



June 2021

BACKFIRE

A publication for, and by,
the members of the Western Michigan Region Sports Car Club of America



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**Whether It's
Being In The Action
Or Directing The Action**



We Have A Place For You

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Membership News

WMR welcomes our new or returning members

- Gregg Grooters - Livonia, MI
- Sean Kennedy - Grand Rapids, MI
- Thomas Kolean - Holland, MI
- Aubrey Muller - Kalamazoo, MI
- Cliff Muller - Kalamazoo, MI
- Chris Redman - Eagle, MI
- Dakota Spranger - Redford, MI
- Charles Spreitzer - South Haven, MI
- Scott Swanson - Lansing, MI

Congratulations to the following who celebrated membership anniversaries last month

- 53 years Chuck Shapiro
- 38 years Frederick Hawley
- 36 years Barbara Steencken
- 35 years James Esquire
- 34 years Mary Sickles
- 34 years Rodney Sickles
- 31 years Ric Green
- 26 years Mary Gyulay
- 13 years Charles McGee
- 8 years Ralph Gilles
- 7 years Douglas Fetrow
- 6 years Matthew Caris
- 4 years Carl Heideman
- 4 years Charlotte Heideman
- 4 years Christopher Heideman
- 4 years Chris Felice
- 3 years Jason Blair
- 2 years Albert Post IV
- 2 years Michael Walton
- 2 years Pammie Walton
- 2 years Jerry Kulas
- 1 year Mark Griffiee
- 1 year Steven TenBrink
- 1 year Edgar Chavez
- 1 year Jason Dew
- 1 year Rick Evans



The giant-killer.

Take a good look. A small, practical family sedan, right? Right. So take another look. It's also the best sports sedan in the world. It's a BMW, built by Germany's famed Bavarian Motor Works, where we've been turning out great cars for nearly 50 years. Look it up against the over-sized buffaloes that crowd the highways today, and you're in for some fun.

A BMW will put acceleration, out-cruise, and handle most of what sits on four wheels. And do it in a way that makes driving a joy.

The car cruises—comfortably at 100 mph. And roadholding? No car built anywhere has a better suspension.

And that's not all. A BMW will give you craftsmanship you didn't think existed. The car is built by a team of master craftsmen, each of whom has spent years of his life perfecting his craft.

And, mercifully, it comes with the kind of precision fitting you find in a Leica or a fine shotgun. So don't miss your BMW dealer. And tell him you want to be seen by the Germans.

Bavarian Motor Works



*\$7,990. MSRP. Sugg. retail price includes a 12-month unlimited mileage, limited warranty, transp., tax, license, dealer prep add'l.

"The Rabbit GTI is more than just fast; it's wired directly to your synopsis."

Is that good? We looked it up to be sure. And learned the synopsis is really the core of your central nervous system. Then it all made sense. Because the VW Rabbit GTI has such razor-sharp reflexes, it responds to your commands almost before you've given them.

The free-revving 1.8 liter engine and 5-speed close-ratio gearbox take you from 0—50 in just 7.2 seconds. The suspension is taut. The steering quick. For cornering unequalled in a car its size.

And the high performance Rabbit GTI delivers all this precise German engineering and German design at a very sensible price. Precisely \$7,990*.

We figure giving your synopsis a thrill is great. As long as it doesn't give your budget a nervous twitch.

Nothing else is a Volkswagen.



Due To Our Usual
 Heavy Racing
 Involvement, Our
 Monthly Board of
 Director/General
 Membership Meetings
 Will Be On Hiatus For
 The Summer

 Please Join Us Again In The Fall
 At

Pietro's Italian Restaurant
 2780 Birchcrest Dr SE, Grand Rapids, MI



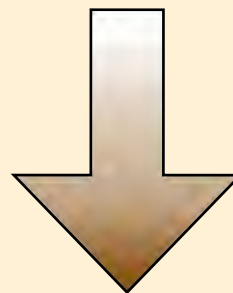
For the "off season" September thru April,
 we typically meet the 2nd Saturday of the month
 with an optional dinner at 6:00pm
 followed by the meeting at 7:00pm.

Our next meeting will be September 11, 2021.

Region Calendar

June, 2021

LET THE RACING SEASON BEGIN !
 (No Meetings until the end of the Racing Season)



September 11, 2021

General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting at
 Pietro's Italian Restaurant, 2780 Birchcrest Dr SE,
 Grand Rapids, MI. Dinner at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:00pm

Contributors

JIM WASHBURN
 Backfire Editor

MARY ELLEN SICKLES
 Recording Secretary

DAYLE FRAME
 Competition Manager,
 SCCA - Area 4 Director

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the following events may be Rescheduled or Cancelled.

2021 GREAT LAKES DIVISION

SOLO SERIES SCHEDULE

- **June 19 - 20** **Indy Region - Grissom Aeroplex, Peru, IN**
- **June 26 - 27** **South West Virginia Region - U of WV, Parkersberg, WV**
- July 17 - 18 Fort Wayne Region - Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, IN
- Sep 18 - 19 Cincinnati Region - Traders World, Cincinnati, OH

For more information and to Register for a specific event go to www.soloseries.org

* * * *

2021 WMR SOLO SCHEDULE

- September 6 WMR Labor Day Event at Grattan Raceway Park, Grattan, MI
- October 24 WMR Event #2 at Grattan Raceway Park, Grattan, MI

Contact **Dan Moody** at dmoody268@gmail.com for more information.

To Register for a specific event go to www.motorsportreg.com

2021 GREAT LAKES DIVISION

CLUB RACING SCHEDULE

- April 10 GLDiv/WHRRI Driver's School (classroom) at Waterford Hills
- April 24 - 25 GLDiv/WHRRI Driver's School (track time) at Waterford Hills
- April 29 - 30 VSCDA Drivers School (classroom and track time) at Gingerman
- May 1 - 2 VSCDA "Gingerman Spring Brake Races at Gingerman
- May 14 - 16 DET / SBR "Spring Festival of Speed" Double Regional at Gingerman
- May 21 - 23 OVR "Race of Champions" Majors Double Event at Mid-Ohio
- **June 12 - 13** **NEO Restricted Regional at Nelson Ledges**
- **June 19 - 20** **WMR "Unrestricted" Double Regional at Grattan**
- **June 24 - 27** **SVRA Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-Ohio at Mid-Ohio**
- July 9 - 11 NEO Double Regional at Nelson Ledges
- July 23 SBR CRE-Enduro-Track Event at Gingerman
- July 24 - 25 SBR / DET "Bert Olson" Majors Double Event at GingerMan
- July 30 - Aug 1 Cincinnati Region Double Regional at Mid-Ohio
- August 13 - 15 VSCDA "Vintage Grand Prix Au Grattan XXX" at Grattan
- August 21 - 22 WMR "Last Chance" Majors at Grattan
- September 3 - 5 OVR "Sprint Classic" Double Regional at Mid-Ohio
- Sept 25 - Oct 3 2021 SCCA National Runoffs at Indianapolis
- October 15 - 17 OVR "Autumn Classic" Double Regional at Mid-Ohio

For more information and to Register for a specific event go to www.motorsportreg.com



Come out for our

2021 WMR

“Original Unrestricted”

Double Regional

Club Racing Event

held by the

Western Michigan Region

June 19th & 20th, 2021

Grattan Raceway in Belding, Michigan

- ✓ A challenging and fun 2 mile, 12 turn road course
- ✓ Approximately 50 feet of elevation change
- ✓ Garages and paved paddock spaces available
- ✓ Free on-site camping for volunteer workers
- ✓ Race Monitor live event timing for crew and spectators
- ✓ WMR’s famous “Que-It-Up” track dinner on Saturday evening for workers, drivers, and crew

ATTENTION

— Club Racing Drivers —

If you need an annual technical inspection, please contact the Chief Scrutineer, Barb Steencken at steencken@frontier.com or call her at (248) 685-2773 well in advance of coming to the track so we can minimize your wait time and the wait time of others.

Get Involved

A Call for Volunteer Workers

for the Upcoming Racing Season

How can I help? Don't worry, there are lots of ways!

Motorsports is more than just driving, and there are a million-and-one ways to get involved. Running an event requires the talents of a wide variety of dedicated individuals. Our members enjoy serving in all types of exciting positions. If you ever thought you might like to give racing a try.. working races can give you valuable insights into driving, preparation, and the race tracks themselves. Getting involved as a race worker or an official is as easy as going to a local event and volunteering to help. There are lots of jobs to do... One of these might be just for you.

Those wanting to lend a hand are welcomed with open arms, and are rewarded with adventure, camaraderie, and friendship. Volunteers can register at any event even if they have no prior experience. We will provide the basic training and pair you up with an experienced worker. Over time you will grow into the position you like. Of course, if your first choice doesn't meet your expectations there are many more to choose from.

Workers are issued a license just like the competition drivers, and can work their way up through the four levels of licenses by participating at different events and gaining the knowledge and experience necessary to hold a National License. In addition to local events, SCCA licensed workers help staff most of the professional motor-sport events held in the United States including SCCA Pro Racing, IndyCar, IMSA, NASCAR, and Formula One.

If you are still unsure about which type of volunteer work you would like to do, just contact one of our Specialty Chiefs. The brief summary below is aimed at shaping your impression of what may fit your style and desire.

Registration

The Registrar is the intake person for our Club Racing events. The Registrar is responsible for checking in drivers, crew and workers for the event. The registration team work just outside the track entrance at a registration station or desk where race credentials are verified, insurance waivers are signed, entry fees are collected, and information and schedules for the race weekend are distributed. Be the first official face they see, point them to where they need to be and make sure everyone gets started on the right track. If you have good organizational skills this could be the place for you.



For more information on this Specialty please contact: Marilyn Russell, Chief of Registration, at (rotaryracer@comcast.net) or call her at 260-338-0134.

Scrutineer /Tech

If you have interest in inspecting race cars and poking around under the hood, this might be an ideal place for you. There are two primary functions of tech. The first entails a complete pre-race visual inspection of all the safety equipment including driver suits, helmets, seat belts, shoulder belts, the roll cage, the fire system, and the general integrity and race worthiness of the car.

The second function is to impound cars at the end of a race to determine their legality with respect to the General Competition Rules and the specifications for their class (often times, the car's minimum weight). The Scrutineer is also responsible for post-race inspections possibly including mechanical teardown's due to a competitor protest

For more information on this Specialty please contact: Barb Steencken, Chief Scrutineer, at (steencken@frontier.com) or call her at 248-685-2773.



Start

All eyes are on the Starter holding the flag at the beginning and the end of the race, but waving the green and the checker flags is just a small part of what Starters do. The Starter communicates the Chief Steward's instructions to the drivers through a series of colored flags, beginning with the green flag to start the race. In addition, the Starters maintain the lap count, the elapsed time for the session, and must follow the race order by charting the race as it unfolds. Throughout the race, the Starter also uses other flags, including: blue, black, red, yellow, white, and of course, the flag every leading driver eagerly awaits, the checkered flag!



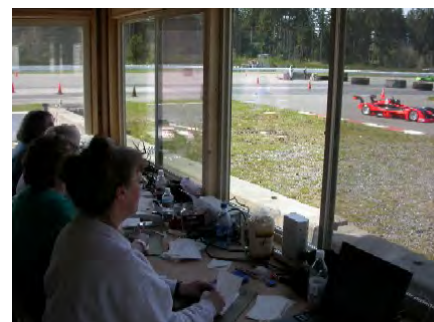
For more information on this Specialty please contact: Jeff Secor, Chief of Start, at (jdsecor@charter.net) or call him at 616-662-9154.

Timing and Scoring

If you want to have the best viewing seat on the course, stay out of the weather and have first hand knowledge of whose who and whose winning, then, Timing and Scoring is for you. The function of Timing and Scoring (T&S) is to report the race by recording each competitor's speed, scoring him/her according to the number of laps completed and the order in which the car crossed the start/finish line; and to produce accurate results of the race. In earlier days stopwatches were used to track driver's lap times. Each timer was assigned one or more cars to record lap times on time cards. Things have changed a lot since then and now this is tracked electronically with computers and in-car transponders.

Join us and be a part of a great team that documents and generates the official results for the race. You will find working in Timing and Scoring is both fun and rewarding.

For more information on this Specialty please contact: Dave Ferris, Chief of Timing and Scoring, at (1988irocz28@gmail.com) or call him at 517-290-7128.



Flagging and Communications

Workers in F&C are the eyes, ears and hands of those in charge. One of the most visible specialties, these are the corner workers whom you see dressed in white at every race track in the United States. This specialty is actually made up of three subspecialties. Flagging, Communications, and Safety. The F&C worker takes a position along the course and uses flags and hand signals to communicate track conditions to each driver. They use an array of colored flags to communicate to the drivers about the condition of the track, and radio's or land lines to communicate with Race Control about incidents on the portion of track for which they are responsible. The third part of this specialty is Safety and as such they are the first responders to most incidents on the track. They are the first ones to arrive at an incident and help the unfortunate driver get out of harm's way. They also lend a hand and assist in cleaning up the mess left behind.



For more information on this Specialty please contact: Pete Hansen, Chief of Flagging, at (hansens@altelco.net) or call him at (616) 895-7661. or contact: Lydia Hansen, Chief of Communications, at (liddyhansen@gmail.com) or call her at (616) 633-8923.

Grid Worker's and Pit Marshal's

Grid worker's line up cars at the beginning of each session and are responsible for insuring that the race cars are placed in the proper order for the beginning of the race. They also check the driver's safety gear, and make sure they have their belts fastened, their helmet strapped, their gloves on, their window net is up, their arm restraints are on, and that they're ready to go. Lastly, they are responsible for traffic control as cars are released to the track.



For more information on this Specialty please contact: Mary Ellen Sickles, Chief of Grid, at(rmsickles@comcast.net) or call her at 517-449-6694.



The Pit Marshal's control action in the Pit lane... they serve as traffic cops and fire control personnel during practice, qualifying, and the race. They ensure that conditions in the Pits are safe at all times and make sure all personnel in the Pits follow the rules and procedures outlined in the General Competition Rules book. During the racing event, the Pit Marshal's are there to ensure the competitor's entry to and exit from the Pit area is done in a safe manner and to oversee the safety of car crews servicing the car.

For more information on this Specialty please contact: Mary Ellen Sickles, Chief of Grid, at(rmsickles@comcast.net) or call her at 517-449-6694. (NOTE: Chief of Pit is TBD)

Course Control

The Course Marshal's main responsibility is the clearing the track of disabled and stopped vehicles. Some of these cars may have a mechanical problem or they may simply have run out of gas and they need to be towed back to their paddock area. Course Marshal's may also assist in clean-up of the track during and after events in the event of fluid spills or other situations that may leave debris on the track surface.

In addition, the Course Marshal's may assist in the distribution of corner equipment and the maintenance of corner equipment, including fire extinguishing equipment between events.

For more information on this Specialty contact: Wayne Rogers, Chief of Course Control, at (rogerswayne846@gmail.com) or call him at 616-238-6186.



Sound Control

Want to get close to the action, but don't want to be in the action? If so, Sound Control could be for you. Those who staff Sound Control get to be out near the track and the action, but since their duty is to read the sound meter, they don't go out on the track like the F&C workers do.



Racing noise may be music to a fans ears, but to the nearby landowner it may not be so pleasant. On a race track with noise regulations, SCCA Sound Control officials monitor the sound level of passing race vehicles during all practice, qualifying and race sessions. The sound output of the cars is recorded during practice, qualifying and the race to ensure compliance with a set level, usually 103 decibels. These readings are logged by car number and class every lap when the car is clear of traffic that could interfere with the reading. Cars that exceed the maximum allowable level are reported to the operating Steward so that appropriate action can be taken to correct the problem and allow the car to return to the track.

Regular sound level meter calibrations as well as various weather conditions such as temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, and barometric pressure, are checked and recorded. As weather conditions change, they are again recorded and adjustments are made as necessary.

For more information on this Specialty contact: Carola Basaj, Chief of Sound, at (ibasaj@charter.net) or call her at 231 557-3694

We are asking all volunteers to sign up in the (workers) section at (wmr-scca.motorsportreg.com) before coming to the event.

This gives us a better idea of staffing levels for each of the specialties and allows us to better plan for the provided lunches, worker gifts, and the Saturday dinner party.

However, volunteers, especially first time volunteers, can alternatively sign up at the Registration desk at the race event.

May Meeting Minutes

May 08, 2021, 7:08 pm

WMR meeting via teleconference

Board Members present: Lenny Basaj, Ed Maklenburg, Dave Ferris, Jim Washburn, Karen Crider, and Mary Ellen Sickles

Board Members absent: Wayne Rogers

Other Members Present: Rodney Sickles, Ted Flynn, Bruce Beauvais, Tom Smolenski, Dan Moody, Carola Basaj, Scott Beute, and Ed Swine

Secretary Report:

Mary Ellen Sickles: Our April Teleconference Meeting minutes were approved and printed in the May 2021 newsletter.

Regional Executive's Report:

Lenny Basaj: Welcome to everyone

Assistant RE's Report:

Ed Maklenburg: - No Report

Treasurer's Report:

Dave Ferris: The report was sent by email to the board. Everything is balanced in the checkbook. VSCDA sent the fee for timing and scoring. We will roll over our CD.

Our financial situation is strong for continuing ongoing operations. Our checking balance as presented in this month's treasurer's report is reconciled and equal to our most recent bank statement. A copy of our monthly treasurer's report is available to our members upon written request. Karen Crider made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Mary Ellen Sickles and approved.

Competition Director's Report:

Dayle Frame: (not present) Bruce Beauvais reported 5 cars are registered for our regional and 5 cars are registered for the Majors. Worker counts are looking good. VSCDA and WMR are holding on renting the tent. Grattan will pick up the cost of Friday's insurance because concessions are not open.

Solo Manager's Report:

Dan Moody: WMR has Solos on Labor Day, September 6, and Sunday October 24 at Grattan.

WMR's 4 loaner helmets have been received. We need to add more gates at corner 8 to slow down the speeds. Discussion of assessing damages for damage to

guard rails, etc. to pay our deductible up to \$1000.00.

We are looking at a Solo at Gingerman, it would be a joint venture with Furrin Group.

Newsletter Report:

Jim Washburn: The newsletter deadline for submissions is May 24, 2021

Area 4 Director Report:

Dayle Frame: (not present)

Membership Chair Report:

Tom Smolenski: Dave Ferris will show Tom how to access SCCA's website.

Chief of Specialty Reports:

F&C - Flagging:

Pete Hansen: (not present) Via email they are recruiting for the Regional and Majors races.

F&C - Communications:

Lydia Hansen: (not present)

Radios:

Bruce Beauvais: He took 5 radios to Gingerman and checked them, they worked OK.

Start:

Bruce Beauvais: Marc Henry has the start/finish information board. Start has a Chromebook, Marc has that also.

Grid:

Mary Ellen Sickles: No Report.

Timing & Scoring:

Dave Ferris: Is checking on the new decoders.

May Meeting Minutes

— Continued —

Sound:

Carola Basaj: No Report.

Course:

Wayne Rogers: (not present)

Tech:

Ed Maklenburg: He has been doing more annuals than normal.

Announcements:

None.

Adjournment:

Ed Maklenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Karen Crider, approved at 8:03 pm.

Old Business:

Bylaws Review: Karen Crider, Dave Ferris and Ed Maklenburg. Ballots have been sent out, returns to be made to Mary Ellen Sickles to be tabulated. The due date is May 22 for the postcards. Lenny Basaj received an email from Rick Myers regarding our bylaws. Rick indicated that they veered from the national SCCA bylaws in 3 areas.

- 1) The age for voting had been raised.
- 2) It should read family membership rather than spousal.
- 3) Regarding terminating membership there is due process through SCCA.

We will need to update these items the next time we review the bylaws.

Fire Suppression Equipment: We are waiting for Topeka's rules..

BoD Meeting Day: Discussion was tabled.

New Business:

Scott Beute announced that there will be a Rally Cross School this summer, in June or July, not sure of the location. When the information is finalized it will be put in the newsletter.

E Mail Votes Between Meetings:

On April 27, 2021 - Dave Ferris made a motion that we drop the coverage for the hired and non-owned auto policy. Mary Ellen Sickles seconded, and it was approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ellen Sickles,
Recording Secretary



Dayle Frame
Area 4 Director
Great Lakes Division
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dframe@scca.com



Notes from the Director's Chair Area 4 Director Update for June, 2021

Spring has finally sprung and the GLDiv/SCCA calendar has lots of events on it across all of our programs. I hope your calendar is full of events you can attend this summer.

As you may have heard, the CDC announced dramatic changes in mask [policy](#) a couple of weeks ago. With this in mind, the SCCA has amended its Covid-19 protocols and has posted them [here](#). Please review them and make sure to follow all guidelines mandated by your local authorities.

A momentous occasion this past month was when the SCCA issued a [press release](#) about the Electrified Vehicle Advisory Committee (EVAC) on 5/4 via Kerrie Speed's weekly email blast. This was a big deal as it announced to the general membership about the formation of the committee and signaled the beginning of a new era in SCCA. EVs are the future for personal use and the SCCA will be on the forefront of incorporating them into all levels of every program SCCA has to offer. For me personally, as the committee Chair, EV owner and competitor, I am very proud to be able to help usher the SCCA into this realm.

My schedule has gotten busier because I am now going to events instead of just sitting in on virtual meetings (although I'm still doing a lot of that).....and the bulk of my calendar hasn't even started yet. Oy vey! As I mentioned last month, I had a couple of meetings in late April that would carry over to this month's update.

- BoD (4/26): As usual, we discussed a wide variety of things. The usual financial update was given by Jeff Dahnert. We're doing remarkably well considering the latent effects of the pandemic. A proposal was presented by Chris Robbins of how we might change the annual convention. Final decisions have not been made yet but I will notify you once a schedule has been squared away. We're still in the midst of a swap from one BoD software/website platform to another. The BoD will have to have a few meetings to do some training as the new system is incorporated.
- RXB (4/27): A National Tour event was held by STL Region that had a few major issues and the RXB was dealing with the aftermath of that event. A survey has been sent out so attendees could voice their opinion about the failings of the event. The RXB also discussed a variety of

topics (National Championships, expanding the appeal of RX, Divisional Stewards responsibilities, etc.).

- CRB (5/4): The CRB reviewed a considerable list of topics and letters. Much like last year, the CRB proposed a waiver for our Canadian members who wished to go to the Runoffs. Due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, Canadians have difficulty crossing into the US. The BoD approved this as a way to minimize the hurdles they have to clear in order to attend the event at Indy.
- EVAC (5/12): As this committee gets its “sea legs”, we started to carve a path forward for EVs as well as the safety aspects of incorporating them into the various programs SCCA offers. We’re taking baby steps to make sure that safety is not compromised and that everyone involved (workers, drivers, tracks, etc.) understands the parameters to make events safe and fun.
- BoD (5/24): We covered a variety of topics. Once again, the financials continue to look good. The Solo Events Board (SEB) reported that several regions applied to participate in the Junior Driver Program (JDP). Three regions have been selected and the pilot program will begin this summer. We also discussed the recently created EVAC and where it should fit in the SCCA hierarchy.
- RXB (5/25): The RXB meeting continued its practice of working on enhancing the program while also focusing on this season’s events (national championships, etc.). The STL Region event survey results were reviewed. Steps will be taken to ensure a repeat of the event’s shortcomings will not occur again.

In addition to the virtual meetings I attended, I started actually going to races this past month.

- Pittsburgh International Race Complex (PIRC) trip (4/29-5/2): This trip had it all....interesting weather (cold, rain and wind while doing the load in on Thursday, cold and windy on Friday, warmer in Saturday and Sunday), great competition and a fantastic (challenging) track layout. I was there crewing for friends and I used the event to catch up with friends. I got to meet Kristen Poole (SCCA Marketing Manager) and Dan Dennehy (Partner Relationship Manager). I’d spoken with Kristen many times but it’s always good to put a face to a voice.
- GingerMan trip (5/16): As my wife and Mother in Law decided to have some “girl time” together, I decided to bail on that and head to GingerMan Raceway for the Spring Festival of Speed hosted by South Bend and Detroit regions. As this was the first race event in my area that I attended as Director, I wanted to make sure I visited with the workers, walked the paddock and spoke to drivers and generally took the temperature of things. The weather was great, SBR/DET were fantastic hosts, and I had a wonderful time. I look forward to returning to GingerMan for the Time Trials National Tour in July.

One additional “GingerMan adjacent” note for racers going to South Haven. Last year we were told that Sherman’s Ice Cream stand would not be selling their ice cream anymore. The store would remain open but use another vendor’s products. While visiting there on 5/16, I discovered that another vendor stepped in and is producing ice cream using Sherman’s recipes. I can report that nothing has changed.....same great taste, same great service.

- MidOhio trip (5/21-5/23): My first Major Club Race as Director.....although, truth be told, I had no “real” function at the event. I schmoozed, talked to drivers and workers and generally tried to help where I could. I crewed for a couple of friends as well. The weather was OK and, for once, I did NOT have horrible sinus issues when visiting MidO.

The next month isn’t as hectic in terms of traveling. I only have two track events on my schedule for June (June Sprints; Road America; 6/4 to 6/6 and “Original Unrestricted” Double Regional; Grattan Raceway; 6/19, 6/20). July is when it gets ugly as I have a whole slew of track events on my [schedule](#) including visits to Brooklyn, NY for a FIA Formula E race and Kansas City for a face to face, BoD meeting.

I’ll repeat a plea on behalf of the Time Trials crew for F&C workers that are needed for their July event at GingerMan Raceway. If you remember from last month, Topeka is bringing a Time Trails National Tour event to GingerMan this summer (7/16 to 7/18). They could use some experienced corner workers to support the green volunteers at the event. Please reach out to the Ed Arthur (GLDiv F&C DA) if you can help out. His email address is flagging_rocks@sbcglobal.net.

Don’t forget that our revised [GLDiv website](#) is now operational. Please email Rob Dietz (gldscaweb@gmasil.com) if you have any comments or corrections. If your region has an event you’d like to see on the divisional calendar, please reach out to him with the details (event title, date, location, registration link, etc.).

Dayle Frame

JOIN THE STEWARDS PROGRAM!

Most weekends, you go to the track, you prep your car, you run your sessions, and you go home with a big smile. If you ran well and without incident, you never saw those people with notepads and clipboards wanting to talk to you – the stewards.

Or, maybe you are a volunteer, working a specialty, and you want to do more or something different.

Who are the stewards? We are responsible to the event region, SCCA, and the entrant to make



sure the event runs smoothly within the rules (per the GCR and event supplemental regulations).

It is a tough, thankless job, but somebody has to do it, so it might as well be YOU. Are you ready to help with the operation of an event, give back to the SCCA community, and be part of the leadership of Club Racing? Then contact us!

Duane Harrington, Executive Steward Great Lakes Division
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The Hoosier Shop Manual Series

B-Spec, B Street, American Sedan, Classic American Muscle, Prepared All-Wheel Drive, E Street Prepared, GT-1, Touring 1 Admittedly, participation options within the Sports Car Club of America® can be varied, confusing and daunting for newcomers. Be it road racing, autocross, RallyCross®, RoadRally or other SCCA® activity, the immense complexity of motorsports itself sometimes acts as a barrier to entry.

But thanks to support from Hoosier Racing Tire, the SCCA is producing the Hoosier Shop Manual series -- a set of videos taking a quick look at some of the ways Club members have fun with cars. Each short video provides a glimpse into a competition activity and a specific way to get involved. Videos will be rolled out early in 2018 and can be viewed at SCCA.com.

Mike Cobb, SCCA President and CEO, said the videos are being created to help automotive enthusiasts gain a better grasp of the SCCA member experience. The first set of videos focus on specific car classes across several Club. In the future, the Hoosier Shop Manual series also hopes to explore various volunteer specialties.

"We want SCCA Regions to use these Hoosier Shop Manual videos as a tool for explaining just what this Club is all about and what we offer to those who want to have fun with cars," Cobb said. "I'm sure many current Club members have experienced a time when they've tried to explain the SCCA lifestyle to someone outside the Club and it just becomes a little confusing. With these videos, regions now have an online destination where prospective members can learn more from those actually taking part in specific SCCA motorsport pursuits."

The first Hoosier Shop Manual video is now available for viewing [here](#) and focuses on Beth Aquilante and her SCCA road racing American Sedan Camaro. Check back to SCCA.com frequently as new videos are uploaded in the coming months.

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WHATEVER YOUR MARQUE...



Backfire is publication of the Western Michigan Region of the Sports Car Club of America.

The editor welcomes letters, articles and opinions of our members to be included in this publication provided that

1. The items are edited for grammar and improper expletives.
2. The content is not libelous nor unsupportable. The items must be received no later than the 15th of the month to be included in the next issue when and where space is available.

Submit articles to: Jim Washburn, 2385 Cedar Park Dr. Apt 310, Holt, MI 48842. Microsoft Word documents, PDF files and pictures can be emailed to:

Jwashburn.us@gmail.com