



The Blower

Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

Volume 66, Issue 8

August 2019

The Starting Line

REport by Dave Lancaster

Upcoming Events

Street Survival Event

September 28, 2019

Eastlake, Ohio

Rallycross

October 6, 2019

The Great Geauga County Fair

Johnny Appleseed Rally

October 19, 2019

Special Meeting

September 3, 2019 at 8 PM
Winking Lizard in Bedford Hts.

The meeting is for members to vote on proposed changes to the NEOHIO Constitution.

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As the end of summer approaches, many of us are winding down our Club Racing, Solo, or Track Day schedules. This does not mean that the NEOHIO Region is taking a break from our hosting of events. We have our Rally Cross Event on October 6th, along with the 2019 Johnny Appleseed Rally set for October 19th. For 2019, we are offering a \$10 discount to any participant that enters both NEOHIO Region's Rally Cross and Road Rally Events in October. This is a great way to participate in two forms of motorsport activities for a reduced price.

In addition to of these two events, we are putting the final details together for a Street Survival Event on September 28th in Eastlake, OH. The Solo Team also has three more Points Events scheduled for 2019.

Because I am the Region's RE, and now that my personal Club Racing season is nearing an end for 2019, I plan on participating in some of these events to meet different NEOHIO members and learn more about our other Programs. Please seek me out as I always enjoy meeting new people and discussing cars and our activities.

In this month's *Blower*, you will see a Special Meeting being held after

the Board of Trustees meeting on September 3rd at 8:00pm. This Special Meeting is required to change the NEOHIO Region, SCCA Inc.'s Constitution. It is open to all members to vote and we welcome you to attend this meeting and our 7:00pm Board meeting as well. The Board has proposed a few minor changes to our current Constitution.

The most important proposal is allowing the Board of Trustees the ability to change the date of our Annual Membership Meeting. Currently, the Constitution states that the Annual Meeting is to be held the third Tuesday in the month of November. Many years this falls on the week of Thanksgiving which conflicts with holiday travel schedules. The new proposal will keep the meeting date in November, but allow the current Board for that year to adjust the date to avoid conflicts with the week of Thanksgiving.

In our continuing efforts to improve our relations with Nelson Ledges Raceway we as in "The SCCA" have been asked to provide workers for the Champ Car 24 Hour event on September 7-8. The need is for staffing the corners stations. This

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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 Winking Lizard, 25200 Miles Road, Bedford Heights, OH 44146. 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 RE at regexec@neohioscca.com by the last day of each month.



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Contact Laura O'Neill
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**Neohio Region, SCCA
Meeting Minutes | July 2, 2019**

Members Present: Jim Green (Trustee '19), Bill Moore (Trustee '19), Ray Glover (Trustee '20, Rec. Sec.), Bob Nick (Trustee '20), Jim Pracker (Trustee '20), Bob MacDonald (Trustee '21), Jason Pokines (Trustee '21), Dave Lancaster (R.E.), Jeff Blumenthal (Asst. R.E.), Joe Blaha (Treas.), Tara Oram (Mem. Sec.)

Excused Members: Michael Oswald (Trustee '19), Madeline Oswald (Trustee '21)

Guests: Brenda Nick, Gail Green, Bill Stewart, and Pat Prill

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dave Lancaster at 7:00 pm.

Review of Prior Minutes: Minutes from the June 4, 2019 meeting were presented by Ray Glover for approval. A motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Jim Pracker, seconded by Jason Pokines, and approved without objection.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Blaha distributed his Treasurer's Report dated 7/2/19. Ray Glover made a motion to approve the report as presented, seconded by Tara Oram, and approved without objection.

Membership: Tara Oram reported Neohio had 499 current, 1 new, and 19 lapsed members for the month of June.

Officer and Committee Reports

Rally Cross Report: Dave Lancaster reported that Ed Trudeau is going to be the Chair of our October 6, 2019 event at the Geauga County Fairgrounds. Andrew Grannis will be assisting as "Chair in Training". Safety Steward is going to be Orion Farman.

Street Survival: Jeff Blumenthal noted they are focusing on September 28, 2019 for the Street Survival event to be held at the Eastlake lot. This works in conjunction with the Solo scheduled for the 29th.

Solo Report: Jason Pokines stated the next solo will be July 13, 2019.

Timing and Scoring: Brenda Nick reported that T&S is up and running.

Time Trial: Bob MacDonald thanked all the volunteers who worked the Time Trial, especially Bill Snow and Pat Prill. There were 52 cars on track. Bob ran through the preliminary income and expense report showing a small loss to be split 70/30 with Mahoning Valley. Results are on our website with a link on MotorsportsReg.

Hall of Fame: Jeff Blumenthal - "Always looking for nominations."

New Business: Bob Nick suggested Ann McHugh as a possible banquet speaker as it is the 40th anniversary of the Longest Day.

Jim Pracker is looking into options to upgrade our radio communications.

Old Business: Ray Glover reported that the best way to amend the Constitution's date of the Annual Meeting to avoid conflicts with Thanksgiving would be to hold a special meeting. The announcement of the special meeting must be no less than 14 days and no more than 35 days before the meeting date. At the special meeting, those present can vote on the amendment. Ray is to work on wording for the proposed amendment for inclusion with the announcement of the special meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Jeff Blumenthal, seconded by Ray Glover, meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Next Meeting to be August 6, 2019 at the Bedford Heights Winking Lizard at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Glover, Recording Secretary

DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 5	August 6 7 P Trustee Meeting @ Winking Lizard Bedford Hts.	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
September 2 Labor Day	September 3 7 P Trustee Meeting, 8 P Special Mtg @ Winking Lizard Bedford Hts.	September 4	September 5	September 6 POR, 9/6 & 9/7, West Branch, MI Detroit Region	September 7 Solo Points @ Eastlake Champ Car 24 Hour @ NL	September 8 Champ Car 24 Hour @ NL
September 9	September 10	September 11	September 12	September 13	September 14	September 15
September 16	September 17	September 18	September 19	September 20	September 21	September 22



Thank you to our sponsors



Region Championship Points

You do not have to submit points at the end of the year as you have in the past. NEOHIO will track them during the year. Each month points will be posted at <https://neohioscca.com/road-racing/region-championship-points/>, in the *Blower*, and on Facebook.

For discrepancies, contact Debbie LaFond for correction.

Race Results

By Debbie LaFond

Congratulations to our Neohio drivers that raced at the OVR Sprints the weekend of July 13/14 at Mid-Ohio:

- Thomas Podmore - SM - 19th & 24th
- Doug Geisler - P2 - 1st both days
- David Harris - P2 - 2nd both days
- Jim Libecco - FE - 1st & 3rd - track record on Saturday
- Gary Gonda - FC - 2nd Saturday
- Jason Jacko - ITC - 1st & 2nd
- Matthew Jacko - ITC - 8th & 7th
- Raymond Globber - B Spec - 2nd both days
- Matt Miller - T4 - 1st both days
- Matt Miller - EP - 2nd & 3rd
- Gary Simmons - EP - 6th & 5th
- Ken Alderson - FP - 1st on Saturday
- David Lancaster - SRF3 - 4th & 19th
- Lee Spuhler - SRF3 - 18th & 13th
- Jim Libecco - SRF3 - 1st both days
- George Lucas - SRF - 12th & 9th



NEOHIO REGION SCCA RALLYCROSS



NEOHio Region Rallycross Event #1
October 6, 2019

The Great Gauga County Fair
14373 N. Cheshire St.
Burton, OH 44021

Email rallycrosschair@neohioscca.com with questions

Register on MotorsportsReg.com in August



Rally Schedule

Remaining 2019 rallies on GLD Rally Championship schedule:

- **September 6/7** POR, West Branch, MI. Detroit Region
- **October 5** Clare Color Tour, Clare, MI. Detroit Region
- **October 19** Johnny Appleseed, Zoar, OH. Neohio Region
- **November 3** Lake Erie Covered Bridges, Conneaut, OH. Misery Bay Region
- **November 23** Pavement Ends, South Lyon, MI. Detroit Region

Look for additions and date changes as the season progresses.

2019 Neohio Solo Schedule

Date	Event	Location
September 7	Points Event #5	Eastlake
September 29	Points Event #6	Eastlake
October 19	Points Event #7 Season Finale!	Eastlake

- Al Gaudino - GT1 - 3rd both days
- Bill Pristas - GT1 - 4th Saturday
- Kaleb Austin - SP - 1st Saturday

***Johnny Appleseed Rally -
Saturday, October 19, 2019
Details in next issue***

(Continued from page 1.)

is a goodwill effort on our part to help Nelson Ledges Raceway. All SCCA volunteers will be counted as an additional way the SCCA is supporting the track. Both the Mahoning Valley Region and NEOHIO Region have discussed this

and we are asking our respected members to participate. If you can help out or would like to know more please contact Kurt Stevens, our F&C Chairperson, or myself to sign up.

Special Meeting

September 3, 2019 at 8 PM
Winking Lizard in Bedford Hts.

The meeting is for members to vote on proposed changes to the NEOHIO Constitution.

Proposed changes to the Constitution of the NEOHIO Region, Inc. of the Sports Car Club of America

Following are the proposed changes to the Constitution of the NEOHIO Region, Inc. of the Sports Car Club of America. Some changes are correcting typographical errors in the Constitution as posted on the NEOHIO Region website. Some are addressing an ambiguous term ("membership at large") used several times in the Constitution. The last proposed change is to allow some flexibility in the date of the Annual Meeting. Currently, the Constitution requires the annual meeting to take place on the third Tuesday of November. This often causes conflicts with Thanksgiving. The Board has been asked several times to change the date of the meeting, but we are barred by the Constitution from doing so. This change would allow the Board to select an alternate date.

Proposed Changes:

Correct the typo in Article IV, paragraph 4, item e), third bullet point (describing the duties of the Treasurer):

Existing:

Checks drawn again the Region's accounts must be signed by two officers.

Change to:

Checks drawn **against** the Region's accounts must be signed by two officers.

Article VIII, paragraph 1; Article X (two occasions), and Article XI:

Replace the phrase "membership (or members) at large" with "membership" or "members" as appropriate.

Article VI, paragraph 1. Annual Meeting:

Existing:

An annual meeting will take place on the third Tuesday of November each year. The Board of Trustees will determine where and at what time the meeting will occur.

Change to:

An annual meeting will take place in November of each year. The Board of Trustees will determine the date, time, and place of the meeting.

Trans Am at Mid-Ohio:

Francis, Jr., Boden, and Funk take victory in Saturday's First Energy Mid-Ohio 100

LEXINGTON, Ohio (10 August 2019) – The FirstEnergy Mid-Ohio 100, featuring the Trans Am Series presented by Pirelli's Trans Am, SuperGT and GT classes, saw a dogfight at the front of the field for the entire 43-lap race Saturday at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course.

In the end Ernie Francis Jr. managed to keep Chris Dyson in his rear-view mirror to capture his third victory of the season. In the SGT class, Mark Boden took the green flag from pole and never looked back, opening a lead of over 23 seconds over second place Ken Thwaites before the race-ending yellow came out.

Twenty-one entries took the green flag in the TA/SGT/GT event, held in conjunction with the NASCAR Xfinity Series event at Mid-Ohio. The first race on the Saturday card, the teams dealt with dramatically different weather circumstances than they had earlier in the weekend, with cloudy and cool conditions for the early-morning event. The field included a late entry – sports car legend Boris Said, making his 2019 series debut in the No. 2 SRI Performance Dodge Challenger that had arrived at Mid-Ohio late Friday.

Pole sitter Ernie Francis Jr. started his No. 98 Frameless Shower Doors Ford Mustang in the TA and overall pole position, looking to repeat his Mid-Ohio win of 2018. But Chris Dyson, winner of two straight TA class races and driving the retro-liveried No. 20 Thetford/Norcold



Francis Jr. and Dyson battle for the top spot throughout the 43-lap TA/SGT/GT class event.

Ford Mustang, would not allow Francis Jr. a moment of comfort on the tight, twisty and technical 13-turn, 2.258-mile Mid-Ohio circuit.

The duo fought hard throughout the race, with Francis Jr. able to post a three-second lead early, but Dyson came back mid-race with a succession of quick race laps as the pair separated from the rest of the field. Doug Peterson – pulling double duty this weekend in both TA and his regular TA2 drive – tried valiantly to stay in the fight but headed for pit lane on Lap 10 with a mechanical issue, handing third position to Adam Andretti in the No. 17 Engineered Components Co./Anchor Bold Chevrolet Corvette.

On Lap 39, the GT class entry of Larry Funk (No. 64 Business Advisory Services Ford Mustang) went wide out of Turn 9 and hard into the barrier in Turn 10, leaving a significant debris field that could not be cleaned before the



race end, with the checkered flag waving at the 65-minute mark. Ohio natives Amy Ruman and David Pintaric finished fourth and fifth, respectively. Said seemed poised for a charge through the field, climbing as high as fourth before mechanical issues placed him back in the field with a 13th place finish.

"I was pretty excited to see if we would get back to green flag racing," said Francis Jr. "It would have been an awesome shoot out to the end.(Chris) Dyson and I were very close in our lap times. The lapped traffic held us up at the end. We had a really great race and

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Neohio Hall of Fame Call for Nominations

Neohio Region has a rich history of our members bringing honor to the region and/or contributing to the greater good of SCCA racing. Based on that history, Neohio has created a Hall of Fame honoring Neohio members, now in its 6th year. New members will be inducted at the banquet in Winter 2020, adding to the 22 current members.

This is a call for nominations. Nominees can be drivers or workers. Neohio members should send nomination letters (email messages) along with an SCCA bio of the individual to Sherrie Weitzenhof, sweitzenho@aol.com. The Hall of Fame committee (Sherrie Weitzenhof, Dorothy Harrington, Duane Harrington, Pat Prill, Bob Roberts, & Jeff Blumenthal) will review the

nominations based on the criteria, the nomination letter and the bio. The nomination deadline is October 31, 2019.

Purpose

To honor those who contributed to the region through their volunteer work or who brought honor to the region for their accomplishments.

Criteria for Membership

- Doesn't have to be a current Neohio member, but has to have made contributions to the region or SCCA while a Neohio member
- The person spent a substantial amount of time as a Neohio member
- For a driver, it has to be someone who has brought

Neohio members -

Send nomination letters (email messages) along with an SCCA bio of the individual to Sherrie Weitzenhof, sweitzenho@aol.com.

honor to the region for his/her accomplishments on the national or professional level

Nominations

- A Neohio member has to make the nomination
- The nomination must include a letter including why the nomination is being made, plus the person's bio with their SCCA related accomplishments.

Continued from page 8.

our Ford Mustang was awesome. I can't thank everyone at Breathless enough, we were fasted in just about every session. The car was flawless all weekend, I'm happy about this win and it's good for us in the points. I can't wait to take it to Road America."

"We had a bit of too much understeer, so I was a little too conservative," said Dyson, who set a new race record lap at 1:21.923 on Lap 34). "I thought I was going to give Ernie a good run there to the end since we were back and forth all weekend. We were so close and I think that is how this championship is shaping up. We will be neck and neck the entire

time. We had a great car and we were quick all weekend. We can't wait to get to Road America now."

Meanwhile, the SGT race was a tale of dominance by Mark Boden in the No. 46 Beverage Flavors International Porsche 991 GT3 Cup, who held a sizable lead over Ken Thwaits in the No. 35 WilwoodBrakes/FranklinRdApparel Audi R8 LMS. Neither Thwaits nor No. 44 Lemons of Love Porsche 991 GT3 Cup car driver Tim Kezman could post a charge at Boden, who captured his second win of the season.

"The car was absolutely on rails today," said Boden. "The conditions to start the race were perfect. There are a few tricks to

this place when the track is right. You have to focus on what you are doing and not what is going on behind. I love racing here - it's one of my favorite tracks! The car was perfect to push as hard as I could to come home with championship points."

Ernie Francis Jr. also takes home the Trans Am COOLSHIRT Systems Cool Move of the Race.

Next up for the Trans Am presented by Pirelli will be the Ryan Companies Road America Classic August 22-24. For live timing and scoring, event photos and post-race recap videos visit GoTransAm.com. For live race updates follow [@GoTransAm](https://twitter.com/GoTransAm) on Twitter

How racing and the SCCA helped save the Corvette

By Jason Isley, Racer.com

The reveal of the 2020 Corvette Stingray took place in Hanger No. 2 at the former Marine Corps Air Station in Tustin, CA, on July 18. But as I sat there with some 1,400 event attendees taking in the spectacular pomp and circumstance prior to the car's unveiling, I became distracted by the mention of one specific person who impacted this program over the years: Zora Arkus-Duntov.

Even if you are only vaguely familiar with Corvette history, you've likely heard of Duntov, as General Motors credits him with saving the Corvette from an early demise. Duntov joined GM in 1953, shortly after seeing the first Corvette at the New York Motorama, and was faced with the reality that the roadster was falling short in regard to its impact on the industry and the car's performance; in a nutshell, the Corvette was struggling to draw buyers. Even as the Corvette got its first V8 in 1955 (at the urging of Duntov), it still trailed behind the new Ford Thunderbird in sales.

Duntov knew he had to make a name for the Corvette, and the best way to do that was at the racetrack. To that end, Le Mans, 12 Hours of Sebring, and SCCA races were the playgrounds Duntov chose to showcase the car that has since become an American icon. The first taste of SCCA racing success for Duntov's program came at the hands of SCCA Hall of Fame member Dr. Dick Thompson, when Thompson won the 1956 C Production title. This was the first of many SCCA titles for the car.



Chevrolet revealed a completely new design for its 2020 Corvette. Racer magazine writer Jason Isley, SCCA competitor and BOD member, witnessed the unveiling and shared his thoughts pertaining to the role SCCA played in the iconic sports car's development and history.

In 1957, John Fitch (2005 SCCA Hall of Fame member) and Piero Taruffi drove the Corvette to a class win at the 12 Hours of Sebring.

Even as the Automobile Manufacturer's Association (AMA) put a ban on factory-supported racing programs, Duntov made sure the cars were still on track by supplying "privateer" teams with cars. Briggs Cunningham (2010 SCCA Hall of Fame inductee) fielded three cars at Le Mans in 1960, with the entry driven by Fitch and Bob Grossman, taking the big-bore GT class win and finishing eighth overall.

In 1963, GM was feeling the pressure of the AMA ban and took measures to enforce it within its own ranks, but Duntov would not be deterred. Duntov placed the Grand Sport Corvettes, which were manufactured specifically for racing prior to GM shuttering the program, into some very capable hands. To that end, Roger Penske (2016 SCCA Hall of Fame member), A.J. Foyt, Jim Hall (2012 SCCA Hall of Fame member) and Thompson

all logged time behind the wheel of those Grand Sport Corvettes.

Through the generations, Corvette has earned a prominent place in racing, from the pro ranks of IMSA and Trans Am, to club racing and autocross. It's very likely that without racing – and Duntov's early influence – the C8 Corvette would not exist.

Always striving to push the engineering envelope, Duntov began development of a mid-engine Corvette in the late 1960s. Internal battles within GM, however, prevented Duntov's vision from seeing production as at that time, the Corvette was selling well and the cost for his radical redesign was deemed too costly.

Back in the hangar in July 2019, as the curtain lifted and a C8 drove upon the stage for all to see, my focus finally returned to present. And there it was, Duntov's vision of a mid-engine Corvette brought to life. But unlike his previous prototypes, this one will finally make it into the hands of consumers.



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Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

August 2019

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I'VE GOT IT- YOU WANT IT Classified Ads For Members

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

CARS

'06, Mazda MX5, GT, 31,000 mi. **Price reduced to \$15,000!** Supercharged MX5. Cruise with top down or stomp on gas pedal and enjoy one FAST track car. Red with black leather interior, soft top excellent condition. Stored winters; Remote keyless; Cosworth Super Charger from Goodwin Racing—adds 100 hp; Hard dog roll bar, Safety harness-6 point G force (also original 3 point belts); Koni Stage 1 adjustable suspension; Bose sound system; Eibach rear

sway bar; New EGR; Up sized fuel pump & injectors; New set of OEM coil packs; GWR stainless header, resonator, exhaust & muffler; Continental summer wet (new) 17X235 on original wheels; Toyo 888 235 track tires (50%) TR3 17X9 wheels; 12-13 lbs of boost from supercharger; upsized fuel pump, injectors; stainless header, midpipe, exhaust all toward 300HP. Upgraded clutch & brake pads. Upgrades & most service by certified mechanic & expert on supercharged NC Miata. Contact Ed Boyer at eboyer3@gmail.com, 269.823.8332.***

MISC

5 J.A.P. Magna alloy wheels for Spitfire, GT6, Europa, Herald. \$100 for all.

Gary David, gdcomputer@aol.com*

Used set with steel wheels with mounted Cooper Weather Master Snow Tires from a 2003 Lexus ES300. Used three seasons. Bolt Pattern is 5 x 114.3mm. Includes four, black wheel seven spoke wheel covers and 20 lug nuts. Tires have anywhere from 6-8/32" of tread. Still have one, maybe two snow season left or these would great rally cross wheels and tires. \$220.00 Bill Snow 216-659-1179**

Four alloy wheels and tires from a 2006 Jaguar XJ8. Wheels are in good condition (minor curb rash). Tires that are mounted are old snow tires with 3/32" of tread depth, at most. \$225.00 Bill Snow 216-659-1179***