

the ***Snarling Exhaust***

March 2008

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Wow – two R.E. columns in one issue!

Is that cool or what?



Monthly Membership Meeting:

Wednesday, March 12, 7:00 PM
American Legion Hall, Liverpool



- Jane Quinn photo

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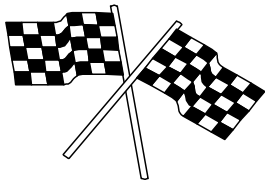
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SCCA
Sports Car Club of America

the

Snarling Exhaust



March 2008

The Central New York Region of the
Sports Car Club of America

CNY Region website: www.cny-scca.com

SCCA National office: 1.800.770.2055

The Snarling Exhaust is published 11 or 12 times per year as a service to the membership of the Central New York Region of the Sports Car Club of America, Inc.

The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month. This deadline still applies to the R.E., even though he is recovering from the heady excitement of the annual banquet.

All editorial opinions expressed in this publication are solely the opinions of the author, and are not necessarily representative of the policies of the Central New York Region or of SCCA.

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Classified advertising rates are free for region members, \$5/month for others, and must be paid in advance.

Graphics assistance courtesy of Alex Fairbank.

Cover photo: How to properly throw a black flag. (Bob Holcomb photo)

From the Editor:

Theoretically, spring will soon be in the air, even here in central New York.

I'm starting to hear the usual spring rumblings, as people start dusting off the race cars, checking the upcoming season's schedule, and even sending in registration forms for the early-season events.

I've got a bit of a project ahead of me: Swapping a "new" engine into my vintage car. The donor car has been sitting patiently under a snow pile, and with about two months before the first event I'd like to attend this season, I suppose it's time to get started. Last year the paintwork got attention, this year it's time for some drivetrain work.

As I inventory the little bits that will need to be changed out, I find that the belts and window net will need replacing this year, as will my helmet. New safety gear is not a bad thing, but it will put a dent in the budget.

Hopefully, enough will be left over in the budget to allow for some actual driving events. I'm hoping to do a couple of hillclimbs, some autocrossing, maybe even a few club races. I'd also like to make it to a few driver's school events with the BMW club, and the plan is to be there for the annual "Octoberfest", being held this year at Watkins Glen in September.

Speaking of the upcoming season, Mick Levy and Mike Fuller will be conducting a Flagging and Communications school in Liverpool on the 31st, for those of you who might have an interest in getting a chance to give F&C a try. Best seats in the house at any race, guaranteed! See page 8 of this issue for more info.



John Schmiesing photo

The NEDiv Roundtable will be in Ithaca this month, and if you haven't considered going, give it a thought. Good seminars, entertaining conversation, and a short drive to attend!

Be seeing you,
-Karl



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Start Your Engines

From the R.E., Mike Donofrio



Winter is nearly over, and spring is almost here. With it comes the start of the 2008 racing season. NASCAR will have completed their 4th race by the time you read this. Formula 1, and Champ Car/IRL or whatever they want to call themselves now starts a few weeks later.

In the Northeast the first regional race of the year is April 12th & 13th at NHIS. Also our Solo schedule is nearly complete, we have six events so far with a few more potentials. The first is April 27th at the New York State Fairgrounds.

Three dates are scheduled at Cherry Valley Motorsports Park. For those who have not heard the track is under new ownership, with new ideas, and more money. Many upgrades are in the works, including paving the paddock area, and lengthening the track from 4/10th to 7/10th of a mile.

Online registration is also coming closer to becoming a reality for our Solo program. This should ease the process in the morning and possibly allow us to start earlier. We also have a new Solo sponsor in Burdick Scion, now if they would only donate a car for executive usage...

Also, don't forget that the General Membership Meetings are always the second Wednesday of every month at the American Legion in Liverpool at 7:00pm. Anyone is welcome; bring a friend if you want. Join in on club business, and take an active involvement in the future of the club. Talk cars until you can't talk anymore; Oh, I should probably mention that drinks are on the house.

Well, technically on the club, and you get to listen to me. What more could you ask for? Hmmmmmm, maybe a 50/50 drawing, just so happens we have that too. Who needs the New York Mega Millions when you have the chance of winning 15 or so dollars each month?

Monthly Membership Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month, at the American Legion Hall in Liverpool.

This month's meeting is Wednesday, March 12.

In the monthly meetings we cover club business, reports from the officers, catch up on the latest news within the region, division, and national club, enjoy beverages courtesy of the region, and generally chat about cars, racing, and cars.

Occasionally, entertainment is provided (over and above the R.E. report, that is)

So stop in, enjoy the ambience, support the club!

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2008 Roundtable, March 14-16

Ramada Inn, Ithaca, NY



This just in from Ed Zebrowski, Glen Region R.E.:

The 2008 Northeast Divisional RoundTable will be held March 14th-16th, 2008, at the Ramada Inn, Ithaca, New York.

Below is a list of the seminar topics and meetings that will be held. All seminars and meetings are open to members, unless otherwise noted. The list below is not inclusive and there will be surprises and prizes!

- Welcome Reception Friday Night, Saturday Lunch, Saturday Night Reception and Dinner.
- Stewards' Training/Review (Closed Meeting)
- Open Stewards' Meeting
- NARRC Meeting
- Drivers' Track: "I'm being protested, what do I do now?" and "I want to protest that driver!!!!"
- Drivers' Track: "Going from midpack to the front with little money"
- Driver Schools: Updates, changes, and the new requirements
- Open Meeting of the Chief Instructors
- Kids in the SCCA: Workers, Drivers, and Crew.
- Registration Meeting: New Updates
- F & C: The Importance of Concise Communication
- Pits, Paddock & Grid: Updates--Bill Stewart and Larry Emery
- Starters: Updates—Steve Wilkinson
- Rally and RallyCross: Updates—Ted Goddard
- Tech and Scrutineering: Updates--Bill Etherington
- SFI Tech Inspector Certification (Tentative)
- Sound Control: Updates--Skip Testut
- NYSRRC Meeting
- NERRC Meeting
- Solo Course Design and Set Up: Casey Creamer & Pat Scopelliti
- Solo Safety Steward Training: Kathy Barnes & Tina Reeves
- Solo Safety for Regional Executives (Closed)
- Divisional Administrators Sunday Meeting (Closed)
- Sunday Town Hall Meeting with the Board of Directors
- Sunday NeDiv Council Meeting

- Plus More Social Functions!

Sign up at <http://www.glen-scca.org/>

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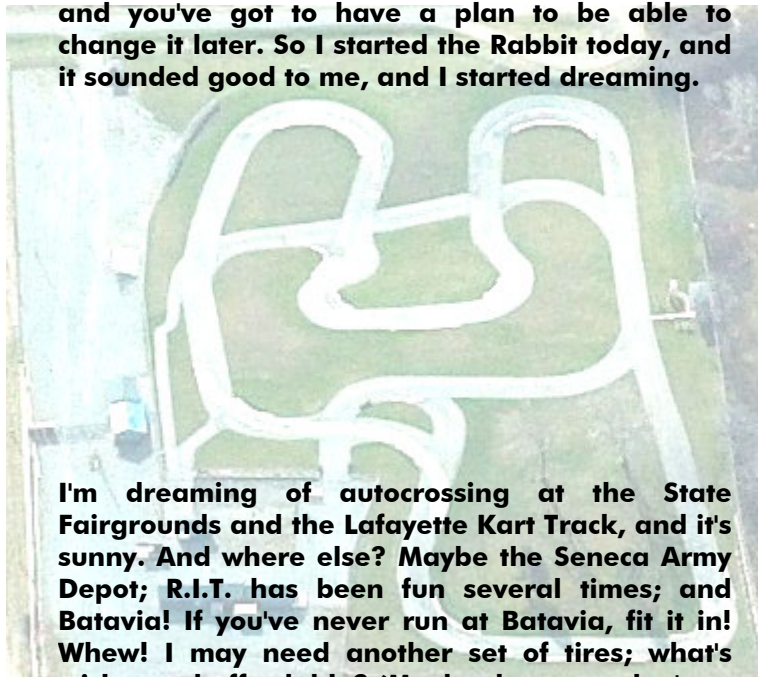
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(Exhaust) Pipe Dreams

From the Assistant R.E., Jon Coffin

To get somewhere, you've got to start from somewhere, and I start with dreaming. 'Cause you've got to dream to be able to make plans, and you've got to have a plan to be able to change it later. So I started the Rabbit today, and it sounded good to me, and I started dreaming.



I'm dreaming of autocrossing at the State Fairgrounds and the Lafayette Kart Track, and it's sunny. And where else? Maybe the Seneca Army Depot; R.I.T. has been fun several times; and Batavia! If you've never run at Batavia, fit it in! Whew! I may need another set of tires; what's sticky, and affordable? (Maybe those two don't go together...) I know I need another set of brake pads, I've been real happy with the mid-grade Ferrodos. I got the left front fender on the Rabbit fixed.....again. It's not as pretty as it was three years ago, but it's a **WHOLE** lot better than it was last season.

ZZZZ-back to dreamin'. I'll instruct again at some track events with the BMW CCA, and run the Rabbit at a couple of them. One of those clubs has a school set at the new track northeast of Kingston, Ontario, at Calabogie Motorsports Park, that looks like a riot and I'm planning on making it. And at least one day at that terrific

kart track in Morristown, up on the St. Lawrence River.

I'm startin' to sweat. How about the Hershey Hillclimb with Karl and Rex? My GTI is 25 years



- Jane Quinn photo

old now, and qualifies for that vintage event. And, oh yeah, how about a New England Hillclimb Association run up Okemo Mountain in Ludlow, Vermont, 2:45 of adrenaline and forced deep breathing?

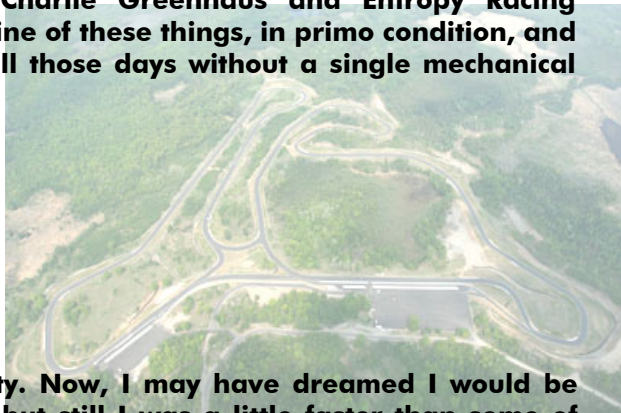
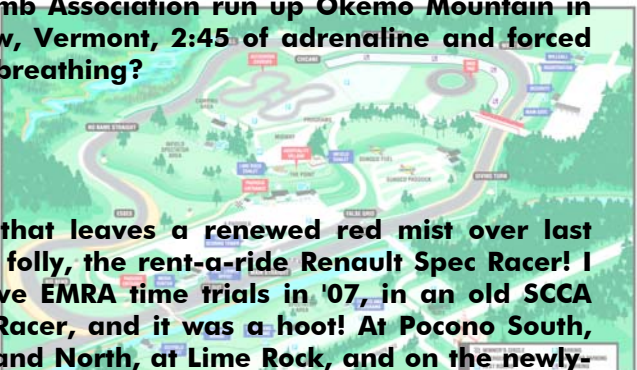
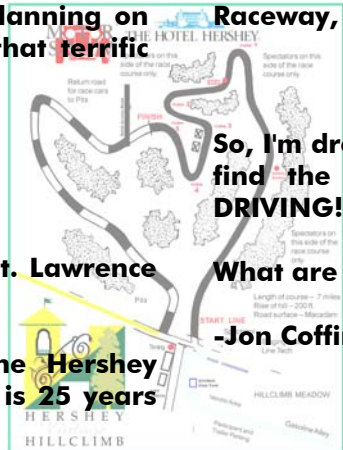
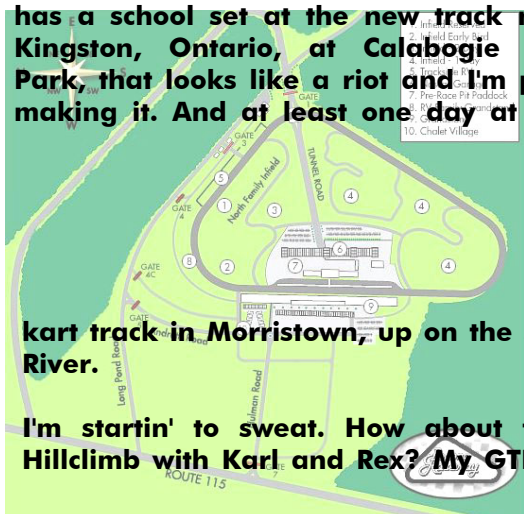
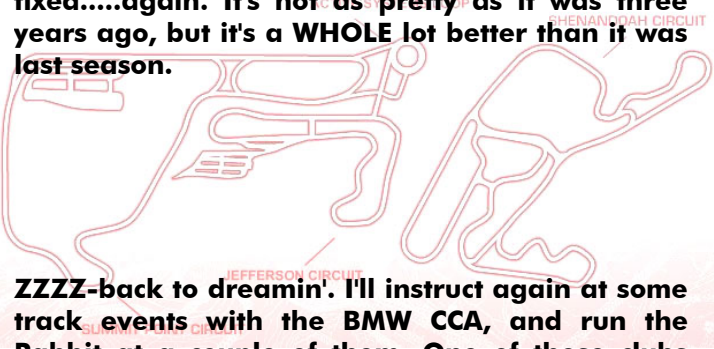
Well, that leaves a renewed red mist over last year's folly, the rent-a-ride Renault Spec Racer! I ran five EMRA time trials in '07, in an old SCCA Spec Racer, and it was a hoot! At Pocono South, East, and North, at Lime Rock, and on the newly-paved surface of the main course at Summit Point. Charlie Greenhaus and Entropy Racing have nine of these things, in primo condition, and I ran all those days without a single mechanical

difficulty. Now, I may have dreamed I would be faster, but still I was a little faster than some of the guys renting the cars for the racing series. Not bad for an old, one-eyed fatman. EMRA has one of the very first events scheduled at the new racetrack in southern New Jersey, Thunderbolt Raceway, just under five hours away I figure.

So, I'm dreaming, and making plans for where I'll find the time and money this season to go **DRIVING!**

What are you dreaming of?

-Jon Coffin



F&C School, March 31, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Liverpool Library, Liverpool, NY

Seminar for Beginning Flaggers

Tell your friends, relatives and acquaintances!

No prior experience needed – just show up and take notes.

Your ticket to the best seats trackside – guaranteed!

At the large room in the Liverpool Library, March 31, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Then, as a follow-up:

A Motorsport Safety Seminar

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Membership meeting minutes

(Courtesy of Rex Franklin)

CNY General Membership Meeting Held on February 13, 2008 at American Legion in Liverpool, NY

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by CNYR R.E. Mike Donofrio. He said that he had nothing to report, than babbled on about his new Miata race car.

Asst. R.E., Jon Coffin, "better late than never" Nothing to report, except he has a new Yaris.

Treasurer, Jay Cartini, We have \$\$

Secretary, Me, Starting a long year! Past minutes voted on and accepted.

Solo chair, Mark Bizzozero, We will have online Solo registration this summer.

Looking for new Solo sites.

New gold level Solo sponser, Burdick Scion!!

Have Solos scheduled for Cherry Valley and Fairgrounds

Had brief discussion about new weekend memberships for Solos, apparently there is very little info. available yet, so will report when we know more.

Activities, Mike Mollura, No info. on this years events yet. Had 50/50 raffle

Merchandise, Me again, I have stuff to sell, see me.

Membership, Joe Kramer, Working on getting new members.

Competition, Joe Zingaro, No report, (disappointing, not even his usual diatribe)

F&C, Mick Levy, F&C school at the Glen this spring. Some old guy, Mike Fuller, showed up, just slumming, I guess.

Web Master, Evan Haas will be the new webmaster, No doubt some Subaru news will creep in!

New Biz. Mike Fuller mentioned a New York to Paris race will stop by the Onondaga lake fort in Liverpool the end o May, we may have cars displayed , more info. next mo.

NE Div. Round Table, Mar.14/16 at Ithaca Ramada Inn. Mick Levy definitely going, probably more from CNY going also.

Old Biz, None

Submitted by Rex Franklin, Secretary

P.S. The club should buy me a laptop so I don't have to wear my fingers to the bone using an old fashioned pen. Even better, I should have an assistant to do the menial duties, and I can be the brains of the operation. Even better, I could train the assistant to use the laptop.!!! Some times I see things so clearly, I scare myself!!



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 and return, with payment to SCCA Membership Department, P.O. Box 299, Topeka, KS 66601-0299 or you can join online at SCCA.com by clicking on "Join Now".

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Have you been an SCCA member before? No Yes: Year ____ Previous Member # _____
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Sports Car Club of America is one of the country's largest motorsports organizations. Activities range from professional racing and rallying to socializing. In between is a myriad of activity—road rallies, solo events (that's where it's just you and your car against the clock on a twisting course) and club racing, for those who want to be race car drivers. SCCA Pro Racing, a wholly-owned subsidiary of SCCA, Inc., organizes, officiates and sanctions the organization's professional motorsports offerings. SCCA Pro Racing's series include World Challenge and the Mazda MS-5 Cup.

SCCA IS LOCAL

There are over 100 local chapters of the SCCA all around the country—one's near you. You'll be involved in local events close to home and can make weekends of it with friends at divisional and national events as well. SCCA is like no other motorsports organization—because you're involved, because you help to plan, stage and run events, or compete in them.

YOU GET IN ON THE ACTION

If you're not into competing with your car, then you might want to join the thousands who officiate—timing and scoring, scrutineering (that's inspecting cars before they compete), working as flaggers, handling official's duties in the pits, on the starting grid and start-finish line. These are just a few of the things you can learn to do, as well as attend SCCA's racing driver schools and earn your competition license.

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