

PITBOARD



November 2014

The Year in SBR Solo 2014

We had a great season in 2014 for the SBR Solo program. We held 7 events with a total of 432 drivers attending for an average of 72 drivers per event (not including the Hoosier Challenge hosted by INR). We are seeing a good trend of increasing numbers at our events over the last three years. I'm encouraged by the trends we see and I look forward to greater participation next year at all of our events.

The Solo programs from our neighboring regions gathered together as the Indiana North West Region hosted the Hoosier Challenge at Grissom Aeroplex in August this year. There was an excellent turn out of 173 entries for a true battle between the regions resulting in Indy taking the top spot. SBR came in third this year. We'll have to come back in larger numbers next year to attempt a run at first place.

Our Motor State Challenge Autocross was held at the Tire Rack Test Track this year.

Attendance was good with 80 competitors and the racing even better. The Tire Rack site seemed to work well for the event and the drivers were pleased with our course layout for this year. It's always a thrill to see the mix of Pro Touring and Classic muscle cars compete for a spot in the Optima Ultimate Street Car Challenge.

Congratulations to Steve Bollinger who took the National Solo Champion title in G Prepared this year at the SCCA Solo Nationals. Steve fought off some serious competition to earn his title. He also set an SCCA record for the second longest men's time between his recent and first National Titles at 26 years. Steve won his first National tile back in 1988 and has now won a total of 6 National Solo Champion titles between the DP and GP classes.

Many, many thanks to Jim Morris for catering our events this year, some of our afternoon runs were certainly slower due

to his great barbecue. I appreciate Jim's dedication to satisfying our hunger while simultaneously taking the FSP Regional tile this year.

I must also thank the excellent crew of SBR's Solo program. I had great support from the SBR Solo Team and many other event participants for my third year as Solo Chair. They have done an outstanding job of making our Solo Program the area's best and most enjoyable outings in the Division. We've seen some new faces this year begin to learn key roles for event management. We welcome them as we are always on the lookout for those folks willing to help run our events. Please feel free to contact me at any time or join us in January for our yearly Planning Meeting to learn where you can help.

I'm very pleased with the results of our 2014 program and I'm looking forward to a great 2015 season!

—Nick Mawhorr



The grids were extremely full for SBR's last two solos of the season.

SBR MONTHLY MEETINGS

Where: Beef 'O'Brady's
12479 State Rd 23
Granger, IN
Days: First Tuesday of month
Time: 6:00 pm board meeting
7:00 pm general meeting
Who: All are welcome!

Winter Trip

SBR is looking at winter trip destinations. Please fill out the one question survey to provide input:
<http://kwiksurveys.com/s.asp?sid=uw8p6jnt6xvewjw444905>

SBR CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Not an SCCA Member?
Go to www.scca.com
Choose South Bend as
your local region!**

SBR Calendar

December
2 Club Meeting (Free Food)
January
17 SBR Annual Banquet
31 Solo Planning Meeting
February
3 Club Meeting
March
3 Club Meeting

2015 SBR Officers

Regional Executive
Jeff Luckritz
Board of Directors
Dennis Jennings (Ass't RE)
Kim Bollinger
Dave Gushwa
Jim Krzyzewski

Free Food

Never turn down a free meal. Come to the December 2nd general membership meeting and enjoy hanging out with fellow automotive enthusiasts. Food is free!

Getting SBR Activity Points

Activity	Points	Activity	Points
Race Chair	400	Car Show Display	75
Assistant Race Chair	200	Solo Co-Chair	75
PitBoard Editor	200	Race Worker/day	50
Website Manager	200	SBR Race Driver	50
Race Chief of Specialty	200	PitBoard Article/page	40
Associate PitBoard Editor	100	Rally/Solo Worker	40
Rally Series Chair	100	SBR Meeting Attendance	20
Solo Chair	100	Car Show Booth/day	20
Solo Series Specialty Chief	100	Rally Navigator	20
Event Chair	100	Race Crew/day	20
Program Director	100	Rally/Solo Driver	20
Club Officer	100	Race/Solo Meeting	20
Event Co-Chair	75	RoundTable/Worker Seminar	20
		PitBoard Picture	10

FREE DUES

We started it! Hold one of the following positions; National Race Worker, Pit-Board Editor, Race Chair, Street Survival Chair, RE, Solo Chair, Treasurer or Webmaster. Half off dues for: Activity Points Keeper, Division Race Worker, Secretary and various Solo Chief positions.

Find Us On
facebook

www.facebook.com/SBRSCCA

Wanted Your e-mail address

It would help us contact you quickly about SBR events if we knew your e-mail address. To see if we have it, follow these steps:

1. Go to www.scca.com
2. Log in (green button)
3. See if e-mail is listed under contact info.
4. If not, click on update.

Buy Tires-Help SBR

When purchasing items from The Tire Rack, first go to our web site at www.sbrscca.org, click on the Tire Rack link at the bottom of the page and then make your purchases. By doing so, the South Bend Region will earn a little extra dough!

SBR is a *Racing* Region

For the first time in recent memory South Bend Region held two race events in the same season. During the May 10th weekend, SBR, along with the Detroit and Western Ohio regions, sponsored a double regional at our “home” track in South Haven, Michigan - -GingerMan Raceway. The “Mothers Day” Race drew sixty-two entries, enough for the regions to break-even.

July 12 and 13 saw SBR’s and Detroit’s second attempt to put on a MAJORS race. Our car count was down from last year with one hundred thirty four drivers competing. But we attracted one hundred and twelve workers! Demonstrating that

our reputation for treating our volunteers like royalty is paying off!

A post race entrant survey, scaled from 1 to 5 with 5 being the best, yielded some very positive feed-back:

87% graded 4’s and 5’s for the weekend overall,
94% graded 4’s and 5’s for hospitality.

During the summer of 2015, SBR will once again host two race weekends; A double regional on May 16 - 17 and our MAJORS will be July 11 – 12. If you’ve never had the chance to join us before, put these dates on your calendar. You will not be disappointed.

—Jim Krzyzewski



Jeff Luckritz races his Spec Miata in the most popular class in SCCA.

Tire Rack Street Survival

—Sam Centellas

This summer we had two great Tire Rack Street Survival classes! As usual we knew we could count on SBR Members to come out and volunteer. We had over 40 students complete the class between our two sessions.

We are blessed to have the Tire Rack here in our backyard and they are very

gracious hosts for the classes.

We also want to give a big thank you to the other local clubs that assist. Members from Porsche, BMW, and Audi clubs have come to help and ensure we have enough coaches. If you want to help next year please contact Sam Centellas at streetsurvival@sbrscca.org

One Last Time Rally

On October 25th the rally committee of Denny and Patty Jennings along with the rally safety steward, Duane Belisle were ready and waiting for a great turnout to run the rally. It was a beautiful day with sun and warm temps and a course that promised to be an easy and visual delight to run.

Unfortunately we only had 4 entries show up. They were not disappointed as the views of the fall colors were brilliant with the sun shining and the course was good enough that no one got lost. All finished to enjoy the fixings of Bruno’s pizza after the short (just under 2 hours) rally.

I think everyone enjoyed the event but I am truly disappointed by the turnout. We can have over 80 entries at a solo but only 10 people show up for a rally. As a club we need to continue to put on rallies but need to find something that will make them better attended. Duane and myself would like to hear from members to hear what you would like to see in a rally so that you may attend the events. Maybe a destination rally would be of interest. Give us your ideas.

There is a February 2015 rally being planned at this point. Contact Duane if you are a solo safety steward and would consider being a rally steward also. Or if you want to help and maybe put a rally on that would be great also.

Thanks to those that attended and I hope to see you again at the February rally.

—Denny Jennings

1st place

Gary Kowalski and Kurt Przybysz

2nd place

Leon and Marilyn Krauss with Carolyn Snyder and Joe Roe

3rd place

Dick Cimidoro and Laura Happ

4th place

Jim and Denise Morris

Memories of Curt Thews

I know that many SBR members knew of the kindness and generosity of Curt Thews. Due to the close relationship he and I had while competing with his Porsches, I got to know him as a patient and understanding man.

As an example; one of the very first competitive events we ran with his “Thews Special” was the hill climb at Bellfontaine, Ohio. This was a big event, drawing 80 or more competitors and requiring an SCCA competition license. The town went all out by throwing a big banquet and parading the race cars out to the hill.

Curt wasn’t as much for drinking as I was and didn’t care for frequenting a local pub, unless there was

country music. After the banquet, the young college boy (whom I had practiced with and traded fast times with in his new Formula Junior) and his frat brothers crew invited me to toss down a few beers with them in a nearby joint. As we drank, we challenged each other just as on the hill, and I tossed back quite a few drafts.

As the 2:00 AM closing neared I asked a waitress if she wanted to go to breakfast. It turns out her boyfriend also was invited. They drove their car because I couldn’t find Curt’s tow car that I had borrowed. I had imbibed too much to drive so they took me to my motel about 4:00 AM.

At about 7:00 AM Curt wakes me to get to the hill by 8:00 AM. Where is the tow car? I didn’t know. Not a word of admonition. Curt and Russ actually got the town to open the pool for me to get a cool swim that Sunday morning! We had to bum a ride with another competitor out to the hill.

I don’t know what he might have said if we had not won with the fastest time and the hill record. I never ever imbibed again to that extent when competing with Curt’s cars.

Curt was far more than a friend... he was more like a father to me.

—*Dick Wisler*