



# The Pit Stop



SCCA Southern Indiana Region Monthly Newsletter January 2024 Volume 71 Number 1

# Happy New Year!

## January RE Report



Wow! What a crazy end to the year! The Crowe's have had some battles since my last letter was written.

We have battled Christmas decorations,

family illness, and all the parties you're supposed to be at this season.

Speaking of seasons, the BOD has been talking about the upcoming seasons here at SIR. This year is going to start off differently with the eclipse that is coming in April. We will be pushing back the patch party efforts until after the eclipse event at MAAC. Plan all your getaways before April so you don't miss the workdays and

miss your bonus runs for the autocross events. I can't speak for everyone, but I have won and lost by a bonus run in the past.

We have our year end banquet coming at Smitty's on January 16<sup>th</sup>. It should be a lot of fun, I know there will be gifts, and prizes. In addition to that we will have some first-time trophy winners and some repeat winners. Please come out and have some fun with us and cheer on your favorite competitors and friends. Information about the banquet is on the next page.

Let's be honest, some of our best battles through the year might not even be for a trophy. Bragging rights can trump a trophy in a split second.

I expect to see some great things in 2024 from our club. We have been brainstorming some new ideas

and ways to grow the club and get more folks to participate in the events. I welcome all feedback good or bad from the membership in helping us achieve this. The BOD can only do so much "I WANT YOU" and your ideas. I am pulling at my memories of the Uncle Sam commercials.

I hope to see some or all of you reading this letter at events this year. Make a New Year's resolution to try something different in the club this year that you haven't done before. Patch party, rally, meetings, and autocross are some of the great options you have!!

Jr. Crowe  
Regional Executive  
Sports Car Club of America  
812-629-8237

## 2024 Board Members

Regional Executive  
Assistant Regional Executive  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Activity Chair  
Assistant Activity Chair  
Women's Chair  
Advisor  
Newsletter Editor/Website

Jonathan Crowe 812-629-8237  
Jarrod Davis 812-890-0594  
Ernie Roales 618-544-1602  
Bob Sonntag 812-477-5936  
Steve Backer 812-639-8103  
Jim Cannon 812-789-3517  
Dawn Sturgeon 812-719-7864  
Terry Davis 812-453-1376  
Paul Dornburg 270-314-9069

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**Annual Awards Banquet  
& Membership Meetings  
January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
Smitty's in Evansville at 5:45 P.M.

The 2023 awards presentation will be held at the January membership meeting. The meeting will also serve as the December 2023 membership meeting to allow for the proper (but belated) club officer installation.

It's a "buy-your-own" affair this time around.

Make your reservation:


- Before: 1/14/2024, noon
- Best way: [treasurer@sirscca.org](mailto:treasurer@sirscca.org)
- By phone: 812-477-5936 ask for Bob
- All reservations will be confirmed in a day. No confirmation?

Follow-up.

The gathering time is 5:45 P.M. with the business meeting and awards at approx. 7:00. "The Game" will follow.

Dress: It's the awards banquet! Business casual or dressier, please.

Still More Information: - Email or phone your questions to [treasurer@sirscca.org](mailto:treasurer@sirscca.org) or Bob at 812-477-5936.



## **SIR/SCCA Board Meeting December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Called to Order by RE John Crowe at 7:02 at Smitty's.

### **OFFICER REPORTS**

- **SECRETARY:** ERnie Roales moved to accept as published, second by Jeff Jackson, motion carried.
- **TREASURER:** Bob Sonntag reported a balance of \$8,560.14.
- **PIT STOP Editor:** Paul Dornburg announced a deadline of 12/27 and asked everyone to submit summaries of their year.
- All the others present had no report.
- Assistant Activities Chair, Jim Cannon, is absent because of work.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Pylons are sorted and in the storage trailer thanks to Bob Sonntag and ERnie Roales.
- 2024 Schedule
- Women of SIR – No activities to list at this time.
- Winter/Spring fun Solos – Roberts Park still unavailable, other sites discussed.
- The “spare” MAAC Solo date in October has become a fun event.
- Bob Sonntag discussed hosting a divisional rally. Schedule a ZOOM meeting to explore. He may need more info first.
- Fun/gimmick rally proposed for the Saturday of Palm Sunday (3/23). No event chair was identified.
- 2023 Awards “Banquet”
- 2023 awards will be presented at the membership meeting on January 16th at Smitty's. Event info via MSR, Pit Stop, and spam.
- All traveling trophies and service plaques are turned in.
- This will be a buy-your-own event, ordering from the menu.
- Business casual or dressier is suggested.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Charitable Gift: Although not needed this year, ERnie Roales moved to donate \$100 to the MAAC Foundation, second by Terry Davis. After some discussion, the motion was amended by ERnie and Terry to make the donation \$200. Motion carried.
- Indian Award: After discussion, and a nomination or two, the consensus was not to award it this year.
- Patch Parties: Recon in March; descriptions of the days' efforts wording was discussed and clarified.
- Great Lakes Division meeting: Fort Wayne on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.
- Several may attend to investigate holding divisional events.
- By-Law Review Committee: Due to some By-Law revisions being needed and per the By-Laws a committee of Paul Dornburg, Bob Sonntag, Dave Lehrschall, and Jarrod Davis was named.
- Advisor to the Board: Motion by Jeff Jackson, second by Bob Sonntag for Terry Davis to hold the position of Advisor for 2024. Motion carried.
- Weekend Vs Trial Memberships: This topic was discussed with no changes to our policies. We need a better process for dealing with Trial memberships (the one-time-only free option) to ensure that we get signed paperwork for these. That's not easily done through MSR. This is primarily an issue at rally events.

### **NEXT MEETINGS**

- **BOARD:** Tuesday, January 2nd, 6:30 pm via ZOOM
- **MEMBERSHIP:** Tuesday, January 16th, at 5:45 at Smitty's for socializing, meeting at 7:00. Meeting to include officer installation, year-end awards, and “The Game” to follow.

Motion by Jeff Jackson to adjourn. Numerous seconds. Motion carried.

## Reminder: Is your driver's license up to date in MSR? Here's how to update it.

- Sign in to MSR.
- Go to your account.
- Click on your Profile.
- In the area of the page titled "Memberships", click on edit for the Southern Indiana Region (it's on the extreme right)
- Update your Driver's License expiration date.
- Update your annual waiver status.
- Update your cell phone number.
- Done

Don't see your birthday? Maybe your information in the SCCA members access portal is not up to date.

You can update it at [my.scca.com](http://my.scca.com)

The club has 148 members as of 1/3/2024.

### Anniversaries and Birthdays

#### January Birthdays

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| Lee Lingo        | 1/3  |
| Danny Croslow    | 1/5  |
| Tatsuo Noda      | 1/5  |
| Wilson Welch     | 1/6  |
| Gene Young       | 1/7  |
| Stephen Vitale   | 1/12 |
| MacKenzi Crowe   | 1/15 |
| David Lehrschall | 1/16 |
| Dave Hostetter   | 1/25 |
| O D Davis        | 1/26 |
| Cooper Lilly     | 1/26 |
| Scott Campbell   | 1/29 |
| Dennis Elliott   | 1/30 |

#### January Anniversaries

|                 |            |    |      |
|-----------------|------------|----|------|
| Dennis Elliott  | 01/01/1971 | 53 | Yrs. |
| Jan Bootz       | 01/01/1974 | 50 | Yrs. |
| Wilson Welch    | 01/12/2012 | 12 | Yrs. |
| Stacey Grav     | 01/13/2015 | 8  | Yrs. |
| Cooper Wink     | 01/04/2021 | 3  | Yrs. |
| Graham Wink     | 01/04/2021 | 3  | Yrs. |
| Gary Scarbrough | 01/28/2022 | 2  | Yrs. |

### TLDR

- Solo Safety Steward Training is available online. Follow this link: [Solo Safety Steward Training](#) and sign up. We always need Solo Safety Stewards. At some autocrosses last year we only had 2 available SSS. We need more!
- Get your 2024 annual waiver online right now. Don't put it off!
- The Board is considering putting on a Divisional Road Rally. More details coming.
- SCCA program fees did not increase for 2024. That means our entry fees will stay the same as 2023.
- Our By-Laws need to be updated. ( [SIR By-Laws](#) ) A committee of 4 people has been formed to review the document and provide an update.
- The SCCA National Convention is coming up in a week. You can find information about it here. [SCCA National Convention](#)
- Long time club members Julie and Gene Young are selling their home. You can see it here. [Young House for Sale](#)
- There was some EV trash talking on our email list. Did you see it?
- It's likely the Patch Party reconnaissance visit to MAAC will take place in the week of March 25<sup>th</sup>, an email announcement will be made.
- The SCCA has announced 2 new [Spec Classes](#). [Spec Mustang \(CSM\)](#) and [Spec Miata \(CSX\)](#)
- The 2024 schedule is included in this issue. The dates for autocrosses at MAAC are provisional pending approval from the Illinois FAA.

## SIR/SCCA 2024 Calendar

**NOTE: All autocross dates are provisional!**

| Date            | Day | Time               | Event   | Location   |
|-----------------|-----|--------------------|---|--|
| <b>January</b>  |     |                    |   |  |
| 1.01            | Mon |                    | New Year's Day  |  |
| 1.02            | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |
| 1.15            | Mon |                    | M L King Day  |  |
| 1.16            | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | December & January Membership Meetings w/ 2023 Awards Banquet<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM. | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |
| 1.18            | Thu | 6:30 PM            | SCCA National Convention - Highlight: Annual Meeting  | Online   |
| 1.19            | Fri | 5:30 PM            | SCCA National Convention - Highlight: Convention Kick Off   | Online   |
| 1.20            | Sat | 3:00 PM            | SCCA National Convention - Highlight: RoadRally Program Direction,  | Online   |
| 1.21            | Sun | 3:00 PM            | SCCA National Convention - Highlights: RoadRally Town Hall & all program awards   | Online   |
| 1.22            | Mon | 11:00 AM           | SCCA National Convention - Highlight: Solo Program Direction  | Online   |
| 1.23            | Tue | 1:00 PM            | SCCA National Convention - Highlight: Insurance/Risk Mgt & Solo Safety  | Online   |
| 1.24            | Wed | 4:00 PM            | SCCA National Convention - Highlights: Solo Rule Book Trivia & Solo Town Hall   | Online   |
| 1.25            | Thu | 2:00 PM            | SCCA National Convention - Highlights: SCCA Archives  | Online   |
| 1.26            | Fri | 7:00 PM            | SCCA National Convention - Highlight: Women on Track  | Online   |
| <b>February</b> |     |                    |   |  |
| 2.06            | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |
| 2.13            | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.             | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |
| 2.14            | Wed |                    | Valentine's Day   |  |
| 2.19            | Mon |                    | President's Day   |  |
| 2.24            | Sat | 9:00 AM            | Cabin Fever Vaccination Drive (Evansville, IN to The Overlook, Leavenworth, IN)   | TBD  |
| <b>March</b>    |     |                    |   |  |
| 3.01            | Fri |                    | Great Lakes Division Convention - Travel Day  |  |
| 3.02            | Sat |                    | Great Lakes Division Convention   | Ft Wayne, IN   |
| 3.03            | Sun |                    | Great Lakes Division Convention - Travel Day  |  |
| 3.05            | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |
| 3.09            | Sat | 9:15 AM            | Rally School  | TBD, Evansville, IN  |
| 3.12            | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.             | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |
| 3.17            | Sun | 12:30 PM           | Rally -- Championship Event 1 of 7 - Bob Sonntag  | TBD  |
| 3.23            | Sat | 12:30 PM           | Fun, Gimmick, or Game Rally?  | TBD  |
| 3.23            | Sat |                    | Spring Break Begins -- EVSC Schools<br>Spring Break Begins -- Warrick County Schools  |  |
| 3.24            | Sun |                    | Palm Sunday   |  |
| 3.25-29         | TBD | 9:00 AM            | MAAC Patch Recon (one weekday)  | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| 3.31            | Sun |                    | Easter Sunday<br>Spring Break Ends -- EVSC Schools<br>Spring Break Ends -- Warrick County Schools   |  |
| <b>April</b>    |     |                    |   |  |
| 4.02            | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |
| 4.07            | Sun | TBD                | Solar Eclipse - Arrival Day   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL                           |
| 4.08            | Mon | TBD                | Solar Eclipse - "The" Day   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL                           |
| 4.09            | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.             | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |
| 4.13            | Sat | 9:00 AM            | MAAC Patch Recon (Fallback Date)  | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| 4.20            | Sat | 9:00 AM            | MAAC Patch Day 1a - Cut, Dig, & Patch   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| 4.21            | Sun | 9:00 AM            | MAAC Patch Day 1b - Cut, Dig, & Patch   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| 4.27            | Sat | 9:00 AM            | MAAC Patch Day 2a - Cut, Dig, & Patch -OR- Pouring Day  | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| 4.28            | Sun | 9:00 AM            | MAAC Patch Day 2a - Cut, Dig, & Patch (May be cancelled if the patching completed.)   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| <b>May</b>      |     |                    |   |  |
| 5.04            | Sat | 8:00 AM            | MAAC Patch Day 3 - Pouring Day (May be cancelled if the patching completed.)  | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| 5.05            | Sun | 9:00 AM            | Cars & Coffee   | Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN                               |
| 5.07            | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |
| 5.11            | Sat | 8:00 AM            | MAAC Patch Day 4 - Pouring Day (Rain Date)  | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| 5.12            | Sun |                    | Mother's Day  |  |
| 5.14            | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.             | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |
| 5.19            | Sun | 12:30 PM           | Rally -- Championship Event 2 of 7 - Ernie Roales   | TBD  |
| 5.27            | Mon |                    | Memorial Day  |  |
| 6.01            | Sat | 9:00 AM            | AX -- Test-n-Tune Event - Dave Lehrschall   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| 6.02            | Sun | 9:00 AM            | AX -- Championship Event 1 of 7 - Dave Lehrschall   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |
| 6.04            | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |
| 6.11            | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.             | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |
| 6.16            | Sun |                    | Father's Day  |  |
| 6.23            | Sun | 12:30 PM           | Rally -- Championship Event 3 of 7 - Karen & Harold Davis   | TBD  |
| 6.30            | Sun | 9:00 AM            | AX -- Championship Event 2 of 7   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |

## SIR/SCCA 2024 Calendar

**NOTE: All autocross dates are provisional!**

| July      |     |                    |   |  |  |
|-----------|-----|--------------------|---|--|--|
| 7.02      | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |  |
| 7.04      | Thu |                    | Independence Day  |  |  |
| 7.07      | Sun | 9:00 AM            | Cars & Coffee   | Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN                               |  |
| 7.09      | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM. | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |  |
| 7.14      | Sun | 9:00 AM            | AX -- Championship Event 3 of 7 - Quick & Dirty Ver. 7.14 - Ernie Roales  | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |  |
| 7.28      | Sun | 9:00 AM            | AX -- Championship Event 4 of 7 - Jon Schwartze   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |  |
| August    |     |                    |   |  |  |
| 8.04      | Sun | 12:30 PM           | Rally -- Championship Event 4 of 7 - Sue & Dave Lehrschall  | Owensboro, KY  |  |
| 8.06      | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |  |
| 8.13      | Tue | 6:15 PM            | Membership Meeting at The Log Inn. <b>Reservations req'd. Email treasurer@sirscca.org.</b>                                    | The Log Inn<br>12491 County Road 200 East, Warrenton, IN             |  |
| 8.25      | Sun | 9:00 AM            | AX -- Championship Event 5 of 7 - WOOP DEE DO! - Paul Dornburg  | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |  |
| 8.27      | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |  |
| September |     |                    |   |  |  |
| 9.01      | Sun | 9:00 AM            | Cars & Coffee   | Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN                               |  |
| 9.02      | Mon |                    | Labor Day   |  |  |
| 9.03      | Tue |                    | 2024 Solo Nationals   | Lincoln Air Park, Lincoln, NE  |  |
| 9.04      | Wed |                    | 2024 Solo Nationals   | Lincoln Air Park, Lincoln, NE  |  |
| 9.05      | Thu |                    | 2024 Solo Nationals   | Lincoln Air Park, Lincoln, NE  |  |
| 9.06      | Fri |                    | 2024 Solo Nationals   | Lincoln Air Park, Lincoln, NE  |  |
| 9.10      | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM. | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |  |
| 9.15      | Sun | 9:00 AM            | AX -- Championship Event 6 of 7   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |  |
| 9.29      | Sun | 9:00 AM            | AX -- Championship Event 7 of 7 - Jarrod Davis  | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |  |
| October   |     |                    |   |  |  |
| 10.01     | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |  |
| 10.06     | Sun | 9:00 AM            | AX -- Fun Autocross - Board   | Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, I                            |  |
| 10.08     | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM. | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |  |
| 10.12     | Sat | 12:30 PM           | Rally -- Championship Event 5 of 7 -- "World-Famous Ice Cream Rally"  | TBD  |  |
| 10.27     | Sun | 12:30 PM           | Rally -- Championship Event 6 of 7 - Bob Sonntag  | TBD  |  |
| November  |     |                    |   |  |  |
| 11.03     | Sun | 9:00 AM            | Cars & Coffee   | Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN                               |  |
| 11.05     | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | ZOOM<br>- Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.                |  |
| 11.10     | Sun | 12:30 PM           | Rally -- Championship Event 7 of 7 - Josie & Jr. Crowe  | TBD  |  |
| 11.12     | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM. | Smitty's Italian Restaurant<br>2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville |  |
| 11.28     | Thu |                    | Thanksgiving  |  |  |
| December  |     |                    |   |  |  |
| 12.03     | Tue | 6:30 PM            | Christmas Board Meeting<br>- All members welcome.   | TBD  |  |
| 12.10     | Tue | 5:45 PM<br>7:00 PM | Membership Meeting & Awards Banquet<br>- All members welcome.   | TBD  |  |
| 12.24     | Tue |                    | Christmas Eve   |  |  |
| 12.25     | Wed |                    | Christmas   |  |  |
| 12.31     | Tue |                    | New Year's Eve  |  |  |

## 2024 Schedule of Competitions

This schedule is not finalized. We expect all the dates to stay as they are but there may be changes to the final draft.

We're going to try to get the event marshals lined up earlier this year. I've listed last year's events below with their dates and the corresponding event marshal along with this year's (unofficial) date. If anyone willing to fill an event marshal spot could reply back, it would be greatly appreciated. The schedule has shifted to the right a bit. If there are any comments or questions or if I made any errors, please don't hesitate to call, text or e-mail

Thanks,  
Steve B.

Activities Chair  
812-639-8103

## 2024 Board of Directors



**Regional Executive:** Jonathan Crowe, also known as Jr., is starting his 8<sup>th</sup> year on the Board, his third as RE. He joined the SCCA in July of 2010 and was persuaded to join the board in 2016. His primary interest is autocross, but after he and daughter Josie did quite well in the rally season, rallies may be getting more of his interest. Jr. finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 2023 autocross points driving Kenzi, the Crowe family Porsche Cayman S. He was 3<sup>rd</sup> in rally points and 1<sup>st</sup> in Berry points this year.



**Assistant Regional Executive:** Jarrod Davis is the newest member of the Board. He is the 2023 Rookie of the Year based on his participation mostly in autocross. In 2023 he finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the autocross point standings. He will be the backup for Jr. He started autocrossing in 2020 off and on. In late 2022 he became a regular and joined the SIR SCCA. He mainly competes in autocrosses and drive in HPDE events when he can. He has a pretty advanced sim racing rig at home, and he competes in a sim racing league and races in his free time as well.



**Secretary:** Ernie Roales has been an SCCA member since 2009 and is starting his 4<sup>th</sup> year as club secretary. He intends to compete for all the club trophies in 2024 although his philosophy is to just compete and let the points accumulate. ERnie has been the event marshal for a few autocrosses known as "Quick & Dirty". In 2023 ERnie and his wife Sue were 4<sup>th</sup> in rally points. He finished 4<sup>th</sup> in Berry points, 4<sup>th</sup> in SIR autocross points and was 1<sup>st</sup> in D Street class in the Great Lakes Division Solo Series.



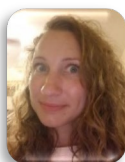
**Treasurer:** Bob Sonntag is a long-time SCCA member, 43 years, most of which has been spent on our board. His last break from the board was from 2001 to 2002 as a ripple of moving to Phoenix, AZ and back. He's held most of the positions available over the years. He's won the club's Berry Trophy many, many times as well as the Autocross and Rally trophies many times. He has received the Indian Award. His favorite SCCA activity is Time/Speed/Distance rallying. He enjoys putting them on as well as competing. In 2023, he was 3<sup>rd</sup> in Berry points, 1<sup>st</sup> in rally points, and finished 21<sup>st</sup> in autocross points...running an SUV.



**Activities Chair:** Steve Backer starts his 2<sup>nd</sup> year on the Board after being a club member since 2002. Steve autocrosses a white 2015 Scion FR-S or a 1969 Datsun Roadster depending on the day. He was 12<sup>th</sup> in 2023 SIR autocross points and tied for 9<sup>th</sup> in Berry points. He'll be the person who records your point totals for our programs and will also be asking people to be event chairs. He attends most of the club meetings and autocrosses so look for him there.



**Assistant Activity Chairman:** Jim Cannon starts his 2<sup>nd</sup> year as the AAC. Jim is no stranger to this job having held the title in years past. Jim finished 5<sup>th</sup> in 2023 Berry points, he tied for 6<sup>th</sup> in rally points, and finished 4<sup>th</sup> in autocross points. You'll see Jim at autocrosses when you check in and get tech'd.



**Women's Chair:** Dawn Sturgeon is now starting her 4<sup>th</sup> year on the Board. She joined our region in 2016 and autocross is her primary interest although she has entered a few rallies. She has been to the Solo Nationals 4 times competing in D Street in her Subaru and most recently in F Street in her 2017 Mustang GT. In 2023 she was 14<sup>th</sup> in autocross points, tied for 22<sup>nd</sup> in rally points and 11<sup>th</sup> in Berry points. She has been nurturing her daughter Michelle in autocrosses for the past few years.



**Pit Stop Newsletter editor:** Paul Dornburg has been on the Board every year since 2000 except 2014. Paul joined the SCCA in 1996 and it took 4 years for Ken Andrew to talk him into joining the Board. Paul starts his 15<sup>th</sup> year as the newsletter editor. He also had a 5-year stint as Regional Executive 2006 to 2010. Paul's favorite club activity is autocrossing where he's been the autocross points champion for the last 6 years and 12 times since 2000. He also has a rally championship somewhere in the 20+ years he's been with the club. This year he was first in autocross points, 4<sup>th</sup> in rally points and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Berry points.

## MAAC Attack 2024 (aka Patch Parties)

Each year our board makes plans and takes actions that commit the region's members and families to supporting those decisions with time and talent. In this article, I am sharing my own opinion and my insight as an insider. I'm not speaking for the board.

In 2023 the Board committed to providing labor to help the Mid-American Air Center (MAAC) with its Solar Eclipse 2024 activities. Our duties are still to be determined. Here's the link to what's been shared about the eclipse activities at the MAAC. [Mid-American Air Center Eclipse 2024](#) Stay tuned for more information on this activity. This effort will help strengthen and maintain our relationship with the MAAC. It will also increase the value we bring to the MAAC.

For many years the region's biggest commitments have been linked to our annual patching effort at the MAAC. The region commits significant funds to the effort and members and friends make significant contributions of time, effort, and for some a little treasure too. Mostly, it is time, effort, and Advil after the fact.

As in recent years, working patching days will qualify anyone (member or not) for the bonus program. The bonus program rewards those helping with the patching effort with an extra scored run in each of our autocross heats. Roughly, it's work half the patching events and earn one bonus run per event. Working the correct combination of two patching activities results in two bonus runs per event.

The board and patch party leadership strive to make the patching work schedule available as early as possible and accommodating to all. The latter part is a nearly impossible task! (Think of it as herding pigeons.) The patching is always subject to weather. We've learned that we can cut and dig in the cold and wet if we must. We cannot quick patch or pour concrete in rain or extreme cold. The amount of work that can be done on any given day is subject to the weather, the size of our workforce, and the ability and skills of the workforce present.

In 2023, in consultation with all that had registered to work a patching day, the schedule was changed on very short notice to accommodate those working and to take advantage of the weather forecast. Later, not everyone was pleased. Some had not yet registered to work a future weekend and were not present. Thus, those few not present were not included when those on-site discussed & agreed to push through and complete the job early. Hence, this big heads-up on the plan for this year's patching and what could happen again as the work proceeds.

As always, the plan is to reconnoiter the MAAC in early spring, mark what those present agree needs to be fixed, and return to fix the problems by replacing the concrete or covering bad spots with a quick patch material. If there's little work to be done or it goes very well, all the currently planned days may not be needed. A day not needed will likely be cancelled.

The short version: YOU must EVALUATE and PLAN ACCORDINGLY. What's more valuable to you? A few weekends in April and May or your year of potential bonus runs? The board cannot succeed in pleasing everyone. We can do no more than try and share the plan early.

So, all that said...

- 1) The region has yet to find a more motivating incentive to encourage participation in our patching effort. Got a better idea? Share it with me. My contact info is below. I will pass it along. The region has not found an alternative site either.
- 2) Make a serious effort to work the first weekend of cutting, digging, & patching. Work at least a full day that weekend and become qualified for one bonus run.
- 3) Make a serious effort to work the pouring day. April 27th or May 5th. There will be only one pouring day. Working the pouring day qualifies one for a bonus run. The rain date is May 11th. Reserve this date for SIR too. Do that just in case the first attempt to pour concrete is rained out.
- 4) Make a good plan to be able to work the second weekend of cutting, digging, & patching. If the first weekend finishes the planned cutting, digging, & patching then all or some of this weekend will likely be canceled and thus it may not qualify any one for a bonus run.
- 5) Register for each day you plan to work. The event will be available soon on MSR.

<http://msreg.com/2024-PATCH-PARTIES>

Please note that we do not measure the amount of work individuals perform. We only expect some reasonable effort aligned with individual abilities. We have a wide range of jobs. Jackhammering, mucking holes, shoveling rock, sweeping, mostly driving chores, & running backpack blowers, etc. We may not have a job for everyone; but, we will have one for you.

The thinking behind the schedule is that it's now January and the plan is for April. We will not learn how much patching will need to happen until mid-to-late March. Then we must wait until after the last MAAC solar eclipse activity (April 8) before we can attack the tasks.

Remember, we are all volunteers. If you have not been happy with how the patching efforts have been managed, step-up to a leadership role in the project. Help is available. Everyone will want you to succeed! Otherwise, show up, channel your servant heart (I can almost proofread that now without smirking) and vent life's frustrations into helping fix a hole in some concrete like your told! 😊

Have any questions? Email me directly via [bob.sonntag@att.net](mailto:bob.sonntag@att.net) or if you're concerned about getting the tone right in your email, call me via 812-477-5936.

Bob Sonntag



## My 2023 SIR Year

Bob Sonntag

In each of my years in the Southern Indiana Region, I've participated in nearly all region activities. This year that's been patching work at the Mid-American Air Center, autocrossing, road rallying, and taking a role in region leadership through board service. This year was my tenth year as Treasurer and about the thirty-somethingth on the board. Staying busy in the region sure makes the SIR years go by quickly.

This year, I chased Ernie Roales through much of the year in Barry Points and finally nipped him with a first-in-class at the last rally of the year when Ernie and Sue Roales had an oops in that rally's final leg. I'll finish the year third in Barry Points and first in rally championship.

In chronological order, the highlights of my SCCA year are:

- Event Support Spreadsheet – At a board meeting early in the year Paul Dornburg shared the number of hours he had been spending for each autocross getting the run-work order, event check-in, and worker check-in forms ready. He then spent more time at each event entering the registration information into the scoring system. I know because I helped him enter it at a few events. Paul and Carolyn Dornburg are regular Saturday crew setting up for our Sunday autocross events. Every AX weekend is a longer one Team Dornburg.

With a bit of programming work, I wrote an application that takes a file downloaded from MSR to create the event check-in, run-work order, worker check-in form, AND a diskette file for loading registrations into our autocross timing system. This gives Paul a few hours back on event eves and a little more back on event mornings. The file loads in seconds and does not introduce typos. It takes a whole lot longer to enter that info by hand and then check it. Paul does *SO* much for the club. This was an easy way to repay him for all he does for us. A little time and energy spent on friends is always a great investment.

- "World-Famous Ice Cream Rally" – Terry Davis and I ran the ICR for the umpteenth time. After a very brutal start to our day, we were doing well on the rally. We missed a mangled sign (that all were warned about) in the first leg and needed a Time Allowance to finish the leg -2. After three controls we had recovered from the foolish mistake and have only four points (-2, +1, & +1) at the break. Dave & Suellen Lehrsall are there. Terry talks to Dave. Dave's got a big smile. Dave saunters over to me. Team Lehrsall is ROCKIN'! Three points with two zeros! DAMN!! We're down by one. Terry and I get a zero. That'll *probably* help for sure. We collected a mere 6 points on the last two controls. We finished the route with a 10! Our best score ever! Damn-near a single digit final score! Terry notices that on his backup device we show a 9. DAMN! So close, but now we have a 2024 goal.
- "Crowe's Circus" – Paul Dornburg mentored Jr and Josie Crowe with writing their first rally. It had a quick and nearly invisible opp in a free zone. The result was that Terry Davis and I had a very embarrassing off. When you're lost in a free zone, get *really, really* lost! Okay, don't; but that's what we seemed to do. It was embarrassing, not painful. We were also slow to recover. Hugs and kisses. Thanks Jr! But didn't need a TA and finished the event with the lowest score of all. We did not zero control; yet still managed to better Harold & Karen Davis, who did zero a control, and are frequently too close right behind us. I guess we should not have giggled when Harold and Karen added an extra right turn on the way to the odometer check.
- "POR" – Back when stage rally was still an SCCA thing, I learned of the "Press On Regardless" rally. I've always thought that was a great name for a rally. Anyway, this year one thing led to another, and I ended up in the POR sweep vehicle. Even in the age of smart phones, sweep is still a needed rally function. That's especially true in areas without cell coverage and with routes using roads that might not see a car a week. So said the rallymaster. Running sweep was a great way to experience these two days of T/S/D rally without the pressure of competing or finding a partner up for a 600+ mile trip to two days of 225-mile rallies, and then the 600+ mile trip home.

It was darn good fun. I was thoroughly impressed by the low scores. Sure, the max checkpoint score was only 30 and with 107 scored controls in 225 miles, one can only get so wrong between checkpoints. Friday's event finished with 8 of 25 cars averaging less than one point per checkpoint. Saturday's had 9 of 31 cars averaging less than one point per checkpoint. Those scores just floored me.

- Late this year I was asked/selected/elected to serve a term on the SCCA RoadRally board. (I'm going to have difficulties with the SCCA liking the program name without the space. It's kind of like Ernie Roales's thing for "ERnie" references. Just ain't proper; looks like a typo.)

I'm looking forward to being able to contribute to an SCCA program that I enjoy immensely. Alas, it may also mean having to pay attention to and put serious energy into those goofy rules proposals that several of us have chuckled about. Rounding rules, measurement points, and do car tires have significant (as measurable by an odometer) changes in diameter at typical rally speeds over the distance of a rally?

This could become *quite THE* adventure of my time in the SCCA.

That's a quick – or perhaps not – recap of my busy and fun year in the Southern Indiana Region. I hope we all find 2024 an enjoyable year of having #funwithcars.

## My Year in Review – Paul Dornburg

2023 started off with my usual trip to Tulsa for the Chili Bowl which meant forfeiting 1 Berry point. If you want to be a contender for the Berry Trophy, the club participation award, you need to get to the club meetings because they are the easiest way to add to your point total. I attended a lot of the SCCA National Convention meetings on Whova and picked up all kinds of information regarding the operation of the SCCA most notably insurance.

In February I took another trip, this time to Daytona to visit longtime racing friends. This trip also cost me 1 meeting Berry point. Now I'm behind by 2. I didn't go to the rally at the end of the month so that cost me 2 Berry points.

I missed the March club meeting, another Berry point lost, because of a trip to Nashville for a family related event. March had the first two of our Patch Parties at Mid-American Air Center (MAAC) where we cut, dug and patched concrete.

The first weekend in April we poured concrete to finish our yearly course improvement work. Those workdays are tough especially when the weather is cold and this time it was it was cold and windy but the reward for the work is more area to use when setting up a course and bonus runs at each autocross through the year. Those extra runs can sometimes make your day. I made the meeting this month and also made points rally number 2, the "Knox County Knockabout" put on by Ernie Roales. I was recruited for the rally by Bob Sonntag as his usual rally driver was absent. Despite not being able to keep up with some of the late in the rally CASTs, we pulled out a win adding a nice 5 to my Berry points. To end the month, I went to a 2-day Divisional autocross at NCM Motorsports Park in Bowling Green, KY. I was joined there by the "Drug Money Autocross Team" of Ernie Roales and Jim Cannon. Also running were brothers Barry and Don Beaman and my wife Carolyn. On Saturday Jim, Ernie, and Don, all running in D Street, finished second, fourth, and fifth respectively. Barry finished third in C Street; I finished second in Super Street while Carolyn won Super Street Ladies. Sunday's event saw Jim slip to third, Ernie dropped to sixth, and Don finish eighth. Barry improved to second, I finished second again and Carolyn won her class again. It was not a bad way to start our competition season.

May started the club autocross season with a Test and Tune on Saturday followed by our first point event, "Riley's Run", on Sunday. At the end of the day autocross points showed Jim Cannon on top narrowly beating Jon Schwartze. I was third, just barely ahead of Jr. Crowe. It was the beginning of a good season of competition. It also gave me 5 Berry points for the class win. In case you didn't know, in our club you earn Berry points by winning your autocross class and it takes 2 drivers to make a class. Anyone that is in a class by themselves gets bumped up to the next class which usually doesn't help. The unwritten rule is to always have a co-driver, so you don't get bumped. After the autocross came the monthly meeting, which I made this month, followed by the Davis' Road rally. I was the Solo Safety Steward for Karen and Harold's rally and that earned me 2 Berry points plus the 1 I got for the club meeting.

The first weekend in June was autocross number 2, Dawn Sturgeon's "I Scream Cones", and I just barely edged out Jim Cannon for first in autocross points, 1000 to 999. I garnered another 5 Berry points. A week later was the annual "Quick & Dirty" autocross by Ernie Roales where I was again first in autocross points, but this time Jr. Crowe was second and Jon Schwartze was third. I knew by this time that my main autocross competition was going to be Jr. and Jon. I picked up the 5 Berry points for the class win and another point at the club meeting, but I could do the math and see that I wasn't going to get the Berry Championship unless I did our club rallies.

The second half of the year started with our monthly club meeting followed by Jon Schwartze's "Follow the 'S' Curve" autocross. At the autocross I was relegated to fourth as Indy invader Kevin Kent topped the points list. Jon and Jr. respectively were ahead of me. I knew then that I didn't have the tires to stay ahead of those 2 so I put in an order to Tire Rack for 4 Bridgestones. There was over a month before the next autocross so there was no hurry to get them on the car. At the end of July, the Lehrschall's put on their "Quincey's Quest" road rally which I didn't make. Up 6 but -2 in Berry points.

August was the Dornburg event month with a road rally the first weekend and an autocross on the last weekend. On the first Sunday of August the "World Famous Ice Cream Rally" went off without a hitch. I was really hoping for some team to get a single digit total score and the team of Terry Davis and Bob Sonntag came as close as one can get by scoring a 10 over the 6-checkpoint rally. And for the first time in a long time all 4 A Class cars beat all the B Class cars. I made it to the Log Inn for the club meeting. Boy that place has good food! Then there was my "YEE HAW Again" autocross. Richard Grav showed up for only the second time this year and put a whoppin on us taking the top points in autocross points. I was second followed by Jr. and a resurgent Jim Cannon. Jon Schwartze was there but not in his BMW which was sidelined with a driveline issue. I garnered 11 Berry points on the month but was behind a bunch.

September is Solo Nationals month and although I planned on going family issues kept me home. Our only competition event was autocross #6, "Points Racing" by Bob Sonntag. I managed to be quickest again, but Jon and Jr. were right behind me. I got another +6 in the Berry points and a small lead in the autocross points as the month ended. I also went to another KY Region event at NCM. The day started overcast which then turned into a steady rain for most of

the morning. Just as the second heat was starting their last runs the sun came out and it was pretty much dry for my runs. I won my class over 4 other competitors. Don and Barry Beaman were there and Don finished fifth in D Street, mostly because it was pouring rain when he made his runs. Barry steadily improved on all his runs and took home fourth in B Street on a drying course.

October started with MacKenzi Crowe's "Boogedy Boogedy Boo!" autocross where her husband finally finished first in the autocross points beating out, me and Jon. My second place gave me the autocross championship by 31 points over Jr. He drove great all year despite a frustrating issue with his car. I suspect he'll fix it this winter and then I'll have my hands full with him and Jon. After the last autocross points event there was rally number 6, "Stars and Stripes Forever" by Bob Sonntag. I knew that I needed to compete in the remaining rallies in order to finish in the top 3 in Berry points. I put out an email looking for a navigator for the rally. Glenn Leighty, an interested Mustang buff from St. Francisville, IL who came to know of us at the October Cars & Coffee in Lawrenceville, responded, and we made a plan to get together. We did well in the rally coming in with the low score for the event although it wasn't a "low" score. We narrowly beat out team Roales for the low score honor. Another good points day put me +11 for the month but Jr. had a +10 month so I didn't gain any ground on him but I stayed ahead of Bob.

November is our last month of competition, and I helped Jr. with his first rally setup. By being the Road Rally Safety Steward I was able to add 2 more Barry points to my total as well as the 1 meeting point. Now my point total was 79, just 9 points shy of Jr's winning 88. Even if I made all 11 meetings and participated in all the rallies I would have come up short unless I won the other 2 rallies I skipped.

All of that made for a very good year of club participation. I won my 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive autocross championship and twelfth overall. Things that are rewarding that don't pay points are our Board meetings and the work that goes into publishing the Pit Stop. Another thing that I'm immensely proud of is my Carolyn's driving of our autocross car. She showed a talent for driving that was previously unknown to me. I'll say that the best thing that happened because of COVID was my wife becoming my co-driver.

Now on to 2024 and another year of friends and cars.

## 2024 PAX/RTP Index

"Racers Theoretical Performance"

This Index was developed by Rick Ruth and reflects study of results from well over 500 nationwide Solo events including, the Tire Rack® Solo National Championships, National Tour, Alabama Region, Arkansas Region, Atlanta Region, Chicago Solo Region, California Sports Car Club, Central Florida Region, Equipe Rapide (Florida & Texas), Great Lakes Solo Series, Hawaii Region, Houston Region, Midwest Divisional Series, Milwaukee Region, New England Region, Northwest Region, Northern New Jersey Region, Oregon Region, Philadelphia Region, Rocky Mountain Series, San Francisco Region, San Diego Region, South Jersey Region, St. Louis Region, Tri-State Sports Car Council, Texas Region, Washington DC Region, and many, many others.

|     |       |       |       |     |       |      |       |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|-----|-------|------|-------|
| SS  | 0.835 | SSP   | 0.857 | XP  | 0.887 | AM   | 1.000 |
| AS  | 0.824 | CSP   | 0.860 | CP  | 0.856 | BM   | 0.978 |
| BS  | 0.818 | DSP   | 0.847 | DP  | 0.865 | CM   | 0.898 |
| CS  | 0.813 | ESP   | 0.840 | EP  | 0.858 | DM   | 0.904 |
| DS  | 0.810 | FSP   | 0.831 | FP  | 0.877 | EM   | 0.910 |
| ES  | 0.792 |       |       |     |       | FM   | 0.917 |
| FS  | 0.814 | CAM-T | 0.820 | SM  | 0.868 | FSAE | 0.980 |
| GS  | 0.796 | CAM-C | 0.826 | SSM | 0.879 | KM   | 0.937 |
| HS  | 0.786 | CAM-S | 0.848 | SMF | 0.850 |      |       |
| HCS | 0.793 | STH   | 0.812 | CSX | 0.811 |      |       |
| HCR | 0.815 | STS   | 0.816 | CSM | 0.808 |      |       |
| SSC | 0.805 | STX   | 0.819 | EVX | 0.834 |      |       |
| XA  | 0.844 | STR   | 0.832 |     |       |      |       |
| XB  | 0.849 | STU   | 0.833 |     |       |      |       |
| XU  | 0.869 | SST   | 0.836 |     |       |      |       |

# FOR SALE:

Mike Kincaid has donated some tire racks he made to the club. Each end piece is \$20.

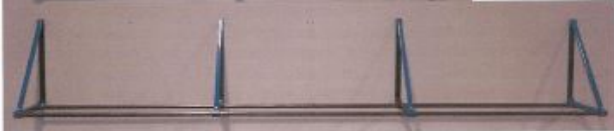
I have 7 rack pieces left. These are really well made. I used 3 this weekend for my tires. Cross bars are not included.



The top one would cost you \$40, \$20 for each rack piece.

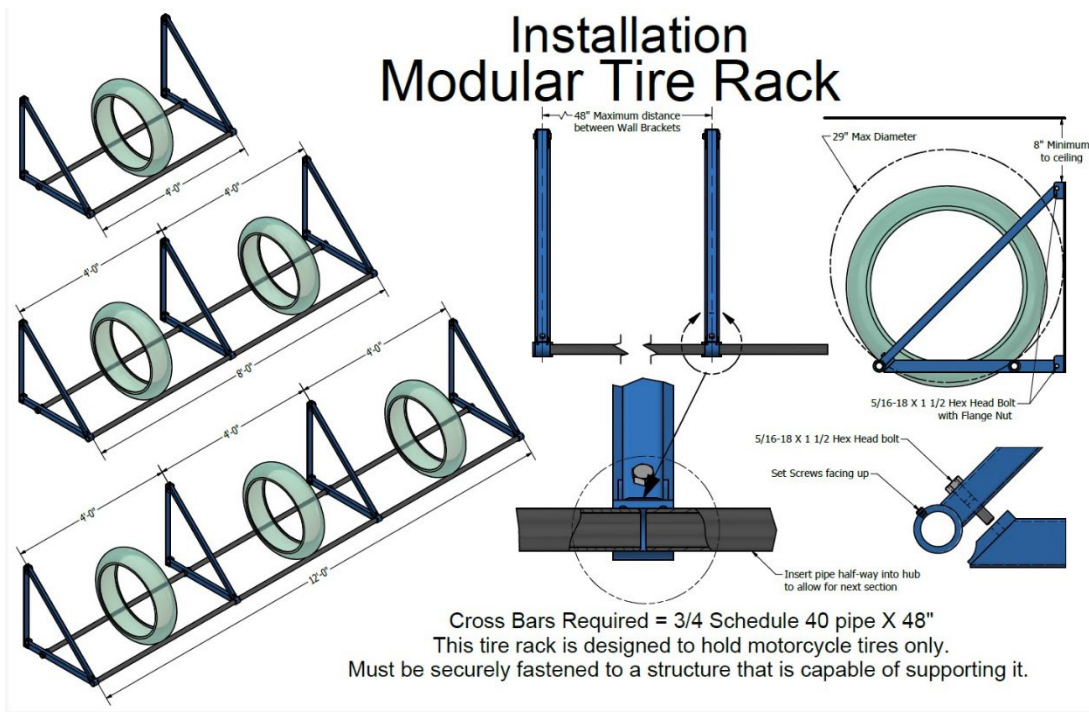


This one would be \$60 for 3 rack pieces.



And this one would be \$80 for 4 rack pieces.

Let me know if you want a set. [a911sc@gmail.com](mailto:a911sc@gmail.com)



## ADULT ANNUAL WAIVERS

SCCA Members over the Age of Majority (typically 18 years of age) can add an Annual Waiver digitally through the Member Account Portal.

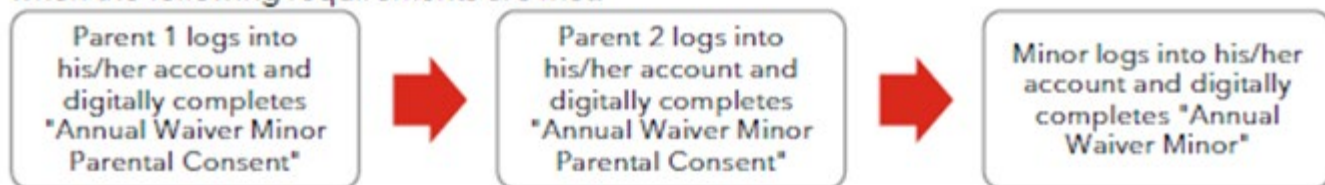
### HOW TO DIGITALLY COMPLETE

1. Log in with your SCCA Member # at [my.scca.com](http://my.scca.com)
2. Go to [Online Store - Licenses & Waivers](#)
3. Add "Annual Waiver Adult" license to cart
4. Be prepared to upload a photo of yourself
5. Follow the prompts at the top right of the screen
6. Complete checkout

## MINOR ANNUAL WAIVERS

A minor taking part in an SCCA event as a competitor, on track participant, or volunteer or worker with access to restricted (hot) areas must have an **Annual Minor Waiver** on file for the calendar year. Age of Majority is 18 years except in AL and NE at 19; MS at 21.

The Annual Waiver Minor License will be issued to the Minor by the SCCA National Office when the following requirements are met:



### HOW TO DIGITALLY COMPLETE

1. Login with your SCCA Member # at [my.scca.com](http://my.scca.com)
  - a. Nonmembers can create a guest account to get a unique SCCA Member #
2. Go to [Online Store - Licenses & Waivers](#)
3. Add proper license to cart (see Parent & Minor instructions above)
  - a. Be prepared to upload a photo of yourself
  - b. Parents must have the Minor's name, date of birth & SCCA Member #
  - c. Minors must have names and SCCA Member #s for parents/legal guardians
4. Follow the prompts at the top right of the screen
  - a. Legal Sole Custodians must indicate **sole custody** with checkbox
5. Complete checkout

# Digital Annual Waivers

Questions? Email [membership@scca.com](mailto:membership@scca.com)

## WHAT'S NEXT?

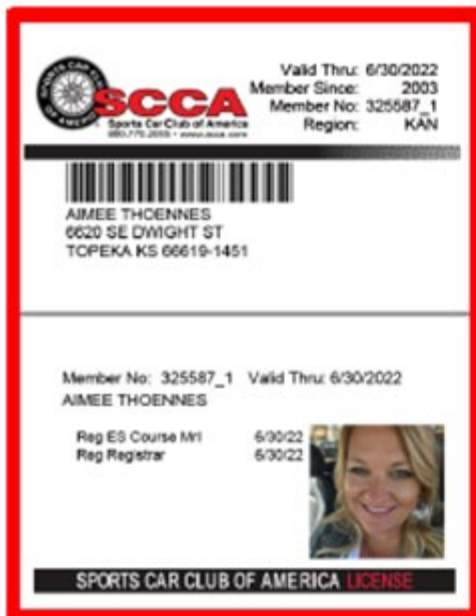
- Check inbox for email confirming "under review"
- Check inbox for email indicating status and next steps: active, incomplete or terminated (should arrive in less than 24 hours, not including weekends/holidays)
  - **Active:** waiver valid through December 31 - "ready to go!"
  - **Incomplete:** waiver invalid, requirements not yet met
  - **Terminated:** waiver invalid, photo not acceptable; process must be restarted

## PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP/ANNUAL WAIVER AT EVENTS

- An Annual Waiver is valid with an active membership
- Acceptable forms of proof of membership at events include physical or digital membership cards with 'Valid Thru' date equal to or after the event date:
  - Physical membership card prints when membership renews (once per year)
  - Digital membership card available 24/7/365 on any mobile device
    - Retrieve on demand at your convenience; card is always current
    - Add a shortcut to your phone's home screen
      - Tap "My Membership Card" from "My Profile Page"
      - Tap Share icon  
*(iPhone @ bottom, iPad @ top, Android @ menu icon, upper right)*
      - Tap "Add to Homescreen" from the menu
      - Type in a name for your shortcut e.g. "My SCCA Card"
      - Tap "Add"



Members with horizontal membership cards **ARE REQUIRED** to sign SCCA Event Waivers.



Members with vertical membership cards **ARE NOT REQUIRED** to sign SCCA Event Waivers



# 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 automotive enthusiasts. 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 drivers and workers and various degrees of licenses are awarded based on knowledge, ability, and experience.

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RIP Cale Yarborough (NASCAR), Roland Leong (NHRA), and Gil de Ferran (INDYCAR)

Last but not least, from the November/December issue of SportsCar magazine. Our own National Champion, Steve Backer.

### HERITAGE CLASSIC-RACE

While Heritage Classic-Race had just two cars and four drivers, it was one of the most special classes to watch at the 50th SCCA Solo Nationals. The reason? Labeled as a supplemental class, HCR was introduced with a plan to showcase some uniquely historic cars and give them the opportunity to run at this anniversary event. There was a significant amount of interest, but with the quick (inside of four hours) sellout of the entry, and confirmation it would be a one-time-only deal, only two cars would make it to the grid.

Steve Backer brought his Datsun Roadster, a venerable SCCA Road Racing car which he rescued from the crusher and turned into an autocross steed.

Also entered was Han Henze who intended to run his Porsche

914 in Heritage Classic-Street class. But when it quit on him, Backer generously offered a co-drive in the Datsun—and Henze quickly accepted.

And then there was Katie Kelly, driving a Lotus 7 America previously owned by her mother. It had won seven National Championships for her late parents, Pat and John (editor of the well-known San Francisco Region publication, The Wheel, and the North American Pylon newspapers) in the early days.

Katie had three titles of her own, including one in the 7A. She repurchased the car last year hoping to get it running and bring it to this

**"HC-R had just four drivers, [but] it was one of the most special classes to watch..."**  
**KELSEY KARANGES**

event to drive with her husband Craig Sarachene in her parents' memory.

Strangers from as far away as Iowa as well as competitors on the ground loaned Kelly tools, parts, knowledge and labor in assisting Sarachene with the many fixes the aged Lotus 7 required. After missing a run Wednesday due to a mechanical, Kelly was still able to find time on her last run, and a post-audit cone removal would find her in surprise and tears at the trophy presentation where she was awarded second place.

Backer said his only goal was to "get through it without getting towed off the course." Posting FTD on his final run each day, he had runs of 67.762 sec on the East Course, 59.513 on the West, totaling 127.375 sec. Kelly, who considered it a win just to get the Lotus to Lincoln, was 1.862 sec back. —**Kelsey Karanges**



**HCR ▲ #21**  
**Steve Backer**  
Datsun Roadster

### HERITAGE CLASSIC STREET

No entries

### HERITAGE CLASSIC RACE TIRE

|  |         |      |
|--|---------|------|
| 1. Steve Backer  | SInd    | #21  |
| Datsun Roadster  | 127.375 |      |
| 2. Katie Kelly   | SanF    | #199 |
| Lotus 7 America  | 129.237 |      |
| 3. Han Henze/Tenn (#121 Datsun Roadster); 4. Craig Sarachene/SanF (#99 Lotus 7 America). |         |      |