" in pretty good shape. This means that we will be able to continue to expand our usable Autocross course options with several strategic repairs while still having plenty of time to make repairs to areas we have frequently driven over. Richard Grav and Jay Wolfe have gotten very good at creating what they call a "Thin Patch". They identified many opportunities to use this proven method to smooth edges or close smaller openings that we might have cut and jack-hammered out in the past. Along with Rich and Jay, Paul Dornburg, Ernie Roales, Bob Sonntag and I walked the area marking the areas we will cut out and refill. Bob is probably still working through the calculations for our planned concrete purchase and hasn't released the count of holes we plotted to dig but I believe we could be looking at only one Dig Day. Please keep an eye on our website regarding the Patch Party planning and Bonus Program!

The current plan calls for Cut day on Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup> and a Dig day on Sunday April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Fill day is planned for Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. The rain date for the fill date is Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Please check our website at [www.sirscca.org](http://www.sirscca.org) and follow us on Facebook to catch our current Southern Indiana Region activities.

You are invited to our next Membership meeting to join us for dinner and to talk about motorsports with our members. Our next meeting will be held at Smitty's Italian Steakhouse in Evansville on Tuesday, April 11, 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 Lehrschall

Regional Executive

Southern Indiana Region

**2017 Board Members**

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**SIR SCCA**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
March 7, 2017

Present: Dave Lehrschall, Regional Executive; Richard Grav, Assistant Regional Executive; Paul Blaylock, Activities Chair; Jr Crowe, Assistant Activities Chair; Bob Sonntag, Treasurer; Lora Blaylock, Secretary; MacKenzi Crowe, Women of SIR; Terry Davis, Stacy Grav, guests

Regional Executive Dave welcomed everyone to the meeting and called for officer reports. Treasurer Bob noted that he has ordered a new supply of waivers and weekend membership forms, which should arrive in time for the start of competition season. Activities Chair Paul Blaylock noted that a few events have been claimed by their Event Chairs/Rally Masters, but there are still plenty of dates to be filled. He is putting on Rally #1 on April 2, titled "Brew to Bru". It will start at The Donut Bank on Green River Road, where earlier that day a Cars and Coffee event will take place. Assistant Activities Chair Jr noted that he and MacKenzi attended the March Cars and Coffee - a diverse bunch of folks were there, and many were interested in hearing about SIR events. They plan to attend again in the future, and expect to pass out lots of our event date cards. Paul Dornburg reported that *Pit Stop* is out to press, and available on the web.

MacKenzi reported that Women of SIR met at Painting with a Twist on February 28, with a few new faces joining the fun. April will see the group meet at an Escape room, location and date to be announced. She asks for help from all in sharing information about Women of SIR - sharing events on social media, through the email system, word of mouth, etc. Assistant RE Richard reported continued progress on the website - it is live. Event Cards are updated for 2017 and will be available at next week's membership meeting. He will also make the card available on the website as a PDF. Dave reported that folks have been confirming their Autocross Numbers and Class. If you Autocrossed last year, that number is reserved for you. He also noted that he received a call from Kathy at SCCA Member Services about a lifetime membership for Dr. Jim Butler, a longtime SIR SCCA member who made significant national contributions in safety. Bob moved to waive Jim Butler's membership fee. The motion was seconded by Paul Dornburg and passed.

In Old Business, Bob reported that the Rally class was well received, with 7 persons in attendance. 3 hours is barely enough time to cover everything. Paul Dornburg reported that Don Kelley and Steve Yockey are on their way to becoming Solo Safety Stewards - they will need to assist at a few Autocrosses this year to complete their certification. Dave led the Autocross class in an abbreviated form that left a good deal of time for questions and answers. Bob noted that he responded to an email from National asking about our Rally Safety Stewards. While we have plenty of available RSS folks, it may be time to offer the class again. Thanks to Bob, Paul, and Dave for sharing their expertise!

Dave reported that May 20 is not a good date for a TMMI autocross or a Women of SIR event. Following discussion, it was moved, seconded, and decided to hold a test and tune day at the MAAC. Paul D (*Ed. Note: Dave will actually do these events*) will set up areas including turns, slalom, and perhaps a skid pad. Dave will check with TMMI about holding an autocross for them on September 16.

Paul Dornburg reported that he is doing a bit of research on affordable helmets for the club. He has found some open-face helmets (thehelmetshop.com) that are as cheap as \$60 each. He will do more research and coordinate purchasing with Bob.

In New Business, Patch Party details were discussed. Dave will contact SIR members to encourage folks to participate. The survey date is March 19, and Bob, Paul Dornburg, Richard, Dave, and Jay Wolf are expected to attend. Perhaps 2 colors could be used this year to mark cuts - one for must be fixed, and one for would be nice to fix. Paul Dornburg will circulate a map before the survey date so folks may mark potential fix spots. The board discussed concerns related to workdays and the Bonus Program. We ended up only needing one dig day last year, which shortened folks' chances for joining the bonus program. No changes are being made now but continued discussion is expected.

The Women of SIR are generating ideas for Ladies' events. Everyone can help by sharing information of the events on social media, particularly the Ladies' Autocross on June 10. There is interest in having ride-alongs and instructed course walks. Another idea is to meet socially on the Friday of autocross weekends and review the course, if available.

The Board discussed ideas to improve the autocross experience, particularly for newcomers. A dedicated meet-and-greet person could help folks get going on the day. Making a Frequently Asked Questions pamphlet available (on-site and online) would be helpful (for Rally, too!). Dave and Richard will work on an Autocross version. Richard also wants to encourage folks to get their annual waiver 'hard card' - it's free, and will save a bit of time with registration.

Dave is interested in finding a coordinator for Membership programs. He will contact Barry Schonberger. Program ideas offered included the worksheets from the Rally class.

Bob noted that the National Weekend Membership fee is increasing by \$5 this year. Without SIR also raising the weekend number, the club stands to lose between \$200 and \$300. Following discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved to raise Weekend Membership fees by \$5. Bob will update the fee schedule.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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**SIR SCCA**  
**Membership Meeting**  
March 14, 2017

Assistant Regional Executive Richard Grav called the meeting to order, noting the RE Dave Lehrschall is under the weather. Richard welcomed all, particularly new and returning members.

Treasurer Bob Sonntag reported the club has a positive balance in its accounts, with a few outstanding bills. He also noted that SIR logo patches are available for the bargain price of \$5 each. Activities Chair Paul Blaylock reminded all that we have events, and now is the time to claim your first place points by choosing an event to lead! Contact Paul with your preferred date for being a Rally Master or (Autocross) Event Chair. He also noted that he is tracking points already - don't forget that you earn points by attending meetings - and you can check on the point standings and the calendar in Pit Stop and on the website. Secretary Lora reminded all that minutes of Board and Membership meetings are also available for your information and reading pleasure in Pit Stop. Terry Davis moved that the assembly dispense with the reading of the minutes, which was seconded and agreed to by all.

In New Business, it was noted that a Test and Tune day has been added to the club calendar. Plan to head up to the MAAC on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> for your opportunity to try out all those refinements you've made to your car over the winter. It's also a chance for ride-alongs and friendly instruction. Watch your favorite information stream (email, social media) for details. And be sure to come back on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> for the first Autocross of the season.

Looking at upcoming events, Paul Blaylock is preparing for Rally #1, Brew to Bru. The April 2<sup>nd</sup> event will begin at the Donut Bank on Green River Road at 12:30. Earlier that day, a Cars and Coffee will be held there - so head out early and meet some new car folks! March 19<sup>th</sup> will see a group meet at MAAC at 9:30 a.m. for the Patch Party Prep Visit. If you are interested in helping, please send an email to the Board. The Patch Parties are set for late April - cut day on 4/21, dig days on 4/23 and 4/30, and the fill day on (Monday) May 1. (*Ed. Note: the schedule has changed, see paragraph elsewhere in this issue for correct dates*) Two full workdays (not including the prep and cut days) are required to enter the bonus program, so be sure to put them in your calendar. Many hands are particularly needed on fill day, so if you can, come!

Julia Yockey was the lucky winner of the door prize, a free entry to a competition event. As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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**WEEKEND MEMBERS TAKE NOTE**

The weekend membership fees will increase \$5 across the board. For most, that means the weekend membership fee charged at our autocross events will be \$20. There is no weekend membership fee for weekend members at our rally events. Our entry fees remain unchanged at \$30.

Our student and car club discounts will continue.

Bob Sonntag  
Treasurer, SIR/SCCA

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**Ladies of SIR SCCA**

Our next adventure will be April 25, 2017 at Breakout in Evansville. Please vote on which you would want to do as there are 2 options:

1. Casino @ 5:50pm
2. Hostage @ 6:00pm.

After the vote you will need to go to their website and sign up and since it is during the week there is a \$2.00 coupon. The address and phone # are listed below.

4903 Theater Dr  
Evansville, IN 47715  
Phone: 812-205-2821

I Can't wait to see you all there.

Thanks,  
MacKenzi Payne-Crowe  
Attorney at Law  
8400 Telephone Road  
Newburgh, IN 47630

2017 SIR/SCCA Schedule					
<b>April</b>					
4.02	Sun	12:30 PM	Pt Rally (1 of 7) "Brew to Bru" - Paul Blaylock	Donut Bank, Plaza East, 5 N Green River Rd Evansville, IN	
4.04	Tue	5:45 PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	Ciholas	
4.11	Tue	6:30 PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse	
4.22	Sat	10:00 AM	Patch Party -- Cut Day	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
4.23	Sun	9:00 AM	Patch Party -- Dig Day	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
4.25	Tue	5:50 PM	Women of SIR SCCA	Breakout - 4903 Theater Dr Evansville, IN 47715	
4.29	Sat	10:00 AM	Patch Party -- Fill Day	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
4.30	Sun	10:00 AM	Patch Party -- Fill Day rain date	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
<b>May</b>					
5.02	Tue	5:45 PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	Ciholas	
5.07	Sun	12:30 PM	Pt Rally (2 of 7) -- TBD	TBD	
5.09	Tue	6:30 PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse	
5.20	Sat	9:30 AM	Test and Tune Day -- Dave Lehrschall	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
5.21	Sun	9:30 AM	Pt Autocross (1 of 7) -- Dave Lehrschall	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
<b>June</b>					
6.04	Sun	12:30 PM	Pt Rally (3 of 7) -- Dave Lehrschall	TBD	
6.06	Tue	5:45 PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	Ciholas	
6.10	Sat	9:30 AM	Ladies Autocross -- MacKenzi Crowe	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
6.11	Sun	9:30 AM	Pt Autocross (2 of 7) -- MacKenzi Crowe	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
6.13	Tue	6:30 PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse	
<b>July</b>					
7.04	Tue	5:45 PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	Ciholas	
7.11	Tue	6:30 PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse	
7.16	Sun	9:30 AM	Pt Autocross (3 of 7) -- Terry Davis	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
7.23	Sun	9:30 AM	Pt Autocross (4 of 7) -- Richard Grav	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
<b>August</b>					
8.01	Tue	5:45 PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	Ciholas	
8.06	Sun	12:30 PM	Pt Rally (4 of 7) "Ice Cream Rally" - Paul Dornburg	Dairy Queen, 3224 New Hartford Rd. Owensboro, KY 42303	
8.08	Tue	6:30 PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Log Inn, 12491 County Rd 200 E Haubstadt IN 47639	
8.20	Sun	9:30 AM	Pt Autocross (5 of 7) -- Jon Crowe	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
<b>September</b>					
9.05	Tue	5:45 PM	Board Meeting?? (guests welcome)	Ciholas	
9.10	Sun	12:30 PM	Pt Rally (5 of 7) -- Ben Davis	TBD	
9.12	Tue	6:30 PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse	
9.16	Sat	TBD	Proposed TMMI Autocross day	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
9.17	Sun	9:30 AM	Pt Autocross (6 of 7) -- Paul Dornburg	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
<b>October</b>					
10.01	Sun	12:30 PM	Pt Rally (6 of 7) -- Steve Yockey	TBD	
10.03	Tue	5:45 PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	Ciholas	
10.08	Sun	9:30 AM	Pt Autocross (7 of 7) -- Ernie Roales	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville	
10.10	Tue	6:30 PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse	
<b>November</b>					
11.05	Sun	12:30 PM	Pt Rally (7 of 7) -- Bob Sonntag	TBD	
11.07	Tue	5:45 PM	Board Meeting (guests welcome)	Ciholas	
11.14	Tue	6:30 PM	Membership Meeting (dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30)	Smitty's Italian Steakhouse	
11.25	Sat	End of Day	Awards Banquet Reservations Are Due!	Respond to treasurer@sirscga.org	
11.26	Sun	8:00 AM	Fun Autocross	Roberts Park location, EVV	
<b>December</b>					
12.01	Fri	6:30 PM	Awards Banquet & Holiday Party	Rolling Hills County Club, Newburgh, IN	
12.05	Tue	5:45 PM	Possible Board Meeting (guests welcome)	TBD	

## Patch Party Work Days

In April we will have our annual Patch Party work days to repair the autocross course at Mid-American Air Center near Lawrenceville, IL.

There will be 3 days of work and 2 of those days will pay dividends for those that work.

\*\*You do not have to be a club member to earn bonus runs!\*\*

Cut Day will be Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

- We'll need a couple of volunteers for the Saturday Cut Day. No Berry points, no bonus runs awarded.

Dig Day will be Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>

- We'll need everyone for this Sunday Dig Day as it may be a long day. We are going to get all the digging done this day.
- If you attend AND work all day you will be rewarded with Berry points AND 1 bonus run at each autocross.
- This work will be done rain or shine so bring appropriate clothing. If it looks like rain get a rain suit and boots. You won't regret it.

Fill Day will be Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>

- We'll need everyone for the Saturday Fill Day.
- If you attend AND work all day you will be rewarded with Berry points AND 1 bonus run at each autocross.
- If it rains at the Mid-American Air center on this day we will do the filling the next day on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

If you earn 1 bonus run, because you worked just one of the two days that awarded runs, you will have to take it in your first run heat, no exceptions.

If you earn 2 bonus runs you will have to take one in each heat you run.

Send an email to [PatchParty@sirscga.org](mailto:PatchParty@sirscga.org) with the days you intend to work and you will receive a confirming email in return.

Your reply email should look like this:

Cut Day 4/22 – Yes

Dig Day 4/23 – Yes

Fill Day 4/29 – Yes

Your name in the response

Please reply as soon as possible!

## **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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### Upcoming Events

Tuesday April 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:45 pm. Board meeting, Ciholas, Newburgh, everyone is welcome

Tuesday April 11<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.

Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 5:50 pm, Ladies of SIR SCCA, Breakout, 4903 Theater Dr., Evansville, IN 47715

### Patch Party Days

Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Cut Day, Mid America Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL

Sunday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Dig Day, Mid America Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL

Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>, Fill Day, Mid America Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL

Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup>, Fill Day rain date, Mid America Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL