



The Pit Stop



SCCA Southern Indiana Region Monthly Newsletter January 2025 Volume 72 Number 1



January RE Report

Wow, Where did the time go? It seems like just a few days ago we were sweating like crazy at an autocross at MAAC trying to run down the leaders. Now it's cold as (insert your favorite phrase here.) It might be cold outside, but things are always heating up in the SIR group.

Jon Schwartz, our newest board member, is trying to combine some sim racing events with the Evansville Cars and Coffee events. These gatherings don't pay any points or anything, they're just car folks getting together to do some virtual racing.

Steve Backer is busy at work trying to get us event marshals for 2025. This is your chance to design your own autocross or rally road course. If you have never designed a course, you should give it a shot. There are plenty of people willing to help you along if you need it. I remember my first autocross track design and it was loads of fun. My first rally was a little more stressful, but at the end I had a blast watching the car dots on a phone run around Spencer County.

Paul Dornburg is anxiously awaiting this letter so he can publish the Pit Stop. Bob Sonntag and Ernie Roales are doing Bob and Ernie things, and the rest of the board are probably wondering why I didn't mention them. LOL Jarrod and Dawn are always doing amazing things in the background with our media accounts trying to get more folks involved.

Speaking of events, we have meetings coming up followed by the grand patch parties at MAAC. They will be here before you know it so get ready. See motorsports reg for all the details. You can earn bonus runs for the autocross season, and maybe a hint or two in a rally. I might have made the rally part up, but I wonder if anyone would come work for a hint????

I hope to see everyone soon. Stay safe and warm throughout the rest of these cold weeks ahead.

JR

2025 Board Members

Regional Executive	Jonathan Crowe	812-629-8237	re@sirscga.org
Assistant Regional Executive	Jarrod Davis	812-890-0594	are@sirscga.org
Secretary	Ernie Roales	618-544-1602	secretary@sirscga.org
Treasurer	Bob Sonntag	812-477-5936	treasurer@sirscga.org
Activity Chair	Steve Backer	812-639-8103	events@sirscga.org
Assistant Activity Chair	Jon Schwartz	812-766-3644	tech@sirscga.org
Women's Chair	Dawn Sturgeon	812-480-4762	women@sirscga.org
Advisor	Terry Davis	812-453-1376	advisor@sirscga.org
Newsletter Editor/Website	Paul Dornburg	270-314-9069	pitstop@sirscga.org

SIR/SCCA December Board Meeting on 12/03/2024

- Called to Order at 6:49 by RE Crowe
 - 8 club members present (7 current BoD members)
 - Incoming Asst. Activities Jon Schwartz attended
- **Officer Reports**
 - **Secretary:** Ernie Roales moved to accept minutes as published, 2nd by Dornburg, carried.
 - **Treasurer:** Bob Sonntag reported a balance of \$7945.94
 - He then moved to donate \$200 to MAAC Foundation, 2nd by Dornburg, carried.
 - **Activities:** Steve Backer had no report.
 - **Asst. Activities:** Jim Cannon was absent.
 - **Pit Stop:** Paul Dornburg announced a deadline of 1/1/25 for Pit Stop articles.
 - He then requested year-end articles ASAP.
 - **Women's Chair:** Dawn Sturgeon was absent.
 - **Advisor:** Terry Davis finally got connected and had nothing to report.
 - **Asst RE:** Jarrod Davis arrived late and had no report.
 - **RE:** Jr. Crowe had no report.
- **Old Business**
 - Voting Electronically
 - MSR worked however low turnout, may be due to lack of MSR accounts.
 - Other platforms possible (Google Office?)
 - Alternate meeting sites
 - Primetime in Newburgh, IN if needed.
 - A possibility for the January board meeting or the October member meeting (for Fall Festival conflicts).
 - Pylon Storage
 - Bob Sonntag and Ernie Roales will move the cones to the storage trailer when the weather permits.
 - Indian Award: Consensus that there is no worthy candidate.
- **New Business**
 - Banquet
 - Roales to shop for "The Game" and 10 to 15 gifts are needed.
 - The club will contribute two \$50 SCCA shop certificates. Paul Dornburg has certificates ready.
 - Winter events at Fastest Lap
 - Jon Schwartz proposed sessions on three Cars and Coffee dates; the consensus was to proceed with January, February, & March activities.
 - Calendar for 2025
 - Bob Sonntag was thanked for setting it up.
 - The June rally moved from 6/22 to 6/29.
 - Moved Aug solo from 8/24 to 8/17.
 - Test and Tune move to 5/3 and before first solo on 5/4.
 - Moved MirrorCross to Oct 5 fun event/spare date.
 - All approved the suggested calendar changes.
- **Meetings**
 - Membership/Awards Banquet, Dec. 10th, gather at 5:45 pm, meeting at 7 pm at Smitty's, Award Banquet please dress accordingly.
 - Board Jan 7th at 6:30 via Zoom or in person at Primetime?
- **Adjournment**
 - Adjourned at 7:58 with 8 present.

SIR/SCCA 2024 Awards Banquet & December Membership Meeting, 12/10/2024

- Called to Order by RE Crowe at 7:04 PM
 - 40 people present
 - Guests (not including the usual guests)
 - Karen Graham
 - Kathy Wheelock

- Parker James
 - Debbie Jackson
 - Sally Davis
- **Officer Reports**
 - **Secretary** Ernie Roales motioned to accept minutes as published in Pit Stop; 2nd by Advisor Terry Davis, motion carried.
 - **Treasurer** Bob Sonntag reported a balance of \$6,750.34.
 - **Activities Chair** Steve Backer had no report.
 - **Asst Activities Chair** Jim Cannon reported “DGTBH.”
 - **Pit Stop Editor** Paul Dornburg shared the deadline as the first Wednesday of the year. (1/1/2025).
 - **Women’s Chair** Dawn Sturgeon had no report.
 - **Advisor** Terry Davis had no report.
 - **Asst RE** Jarrod Davis had no report.
 - **RE** Crowe had no report.
- **Old Business**
 - Crowe’s Circus rally results were presented. See them on our website for the particulars.
 - Service pins:
 - 5 Years:
 - Present/Represented: Marci Backer, Don Beaman, John Luke Crowe, Josie Crowe
 - Not Present: John Warren, Jeff Reising, Chase Reising, Lee Lingo, House of Fehribach (Noah, Gabriel, Dean, & Courtney)
 - 10 Years:
 - Present: Suellyn Lehrschaal
 - Not present: John McGregor & Tatsuo Noda
 - 15 Years
 - Present: Karen Davis & Ernie Roales
 - Not Present: Jeremy Duke
 - 20 Years
 - Present: Dave Lehrschaal
 - Not Present: Don Kelley
 - 30 Years – Not Present: Mike and Lauren Kincaid
 - 50 Years – Not Present: Jan Bootz
 - Paul Dornburg announced club birthdays and other anniversaries
 - Championship trophies were presented
 - Rookie: Cameron Davis and George Lewis shared the Rookie of the Year trophy
 - Rally
 - 3rd: Dave & Suellyn Lehrschaal
 - 2nd: tie Ernie & Sue Roales and Terry Davis & Bob Sonntag
 - 1st: tie Jr & Josie Crowe and Harold & Karen Davis
 - Solo-Autocross
 - 3rd: Jon Schwartz
 - 2nd: Paul Dornburg
 - 1st: John Crowe
 - Berry
 - 3rd: Ernie Roales
 - 2nd: Bob Sonntag (by one point...but that’s all it takes)
 - 1st: Paul Dornburg
 - Service plaques were presented to board members.
 - The new board was introduced.
 - Next Meetings
 - Board: January 7th at 6:30, place/mode to be determined.
 - Member: January 14th at Smitty’s. We meet at 5:45, meeting at 7:00.
 - Adjourned by motion by Jeff Jackson, 2nd by all, aye by all. 40 people present. “The Game” commenced.

TLDR

- GET AN ANNUAL **WAIVER**!!! You can apply for your 2025 annual waiver now! See Bob's instructions below. 15 members have their 2025 waiver.
- 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!
- On our website, sirscca.org, clicking on the red **Calendar** icon at the top of the page will take you to a page that has all our competition events listed with an icon that will take you to the registration site, MotorSportReg.com.
- The cost for us to put on event has increased slightly but our entry fees have not.
- Our own Bob Sonntag is doing some rally presentations at the SCCA National Convention. You can see them in the schedule. Register here: **2025 SCCA National Convention**

Anniversaries and Birthdays

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** The club has 135 members as of 1/1/2025.

January Birthdays

Tatsuo Noda	1/5
Gene Young	1/7
MacKenzi Crowe	1/15
David Lehrschall	1/16
Dave Hostetter	1/25
Terry Davis	1/26
Cooper Lilly	1/26
Scott Campbell	1/29
Dennis Elliott	1/30

January Anniversaries

Dennis Elliott	01/01/1971	54 yrs.
Janalee Bootz	01/01/1974	51 yrs.
Wilson Welch	01/12/2012	13 yrs.
Stacey Grav	01/13/2015	10 yrs.
Cooper Wink	01/04/2021	4 yrs.
Graham Wink	01/04/2021	4 yrs.

Annual Waivers

The SIR BoD encourages each SCCA member to get his or her free annual waiver. To help "motivate" SIR members to do that, we charge SIR members using an event SpeedWaiver an extra \$5. We have also stopped using the paper event waiver.

Here's the step-by-step process in a slightly different form than is typically at the end of each edition of Pit Stop.

- 1) Have a reasonable picture of your face ready to upload from the device you use to get your annual waiver. Your full face must be visible. No helmet, no dark glasses, no mask, etc.
- 2) Log into my.scca.com.
- 3) On a PC, mouse over the "Online Store" on the menu line. It's two in from the right.
On a smart phone, expand the menu, then expand the "Online Store" option. It's two up from the bottom of the list.
- 4) Select the "License & Waivers" option.
- 5) Add the "Annual Waiver Adult" option to the cart.
- 6) Follow the instructions on the screen AND remember to follow through on the checkout process.
 - o I'da listed those steps too but I can't get a second annual waiver. (Sorry.)
- 7) There is real-person review (mostly to check pictures) that happens in the SCCA office. If you've completed your side of the process outside of SCCA office hours, there will be at least a day's delay in the issuance of the annual waiver. There are no annual waivers left in a pre-review state by the end of business on Fridays.

This also seems like a good time mention that the SCCA Minor Event waiver is now available only online and requires support from the SCCA staff. Thus, there is no way to get a minor waiver on a weekend. Plan accordingly. The process begins with steps 1 through 4 above.

Bob Sonntag

SIR/SCCA 2025 Calendar

NOTE: All autocross dates are provisional! (Awaiting MAAC & FAA/ILDOT approval.)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location
January				
1.14	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	Smitty's Italian Restaurant 2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN
1.16	Thu	6:30 PM	SCCA Natl Convention - Highlight: SCCA Annual Meeting	Online
1.17	Fri	5:30 PM	SCCA Natl Convention - Highlight: Convention Opening Session & Hall of Fame/Club Awards	Online
1.18	Sat		SCCA Natl Convention - Highlight: Program direction & town hall sessions	Online
1.19	Sun		SCCA Natl Convention - Highlight: Event marketing (6:00 PM)	Online
1.20	Mon		M L King Day	
1.20	Mon		SCCA Natl Convention - Highlight: Solo course design (6:00 PM)	Online
1.21	Tue		SCCA Natl Convention - Highlight: Marketing social media basics (5:00 PM)	Online
1.22	Wed		SCCA Natl Convention - Highlight: Wavers (11:00 AM)	Online
1.23	Thu		SCCA Natl Convention - Highlight: RoadRally's "Fun w/ Main Road Rules, Pt 1" (4:00) & Solo	Online
1.24	Fri		SCCA Natl Convention - Highlight: RoadRally's "Fun w/ Main Road Rules, Pt 2" (4:00 PM)	Online
February				
2.02	Sun		Groundhog Day	
2.02	Sun	9:00 AM	Cars & Coffee	Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN
2.02	Sun	12:00 PM	Fastest Lap (Immersive racing simulator)	Fastest Lap 941 North Park Drive, Evansville, IN
2.04	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscga.org for the link.
2.11	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	Smitty's Italian Restaurant 2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN
2.14	Fri		Valentine's Day	
2.19	Mon		President's Day	
2.22	Sat	9:00 AM	Cabin Fever Vaccine Drive (Evansville, IN to The Overlook, Leavenworth, IN)	Hardee's Restaurant 1501 North Boeke Road, Evansville, IN
2.28	Fri		Great Lakes Division Convention - Travel Day / Welcome Social	Ft Wayne, IN
March				
3.01	Sat		Great Lakes Division Convention	Ft Wayne, IN
3.02	Sun		Great Lakes Division Convention - Travel Day	
3.02	Sun	9:00 AM	Cars & Coffee *** Rally next week. ***	Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN
3.02	Sun	12:00 PM	Fastest Lap (Immersive racing simulator)	Fastest Lap 941 North Park Drive, Evansville, IN
3.04-11	TBD	9:00 AM	MAAC Patch Recon (one day this week) *** Prior to the M'ship meeting for info sharing. ***	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
3.04	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscga.org for the link.
3.09	Sun		Daylight Saving Time Begins	
3.09	Sun	12:30 PM	Rally – Championship Event 1 of 7	TBD
3.11	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	Smitty's Italian Restaurant 2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN
3.13/14	Thu/Fri		MAAC Patch Day 0 - Cutting Day	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
3.14/15	Fri/Sat	9:00 AM	MAAC Patch Day 0 - Cutting Day (Carryover Day)	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
3.22	Sat	9:00 AM	MAAC Patch Day 1a - Dig & Patch	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
3.23	Sun	9:00 AM	MAAC Patch Day 1b - Dig & Patch	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
3.24	Mon		Spring Break Begins -- EVSC Schools Spring Break Begins -- Warrick County Schools	
3.28	Fri		Spring Break Ends -- EVSC Schools Spring Break Ends -- Warrick County Schools	
3.29	Sat	9:00 AM	MAAC Patch Day 2a - Dig & Patch -OR- Pouring Day	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
3.30	Sun	9:00 AM	MAAC Patch Day 2a - Dig & Patch (May be cancelled if the patching completed.)	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
April				
4.01	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome (no fooling).	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscga.org for the link.
4.05	Sat	8:00 AM	MAAC Patch Day 3 - Pouring Day (Weather permitting.)	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
4.08	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	Smitty's Italian Restaurant 2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN
4.12	Sat	8:00 AM	MAAC Patch Day 3 - Pouring Rate Date (Will be cancelled if possible.)	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
4.12	Sat		"Tulips & Other Spring Flowers" Rally	Columbia, IL
4.13	Sun		Palm Sunday	
4.20	Sun		Easter Sunday	
4.26	Sat	9:00 AM	AX -- Test-n-Tune	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
4.27	Sun	9:00 AM	AX -- Championship Event 1 of 7	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
May				
5.03	Sat	9:15 AM	Rally School (Interest justifying.)	
5.04	Sun	9:00 AM	Cars & Coffee	Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN
5.06	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscga.org for the link.
5.11	Sun		Mother's Day	
5.13	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	Smitty's Italian Restaurant 2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN
5.17	Sat		Armed Forces Day	
5.18	Sun	12:30 PM	Rally – Championship Event 2 of 7	TBD
5.26	Mon		Memorial Day	
June				
6.01	Sun	9:00 AM	AX -- Championship Event 2 of 7	Mid-American Air Center , Lawrenceville, IL
6.03	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscga.org for the link.
6.07	Sat		"Roads Scholar" National Course Rally	Madison, WI
6.08	Sun		"Roads Scamper" National Tour Rally	Madison, WI
6.10	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	Smitty's Italian Restaurant 2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN
6.15	Sun		Father's Day	
6.24	Tue	TBD	Hemmings Motor News "Great Race" National Event - Overnight Stop	Owensboro, KY
6.25	Wed	TBD	Hemmings Motor News "Great Race" National Event - Departs for Elizabethtown, KY	Owensboro, KY
6.29	Sun	12:30 PM	Rally – Championship Event 3 of 7	TBD

July				
7.01	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.
7.04	Fri		Independence Day	
7.06	Sun	9:00 AM	Cars & Coffee	Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN
7.08	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	Smitty's Italian Restaurant 2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN
7.13	Sun	9:00 AM	AX -- Championship Event 3 of 7	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL
7.27	Sun	9:00 AM	AX -- Championship Event 4 of 7	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL
August				
8.03	Sun	12:30 PM	Rally -- Championship Event 4 of 7	TBD
8.05	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.
8.09	Sat		"Red Moon" Rally	Troy, IL
8.12	Tue	6:15 PM	Membership Meeting at The Log Inn. Reservations req'd. Email treasurer@sirscca.org. Business meeting to follow dinner.	The Log Inn 12491 County Road 200 East, Warrenton, IN
8.16	Sat		"CAST in Stone" Rally (Perhaps as a National or Divisional event.)	Alliance, OH
8.24	Sun	9:00 AM	AX -- Championship Event 5 of 7 - WHEW! by Paul Dornburg	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL
8.26	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.
8.29	Fri		"Tulips by Night" Divisional Tour Rally	Columbia, IL
8.30	Sat		TBD - Divisional Course Rally	Columbia, IL
8.31	Sun		TBD - Divisional Game/Tour/Adventure Rally	Columbia, IL
September				
9.01	Mon		Labor Day	
9.01	Mon		2025 Solo Nationals - Travel/Prep Day	
9.02	Tue		2025 Solo Nationals - Competition Day	Lincoln Air Park, Lincoln, NE
9.03	Wed		2025 Solo Nationals - Competition Day	Lincoln Air Park, Lincoln, NE
9.04	Thu		2025 Solo Nationals - Competition Day	Lincoln Air Park, Lincoln, NE
9.05	Fri		2025 Solo Nationals - Competition Day	Lincoln Air Park, Lincoln, NE
9.05	Fri		"Press On Regardless - Friday" National Tour Rally	Gaylord, MI
9.06	Sat		2025 Solo Nationals - Travel Day	
9.06	Sat		"Press On Regardless - Saturday" National Tour Rally	Gaylord, MI
9.07	Sun	9:00 AM	Cars & Coffee	Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN
9.09	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	Smitty's Italian Restaurant 2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN
9.14	Sun	9:00 AM	AX -- Championship Event 6 of 7	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL
9.20	Sat		"Oktoberally" National Course Rally	Viroqua, WI
9.21	Sun		"Badger Coulees" National Tour Rally	Viroqua, WI
9.28	Sun	9:00 AM	AX -- Championship Event 7 of 7	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL
October				
10.05	Sun	9:00 AM	AX -- Fun "Mirrorcross" Autocross / Rain Date	Mid-American Air Center, Lawrenceville, IL
10.07	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.
10.12	Sun	12:30 PM	Rally -- Championship Event 5 of 7 The World Famous Ice Cream Rally	Lic's Deli & Ice Cream, 2120 W Parrish Ave., Owensboro, KY 42301
10.14	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	
10.26	Sun	12:30 PM	Rally -- Championship Event 6 of 7	TBD
November				
11.02	Sun	9:00 AM	Cars & Coffee	Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN
11.04	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.
11.09	Sun	12:30 PM	Rally -- Championship Event 7 of 7	TBD
11.11	Tue		Veterans Day	
11.11	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting at Smitty's Italian Restaurant Dinner and socializing at start at 5:45 PM. Business meeting at 7:00 PM.	Smitty's Italian Restaurant 2109 West Franklin Street, Evansville, IN
11.16	Sun		*** Last usable weekend day for a Points Event. (Time needed to prepare EOY awards.) ***	
11.27	Thu		Thanksgiving	
11.29	Sat		*** If needed, the Awards Bqt reservation cut-off day is about here. ***	
December				
12.02	Tue	6:30 PM	Board Meeting - All members welcome.	ZOOM - Contact treasurer@sirscca.org for the link.
12.05	Fri		Pre-COVID-19 Traditional December Membership Meeting & Awards Banquet Date	
12.07	Sun	9:00 AM	Cars & Coffee	Washington Square Mall, Evansville, IN
12.09	Tue	5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting & Awards Banquet -- Perhaps? Dinner, socializing, and The Game!	TBD
12.24	Tue		Christmas Eve	
12.25	Wed		Christmas	
12.31	Tue		New Year's Eve	

Dayle Frame
Area 4 Director
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Notes from the Director's Chair Area 4 Director Update for January 2025

I apologize for the delay but it was pointed out to me that I failed to alert you that due to the holidays, general chaos around here, etc., I did not generate a monthly update for January.

Dayle Frame

Winter Activities:

We're going to do a 2-event sim-racing challenge. It was going to be a 3 race challenge but the first one got snowed out. Fastest Lap in Evansville has state of the art, motion simulator rigs. I've always wanted to do something more in the offseason months of December to April, and I believe this is a great place to do so.

The preferred dates would be the same as Cars N' Coffee events in Evansville, as those car shows start at 9am. Fastest Lap opens at noon, and it would be pretty easy for some of our Cars N' Coffee participating members to swing by and get some seat time in while having some fun with other club members.

The dates would be February 2nd and March 2nd. Fastest Lap has a very easy registration/booking system on their website, and members would be encouraged to sign up and book an allotted time between 12pm and 1pm. You only pay for the minutes you use the sim rigs, not the booked time, so they don't charge until you're on location.

Plan to book a 1-hour slot, and if you don't use it all, that's fine. They currently have 4 sim rigs active, with another 4 available (Total of 8) in the very near future. This should accommodate us very well in a less than 2-to-3-hour window. I would like to ask anyone that signs up to let me know they are attending as well.

As the challenge goes on, we would all be on the same track, same car/class for at least the first 2 events, and would be able to set lap times to compare with others, very similar to how our autocrosses function. iRacing will be the preferred simulator, although they do have Assetto Corsa available as well. Perhaps for the 3rd event we could do an actual full-on race with warmup, qualifying, and a 30-minute race.

Tracks and car selection will be determined later, but I'm very much leaning towards the most beginner friendly, to sim-racing, cars on the iRacing service, such as the GR86 cup car or club spec Mazda MX5, and smaller American tracks such as Laguna Seca, Watkins Glen, Sebring International, Virginia International Raceway, etc.

Let me know what you think.

- Jon Schwartze - jon.schwartze@gmail.com

2025 Board of Directors



Regional Executive: Jonathan Crowe, also known as Jr., is starting his 8th 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 his daughter Josie did quite well in the 2023 rally season, they upped their game and tied for 1st place in the 2024 rally season. Then, Jr. won his 1st autocross championship this year, finally! He ended his outstanding year 4th in Berry points.



Assistant Regional Executive: Jarrod Davis is starting his 2nd year on the Board. He was the 2023 Rookie of the Year. In 2024 he finished 4th in the autocross point standings. 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 did a rally this year which contributed to his 9th place Berry point total.



Secretary: Ernie Roales has been an SCCA member since 2009 and is starting his 5th year as club secretary. He intends to compete for all the club trophies in 2025 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 2024 ERnie and his wife Sue were tied with the Sonntag/Davis team for 2nd in rally points. He finished 3rd in Berry points, 9th in SIR autocross points and was 2nd in D Street class in the Great Lakes Division Solo Series.



Treasurer: Bob Sonntag is a long-time SCCA member (44 yrs), most of which has been spent on our board. His last break from the board was from 2001 to 2002 because he moved to Phoenix, AZ for a very short period of time. 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 also received the Indian Award. His favorite SCCA activity is Time/Speed/Distance rallying. He enjoys putting them on as well as competing. He recently became a member of the SCCA National Rally Board. In 2024, he was 2nd in Berry points, tied for 2nd in rally points, and finished 18th in autocross points...running his Genesis GV80, an SUV, and a few events in Dave Lehrschall's Mustang.



Activities Chair: Steve Backer starts his 3rd 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 13th in 2024 SIR autocross points and 12th 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: Jon Schwartze, has been a club member since 2017, but also participated in multiple events in the years 2000-2001 as a guest. This is his first year serving on the board. Jon has had multiple seasons of 3rd place finishes in autocross points, with a 2nd place points finish in 2022. He went to Solo Nationals in 2024 for the first time, competing in B Street in his BMW M2. Jon's goal is to improve wintertime activities for club members.



Women's Chair: Dawn Sturgeon is now starting her 5th 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 5 times competing in D Street in her Subaru and most recently in F Street in her 2017 Mustang GT. In 2024 she was 15th in autocross points, 4th in rally points and 7th in Berry points.



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 15th 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 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 2nd in autocross points, 5th in rally points and 1st in Berry points.

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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Long time SCCA member Barry Schonberger is our local Koni Dealer. Let him know if you need shocks for your car. teamtiger21@aol.com

