

The ***Snarling Exhaust***

March 2005

A publication of the CNY Region
Sports Car Club of America



Is your Sportscar also patiently waiting?

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April Rally Info

Don't forget next membership meeting
Wednesday March 9th,
Liverpool American Legion 7pm

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The RE Korner by Joe Kramer

For those of you who missed it, the annual banquet at the Craftsman Inn in Dewitt was a great success. The guest speakers themselves were worth the fifteen bucks. Roy Hopkins and Adrienne Hughes came equipped with 2 videos from the Targa Newfoundland rally. One of these was shot from their in-car camera; the other was the official video of the event. It was an eye-opener to see cars running rally stages through neighborhoods with the residents watching from their front lawns (especially in light of SCCA's recent decision on performance rallying). Roy and Adrienne were knowledgeable and very entertaining.

Thanks to John Coffin for inviting them. (My only backup was to show slides from my Australia trip: "...and this is my hotel from a different angle...and those are some more sheep..."). The meal was excellent, as usual. Thanks to Bruce Parker for making the arrangements.

I'll be working the Snow and Ice Rally Saturday, March 5. It should be another interesting event, especially if the weather cooperates – what's a snow and ice rally without snow and ice?

The Northeast division of SCCA is holding its Roundtable in Rochester this year on March 18, 19 and 20 at the Lodge at Woodcliffe.

(It probably won't get any closer unless we host one ourselves). I'll be attending Saturday and Sunday. There will be seminars of interest to road racers, rallyists and soloists. With it being so close, I'm hoping to see a few members from the region there.

Mark Bizzozero is in the midst of planning a Solo II schedule for the year. He hopes to have that ready soon. Rumor has it that The Glacier at Shoppingtown hasn't appeared yet, but it's still early. Stay tuned to your Snarling for the latest developments...

SCCA is stepping up its efforts to promote RallyCross at the regional level, now that Club Rally is history. Scott Beliveau, our NEDiv RallyCross Steward has offered his help in this area. At the last membership meeting, we discussed this and there appears to be some interest in CNY putting on one of these events this season. RallyCross is a timed event similar to Solo, but on a dirt course or other loose surface (ice or snow). Sounds like a blast.

Well, that's all I have for this month. So....

Until next time, keep the rubber side down.

CNYR General Membership Meeting
held on February 9, 2005 at the
American Legion Post in Liverpool,
NY.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM **Joe Kramer** time (actually 7:27PM real time) by **CNYR Executive, Joe Kramer**.

Unfortunately, no one realized that the meeting had started and Joe was ignored for a good 10-15 minutes before people figured it out. For some reason he found it necessary to go over, item by item, everything that was contained in the February newsletter (he must assume we are unable to read).

Activities: **Bruce Parker**, will be taking a group up to Watkins Glenn in July for the Nationals like he did last year. He is working on the specific details and they will be forthcoming. Also, we will have a “family” event on February 25 at Highland Forest in Fabius. We have the lodge reserved and there will be horse drawn sleigh rides as well as food and hot chocolate.

Secretary: I asked that the minutes as published in the Snarling be accepted. After a heated debate, and the questioning or certain potential spelling errors, they were passed as published.

At this time a lively discussion broke out between the senior members of the club regarding adult entertainment. We aren't exactly sure why this happened, or what was the spark that started the conversation, but you would have thought you were in the room with a bunch of 13 year olds with the way they were giggling and carrying on.

Assistant R/E: **Mike Donofrio** had nothing to report other than he had a cold.

He also mentioned that he has been working on his car and hopefully will be up and running before the beginning of racing season.

Flagging/Communication: **Mike Fuller** announced that there would be a flagging school in the beginning of April. Contact him for further details.

Competition/Merchandise: **Joe Zingaro** took a head count as to how many Solo II rule books to order this year, we are estimating 12-15 to eliminate the club being stuck with any at years end.

Rex Frankin somehow found out that there is a group of businessmen from the Binghamton area interested in opening a race track which would include a drag strip and a road course at the now closed Endicott Airport. He had no other details but would investigate.

Solo II: **Mark Bizzozero** was not in attendance but passed along that there would be a Solo II board meeting at the Retreat Restaurant next Wednesday at 7pm.

New Business: It was determined that the club would pay for people interested representing the club at the Northeast Roundtable.

The 50/50 raffle for \$12.00 was won by **Me**.

Treasurer: At the last minute **Frank Beyer** came running through the door. The financial condition of the club was status quo.....we have money.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm real time.

Submitted, **Jay Cartini**, CNYR Secretary

TIPS FROM THE CONE ZONE

A series of tips from the more successful Solo II drivers for the many less experienced drivers and newbies. Anthony Donofrio graciously agreed to be interviewed.

Name: Anthony Donofrio

Car make/year/class: 2004 Blue Dodge SRT4 / DS

Drive it on street? Daily driver? Yes. In winter, he drives a 1995 Subaru Impreza Wagon

Favorite fan: Mother, Kathy

Membership: SCCA and CNY Club member for three years

Years auto crossing: Two years.

Number of Solo II events last year: Six events.

Other hobbies: Anthony is a full-time student working on an Associates Degree in Humanities at Onondaga Community College.

What do you do in off season? Helps his brother, Mike, work on his Miata.

Most important tip to newbies? Anthony jokingly suggests competing in a class with nobody in it.

Most important thing regarding walking course? Picture yourself behind the wheel of your car and walk the course visualizing it from that perspective.

Best modification made to car to improve performance? A four point racing harness makes a big improvement over stock seat belt shoulder harness. The harness really keeps you "planted" in the car so you can better concentrate on driving.

Between runs? Anthony looks at the times turned in by other experienced racers. He says this helps motivate him / convince him of what's possible.

How do you practice between autocrosses? Anthony plans on doing a track day this year at Watkins Glen.

Left Foot Braker? No.

What do you focus on/think about right before you start a run? He concentrates on getting a good "launch." Getting the rpm's up and dumping the clutch!

What do you focus on /think about right after you finish a run? Anthony claims he mentally reviews his run while he drives back to his parking spot.

Anything different in driving on wet course? He has to be "easier" on the throttle to prevent excessive wheel spin because of the front wheel drive/ high horsepower combination.

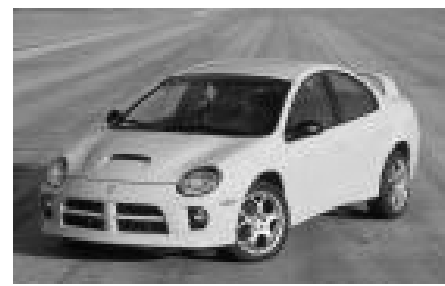
Dream ride: A 2005 Lotus Elise, any color will do!

Thanks to Anthony for passing on the tips.

THIS JUST IN... A Tips From The Cone Zone exclusive! Anthony is modifying his Dodge SRT4 and will be leaving the DS class this year!

Until next time...Keep the pointy side up!

George Nagle



SCCA Club Racing Announces New Entry Level Track Program

TOPEKA, Kan. (Feb. 17, 2005) - The SCCA Club Racing Department has announced a new way for SCCA members and sports car enthusiasts to compete and experience the thrill of road racing with the formation of the Performance Driving Experience (PDE), part of its new Time Trials program.



The PDE, the first of four levels of Time Trials activities (which range from instructional to all-out, top-speed events at venues from closed tracks to paved, non-track roads), offers a chance to improve driving skills while giving curious rookie enthusiasts a taste of competitive motorsports action.

SCCA Club Racing officials believe the new program will help introduce SCCA Club Racing, and motorsports in general, to people who might not have been on the Club's radar before.

"This is the first time Club Racing has expanded its programs to non-traditional areas," SCCA Director of Club Racing Terry Ozment said. "We are very excited about this opportunity for lots of reasons, but especially because it will bring SCCA to a brand new audience."

The new format provides competitive flexibility for motorsports enthusiasts by allowing both street cars and race-prepared vehicles to participate, depending on the program level.

For rules information, visit the "Cars and Rules" section on the Club Racing homepage at www.scca.com. For a listing of events, go to the "Events" section at www.scca.com. Click the "Club" tab and select Time Trials.

All other inquires should be directed to Bryan Cohn, SCCA Club Racing Manager, at 1-800-770-2055 or bcohn@scca.com.

A breakdown of each level:

"Performance Driving Experience" (PDE) - The PDE is the first level of the program and provides an instructional environment for drivers who want to improve driving skills and increase their enjoyment of driving their street vehicle. PDE is SCCA's unique version of "track" or "lapping" days.

"Club Trials" - Club Trials is the second level of the Time Trials program. This level combines elements of PDE instruction with the excitement of running against the clock to determine individual class winners. Cars range from street cars to fully prepared race cars.

"Track Trials" - Track Trials, the third level of the program, offers closed-course track time, and winners are determined by fastest time around the course. Cars prepared for both Solo and Road Racing competition are eligible for Track Trials.

"Hill Climbs" - The fourth and top level of the Time Trials program. Hill Climb events offer short-distance, timed events for race-prepared vehicles on paved mountain roads, with winners determined by fastest times.

Curtis Kitchen

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Photo Credit: Mark Weber © 2005

Photo Caption: SCCA Solo and Club Racing cars, like this one from the Showroom Stock B class, will compete in the new Time Trials program.



Neohio Region, Inc.

Sports Car Club of America

Neohio 2005 Competition Clinic Set for March 19th

Last year, Neohio did something that no other region attempted – we built a Spec Miata in a day at our competition clinic. So, you might ask, how can the region keep that momentum going during the 2005 competition clinic?

We have the answer – hands on demonstrations on **two** cars. Yes, get your hands dirty and learn a few things, too!

The 2005 Competition Clinic is on Saturday, March 19th in Cleveland at the I-X Center (just south of Cleveland Hopkins Airport). It will again be a full day of workshops, demonstrations, exhibits, and more.

If you are an experienced driver and want to learn how to shave seconds off your lap times, there is definitely something for you – the return for the ever-popular engine prep workshop, suspension, brakes, tires, and much more. For the beginners out there, we provide a full day of information about how to get started and how to get your first racecar ready.

As word gets out each year, more and more SCCA members come to this extraordinary day from as far each as New Jersey, as far west as Chicago, and as far south as Kentucky. It is an information-packed day for just \$30 if you get your registration in by March 7th (\$35 after that date).

For more information and a registration form, go to the Neohio web site: www.neohio-scca.org. Or, you can contact Sherrie Weitzenhof at (330) 666-2627 (between 6-9 pm) and by e-mail at SWeitzenho@aol.com; or Con Peplowski at (440) 442-4521 and by e-mail at times99@sbcglobal.net.

A LITTLE BITE OF THE APPLE ROAD RALLY 2005

NORTHEAST RALLY CLUB

April 17, 2005 Johnson City, NY

What: 3-hour time speed road rally

Where: Cosmos, 445 Grand Ave, Johnson City, NY 13790

When: 11:30 AM to 6:00 PM, Sunday, April 17, 2005

11:30 PM to 01:00 PM registration and rally school at Cosmos

01:00 PM to 5:00 PM self timed rally in progress

05:00 PM to 06:00 PM awards presentation (1st, 2nd and 3rd place plaques)

Why: Low cost way to experience a Great Race style old car rally

Cost: \$25.00 (may be credited to your entry in the NY Road Rally)

This is a 3-hour, self-timed rally that will introduce the participants to the type of rallying they will encounter in the 3-day NY Road Rally to be held April 29 – May 1, 2005 in Binghamton, NY. The rally takes place on paved roads only. All assigned speeds are at or below the posted speed limit. The rally is open to all street legal vehicles and will be limited to a maximum of 50 vehicles. A short rally school will be held prior to the start of the event.

For more information contact: Northeast Rally Club
384 NY
RT 38B
Endicott, NY 13760

(607) 748-9802

northeastrallyclub.com

NY ROAD RALLY 2005

April 29 – May 1 2005

Binghamton, NY

The Northeast Rally Club is hosting its annual event on 4/29 – 5/1, for the first time in the Binghamton, NY area. It is a TSD (Time/Speed/Distance) Rally in which you drive according to specific course instructions, never over the speed limit, with the goal of accurate driving. It is a weekend of sportsmanship and camaraderie: a driver, a navigator and a car, working together in friendly competition. Meals are shared with other competitors, where you can swap stories and tips and learn from the pros.

You can bring any car: your 1930 Model A, that hopped up 49 Buick or even a 2003 Miata. A handicap is provided to cars built before 1954, to even the odds, but even a 2005 Corvette is welcome. You need no special equipment but an accurate or "factored" speedometer is recommended (rally computers are not allowed). Mandatory rally school is provided on Friday. Rookies compete in a separate class.

Cars leave in 1 minute intervals from a set start point and travel the same course. Instructions are very specific. Surprise checkpoints will note your time and the teams (various classes) with the elapsed time closest to the perfect time win trophies and bragging rights.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS CONTACT:

Northeast Rally Club, P.O. Box 547, Millsboro, DE 19966,
(302) 934-1246,

northeastrallyclub.com



**Announcing
“The 2005 New England Challenge”
for Formula Ford**

The schedule for the 2005 New England Challenge for Formula Ford has been finalized and includes eight events over six weekends. The 2005 series builds on the success of the 2003 and 2004 series in which over 50 drivers have participated with an average field of 16 Fords and Club Fords. This is a grassroots effort organized by Bob Lutz of the Steel Cities Region and John Merriman of the New England Region to encourage class growth, raise the competition level amongst the current drivers and provide for social interactions amongst the drivers and crew. Similar to last year, the 2004 series will be run in conjunction with SCCA Regional events, except for the Memorial Day event at Lime Rock Park which will be part of the pro weekend. The only change from 2004 is that the Club Ford / no spec tire class was dropped; only FF and Club Ford with spec tire rule will be eligible for prizes. Club Fords running on soft tires will be grouped with FF for the purposes of NEC points and awards. There have been only 2 or 3 Club Fords in this class the past 2 years and we cannot ask sponsors to keep contributing when participation is not there. Club Fords should continue to register for events according to the Supps for that event; the NEC coordinators, with help from the drivers, will track the Club Ford NEC class. Overall, the 2005 series promises to be bigger and better than last year with similar contingency awards and new support from FormulaCar Magazine.

NEC 2005 SCHEDULE

April 23/24	Summit Point	July 9/10	NHIS (Sunday Only)
May 14/15	Pocono (Sunday Only)	August 20/21	BeaveRun (Sunday Only)
May 27/28	Lime Rock Park	Sept. 17/18	Watkins Glen (Both days)
May 30	Lime Rock Park		

For more information, checkout the NESCCA website at
<http://www.users.fast.net/~nescca/>



Membership Application

Dear Prospective SCCA Member:

To apply for membership in the Sports Car Club of America, the world's largest member participation automotive organization, please complete the form below in full and return, with payment, to your region or the SCCA Membership Department, P.O. Box 19400, Topeka, KS 66619-0400.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name _____ Birthdate ____ / ____ / ____

Address _____ Telephone (____) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

E-mail _____

Single Married Spouse's Name _____ Birthdate ____ / ____ / ____

Spouse Member Number If Current Member _____

IF APPLYING FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (husband/wife and children), list names and ages of children **under age 21**:

03 Name _____ Birthdate ____ / ____ / ____

04 Name _____ Birthdate ____ / ____ / ____

05 Name _____ Birthdate ____ / ____ / ____

06 Name _____ Birthdate ____ / ____ / ____

Have you been an SCCA member before? No Yes: Year _____ Previous Member No. _____

Please send me a Crew License (check box)

PRIMARY INTEREST(S) IN SCCA:

Please indicate the area(s) of SCCA in which you plan to participate, or which interest you most. Your response will be used to allocate your national dues to the areas you indicate. Thank you.

Club Racing Pro Racing ProRally RoadRally Solo

National Office Use Only

	Annual National Dues		Annual Regional Dues		Total
01	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member \$55.00	+	Regular Member \$ <u>15</u>	=	\$ <u>70</u>
03	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse Member \$15.00	+	Spouse Member \$ <u>5</u>	=	\$ <u>20</u>
10	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership \$85.00	+	Family Membership \$ <u>15</u>	=	\$ <u>100</u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> First Gear \$ _____	+	First Gear (Reg. dues) \$ _____	=	\$ 45.00
	(you must be 21 and under)				

C- _____ \$ _____

C- _____ \$ _____

C- _____ \$ _____

Source

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____ U.S. DO NOT SEND CASH.

VISA MC No. _____ Expiration Date _____

I hereby apply for membership in the Sports Car Club of America, Inc. and its Central New York #5 Region and agree to abide by the bylaws. (Region Name/Number)

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

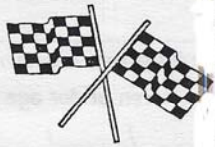
**Dues include payment for subscription to SportsCar (\$24 value)
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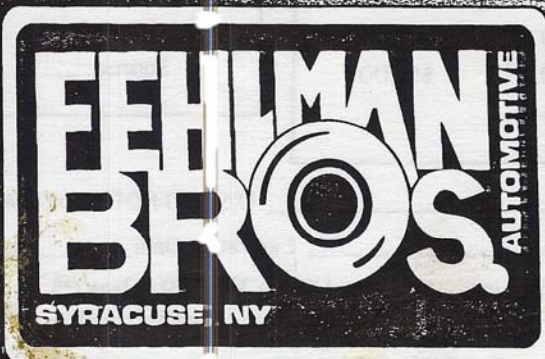
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