

# *The* **SNARLING EXHAUST**

November 2005

A publication of the CNY Region Sports Car Club of America



Election time is a time for decisions...

which one to autocross next year??



Mercedes SLR McLaren and Porsche Carrera GT in the Vintage Grand Prix paddock at the Glen

Photos by Don Bizzozero

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Tips from the Cone Zone

Officer Nominees

## ***NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:***

***Wednesday November 9th,  
Liverpool American Legion 7pm***

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# ***The RE Corner***

## ***by Joe Kramer***

The big issue for this month is VOTE VOTE VOTE!!! The annual elections will occur on November 9th during the general membership meeting at the American Legion in Liverpool. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM. The winds of Change are blowing for our region – please participate in the decision for our leadership. In addition to a new RE and Treasurer, there may be some shuffling in the Secretary and Assistant RE positions as well.

On the Solo II side of things, our final event of the season took place at Shoppingtown Mall on October 9th. This was the first event at Shoppingtown since the mall changed ownership, and the event was a success overall. Something like 40 or 45 drivers ignored the threat of bad weather and were rewarded with 4 runs in the dry before the weather turned bad. Those of us who stuck it out got to slip and slide around the course 2 more times in the wet - whoo hoo! Assistant RE Mike Donofrio beat his brother and me in his newly bought Miata. I'm thinking he must have done something illegal to be that fast in my old car (ok, so I was driving the same car, but still...).

But really, this event “started” last January. That was when I noticed a small article in the business section of the newspaper that mentioned that Wilmorite was in the process of selling the Great Northern and Shoppingtown properties to a new owner. Because the deal was still not finalized at the time, Mark Bizzozero, our Solo Chairman, wasn't able to schedule our usual early-season Shoppingtown glacier event this year. Once the deal went through, Mark got the October 9th date ok'd by his contact there. Starting in early August, I started to bug Mark for the information SCCA National needed to issue a sanction/insurance certificate for the event. Mark kept bugging his contact, but couldn't seem to get an answer. Finally, late in the week before the event (Sunday being the end of the week in RE land), he contacted her by phone and she “transferred” him to the person that was “in charge of that now...”. Keep in mind that all this time Mark was under the impression that everything was a go and all that was needed was the insurance information. Now, a week before the event, he essentially had to go through a site acquisition process. So Monday morning I answered my cell phone and it was Mark. “How late can we get the information to National and still hold the event this Sunday?” he asked. He then explained the situation.

Well, with a lot of hard work from Mark and numerous emails, phone calls and faxes between Mark and Shoppingtown, Mark and me, National and me, the deal was finalized on Friday morning. The rest would be easy (or so I thought at the time).

Saturday I stopped by Rex Franklin's house on the way down to help set up the course to see if Rex had left for the mall with the Van; he was just putting one of his dealer plates on the back of it because he had just gotten it back from the shop where they had inspected it but the registration had expired and it couldn't get registered until it was inspected and now it was but it was Saturday already (whew!). So I headed down to the mall with my wife and a friend of hers who would do a little shopping while we did a little course setting up. We were about halfway to the mall when my cell phone rang – the Van had gotten Rex as far as the Route 11/Bear Road intersection and quit. As it turns out, putting some gas in the tank solved that problem. When we were setting up the course there was an OCCRA truck parked in the middle of the lot that didn't seem like it would be moved any time soon. But Mike Donofrio got on the phone and discovered that the Jamesville OCCRA site was still open, so he and I headed there, got a phone number to call and got the truck moved. Other than the aforementioned rain and the usual organized confusion, the event itself went off well. Afterwards, everything got packed up into the Van and Rex headed home.

The Donofrios and I were packing up Mike's trailer when my cell phone rang (I gotta get rid of that damn thing – anybody want to buy one cheap?). Rex and the Van were stuck on the 481 with a fried battery-to-starter cable. So we all headed out to rescue Rex. As it turned out Mike had some cable, but not any useful tools to convert it into a Van cable, just a few wrenches and a McGuyver-type multi-tool. Well, before you know it, Rex is under the Van disconnecting stuff, folks are taking turns reaming out the connectors on Mike's cable using the pliers on the McGuyver tool, and soon the Van is fired up and moving again.

And I think back to January, to that innocent little article about some malls changing hands. And as the Van disappears over the horizon and I climb into the old Subaru, I think to myself, “Oh well, just another event...”

That's it for this month. Until next time, keep the rubber side down. And don't forget to VOTE!!!

# CNY General Membership Meeting

held on October 12, 2005 at Burdick Driver's Village

The meeting was called to order at 6:31PM by CNYR Executive, "**Jumping**" **Joe Kramer**. Since we were off site he didn't have anything to report, but he did remember the club gavel to bang on the table to get the attention of all of us.

Assistant R/E: **Mike Donofrio** reported that the sandwich he was eating was excellent. Other than that he had nothing to report.

Secretary: I, announced that the minutes from the last meeting would appear in October's edition of the Snarling which was in the process of being mailed.

Activities: **Bruce Parker** had nothing to report. He did mention some meeting that he and **Joe Kramer** attended at Watkins Glen, the highlight of which was the complementary food that was offered. Unfortunately, **Bruce** was supposed to bring home some **Mr. Chicken** for his wife, which in all the excitement, he forgot. Bruce can now be reached on his cell phone since he is now residing in the garage and all house privileges have been suspended until further notice by his wife.

Solo II: **Mark Bizzozero** announced that the Shoppingtown Solo II was the last of the season and even though it rained a bit; combined with a "few" mechanical issues with the van (just ask **Rex Franklin**, **Joe Kramer**, or **Mike Donofrio** for all the details); and a couple of administrative snafu's, it went without a hitch. He will be working on next year's season very soon.

Flagging/Communications: **Mike Fuller** mentioned that there was some sort of regional race at the Glen last weekend. He also brought along 2 guests this evening that are interested in F/C. Hopefully someone gave them a membership application.

Merchandising/Competition: **Joe Zingaro** forgot the merchandise box. BUT, **minime** was in attendance. He mentioned that his "crew" went to the runoffs last weekend.

Treasurer: **Frank Beyer** mentioned that he still had checks and therefore, by default, we must still have money.

Old Business: The self appointed officer nominating committee released its extensive list of nominee's for the upcoming club elections. According to them, a great deal of time and effort went into selecting, contacting and convincing the nominee's to accept the nominations. The full list will be published elsewhere in the Snarling. I have no idea how the club would survive without the tremendous effort of the committee. So, a very special and heartfelt thanks go out to the two of them, **Rex Franklin & Bruce Parker**. Perhaps someday their memoirs will be made public and we will find out just how much they did, and to what extremes they went to, for the club.

New Business: None.

50/50: \$14.00 was won by **Mike Zingaro**. Rumor has it that **minime** actually walked away with the prize.

Special Event: The purpose of the meeting being held at Drivers Village was to take advantage of the NASCAR Driving Simulator. We were broken down into 3 groups and ran 2, 3 lap races at Daytona International Speedway. The top 8 drivers went on to have 3 practice laps and a 10 lap feature at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

I will refrain from commenting on the results, or the actions of certain individuals. Rub'in is part of racing, I can accept that, intentionally crashing is not. That being said, some of the final results are skewed due to the unethical driving habits of certain individuals that shall remain nameless (OK it was **Mike Donofrio**). The results are:

1st	#8	<b>Colby Risiws</b>
2nd	#38	<b>Joe Zingaro</b>
3rd	#97	<b>Mark Bizzozero</b>
4th	#43	<b>Jay Cartini</b>
5th	#20	<b>Kevin Yaroski</b>
6th	#12	<b>Mike "the poor sport" Donofrio</b>
7th	#1	<b>Mike Zingaro</b>
8th	#17	<b>Brian Ciarlei</b>

These are the results for the "real drivers", there were 12 additional computer generated competitors on the track at the same time.

The official meeting was adjourned at 7:15PM, racing was completed at 8:30PMish.

Submitted, **Jay Cartini**, CNYR Secretary.



# TIPS FROM THE CONE ZONE



A series of tips from the more successful Solo II drivers for the less experienced drivers and newbies.. Jason Farr has graciously agreed to be interviewed.

**Name:** Dereck Wyman

**Car make/year/class:** Black 1996 Neon / STS

**What do you love about your autocross ride?** Dereck enjoys the challenge of competing with a car that's an underdog in the class.

**Daily driver?** The Neon is for events only. He drives a 2004 Mitsubishi Rallyart Lancer on the street.

**Favorite fan:** Codriver Michael Occhipinti

**Membership:** Dereck has been a member of the SCCA and the CNY Club for five years.

**Years auto crossing:** Five years

**Number of Solo II events last year:** Twenty!

**Other hobbies:** Playing poker.

**What do you do in off season?** Recuperate. Also, planning additional refinements to his car for next year.

**One thing about you that might surprise other club members?** Dereck has been playing the guitar for 20 years.

**Most important tip to newbies?** He observes that most newbies go thru three phases. First they try and navigate the course just like they'd drive on the street (slow speeds) In the second phase they try and go way too fast (tires shrieking, car pushing in curves almost to a standstill) In the third phase, it's all about gaining more control of the car (going to slow to go fast).

Also Dereck suggests that beginners try not to ask the car to brake, turn or accelerate at the same time. You need to get a feel for the total amount of traction you have in the car.

**Prerace breakfast?** Orange juice and a Balance Bar.

**Most important thing regarding walking course?** Dereck tries to mentally divide the course into four or five

sections. Then he identifies "key cones" for each section. A typical local course may have five to seven key cones. He feels that this technique helps him visualize the overall course.

**Between runs?** He thinks about how did the overall flow of the drive feel. Did he get a rhythm thru he course. Once you identify a rhythm, you can focus on speeding it up on the next run.

**How do you practice between autocrosses?** You can always practice looking ahead ... not staring at hood.

**Left Foot Braker?** Yes. Dereck suggests that it's easier to focus first on autocross driving on the course ... and learn / get comfortable with left foot braking on the road, during the off season. He indicates it takes a while to master.

**What do you focus on/think about right before you start a run?** He tries to clear his mind of details and potential distractions and focus on the first key cone on the course.

**What do you focus on /think about right after you finish a run?** Dereck monitors how much his hands are shaking ... pretty good gauge of how fast the run was.

**Anything different in driving on wet course?** He tries to drive a smoother line and not make significant corrections with the wheel. Once the Neon starts to spin in the rain, it's difficult to save.

**What aspect of your driving are you focusing on for improvement this year?** Trusting the car more. Driving at 100% of max for both the fast and slow sections of the course.

**Favorite type of professional auto racing/favorite driver?** He will occasionally watch World Rally Cup on the Speed Channel. Also enjoys races at Watkins Glen. Has no interest in NASCAR or anything involving ovals.

**Dream ride:** New Black SRT 10 Viper .

**Final words:** Dereck says that the best thing about Solo II is the camaraderie with fellow competitors . Just a great bunch of folks to spend quality time with on the weekend.

George Nagle  
*George drives a 2002 Subaru WRX in DS.*

# **CNY REGION OFFICER NOMINATIONS**

ELECTION TO BE HELD AT NEXT GENERAL  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOVEMBER 9TH

## **RE**

Mike Donofrio

## **Assistant RE**

Anthony Donofrio

## **Secretary**

Joe Zingaro

## **Treasurer**

Jay Cartini

## **Activities**

Bruce Parker



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# 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

To find your region dues, visit <http://www.scca.com/Join/Index.asp?reference=dues>

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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 \_\_\_\_\_  
Region and agree to abide by the bylaws. (Region Name/Number)

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

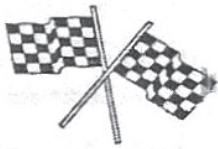
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