



TRACK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF MAHONING VALLEY REGION SCCA

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IN THIS ISSUE

REeport

2013 SCCA National Convention

Membership Report

2013 NeDiv Round Table

Minutes of the March Meeting

Chaplain Notes - March

Classifieds

APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON
TUESDAY, April 2, 2013**

**WEST FORK ROADHOUSE
3850 BELMONT AVE
YOUNGSTOWN, OH**
just south of I 80

Meeting Time: 8:00pm

Come early for dinner.

REport - Reed Kryder

Elsewhere in this issue of TRACK you will find articles on the recent SCCA National Convention and NeDiv Roundtable. Sandi and I were quite busy at both events. There is not enough room to write everything so these reports cover just a few highlights. If you want to know more you will need to attend a meeting. There were several additional MVR members at the Roundtable and they should have some additional comments from the meetings they conducted and/or attended.

As I write this Spring has just started. A very busy season for Mahoning Valley Region is about to get underway. We have a Membership meeting on Tuesday, April 2nd. If the weather is nice you might want to bring (or trailer) a car for everyone to look at in the parking lot. The annual Safety Training Day will be held Saturday, April 13 at Nelson Ledges. If you know someone interested in flagging or other aspects of the safety crew this is a great way for them to learn. And for drivers it is also a great time to have someone tech your car and perform an annual physical.

On May 5th Mahoning Valley Region will conduct their second Tire Rack Street Survival event. We can always us volunteers. But there is something of greater importance you can do - get a teenage driver to attend. Maybe it is a relative. Maybe a neighbor or someone's child from where you work or attend church. One work of advice, DO NOT ask the teenager. SELL the parent on the idea the program might save their child's life. Parents need to mandate attendance by their kids.

A couple of weeks later we will be conducting our first race weekend of the year. It will be a triple Regional and also include PDX and Club Trial Activities on Saturday. It is going to be a very busy Springtime.

See you April 2,

2013 SCCA National Convention = Reed Kryder

Sandi and I attended the 2013 SCCA National Convention in Las Vegas on February 28-March 2. What follows is my brief summary of convention's scheduled meetings we attended. There were also numerous person-to-person discussions with both individuals and groups. One change I have noticed during the past seven years of attending conventions is my free time between meetings has greatly diminished.

Thursday:

I was asked to participate in a Time Trial meeting for the express purpose of commenting on our experiences with PDX's. The current rulebook is around 37 pages long and several BoD members expressed a goal of reducing it to a page or two. I agreed with them and offered my opinions and experiences. By the next morning a 'rough draft' had it down to less than 2 pages. It will probably

expand slightly, but the goal of the meeting appears to have been accomplished.

There were several other specialty meetings during the morning hours. During the afternoon everyone attended the Annual Meeting and Town Hall, The Convention Kick-Off, and the Chairman's Welcome Reception. We found out the club is still financially healthy (we had some financial gains and a few losses). We have reserves to cover at least six months of operating expenses. Membership was up for the first time since 2002. It was a slight, but welcome gain. The Run-Offs will most likely start rotating around the country and will probably include events on both coasts as well as in the center of the country. The SCCA Foundation is conducting a "Winner's Choice Raffle" to help their treasury. It is the first time they have done this and it is a great way to donate to a charity. Who knows, you might win a car. Go to www.sccaraffle.org for details. There are a couple of new sayings you may be hearing or reading frequently in the future. "SCCA is where America's best amateur driver's race" and "We are the best amateur motorsports organization in America – and we need to act like it" are two of them.

Friday:

The day was full of meetings. I attended Town Halls on Time Trials and Club Racing. I also spent a couple of hours in the 'closed' meeting between RE's and the Board of Directors. This meeting is very helpful to both RE's and the BoD as we exchange ideas from many areas across the country. Sandi and I both attended a general meeting regarding membership plans and future directions for the club. We also attended a Forum on SCCA Pro Racing. Sandi was involved in MotorsportReg Training meetings and probably a few others I don't have listed in my notes.

The membership meeting was interesting because the outside group brought in last year to help with membership growth did not come back to the BoD with a membership campaign as expected. They could have done so, but felt the resulting growth would have been short term. Instead they presented a plan for internal changes to the club which would result in improved membership retention as well as growth. They pointed out our strengths and weaknesses. Strengths included our heritage, which lead to such things as the sayings mentioned above. It was also emphasized we should put our complaints behind us and make every effort to move forward. Jeff Dahnert said "If your complaint goes back more than five years, drop it!"

The end of the day featured another happy hour and awarding of the Region Leadership Awards. In the past these awards and many others are usually given out during the lunch hours. Time was always tight and the award giving was rushed. Adding this happy hour idea was a welcome change.

Saturday:

The day started off with Sandi attending a Risk Management meeting while Reed sat through a great

presentation on how the Houston Region markets their events. Sandi also attended a meeting called "Making the most of social media". I had a couple of meetings on my agenda, but was drawn into a discussion on Barriers to Entry and PDX issues with a Board Director (John Walsh) and several other officials.

As mentioned, during lunch there are always numerous awards given out. Of significance to Mahoning Valley was the John McGill Award. MVR donated this award in 1975 and it is one of the most treasured annual SCCA awards. It honors an individual for their outstanding contributions to Club Racing. The recipient this year was Bob Dowie. Bob served on the CRB for many years (most of them as its leader) and while most of us have had our disagreement with CRB decisions at one time or other, all of us recognize the difficulty of the job and the outstanding work Bob did while in the position. From a personal standpoint, I think Bob was an excellent choice for the award.

During the afternoon we attended discussions on the Majors, Website Design, Racing Experience; Barriers to Entry, Region Leadership Training, and Tire Rack Street Survival. Regarding the Majors; after numerous initial concerns there now seems to be a general acceptance of the concept from the membership. Most of the other meeting items will be followed up at our own MVR meetings.

The last thing on Saturday was the annual banquet. There are several awards given as well as induction ceremonies for the SCCA Hall of Fame. All of this stuff will be in "Sportscar".

Footnote: There was no announcement as to next year's Convention location or date. Vegas has been the location for the past five years because it offers everything necessary for a convention at very competitive rates, both for the group putting on the convention and the attendees. We have heard there is something very special in the works but it is still a ways from being finalized. If it doesn't work out, we will probably be back in Vegas.

Membership Report - Sandi Kryder

We have approx 132 members including dual members.

We want to send out a welcome to a new members. Justin Hille, Colton Kask, Holly Royal, Lucas Royal, Mackenzie Royal and Nathan Royal.

Happy Birthday wishes to:

Steve Dominish	4/15
Vic Marsh	4/30
Brandon Nutter	4/12
Morgan Pugh	4/7
Steve Selmants	4/21
Beth Sipple	4/13

April Renewals:

David Badger
Marie Blaine
Anthony Gabri
Ken Mast
Julia Raccio
Devin Wilmouth

Ray & Barbara Barnhart
Mark Fickenscher
Bruno Jacobs
Jace Melick
Brian Vondran

The following members need to renew their memberships:

Mack Stambaugh
The Bill Schauer Family
Vic Marsh
Kirk Hopkins

2013 SCCA NeDiv Roundtable - Reed Kryder

Sandi and I attended the 2013 SCCA NeDiv Roundtable held March 15-17 at The Inn at Pocono Manner. This is an annual event for the Northeast Division. It usually follows the National Convention and features seminars designed to update event participants and volunteers on new rules. There are also training sessions for new volunteers in several specialties. The "guts" of the program take place on Saturday for those who wish to attend only a single day. But there are other meetings held on Friday evening and Sunday morning for various committees.

Sandi helped with registration on Friday evening while Reed attended Divisional Racing Committee and National Racing Committee meetings. These were separate meetings which consisted of pretty much the same participants. With National racing going away in 2014 the NRC is evolving into the DRC. During the DRC meeting discussions continued towards developing a NeDiv Championship Series for 2014. Much of the basic plan has now been developed and a formal proposal will be submitted to the National office within the next couple of months. Basically there will be an eight race series (one per track) with some sort of special event at the end of the season. It will be possible to earn invites to the Run-Offs by participating in this Series. The 2014 Divisional Series will recognize all divisionally recognized classes, not just those eligible for the Run-Offs. The NRC meeting finalized plans for the 2013 NeDiv National events for submittal to the NeDiv Council for approval during the Sunday morning meeting.

Following Saturday breakfast Sandi returned to the Registration desk. Reed was supposed to attend another NRC meeting, but all business had been concluded on Friday so it was cancelled. Note, there are usually plenty of hours dedicated to the NRC meeting due to the variety of "opinions" expressed at them. MVR members Paul Morrison and Dave Badger started what was almost a full day of Tech Training sessions. Paul is the NeDiv Divisional Administrator for Tech and conducted these sessions. I had originally intended to

stop by when I had a chance, but I think my total free time in the Tech sessions amounted to less than a minute. Sorry, guys.

Following a break Sandi headed for a Registration session while Reed sat in on a Time Trials/PDX session. The TT/PDX session eventually had about 15 interested attendees but no one showed up to run the session. Matt Yip was on the list of pre-registered attendees. Hopefully he simply had something else come up on his schedule and all is well. Those of us in attendance ended up with a roundtable discussion which was very informative.

Following these meetings I attended a meeting on Driver's Schools and specifically the Alternate Driver's School program. The AltDS is gaining traction across the country as more and more Regions realize its benefits when compared to a regular driver's school schedule limitations. MVR and myself conducted a couple of these programs in 2012 and we can do it again at any time. Remember the AltDS as an option when discussing how to go racing with friends. Sandi can tell you what she was doing while Reed was at this meeting (if she so desires).

After lunch Reed attended a general meeting to discuss the Majors program. While most people have come to accept the program and many believe in its goals, there remain lots of unanswered questions. Questions mainly were asked about scheduling conflicts, would event locations change in future years, would the number of events stay unchanged, and similar questions. The basic answers were usually 'non-answers' since the Majors is a work in progress. There was one line of questioning I found amusing. It concerned scheduling. It seems as if many people believe tracks give scheduling of SCCA club-level events top priority. There may be a small element of truth to this at some tracks which run only club-level events. But in many minds this "SCCA club events get top priority" belief seems to apply to other tracks such as Watkins Glen and Mid-Ohio. Saturday evening consisted of a lot of bench racing and discussions while sitting in the bar watching Sebring, NASCAR, and basketball games.

Sunday morning consisted of the Director's Meeting and the NeDiv Council Meeting. Directors Jerry Wannarka, John Walsh, Dick Patullo were very informative with their updates from the National Office.

The Council Meetings consist of numerous reports (financial, solo, rally, web master, club racing, and a lot more). It can be boring at times if the particular subject matter is not your cup-of-tea. It can also get very exciting as members debate various topics. Prior to the advent of the NRC these meeting could take hours as the National racing schedule became a hotly debated subject. Now the NRC/DRC committee (which consists mainly of those Regions conducting events and allows voting only by those Regions) meets in smaller rooms, comes to agreement on rules and schedules, and

presents these conclusions to the Council for approval when necessary.

Information was distributed pertaining to the 2013 NeDiv Mini-Con. It will be held November 8-10 and is being hosted by the Steel Cities Region. Since it will be in Pittsburgh all of the MVR members should consider attending. Similar to the Roundtable, the bulk of the sessions are held on Saturday, so it is possible to attend for a single day. There is a banquet on Saturday evening. I will have information at our April meeting and Sandi will probably be posting some contact details elsewhere in "Track".

We left The Inn at Pocono Manor shortly before noon to start the six-hour drive home. It became seven hours when we were stopped while a tractor/trailer rig was hauled up out of a ditch.

Minutes of the March Membership Meeting

March membership meeting opened 8:00 By R.E. Reed Kryder.

We had 14 members in attendance..

Sandi Kryder made a motion to accept the Minutes from February as printed in TRACK. Seconded by Brad Morris. Motion Passed.

Treasurers report was read and approved. The membership

Membership report was in track.

Reed & Sandi Kryder reported on the SCCA National convention. Hi-lights - Membership was up since 2002, Runoff locations in the future, ,new spec racer car in the future. Discussion about Hardcards ,Changes in the club & MotorsportReg. Majors .

Old Business -

John Gingery reported on the Street Survival. It will be held on Sunday May 5th at Value City Boardman.

Patches Chris Bell working on prices.

New Business - bring race cars to meeting to display. Safety day April 13th tech / physicals

Sandi Kryder made a motion to adjourn seconded by Jim Royal. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Greg Alley, Secretary



Nelson Ledges Chaplains Notes

March 2013

BEAUTY

As I sit here desperately waiting for real spring, it is nice to know that racing has finally begun everywhere. F1 started last week and IndyCar this. The Rolex 24 is long gone and Sebring is last week's news. NASCAR has been running for months it seems and there have even been a few of the new SCCA Majors events, but at Nelson, not quite yet.

One of the new rules in F1 I like allows the teams to smooth over those ugly pointed noses that were on all the cars last year except McLaren. While the Lotus of Kimi Raikkonen that won the first race in Australia still had the hump, most 2013 F1 machinery has a more attractive slop on the front. They all beg comparison with the F1 Gurney Eagle AAR-104 that Dan Gurney drove to victory at Spa, Belgium in 1967. The nose on all of Gurney's F1 cars and a number of his Indy Cars was an unmistakable Eagle's beak. On the shelf in front of my TV I have a 1/18 die cast of the 104 and each time I walk by I marvel at its graceful lines.

Another proof that 1967 was a great year for beautiful cars is on the shelf in another room. The 1967 Ferrari 330P4 that won the Daytona 24 certainly is in the final reckoning for the most beautiful race car ever. Its voluptuous curves would make a Fiat 500 go into fits of jealous rage. The Ford GT it raced against also had some attractive lines.

The Bible says "Brothers and Sisters think about things that are true and honorable and right and pure and beautiful and respected. If there is anything that is good and worthy of praise, think about these things." May the beautiful things man has made remind us that God calls us to think on what is beautiful.

Chaplain Marvin Gray
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CLASSIFIEDS

*** For Sale: 1985 Fox Body Red Ford Mustang American Sedan Class. Complete car ready to race. Motor refreshed 20 min. run time to check for leaks. New Ford racing cam. World class T-5 trans. with extra new T-5 trans. comes with extra tires and rims. Can run National Races. Just ran Regional Races. \$5895.00. E-mail John Gingery racer2269@hotmail.com

*** FOR SALE: 2004 Chrysler Crossfire Cp (Mercedes-Benz) 21,500 miles. Never used in winter. Like new \$12500.00
Cliff McCandless 724-458-6809
vcmax@zoominternet.net

*** FOR RENT: 1999 Mazda Miata. Car runs in the Spec Miata class. Available for Regional's, Nationals and Driver Schools. Contact Kryderacing at 330-854-4889 or e-mail kryderacing@aol.com