Daytona, USA

Article and pictures by Jeff Luckritz

Winter in the Midwest is not the place to be for a race fan. Leaving for work in the dark and returning home in the dark is the norm. It's awfully hard for the body to convert vitamin D to vitamin E when there are only 1-2 days of sunshine per month during the cold days of winter. When a friend of mine asked if I wanted to help out his Grand Am Cup team at the end of January in Daytona, I didn't have to think twice about saying "yes." After getting "approval" from my wife, the wheels were put in motion.

After convincing my wife that I was doing this for the family because not only was the race team paying for; my flight down there, hotel, rental car, and food, they were also paying me a decent salary per day. How could she not be enthusiastic about me heading down to Florida and leaving her behind in sunny Michigan?



Anchor Racing fields two BMWs

in Grand American Grand Am Cup racing. An M3 competes in the GT class while a 330 battles in the ST class. While this is not high-profile pro racing, it does cost BIG bucks to compete at this level. The team for the weekend consisted of a crew chief, engine guy, engine guy assistant, on-board computer guy, team coordinator, and three other crew guys with limited knowledge (one of which was me). Just paying for all the flights, hotels and meals of all these people would gobble up my club racing budget for an entire year. I am serious.

Frustration set in early. The M3 motor had terminal failure after 2 laps of practice. Apparently, the pistons slapped the spark plugs. Even though that motor had 8 hours of dyno time before it even left the shop, it decided to grenade early in the weekend. Scratch one \$28k motor. That car was rented out to a couple of drivers, one of which didn't even get to drive the car. Fortunately, they found rides with other teams. Rumor had it guys were paying \$10-12k for part of a ride in a car. Yikes.



The BMW 330 fared better, but not much. After one session, it was decided that the tranny was going sour.

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An important message about club membership meetings RE Notes and a report from CENDIV Spring Training The return of Classifieds

SBR Spotlight

RE Notes

Spring Training and Date for 2006

Spring Training

Paul McBride, Rod and Lynnette Markowicz and I headed down to Indianapolis, IN for the last ever CENDIV Spring Training. Rod sounded like he kept busy, Lynnette maybe not so much whereas Paul and I hung out together for Area 4 race meetings.

Two important topics that are worth mentioning here. One, the race chair from Northeast Ohio Region is VERY organized. So much so I think even Jeff Pontius would be impressed. After Paul and I met with her for an hour or so, we came away assured that our partnership with NEOHIO will be very successful in 2006.

I made it known that once the Division splits in 2007, that SBR would be a Region that deserves to be in racing at the highest level. Additionally, the group liked my concept that regions that are involved in racing should also support drivers schools. Hopefully, the racing schedule in '07 will be more equitable and perhaps there will even be some "rotating" of races from year to year.

Calendar Highlights

March 25-26. Cavalcade of Wheels at the Joyce Center, Notre Dame, IN. Dave Bowman has once again volunteered to organize this event in 2006. Dave is a great organizer and is looking for SBR members to help at this years event. What skills are needed? Knowledge of SCCA and a great smile. Contact Dave Bowman at (574) 255-7600 if you'd like to come out and help.

April 22. South Bend Region Solo #1 at the Tire Rack. Kim Bollinger (pronounced with a hard "g") is acting as Solo Chair again for 2006 and promises good weather for the entire season! Wanna run your car? Great. SCCA has a class for just about anything on four wheels. Wanna lend a hand? Super, contact Kim Bollinger for more information at (574) 271-0088.

April 22-23. Indiana Northwest Region SCCA National at Ginger-Man Raceway.

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New Members

Please welcome the following member to SBR

Troy Smith

Not a member and want to become one? It's easy! All the information you need is on page 6 of this edition of Pit Board

February Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting

ATTENDEES:

JEFF LUCKRITZ, PAUL STOCK, H.C. COLWELL, WILLIAM LORING, PAUL McBRIDE, KIM BOLIINGER

TREASURER'S REPORT/ H.C. Colwell:

2005 finished in the red \$4653 primarily due to the low turn out at the club race at Gingerman. January 2006 also finished in the red \$300 due to the annual banquet. Membership=179.

SOLO REPORT/ Kim Bollinger:

8 events scheduled at 3 sites- Tire Rack, Concord Mall, Lake Shore High School plus the June CENDIV Series at Grissom Aeroplex.

A request was made for new timing equipment (\$500 in proposed budget). One club member offered to pay for software (\$500) if club agrees to purchase new timing equipment (\$1200-1800).

Agreed that club would purchase software for now and raise \$ for timing equipment during the year before making a decision to purchase.

RACE/Paul McBride:

CENDIV schedule has a Ft. Wayne/SBR Double Regional event at Gingerman August 26/27. Ft. Wayne has not confirmed-SBR has not committed. P. McBride to follow up with Ft. Wayne. Agreed to support NEO at Nelson Ledges in the May 13-14 Driver's School and their National on July 29-30 for a share in the proceeds without any upfront \$. W. Loring moved to support, seconded by P. Stock-motion passed. J. Luckritz to follow up on the US Enduro SCCA Pro-sanctioned event in August at Gingerman.

PROGRAM CHAIR/ Jeff Luckritz:

No takers at this time. Jeff will follow up with Dave Bowman.

CAVALCADE OF WHEELS/Dave Bowman:

Set for March 25-26 with setup on the 24th in the JACC at Notre Dame. Two passes for each car entered. Several offers were made to include club member's cars-5-6 maybe more. Dave will have more details at the March meeting and sign-up lists for helpers.

Continued on page 7

SBR Contact Information						
Name	Position	E-mail	Phone#			
Jeff Luckritz	Regional Executive	jluckritz@sjschools.org	269-429-3676			
Bill Loring	Assistant RE	webmaster@sbrscca.org	574-675-0641			
Kim Bollinger	Board Member	solo@sbrscca.org	574-271-0088			
Paul McBride	Board Member	bluerace44@aol.com	574-289-1398			
Paul Stock	Board Member (Past RE)	pstock@comcast.com	574-257-4170			
Leon Krauss	Secretary	lmkrauss@earthlink.net	574-277-5371			
HC Colwell	Treasurer	h.c.colwell@sbcglobal.org	574-291-6756			
Lynnette Markowicz	Club Merchandise	LAMarksSBRGrid1@netscape.net	574-232-4206			
Jeff Pontius	Pit Board Editor	pitboard@sbrscca.org	N/A			
Kim Bollinger	Solo Chair	solo@sbrscca.org	574-271-0088			
Lloyd Loring	Activity Points Keeper	LWLoring@sbcglobal.net	574-272-6719			
Paul McBride	Competition/Race Chairman	bluerace44@aol.com	574-289-1398			
Dave & Tami Bowman	Membership	mom161822@aol.com	574-255-7600			
TBD	Program Chair	TBD	TBD			
Bill Loring	Webmaster	webmaster@sbrscca.org	574-675-0641			
SCCA National Office		www.scca.com	1-800-770-2055			

Monthly Meeting

URGENT NOTICE — We have "outgrown" our space at Maxi's Barn. The next meeting, Tuesday April 4, 2006 will be at Mancino's in Mishawaka. Please see below for map and additional information

When: First Tuesday of the month

Where: Mancino's

4303 Lincoln Way East

Mishawaka, IN

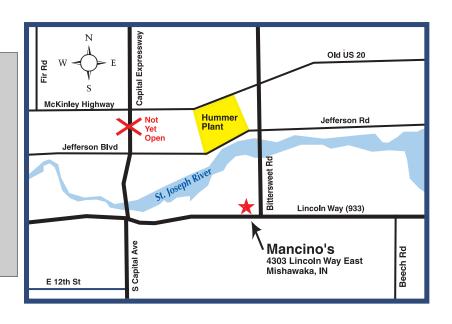
(see map)

Time: Board meeting @ 7:00 PM

General meeting @ 8:00 PM

Who: Everyone is welcome. You do not need to be a member of SCCA to

attend



GLASSIFIEDS

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 an ad, please contact the Pit Board editor at pitboard@sbrscca.org

D Prepared/G Prepared AH Sprite – Fully prepared and ready to win again! 14 National Championships, including 2005 in D Prepared. Crank-triggered ignition, Accu-Sump, custom adjustable suspension (front and rear), cockpit adjustable brake bias, adjustable Corbeau seat, large front brakes, BW T-5 (5.0 Mustang) transmission w/ custom gearing, electric fan and water pump, Quaife and cam and pawl LSDs, double bearing rear hubs, custom header/exhaust, 1-1/4 and 1-1/2 carbs, custom axles, and many other features and spares including second complete race engine. \$13,500 for entire package (except steering wheel). See picture in Nov. '05 SportsCar, p83 or at sbrscca.org. Alternate configurations &/or trailer also available. Call Steve or Kim at 574-271-0088.

1984 Wolfsburg Rabbit for Sale: Setting up for autocross. 1.6L mechanical injection, 5 spd, 5 door, 108K miles. At 68K miles totally refreshed motor ("Total Seal" rings, all bearings, hand lapped valves, mounts, radiator, clutch, etc). Bilstein gas shocks/springs @ all corners that lowered 1"-2", Borsal ceramic header, front upper&lower Neuspeed stress bars, power brakes w/vented front rotors (GTItype), use 15W50 Mobil synthetic. Minor hood/grille/windshield crack damage about 1 year old but uni-body is straight. A/C not damaged but needsR-12 to make real cold. Additional parts/tools/manuals and complete 2nd set of winter tires&rims. I'm 2nd owner but daily driven with 21-25city/27-29 hwy yet "barks" tires going into 2nd. Wife (1st owner's daughter) says too many vehicles, so it has got to go at \$1.1K, OBO. Contact Rod at 574-232-4206 or rodionjm@yahoo.com for further info/history.

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

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.

Buy tires from the **Tire Rack** and SBR earns extra \$\$\$. How? Simply click on the Tire Rack link on the SBR website (www.sbrscca.org), make your purchase, and SBR gets a percentage of each sale.

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 Dynomax 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, i.e., replaced ball joints, replaced tie rods, both are adjustable, replaced wheel bearings. This is a great starter car, \$3000.00 Includes trailer. Dana Farran

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 Pilot \$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 3.0 PCA Club Racer (F), Sparco seats, 6pt roll cage, fresh motor with JE pistons, under 5 hours since rebuilt, Wevo shifter torsion bars, fiberglass bumper \$34,000

1994 Caterham (Super 7) 180 hp excellent condition, right hand drive \$19,500 Free Evening Practices at GingerMan Raceway with purchase.

Call Dan 269-253-2017

March Meeting Minutes Board Meeting

<u>ATTENDEES</u>: Kim Bollinger, Jeff Luckritz, Paul Stock, William Loring, Paul McBride, H.C. Colwell

Approved minutes from 2-7-06.

TREASURER'S REPORT- H.C. Colwell:

Reported on current income and expenses Sent a second check to Detroit for \$50 after they had returned the first one!

MEMBERSHIP: 179

SOLO-Kim Bollinger:

1st event will be April 22. Kim delivered rental contract for June Grissom event.

RACE: Paul McBride

Paul reported that we will share in the expected \$ loss 50/50 with NEO for the May Driver's School and 50/50 in the \$ profit for the NEO July National. The profits are anticipated to outweigh the losses. Trophies will be supplied by NEO for the two events we are supporting. Because there was not enough time for the Driver's School, the SBR name will only show up on the National Race flyers. Entry forms for these two events will be placed on our website. SBR will provide the lunches at these events. A caravan will leave here traveling to Nelson Ledges. It is expected that the new Great Lakes Division (us) will do 7 Nationals next year while CENDIV (Chicago areas) will only do 6 Nationals in 2007. Racing with FTW this July at Gingerman is a NO GO. FTW cancelled us once they learned of our NEO involvement sparing us any financial losses from their event.

<u>PROGRAM CHAIR</u>: J. Luckritz open to ideas/input for programs.

CAVALCADE OF WHEELS:

Dave Bowman reported 6 club member's cars are entered and passed around a worker's sign-up sheet for the two day event to be held at the Joyce ACC March 25 and 26.

R.E. SPRING TRAINING MEETING:

Jeff reported the training session was for race workers. There will be no Round Table "discussions" next year as the race schedule will be pre-determined and voted on in a one day session. The SBR board has been asked to approve 45 cents per member to support start up of the Great Lakes Division. A question was asked, "What happened to the existing CENDIV funds?" Also the board will be considering a \$25 reimbursement fee for travel expenses to SBR members attending SCCA corporate training, scheduling, information sessions outside of our area (see new business).

OLD BUSINESS:

William Loring reported that Mancino's restaurant on Lincolnway East has a lower meeting room that will hold 50-60 people. It is available for free, providing some people order food and drink during the course of our meeting.

The timing display for SOLO will be purchased after we have raised some funds from our events during the course of this year. \$500 already used to purchase its' software will be reimbursed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reimbursement language will be considered by the board to be placed in our by-laws for two members attending up to two SOLO meetings and for two members attending up to two RACE meetings per year outside of our area to compensate for travel expenses. \$25 per person per event is what is being proposed.

General Meeting

H.C. reported on the club's current status in cash on hand and investments.

There will be SOLO training sessions March 25 at Anderson's Logistics in Indianapolis and the 1st and 22nd of April at The Tire Rack, South Bend.

There will be a two day Michiana Driver's Race School held at Gingerman Friday June 16 and Saturday June 17, followed by a Regional Race on Sunday June 18. SBR is not officially involved, but we may have workers who will participate. Keep in mind this is the same weekend as the SBR big SOLO event at Grissom.

After the last official SCCA race of this year, on November the 6th CENDIV will split into two new Divisions; the Chicago area will retain the CENDIV title while those of us on the east side of the pond will become known as The Great Lakes Division. A request was made and granted to distribute membership lists to all SBR members at least annually.

The next meeting, Tuesday April 4, 2006 will be held at Mancino's restaurant on Lincolnway East near Bittersweet Road, Osceola to improve seating/room capacity. We had 33 members present at this meeting!

Jeff Luckritz provided us with a demonstration on how he is involved in transitioning his Mazda Miata racer from a Show Room Stock to a Spec Miata and the costs and parts required to complete this metamorphosis. He will continue this transformation while the car is on display at the Cavalcade of Wheels. Respectfully submitted,

Leon Krauss, Secretary.

A message from your editor:

I would like to apologize for the delay in this edition of Pit Board. My work assignment in Japan is taking up more of my time than I thought it would, resulting in less time to work on Pit Board. I will try to improve. Please be patient. In the future, I plan to complete "PB" the week after the monthly meetings, so those of you who don't attend the meetings can stay up to date on club happenings. Please us the following for publication deadlines.

April Deadline—April 14th May Deadline—May 12th

Regards—Jeff Pontius (pitboard@sbrscca.org)



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.

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"Daytona, USA" continued from page 1

After a couple of hours, a new one was put in and the car ran the qualifying session with little incident. The driver qualified in the top 15 out of 37 cars or so. He said the handling was good, but the shifter throws didn't feel right. The clutch was adjusted before the race started.

The car was driven to the grid and the team had high hopes of a top 10 finish. While I was gathering tools in the paddock, I heard over the radio the car wouldn't go into gear. After motoring to the grid in the pit cart, we pushed the car behind the wall to call it a

day. The chief mechanic hopped in the car and decided the car was raceable. There was a problem with the clutch, but it could be raced. The driver ran over and jumped in.

Just after we filled the fueling rig with 30 gallons of gas, we received bad news. The car was off course and smoke was pouring into the driver's compartment. Further inspection revealed a hole in the engine block. Another +\$20k gone. Needless to say, the entire team was very frustrated, not to mention the team owner.

After our race was over, I had an opportunity to watch some of the Rolex cars qualify and race. The France family has done a good job creating the Daytona Prototype cars. They may

not be the prettiest cars on earth, but you can't argue with the number of competitors on the grid (thirty something). In addition to the DP class, the GT class was also well subscribed with BMW's, Mazda's, Pontiac's and of course Porsche's. Unfortunately, the team decided to pack up on Saturday night and head home. After watching 3-4 hours of the race, I had to head home too. I was kind of disappointed that we couldn't stick around for the whole race, but I still had a good time in sunny Florida.



"February Meeting Minutes" Continued from page 2

OLD BUSINESS:

W. Loring reported we received a new printer at no cost due to premature failure of current club printer.

NEW BUSINESS:

A different meeting place was discussed. Maxi's has recently painted, redecorated, and refurnished our current space, but it is crowded with 20 people (we had 22 at the general meeting). A suggestion was made for Mancino's on Lincolnway in Mishawaka with no cost to the club. W. Loring to follow up. K. Bollinger reported a private room at Granger Tap and Grill for \$25 per meeting and Honkers in Mishawaka at \$25 (no bar at Honkers). Continue discussion at March meeting.

General Meeting

Troy Smith joined us as a new member (180) with 21 other members present. H.C. Colwell gave the treasurer's and membership reports. K. Bollinger gave the SOLO report and noted she was elected chairwoman for the events. She also spoke on the schedule and event locations. P. McBride gave the RACE report regarding our involvement with NEO at Nelson Ledges and the "scheduled" event with Ft. Wayne. The Annual SBR Banquet at the Studebaker Museum was attended by 79 people. A belated, but well deserved WALKER AWARD was presented to Don Pancheri. PITBOARD inputs were requested for our Editor in Japan. New meeting places were discussed and meeting was adjourned to the dismay of all present.

Respectfully submitted, Leon Krauss, Secretary.

"RE Notes" Continued from page 2

Come up north to South Haven Michigan and hang out with the dozen or so SBR members who call "race working" their passion.

You'll find SBR members on the grid, in the pits, in tech, and on the corners. Last year we had snow, but Bert Olson promises weather in the 60's. For more information about being a race worker, contact Bert Olson at (574)288-9310.

May 13-14. South Bend Region is working with Northeast Ohio Region hosting a driver school for aspiring workers at Nelson Ledges in eastern Ohio. Several SBR members have indicated that they are trekking out to help conduct this event. I'll be heading east to act as an instructor and taking my popup camper that sleeps 5 comfortably if anybody wants to ride with me and save cost on gas and lodging. For more information, contact our Competition Chair, Paul McBride at (574) 289-1398.

July 29-30. South Bend Region is once again working with NEOHIO region, but this time we are co-sponsoring a National race at Nelson Ledges. This time I'll be racing and helping out where I can. It would be great if we could get 12-15 SBR members to make the trek to eastern Ohio. Contact Paul McBride for more information.

SBR Calendar of Events April 4 SBR Membership meeting April 22 1st Solo (Tire Rack) May 2 SBR Membership meeting May 7 Solo #2 (Concord Mall) June 3 Solo Test & Tune (Tire Rack) June 4 Solo #3 (Tire Rack) June 7 SBR Membership meeting