



March 2019

BACKFIRE

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



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Scrutineering

OPEN at this time

Our 2018 Awards Banquet

--- Please Join Us At ---

Brann's Steakhouse

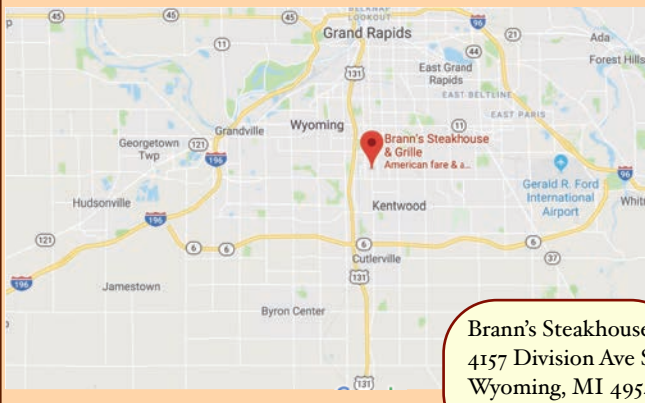
4157 Division Avenue S, Wyoming, MI



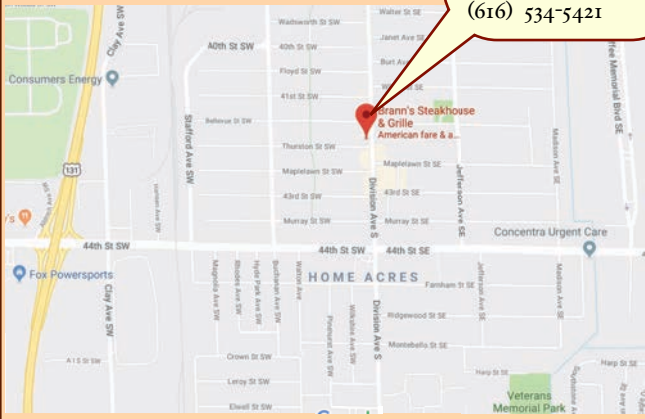
**Cash bar at 6:00pm
Dinner at 6:30 followed by the
Meeting starting at 8:00**



The Banquet will be on March 9, 2019.



Brann's Steakhouse
4157 Division Ave S
Wyoming, MI 49548
(616) 534-5421



Region Calendar

March 2, 2019

GLD Spring Training Seminar at the Findley Inn in Findley, OH

March 9, 2019

Our 2018 Awards Banquet will be at Brann's Steakhouse & Grill, 4157 Division Avenue S, Wyoming, MI. Cash bar at 6:00pm, Dinner at 6:30 followed by the Meeting starting at 8:00

April 13, 2019

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
Secretary

2019 GREAT LAKES DIVISION

SOLO SERIES SCHEDULE

- June 2 South Bend Region - Grissom Aeroplex, Peru, IN
- June 22 & 23 Indy Region - Grissom Aeroplex, Peru, IN
- July 14 Fort Wayne Region - Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, IN
- August 17 & 18 Detroit/Saginaw Valley Region - Wurtsmith Airport, Oscoda, MI
- September 21 & 22 Cincinnati Region - Traders World, Cincinnati, OH
- October 19 South West Virginia Region - Grand Central Mall, Vienna, WV

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

* * * *

2019 WMR SOLO SCHEDULE

- TBD TBD
- September 2 WMR - Labor Day Event at Grattan
- TBD TBD

Contact **Brad Yonkers** at bradyonkers@gmail.com for more information.

2019 GREAT LAKES DIVISION

CLUB RACING SCHEDULE

- **April 13** **GLDiv/WHRRI Driver's School (classroom) at Waterford Hills**
- **April 27 - 28** **GLDiv/WHRRI Driver's School (track time) at Waterford Hills**
- May 2 - 5 VSCDA "Gingerman Spring Brake Drivers School & Races" at Gingerman
- May 18 - 19 DET / SBR "Bert Olson" Majors Double Event at GingerMan
- May 31 - June 2 OVR "Race of Champions" Majors Double Event at Mid-Ohio
- June 22 - 23 SVRA Vintage Grand Prix of Mid-Ohio at Mid-Ohio
- June 22 - 23 WMR "Unrestricted" Double Regional at Grattan
- July 13 - 14 OVR Double Regional at Mid- Ohio
- July 20 - 21 DET/INR/SBR Double Regional at Gingerman
- July 27 - 28 DET/INR/SBR Time Trial National Tour at Gingerman
- August 2 Cincinnati Region PDX at Mid-Ohio
- August 3 - 4 Cincinnati Region Double Regional at Mid-Ohio
- August 10 - 11 WMR "Last Chance" Majors Event at Grattan
- August 16 - 18 VSCDA "Vintage Grand Prix Au Grattan XXX" at Grattan
- October 8 - 13 2019 SCCA National Runoffs at Virginia International Raceway (VIR)
- October 25 OVR PDX at Mid-Ohio
- October 26 - 27 OVR Double "Sprint Classic" Regional at Mid-Ohio

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

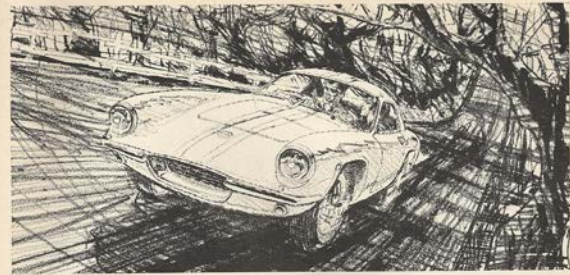
Membership News

WMR welcomes our new or returning members

Kyle Davenport - Lansing, MI

Congratulations
to the following who celebrated membership anniversaries last month

- 53 years Bobbe Orr
- 34 years David Thocher
- 32 years John Herman
- 31 years Walt Nelson
- 22 years Mark Wilsdon
- 20 years Kim Ockerlund
- 20 years William Ockerlund
- 18 years Paul Thieme
- 17 years Steve DeLoof
- 17 years Carola Basaj
- 7 years Mike Sprague
- 5 years Michael Tanner
- 4 years Donald Baldwin
- 3 years Michael McCue
- 1 year Noah Nehring
- 1 year Russ O'Blenes
- 1 year Gordon Stoney
- 1 year Adam Walters
- 1 year Alison Walters
- 1 year Julia Walters



A QUART OF OIL EVERY 300 MILES

YES, LOTUS CARS, LIKE ALL OTHER HIGH PERFORMANCE RACING MACHINES, USE OIL. THE ELITE GT COUPE IS NO EXCEPTION, ITS 1216CC COVENTRY CLIMAX ENGINE IS SET UP WITH SUFFICIENT CLEARANCE TO ASSURE A FREE FLOW OF LUBRICANT TO EVERY MOVING PART, FROM THE ALUMINUM OVERHEAD CAM TO THE SUMP. YOU CAN EXPECT TO TREAT THIS CAR TO A QUART OF OIL ABOUT EVERY THREE HUNDRED MILES. IN RETURN, THE MAN WHO APPRECIATES HIGH PERFORMANCE MACHINES WILL FIND THE ELITE A SENSITIVE, RESPONSIVE AND SPIRITED VEHICLE OF REMARKABLE ENDURANCE AND RELIABILITY.

□ THE ESSENCE OF ELITE MOTORING CAN ONLY BE EXPERIENCED FROM THE COCKPIT WHERE AT 20 OR AT 130 YOU'LL FIND THE SURE-FOOTED GRACE AND EAGERNESS THAT MARK A TRUE SPORTS RACING MACHINE. ITS AERODYNAMIC BODY FORM LIGHT WEIGHT TO POWER RATIO, CHAPMAN SUSPENSION SYSTEM AND GIRLING DISC BRAKES HAVE MADE THE ELITE A POPULAR CLASS COMPETITOR AND A GENUINELY EXCITING, FAST ROAD CAR.

□ LIKE OTHER GT COUPES, THE ELITE EVOLVED DIRECTLY FROM RACING. IN THE PAST, TRANSLATION FROM RACING TO TOURING CARS HAS ALWAYS MEANT COMPROMISE.

HOWEVER, COLIN CHAPMAN IS NO MAN FOR COMPROMISE. A GLANCE AT THE CLEAN, EFFICIENT, SOMEWHAT SPARTAN INTERIOR SHOWS THAT THIS CAR IS FOR THE MAN WHO DEMANDS AND APPRECIATES PERFORMANCE.

SPECIFICATIONS
Dimensions: Wheelbase, 88"; Length, 130"; Width, 58"; Height, 46"; Weight, 1,376 lbs.
Engine: Four-cylinder, single-overhead-camshaft Coventry Climax; displacement 1216cc, 79 hp @ 6300 rpm, twin S.U. carburetors.
Fuel consumption: Range, 30-40 mpg.
Transmission: Four speed, synchromesh on top three, 2nd Four-speed synchromesh optionally available. Top speed: 120 m.p.h.
Suspension: Front, independent by combined coil-spring-damper units and transverse wishbones, incorporating anti-rail bar. Rear, independent by Chapman strut system incorporating long coil spring damper units, double articulated drive shafts and trailing links.

Steering: Rack & pinion, (2.5 lock to lock).
Brakes: Girling hydraulic, 9½" discs, outboard front and inboard rear. Handbrake, on rear.
Price: \$4,780 P.O.E.

If you live in the Pacific Southwest we will be pleased to arrange an opportunity for you to examine and drive the Elite. For those in more remote areas we can supply a considerable amount of information through correspondence and put you in touch with owners in your area.

Exclusive agents for Lotus cars in Southern California, Arizona and Utah:
BOB CHALLMAN Esler Shirlee Corporation
SHOWROOMS AND SERVICE FACILITIES
3301 SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD
MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA
FRONTIER 6-8833

LOTUS ELITE



For little old ladies, it ain't.



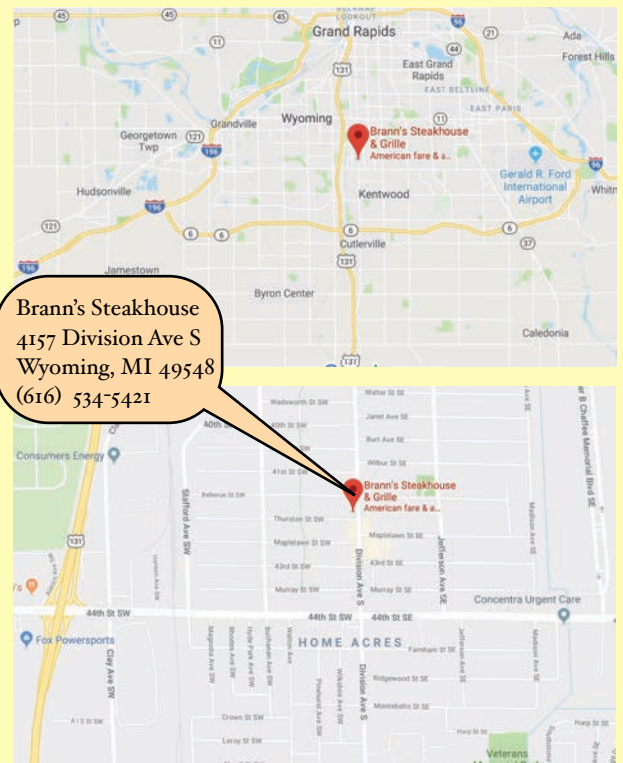
Mini G.T.S. Designed like a Cooper.  Built by Leyland.

Western Michigan Region Annual Awards Banquet



- ✓ Date: **Saturday, March 9, 2019**
- ✓ Time: **Cash bar opens at 6:00pm with dinner starting at 6:30 and the meeting starting at 8:00**
- ✓ Location: **Brann's Steakhouse** at 4157 Division Avenue S, Wyoming, MI (see map)
- ✓ Cost: **\$25 per person** or use your **Free Banquet Ticket** from the WMR Service Award Program
- ✓ Menu: Choice of **Sirloin Steak, Baked Salmon, BBQ Chicken, or Prime Rib**. Dinner includes a Baked Potato, a Salad, Rolls, and a Soft Drink, Tea, or Coffee.

- ✓ **RSVP** via email or phone to Mary Ellen Sickles **by March 1, 2019** rmsickles@comcast.net or (517) 372-1477
- ✓ Mail your check (**Payable to WMR-SCCA**) to Mary Ellen Sickles, 513 Ash Street, Lansing, MI 48906



WMR SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM

Available Credits and Redemption Information

Credits earned with our Service Award Program may be carried over for the most recent two consecutive years.

SOME OF OUR MEMBERS (see below on the next page) have **unused banquet tickets and credits earned in 2017 and 2018**. These banquet tickets may be used for our upcoming Banquet in March and the credits can be used for additional Banquet Tickets, SCCA Merchandise or applied to your 2019 membership renewal fees.

For free banquet tickets or to use credits for banquet tickets you **must make banquet reservations** with our club secretary, Mary Ellen Sickles, by March 1, 2019. You can do this via email at rmsickles@comcast.net or by phone at (517) 372-1477. This is necessary for arrangements that need to be made with the banquet facility.

To use your credit for merchandise.

Review and note the item(s) at sccagear.com, then contact Dave Ferris, our club Treasurer, at 1988irocz28@gmail.com with the product information. He will verify your available credit, ask you to confirm the item number, size, color, etc, and ask you to send a check to him for the balance. He will then place the order to be shipped directly to you.

To use your credit for membership renewal.

When you receive your membership renewal information in the mail, contact Dave at 1988irocz28@gmail.com to verify the amount of credit available. Then mail the renewal form and a check for the difference between your renewal amount and the available credit to Verne. He will forward it to SCCA where it will be processed.

WMR Service Award Program - Available Credits as of 3-01-2019

| Member Name | Banquet Tickets Available as of 3/1/2019 | \$ Credits Available as of 3/1/2019 |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Andrews, Sue | 0 | \$25.00 |
| Barnes, Ray | 1 | \$50.00 |
| Basaj, Anna | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Basaj, Carola | 0 | \$25.00 |
| Basaj, Lenny | 1 | \$25.00 |
| Beauvais, Bruce | 1 | \$100.00 |
| Beauvais, Sue | 1 | \$50.00 |
| Boris, Jeff | 0 | \$50.00 |
| Burnside, Alice | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Burnside, Gary | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Crider, Karen | 1 | \$100.00 |
| Cull, Phil | 0 | \$35.00 |
| Dalziel, Irene | 0 | \$35.00 |
| DeLoof, Steve | 0 | \$20.00 |
| Doane, Marty | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Doane, Nancy | 0 | \$0.00 |
| Ensing, Gordy | 0 | \$35.00 |
| Ferris, Dave | 2 | \$50.00 |
| Frame, Dayle | 1 | \$35.00 |
| Frame, Melinda | 0 | \$50.00 |
| Gaunt-Wandell, Lorrie | 1 | \$75.00 |
| Green, Ric | 1 | \$25.00 |
| Gyulay, Jason | 0 | \$50.00 |
| Gyulay, Mary Beth | 0 | \$0.00 |
| Hansen, Debbie | 1 | \$50.00 |
| Hansen, Lydia | 1 | \$0.00 |
| Hansen, Pete | 1 | \$0.00 |

| Member Name | Banquet Tickets Available as of 3/1/2019 | \$ Credits Available as of 3/1/2019 |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Hawley, Fred | 1 | \$85.00 |
| Henry, Marc | 0 | \$50.00 |
| Henry, Vicki | 0 | \$25.00 |
| Lublow, Ed | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Maklenburg, Ed | 1 | \$25.00 |
| McCormick, Nathan | 0 | \$10.00 |
| McCue, Michael | 0 | \$0.00 |
| Orr, Bobbe | 2 | \$50.00 |
| Redlon, Larry | 0 | \$25.00 |
| Rogers, Wayne | 1 | \$75.00 |
| Secor, Jeff | 0 | \$25.00 |
| Sickles, Mary Ellen | 1 | \$63.10 |
| Sickles, Rod | 1 | \$50.00 |
| Smolenski, Tom | 1 | \$75.00 |
| Stachelek, John | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Steencken, Barb | 0 | \$25.00 |
| Trotter, Bob | 0 | \$0.00 |
| Walters, Allison | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Walters, Dave | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Wandell, Verne | 1 | \$95.00 |
| Washburn, Jim | 1 | \$0.00 |
| Williamson, Aric | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Williamson, Sara | 0 | \$0.00 |
| Woods, Thomas | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Woods, Tyler | 0 | \$10.00 |
| Yonkers, Brad | 2 | \$50.00 |
| | | |

February Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2019, 6:45 pm
Pietro's Italian Restaurant, Grand Rapids, MI

Board Members present: Lenny Basaj, Mary Ellen Sickles, Wayne Rogers, Dave Ferris and Verne Wandell.

Board Members absent: Jim Washburn

Other Members Present: Rod Sickles, Dayle Frame, Bruce Beauvais, Suzy Beauvais, Pete Hansen, Debbie Hansen, Karen Crider and Ed Maklenburg.

Secretary Report:

Mary Ellen Sickles: Our January meeting minutes were approved and printed in the newsletter.

Regional Executive's Report:

Wayne Rogers: Welcome to all members present.

Treasurer's Report:

Dave Ferris: - 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. Lenny Basaj made a motion to accept the report, Verne Wandell seconded, and it was approved.

Competition Director's Report:

Dayle Frame: - We are on track for the upcoming racing season.

Solo Report:

Brad Yonkers: (not present). Given by Dayle Frame: Eaton Corporation will be contacting us again regarding their Solo.

Dave Ferris will be in touch with Michigan Adventure regarding our contract with them.

Newsletter Report:

Jim Washburn would like any information and the minutes by February 22, 2019

Chief of Specialty Reports:

F&C - Flagging:

Pete Hansen: - No Report

F&C - Communications:

Lydia Hansen: (not present) - No report

Radios:

Bruce Beauvais: - No Report

Start:

Bruce Beauvais: - No Report

Grid & Pit:

Rod and Mary Ellen Sickles: - No Report

Timing & Scoring:

Dave Ferris: - No Report

Sound:

Carola Basaj: (not present) - Discussion regarding the upgrading of her license.

Course:

Wayne Rogers: - No Report

Old Business:

New Website Status update: Dave Ferris reports that Wayne signed the contract with Cloudy Mouse, and got our files from Joe Perri.

Long Term Race Trailer Storage: Wayne Rogers reported that following research on an enclosed RV carport it was decided it would be the best way to go. It is installed and bolted to the cement by the people delivering it. The size is 18 x 36 x 12 with a 10 x 10 door. The cost would be \$6635.00 for the carport, and approximately 1600.00 for the cement. Wayne will talk to Grattan and report to us next month.

Race Trailer Repairs: Our race trailer needs work on the roof, axles and tires. Inspection of the roof was \$50.00 applied to the cost of repairs. The cost per axle would be approximately \$120.00. In addition, new tires are needed. Dave Ferris made a motion to spend up to \$1000.00 for the repairs, Verne Wandell seconded, and the motion was approved.

February Meeting Minutes

— Continued —

Old Business - continued

Lithium Batteries: A portable foam fire suppression system was discussed. The cost is approximately \$4000 and would be able to put out any class of fire, including Class D. It uses an encapsulating agent to cut off the air supply and cool the metal. Dave Ferris will do further research and present it to us.

Reports From The Convention: Reports from the convention are at SCCA's home page. Click on "About" and "Downloads".

New Business:

Bracket Racing is being tried by SBR at their Gingerman regional. Discussion of that or an enduro next year. There was also a discussion of a free Rally race for workers.

Announcements:

None

Adjournment:

Dave Ferris made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Pete Hansen, approved at 8:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ellen Sickles,
Recording Secretary





Happy 75th Birthday, Sports Car Club of America!

TOPEKA, Kan. (Feb. 26, 2019) – On February 26, 1944, seven sports car enthusiasts met at the Boston, Mass. home of Chapin Wallour to form a club dedicated to the preservation of sports cars. That group of gentlemen may not have known it then, but the birth of the Sports Car Club of America® that evening changed the face of motorsports, and – in the minds of many race fans today – the world.

That first SCCA® meeting 75 years ago was a bit more "exclusive" as compared to today's Club. The list of cars owned by founders Everett Dickinson, John Doby, Arnold Engborg, Theodore Robertson, George Schulz, Robert Townsend, and Chapin Wallour sound like museum pieces: a Duesenberg "J" double cowl Phaeton, a Lancia Lambda 5th Series Roadster, a Kissel Speedster, Stutz DV 32 Sports Tourer, Mercer series 4 Raceabout, Isotta Fraschini type 8A Castagna Convertible Coupe, and a Rolls Royce Phantom I Ascot Phaeton. The original constitution, penned by Robertson, stated membership in the Club would be restricted to owners of sports cars, sponsored by one current member, seconded by another, and elected by unanimous vote of the officers. Then, that new member had to pay the yearly dues within 30 days – the sum being three dollars.



Now celebrating its 75th Diamond Anniversary, the SCCA looks a lot different today with 67,500 members and 116 Regions conducting more than 2,000 motorsports events each year. The Club has produced racing legends such as Mark Donohue, Phil Hill, Dan Gurney, Bobby Rahal, Roger Penske, Paul Newman, George Follmer and so many more. It's safe to say the seven founders likely never imagined their Club hosting such events as the recent 969-entry SCCA National Championship Runoffs® at Indianapolis Motor Speedway or a 1,375-entry Tire Rack SCCA Solo® Nationals in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Equally impressive is how the Club has transformed over the years from a mentality of exclusivity to a mindset of inclusion. Today, SCCA welcomes automobile fans from all walks of life to join in and have fun with cars through [Road Racing](#), [Solo](#), [Road Rally](#), [Hill Climb](#) or volunteerism. The Club has also added innovative new programs such as [Track Night in America](#) Driven by Tire Rack, [RallyCross](#), and the Tire Rack [Time Trials National Tour](#) in recent history.

The founding members laid the building blocks for the current version of the Club, as has every passionate member along the way. Throughout 2019, SCCA members will deservedly pat themselves on the back for an impressive accomplishment – realizing many clubs, businesses, products and organizations have come and gone in the last 75 years. What will SCCA look like in 75 more years? Nobody can know for sure, but the Club and its members sure look forward to the journey and road ahead.

Learn more about SCCA's history through the [Racer.com](#) story "[SCCA: 75 Years of Setting the Bar.](#)"

The Sports Car Club of America®, Inc., founded in 1944, is a 67,500-member motorsports organization that incorporates all facets of autocross, rally and road racing at both Club and organization that incorporates all facets of autocross, rally and road racing at both Club and professional levels. With headquarters in Topeka, Kansas, the SCCA annually sanctions over 2,000 events through its 116 Regions and subsidiary divisions. Much of the SCCA's activities are made possible with support from the following Official Partners: Hagerty, the Official Insurance Partner of SCCA; Hawk Performance, the Official Brake Products of SCCA; Sunoco, the Official Fuel of SCCA; and Tire Rack, the Official Tire Retailer of SCCA. To learn more, please visit www.scca.com.



Since 1995



Since 2001



Since 2003



Since 2019

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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twitter.wmr-scca.org

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