Issue 2—2008

Sports Car Club of America

Rear View Mirror—A look into SBR's Racing Past

TBOART

Article and Historical Poster by Lloyd Loring

At the March, 2008 SBR meeting, Rod Markowicz showed me a copy of the 2008 Calendar issue of Piston Patter, the Chicago Region monthly magazine. There on one page was a fuzzy copy of the 1965 Chicago Region/Cendiv Schedule. And South Bend was mentioned for not just one but two races. That brought back a flood of memories.

It showed a South Bend/Fort Wayne National race at Mid-Ohio on June 12-13, 1965. We were also listed for a regional race that year at Wilmot on July 24-25. Indeed, the 1965 National was not our only effort at Mid-Ohio. We also raced there in May of another year in that era.

As proof I offer a poster that Mid-Ohio asked us to distribute to gas stations, import car dealerships, and wherever car enthusiasts gathered. Why gas stations? Unlike today where loitering around the automated pumps is strongly discouraged, in the 60's and earlier gas stations almost always had a mechanic's bay or three, and mechanics who could fix almost anything. As a result many a race car was modified at a local gas station. That's where you could find some of the best mechanics in those days.

Notice the high cost of attendance at this spectator race. \$1 on Saturday and



(Continued on page 7)

	We Be Flagg'n returns for another year 2008 membership recruiting challenge
ISSUE	Updated calendar of events—INCLUDES 1st SOLO's of 2008 Meeting minutes from March SBR meeting

SBR Spotlight

RE Notes Jeff Luckritz

It's Worth the Price of Gas



Don't worry, the finances of South Bend Region are very healthy. In 2007, Solo showed a nice positive cash flow and the Bert Olson National race lost a couple hundred bucks. Our treasurer, H.C. Colwell informed the board at the March meeting that we're off to a good start in 2008. With a solid Solo program planned by Mark Manninen and his disciples, and Paul McBride finding an open-wheel race group that promises to bring in 15+ cars over the expected 95 "traditional" entries, the club's bottom line in 2008 should be in the black.

But. I know there is always a but. I just put diesel fuel in our Dodge Ram 3500 in preparation for a trip to Wisconsin, and \$100 almost filled it up. With diesel hovering right around four bucks a gallon, it's gonna hurt a lot of road racers since about a third of the field uses diesel propulsion in their tow vehicles.

We generally average around 10 mpg going 77 mph pulling a 28 foot enclosed trailer containing race car, golf cart, tools and spares. For my trip to Wisconsin, I plan on driving 70 mph to save a little fuel. This will add 20 minutes to my 200 mile trip, but we'll see if that bumps the mileage up to 12 mpg or so. If so, it will save me \$30 in fuel, but cost me an extra 40 minutes of my life for the round trip.

As a racer that works for a living, the cost of racing seems to go up faster than my salary. This means that I can no longer afford to race 8-10 races per year. Therefore, I am going to have to be a little more selective about the races I attend. If every other racer is thinking like me, that means the number of race entries may decline again in 2008.

As a racing region, we're going to have to offer an attractive product so that racers want to come to GingerMan in August. In 2007, we had an innovative schedule that allowed one group of racers to practice, qualify and race in one day. Thus, saving racers the cost of a hotel. We also finished pretty early on Sunday which allowed all the workers to head home a couple hours earlier than usual. For 2008, Paul McBride has been in contact with a formula car group that will run as a restricted regional.

Luckily, most of our autocrossers drive their cars to an event as opposed to hauling them in an enclosed trailer. On top of that, most of the cars in the field are pretty fuel efficient, so the cost of gas shouldn't keep to many people away. We'll have to wait and see how gas prices affect competitors coming from further away like

SBR MEETING MINUTES (3-4-08)

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

Approved minutes from 2-5-08

<u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u>- H.C. Colwell: INCOME: No dues from Topeka this month. We only had interest income.

EXPENSES: Stamps for mailing *Pitboard* were purchased (It was a slow month!).

MEMBERSHIP: 163 (up 6 from last month)

<u>SOLO</u>-Mark Manninen: MotorsportsReg.com is now setup for on-line SOLO registration. Eight events are scheduled for this racing season. The Grissom dates of June 7/8 have been confirmed as a standard SBR SCCA Regional event. The new club trailer is on order and expected to be delivered by the end of this month. The final price with options came in under budget. Trophy costs will also come in well under budget.

<u>RACE-Paul McBride</u>: The budget for our August race was presented and included fees for running both a Restricted Double Regional for the Great Lakes Championship Formula Continentals and our National at the same event. All anticipated expenses were included and bumped up slightly for inflation. Fees for drivers are still to be determined.

<u>OLD BUSINESS</u>: The Great Lakes Division budget for the Driver's School to be held at Nelson Ledges April 19/20 has not yet been established so we do not know what our fair portion will be. Paul and Leon are planning on working this event. Adam Lewis informed us the Street Survival Schools are well into the planning stages. There will be 4 events, the first two ran by Tire Rack and the last two ran by our club. The first event is April 19th. Volunteers are needed! Jeff hopes to have the new Tri-fold advertisement marketing our club activities worked on over his spring break and he is also looking at placing an ad in the Tribune.

<u>NEW BUSINESS:</u> Mark will give an auto-cross basic overview at the April meeting.

<u>GENERAL MEETING</u>: 30 in attendance. We all celebrated Paul's birthday. Thanks for the cake, Marcia!

Respectfully submitted, Leon Krauss, Secretary

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SBR Contact Information

Name

Jeff Luckritz Jeff Luckritz Bill Loring Kim Bollinger Paul McBride Mark Manninen Leon Krauss HC Colwell Lynnette Markowicz Jeff Pontius Mark Manninen Lloyd Loring Paul McBride Dave & Tami Bowman Paul McBride Bill Loring

Position Regional Executive Assistant RE Board Member Board Member Board Member Secretary Treasurer Club Merchandise Pit Board Editor Solo Chair Activity Points Keeper Competition Chairman Membership Program Chair Webmaster

SCCA National Office The SCCA Merchandise Collection

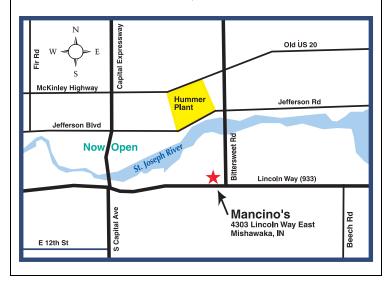
Monthly Meeting

When: First Tuesday of the month

Where : Mancino's

4303 Lincoln Way East Mishawaka, IN (see map)

Who: You do not need to be a member of SCCA to attend. Members and guests are always warmly welcome at all SBR meetings Time: Board meeting at 7:00 PM, General meeting at 8:00 PM Note: All times are South Bend, IN times



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www.scca.com	1-800-770-2055
www.sccacollection.com	1-888-267-2187

Free SCCA dues for 1 year!

Dhone#

If you hold any of the positions listed below, you will receive full SCCA dues for a regular member(local + national).

National Race Worker License Holder PitBoard Editor Race Chair Regional Executive Solo Chair Treasurer Webmaster

Hold any of the positions listed below and receive 50% of full dues for a regular member.

Activity Points Keeper Car Show Coordinator Divisional Race Worker License Holder Club Secretary Solo Chief Safety Steward Solo Timing and Scoring Chief Solo Course Design Chief Solo Equipment Chief Solo Trophy Chief

Please see SBR By-Laws for details. Contact Jeff Luckritz if you have questions.

New Members

No new members this month.....

See page 6 to find out how to join

We Be Flagg'n

Article By Leon Krauss

Well, after a long winter's nap I have uncovered my trusty pen and decided to see if it still works. If you haven't visited the SBRSCCA website, attended the annual January Banquet, or participated at one of the regular monthly club meetings, then you certainly are not up on the latest news (Dewey Beats Truman!). So where have you been?

Our website, SBRSCCA.ORG, has a plethora of useful, interesting, educational, informative, visually stimulating, and sometimes even humorous tidbits addressing all kinds of racing artifacts and anecdotes. Much of that can be attributed to both the Loring boys who manage and provide continuous support of this constantly changing communication vehicle. If you have the desire to give your opinion, wish to share some racing facts, view recent racing-affiliated photos, add a caption to a picture, buy some SCCA merchandise, read past editions of 'PITBOARD', stay abreast of current club meeting minutes, or have something to sell in the classifieds then the website has an opening just waiting for your input or blog. You can even earn club points for your 'blogging' article!

The January Banquet was delicious, the Studebaker Museum atmosphere was the ideal setting, the speaker was not only a pleasant surprise, but presented an informative and entertaining slide show as well as one of his own cars to put on display, the door prizes and table gifts were plentiful, the awards were all well deserved, and the weather was accommodating. Our RE, Jeff Luckritz, even made the evening more enjoyable by not allowing Paul McBride to stand up and make any speeches (yep, the old trusty pen is just how I left it!). The only thing that was missing was all the club members who didn't attend. We not only miss seeing you there, but you should know Rod Markowitz went to exhausting lengths to make sure the location, the caterer and food were exactly the same as last year! This event is always well done and it really is worth the effort to be in attendance. Besides, you can't use racing or the holidays as an excuse in the middle of January not to join us!

If you have been to one of our monthly club meetings then you would already know that Mark Manninen (how do you say that Jeff?) has been working diligently to put together another exciting SOLO racing program for the coming year. Plans, people, budgets, trophies, racing sites, materials, and even a new club trailer are all in the works. You may be surprised to hear that the new trailer will not only carry our racing supplies, but will also double as the new Public Address (say Lloyd Loring 5 times real

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Chicagoland. SBR has been offering a quality Solo experience for years and I see no reason why the number of entries shouldn't continue to be strong.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the race track and autocross site this summer. We've built a good race and solo program, let's see if they'll come. fast) /Timing and Scoring center at all of our SOLO events complete with its own power source. Our SOLO community is strong, organized, and well respected within SCCA circles (that's for you, Kim!) and they even get along with us road racers or at least they put up a good front! Mark will present a basic overview of auto-crossing at out April club meeting so come on out and see if he really knows what he is talking about.

Paul McBride, who just celebrated his 65th birthday (bad pen, bad pen!) has launched our club into another year as a "Racing Region" by setting us on course for a second National Race at Gingerman Raceway in August. The South Bend Region of SCCA has a history of putting on well-managed Regional's (can you say Jeff Pontius?) and can now add Nationals to that statement. I would gratefully like to add here, that we could not have accomplished this feat without the full support or our SOLO community who came out in force to help make last years' First Annual BERT OLSON National a very successful event! We are excitedly anticipating the advent of SCCA Great Lakes Championship Formula Continental cars that will be running their premier Restricted Double Regional racing event of the summer at our National race (thanks in part to Associate Race Chair, Dave Dawson's awesome efforts!). They could pull in as many as 20 cars just for this event. Our National was chosen by them because we have proven we know how to put on races! It would be indubitably unacceptable of me at this point not to also thank Marcia McBride for allowing Paul to come out and play with us (and the birthday cake, too)!

Adam Lewis is working with Tire Rack to establish our club as the go-to people when it comes to Street Survival Schools. No, this is not a self-help course on how to walk around New York City without being mugged. This is a new form of driving experience in which younger, inexperienced, or first-time drivers can learn how to handle their vehicles in an out-of-control situation and regain control of their vehicles safely. Four events will be held this year. If you have teenagers at home who have just begun driving, these schools are especially designed with them and their (Mom and Dad's) vehicles in mind. Adam is looking for some volunteers to put this program into action. Training will be provided. Contact him via the club website.

The mighty pen has now, temporarily run out of fresh ideas, but rest assured, the season is very young and I am betting on Truman to win after all!

Until next time,

Keep on Flagg'n



A look at SBR's new trailer—see it at an SBR SOLO or race event near you!

Volkswagen Jetta TDI Cup Dates Announced

TOPEKA, Kan. (Feb. 12, 2008)

Volkswagen of America and SCCA Pro Racing have announced the eight dates comprising the 2008 schedule of the new Volkswagen Jetta TDI Cup race series.



Making its debut on American shores this summer, the Volkswagen Jetta TDI Cup series is an innovative ap-

proach to motorsports. The Jetta TDI Cup is composed of 30 factory-prepared and managed 2008 clean-diesel Jetta TDIs, piloted by talented drivers aged 16 to 26, who are relative unknowns in the industry. Volkswagen's goal is to find the driver with the most talent and help them break into the world of professional motorsports.

The concept is as revolutionary as the car, which is powered by a 2.0-liter, four-cylinder TDI, clean diesel engine. The Jetta TDI is lightly modified from spec, featuring race-ready suspension and brakes, and a 6-speed double-clutch automatic DSG transmission. Additionally, to highlight its environmental dedication Volks-wagen has partnered with Carbonfund.org to certify the entire race series as carbon free.

"Volkswagen has a long motorsports heritage and we're continuing that tradition with the Jetta TDI Cup," said Clark Campbell, motorsport manager, Volkswagen of America, Inc. "The series will introduce a whole new generation of talented racers to

Pace American Trailer Giveaway Returns

TOPEKA, Kan. (Feb. 12, 2008)

Pace American, Inc., the Official Trailer of the Sports Car Club of America, Inc., has announced that it will again award one lucky SCCA competitor with a new Pace trailer, valued at more than \$14,000.



Re-named the Pace Lap Challenge, Pace American will reward precision driving throughout the 2008 Tire Rack® SCCA Solo National Tour and National Championships as well as the 2008 SCCA National Championship Runoffs®. Running consistent times during an event will earn 51 competitors entry into the Pace Lap Challenge. Following the final round of qualifying at the 2008 Runoffs, one of these names will be drawn at random to win a 2009 Pace Pursuit® trailer.

"Last year's program was so well received by the SCCA members, there was no doubt we had to do it again this year," Pace American Marketing Manager Peter Calhoun said. "Drivers up Volkswagen, and showcase the power, performance and efficiency of our clean diesel technology. Plus, there will be some great racing."

The 30 drivers, selected at a driver qualifying event in early April, will be challenged with a variety of demanding circuits. The series opens April 25 - 27 at VIRginia International Raceway, in Alton, Va., a favorite among drivers and fans alike. The Jetta TDI Cup then heads north of the border to the ultra-fast Mosport International Raceway, in Bowmanville, Ont., Canada, May 17 - 18. The series stays in Canada for the following round, July 4 - 6, at the Grand Prix of Toronto, where Volkswagen will also stage a celebrity race. More details will be announced shortly.

Following the Canadian swing, is a trip to scenic Lakeville, Conn., Aug. 14 – 17, for a visit to Lime Rock Park. On Sept. 19 – 20, the series heads to Iowa Speedway, in Newton, Iowa, to give drivers a shot at "roval" racing. The following week, the brandnew New Jersey Motorsports Park, in Millville, N.J., will play host to the schedule's only doubleheader, Sept. 27 – 28. The season closes in Braselton, Ga., Oct. 1 – 3, during the Petit Le Mans week at Road Atlanta.

"We are incredibly excited to be nearing the launch of the Volkswagen Jetta TDI Cup," said SCCA Pro Racing President and CEO Bob Wildberger. "This series is not only an example of how motorsports can become more eco-friendly, but it also puts the emphasis on the driver, rather than the pocketbook. Racing fans everywhere will welcome this innovative series and the new driving talent that will emerge from it."

There is still time to sign up for the Jetta TDI Cup on the Volkswagen Web site. Applications will be accepted until February 29th at <u>www.vwmotorsportusa.com</u>.

and down the time sheets have supported Pace for over 20 years and in return we're supporting SCCA drivers, regardless of where they finish."

At each Tire Rack SCCA Solo National Tour event and at The Tire Rack SCCA Solo National Championships, the driver with the least time variance from their fastest run to slowest run on either course will be named the Pace Lap Challenge event winner, taking home a Pace American eligibility certificate and earning a spot in the grand prize drawing.

Similarly, at the Runoffs, the driver with the least variance between their fastest three qualifying laps of the week from each class will earn an eligibility certificate for a spot in the grand prize drawing.

In 2007, Solo competitor Bartek Borowski was the grand prize winner, earning his spot in the drawing by posting the most consistent West Course times on day three of the Tire Rack Solo National Championships.

"We're thrilled that Pace has chosen to continue this creative

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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 Chair: David 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					
Ĉity	_State	_Zip	County_		
E-Mail:					
Have you been an SCCA member before? IN NOTIFICATION: Present Spo IF INDIVIDUAL + SPOUSE OR FAMILY APPLIC	use Member Nu				
Spouse's Name IF FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: (spouse & children)					_ /
Child Name			Birth Date	/	_ /
Child Name			Birth Date	/	_ /
Child Name			Birth Date	/	_ /

PRIMARY INTEREST(S) IN SCCA:

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 some of your National dues for the area(s) you indicate. Thank you.

	Club Racing	Pro Racing	\Box Road Rally	🗆 Solo	Please s	send me a free crew license.
An	nual Dues	Nationa	I + SBR Regior	nal = Cost	Total	
	Individual Memb	ber \$60.00	\$15.00	\$75.00	\$ 	
	Spouse Membe	r 20.00	5.00	25.00	\$ 	
	Family Members	ship 95.00	20.00	115.00	\$ 	
	Military	60.00	15.00	40.00	\$ 	(\$35 rebate on proof of active duty)
	First Gear Mem	ber* 30.00	15.00	45.00	\$ 	
*Fi	rst Gear member m	ust be under 25 ye	ars of age.	Grand Total	\$ 	

(First/Last Name and	Member	Number	ке

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$
--

_____U.S. Make payable to SCCA. DO NOT SEND CASH

□ Visa/MasterCard Credit Card No_

Expiration Date

I hereby apply for membership in the Sports Car Club of America, Inc., and its <u>South Bend Region #35</u>, and agree to abide by the bylaws of both organizations.

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

Applicant's Signature_

Date_

New Member Recruiting Challenge—Seven A Month

Article by Jeff Luckritz

There's no reason why SBR membership shouldn't grow in 2008. For whatever reason, membership has shrunk to its lowest numbers in years. Why should it turn around now? Here are the reasons.

Solo Program...Affordable Competition

Our Solo Chair, Mark Manninen and his group of Solo Chiefs have put together a fantastic program for 2008. It all starts on April 20th at the Tire Rack. Most of the events take place at the Tire Rack in South Bend, but the Solo events are also held as far north as Lakeshore High School in Stevensville, MI and as far south as Grissom Aeroplex. Be sure to attend the April 1st Membership Meeting where Mark will give a short program about getting started in Solo. If you're new to the sport, plan on attending.

Street Survival...Saving Teens

This is a new program for South Bend Region. Adam Lewis will be working closely with the great folks at the Tire Rack in admin-

istering this exciting series in 2008. The Street Survival program has only been around a few years and concentrates on car control and safety for teens. The first event is held on April 19th at the Tire Rack. If you can help out in any way, please contact Adam.

Road Racing...Wheel to Wheel Excitement

The Bert Olson National race returns to GingerMan Raceway in South Haven, MI on August 23-24th. Even though South Bend Region only has a handful of road racers, over 35 members contributed their skills in various areas of specialty. SBR members could be found waving flags at the corners, working timing and scoring, teching cars, registering entrants, checking sound levels and gridding cars. You couldn't walk 5 minutes without running into a SBR member. Race Chair, Paul McBride, promises good weather and lots of cool cars on track.

Wonderful People...Everywhere You Look

It doesn't matter what aspects of motorsports we're involved in, South Bend Region members are the best. You'll find friendly, courteous and enthusiastic people staffing and participating at all of our events. Not sure what's going on at a Solo? Ask a SBR member. Want to get close to real race cars at a SCCA road race? Ask a SBR member. Want to just hang out and talk about sports cars? Ask a SBR member. Cars are only part of the fun. People are all of the fun.

(Continued from page 1)

\$2 on Sunday for 8 races! And the picture showing the starter waving the flag at the edge of the track wasn't artistic license. That's the way it was done in those days. Spectacular! Tex Hopkins was famous at Watkins Glen for his leaps just inches from the cars while smoking a cigar and dressed in a lavender suit. How times have changed.

And Wilmot? Now called Wilmot Mountain it was then a small ski area in southern Wisconsin. It was akin to Swiss Valley with an access road around the base of the hills. With no skiing in the summer, they rented the place for racing on weekends.

The race at Wilmot was one of several regionals SBR staged over the years at this tiny track. Less than a mile long it was narrow and bumpy. But it was inexpensive and easy for a club to operate. The motto we used in advertising our races was, "Wilmot is Fun!"

At the end of the main straight you turned sharply right up a hill that immediately dropped out of sight. All you could see was a huge printed legend across the road: PRAY! At the crest of the

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program," SCCA VP of Marketing and Communications Eric Prill said. "It awards consistency rather than outright speed, it's available to both Solo and Club competitors, and a new Pace trailer is something that should be attractive to any SCCA competitor."

To be eligible for the award, drivers will need to sign up for the

hill you continued turning right. A half-mile later you turned sharply right again to head down the main straight for another lap. They stopped racing here many years ago. It probably couldn't meet the current safety regulations and perhaps it wasn't profitable enough for the owners..

I note in the 1965 Chicago schedule they listed 16 events at Wilmot from June to October so it was very popular for amateur races and marque group events. It was one of the few tracks that sometimes needed a "Cow Marshal." If the races went long, the cows that had gone up the hills to graze during the day would wander down toward the track. Someone would have to keep them away from the track (no fence, of course) until the cars stopped running.

South Bend Region had its own licensed Cow Marshal. Really! He was Carl Crowel who was an owner of the Hillview Dairy stores that were popular in Michiana in those days. I suspect it may have been the only real contact he ever had with cows, but he did a great job when he wasn't racing the "Milk Can Special". That was the H-Modified race car with probably a 750cc Crosley engine that Carl and friends built themselves. Wilmot WAS fun! So was Mid-Ohio!

Pace Lap Challenge program and carry the required decals. Each driver will need to run their times within 120 percent of the leader or polesitter's fastest time. A driver may only qualify once for the award. Forms are available in the contingency section of either the Club or Solo pages.

Should the winner require a different layout trailer (gooseneck, multi-car, etc) or desire additional options, they may apply the value of the prize toward their purchase.

SBR Calendar of Events April 19 Street Survival—Teen Driving School April 19-20 **Race Driver's School** (Nelson Ledges, Oh) April 20 Solo Points Event #1 "Here We Go Again" (Tire Rack—South Bend, IN) May 6 **SBR Membership Meeting** Samuel Mancino's Italian Eatery, Mishawaka, IN May 17 Solo Event (non points event) **Test and Tune** (Tire Rack—South Bend, IN) May 18 Solo Points Event #2 -"The Real Test of Your Tuning" (Tire Rack—South Bend, IN) Want more info?—www.sbrscca.org

For Sale—2000 Timberwolf Enclosed Cargo Trailer



- 6ft wide by 14ft long single axle
- Side entry and rear ramp door.
- Interior plywood walls painted when new with a non-skid painted floor.
- Tires like new.
- Very low mileage use.
- Upgraded high capacity 5,200lb rated Dexter NoLube axle.

Asking \$1800 OBO

Call Mark—evenings between 6-10 PM (574) 271-0810