

PITBOARD



December 2018

Paul McBride Elected as Regional Executive

Recently, as Regional Executive elect, I was asked what my vision was for the club in 2019. It would be very simple to say 'more of the same'. But that would be a cop out and very short sighted. First a little history. I joined the club in 1989. I was an aspiring middle aged F440 driver. In 1990 I was elected to the Board of Directors. In 1991 I served my first term as RE.

The club was much different then. I had worked with Mike Jennings in the late 70's and knew of SBR's regional racing program. By the late 80's that program was gone. It was late in '91 that SBR was contacted by Western Michigan Region to co-sponsor a double regional race weekend on Labor Day in 1992. My successor, Burt

Olson, saw that through. A lot more of the story goes here but I'll save that for another time.

Through the years I spent some time on the Board. I was the Competition Director for many years. (We don't have that one anymore.) Most recently I sat in the back ground and helped where and when I could. So what is my vision? I've seen many changes, both locally and nationally in the club. Thanks to Jeff Luckritz and his involvement with the National Office all of us have had the opportunity to be at the forefront of new programs. It is my hope that co-mingling Lane Motor State Challenge with our regional racing event will both broaden our participation level

as well as the personal satisfaction and enjoyment we get at these events. Our Solo program continues to be the bar others strive toward. I plan to enable that program as best I can. Time Trials hasn't really rung my bell, but it looks like a great tool for enthusiasts and we'll continue to push that forward. TNiA, love the program. I hope the opportunity to continue involvement is there.

So, what really is my vision? I would like to see the club: 1) continue to grow, 2) remain solvent, 3) encourage more member participation, and most importantly, 4) have a great time doing the things we enjoy with big noisy toys.

-Paul McBride



2019 SBR Board

Regional Executive	Paul McBride
Assistant RE	Jeff Luckritz
Board	Erika Engler
Board	Dave Gushwa
Board	Brian Tack
Treasurer	Kim Bollinger
Secretary	Open-Available

Trans-Am Series Starter

"The Dream Job"

by Mike Jennings

My fascination with the Trans-Am cars began in 1969 at Road America. While working with the South Bend Region Tech Team. I always had the race off and went to turn 1 to watch the start. The noise, dust and Parnelli Jones going thru the grass to make a pass was worth the walk. We would then go to turn 5 or Canada Corner to watch the balance of the race. It could not get any better. (Or could it?)

In 1979 a new job offer in Arizona, The house went on the market on a Friday and was sold on Sunday. We are moving. Starting races continued in Arizona, only a lot more than the Midwest. But no Trans-Am until 1985 when some friends and I went to the Caesars Palace GP in Las Vegas. As I had been to Vegas multiple times for club races, my friend asked what group I would like to start. Trans-Am or Super

Veas, I could not believe it. Of course, I picked Trans-Am. The track was a modified oval with 6 left hand turns. The pole sitter turned out to be Dave Watson who I would later work with in the series. Dave was an oval racer and tried to jump the start. Nope they went around again. Wally Dallenbach Jr won the race. During the weekend, I had another win, this time on a slot machine. Did we party that night!!!

On to 1986 and SCCA Pro Racing brought the Trans-Am to Firebird Raceway in Chandler. Willy Ribbs was on the pole with his Turbo Capri. He wanted it to be up on the turbo for the start so tried to leave early. Twice I indicated no start and sent them around again. Race control called and said start them this time and if he does it again we will take action. He did it right on the third try.

1990 and Trans-Am came to the Phoenix GP as a support race to the 2nd F1 race downtown. It was here that Bob Anderson the President of SCCA Pro Racing asked me if I would join the Trans-Am team as the series starter. (me?) He wanted me to start with this race. Okay. I was the F1 starter for that race. Hugh Laird my friend from Detroit was offered that one so I could do the Trans-Am. (yes, I gave up F1 for the Trans-Am) I had to talk to my wife Bev, son Jeff and my employer about the offer and what it would mean. They all said yes, and my dream became a reality. That first race start in Phoenix was just awesome. 40 cars getting the green flag from me. Thunder does not describe the sound and fury. Initially it was to be just the temporary street circuits. As time went by other races were added, until I was doing them all. Flying out all over

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!

SBR CONTACT INFORMATION

Erika Engler re@sbrscca.org	RE/Activity Points 574-370-5671
Jeff Luckritz race@sbrscca.org	Ass't RE/Race/TT Chair PitBoard 269-325-9014
Dennis Jennings gridman1@att.net	Board 574-232-0622
Dave Gushwa lt4gs702@yahoo.com	Board 574-633-4538
Steve Bollinger srbollinger@sbcglobal.net	Board 574-271-0088
Mark Manninen m_manninen@sbcglobal.net	Secretary 574-271-0810
Kim Bollinger kkbollinger@sbcglobal.net	Treasurer 574-271-0088
Sam Centellas streetsurvival@sbrscca.org	Street Survival 616-610-0042
Nick Mawhorr solo@sbrscca.org	Solo Chair 269-277-1310
Brandon Irwin birdman002@gmail.com	Membership Chair 574-876-7467
Rich Hammond rich.l.hammond@gmail.com	Webmaster 616-843-0424
Caleb Mullauer caleb.c.mullauer@gmail.com	Social Media Chair 269-539-0918

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

SBR Calendar

2019

January
12 SBR Awards Banquet
17-19 SCCA National Convention
February
5 Club Meeting
March
5 Club Meeting
April
2 Club Meeting
May
7 Club Meeting
18-19 Bert Olson Majors @ GingerMan
June
4 Club Meeting
July
2 Club Meeting (Tentative)
19-20 Motor State Challenge @ GingerMan
20-21 Double Regional @ GingerMan
27-28 SCCA Time Trials @ GingerMan
August
6 Club Meeting
September
3 Club Meeting
October
1 Karting @ MRP

**No
January
Meeting**

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.



www.facebook.com/SBRSCCA

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!

Race Workers Travel Fund

SBR members that work another region's race may be compensated for their travel expenses as listed below:

Grattan	\$75
Mid Ohio	\$150
Corvette Museum	\$225

Go to the following link, download a form and follow the directions. <http://www.sbrscca.org/new/club-racing/>

Getting SBR Activity Points

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Points</u>
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

65th Annual SBR Awards Banquet

Saturday Evening

January 12, 2019

Get all dressed up
for an evening at the
Juday Creek Country Club
14770 Lindy Dr, Granger, IN

(574) 272-5220

The entrance road is on the south side of
Cleveland Rd. 0.4-mile east of Grape Rd.
The country club is at the end of this road.



Our guest speaker is Raleigh Boreen, who will remind us that this is the 75th year of SCCA and we all can have a part in its future. He also leads regional solo development and competes around the country with his wife Velma.

Social Hour 5:30—6:30 PM (cash bar) Dinner 6:30 PM

Dinner will include a choice of Chicken Picatta or Beef Tips with all the delicious extras. We will enjoy a full selection of pies, of course. A gluten-free or veggie entrée is also available *on request using the coupon below*.

Take a \$10 banquet discount for every day you worked our Street Survival events, SBR Majors or Regional Road Races, or Lane events in 2018 up to \$20 total. You can make your reservation at < <http://msreg.com/SBRBanquet2019>> or use the coupon below. **Send the coupon to Kim today!**

You must R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, January 1, 2019 to assure your reservation.

Please reserve ____ tickets for me and my party for the SBR Annual Awards Banquet, January 12, 2019

Number of vegetarian entrées requested ____ . Number of gluten-free entrées requested ____ .

Cost: \$25 per person, \$40 per couple. I (we) worked ____ total days at Street Survival, Majors/Regional Races, Lane events (circle events) this year. For each day worked deduct \$10 (up to \$20 per member) from total.

Total cost \$_____. Check enclosed. Credit/Debit cards can also accepted at the event.

Make checks payable to SBR-SCCA. Please send to: Kim Bollinger, 50544 Prestonwood Ct. Granger, IN 46530. Questions? Call Kim at (574) 271-0088 (evenings) or email at <kkbollinger@sbcglobal.net>

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

the country on Thursday and back home on Sunday night or Monday morning then going straight to my regular job as Project Manager for an electrical contractor

In the 9 plus years of being the series starter, I got to work 31 different tracks around the country, Canada and Mexico. Also worked with SCCA at the Daytona 24 hour race. Another Daytona 24 and Sebring 12 hour with IMSA. The highest high was getting to know all the competitors, earning their respect, the friends made, the fun times at the tracks after the day was over. The many great memories made. There are just way too many stories and experiences that could be told. Some stand out a bit more.

The first year of meeting all the region starters and having to tell them what my position was. A lot of sore feelings. They wanted to know how I got the job. I still do not know why Bob picked me. Doing a lot of SCCA Pro Racing events, I always tried to look and act in a professional manner. I did know that Bob hated the way a lot of starters dressed as they just did not look good on television. In Dallas, where the

regional people gave me a real rookie as backup. Then in St Petersburg at the last race of the season and meeting the regional starters that Friday morning and them all walking off after I introduced myself. It was even better Saturday morning when they wanted to come back. By then, I had other help.

The Ruan Grand Prix at Des Moines, and the year of the flood. We were staying on the 17th floor of the hotel when we were woken up. The power was off, and the the emergency lights were out. Walking down the stair tower in the dark to get to the lobby was a real challenge. I got the last plane out of the airport and my brother got across the bridge before it was closed. The first year of the Minneapolis Grand Prix. Meeting a very young man with cancer, getting a milk crate for him to stand on so he could start the race. Then the next year finding out he was no longer with us.

The night race at Phoenix International Raceway when dust storms kept coming thru. Greg Creamer the announcer for the series wondering why I could call the storms

before they got to us. My secret light pole to the west of the track. The Mexico City race, where we rode bus from hotel to the track. That was the year that Liquid Tide was the series sponsor. On Sunday morning we were in our Tide uniforms waiting outdoors at the hotel for the bus. A big tour bus screeches to a stop and all the people jump off and want pictures with us. It turns out they were with Proctor and Gamble. Those bright uniforms were a highlight for the year. I signed more Autographs that year than any other. I could also get in the garage at Watkins Glen as the guards thought I was with Ricky Rudd's team.

My brother Denny getting on the pro staff after working so many events on his nickel. We had many fun times during and after the race day. My wife using all my frequent flyer miles to travel with me to a lot of the races. She enjoyed certain tracks more than others and enjoyed the staff as they always made her feel like she was a part of the crew. She always remembered Boris Said throwing dinner rolls at us from an outside table in Trois Riveres, Canada.