

MARCH 1998

OPEN EXHAUST

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DETROIT REGION SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA



50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION! • TENTATIVE 1998 SCHEDULES • POR RALLY REPORT
DRIVER'S SCHOOL INFO • 1997 AWARDS BANQUET PHOTOS • AND MUCH MORE!

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THE HOTLINE

UP-TO-DATE
 INFORMATION ON

DETROIT REGION EVENTS

1-800-503-RACE

ABOUT THE COVER

Don Sak doing a wheelie during a Trans Am Race at Lime Rock Park, May 27, 1996.

Photo by Mark Weber

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Volume 45 Number 2

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LEGALS

Open Exhaust is published 10 times a year, with bimonthly issues for November/December and January/February. Views expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of Detroit Region SCCA, or of SCCA Inc. Permission to reprint any material published in Open Exhaust is granted provided full credit is given to Open Exhaust and the author. Deadline for Open Exhaust is the second Tuesday of the month prior to publication. Ideas, suggestions, comments, corrections and letters to the editor are welcome and appreciated, but Open Exhaust reserves the right to edit or exclude any submissions. Articles may be hand or typewritten, but electronic correspondence is highly preferred. Artwork should be captioned and identified for return.

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Total price of an advertisement run in consecutive issues (add 25% for the back and inside covers):

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Ad must be paid prior to publication. Camera ready (STAT) black and white artwork at publication scale or most common PC/Windows graphics formats are acceptable (Windows .pcx works well).

RE REMARQUES

by Marcus Merideth

Hello again and welcome to the March issue of the Open Exhaust. As you read this the first of the membership meetings to be held at Kicker's has happened. I hope everybody attended and had a good time. This is going to be a busy year for motorsports in Detroit. As I am sure you are aware this is the 50th anniversary of the region. Help celebrate this wonderful event by participating, working or speculating at a Region event. Make plans to try something different and have a little fun. The celebration this fall will be a very special event. Please plan on attending.

The SCCA National Convention was held February 5-8. A few of the Region's members attending including myself. A few notes of interest: As a whole the Club lost money last year. Thus Club dues will be increasing this summer as well as the solo sanction fee. Solo is still expected to have a loss for 98. Pro Race is working hard on making the USRRC a viable organization. Junior memberships have gone away and now fall under the Speed Freak heading. The attendance at the Town Hall meetings was interesting. The Competition Board meeting was packed but the Rally and Solo Town Halls were less than full. The budgeting process takes our dues and splits them up to pay for services. At

the bottom of the renewal form, you are asked to pick an area of interest. Your dues are then budgeted based on that pick. So, please pick your area. If you pick nothing, the money is split up evenly.

Now, as you may have noticed, not all worker positions are filled on the back cover of this newsletter. Detroit is the 5th largest region of the SCCA and we cannot fill chiefs positions. That does not make this a great club. Myself and other members of the board have been looking for people in these positions. If you know of somebody or would like to volunteer yourself, please don't hesitate to call me or one of the other board members.

Have a good month and talk to you soon.

Please contact me with any questions or suggestions.

SECOND FIDDLE

by Mike Pickett

It was a time of renewal in 1948. Around the world, companies like Honda, Rover, and Porsche were starting. Here in the US, the first post-war cars and trucks were introduced, NASCAR was born on the sands of Daytona Beach, and Detroit became the 11th region to be chartered by the SCCA.

Fifty years later, it is a time of renewal for our Region. Your new Board of Direc-

tors is working hard to rejuvenate the Region and make it more like the club we all want. Improved Membership Meetings, strengthened Worker Points system, the Solo Mentoring Team, and our first Dyno Test Day are examples of efforts to make our Region more responsive to the needs of the membership. Throughout 1998 you will see more efforts to increase member satisfaction and raise the "value" of SCCA membership. Please stay tuned.

To be successful, however, we need your

help in two important areas: First, we need you to tell us how we can make the Region better. Please feel free to let us know what you would like and how we are doing. Second and more important, we need your involvement. Our Region needs more participation from more members. Specifically, we still must fill some key positions (see inside back cover) with new people to help rebuild our Region in its milestone 50th year. Consider it a chance to help make your Region, or a Specialty, or an Event run the way you wish it ran. And consider the rewards: The satisfaction you create might be your own.

WORLD WIDE WEB

Detroit Region SCCA Homepage
<http://www.detroit-scca.org/>

Rally Page
<http://pages.prodigy.com/scca.detroit.rally/index.htm>

CenDiv Solo Championship Information
<http://www.tirerack.com/cendiv>

CenDiv Race National Points
<http://www.netcom.com/~waggon1>

Open Exhaust E-MAIL

Send articles and other tid bits to me over the internet.

bobaliu@aol.com

MEMBER LETTERS

I am writing to express my disappointment in the Detroit Region Solo II Class Champion trophies. My CSP Championship means a lot to me, but obviously does not mean much to the region. I believe that awarding year end trophies that are the same beer mugs that can be won at an event is embarrassing.

Too often, Solo II is referred to as a "small-time" stepping stone sport. I think that the region is supporting this incorrect image of Solo II by minimizing the importance of the class championships. Please remember that some of us will never advance beyond the regional level so this championship is our ultimate goal.

I am not participating in Solo II for trophies, but everyone enjoys some recognition. Please contact me with the name and number of the trophy shop that makes the SCCA trophies. Deana Mallo and I would like to make our own championship trophies in order to remember our exciting year of Solo II.

Sincerely,
Kristian B. Houghton

Kris,

We in no way meant to down play the importance of yours or anybody's accomplishments. The Region's opinions should be yours as you are a part of it. We made a mistake. In the next few weeks you and all the other trophy winners will be getting a trophy recognizing your accomplishment. I am sorry for the mistake and thank you for pointing it out. Please accept my apology. If I can be of any further service, please let me know.

Marcus Merideth, RE

**MICHIGAN SPORTS
CAR CLUB**

AUTOSPORTS HOTLINE

248-545-6733

TO: Central Division Worker Administrators,
Central Division Directors and Competition Board Members
SCCA Club Racing Office

FROM: Pete Hylton, Chairman of the 1998 CenDiv Race Workers Seminar

Enclosed you will find a registration form for the upcoming CenDiv Race Workers Seminar and a tentative schedule for the event. I am hoping that you will not only attend, but prepare any pertinent materials that will help us to conduct a meaningful seminar for all attendees. Toward this end, if I can provide any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 317-892-4206 (phone & fax) or email: hylton@surf-ici.com. I am going to rely on the divisional administrators to either chair their specialty meetings or arrange for someone else to do so. I have flexibility in arranging the worker meetings so if I have given you too much or too little time, please let me know, and I will try to adjust things.

**1998 SCCA Central Division Race Workers Seminar
March 6-8, 1998**

- Hosted by:** Indianapolis Region, SCCA
At the Best Western Waterfront Plaza
Speedway, Indiana (I-465 and US-136 interchange)
- Purpose:** To provide an opportunity to exchange ideas, share opinions, and pursue further training with the objective of improving the Central Division racing program. Also, to see old friends and make plans for the upcoming racing season.
- Featuring:** Meetings for all race worker specialties
Steward Seminar
Open Forum with Area Directors, SCCA Staff & Comp. Board Members
Regional Executives Meeting
Meetings for Divisional Administrators, Deputy Stewards, etc.
Open Session for general topics and idea exchange
Review of 1997 Regional and National Race seasons
Preparation for the 1998 racing season
Social time
- Travel:** Centrally located in the division, Indianapolis can be reached by interstate highway from almost anywhere in CenDiv. For those choosing to fly, the Waterfront Plaza is only minutes away from Indianapolis International Airport. A shuttle bus is available; just call 299-8400 from the airport.
- Room Reservations:** For reservations call 317-299-8400, ext. 393. For the seminar rate of \$64 plus tax, you must call this extension and say you are attending the SCCA seminar. Room rates are guaranteed through March 6, but availability is only guaranteed through February 6.
- Event Registration:**

1998 CenDiv Race Worker Seminar Registration Form

Names: _____
Specialties: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____ (day ___ or evening ___)
Number of Full Registrations (\$43 - includes lunch and 2 breakfasts) _____
Number of Meal Only Registrations (\$22 - lunch and 2 breakfasts) _____
Late fee (\$5 if received after February 20) _____
Make checks payable to Indianapolis Region, SCCA
Please mail to the event chairmen: Pete & Cindy Hylton
7217 Creekwood Court, Pittsboro, IN 46167
317-892-4206 (phone & fax)
email: hylton@surf-ici.com