

PITBOARD



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH BEND REGION

Volume 67

SPORTS CAR CLUB of AMERICA

October 2023



These are the Bowmans on the grid at our regional races.

Dad was thinking:

“Oh crap!!! I forgot we put those things in the trunk”.

There are worse things that can happen at a race than this. Really??? Yes, those really are concrete

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NEW MEMBERS

Grant Beem of North Liberty, IN.

William Martin of Goshen, In.

Welcome to SBR/SCCA

Hope to see you soon!

RE REPORT

We are finishing the competition season with a bang this year packing in Solo Nationals, Hoosier Challenge, the final Track Night in America, and our SBR/Detroit Regional race all in one month! This all would not be possible without the competitors, workers and organizers. It takes a team to pull all of this off and SCCA does it best. But wait.... there's more! The runoffs at VIR, the final SBR autocross at Tire Rack on Sunday 10/15 and our first SBR Trek Rally on Saturday 10/21. The SBR Trek Rally has nothing to do with "Warp Drive" or "Starships", but it sounds like great fun involving a relaxing cruise with your SBR friends motoring through the country in their fine cars and taking in the fall colors. Best of all, it is totally free! This is yet another fun SBR social event for our members and their guests pulled together by Denny Jennings. Make sure you sign up and rollout before the weather forces us back inside for the season. Look for more info elsewhere in this issue.

Part of a successful club is having good leadership and members stepping up to show us the way and make us a better club. This is where the members steer us in the right direction by nominating and electing our future Regional Board of Directors as well as our Area #4 national Director. We are accepting nominations for the SBR 2024 Board members at the October and November General Membership meeting. I am stepping down from the Regional Executive position after two terms and will now maintain a seat on the Board of Directors for 2024 per our club ByLaws. We will need to nominate and elect a new RE as well as three voting Board Members for 2024. Elections for the nominees will be held in person on Tuesday November 7th. Running for the SCCA Area 4 Director is Dayle Frame our current Director for the Great Lakes Division. Dayle is running for his second term. Dan Hodge from Ohio is running against him for the Director position. Make sure you vote with SCCA for our Director between 10/1 and 10/15.

I have more info to relay from my meeting on September 19th with the other Regional Leadership and Mike Cobb, SCCA President. The SCCA National Convention will be virtual like last year and will be presented during the week of January 18-26, 2024. The Great Lakes Division will have our convention in-person on March 2nd in Ft. Wayne. More info to follow. SCCA Academy now has F&C Courses available to all members through the Member Account Portal (MAP) under the tab "My Learning" Go to "Course Registration". This will be a process to eventually license F&C workers and elevate training to Pro levels of racing.

Mike Cobb also shared news that *SportsCar* magazine will no longer be a print publication that members receive bimonthly [beyond the January/February 2024 issue]. Mike Cobb explained this an opportunity to reinvest in other Club communication channels, which could include website upgrades, expanding SCCA's digital outreach, and improving online capabilities – and that this redirected investment *may* include having *SportsCar* come to life in the future as both an analog and digital presentation.

In closing, we need a volunteer to help us plan and organize our January SBR awards banquet. Finances have been a little tight with some of our programs and our necessary expenditures, so our "Banquet" may look a little different than past years. We will try to be creative and fun while celebrating our past wins. If you have ideas and can help, let the Board know soon as most venues book for January in the next 30 days. We can really use a leader in place for this in the next week or so for this to happen.

Mark Manninen, RE South Bend

FOR SALE

Racetech rear view mirror for sale. Flat glass is about 2" by 4.25". It measures about 5" to top of mirror when mounted. Plastic housing in good shape. No cracks.

Asking \$30 or best offer

Email Mark at

marko159911@gmail.com



Member Ballot

This ballot is to vote for your preference as to our South Bend region Logo. We need your input on what you would like the logo to be. Please cast your vote and mail to address shown no later than 12P.M on November 6th.

Thanks for your help.

Mail-in Ballots must be received by 12pm, November 6th.

Mail Address:

Attn: SBR SCCA Regional Executive

50820 Heather Hill Lane

Granger, IN 46530

SBR Mail-in Ballot for Logo Submitted By SCCA Member # _____

Question #1: Which Official South Bend Region do you prefer?

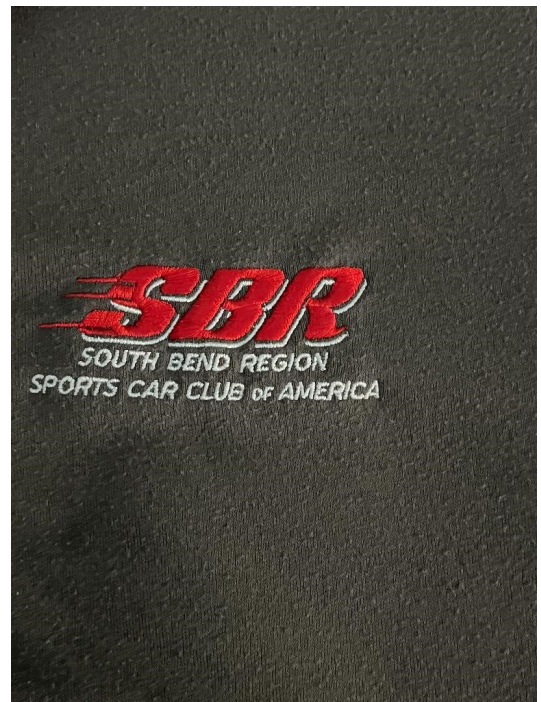
- A. The Current South Bend Region "Roundel Steering Wheel Logo"
- B. The newer "SBR letters in motion" logo with subtext "South Bend Region SCCA"

Question #2: Should South Bend Region have only one Official Logo

- A. Yes
- B. No



A



B

SBR Monthly Meetings

We meet every first Tuesday of the month at Beef O’Brady’s

12479 State Road 23

Granger, In

6:00—Board Meeting followed at 7:00 P.M.—general membership meeting

SBR CONTACT INFORMATION

Mark Manninen Regional Executive

re@sbrscca.org

H.C. Colwell Assistant RE

assistantre@sbrscca.org

Steve Bollinger Board

board1@sbrscca.org

Caleb Mullauer Board

board2@sbrscca.org

Paul McBride Board

board3@sbrscca.org

Jeff Luckritz Race Chair

race@sbrscca.org

Kim Bollinger Treasurer

treasurer@sbrscca.org

David Gushwa Secretary

secretary@sbrscca.org

Peggy Anson Membership Chair

membership@sbrscca.org

Mark Bublitz Webmaster

webmaster@sbrscca.org

Jason Cleveland Solo Chair

solo@sbrscca.org

Dennis Jennings PitBoard Editor

pitboard@sbrscca.org

RACE WORKERS TRAVEL FUND

SBR workers that work other region’s races may be compensated for their travel expenses as listed below:

Grattan \$75.00
Mid-Ohio \$150.00

Go to the following link, download the form and follow the instructions

<http://www.sbrscca.org/new/club>

2023 Schedule

October
3—Member Meeting
14—Cars and Coffee at Studebaker Museum
15—Solo #8 at Tire Rack

November
7— Member Meeting— Annual Elections

December
5—Member Meeting

January
TBD Annual Awards Banquet—Watch for info

Free Dues

We started it! Hold one of the following positions and get your dues back.

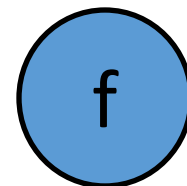
R.E.; National Race worker license; Race Chair; PitBoard Editor; Street Survival Chair; or Treasurer.

Half off dues for Activity Points Keeper; Divisional Race worker license; Secretary; and various solo positions.

LIKE US

ON

FACEBOOK



NEED TIRES?/ HELP SBR

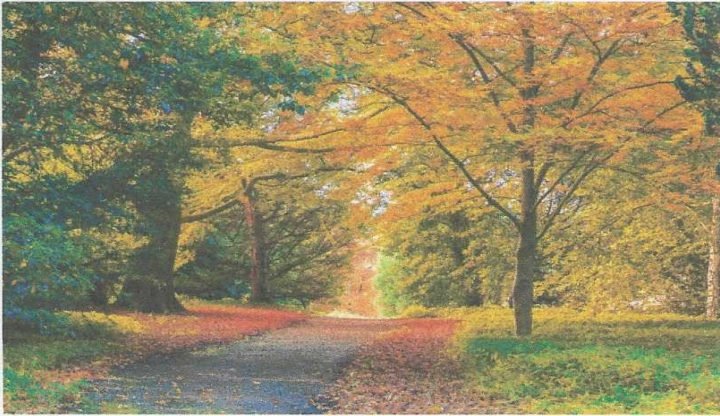
When you need new tires be sure to buy from the Tire Rack. Go to our website. Log onto www.sbrscca.org and click on the Tire Rack link at the bottom of the page to make your purchase. By doing so, SBR will earn some dough.

GETTING SBR ACTIVITY POINTS

Activity	Points	Activity	Points
Race Chair	400	SBR Race Driver	50
Assistant Race Chair	200	Race Worker / per day	50
PitBoard Editor	200	Rally/Solo Worker	40
Website Manager	200	PitBoard Article	40
Race Chief of Specialty	200	Region Support	20
Associate PitBoard Editor	100	TNIA Worker	20
Rally Series Chair	100	SBR Meeting Attendance	20
Solo Chair	100	Car Show Booth Worker / 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	Round Table Worker	20
Car Show Display	75	Race/Solo Meeting	20
Solo—Co-Chair	75	PitBoard Pictures	10
Event Co-Chair	75		

NOT A MEMBER?

Join today at SCCA.com and choose South Bend Region as your home region



South Bend Region

SCCA

Presents

“AN AUTUMN TREK”

South Bend Region is going to have a rally. This is a new species of rally called a TREK rally. It is primarily a cruise with a lead car leading the way. There is no timing or average speeds to follow so at the end there will be no awards given out, only the visiting of your fellow drivers and crew. We are using all paved roads (although one or two may be a bit rough) so you can bring your best toys out to run it. If weather allows, we will be making stops at a couple of places that will let you to get out and enjoy nature in places you may or may not have visited. We will finish the event at an appropriate place of business that we can have pizza, sandwiches and adult beverages if desired at your cost.

What is it? A TREK rally sponsored by SBR/SCCA according to SCCA rules

When? Saturday October 21, 2023

Time? Registration at 9:30 A.M. with start at 10:00

Where? Rally begins at 5870 Carbonmill Drive, South Bend, In. (Mark Manninen's business)

What is required? Only a safe licensed auto and driver with at least one navigator. Extra passengers are permitted. You are responsible to make sure your car is safe.

Cost? NADA. Non members will be required to sign a temporary free membership to participate. Everyone must sign a SCCA waiver.

How do I enter? Email Denny at gridman1@att.net and let me know how many will be in your car by October 20. Same place for questions.

Note: The places we are stopping consist of nature preserves and comfortable shoes are recommended for walking trails.

Track Night in America 2023

By Mark Bublitz

We all have our activities that drew us to SCCA and landed us in the South Bend Region. Maybe it is Solo, or Race, education, sharing, or being with long-time friends or meeting new ones. For me, it's Track Night in America (tracknightinamerica.com), or TNiA for short. TNiA is an SCCA sanctioned program with events held at a variety of tracks across the country with the chief sponsor being Tire Rack (tirrack.com). The South Bend Region hosts events through the season at Gingerman Raceway in South Haven, Michigan.

TNiA is where I get to play and rely on volunteers from the South Bend Region to make it happen. Here's a snap of the crew getting prepped for the night and checking drivers in. You can see it takes many folks to make a Track Night in America happen.



All kinds of folks help out through the season, but there are some regulars worth noting. First off, Dave Gushwa took on administering the program and has kept it running smoothly with lots of fun while keeping, let's say, the overly excited types in line with the program. Dave and Peggy Anson have spent so much time at the corner station at Turn 3 that surely they have decorated the interior by now. Duane Belisle, Leon Krauss, H.C. Colwell, Dave Bowman, Susan Miller, Steve Hempel, Mark Manninen, Scott Lickteig, and Kim Bollinger have kept the administration as well as the track operating smoothly and safely through the season.

Below, Steve Bollinger is providing the novice class with instruction to get them on the course safely and to know the necessities while on the course. Over time, with good instruction and great experiences, novices turn into more advanced drivers who return regularly. At least that was my experience. I have been honored to serve as the pace car every now and then, too. Here's a view of course entry as I see it.



Steve Pierschalla has turned into a regular running the grid (below left). Somewhere in the middle of the event, there is a Track Touring Laps segment led by the pace car where just about anyone can drive or be a passenger and make a few trips around the track...at controlled speed, of course! I have been honored to see many smiling faces sitting in the passenger seat as the cars on the touring laps exit the course (below right). I often get some big waves with big smiles from little folks and big folks alike.



Some car issues and some work travel kept me away from the first event. As the season progressed, it seemed like Track Nights were absolutely packed. That is a tribute to the program as well as our region. There were plenty of novice drivers which bodes well for the future health of the program. This year in particular, it seemed all the drivers were more open to saying "Hi!" to your neighbor in the paddock. I made some new friends who are not South Bend Region members. We were excited to see each other month after month. They are all committed to coming back next year. Below are some pictures of the line ups in the paddock. There are all kinds of cars, all kinds of drivers, and all kinds of fun. As the season rolled on and the kids went back to school, we had one night where two groups were combined. The last night of the season saw a full program, but having to start an hour early to not run out of daylight was a melancholy reminder it would be the last night of the season.



How often do you get to see two, vintage Datsuns on the course?



And then there's Denny Jennings, A.K.A. "Control." Denny is in charge of the course from the two-minute warning to the end of every session, which on Track Night means the end of the evening. Below, Mark is watching over pit lane, where the in-session "coaching" occurs (👁️), and Denny is waving the familiar checkered flag. I caught Denny putting his chair in his car for the last Track Night of 2023 and thought it was a suitable picture to wrap up another successful TNiA season and a great reflection on the South Bend Region to provide a great service to the region.



Thank you, everyone, for making Track Night in America happen, every season. Thank you for a great 2023. I hope to make all the sessions in 2024. If you have not tried a Track Night, I would encourage you to do so. It has a low barrier to entry – a safe, street worthy car, a compliant helmet, and a willingness to accept some instruction to have a great time on a racetrack. For all of you who participate in some type of event in the South Bend Region, I want to encourage you to volunteer for some other event. If you do already, great. Helping others to "enjoy their thing" while others make sure you can "enjoy your thing" is one of the best aspects of our SCCA chapter that keeps me coming back.

Here's to a great year and a great next year. Thank you.

Mark Publitz



This is the new hat that is now available for sale from merchandise. They are a sure-fit design and we can fit most heads.

Price is \$20.00 each and I will have some at the meetings.

AWARD POINTS

This is the current point standings for SBR. You can check all totals on our website to see if you are getting all your activities recorded. Let Mark Bublitz know if you have earned points but they are not listed.

35748 Dennis Jennings	1080
184705_1 Hulbert Colwell	700
172591_1 Jeffrey Luckritz	700
633604 Steven Pierschalla	640
250733 David Gushwa	590
98861_2 Kim Bollinger	540
526710 Peggy Anson	540
336854 Mark Manninen	520
526709 David Anson	420
164794 Duane Belisle	400
159473 George Williams	380
519405 Mark Bublitz	370
63264 David Bowman	360
474537 Jason Cleveland	350
98861_1 Steve Bollinger	340
633894 Nick Thompson	330
414276 Stephen Hempel	300
168914_1 Paul McBride	300
212901 James Krzyzewski	300
485438 Susan Miller	280
212160 James Desenberg	260
292344 Leon Krauss	240
208723 Lynnette Markowicz	220
199252 Rod Markowicz	220
255980 Jeffrey Jennings	200
21598 Michael Jennings	200
314290 Stuart Laks	200
430771 Richard Cimildoro	190
442401 Brian Tack	180
492604 Caleb Mullauer	160
213253 Susan Williams	160
504743 Paul Cleveland	150
223193 William Loring	140

FROM THE EDITOR

As of today, South Bend Region's race season is over. Thanks go to Jeff for another successful year of racing even though our regional last weekend went thru some major changes and didn't quite have the turnout of cars or workers that we had hoped for. This is what happens sometimes as every race you put on cannot always turn out the way you hope. Jeff and our co chief, Paul McBride did an amazing job with the regional. Thanks guys!!!

In a couple of weeks we will see our solo program finish the year. Special thanks to Jason and Nick for chairing the series. I believe that our series has been pretty successful this year and am just sorry I couldn't make it to all the events.

Also finishing up was our Track Night in America year at Gingerman last week. There, the thanks go out to

David Gushwa for all the hard work that he put in to make our events some of the best in the country. We also thank all the others from SBR that make our Track Night stand out. Will miss the after group at Three Blondes Brewing.

I have decided to keep doing PitBoard for the next year but it will be my final year of doing so. I do wish that someone would step up and join me this year to assist and take over in 2025 (wow! That seems amazing to say 2025). It isn't a very hard job with the software that we have to publish nowadays. If you even may be interested talk to me. I will guide you thru the process.

I do need someone to take over with merchandise. I no longer have the time or desire to make an honest effort to sell things that promote our region. This means taking things to events and putting them out in front of people to see and buy.

Also coming up on October 21, will be our first rally in quite some time. We discontinued rallies as we couldn't get enough entries to support the time and energy that was put into having one. This will be a TREK rally which is basically just a cruise but then end up with time to socialize with fellow members. If the weather cooperates it will be a nice fall drive with a couple of stop to enjoy the fall weather. We will be on all paved roads so you can bring your favorite car out for that last time of the year. It is entirely free but you are on your own for food and drink at the end. We will finish at a great pizza and sandwich place.

COME ON OUT!!!

Denny



Sign at an Arizona Race Track



MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

T-Shirts

New Gray (all sizes)	\$10.00 ea.	
Old colors (sizes limited ask availability)	\$5.00 ea.	
Sweat Shirts (sizes limited)	\$7.50 ea.	
Polo Shirts (limited mostly long sleeve)		\$12.00
Hats	\$5.00 ea.	
Beanies	\$10.00	
Grille Emblem (show your colors)	\$25.00	

You can email Pitboard with an order and I will get the merchandise to you at an event or a meeting. Items also available at the meetings.



Long Sleeve – L–X L-
2XL– 3XL
Short Sleeve—M -L
(1 each)



New Gray
All Sizes



Hats



Limited Sizes



Beanies



Hardware Included