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Events around the region
Mick's trip to CA
much much more...



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Links

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the **SNARLING EXHAUST**

April

2012

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

www.cny-scca.com

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On the cover:
BMod powah! Can you spot all four seconds of penalties?

From the Editor -

Raise your hand if you're anxious for the season to begin. I can't see you so I'll just assume everyone raised their hands. Waiting for the first race of the year is normally torture, but with the warm weather we've seen already it makes it all the more unbearable. So I did what any impatient wannabe racer would do – I went south. April 1st I co-drove my old Subaru STi with my brother at a Susquehanna region SCCA Solo event in Hershey. It was great to get out there and shake off the rust, at least most of it. Months of putting around town in an SUV waiting for summer really does affect you, and I needed some practice to get back into the mind set of quick, but smooth, movements with feet and hands. As documented below, my first run of the day included quite a bit of tire smoke. Cold tires, cold pavement (it was only in the mid 40's in the morning), and too slow a reaction conspired to create an impressive fifty foot slide. The time? Not so impressive.

If you've never run in other regions you're missing out on some interesting experiences. For example, in Hershey the breeze was constantly shifting between chocolate and peanut butter scented. Sure, you're hungry all day, but it beats what the breezes at the NYS Fairgrounds can smell like! Also, while my times beat most of the 120+ drivers there, including the Mod cars, Susquehanna Region has an STX class that is full of past and future Nationals winners. The times they were earning in "slower" rides than my own were humbling to say the least.



Photo: Kathleen Ehrlich

It was fun as always, even if I didn't stop shivering until after lunch. Chilly weather seems to be a staple of early season races, even if it has already been in the 80's. In Hershey it was so cold and wet in the morning we didn't bother with the race tires. It would have been nice to run on his 275 width r-comps, but realistically we probably had more traction on the street tires. Maybe this will be the year we start out warm in central New York, but I won't hold my breath. Rain or shine our first local Solo is fast approaching on April 22nd at Cherry Valley, so hopefully I'll see you all out there shaking off the rust.

-- Dustin Ehrlich



Event Schedule

04/11 - CNY Monthly Meeting, American Legion, Liverpool NY, 7:00pm

04/21 - FLR - Novice School - <RIT>

04/22 - CNY - CNY Solo #1 - <Cherry Valley Motorsports Park>

04/22 - FLR - #1 - <RIT>

04/29 - FLR - #2 - <Darien Lake Theme Park>

04/29 - WNY - WNY OOR - <Darien Lake Theme Park>

05/05 - MoHud - Test and Tune / school - <McCarty Ave>

05/06 - Glen - Solo - <Arnot Mall>

05/06 - MoHud - Points Event #1 - <McCarty Ave>

05/09 - CNY Monthly Meeting, American Legion, Liverpool NY, 7:00pm

05/12 - BMW CCA (GV) - Autocross - <Letchworth State Park>

05/12 - Niagara Reg. Porsche Club - Autocross - <Letchworth State Park>

05/19 - Glen - Solo School - <TBD>

05/20 - Glen - Solo - <TBD>

05/27 - SNY - SOLO - <Binghamton University>



Latest Issue: <http://www.scca.com/assests/12-fastrack-mar.pdf>

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Assistant R.E. Report

From the Assistant R.E., Ed Leubner

Spring has sprung! The Miata is out of storage and is being prepped for a new season of Solo and high performance driving.

For a check list of pre-season items to prep, check out the April, 2011 Snarling on our website: <http://www.cny-scca.com/snarling.php>

For those of you prepping for track days, you will definitely want to check out the links Dustin provided in his column in last month's Snarling. There is a lot of good info. I will be reviewing it before I go out.

In the not so good news category, many of you may have heard by now that the NY State Fair has drastically increased the price for renting the parking lot we typically use for our Solo events. This has resulted in us having to limit ourselves to a single event. Our Solo Chairman, Mark Bizzozero has done a great job of quickly adjusting the schedule amidst these challenges. Other sites are also being investigated as potential Solo event locations – stay tuned.

So, get those vehicles ready. The first Solo event will be at Cherry Valley Motorsports Park in Lafayette, and is only a few weeks away - April 22, 2012. See our website for the latest schedule updates.

Recruiting - The March issue of Sports Car included a complete primer on all the various activities and racing series available for us to be involved in as SCCA members. This is a great opportunity to pass this issue on to prospective new members. I passed mine on to a co-worker who is interested in cars and possibly competing. Instead of letting that magazine collect dust in a pile, recycle it and maybe we'll gain some new members!

See you around the grid!
Ed Leubner



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IN OTHER NEWS...

...as submitted by Mick Levy

In January 2012 I had the privilege of working the SCCA race in Fontana for a second year in a row. It is a fun track with great people.

The car count was down a little this year but the racing was awesome.

In February I was invited by Tom Jones to come work the Vintage Auto Racing Association race at Chuckwalla Raceway in Desert Center, CA. As you can see by the pictures it truly is desert.

One of the more interesting cars was the new Unlimited Racing Car Series car that was there for some track-time and photo session. They will be running a limited schedule this year with the ALMS cars.

They have a Chevrolet engine producing 500 HP and are really light. You can get all the info about the cars on the URC website.

VARA had some nice cars and it's the first time I've seen cars racing with sand blowing across the track. I was told we didn't need to hold a debris flag as the wind was blowing in the garages as well as on the track.

The cars created a rooster tail the same as if they were racing in the rain. However the sand would get into everything including your air intake and the oil as well creating a big mess if you weren't careful.

After the racing was complete on Saturday they wheeled out a car that was turned into a Bar-B-Que and cooked up some great food for everyone. The VARA people treated us like royalty. Including putting us up in a nice motel, feeding us three meals a day and giving us \$50.00 a day for watching race cars go by. Life is good.

-- Mick Levy





Cars & Coffee in Los Angeles, photos by Mick Levy.



Membership Meeting Minutes

Courtesy of Jon Coffin

CNYR SCCA Meeting Minutes For Wed., February 8, 2012

The monthly meeting of the Central New York Region of the Sports Car Club of America was called to order at 7:25PM Wednesday, March 14, at the American Legion Hall in Liverpool by Regional Executive Mike Donofrio. Some 16 members were in attendance.

Amid calls to keep it moving, R.E. Mike Donofrio had no report.

As he had let us know at the last meeting, Assistant R.E. Ed Leubner was not on hand; no Ass't R.E. report.

Temporary Secretary Jon Coffin, wondering where Secretary Bob Holcomb's email report was going to come from, moved that the February meeting minutes be accepted as posted in the March "SNARLING EXHAUST", unless there were corrections from the crowd. Seconded by Mark Bizzozero, and passed.

Treasurer Jay Cartini assured us we do still have some money, but that it could go quickly to some events we may have upcoming. Bills are out for all current sponsors and ads in the SNARLING and on the website, and all past, past due advertisers have been culled from the Region's displays.

SOLO Chair Mark Bizzozero updated us on where some of our money might go, in that the Fairgrounds has increased its cost for autocross site rental by more than \$500 to some \$1788/event. And there was general agreement that we would try (just) one event at the Fair at that cost in 2012. There will be emphasis put on trying to coordinate and promote the event with some other local car clubs, and it was noted the Finger Lakes Region dropped its plans to host an event there in 2012 because of the cost. In good news, there may be access again to a site at Shoppingtown Mall as management at that facility has changed recently. And, there may be access again to the Mid-State Micro track west of Cortland. That is a site where we held events some 20 years ago, or so, and where some Southern New York and Glen Region members could readily attend. With our light snow this winter, Mark is moving our season opener to Cherry Valley Motorsports Park, so our first SOLO will be April 22 in Lafayette.

Rallycross Chair James Quattro updated us on where some of our money might come from, reporting on a heavily-attended event February 25 at Walczyk's Farm in Weedsport. There were 23 entrants, and about 18 were first-time rallycrossers! Re-emphasizing that timing is everything, this night event was on the same weekend as an Audi Club get-together in the Adirondacks, and many of those attendees came down to our Rallycross. And James went on to sell several of the drivers multi-event passes for 2012 at some discount while assuring some number of entrants for later events! And James re-iterated rallycross interest in the Central New York Raceway Park venue when that becomes available. He asked the question, might access to the property be possible for a rallycross before pavement was laid?

Neither Rob Sgarlata, nor Mick Levy were at the meeting, so we missed Activities and Flagging and Communications reports.

As new business, Scott Newton and others talked about the success of the recent Motorsports Expo at the Fairgrounds. The Central New York Raceway Park group had show space, and made room for SCCA also, and some of our members helped staff the booth over the weekend. We were able to display a banner, and some autocross videos, and Scott, along with Mike Gagliardi, Dustin Ehrlich, Jay Cartini and Ted Barbutto talked up the Club to passers-by.

Rex Franklin mentioned the recent death of a long-time member of the region. Greg VanSlyke died March 4th. There were expressions of sorrow, sympathy for his wife Melodye, and the sentiment that he was too young. Greg was an active road racer and team owner/manager of an IT Nissan run very successfully at the Glen. He was 59 years old.

Bruce Parker brought up the importance of Region members becoming familiar with road racing worker duties so we can be a real aid to the CNYRP operation next year. A new road course in our region is an opportunity not to be missed! Other car club groups will want the chance we have immediately, and may bump us aside if we don't offer real help and expertise to the track operations. Dave Kicak said he would check with the other road-racing regions in New York to find out more about the real needs for workers to run a race. And Bruce and Mike Gagliardi said they would investigate further the training required and the track needs anticipated. This is a topic of great interest, and further discussion will come up next month and beyond.

Membership Chair Andy Beyer passed along information on the Region makeup. We have 161 members, and 102 are regular members, 46 are family members, 12 are First Gear members, and we have a life member, Chris Whaley. Listed as new members, in January are Glenn Donnelly of Weedsport (the principal behind CNYRP), and John Lehmann from Kirkville (the lead spokesman for CNYRP) along with his wife Wendy, and also in January, Joe and Kathryn Boardman from Rome. In February, new members included Vincent Basile from Montreal, Quebec, Jeff Virnoche of Lafayette, and John Wiley from Marietta. And recent membership anniversaries include 35 years for John Goss of Jamesville and Tom Shaughnessy from Watertown. January renewals after a year include Mike Griswold of Syracuse, and Kyle Adamo from Minoa. February anniversaries, for five years, were noted for Ken Dustin from Quebec, and Stephen Kwasnik of Syracuse.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM on a motion by Rex Franklin, seconded by Ed Heffron.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Pro Tem Jon Coffin.

2012 Tire Rack SCCA Solo National Tour Schedule

March 9-11

Dixie National Tour
South Georgia Motorsports Park
Cecil, Ga.

Mar. 16-18

Sun Belt National Tour
Texas A&M
College Station, Texas

April 27-29

Southern Pacific National Tour
Qualcomm Stadium
San Diego, Calif.

May 18-20

Northeast National Tour at East Rutherford
MetLife Stadium
East Rutherford, N.J.

May 25-28

Spring Nationals
Central States Championship
Lincoln Airpark
Lincoln, Neb.

June 8-11

Summer Nationals
Southern States Championship
Arkansas Aeroplex
Blytheville, Ark.

June 29 – July 1

Western States Championship
Hampton Mills
Packwood, Wash.

July 13-15

Colorado National Tour
Pikes Peak International Raceway
Fountain, Colo.

August 3-5

Northern States Championship at Grissom
Grissom AeroPlex
Peru, Ind.

September 4-7

Tire Rack SCCA Solo National Championships
Lincoln Air Park
Lincoln, Neb.

October 26-28

Tri-State Challenge National Tour
Arkansas Aeroplex
Blytheville, Ark.

2012 Tire Rack SCCA ProSolo Schedule

Round 1
April 13-15
Maryland ProSolo
TBA

Round 2
April 20-22
Mineral Wells ProSolo
Mineral Wells Airport
Mineral Wells, Texas

Round 3
May 4-6
El Toro ProSolo
El Toro Airfield
Irvine, Calif.

Round 4
May 25-28
Spring Nationals
Lincoln ProSolo
Lincoln Airpark
Lincoln, Neb.

Round 5
June 8-11
Summer Nationals
Blytheville ProSolo
Arkansas Aeroplex
Blytheville, Ark.

Round 6
July 6-8
Packwood ProSolo
Hampton Mills
Packwood, Wash.

Round 7
July 20-22
New Mexico ProSolo
McGee Park
Farmington, N.M.

Round 8
July 27-29
Toledo ProSolo
Toledo Express Airport
Toledo, Ohio

Round 9
August 30 - September 2
ProSolo Finale
Lincoln Air Park
Lincoln, Neb.



Membership Application

Dear Prospective SCCA Member:

To apply for a membership in the Sports Car Club of America, the world's largest motorsports enthusiast organization, please complete the form below and return, with payment, to SCCA Membership Department, P.O. Box 299, Topeka, KS 66601-0299.

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Spouse Name _____ Birthdate _____

Child's Name _____ Birthdate _____

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Primary Interest:

Please indicate the area of SCCA in which you plan to participate, or interests you the most. (please check only one box)

- Club Racing
- Time Trials/PDX
- Rally
- RallyCross
- Solo
- Vintage
- Pro Racing

Membership Dues

(Includes region dues)

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- Family \$100.00
- First Gear (24 yrs & under) \$45.00

Amount Due

Membership Amount \$ _____

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Weekend Membership #2 _____ -\$15.00

Referred by SCCA Member _____ # _____ -\$15.00

First / Last Name & Member Number REQUIRED

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

I will become a member in the region I reside in or place me in _____ region. By accepting membership in the SCCA and any SCCA Region I agree to conduct myself according to the highest standards of behavior and sportsmanship in a manner that shall not be prejudicial to the reputation of the Club or fellow members.

Applicant's Name (Signature Required)

Date (Required)

Payment Method: Check Credit Card Money Order

Visa/MasterCard (only) Acct# _____ Exp. _____

Applications submitted by fax must be accompanied by a Visa or MasterCard account number for payment.

What is the SCCA?

The Sports Car Club of America is the world's largest automotive motorsports organization and has set the target for motorsports competition and motorsports event management in North America for over 60 years. The SCCA has remained the benchmark and is recognized as the gold standard in the industry.

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