



May 2021

BACKFIRE

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



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Come play with us
in the 2021
Racing Season...



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Membership News

WMR welcomes our new
or returning members

- James Fodell - Plainwell, MI
- Jeffrey Jeanette - Holland, MI
- Daniel Johnson - East Lansing, MI
- Anthony Kasch - Adrian, MI
- Kayla Kilgore - Brighton, MI
- Dan Lemons - Belmont, MI
- Rashad Luster - Holland, MI
- Ken Maisonville - South Haven, MI
- Marc Miller - Holland, MI
- Maggie Motz - Fowlerville, MI
- Scott Motz - Fowlerville, MI
- Stacie Motz - Fowlerville, MI
- Christopher Post - Traverse City, MI
- Wael Rihawi - Cadillac, MI
- Andrew Schmidt - Brighton, MI
- Dave Stanzel - Gregory, MI
- Taylor Talbott - Auburn Hills, MI
- Andrew Torrisi - Michigan Center, MI


Congratulations to the following
who celebrated membership
anniversaries last month

- 42 years David Ours
- 37 years Jeffrey Boris
- 37 years Edwin Maklenburg
- 37 years Wayne Rogers
- 34 years Mary Jo Ours
- 28 years Stephen Zelent
- 25 years Richard Bolt
- 14 years John Ruhman
- 12 years Patrick Risse
- 12 years Maria Basaj
- 8 years William DeBoer
- 7 years Jon Adams
- 7 years John Adams
- 6 years Brian Harvey
- 6 years James Repech
- 5 years Kenneth Grabowski
- 5 years B Clark Cambern
- 5 years Paul Gentilozzi
- 5 years Dr Paul Chovaz
- 4 years Charles Thomas
- 3 years Kurt Rotman
- 3 years James J. Warbritton
- 3 years James P. Warbritton
- 3 years Benjamin Warbritton
- 2 years David Auner
- 2 years Karl Heath
- 2 years Alexander Mortensen
- 1 year Ben Coopes
- 1 year Sarah Tarnowski
- 1 year Shawn Schrottenboer

Imagine the
stud fees we'd
get if it was
a race horse.



Introducing the new generation Porsche 911 Turbo. It combines a tremendous 315-horsepower engine with the refined technology of the 911 Carrera 2. Come see it, and our entire Porsche family. They all come from the same genes.

PORSCHE 

SHELBY AC COBRA POWERED BY FORD • 0-60 MPH 4.2 SEC. • 0-100 MPH 10.8 SEC.
TOP SPEED 175 MPH • HANDFORMED ALUMINUM BODY • TUBULAR STEEL CHASSIS
FULL INDEPENDENT SUSPENSION • FOUR WHEEL DISC BRAKES • PRICE \$5995 P.O.E.
SHELBY AMERICAN, INC. • 1042 PRINCETON DRIVE • VENICE, CALIFORNIA



COBRA

Our General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting

--- 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.



Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting at Pietro's has been cancelled

In it's place, we invite you to participate in our WebEx Teleconference on **Saturday, May 08, at 7 pm via telephone.**

To Join the Meeting

Just call: **1 646 558 8656**
or
1 312 626 6799

Enter the Meeting ID: **459 656 4413**

Region Calendar

May 08, 2020

The (in-person) General Membership / Board of Directors Meeting has been cancelled. **We invite you to a Zoom Teleconference via telephone in its place.**

June, 2020

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

Contributors

JIM WASHBURN
Backfire Editor

MARY ELLEN SICKLES
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 dldmoody268@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/WHRRRI Driver's School (classroom) at Waterford Hills
- April 24 - 25 GLDiv/WHRRRI 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

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.



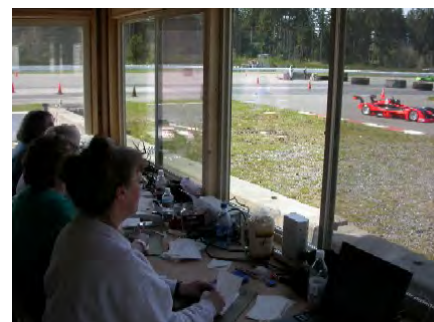
In addition, the Starters maintain the lap count, the elapsed time for the session, and must follow the race order by charting the race as it unfolds. Throughout the race, the Starter also uses other flags, including: blue, black, red, yellow, white, and of course, the flag every leading driver eagerly 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.

April Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2021, 7:02 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, and Lance Loughman

Secretary Report:

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

Regional Executive's Report:

Lenny Basaj: Welcome to everyone

Assistant RE's Report:

Ed Maklenburg: - No Report

Treasurer's Report:

Dave Ferris: Everything is balanced in the checkbook. 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. Mary Ellen Sickles made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Jim Washburn and approved.

Competition Director's Report:

Dayle Frame: (not present) Dave Ferris read Dayle's report: June 19-20 is our regional and August 21-22 is our Majors. We need the Chiefs of Specialties to have workers sign up on MSR. We also need more drivers to sign up in advance.

As for my report, things are moving along (albeit slowly) for our CR events this summer. We now have four cars signed up for the Regional and two for the Major. As for worker head counts, we're at 13 for the Regional and 11 for the Major. Ed & Barb signed up for the Regional on 4/1....I will note that the last worker to sign up before them for either event was 2/14. We need to publicize these events (MSR email blasts, forum posts, etc.). As the Runoffs are in our backyard, we MUST capitalize on entries this summer. SCCA HQ tells us that a driver survey says over 1000 drivers are planning on going to the Runoffs this year. We really need to see

our share of that number. Anything less than 125 at the Major will hinder our financial position for the next few seasons.

I trust that the infrastructure for the event is also moving forward. I know that the ambulances and catering have been arranged. Other than that, I have not heard much about the events. I would say we need to get started or follow up with these items:

1. Will need to inform GLDiv / Topeka of a date change for our Major?
2. Has the Friday insurance policy been arranged for the two events?
3. Has the Fire bottle inspection been scheduled?
4. Do we have enough checkered flags for the Major?
5. Have we started the trophy & worker gifts procurement for the two events?
6. Have we arranged worker lunches for the four days involved in our two events?
7. Are we prepared with PPE for the two races?
8. Does Grattan know we need some paddock spaces (5) set aside for impound for the Major? In the past this has been in the contract.
9. Is Fire / Rescue arranged for the two races?

As Director, I will be visiting a dozen events this summer on top of our two CR events and the Labor Day Solo. I will have VERY little time to oversee the subtle facets of the programs. I will be relying on this body to make sure that all the details are handled. Please come to me if you have any questions.

Solo Manager's Report:

Dan Moody: (not present) Dave Ferris reported: WMR has Solos on Labor Day, September 6, and Sunday October 24. WMR ordered 4 loaner helmets, they have been shipped. We will follow up on the guardrail accident from last year.

April Meeting Minutes

— Continued —

Newsletter Report:

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

Area 4 Director Report:

Dayle Frame: (not present)

Membership Chair Report:

Tom Smolenski: In Great Lakes Division Tim Westenberg CFC. Dave Ferris will print a certificate for him and mail it out.

In the March/April edition of Sports Car magazine on page 12 under Membership Leaders under Medium Regions, WMR was listed as having 13.3% membership growth.

Chief of Specialty Reports:

F&C - Flagging:

Pete Hansen: (not present) Via email they are set for the upcoming season.

F&C - Communications:

Lydia Hansen: (not present) Via email they are set for the upcoming season.

Radios:

Bruce Beauvais: The radios are in the box, and will be checked.

Start:

Bruce Beauvais: Marc Henry will test the start/finish information board.

Grid:

Mary Ellen Sickles: All set for the year.

Timing & Scoring:

Dave Ferris: We are waiting to hear more information about Orbits software and MyLaps. The equipment has been tested and is working.

Sound:

Carola Basaj: - Reported by Lenny: The equipment has been calibrated and returned to us.

Course:

Wayne Rogers: (not present)

Tech:

Ed Maklenburg: He has been done a couple of annuals. Dave Ferris has ordered the battery stickers.

Old Business:

Bylaws Review: Karen Crider, Dave Ferris and Ed Maklenburg: The proposed ByLaws were sent to the board. After lengthy discussion, Mary Ellen Sickles made a motion to approve the updated by-laws, Karen Crider seconded. There was a roll call vote on the Motion:

Lenny Basaj - AYE

Ed Maklenburg - AYE

Karen Crider - AYE

Mary Ellen Sickles - AYE

Jim Washburn - NO

The Motion was approved 4 to 1.

Jim Washburn stated for the record: "I voted NO on the Motion to approve the updated by-laws because the Board was not provided a line-by-line exhibit (as requested prior to the meeting) of the proposed changes to the existing by-laws so we could review each one these changes.

Without this, we could not ascertain what specifically was changed in the proposed revision.

I asked how we could vote to approve something without any understanding of what specifically was included in the proposed revision.

My contention was affirmed when I asked if anyone on the Board could tell me what specifically changed between the Current (1985) version of the by-laws and the proposed (2021) version.

No one could provide me an answer to this question."

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

Our WMR, SCCA Charter Renewal: Lenny Basaj has an updated Charter renewal dated March 9, 2021.

Our 2020 Tax Filing: The taxes were filed last month. Dave Ferris sent the BoD an IRS link. If a member would like a copy please contact Dave Ferris, Treasurer.

BoD Meeting Day: No decisions were made.

Status of Annual Awards: We do not have an Outstanding Member of the Year this year.

Lenny will mail out the Years of SCCA Membership Pins.

One driver, Tim Westenberg ,CFC, received a GRDiv Championship Trophy and will receive a Certificate of Merit from the WMR.

April Meeting Minutes

— Continued —

New Business:

None

Announcements:

We will have a May meeting on May 8th at 7:00 pm on Zoom.

Adjournment:

Ed Maklenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Karen Crider, approved at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ellen Sickles,
Recording Secretary



Dayle Frame
Area 4 Director
Great Lakes Division
517.889.1117 (h)
dframe@scca.com



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

As we head into the competition season, I am reminded just how busy all of us are. Not just the competitors who have to get ready for the upcoming season but all the behind-the-scenes folks who make the races happen. They make the sausage, folks. They deserve a lot of kudos for all their hard work so the rest of us can play with our cars. No matter how you help “make the sausage”, your efforts are not forgotten. The competitors, management of your division and regional officers salute your efforts on our behalf. And drivers, be sure to thank those folks in person and offer a generous donation to the Worker Appreciation Fund of the events you attend.

I had even more meetings this month for a couple of reasons. One, a new sub committee was formed under the Club Racing Board (CRB) called the Electric Vehicle Advisory Committee (EVAC) and we held our first meeting on 4/14. Details about this will be announced later. Two, an additional meeting was held by the CRB to focus on “strategic planning”.

- CRB on 4/6: This was a routine meeting and was finished in less than 90 minutes (a new record during my tenure). Nothing really exciting happened but we’ll see how the driver corps accepts the results (which can be viewed [here](#)).
- EVAC on 4/14: Again, details to be announced later.
- CRB Strategic Planning on 4/22: Some long-term planning discussions were held. The Club Racing program is strong but the changing economy, Club demographics and other factors lend uncertainty for its future. The overarching theme of “how do we make the product better” was applied to a wide variety of topics. This will be an ongoing conversation so we’re planning on meeting monthly to discuss these issues.
- BoD on 4/26: I’ll report on this meeting next month.
- RXB on 4/27: I’ll report on this meeting next month.

My personal travels for race events started this month as I visited my brother in NC for a couple of days before heading to VIRginia International Raceway (VIR) for a Hoosier Super Tour (HST) event there. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the race was considered a “private event” by the State of Virginia. This meant no spectators, no over crew and everyone had to be an SCCA member. They also limited the entries to 300 plus ‘double dippers’. It was a very well-run event with nice weather (other than the Saturday night thunderstorms with a tornado watch in nearby counties).

I'll be off to Pittsburgh International Race Complex (PIRC) for another HST race on 4/30-5/2 and MidOhio for an OVR Major Club Race on 5/22, 5/23. OVR could always use more workers. If you want to sign up, please follow this [link](#). To view all the SCCA events I'll be attending this year, visit [my schedule](#) which is posted on the GLDiv website.

Speaking of the GLDiv website, I am pleased to announce that the new, revised [GLDiv website](#) is now operational. Many congrats go to the webmaster (Rob Dietz) as he molded the new site into its present configuration. The plan was to make this site a "one stop shopping" experience for all of our members. It's still a work in progress so please feel free to offer constructive criticism, high quality photos for the backgrounds, etc. so we can make sure this site helps all members with their GLDiv needs. His email address is gldscaweb@gmail.com.

A quick note to our F&C worker corps, we could use your help with a non-Club Racing event this summer. Topeka is bringing a Time Trails National Tour event to GingerMan this summer (7/16-7/18). 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. I'll be there and am really looking forward to seeing a TT event in person.

One more quick request for our membership. The easiest way to get in touch with you is by having up to date contact info in the SCCA database. Please make sure the SCCA has accurate contact information for you. Go to my.scca.com, sign in and click on the "Edit Contact Info" button in the "Profile Details" box. If you have any trouble doing this, please do not hesitate to reach out to the membership staff in Topeka as they will be glad to help you with this.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

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
(216) 990-5855
doubledlhtwo@yahoo.com

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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