



The Blower

Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

Volume 61, Issue 8

August 2014

The Starting Line

REport by Jim Green

**Regional Executive,
Assistant Regional Executive,
Treasurer, Recording Secretary,
Membership Secretary &
3 Trustee Positions
on this year's ballot.**

**Consider running for
one of these positions.
Your expertise is needed.**



Inside This Issue

Steve Harris May Update	3
Steve Harris July Update	4
Calendar of Events	6
Trustee Minutes	7
Road Ministries	10
Championship Series	11
Classifieds	12

As I have heard so many people comment, "Where has the summer gone? It's already August." The summer has gone by quickly for sure.

For Neohio that means nominations for region officers will begin at the September meeting. The complete slate of officers is up for election this year.

The position of Regional Executive will be on the ballot this year since it is a two-year term. The positions of Assistant Regional Executive, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary and three Trustee positions will be on the ballot also. If you are interested in being placed on the ballot just contact anyone on the board or you can come to the meeting at the Captain's Club in Eastlake and make your intentions known. A letter accepting the nomination needs to be filed with the recording secretary before the election.

Another important note is that there is a survey going out about Neohio's event at Pitt Race concerning the format of the weekend. The question is "Should it be a single or double regional weekend?" The change in license renewal and sanction numbers for the weekend has made the quad format less attractive. You should receive this through your email. Please respond to the survey as soon as you

get it. We will check the results and schedule it accordingly.

Also in September, thoughts about the 2015 racing schedule need to be addressed. I would like to see Neohio bring their racing schedule back to Nelson Ledges for next year. If possible, multiple events will be scheduled. Any member with ideas or input on how we can have a successful season, feel free to come to the meetings and let us know what you think.

Speaking of Nelson Ledges, there have been some improvements during the summer. First, the grass is cut and being maintained. This is quite a task considering it is being done by volunteers, many using their own personal mowers. There has been a continuing effort to control the breakup of the track surface. A product that is "race track specific" has been used to patch the surface and has shown great promise. It has held up through a few events and is compatible with cars and bikes. Re-grading of roads and filling some mud holes has also been accomplished.

If you are planning on attending the MVR regional and have a camper "permanently" parked in the campground, please check with Todd Karam before the event. The trailers have been moved in order to clean up the area. There is a lot

RE Letter continued on page 10.



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Tara Oram

Monthly Meetings

Neohio Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month. Any exceptions will be published in *The Blower*.

Meetings are held at 7:00 PM in the private room at Captains Club, 34820 Vine St., Eastlake, OH. Members and guests are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Membership meeting dates and times are published in *The Blower*.

The Blower

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Articles for publication in *The Blower* may be submitted in most Windows based word processing formats. You may mail or e-mail material to the editor or Jim Green at Jim_green@windstream.net by the last day of each month.



Great Lakes Division website: <http://www.greatlakes-scca.org/>

www.neohio-scca.org

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Information for Area 4 Members – May, 2014

Dear Area 4 Members,

Hello again. We have a lot of information to report about our club. I attended the April BOD Planning Committee meeting in San Diego and our May BOD meeting in Topeka, numerous Conference Calls and email discussions. Here you go:

Great Lakes Division Website

I'm pleased to announce we have recruited a talented, over qualified ☺ Webmaster for the Great Lakes Division website. Please welcome **Ishmeet Grewal** as our new Editor. When I say "over-qualified" I mean it. Ishmeet knows website design and technology. He can be reached at ishmeetsinghgrewal@gmail.com. Thanks Ishmeet for stepping up and volunteering for this important position. Of course, the GLD website is located at: <http://www.greatlakes-scca.org>.



Membership Up Again

Good news! The SCCA is growing. Membership climbed in April to approximately 44,500 members. Add another 20,000 weekend members and it is pretty respectable. A better economy and (we hope) better programs that retain existing members are helping us grow.

National Convention

One of the fiduciary responsibilities of the BOD is to oversee operations and recognize where we could be saving money. The National Convention operates at a loss, but could hardly be called a loser. Certain mandated club functions are fulfilled by the Convention. In addition, there is a Member/Region training component that is critical to better operations, as well as face-to-face meetings of Program Boards. Still, we are looking at possibly moving some of the awards offsite to other venues and further developing the MSX Show to help offset meeting costs. Of course, attracting more attendees also offsets the cost. Our Staff is hard at work enriching the Convention program to broaden its appeal.

May BOD Meeting

The May 16-17 BOD Meeting in Topeka was highly productive. Highlights included:

- President **Lisa Noble's** report showing effective management of all of our various programs.
- Introduction of the Experimental Programs Dept. under **Heyward Wagner**. Look for great new innovations from "The Lab" in the near future across all of our racing programs.
- A new SCCA Live interface, featuring streaming webcams for the remaining BFGoodrich Tires SCCA Super Tour events in 2014 (starting with Mid-Ohio).
- Voted on various rule changes as presented by the CRB. Results may be read here: [HTTP://www.scca.com/assets/14-fastrack-june-BoD.pdf](http://www.scca.com/assets/14-fastrack-june-BoD.pdf)
- Had an interesting discussion about long-term rules stabilization, similar to the Concorde Agreement that helps govern Formula 1. You will be hearing more of this from other club officials as the idea gains traction.
- Reviewed an updated Strategic Plan (STRAP) that has evolved into a well thought out, goal oriented plan for the future health of our club. This plan is more strategic and less tactical than our last STRAP (December, 2013) and places great importance on member value. I support it without reservation.
- Discussed a few emerging programs (Annual Express Tech, RallySprint, etc.) and some successful new programs (Startingline, the Majors, Street Survival, etc.).
- Reviewed statistics from the "Majors". With 13 of 28 scheduled races complete in 2014, we are exceeding our financial projections and are well ahead of 2013 entries for similar events. So, we are meeting the goal of clustering competition and the racers are participating. But much work remains. We struggle with how to make the Majors more special. Please send me your ideas. This is our Premium product and we want it to reflect the best in amateur motorsports. Email me today!

Harris - May continued on page 5.

Steve Harris
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Great Lakes Division
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Information for Area 4 Members – July, 2014

Dear Area 4 Members,

We are right between traditional BOD meetings and immersed in our racing season. To save money, the BOD will be meeting via “Go to Meeting” July 29th to stay current with club business. This is a first in Club history, but it should work well.

Solo

The 2014 Championship Tour Series makes its way to our area on August 2 -3 at Wilmington Airpark, Wilmington, OH. This is the last CTS event before the Solo National Championships in Lincoln, NE on September 2-5. If you are attending the Wilmington event, please stop and say hello. I will be there on Sunday.

Club Racing

While the Majors have been successful all over the country, there is concern about our Regional racing programs. There have been some events cancelled and other events where the entry level has dropped putting the financial health of the Region at risk. Part of this is the general economy. Another part may be that SCCA racing is expensive and constrained by too many rules. We are actively engaged at how we make the Regional product more appealing, enjoyable and financially stable. Staff will be rolling out some programs to help the Regions in the near future.

National Runoffs

When we moved the Runoffs to the West Coast this year, we were unsure how our members would react. As a contingency, we planned our budget for this event based upon a 400 car count. As I write this, less than 48 hours after Registration opened, the car count stands at a fantastic 390. Based on past projected entry rates, we should see a 600 car event, which will make things snug at Laguna Seca, but manageable. I will be driving a Pace Car at this year's Runoffs. If you are going, please do come by and say “hello”.

National Corvette Museum Motorsports Park

The track is just about ready to go. I will be there for the first official event on September 26-27, 2014.

The SCCA National Office continues efforts to be a part of this wonderful facility with high level discussions taking place again just yesterday (7/24/14). Several SCCA Regions have already scheduled events there for 2015.

As always, I will keep you abreast of developments. It is pretty exciting having such a world-class facility dropping into our backyard.



Harris - July continued on page 9.



**29257 Anderson Road
Wickliffe OH 44092**

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**Contact SCCA Member
Bill Snow
440-943-9666**



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Hall of Fame Nominations

The Hall of Fame committee is accepting nominations for 2015.

We need the name and a biography of the nominated person.

Please send to Dorothy Harrington at doubledlh@hotmail.com or by mail to Dorothy Harrington, 340 Bellaire Road, Avon Lake, Ohio 44012.

Harris - May continued from page 3.

National Corvette Museum Motorsports Park

We continue to work with the National Corvette Museum to hone a partnership at their new Motorsports Park. We reviewed several concepts in detail at the April Planning Committee Meeting, and again with NCM management before the May BOD meeting. Like any complex arrangement, we are trying to bridge a few issues. Lisa Noble and I, along with fellow BOD members, are working hard to balance the needs of the club with our enthusiasm to be a part of this wonderful facility. Stay tuned.

SCCA Foundation Raffle

There is still time to participate in the SCCA Foundation Raffle. Someone will win an all-expense paid VIP trip to the US Grand Prix in Austin, TX plus \$5,000. The drawing is June 29. Go here for more information:

<https://scca.raffleready.com/off-to-the-races-raffle>

As always, should you need any assistance, please let me know.

Yours for a better SCCA,

Steve

Solo Racing

By Chairman Bill Snow

Neohio Solo Schedule

August 10 - Lake County Speedway

August 24 - Lakeland Community College

September 28 - Lakeland Community College

Fall Event - TBD

DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2014

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 4	August 5 7 P Trustee Mtg /Comp Board Mtg, Captain's Club, Eastlake	August 6	August 7	August 8	August 9	August 10
August 11	August 12	August 13	August 14	August 15	August 16	August 17
August 18	August 19	August 20	August 21	August 22	August 23	August 24
August 25	August 26	August 27	August 28	August 29	August 30	August 31
September 1 Labor Day	September 2 7 P Trustee Mtg /Comp Board Mtg, Captain's Club, Eastlake	September 3	September 4	September 5	September 6	September 7
September 8	September 9	September 10	September 11	September 12	September 13	September 14
August 18	August 19	August 20	August 21	August 22	August 23	August 24

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Pracker, Jim Green, Tara Oram, Peggy Dietz, Dorothy Harrington, Jeff Blumenthal, Stephanie Hahn, Scott Lunder, Dan Koplow
EXCUSED MEMBERS: Roland Hahn, AJ Roderick
GUESTS: Welcome to all.

Jim Pracker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The board and all in attendance started the meeting with a moment of silence to pay respect to board member James Leagan, who passed away suddenly on June 25, 2014.

First point of order is to fill the open position now with Jim's passing. Nomination for Duane Harrington to fill position. Duane accepted the nomination and appointment. No membership voting is required to fill these positions. Nomination of Jerry Waltenberger to fill other open position. Was contacted and we will followup next month to see if will accept the appointment.

MOTION to appoint Duane Harrington into James Leagan's Trustee position for the remainder of the term in place: *Blumenthal/Koplow - Approved*

MINUTES Review: There was no formal meeting in June due to lack of attendance.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Received copies of all invoices from the driver school and had no questions for Steel Cities. We made money on the event and all in attendance seemed to enjoy the weekend.
- **MOTION** to accept treasurer's report as presented. *Du. Harrington/Koplow - Approved.*

REPORTS & COMMITTEE REVIEWS:

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE: August 5th will be our next meeting.

- Brian at Track First would like to do an email blast to the membership for a promotion. Possibly get a donation for worker or driver drawing at an event as compensation? Jim will discuss with Brian at Track First.
- **MOTION** to have Jim Green negotiate the process of the email blast with Track First. – *Do. Harrington/Koplow - Approved.*

COMPETITION COMMITTEE: For the Quad, Stephanie has gotten a few stewards in place and has finalized almost all of the contact for the event. The couple of items in limbo can be worked out after contract submitted with no repercussions and any changes can be adjusted at the finalization of the event.

- **MOTION** to approve a 25% deposit of \$4,460 to Pitt Race for our race in October. – *Du. Harrington/Dietz - Approved.*
- As a board we need to re-evaluate how we promote the event as SCCA has changed guidelines of how many races can be accounted for driver's on a given weekend. SCCA is reverting back to a "weekend as a whole" versus "by sanctioning number" for allocation. If we still use the "QUAD" as a draw – it may seem misleading as to what the driver can qualify for.
- It is also a financial decision as we pay per sanctioning number. If we elect not to do four separate races based on new guidelines, will save some money overall and can allocate for other benefits to the weekend.
- Discussion of doing a possible quick online survey of what the drivers would like to get out the weekend. Jeff B. will make some contact to find out how to do one.

MEMBERSHIP: Currently at 530 members.

RALLY: No report.

SOLO: Lakeland event went well until small incident, and the day was still completed as scheduled. Car exited and ran into the bus shelter. All parties notified as minimal damage was reported. Not sure at this point residual effect. Waiting on LakeTran information, as it was their shelter.

- Peggy inquired about the Medina Fairground event as she was expected a rebate and to date has not received it. Will have to check with Bill Snow.

RALLYCROSS: No report.

STREET SURVIVAL SERIES: No report

HALL OF FAME: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: Decoders not received as they are upgrading. We will actually get newer units at a lesser price. Will continue to update board.

NEW BUSINESS: More open discussion on status of Nelson Ledges. MVR voting tonight to keep July event or give NL more time to improve.

- We need to put in Blower that we are looking for a Race Chairman for our event in October.
- No motion required, but Neohio will make a donation to the charity of choice or family of Jim Leagan, in his honor.
- **MOTION** to adjourn at 7:58pm – *S. Hahn/Koplow - Approved.*

Respectfully submitted: Tara Oram
July, 2014 – **Approved | Final**

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Board Position Descriptions

Nominations are open for Board positions. Here are brief descriptions of Regional Executive (RE), Assistant RE, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary and Treasurer positions. A description of Trustee positions will print in the next issue of the Blower.

Regional Executive

The Regional Executive (RE) is a *two-year term* and performs the following duties:

- Preside at meetings of the members.
- Sign the records of all member meetings.
- Represent Neohio at meetings of, or in dealings with SCCA.
- Perform all duties usually performed by Presidents of like corporations.
- Perform such other duties as required by the members or Board.
- The immediate outgoing RE will serve on the Board for one year.

Assistant Regional Executive

The Assistant Regional Executive (RE) is a *one-year term* and performs the following duties:

- Assist the RE in performing tasks required to ensure that the mission and goals of the Region are met.

Harris - July continued from page 4.

Upcoming Great Lakes Division Meetings

Here are some dates worth noting:

- Saturday, Nov. 8, 2014, **Rixan Associates**, Dayton OH, 10 am to 3 pm – **Scheduling Meeting**
- Saturday, Mar. 14, 2015, **Findlay Inn**, Findlay, OH, 8 am to 4 pm, **GLD Spring Training and Roundtable**

Watch the GLD website <http://www.greatlakes-scca.org> for Registration and additional information.

Paid Political Announcement

After careful consideration and some soul searching, I have decided to run for a 2nd term representing the fine members of Area 4. The truth is it takes about three years to learn the nuances of this job. We, as your BOD, have accomplished a few good things but not nearly enough. We can make the club much more fun, less expensive and easier to use. You have my commitment to make it so.

As always, should you need any assistance, please let me know. Email works best and I respond to 100% of all emails received. sharris@rixan.com

Yours for a better SCCA,

Steve

- Perform all the duties of the RE in the case of the absences, death, or disability of the RE. In case both the RE and Asst. RE are absent or unable to perform their duties, the Trustees may appoint a Regional Executive Pro Tempore.

Recording Secretary

The Recording Secretary is a *one-year term* and performs the following duties:

- Keep minutes of all meetings of the members and trustees.
- Make proper record of each meeting.
- Act as custodian of the official copy of this Constitution and Bylaws of the Region.
- Act as custodian of all official documents and records of Neohio.
- Perform such duties as requested by the members or Board.

Membership Secretary

The Membership Secretary is a *one-year term* and performs the following duties:

- Maintain the Region's membership records, as provided by SCCA National office.
- Provide regularly updated mailing lists for newsletter mailings, annual elections, and any other event requiring membership notification.
- Respond to requests for membership information and do so in the most appropriate method necessary to answer the requester's questions.

- The Membership Secretary must forward dues received from the SCCA National office to the Treasurer, as well as any other dues for dual membership in the Region.
- The Membership Secretary is the only person empowered to make changes in, or deletions from, the mailing lists.

Treasurer

The Treasurer is a *one-year term* and performs the following duties:

- Receive, manage, record, and disburse all monies belonging to the Region.
- Submit a statement of accounts to the Board for their approval at the regular Board meetings.
- Checks drawn against the Region's accounts must be signed by two officers.
- An internal annual audit of the Region's books will occur within one month of the end of each fiscal year. A Committee of at least three people, not including the Treasurer, must conduct the audit. The Committee must include at least one member in good standing who does not hold an office within the Region.
- Upon expiration of the term of office, the Treasurer will turn over all records, moneys, and property of the Region. The annual internal audit will be considered the final audit of the Treasurer's term.

By Chaplain Gray

Cha Cha Cha Cha Changes

Detroit. The name brings images of a city in shambles. A bankrupt city government, row upon row of abandoned houses, and shuttered businesses come easily to mind. Detroit seems a glorious past, a disastrous present, and a scary future. But just like my home town of Cleveland, the old image masks new emerging reality.

At the start of the summer, I was the Road Race Ministries Chaplain for the Pirelli World Challenge at the Detroit Grand Prix. As I entered downtown, I made a wrong turn and a couple of gentlemen were kind enough to send me in the right direction. (They did like my Mustang.) Due to the very limited parking on Belle Isle, I was had to use the shuttle which was reliable and convenient. At the gate there were an overwhelming group of volunteers welcoming all to Detroit and thanking everyone for coming. Hay had been put down in a number of areas to deal with the remnants of rain earlier

in the week. Belle Isle is a lovely setting for race with a beautiful view of downtown from the pit lane.

There is lots new in the Pirelli World Challenge Series, too. The addition of FIA GT3 spec cars has brought an amazing diversity of exotic machinery. McLarens, Lamborghinis, Audi R8's, Ferraris, Cadillac CTS V's, Dodge Vipers, Porsches, Mercedes, and Aston Martins join Mustangs, Camaros, Kias and Nissan Zs. Competitive racing put on by a welcoming staff and competitors made for an enjoyable weekend at the track. It was a good way to see Detroit on the way back. I will come again.

Closer to home, most everyone knows that there has been a change in management at Nelson Ledges. While there were several difficulties



DetroitGrand Prix

at the first SCCA weekend causing the cancelation of the July race, we all hope to see Todd Karam and the new team pull a great comeback. I know they are working hard to make it happen.

And, if you are down personally, we have a God who will help you make the cha cha cha cha changes that will get you back on track. You only have to ask Him. He is always ready to listen.

Chaplain Marvin Gray
chapnlrc@aol.com

Upcoming Rallies

9/5/2014 – Press On Regardless (POR), Indian River, MI. Detroit Region, SCCA - GLD Rally Championship event. www.detroit-scca.org.

10/4/2014 – Clare Color Tour, Clare, MI. Detroit Region, SCCA - GLD Rally Championship event. www.detroit-scca.org.

10/18(?) /2014 – Johnny Appleseed Rally, Bolivar, OH. Neohio Region, SCCA - GLD

Rally Championship event. www.neohio-scca.org.

10/26/2014 – Lake Erie Covered Bridges Rally, Ashtabula, OH. Misery Bay Region, SCCA-GLD Rally Championship event. www.mbrscca.com

12/6/2014 – Pavement Ends, Lansing, MI. Detroit Region, SCCA - GLD Rally Championship event. www.detroit-scca.org.

RE Letter continued from page 1.

of concern from the State of Ohio about the area being a permanent campground and regulations are very strict. His intentions are to create another camping area. If you need to use your camper, let Todd know and arrangements can be made for the MVR event.

Many people from Neohio, Mahoning Valley, and other SCCA regions have volunteered this year to help at the track. Also many motorcycle racers have volunteered also. I would like to thank everyone who has helped this year get the facility back into racing shape.

Neohio Region SCCA, Inc
2014 DRIVER'S CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

ELIGIBLE DRIVERS

Any member of Neohio Region, SCCA who holds a Competition License or a Novice Permit is eligible. Drivers must be Neohio Members on the date of the event in which points are earned. In the event of Dual Membership, Neohio must be the region of record at the time the event is run before earned points are recognized.

ELIGIBLE EVENTS

National, Regional, and Novice Drivers must earn points in a Minimum of any four (4) SCCA National and or Regional races. Only the best six (6) finishes will be considered although drivers may enter as many as they desire and submit the results there of. No enduros, pro-races, or races for money will be counted. Only the longest scheduled race of the sanctioned event will be counted. Drivers must write the Region sanctioning the event, and the Day and Date the race was held on the result sheet. Runoffs or other Class Championship races will not be counted.

BONUS POINTS

Any Neohio Driver will be given ten bonus points for starting any Neohio event, with the exception of the driver school and enduro, for a maximum of 20 bonus points.

POINTS

Points are awarded for each event entered as provided in the "GCR", plus one point for each car BEAT finishing in class. The highest point total in each class from January 1, 2014 through October 31, 2014 will be considered in declaring winners of the series.

Ties in the final points totals shall be resolved on the basis of each driver's record of first place finishers: then if necessary, second place finishers: then if necessary, third place finishes etc., until all positions contributing to the point totals have been considered. In the event the preceding does not resolve the tie, the winner will be the competitor who raced against the largest number of starters for the races in his or her class. In cases where further tie-breaking is necessary, ties will be broken on the basis of which driver earned the total points first. First place trophies only will be awarded to the winner in each of SCCA classes. All Neohio licensed competition drivers are automatic entrants, so there is no need to register for the series. All that is necessary is that drivers report non-Neohio event points earned to the Pointskeeper. Copies of all OFFICIAL result sheets for your race must be included in reporting of points earned (except for Neohio events which will be automatically, recorded).

DEADLINE FOR REPORTING POINTS IS

November 15, 2014.

POINTS POSTMARKED AFTER THIS DATE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR THE 2014 SERIES !!!!!

NO EXPRESS MAIL OR MAIL REQUIRING A SIGNATURE WILL BE ACCEPTED!!!!!

NO FAX AS WE NO LONGER HAVE FAX. NO EXCEPTIONS OR EXTENSIONS.

AWARDS

The Region Series Champions will receive awards at the annual Neohio Awards Banquet. Please forward Points to:

DOROTHY HARRINGTON

340 Bellaire Rd.

Avon Lake, Ohio 44012-1503

E-Mail doubledlh@hotmail.com



The Blower

Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

August 2014

Laura O'Neill
397 Apple Hill Drive
Sagamore Hills, OH 44067

I'VE GOT IT-

YOU WANT IT

Classified Ads For Members

Classified ads are a privilege to Neohio members. Each ad will run for three issues. If your item sells before the third month, please contact The Blower newsletter editor to remove the ad.

CARS

1997 Miata engine, transmission, engine management computer, wiring harness and half shaves. All have 131,000 miles but are in good shape. Offers accepted.

Bob Doernberg
doernbergr@aol.com
216-276-2652 (cell)*

1976 Triumph Spitfire. 54k miles, runs great, a real head turner.

Contact Bill Snow 216-659-1179.**

To place a classified ad, contact:

Laura O'Neill
397 Apple Hill Dr.
Sagamore Hills, OH 44067
(330) 467-4472
oneill397@windstream.net

Classified ads are free for members.

Neohio Merchandise!

Visit http://www.sccagear.com/NE-Ohio-Region_c_520.html

Advertisement Rates

For ads, other than a classified ad, the following rates apply:

Full Page \$90 / month
(8" x 9.5") \$250 / 3 months

1/2 Page \$45 / month
(8" x 5.25") \$120 / 3 months

1/4 Page \$25 / month
(4" x 5") \$65 / 3 months

1/8 Page \$15 / month
(3.5" x 2") \$40 / 3 months

20% Discount to Neohio member

Payment must accompany ad.

Membership Address, Phone, E-mail Changes?

Contact Jeff Blumenthal
jblumenthal@bbappliance.com

Also update your e-mail address
with SCCA National office.