



SBR Marketing Plan Raises Membership!

The South Bend Region doesn't have a marketing plan per se. But, for the past several years, we have been using the Cavalcade of Wheels held at the Joyce Center on Notre Dame's campus as a tool to recruit new members.

It's difficult to get an accurate estimate of the number of new members we pick up from this annual event, but Dave Bowman received at least 3 new memberships directly after the event was held. How do we know? They showed up to the April Membership meeting held on the first Tuesday in April.

Dave Bowman was an organizational wonder again this year. In addition to making the proper arrangements with the event organizers, he was able to secure another car for the display at 7:30 P.M. on the eve of the show after he received a late cancellation (he actually had two cars lined up for one spot!).

Amazingly enough and without prior arrangements, we all showed up about the same time on Friday night to help set up the SBR booth. SBR members that brought cars were; Paul Stock (G Stock Solo Car, George Williams (F Stock Solo Car), Jeff Luckritz (SSB Road Race Car, and Jack Englehardt (Cyclops Novelty Car). In addition to the cars on display, Dave Bowman set up a display board with pictures and information, Jim Desenberg brought a set of race flags with a very cool display stand, and I made up a 2-minute power point presentation that scrolled pictures and information about the South Bend Region.

From race cars to novelty cars, the SBR display captured the interest of many show-goers as we managed to get over three pages of people who desired to receive more information about SBR, SCCA. Our easiest "hook" seemed to be Solo II since anybody with a car can come out and join the fun. Holding events at the Tire Rack helped our credibility since most people in the area are aware of the Tire Rack's presence.

Even though we had good weather for the weekend (good for outside activities, bad for indoor car shows), we had a good time and it was time well spent. Be sure to thank Dave Bowman for helping organize another super SBR event!

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	We Be Flaggin'	CenDiv Race Schedule	• Wisler Part I

MONTHLY MEETING

When: First Tuesday of every month.

- Who: All are welcome!
- Time: Board Meeting at 7:00 pm Membership Meeting at 8:00 pm Indiana Time
- Where: Mishawaka Union Station Restaurant 327 Union Street Mishawaka, IN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



MORE INFORMATION

Regional Executive (Board) Paul Stock pstock@comcast.net	574-257-4170	Competition Chair Paul McBride bluerace44@aol.com	574-289-1398
Assistant RE (Board) Jeff Luckritz jluckrit@remc11.k12.mi.us	269-429-3676	Solo Chair George Williams ghenryw@aol.com	574-825-5565
Board Member (Past R.E.) Duane Belisle duane47sarah46@msn.com	574-293-5704	Race Chair Jeff Pontius jeff.pontius@us.bosch.com	574-234-2222
Board Member Leon Krauss mkrauss141@aol.com	574-277-5371	Activity Points Keeper Lloyd Loring LWLoring@sbcglobal.net	574-272-6719
Board Member Jeff Pontius jeff.pontius@us.bosch.com	574-234-2222	Membership Co-Chairs David & Tami Bowman mom161822@aol.com	574-255-7600
Secretary Tami Bowman mom161822@aol.com	574-255-7600	Program Chair Jeff Pontius jeff_pontius@hotmail.com	574-273-0268
Treasurer HC Colwell hcolwell@michiana.org	574-291-6756	Webmaster Bill Loring webmaster@sbrscca.org	574-675-0641
Club Merchandise Lynnette Markowicz LAMarksSBRGrid1@netscape.net	574-232-4206	PitBoard Editor Jeff Luckritz jluckrit@remc11.k12.mi.us	269-429-3676
SBR WebSite www.sbrscca.org		SCCA National Office www.scca.com	1-800-770-2055

How To Get Those Precious SBR Activity Points: Join the Fun!

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

Points 75

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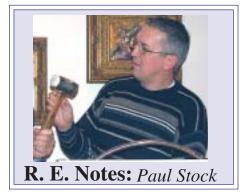
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2004 SCCA Club Racing Minor Waiver Registration Guidelines SUMMARY(1/12/04)

A. 2004 Changes

1) No more "permanent" minor waivers effective 5/1/04. The "pink" minor photos ID cards will no longer be valid after that date. 2) An "annual" minor waiver form will need to be completed each calendar year for each minor. A new optional "yellow" minor photo ID card is available from Risk Management and may be issued by the region. Fees for this may be set by each region.

3) A new minor waiver form (#MS-2A) which can be witnessed OR notarized is available and will replace the MS-2A form. Existing MS-2 forms may still be used. This will be a 2-part rather than a 3-part form. This form also has a box checkoff for sole custody/guardian situations. The MS-2A form will also be available on the SCCA web site if an original MS-2A form is not available.

4) It is no longer necessary to have an adult accompanying the minor(s) at the track sign the adult waiver form (MS-1) "for" or "on behalf of" the minor(s).

5) NOTE: There are NO changes to the "hot" ("W" credential) licensing program administered through the National Office for minor drivers and workers.

B. Annual Minor Waiver Requirements

1) Must be signed by BOTH parents or legal guardians.

2) The parents'/guardians' signatures must be witnessed by a SCCA Registrar or the waiver form must be notarized.

3) If there is only one parent/guardian (or a parent has sole custody), the appropriate box so attesting must be initialed by the parent/guardian on the MS-2A form or, if using the MS-2 form, a Certificate of Sole Custody/Guardianship (available from Risk Management), must be completed.

Hello all, Another busy month has just shot by. A big thank you to everyone that helped out at the Calvacade of Wheels, from Dave Bowman who did an excellent job of keeping things organized and running smoothly to George Williams who put his Camaro in at the last minute to round out our display. If you didn't make it to the show you missed a very unique car in the Cyclops Fantastico! I had never heard of Butane injection until then and I wonder what class

4) The "event location" and "event dates" blanks at the top of the waiver should be filled out "ALL SCCA EVENTS" and "ALL DATES" respectively.

5) This ANNUAL waiver is optional and is NOT required. You may also use a per event waiver as specified in "C" below.

6) Completed forms are to be retained initially by the region, but may then be sent to the National Office for filing IF desired, BUT ONLY on an annual basis. Do not send them to the National Office multiple times through the year as the forms are completed. A list of names of the forms being sent must be included. If not sent to the National Office, forms are to be retained by the region until the minor reaches 18 plus another 2 years.

C. Per Event Minor Waivers

1) Must be signed by at least ONE parent/ legal guardian. Friends, relatives, brothers/ sisters etc. may NOT sign the waiver on behalf of the minor.

2) Signature must be witnessed by a SCCA Registrar or Steward either at or away from the event site OR it may be notarized on form MS- 2A.

3) Per event minor waivers are NOT to be sent to the National Office.



If you're planning on making a purchase from The Tire Rack, make sure you place the order by first clicking through one of the Tire Rack banners on our website. If you have a regular salesperson whom you don't want to snub, you can enter their name or extension in a special field during the order process.

The South Bend Region gets some \$\$\$ back for each purchase made this way. it would move the Miata into. Our membership numbers have crossed over the 200 member mark which is good for our club. I am anxiously looking forward to the start of the autocross season. I don't care what the balloons at the membership meeting said when the season starts I will drop 20 or 30 years to my youth.

Paul

National Sports Car Exhibit

The Snite Museum of Art on the campus of University of Notre Dame will have the "The National Sports Car" exhibition from June 13 through Aug. 29, 2004.

The National Sports Car exhibit will feature five cars from the collection of Tom Mittler: Cunningham C-2R (America), Porsche RSK (Germany), Ferrari 500 Mondial (Italy), Jaguar D-Type (England), and the Deutsch Bonnet (France). The exhibit and concurrent catalog written by Art Eastman are presented to show how 1950s and 1960s sports cars reflected the national style and culture of the countries that produced them.

Patience Requested

As with all new software, there is a learning curve that must be tackled as the new capabilities and nuances of the [SCCA National] system are learned. Our new association management program is no different. I would like to thank you and your members for their patience during this period. Please extend that gratitude on your websites, in your newsletters and at meetings.

Also, please ask your members about the following: We are aware that many spouse memberships are getting two issues of SportsCar. As I noted above, this is a software understanding issue and is very simple to fix. Please ask your affected members to send me an e-mail (preferred, but a phone call is always fine if one is computer challenged) listing their name and membership number, and I will take care of it.

Thanks again, everyone! As always, I am a phone call or e-mail away!

Best regards,

Michael E. Dickerson SCCA Manager of Region Services

2004 Central Division SCCA Road Racing Schedule

DATE	DRIVER'S SCHOOLS	REGIONALS	NATIONALS	SCCA PRO EVENTS or OTHER EVENTS	
March 6-7	Spring Training				
April 10-11					
April 17-18	DET@WAT				
April 24-25	QUAD @ BHF(D)	QUAD @BHF(C)	INR@GM	SAFETY DAY@NL	
May 1-2			BVR@BHF	VSCDA@GM	
May 8-9		INDY @IRP (D)(C)			
May 15-16			FTW/DET@GRA	SVRA@RA	
May 22-23			Mil@BHF	UTRAURA	
May 29-30 Memorial Day		WMR@GRA (D)(C)			
June 5-6		MIL@BHF (D) (C)	OVR@MO	AMA@RA	
				CART@MIL	
June 12-13		NEO@NL (D) (C)			
June 19-20			CHI@RA	F1@INDIANAPOLIS	
				VSCDA@ BHF	
June 26-27		MIL@RA (D) (C)		ALMS/WC @Mid Ohio	
Julie 20-21	MICHIANA@GM	MICHIANA@GM (C)			
		CINCY@MO (D) (C)	INDY @IRP		
July 3-4		BVR @ BHF (D) (C)		CART@CLEVELAND	
July 10-11					
July 17-18		MIL @DA (D)	MII@DA	BRIC@RA	
July 24-25		MIL@RA (R)	Mil@RA		
		NEO@NL (R) ENDURO			
		DET@WAT(C)			
July 31- Aug 1		FTW @MO (D) (C)			
Aug. 7-8		WMR/LSR@GRA (D) C		CART @ RA	
				GrandAm @MO	
Aug. 14-15		CHI@RA (D) (C)	NEO@MO		
Aug. 21-22		LOL@BIR (R) (T)		ALMS@ RA	
				VSCDA@GRA	
Aug. 28-29 Sept. 4-5 Labor					
Day			WMR/SBR@GRA		
Sept. 11-12		OVR@MO(D)(C)			
Sept. 18-19				VSDCA@RA	
Sept. 25-26	SCCA	September 20-26	Valvoline Runoffs		
Oct. 2-3		WOR@MO (D)(C)			
Oct. 9-10		CHI@BHF(C)			
Oct. 16-17 Nov. 6-7				VSCDA@MO	
Nov. 13-14					
		CM Circus Mart			
BHF-Blackhawk Farms BIR-Brainerd Int'l Raceway		GM-GingerMan IRP-Indianapolis Raceway Park	NL-Nelson Ledges RA-Road America		
	A-Grattan	M-O-Mid Ohio	WAT-Waterford Hills		
(T) TENTATIVE (D) DOUBLE		(C) Champ Series	(R) RESTRICTED		

April 6, 2004 SBR Board Meeting Minutes

Membership-197 Treasurers Report

For March, SBR had positive cash flow for month.Still in the red for the year. Compared to last year we're a little over\$1000 ahead of last year (trophies, dues, reimbursement, PitBoard and others)

Old Business

More info coming in mid-April on CENDIV incorporation. HC talked to USPS about the problems in mailing PitBoard.Cavalcade of Wheels-Duane was contacted by a passerby already.Dave B. gave the list from Cavalcade to H.C. so those interested can be put on the mailing list. 68 Names collected. Several people from last year's Cavalcade have become members. Had plenty of people working the booth.

Solo Report-No Report

Race Report -Looking for a "Food Steward" for the Driver's school at GingerMan **New Business**-None

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm

WE BE FLAGG'N

I would like to draw your attention to a recent award bestowed upon our very own Jeff Suckritz. The award is the prestigious B.J. SWANSON TROPHY given each year to honor the SBR Best Race Driver of the Year. Suckritz was the most likely candidate to win this award in 2003 as he was the only driver whose car is powered by a genuine supercharged vacuum cleaner (and it only weighs 8 pounds!). Suckritz commented that as soon as he installs a fresh empty cleaning bag into his car his mind turns to vacuum mode and he becomes very much in tune with his common household machine. Several of our club members have been known to say as they watch Jeff race, "You Suckritz!"

Suckritz's family agreed that he was worthy of the award. As his wife and younger sucklings work 2 and 3 jobs to keep Suckritz on the track, they noted that the suction sound they hear late at night while Suckritz is in the garage working on his

April 6, 2004 SBR General Meeting Minutes

General Membership Meeting called to order at 8:03 pm.

Old Business-Looking for a food steward for Drivers School on June 26-27.

Solo Report

Rule books available (\$15 member/\$20 nonmember.) First event April 25th on West Lot at LMC. Solo School May 15th at Tire Rack. Evolution School is planning on running an event at LMC. Greg Powers is the Liaison, Date TBD

Membership-197 members with a couple new members.

Treasurer's Report (See board minutes) Cavalcade of Wheels

Thanks to Dave B. for chairing event. 2 new members from show Dave thanked all those who helped.

New Business

Jeff Luckritz received a 2nd place National award as editor of Pitboard. Bill Loring received 1st place for the SBR website.

Other

Lynnette thanked the club for the donation. Greg Powers talked to Apex Perf. about their club members coming to an Auto-X. Adjourned 8:41pm

Happy Birthday was sung to Paul Stock(50)

machine, is all the family money being pumped out of their wallets.

Immediate former SBR R.E., Duane Belisle stated that the way **Suckritz** drives and behaves around other club members is cause enough to place the **Suckritz** name on the plaque. Having the **Suckritz** name on our club plaque is indeed indicative of how well **Suckritz** is thought of by his SBR peers. We wish to commend **Suckritz** on his award and want him to know that we would like to have also included a spell check before his plaque was made, but money being as tight as it is these days, we decided instead, to spend that money on a raise for H. C. Colwell.

Keep on Flagg'n

Leon Krauss

Editors Note-I received the B.J Swanson award in January where it has been on display on my "SCCA Wall." My name was misspelled, and even though dozens of people have checked it out, it wasn't until the first weekend of April that the mistake was noted by my brother-in-law.

2004 SBR Autocross Event Schedule

Date Location

- 4/25 LMC, Benton Harbor, MI
 5/15 Solo School, Tire Rack
 5/16 Tire Rack, South Bend, IN
 6/13 LMC, Benton Harbor, MI
 7/18 Grissom, Peru, IN
 8/2
- 8/8 LMC, Benton Harbor, MI
- 8/29 Tire Rack, South Bend, IN
- 9/26 LMC, Benton Harbor, MI
- 10/10 Tire Rack, South Bend, IN

2004 Solo II Chiefs

Solo II Chair	George Williams
Ass't Chair	Paul Stock
Novice Chief	Paker Brown
Announcer	Lloyd Loring
On-Site Regist.	Don & Alex Pancheri
Safety Stewards	George Williams
	Duane Belisle
	Kim Bollinger
	George Schmitt
	Rod Markowicz
Timing &Scoring	William Loring
Trophies	Kim Bollinger
Event Flyers	Lloyd Loring
Public Relations	Open!
Tech Inspection	Greg Powers
Worker Chief	Steve Bollinger
Course Design	Steve Tamandli
Equipment Mgr.	George Schmitt

Interested in volunteering to help in Solo? Contact Geoge Williams at (574) 825-5565 or email: ghenryw@aol.com

Bill Loring's 1st Place Trophy for SBR's Web Page



CLASSIFIEDS

2002 Honda Civic Si 8300mi, practically new, bone stock, 160hp, 5sp, \$15,500. Must sell or drop out of college. Call Chris 765 404 2496 or email foresmac@insightbb.com

For Sale: 1973 Porsche 914, This is a California car and is 98% rust free!! 1.7 & 1.8 liter engines included. Car is ready to go racing or play on the street. The car is disassembled and ready for paint. Lots of spare parts!! \$ 4,500.00 or trade considered(574) 596-9766 or <mrhude@aol.com> for pictures.

1967 Austin Healey Sprite DP car for sale. This car has the 1275 motor and has run competitively at several Solo II nationals in the D Prepared class. Fully prepared with many spares including a spare motor, extra wheels, fuel cell, full race suspension featuring Carrera coilovers, LSD, 18ft single axle enclosed trailer included. Call (574) 234-6186 for details, ask for Kevin.

1994 Mazda Rx7 Race Car ITE, 300 hp, total rebuilt engine, Excellent condition, \$2600. 1967. Jaguar XKE Roadster under complete restoration. (a new Jaguar by Trackside Custom Works)

1992 Alfa Romeo 164S chip, Eibach Springs, wheels and tires, gorgeous Lamborghini purple \$6700. 1867 Farm House and Barn, very pretty pond and trees. Has an extra lot to sell later in "Endless summer" homes sites at GingerMan Raceway. All sites have direct access to the TRACK & RACE SHOP! Beaches, Boats, Sunsets, Golf, Motorsports, Trackside Assistance and Nature all in your backyard. Farm House \$180000; Home sites \$65000. Free track time with all purchases and invitations to Special Events at GingerMan Raceway . Call Dan 269-253-2017

For Sale- Bicycle Carrier: "Rhode Gear", heavy duty, very adaptable. Fits trunk lid of sedan or sports car.Requires bikes have quick release front wheel. Hold 2 bikes. Very good condition. \$35. Bicycle Carrier: Smaller carrier fits trunk lid of sedan or sports car. Hold 2 bikes. Very good. \$20. Bicycle Carrier: Older style mounts on car bumper or RV bumper. Holds 2 bikes. Fair. \$10 Duane Belisle 574-296-7334 days 574-293-5704 evenings.

FOR SALE: WANT NEW SET OF TIRES FOR YOUR RACER DAILY DRIVER? I have a \$1,000 gift certificate from THE TIRE RACK for a set of Michelin tires and I don't need new tires at this time. Will take reasonable offer. I'm a MIR/PCA member, but have moved out of state. E-Mail, write, or call me at: Jim Hickman<mailto:jimhickman@aol.com>jimhickman@aol.com. 76-231 Olomea Place, Kailua - Kona, HI, 96740 1-808-334-9882 fax 1-808-334-9821

Mazda Wheels with Winter Tires! 4 MSW alloy wheels fit Mazda 1993 626/ 1996 MX6 89-92, Ford Probe 88-91, perhaps some Toyota Camry, Eagle Talon, or Eclipse. 5-bolt 114.3 mm circle, 6" wide x 14" diameter and 67.06 center bore, ET38 offset. Have ancient Yokohama winter tires mounted.

4 OEM Mazda 626 5-1/2 wide 14" steel wheels with excellent Blizzak WS-15 185/70R 14 tires good for several Michiana winters. About 10/32" tread remaining. Make an offer. Lloyd at (574) 272-6719 or LWLoring@sbcglobal.net.



You can receive PitBoard in full color via e-mail. Instead of using the good old Post Office, save the club a few bucks and get PitBoard electronically.

Simply e-mail H.C. Colwell at hcolwell@michiana.org. He will make all the arrangements. Still want to get PitBoard via USPS? No problem...just do nothing.

SBR CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

April 25	Solo #1 at LMC, Benton Harbor
April 25	GingerMan National Race (INR)
May 4	Membership Meeting at Union Station (8 pm)
May 15	Solo Driver's School. Tire Rack, South Bend
May 16	Solo #2, Tire Rack, South Bend
June 26	Michiana Race Drivers School at GingerMan
Sept 6	WMR/SBR National Race at Grattan

CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds are free to South Bend Region SCCA members; non-members may advertise for \$5.00 per ad month. Ads submitted by members will be run for 2 issues unless the editor is notified. Non-member ads will run based on payments received. To place a display or classified ad, contact the PitBoard editor.

PITBOARD SUBMISSIONS

Send, e-mail, or personally deliver your articles, photos, classified ads, comments and ideas to the PitBoard editor by the 15th of each month. I do not have Microsoft Word, so I can't easily open Word.doc files. Text works fine, though. Include your name, phone number and e-mail address with your submission, just in case the editor needs to contact you; no anonymous submissions will be printed. When sending photos (which will be returned) include the who, what, when, where, why, and how information.

PitBoard Space Available for Ads.

full page	\$400/yr	\$40/mo
1/2 page	\$300/yr	\$30/mo
1/4 page	\$200/yr	\$20/mo
1/8 page	\$100/yr	\$10/mo

Rates and terms subject to change. Please contact the editor if you are interested in placing an ad. Thanks.

Hooray For New SBR Members!

Jack Englehardt	Richard M O'Grady
Road Racing and Solo	Road Racing
St Joseph,MI	South Bend, IN
(Past Road Racer	Andy & Misty Snyder
rejoining, and	Road Racing and Solo
welcome back!)	Warsaw, IN
Donald Sillence	Robert, Niki, and Aaron Phillippe
Solo	Road Racing and Solo
Mishawaka, IN	North Webster, IN

One Lap of America is once again coming to South Bend. Twice! Both times at the Tire Rack where the contestants will test their ability to generate lateral Gs on the Tire Rack skid pad. On Friday April 20 the pad will be wet. A week later on Saturday May 8 it will be dry. The public is invited to watch. You will see some truly bodacious cars driven with considerable verve.



Membership Application

Dear Prospective SCCA Member:

To apply for membership in the Sports Car Club of America, the world's largest member participation automotive organization, please complete the form below *in full* and return, with payment, to the South Bend Region, SCCA Membership Co-Chairs: David & Tami Bowman 3807 Fern Hill Dr, Mishawaka IN 46544-6267, or to the SCCA Membership Department, PO Box 19400, Topeka, KS 66619-0400.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Applicant's Name			Birth Date	/	/
Address					
City	State _	Zip	Coun	ty	
□ Single □ Married E-Mail:					
F SPOUSE ONLY APPLICATION: Pre	esent (Spouse) N	lember Numbe	er		
F REGULAR + SPOUSE OR FAMILY	APPLICATION:				
03 Spouse's Name			Birth Date	/	/
FFAMILY MEMBERSHIP: (husband/w	vife & children) li	st names and a	ages of children unc	ler age 21:	
04 Child Name			Birth Date	/	/
05 Child Name			Birth Date	/	/
06 Child Name			Birth Date	/	/
Have you been an SCCA member befor					
interests you most. Your response will to the areas you indicate.Thank you.	be used to alloca	ate your Natior	nal dues	National	Office Use Only
Club Racing D Pro Racing D P	roRally 🛛 Roa	dRally 🛛 Sc	lo	C	\$
Annual Dues National + 01	SBR Regiona \$15.00	l = Cost \$70.00	Total \$	C	\$
03 🔲 Spouse Member 15.00	5.00	20.00	\$	C	\$
10 🛛 Family Membership 85.00	20.00	105.00	\$		
☐ First Gear Member* 30.00	15.00	45.00	\$	Sour	се
*First Gear member must be 21 or under.		Grand Total	\$		
Enclosed is my check or money order fo	r \$	U.S. N	lake payable to SCCA	. DO NOT SE	ND CASH.
Visa IMC No			Exp	iration Date _	
I hereby apply for membership in the and agree to abide by the bylaws.	e Sports Car C	ub of Americ	a, Inc., and its <mark>Sou</mark>	ith Bend Ro	egion #35,

Applicant's Signature

Date_

Dues Include payment for subscription to SportsCar magazine (\$24 value.) Dues are not deductible as charitable contributions.

Wisler's Winter Memories

Hi Y'all, from the deep south of Florida. It's time for my annual spring report to remind you that I am still alive and mostly well and will soon be back amongst you, like it or not! I took a drive a few weeks ago to the Sebring International Raceway from my winter home on the Gulf of Mexico. It's about the same distance and time as GingerMan is from South Bend, but no option of an interstate. It's a pleasant drive on a two lane highway in an open car during the winter season. It would be a darn hot drive during the summer in an open car. I did drive my ailing 914 over to Sebring and back. It was like driving an early VW with power. But, it looked good and a few 914 admirers looked it over at the track. It looks good sitting still and I'm good a faking it on the highway. I look forward to helping Bert test your 914 at GingerMan.

There was a four day HSR race session in March the week before the Sebring 12-Hour and nearly 400 vintage cars were in attendance. By the time I got over on Sunday, they were already in the middle of their 3-hour enduro with about 35 cars running. With most of the paddock emptying out, I decided to cruise home at a leisurely pace and stopped at Rafferty's to see the end of the NASCAR race. Why can't Ryan Newman follow up his poles with a win in '04? It must be harder than it looks even if he is still the #1 driver as voted on by the experts from last year.

Anyway, the slow drive to Sebring and back gave me time to reflect on all the racetracks I've gotten into. Some that stand out were in the early 50's. For instance, a short oval track near Indy on the night before the 500. Other than working the stands at the old Playland 1/2 mile track in the 40's, I really wasn't a race fan, but I liked the girls baseball games at Playland better than the races.

At Indy in 1952, Dick Colver and I stayed at his brother's frat house at Butler University. Big 6'6" John Benjamin was a recent Mishawaka graduate on an athletic scholarship at Butler. Big John was working security at the short track and he can get Dick and I in for free if we just show up. His free entry system was holding up the barbed-wire fence away from the main gate while we crawled under. I ripped the seat of my pants and spent the night backing around the place.

Next Month: Wisler memories of Indy, the 24 Hours of Daytona, and B.J. Swanson.

March Membership Meeting Tuesday, May 4th, 2004 Mishawaka Union Station Restaurant Board Meeting at 7:00 pm General Membership Meeting at 8:00 pm (South Bend times) Members and Guests are Very Welcome to Attend (See Map on Page 2)