



Autocrossing with South Bend Region...

from a road-racer/editor/board member perspective *story and photo-J.Luckritz*



It's impossible to tell which one of the Luckritz family is driving this Sentra SE-R in GS... there were five family members competing that day!

Even though I am not a diehard autocrosser that travels all over the country competing in National and Divisional events, I can still appreciate the sport. Last year, my son and I competed in enough South Bend Region events to qualify for year-end trophies. Unfortunately, with my son, Josh, being a senior in high school and working full-time in the summer, we just didn't get out as much.

The first event I attended was held at Lake Michigan College early in the season. My sisters were in town for Josh's graduation party on Saturday and they decided they would stick around and give autocrossing a try the next day. Josh and I drove my Show-room Stock Mazda Miata and my sisters Kim and Cathy drove my son's Nissan Sentra SE-R. We even let my brother-in-law Mario drive that day.

Keeping track of 3 novices and prepping two cars for a day of autocrossing made for a pretty intense Sunday afternoon. On top of that, my sisters brought their four young kids ages 2-8. That meant that my wife, Dawn, was enlisted to be a baby-sitter while their moms and dads were out on the course.

All three rookie drivers were typical novices. After their first runs, they got out of the car with big smiles on their faces. Even though they were well off the pace, they felt like they were driving as fast as possible. With each successive run, all their times came down in big chunks (seconds, not tenths). I don't know where they finished, but that's not what's important. They had fun, and they learned how to push the car to the limit in a safe environment with minimal risk.

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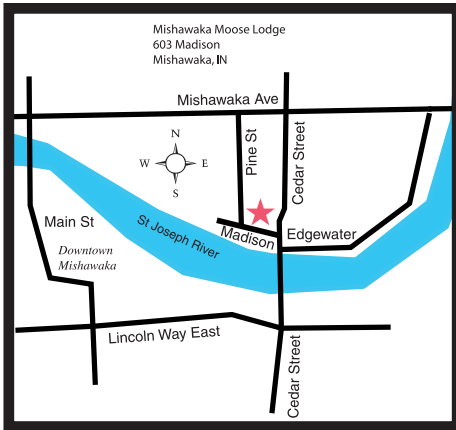
MONTHLY MEETING

December Meeting: Meet at the Moose Lodge. See directions on page 5.

January Meeting: We will not have a regular meeting in January since our Annual Banquet will be held on January 22.

February Meeting Location: TBA

December SBR Party/Meeting Map



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SBR WebSite	www.sbrscca.org

November 2, 2004 SBR Board Meeting Minutes

Called to Order 7:05 PM

Present: Paul, Leon, Jeff P., Duane, and HC

Treasurers Report: We are in the black for the month and should end the year in pretty good shape. We have a CD that will be maturing soon so HC is doing some shopping for the best option for where we should invest it.

Membership Report: We have 200 members. Curt Thews is back on our membership list. A glitch somewhere in Nationals new computer data base!

Race Report: We have a tentative date of June 18 & 19 for a double regional at GingerMan. This item will be discussed at Round Table.

Solo II Report: We had a good solo year. We would like to have an event at Grissom next summer.

New Business: Year end trophies were discussed. National is doing a fund raiser and asking each region to send a patch as an ornament to decorate a Christmas tree for the needy. Do we want to increase our regional dues? No, we did this last year. We received the bill for the drivers school and we owe \$797.71. Union Station will not be ready in time for our Christmas party on Dec. 7. We will be having a potluck again this year at the Moose Lodge in Mishawaka. Old Business: I have made final arrangements for the year end banquet. It will be at St. Hedwig on Jan. 22, 2005. There was no discussion about the possible split between area 4 & 5.

Adjourned at 8:10 PM

November 2, 2004 SBR General Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report: We are in the black for the month. We have 200 members. We received a bill for the drivers school and we owe \$797.71. Roundtable is on Nov. 6.

Solo II Report: The season if finished. We had at least 87 drivers at the last event at the Tire Rack. The quality of help setting up the events was greatly improved this year. Very good season for 2004.

Race Report: We have a tentative date which is June 18 & 19, 2005 for a double region at GingerMan.

We had elections of 2005 officers. They are Paul Stock - RE, Jeff Luckritz - Assistant RE, board members - Jeff Pontius, Kim Bollinger, and William Loring.

New Business: We will be having our Christmas meeting at the Moose Lodge in Mishawaka. It will be a potluck on Dec. 7. At our second to last solo event our printer broke down. We will need a new one for the 2005 solo season.

Old Business: Jeff Pontius has the club trailer on his property. The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM Respectfully submitted - Tami Bowman

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	SBR Meeting Attendance	20
Rally Series Chair	100	Car Show Booth/day	20
Solo Chair	100	Rally Navigator	20
Solo Series Specialty Chief	100	Race Crew/day	20
Event Chair	100	Rally/Solo Worker	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

Auto-X continued from page 1

The second event I attended was the season finale at the Tire Rack. This time it was just me and my SSB Miata. Feeling kinda guilty for not attending more solos, I got there early and helped set up the course. Of course George Williams, Steve Tamandli, Dave Bowman, and the Lorings were there ahead of me. It was a beautiful sunny morning without a cloud in the sky as we went around the course setting up cones in the "exact" same spot as the last time.

Once the course was set up and I registered, I rolled the car out of the trailer and "hung out." This is the part about autocrossing that I don't enjoy; waiting 2 hours between arrival and when the first runs begin. My understanding is that names are getting entered into the computer from registration as the people show up. Preregistration speeds the process along if you register on-line, but it still takes time on Sunday morning. The down time is not a big deal since I have come to expect it.

The day went smoothly and George Schmitt beat me again in CS as I am still trying to learn all the weird vehicle dynamics that take place in a rear-wheel drive car on an autocross course. Things like putting 50 psi in the tires and downshifting to first are all details that this "novice" autocrosser has to learn. There was a big turnout of drivers and everybody seemed to have a good time. The SBR members who put on an event really do a wonderful job and I applaud their efforts.

To wrap things up, SBR will be awarding year-end trophies to the top finishers in each class (you must be a SBR member) along with the top finishers in the Ladies, Novice and Tire Rack Index Classes. You'll find a more detailed list on SBR's web site (www.sbrscca.org). On behalf of the SBR Board of Directors, I encourage all the trophy winners (and others) to attend the annual banquet on January 22nd so that we can give you another round of applause.

2004 SBR Solo Class Champions*

SS	Lee Moore
BS	Robert DeWispelaere
CS	George Schmitt
CSL	Kelly DeWispelaere
DS	Peter Jacobs
ES	Dan Bard
FS	Georeg Williams
GS	Bill Loring
HS	Dave Gushwa
HSL	Megan Ohmann
STS	Parker Brown
STX	Nate Vanderveen
SM	Andrew Nienhuis
SM2	Ricardo Gonzales
BSP	Dave Bowman
CSP	Steve Unwin
ESP	Steve Scudder
FSP	Bradley Watson
AP	Bill Belcher
CP	Mike Zickuhr
EM	Alex Pancheri
FM	Scott Nardin
FJR4	Ross Bollinger
FSAE	Jeff Everett

**Only SBR members are eligible for year-end trophies. If you believe there is an error, it may have been my fault. But, to be sure, please contact Kim Bollinger to clear things up.*

Ladies Index
Kim Bollinger
Kelly DeWispelaere
Kelly Vestal
Andrea Bouchard
Emmy Brown

Novice Index
Douglas Biehl
Mark Manninen
Chris Vestal
Lynn Elms
Kelly Vestal

Tire Rack Index
Steve Bollinger
Bill Loring
Thad Peterson
Ross Bollinger
George Williams

Remember When it was Warm for Autocrossing?



Closed-Face Helmets Cause Concern

It has been brought to the attention of SCCA Technical Services that the use of full-face or closed-face helmets while driving vehicles with active airbag restraint systems may result in injuries in the event of a crash that deploys the airbag. Because of the location of the steering wheel relative to a driver's position, the airbag axis is on a level with the driver's chin. In a crash with airbag deployment, contact with the chin area of a full-face helmet can be so powerful "that the risk of fractures to the jaw cannot be ruled out" (Hubert Gramling, FIA Institute, FT3/AF, 18.5.1999). This applies to vehicle that may be used in Solo, RallyCross, High Performance Car Control Clinics, etc. Therefore, it is highly recommended that full-face helmets not be used in vehicles with functional airbag systems. Potentially more restrictive language is currently being considered for 2005, which could appear in an early 2005 issue of FasTrack. If you have any questions, please contact the SCCA at (800) 770-2055.

SBR Annual Banquet Coming Soon

Be sure to mark your calendar for SBR's annual banquet on Saturday, January 22nd at the Hedwig Memorial Center, 700 W. Western Ave. at Scott St. in South Bend.

Solo Champions, Hero Drivers and year-end trophy winners will be recognized along with the introduction of 2005 officers, activity points winners, and plenty of door prizes.

Also, Jeff L. is working on details to bring a prominent engineer from Daimler Chrysler to talk to us about their PVO division.

SCCA Club Racing Department Announces Revised Licensing Program

TOPEKA, Kan. (Nov.10, 2004) – Sports Car Club of America's Club Racing Dept. has announced several changes to its licensing program that include pricing changes, new General Competition Rules mailing procedures and online viewing of the GCR.

Starting Jan. 1, 2005, the annual license fee for National and Regional Competition Licenses will be \$75. The price increase from \$55 includes all previous benefits of competing in SCCA Club Racing events plus a complimentary copy of the latest edition of the GCR.


Scheduled to be released in January, the 2005 rulebook will be automatically mailed to all licensed competitors on record, including novices, whose permits will be \$110 for a two-year term.

Also beginning in January, SCCA's official Web site, www.scca.com, will be the new home of the GCR, replacing the compact disc version that had been distributed previously. Each section of the GCR will be listed as a separate file, so competitors can download only the sections they want.

As with the electronic file on the CD in previous years, the online version will not be considered an official document, but rather a reference. The hard copy of the GCR remains the official document.

To reach the SCCA Club Racing Department, call 800-770-2055 or send a fax to 785-232-7214.



 Hedwig Memorial Center
700 W Western Avenue at Scott St., South Bend, IN

All New SCCA Rule Books to be Online in 2005

TOPEKA, Kan. (Nov. 16, 2004) – In an effort to better serve its current and potential members, Sports Car Club of America has confirmed that the 2005 rule books for Club Racing, Solo and Rally will appear online through www.scca.com in 2005.

"This is something our members have asked for over the last couple years, and we're glad to announce that everyone will have easy access to our rules beginning with the 2005 season," SCCA Vice President of Program Development Howard Duncan said.

Previously available in electronic form only on an accompanying CD, the Club Racing General Competition Rules (GCR) and category specifications as well as the entire National Solo and RoadRally books will appear in Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf) online. Previously, only the SCCA Performance Rally and SCCA Pro Racing rules have appeared online.

"Publishing the Club Racing, Rally and Solo books online required an adjustment to some of our policies to remain consistent with our departmental revenue structures," Duncan added. "All licensed Club Racing drivers will now automatically receive a current GCR each year as part of their license package, and at a \$5 overall discount from previous years. In Solo, the requirement still exists to have a copy of the current rules in your possession at a National or Divisional event."

As with the electronic file on the CD in previous years, the online version will not be considered an official document, but rather a reference. The hard copy of all rule books remains the official document.

Electronic versions of all of SCCA's rulebooks will begin appearing on www.scca.com in mid-December, with all books available in .pdf format by January 1, 2005.

The Gospels of Jeff and Duane

a CENDIV Roundtable Report

The South Bend region has a double regional race scheduled for June 18th and 19th. Unfortunately, we are still up against a double regional race at Road America the same weekend. We asked Milwaukee to drop that race, but received no formal response. I don't think this will be too big a problem though because of the distance to Road America and the discrepancy of entry fees.

We are currently not involved in a driver's school. INR is looking to see if there is a date to put one on at GingerMan, and they asked us to be involved. Duane told them that we probably wouldn't be involved financially, but that we would support with workers, instructors, etc. The regional championship series will be held as two separate championships (one for area 4 and one for area 5). The CENDIV split was discussed, but will not be pursued at this time, due to inadequate support from area 4 regions. A meeting was held in the afternoon, and as I understand it, the area 4 regions voted to incorporate under a highly modified set of bylaws...Jeff Pontius

The scheduling meeting went reasonably well. Only two heated discussions and we were only on the fringe of one. We did get our Regional Race approved for GingerMan Raceway on June 18 & 19th. NEOhio wanted to put on another National at Nelson Ledges and invited us to co-host the National with them. But we declined because the date was the weekend before our Regional at GingerMan. We did not think we could support races on two consecutive weekends.

We are still negotiating with another region for co-hosting a National at GingerMan. So Jeff P. is contacting them to work out the details for a future partnership. This partnership has a good chance of materializing since SBR can bring lots of expertise and manpower support...Duane Belisle

SBR Board Members for 2005

<i>Regional Executive (RE)</i>	<i>Paul Stock</i>
<i>Ass't Regional Executive</i>	<i>Jeff Luckritz</i>
<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Kim Bollinger</i>
<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Bill Loring</i>
<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Jeff Pontius</i>

Buy Tires... Help SBR!

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.

2004 Solo II Chiefs

Solo II Chair	George Williams
Ass't Chair	Paul Stock
Novice Chief	Parker 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

We're looking for volunteers to help us in 2005. All positions open.
Contact George Williams at:
(574) 825-5565 or email: ghenryw@aol.com



South Bend Region Christmas Party

Tuesday Dec 7 7 PM Board meeting
8 PM Christmas Party. Bring a dish to share. Plates and silverware will be supplied. Cash bar.

Moose Club Room
603 E. Madison, Mishawaka, IN
Behind Edgewater Florist in Mishawaka.
If you have any questions please call
Dave or Tami Bowman 574-255-7600



CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: 1981 VW Autocross Rabbit. Has 1984 rebuilt GTI motor, with rebuilt 1983 GTI short gear 5 speed transmission. Bilstein sport shocks with neuspeed racing springs, front and rear sway bars rears 28mm front upper shock tower brace, lower front brace, Neuspeed rear triangular shock brace. heavy duty motor mounts, custom oil cooler, twin Mikuni 40 mm racing carbs, electric fuel pump, Bellevue Motorsports long tube header, need to replace dynamax muffler.

13x8.5 3 pc revolution wheels custom painted yellow. has 215 50 15 bfg R1 Rabbit is custom painted yellow, fades to purple and black. includes auto meter oil temp and water temp gauge on dash, GTI tach and speedometer cluster. GTI vented rotors, very worn twin Corbeau racing seats. Battery relocated to trunk. Many other extras, ie, replaced ball joints, replaced tie rods, both are adjustable. replaced wheel bearings. This is a great starter car, \$3000.00 Includes Trailer. Dana Farran

1967 Austin Healey Sprite for sale. 1275cc engine bored .040 oversize, one complete spare engine. Both engines are extensively modified with the best of everything. The car is fully race prepared, inside, outside & underside. Carrera adjustable coil over shocks on all 4 corners. Fuel cell, LSD, MSD ignition system, roll bar, 11# halon fire system. Many drive train spares & mounted rain tires. One year old Hoosier slicks (8x20x13) on custom revolution brand wheels. Enclosed single axle custom trailer included. \$7,000.00 obo call Kevin 574-234- 6186 for more details

For Sale: 2000 VW Jetta GLS 1.8T Silver. Excellent condition, fast 5 speed. Loaded including heated seats, tinted windows, rear spoiler, and 2 sets of rims and tires. Summer: 17" Enkei rims w/ 235/45R17 Khumo Ecsta Supra 712 tires. Winter: 15" stock rims w/ 195/65R15 Dunlop Winter sport tires. Low mileage, **reduced** to \$12,000 OBO. **1985 VW Cabriolet** Exceptional condition, no rust, new paint stored past 3-4 years. GTi bucket seats, Blaupunkt Stereo w/ Infinity speakers. 15" Enkei rims with Khumo Ecsta Supra 712 tires. Nice collectible, **reduced** to \$3000. Can throw in some extra VW rims (Tear Drops and Tarantula). Contact Andy (616)886-4584. Please leave a message.

For Sale: Car dolly swivel plate good tires. with straps. Kurt (574) 273 1963 home (574) 286 1298

NEW in the box Simpson harness. Formula car harness set purchased in October 2000 for formula car rebuild. They were never installed and in accordance with current SCCA rules are no longer legal for road racing. They are perfect for Solo. \$50.00 plus shipping, or pick up in South Bend. Call H.C. Colwell (574) 291-6756 evenings or <mailto:hcolwell@michiana.org>hcolwell@michiana.org

For Sale: 1970 Super Vee Zink Z 14, ready to race. Came in 2nd place in the 1971 U S Gran Prix Ron Fingers the Piloto \$11,000. 1994 Frazer Lemans, Sport racer from New Zealand right hand drive with Toyota twin cam motor, can be driven on street \$11,000. 1979 Porsche 911 F Club Racer, total rebuilt, has everything, \$34,000. 1994 Caterham (Super 7) 180 hp excellent condition, right hand drive \$19,500. Free Evening Practices at GingerMan Raceway with purchase. BF Goodrich R3, Borbet 17x8, 5 spoke E36M3 \$400 Dan 269-253-2017

FOR SALE: Four (4) Falken Azenis Sport RT-215 tires. 215/45ZR16. Purchased new in April '04. Only 55 runs. 6/32" (75%) tread left. Never used on street except to get me to the events. Great for STS/STX. Buyer can pick up in South Bend area. \$200.00 for set (see photo to the right). Call Mark 8am-5pm weekdays 574.255.2170 x204 or e-mail me at mmanninen@shambaugh.com

Good 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 Mazda 626 5-1/2 wide 14" OEM 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.

SBR CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Dec.7 *SBR General Membership Meeting: Moose Lodge,
603 Madison, Mishawaka, Special Holiday Feast*

Jan 22 *Annual Banquet: Hedwig Memorial Center
700 W. Western Ave, South Bend,*

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.



PitBoard in Full Color!

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.



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 _____ / _____ / _____
Month Day Year

Address _____ Telephone (_____) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Single Married E-Mail: _____

IF SPOUSE ONLY APPLICATION: Present (Spouse) Member Number _____

IF REGULAR + SPOUSE OR FAMILY APPLICATION:

03 Spouse's Name _____ Birth Date _____ / _____ / _____

IF FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: (husband/wife & children) list names and ages of children **under age 21:**

04 Child Name _____ Birth Date _____ / _____ / _____

05 Child Name _____ Birth Date _____ / _____ / _____

06 Child Name _____ Birth Date _____ / _____ / _____

Have you been an SCCA member before: No Yes Year _____ Previous Member No. _____

PRIMARY INTEREST(S) IN SCCA:

Please send me a free Crew License (*check box to left*)

Please indicate the area(s) of SCCA in which you plan to participate, or which interests you most. Your response will be used to allocate your National dues to the areas you indicate. Thank you.

Club Racing Pro Racing ProRally RoadRally Solo

	Annual Dues National + SBR Regional = Cost	Total	
01 <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Member	\$55.00 \$15.00	\$70.00	\$ _____
03 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse Member	15.00 5.00	20.00	\$ _____
10 <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	85.00 20.00	105.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> First Gear Member*	30.00 15.00	45.00	\$ _____
		Grand Total	\$ _____

*First Gear member must be 21 or under.

National Office Use Only	
C- _____	\$ _____
C- _____	\$ _____
C- _____	\$ _____
Source	<input type="checkbox"/>

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____ U.S. Make payable to SCCA. DO NOT SEND CASH.

Visa MC No. _____ Expiration Date _____

I hereby apply for membership in the Sports Car Club of America, Inc., and its **South Bend Region #35**, and agree to abide by the bylaws.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

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

Let's Try This Again

It been has brought to my attention on more than one occasion that some of you were not receiving PitBoard. Many of you wanted it in print and received it via e-mail and vice-versa. Unfortunately, some members were not receiving PitBoard at all. This is a problem.

Let's review the PitBoard process first. As your editor, I compile results, photos and stories from SBR members and I format them in a program called PageMaker. My work then goes to Lloyd Loring who cleans up my mess and converts it to an Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) file that anyone can read on any computer.

From there, HC Colwell gets it e-mailed to him from Lloyd. Using the membership list given to him by the SCCA National office, HC then proceeds to distribute PitBoard to SBR members using the United States Postal Service website and using his database of members wishing to receive PitBoard via e-mail.

Many of you have chosen to receive PitBoard via e-mail as a .pdf attachment and I believe here lies the problem. In order to serve you better, the November issue of PitBoard will be received by all members via the good old United States Post Office in print medium.

In the future, if you would like to receive PitBoard via e-mail, please send HC Colwell an e-mail (hcolwell@michiana.org) letting him know and he'll start his database from scratch (e-mail distribution saves the region a few bucks in printing and postage.)

There are no specific dates in which PitBoard gets sent out, I basically get it done when I have time to get to it. You should receive the December issue before year-end and definitely by the first week of January. If not, please call or e-mail me.

Jeff Luckritz
PitBoard Editor