

# The ***Snarling Exhaust***

March 2006

A publication of the CNY Region  
Sports Car Club of America



***CNY SCCA goes to the Syracuse Auto Expo***  
(L-R: Anthony Donofrio, Mike Zingaro, Paul Grover, Joe Zingaro, Mike Donofrio)

Photo courtesy of Joe Kramer



## *Inside This Month's Issue:*

Phoenix Rising by Jim Kleinklaus  
More Auto Show Pics  
Meeting Minutes that reflect Reality

Don't forget next membership meeting  
Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM  
Liverpool American Legion

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**CNY REGION Website: [cny-scca.com](http://cny-scca.com)**

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CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE FOR REGION MEMBERS. Classified ads for others are \$5 per issue, paid in advance.

# Club?

By Mike Donofrio

The Auto Expo has come and gone and the CNY SCCA made a big impact. We were located front and center in the Ballroom of the Oncenter. Our display attracted plenty of attention with our club attire, signage, Joe Zingaro's car and a truck load of Tootsie Pops.

We spoke with many people who were interested in learning more about the SCCA and becoming involved with the clubs activities. Hundreds of brochures and Solo II schedules were handed out. I would anticipate a higher than average turn out at Solo events this season as a result of our presence at the Auto Expo.

Yet we have more promotions still to come. March 10th-12th we will have a similar display at the New York State Fairgrounds for the Motorsports Expo. Stop by and see us or better yet stop by and volunteer to help out.

February's general membership meeting had a great turn out, we saw a few new faces including three new recruits from the Auto Expo. Make sure to check the April edition of the Snarling Exhaust, for a possible change of venue for that meeting and the ones following. Better yet come to the March meeting and hear about it instead of just reading it.

However, this club is about more than what events we promote and partake in. It is about the people, those who make up this club, the ones that make and watch it happen. Those who we have met and will meet in the future.

Webster's Dictionary defines club: a group

of people associated for a common purpose.

The SCCA mission statement is: To consistently strive to provide fun, fair and safe activities through diverse opportunities for automotive and motorsports enthusiasts.

Our commonality may be an interest in the automobile and activities derived from it. Be it a meeting, banquet, picnic or Solo, but the most important aspect of the club is the group. The group or individuals is often overshadowed by the activities, which is unfortunate.

Much can be reported about the lives of the people that make up our vast member base. Yet how much do we really know? How many people knew that the club secretary Joe Zingaro recently had a daughter, or that I got engaged. I am guessing not many, but you do now!

More importantly we have a long time member and volunteer that could use our support. Sonya Snyder, Former newsletter editor and the backbone of our Solo II registration has been in poor health. As I write this she is at Community Hospital in room # 452. Sonya exemplifies a club member better than most, always a volunteer, always lending a hand. Now Sonya could use the same in return in the form of visitors. It would certainly make the days in a hospital bed go by easier.

If you have something you would like to report about yourself or someone else contact the newsletter editor/ webmaster/ media czar, Joe Kramer. Remember, the club survives because of the people that make up the group. If you have supportive people the rest comes naturally!

CNY General Membership Meeting Held on February 8, 2006 at the American Legion Post in Liverpool, NY

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by newly elected CNYR Regional Executive **Michael Donofrio**. Following his first official gavel drop he was quick to thank the thousands who voted for him and in proper political fashion, made many promises some of which I am sure he will actually keep. Mike also addressed some of the new faces at the meeting, and how their attendance was probably in direct correlation with the recent successful membership drive at the 2006 CNY Auto Dealers Association Car Show.

**Assistant Regional Executive: Anthony Donofrio**, stepped into the position previously held by one Michael Donofrio, and following in fine Assistant RE form..... had nothing to report at this time.

**Treasurer: Jay Cartini** proudly stepped up from his previous position as CNYR Secretary/Minutes Fabrication Expert to treasurer for 2006. Jay explained that he had recently forwarded bills to “Snarling” advertisers and Solo II sponsors. Jay stressed the need for sponsors and advertisers and went on to explain the benefits of becoming a CNY-SCCA sponsor and/or advertiser. It was also noted that we should be actively thinking of companies who could be approached as possible sponsors. As Jay has been known as “Mr. Promotion” since being seen in action at the CNY Car Dealers Assoc. Car Show, please contact him with any potential advertising partners.

**Secretary: Joe Zingaro** did not have to ask that the minutes be accepted as we had not met in some time. However, he did state that the journalistic integrity of the minutes would be much improved as he had not

planned to fabricate tabloid news stories within the meeting minutes as had been done by his predecessor. It was then quickly realized that the published minutes in the Snarling would probably never be read... by anyone... ever again.... Also of note was that Mr. Zingaro likes to speak and write in the third person, much like a boxer.

**Activities Chair: Bruce Parker** thankfully returned to his role as the regions’ official travel agent, party planner, M.C., stand up comic and newly appointed “Consiglieri”. However, in a series of unfortunate events Mr. Parker was without his trusty roll of 50/50 tickets, and he was nearly ousted from his position. Bruce told of how proud and impressed he was by the region’s display at the recent car show/ membership drive, and it was also noted by others to have been quite a success. He also stated that if anything, in the long term his dental business will profit from the 1300!!! “Blowpops” and “DumDum’s” handed out by the region at the car show, and how next year we should add tasty “Jawbreakers” to the mix of treats???

**Solo II: Mark Bizzozero** has also returned to once again lead the region’s cone killers through a successful course in 2006!! Mark told of a new event at the Seneca Army Depot on August 8<sup>th</sup>, and his eyes lit up like a kid at Christmas when he explained of the limitless course possibilities on this huge lot located within the Finger Lakes Region of SCCA.

**Editor/Webmaster: Joe Kramer** assumed his new role as CNY-SCCA “Media Czar” and has already announced the new website [www.CNY-SCCA.com](http://www.CNY-SCCA.com) is up and running

like Bruce Jenner.

Joe also stressed the importance of getting articles to him for the Snarling, and doing so by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's publication.

**Flagging and Communications: Mike Fuller** announced that anyone interested in working SCCA races should attend the flagging school being held in the last week of April, and please contact him if you are interested. It was also announced that a small contingent from the Heffron family would be joining Mike and working events at the Glen in 2006.

**Competition/Merchandise: Joe Zingaro** asked how many Solo II rulebooks should be ordered for the year, and again asked for someone to step up and take the role of merchandise chairperson. The father and son duo known simply as the "The Murphy's" raised their somewhat twisted arms in excitement at the chance of taking over as the club retail experts. On the Competition front, the Murphy's will be in attendance at the New Hampshire Super School in April with their Spec Miata, flying the CNYR SCCA banner highly. Joe also noted the three new faces who were recruited at the recent car show, in

attendance at the meeting who are planning on racing soon with an Improved Touring S Toyota Supra.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** The idea of a new meeting location where possibly food or additional amenities are offered was introduced, and will be further discussed once members are allowed to submit their suggestions. Please submit any suggestions to the executive committee members.

Longtime CNYR member **Lori Newcomb** was in attendance and brought with her CNYR-SCCA artifacts dating back to when plaid bellbottoms and The Beegees were all the rage. Thankfully to Lori's record keeping, the club library now has copies of the "Snarling Exhaust" back to 1983 and some really neat posters of regional solos and awards banquets, complete with vintage pictures. Mike Fuller was immediately named "club librarian/curator".

The meeting was adjourned somewhere around 8:15 ish.

Submitted, Joe Zingaro  
CNYR Secretary

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# PHOENIX RISING

By Jim Kleinklaus

My recurring racing memory between July 2000 and the 2005 season was of a loud bang, then looking down at the track as I skidded on my head at 70 miles per hour plus, realizing that my race car was on top

of me, then flipping several times, my helmet coming off and my head slamming the roll bar supports. (It was a racing accident, my fault, as, leading the race, I let an F500 through, unsighted to see the second place Vee tucked in behind). Since that crash, I had taken a job in Detroit, then returned to Syracuse after years of trying to see my now high school aged son via car and airplane. Five years is a long time to think about something like that.

I had bought another Citation FV, an 89 that was the last Vee built by Citation founder Steve Lathrop. Or, he built the frame-I had to finish the car. Which I did, with help towards the end from long time local Vee institution, Jim Carmody (thanks again, Jim).

But first, I had to fit in the car. Years of a 12 hour/day executive job with little time for exercise, followed by a few years preoccupied with getting a career in upstate New York back in gear had left me, at 6'1", at 265 pounds. No way to fit in my race suit let alone the car. Way past time to get serious, I went to see my doctor and told him I was



committed to getting a lot of things “back on track”.

My first realization was that a long time fondness for good wine would torpedo my plan. Goodbye, wine-I’ll miss you (which I did, a lot at first). Then, regular

exercise (hard exercise) would be called for. My wife got me one of those Gazelle sort-of-ellipticals you see advertised on TV by the muscleman with the ponytail. I got serious. This was August of 2004.

I slammed in the exercise every night, instead of slamming down something with alcoholic content. Still, the first time I tried to get back in the race suit, I could get it up to my knees, no more. I might have shed a tear-I think I did.

Still, I rejoined the SCCA, talked to several very helpful regional folks who honored over 15 years of regular prior racing with a regional license, issued with the promise to not make them sorry they had made this exception.

Fast forward from August to late December-pounding away on the Gazelle machine, longer and longer each night as I got fitter. Late December, I weighed 177 pounds. No typo-between August and December, I lost 88 pounds. My race suit now fit me like I was a child and I could slip in and out of the Vee without removing the steering wheel.

First event at the Glen-before I could race, the car had to pass its first-ever tech. Some rules, including cutting perfectly good fuel lines so that fuel could be checked, had changed since my last race. A tech inspector with the patience of Job and the mercy of the almighty helped me, there in the Kendall garage, make the car safe, while allowing many things through with numerous “must be fixed by next event” notations.

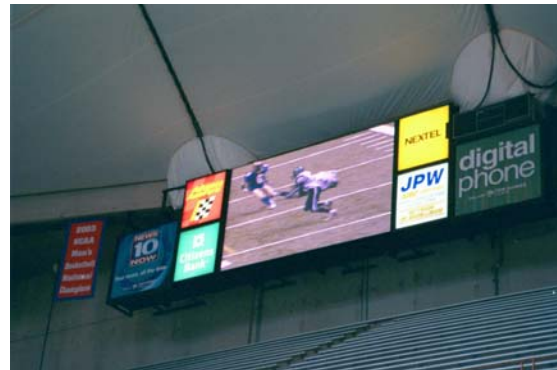
Determined to take things easy the first time out, I actually listened to myself and took things easy. Let the other guys try to catch Ron Dennis’ eye and get an F1 seat next to Kimi, I was on a mission to get four finishes while never, ever having the car wind up on top of me. I can’t tell you how it felt to be back in the car again, the accident a lifetime ago, feeling good. I might have shed another tear then-I think I did.

And so I got through the season, the biggest excitement being a spin at Beaver Run while trying to avoid some European F3 rocket sled (all open wheelers together-I won’t be back), our canopy being destroyed by a near hurricane (also at Beaver Run-see previous comments), the greatest satisfaction being a third place at the last Glen race of the year.

Second-greatest satisfaction-being disqualified from my third place (for being underweight-I loved it!!!), then being re-instated because the penalty

was to move to the back of the field, but the guy behind me was light, too!!! I was so thrilled I forgot to pick up my trophy. No tears this time.

Packing up, the last car to left at the track, as we were last group, watching the fall leaves changing at the Glen, the race car (and me) in one piece, all I felt was thankful. To my wife, Sherry, for sticking along throughout this whole multi-state, multi-job journey, to my doctor, to the SCCA for turning a blind eye to a few regs, to CNY Region for taking me back as if I had never left, to my son, for waiting for his career chasing Dad to come home. Home to see my now 16-year-old boy make a touchdown in the Carrier Dome. I might have shed a tear, then, too-I think I did.



If you see a small champagne-colored (the only champagne in my life now) enclosed trailer with “Phoenix Racing” on the side this year, and you know the Greek legend of the Phoenix rising from the ashes, you’ll understand the name. See you at the track.

# We need “YOU” to step up....

By Jay Cartini, CNYR-SCCA Treasurer

To all members.....We need your help!!!

It's time for all of us to look at ourselves and ask, “what can I do for the region”. A lot of you put forth a tremendous effort donating your time to make the region a success. Now, we want you to look towards your wallets. We aren't looking for donations (although we wouldn't turn one down), but rather, we are looking for advertisers and sponsors.

Look at what you do. Do you own your own business? Consulting practice? How about your employer? Your spouses business or employer? Friends or relatives? Think about it. I bet everyone knows someone who might be interested in advertising in the exclusive and premier CNYR newsletter, **The Snarling Exhaust**.

The advantages is that you have a captive audience; members who are more willing to do business with a member then a non-member; and all at an extremely reasonable cost for a 12 month period.

Rates are:

- \$75.00 for a business card size advertisement
- \$110.00 for a quarter size page advertisement
- \$165.00 for a half size page advertisement
- \$250.00 for a full size page advertisement

In addition we have Solo II (autocross) sponsorship packages available. A **GOLD** Package for \$500.00 and a **PLATINUM** Package for \$1,000.00. If you have someone interested in really getting some bang for their buck this might be of extreme interest to them. Let us know and we will go sit down with them and go over the different options available.

**This is our club, this is our region, let's work together to make it survive and strive well into the future.**



# CNY SCCA at the Syracuse Auto Expo 2006



Photo Courtesy of Frank Forte



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**AutoExpo 2006  
Syracuse Oncenter**

*Frank Forte Photography  
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## Editor's Korner

By Joe Kramer

There have been some changes in the organization, if you haven't noticed. I've taken the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster duties for this year (well, I had to do something after stepping down as RE. And Rex told me I was too young to retire like he did). I feel that communication among members is an important part of any organization. This is especially true in a club like ours, where we have various activities that members engage in. So I will try to do my part to help insure that information is disseminated to the members in a timely manner each month. To that end, I have established the deadline for submissions to the Snarling Exhaust at the fifteenth of the previous month. Material for the April issue needs to be *in my hands* by March 15<sup>th</sup>. No exceptions. This allows time for me to lay everything out, get it to the printer, get it back, stick on all the address labels, and get it to the post office in time for everybody to receive it before the montly membership meeting.

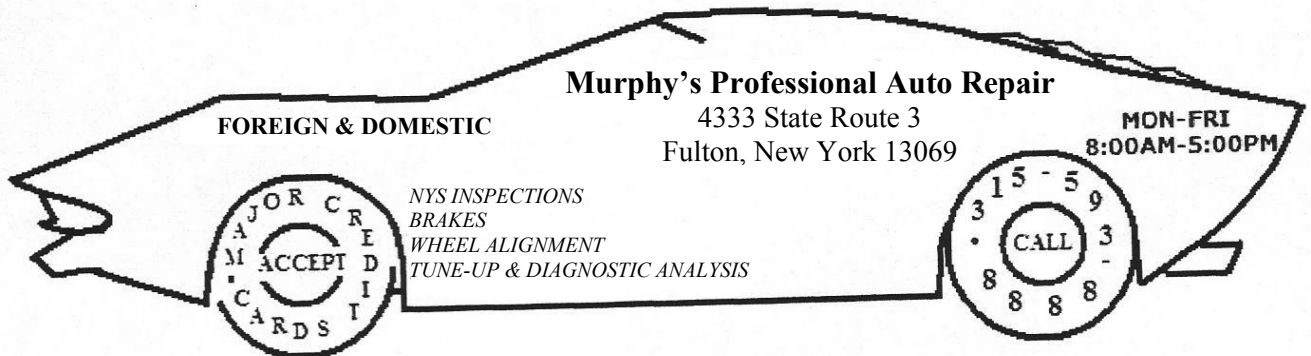
You may have noticed that the Snarling format is about the same as last year. I

think that Mark and Amy Bizzozero (I hear that Amy did most of the work) did a fine job for the past 2 years, so I decided not to mess with success. You may also notice a few new ads, thanks to the efforts of treasurer Jay Cartini (who thinks our rates are a real bargain). And new ones are liable to pop up just about anywhere since we've more than filled up the back page.

Regarding submissions: I prefer soft copy, of course. I can handle Microsoft Word, Corel Word Perfect, HTML, RTF, and maybe a few other formats (whatever word and word perfect will import). JPEG, GIF, TIFF, etc. are fine for pictures or graphics. I prefer not to take hard copies unless absolutely necessary. I have to scan them in to my computer, and the results are what you'd expect for a photocopy: less than ideal in most cases.

If anybody has ideas for features or articles, let us know. We're always open to suggestions and looking for material.

Until next time....





# 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.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

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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.

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03	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse Member \$20.00	-	Spouse Member \$ 5	=	\$ 25
10	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership \$95.00	-	Family Membership \$ 15	=	\$ 110
	<input type="checkbox"/> First Gear \$ _____	+	First Gear (Reg. dues) \$ _____	=	\$ 45.00
	(you must be 21 and under)				

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C- \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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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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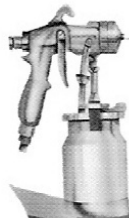
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