



# TRACK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF MAHONING VALLEY REGION SCCA

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## DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

December 2, 2008

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

Meeting Time: 8:00pm

**Come early** for dinner.

**PLEASE NOTE: This will be the last hard copy of TRACK mailed to the general membership. TRACK will only be mailed to those members requesting one.**

## Congratulations to Dave Badger - Scrutineer Worker of the Year



Photo by Bill Stewart

**TOPEKA, Kan. (Oct. 10, 2008)** – Sports Car Club of America honored its top Club Racing program volunteers Thursday night, on the eve of the 45th SCCA® National Championship Runoffs® races at Heartland Park Topeka.

“Our volunteers are the lifeblood of any SCCA Club Racing event, and without the efforts of these individuals, our program would not operate at such a high level,” SCCA VP of Club Racing Terry Ozment said. “We congratulate the 2008 winners and thank them for all of their efforts throughout the last year.”

SCCA Volunteers of the Year are selected from nominations submitted by members, the peers of the award recipients.

The 2008 SCCA Club Racing Volunteers of the Year are:

Emergency Services - Ralph Baldwin, RN, Northern Pacific Division  
Grid and Pit – Kevin McDonald, Northeast Division  
Timing & Scoring – Mike Folsom, Southern Pacific Division  
**Scrutineers – David Badger, Northeast Division**  
Race Administration – Margie Swanson, Southern Pacific Division  
Sound – Berta Sager, Southeast Division  
Flagging & Communication – Ronda Knapp, Great Lakes Division  
Registration – Jerry & Helga Meyer, Central Division  
Steward – Earl Hurlbut, Northeast Division  
Starter – Keith Pfautz, Midwest Division

## REMARKS - Reed Kryder

Don't miss the membership meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Santa Claus may be there with some early Christmas gifts.

I have been giving some thought as to what I would like to accomplish during my year as Regional Executive. One objective is to increase the number of active MVR members. About now you are saying “been there, done that”. We have tried numerous ways to increase membership and member participation over the years. They have all met with limited, if any, success. The SCCA National office is always publishing ways to increase membership and they offer a large number of ways to help in that regard.

But I think we miss one important item in all of these approaches. It seems as if we approach a potential member with lots of enthusiasm and then expect them to jump into our activities immediately. I might even compare it to being invited to a friends house for a party and, after arriving, finding out you are being subjected to a sales pitch for some product. This approach may work for some people, but I believe it has the opposite effect on the majority and they feel reluctant to return. Even when they had a good time.

I would like to see our members simply invite their friends, family members, and neighbors to the track to have a good time. No strings attached. If they have a good time they will return for future events and eventually ask how to become involved.

Another advantage of this approach is that you can invite the whole family to the track. Maybe you are just targeting one individual, but if their family comes along and the spouse, or especially the kids, have a good time, odds are they will return.

For example, let's say you are thinking of inviting a friend out to help wrench on your car or work a corner station with you. If this person has a family, consider extending an invitation to all of them to simply come and watch. Your involvement in the track activities, whether you are driving, waving flags, or involved in some other aspect of the action will increase their enjoyment. And it might lead to future members.

So as we head into the new year let's start extending some early invitations to our friends to come out to the race track and have some fun. No strings attached.

## **2008 NeDiv Mini Con - Reed Kryder**

Sandi and I attended the NeDiv Mini-Con on November 7-9. The Mini-Con is held annually in the fall and topics center on scheduling, reviewing the past season, and changes for the upcoming year. The Round-Table is held in the spring and concentrates on training for the coming year.

The scheduling meeting was more intense than in the past few years. Both MVR and the DC Regions asked for Double Nationals. And to make it more interesting, the dates requested were back-to-back. NeDiv has a rule against Double Nationals but there has been one at Pocono for many years. We had several arguments ready to put forth in support of our event, including the fact it was on a three-day weekend. But eventually both requests were withdrawn. Steel Cities Region and MoHud Region requested Nationals at BeaveRun and Lime Rock (respectively) on the same weekend. Neither region had any flexibility and a vote was taken. Steel Cities lost and there will be no national at BeaveRun in 2009. As a follow-up note: the fact only a single NeDiv National exists in the western regions of NeDiv has several drivers strongly considering switching their Region of Record to a Great Lakes Region. From a logistics standpoint it makes a lot of sense for them to switch. I hope they retain dual memberships in anticipation of more NeDiv Nationals in our area in 2010.

I attended the Tech Inspectors meeting and came away impressed with the importance of meetings like this to get everyone enforcing the rules the same way. Just as many of us have experienced, there were different rule interpretations expressed during the meeting. Some of these differences are the result of tech inspectors confusing SCCA and NASA rules. Others result from rumors gaining validity over time. One very good suggestion was made regarding conflicts, whether they are between drivers and tech inspectors or tech inspectors themselves. One person said "whenever they are in discussions which start to get heated, they suggest looking at the rulebook for the exact wording." This approach tends to diffuse anger while making sure the correct decision is made. Another side note: I have personally used this approach to resolve disputes on my cars. I just ask: Show me the rule in the book. Another note: I have also been proven wrong using this approach.

Another item from the Tech Meeting was a clarification to rules enforcement. Historically, if you brought a car through tech and something was not legal, you could ask the Chief Steward for a waiver for that event. If the Chief Steward felt compassion towards your plight they might okay you for the weekend and make a note in your logbook to correct the problem before you race again. The Chiefs no longer have that option if the problem is a safety item. If your seat belts are out of date, you haven't installed the second passenger side door bar, your helmet is not legal, your roll bar has incomplete welding, or any number of other safety items which may

make you non-compliant you will need to correct them immediately if you plan on racing that weekend.

The Driver's Forum consisted of Bob Dowie, Terry Ozment, and Tom Hoffman fielding questions from the audience. The interest in the Run-Offs is very high after the announcement of its moving to Road America. A record turnout is expected. There will be only 24 races at the Run-Offs, but a 25<sup>th</sup> class (T-3) could be added. The results of the SCCA Surveys expressed a strong desire for separate races for everyone at the Run-Offs. But the survey also showed a high percentage in favor of combining classes IF there was a deserving class beyond the top twenty-four, rather than exclude them from the program.

At the Saturday evening banquet we picked up Amy Ruman's plaque for her 2009 GT-1 Championship in NeDiv. We also heard our own Dave Badger mentioned for receiving the Tech Worker of the Year award.

Most of the other meetings I attended were interesting, but had nothing of great value to express in this report. Maybe Sandi has some reports from the meetings she attended.

## **2008 NeDiv Mini-Con - Sandi Kryder**

I attended several meetings, but the most important item discussed was in the Registrars seminar. SCCA National is introducing a hard card in 2009.

The hard card will be free to members holding a competition license and volunteer workers who worked a minimum of 4 days in 2008. All others will have to pay \$10.00.

An annual waiver (different from the normal waiver) must either be notarized or witnessed by an SCCA registrar. Photo must accompany the waiver when sent to the National office. Upon receipt at National, they will issue you a hard card.

The annual waivers can be requested at the time of your membership renewal in 2009.

Having a hard card does not mean that you do not have to go to registration. All drivers, crew & workers must go to registration to get their credentials. The hard card merely means that you do not have to sign a waiver at each event.

## **TRACK**

Per a vote of the membership at the August 5, 2008 membership meeting, TRACK will only be available online beginning with the January 2009 issue. A notice will be e-mailed to members as to when it has been posted. TRACK will be mailed to anyone requesting a hard copy. Please keep your e-mail address up-to-date with Sandi Kryder.

## **2008 Championship Runoffs - By the Numbers** **From National Office**

While it comes as no surprise that the number of competitors was lower than 2007. Here is a brief look at the numbers:

Total Number of Competitors: 501, down about 23% in comparison to 2007

DSR, F500, T1, FF and GT2 had less than 10% drop in competition

SRF, S2000 and FA had greater than 40% drop in competition

A number of factors may have contributed to the decline; economy, fuel prices, facilities and competing clubs/hobbies were a few that I have heard mentioned. As leaders of our club, we can choose to accept that this is our fate, or we can take a fresh look at our competition programs. Are we doing everything we can to create an atmosphere that is simple and fun to be involved in? I encourage everyone to stay involved and start thinking out of the box. If you haven't contacted competition license holders in your region, you should. Find out what they want out of an event. There is no need to guess, pick up the phone and ask.

### **Membership Report - Sandi Kryder**

We have approx. 200 including dual memberships.

The following members have November Renewals:

Richard Dunlap  
Daniel Grilli  
Greg Grucella  
George Kissinger  
Matthew Meara  
Jim & Toni Morgan  
Bob & Barb Ruman  
Amy Rubam  
Brian Salchak  
Eulanah Wilson

Happy Birthday to:

Troy Barnhouse	12/24
Andrew Bujdoso	12/17
Emma Cesene	12/13
Mark Fickenscher	12/31
Greg Grucella	12/30
Hugh Kells	12/29
Jacob Lane	12/31
Marty Lutsch	12/19

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

Free to Mahoning Valley, Neohio, Misery Bay, Steel Cities and Western New York Regions members. Ads will run 3 consecutive times (asterisks at the beginning of the ad indicates how many times the ad has run). Ads must be resubmitted after their 3<sup>rd</sup> run.

\*\*\* FOR SALE: 1970 Porsche 914-4 FP with trailer. Car is well used and needs some repair. \$2500.00 Cliff McCandless 724-458-6809

\*\*\* FOR SALE: 1994 Honda Del Sol ITA race car, race ready, current logbook, need to buy your own transponder. \$7,000 obo. Contact Scott for details (440-265-9512).

\*\*\*For Rent: ITS/EP Nissan 240 SX. Contact Kryderacing, 330-854-4889

\*\*\* RACE CAR PREP: Kryderacing offers race car preparation, chassis set up, trackside services, etc. Check out their Website [www.kryderacing.com](http://www.kryderacing.com)

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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of anyone who cares to submit them and not necessarily those of MAHONING VALLEY REGION.

Articles and items for publication are welcomed by the Editor of TRACK and must be received no later than the 15th of the month for inclusion in the subsequent month's newsletter.

Ad Rates for TRACK (on a per month basis) - Full Page \$50.00, Half Page \$30.00, Quarter Page \$20.00, Business Card \$10.00, Classifieds are free to SCCA members of MVR, NEO, STC, WNY or MBR for three insertions (designated by \*). All other SCCA members free for 1 insertion after that \$5.00/insertion prepaid.

2009 NeDiv & Great Lakes Race Schedule Tentative

NEDIV NATIONALS

May 2 & 3	New Hampshire
May 16 & 17	Summit Point
<b>May 23 - 24</b>	<b>Nelson Ledges - MVR</b>
June 6 & 7	Thunderbolt
June 27 & 28	Mosport
July 11 & 12	Watkins Glen
July 31 - Aug 1	Lime Rock
August 14 - 15	Pocono - Double
Sept 22 - 27	SCCA National Run-Offs – Road America

NEDIV REGIONALS

April 18 & 19	New Hampshire
April 18 & 19	Summit Point
May 9 & 10	Pocono
May 23 & 24	New Hampshire
May 30 & 31	Summit Point
June 6 & 7	BeaveRun
June 14 & 15	Summit Point - 12 Hour
June 20 & 21	Lime Rock
June 27 & 28	Summit Point
<b>June 27 &amp; 28</b>	<b>Nelson Ledges - FLR - Double</b>
July 4 - 6	Pocono
July 11 & 12	New Hampshire
July 18 & 19	Thunderbolt (T)
July 25 & 26	Watkins Glen
August 8 & 9	Summit Point
August 22 & 23	Lightning
August 28 & 29	New Hampshire
September 5 - 7	Summit Point
September 12 & 13	New Hampshire
September 19 & 20	Watkins Glen
October 2 & 3	Lime Rock
October 10 & 11	Watkins Glen
<b>October 17 &amp; 18</b>	<b>Nelson Ledges - MVR Double</b>
October 17 & 18	Lightning
<b>October 24 &amp; 25</b>	<b>Nelson Ledges - WNY</b>

NEDIV DRIVER SCHOOLS

March 21 & 22	Lightning (School & PDX)
March 28 & 29	Summit Point
<b>April 17</b>	<b>Nelson Ledges – PDX (T)</b>
<b>April 18 &amp; 19</b>	<b>Nelson Ledges-MVR-Double</b>
October 9 & 10	Watkins Glen

GREAT LAKES NATIONALS

May 2 & 3	ORP
May 30 & 31	Mid Ohio
<b>July 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>Nelson Ledges – Double</b>
July 11 & 12	GingerMan
August 8 & 9	Grattan

GREAT LAKES REGIONALS

May 2 & 3	ORP
<b>May 16 &amp; 17</b>	<b>Nelson Ledges – NEO Double</b>
May 23 & 24	Grattan
May 30 & 31	Mid Ohio
July 11 & 12	GingerMan
August 1 & 2	Mid Ohio
<b>August 22 &amp; 23</b>	<b>Nelson Ledges 24 Hour</b>
September 5 & 6	Mid Ohio
September 12 & 13	Blue Grass
October 10 & 11	Mid Ohio

OTHER INTERESTING RACES or EVENTS

February 19-21	National Convention – Las Vegas
March 6 – 8	NeDiv Round Table
June 19 – 21	June Sprints – Road America
June 20 & 21	GrandAm @ Mid Ohio
July 11 & 12	PGVP @ BeaveRun
July 18 & 19	PGVP @ Schenley Park
August 8 & 9	IRL / ALMS @ Mid Ohio
Nov 7 & 8	NeDiv Mini Convention - TBD
Nov 14	Kryderacing Regional Championship Banquet