



The Blower

Volume 68, Issue 2

February 2021

Newsletter of NEOHIO Region, SCCA

Upcoming Events>>>

Trustee Meeting via Zoom
March 2, 2021 7:30 PM

ALL MEMBERS are invited
to join Trustee Meeting.

Contact a Board Member
for a link to connect to the
Zoom meeting

You can watch the Virtual Awards
Celebration on Facebook:

<https://youtu.be/VySjdNW5gP0>



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The Starting Line

Report by Dave Lancaster

The NEOHIO Region did it again as the 2020 Virtual NEOHIO Awards Celebration was a success! The work put in by the team of Pat Prill, Bob Roberts, Evan Smith, Kerianne Sidoti and Bob MacDonald paid off and they gave us an entertaining event for the region. It was great to see the presenters and participants adapt to the new format and make the best of this year's celebration. I hope next year we can return to a live format and see each other in person.

If you missed the event, check out the links provided in this issue of The Blower and take a moment to see what was created and acknowledge our award winners. 2020 was a trying year, but with NEOHIO's volunteers and the flexibility we received from our competitors we made the best of it and this event was not different. In the middle of winter our Program Chairs have been moving forward planning and organizing for the 2021 NEOHIO Region competition season. Solo has already been granted a budget for the 2021 season. Brandon Anderson has taken the lead by committing to a full season at The Captains Club Parking Lot along with picking up a new location for us to try out in 2021.

Continued planning is taking place in Road Rally, RallyCross, Club Racing and Time Trials. The teams are way ahead of where we were last year in the planning of our events. 2021 is shaping up to be a great season for the NEOHIO Region.

I know it is only February, but summer will be here soon and our region has made a big commitment to managing the Longest Day of Nelson Ledges. I do like the engagement we have received from our members and the commitment to making the return of the Longest Day of Nelson a success. We can always use more help. The biggest concerns we have at this time are Timing and Scoring, Pit Workers and Stewards to manage the event, but all areas could use some extra help. It has been a while since we managed an event of this size so all help is welcome. If you are not sure what you would like to do, reach out to Pat Prill or Debbie LaFond our Race Chairs and they can help determine what specialty is right for you. If you know what you'd like to do, please contact the Specialty Chief directly. All numbers are listed in the region's directory. For general inquiries on the Longest Day of Nelson Ledges, send an email to: longestday21@gmail.com.

Hope everyone is staying safe and warm and most importantly getting your cars ready for next season. I look forward to seeing each you all at an event this summer.



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Kerriane Sidoti '22
Evan Smith '22
Bob Nick '23
William Moore Jr. '23
Bill Crowe '23

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Blower Contributors

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Dave Lancaster, Jeff Loewe

Region Points Regional Championship points are tracked during the year. Each month points are posted at <https://neohioscca.com/road-racing/region-championship-points/>, in the *Blower* and on Facebook. Contact Debbie LaFond.

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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 encouraged to attend.

Membership meeting dates and times are shown in 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 email material to the editor or RE at regexec@neohioscca.com by the last day of each month.



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Great Lakes Division
www.greatlakes-scca.org
www.neohioscca.com

The NEOHIO Region Awards Celebration 2020

Our Virtual Awards Celebration took place February 13th. Though we were not able to see one another in person, the NEOHIO Region recognized the accomplishments of drivers and the efforts of volunteer members for the year 2020. Listed below are the winners of the various awards. A special word of thanks to Evan Smith who created the Virtual Banquet!

Driver of the Year: Craig Chima, National Champion in F Production

Rookie Driver of the Year: Sean Hinkle

Tommie and Bill Benham Award: Pat Prill

Thomas Prescott Memorial Award: Tom Podmore

Betty & Roxy Kincaid Award: Brian Farnham

Reed Andrews Friendship Award: Bill Stewart

Scarpucci Award: Jeff Arendas

Elden "Dutch" Moore Award: Jeff Blumenthal

Trustee Awards: Lynn Roberts, Jon Schneider and Jennifer Dietz

Solo Spirit Award: Thomas Weiland

RE Award: Betsy McIntyre



Congratulations to all our award winners and those who helped to create our Virtual Celebration!

Neohio Region, SCCA Board Meeting Minutes, January 5, 2021

Members Present:

Daniel Griewisch (Trustee '21)	Bob MacDonald (Trustee '21 & Asst. R.E.)
Jason Pokines (Trustee '21)	Betsy McIntyre (Trustee '22) Kerianne Sidoti (Trustee '22)
Evan Smith (Trustee '22)	Bill Crowe (Trustee '23) Bill Moore (Trustee '23)
Bob Nick (Trustee '23)	Dave Lancaster (R.E.) Joe Blaha (Treas.)
Ray Glover (Rec. Sec.)	Tara Oram (Mem. Sec.)

Guests: Kurt Stevens, Brenda Nick, Pat Prill, Duane Harrington, Brandon Anderson, Jennifer Dietz, and Aaron Woloszyn.

Call to Order: The Zoom meeting was called to order by Chair Dave Lancaster at 7:34 pm.

Review of Prior Minutes: Minutes from the December 1, 2020 Zoom meeting were presented by Ray Glover for approval. A motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Bob MacDonald, seconded by Betsy McIntyre, and approved without objection.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Blaha presented his January, 2021 Treasurer's Reports. He noted there was minimal account activity. A motion to approve the reports was made by Bob MacDonald, seconded by Bob Nick, and approved.

Membership: Tara Oram emailed in her December 1, 2020 membership report with the following statistics:

Current members: 519 Lapsing members: 3 New members: 3

She also noted that January is a big month for lapsing memberships with 40 up for renewal.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Regional Executive Report: Dave Lancaster reported the following:

Welcomed new Board members Bill Moore and Bill Crowe.
Banquet - presenters are needed for the various awards.
Dayle Frame, the Area 4 Director, will join our next Board meeting.
Summit Racing will continue with their sponsorship of the Region as per last year.

Solo Report: Brandon Anderson reported the following:

This year's events are not scheduled yet as the Captains haven't published their schedule yet. They will also work their dates around other events.
Starting Line school date also to be determined.
Regarding Covid procedures, Solo will start out with the same procedures as last year.
Updates will be made to the Driver's Meeting video that was successfully used last year.
Jason Pokines has ideas for some trailer updates and Bill Crowe offered his garage and yard for the trailer work.

Time Trial: Daniel Griewisch and Betsy McIntyre reported the following:

There is a time trial team meeting next Monday. Event information will be posted to MSR soon.
Bob Nick noted that T&S will join the Monday team meeting.

MINUTES continued

Club Race Report: Dave Lancaster reported the following:

The longest Day race committee has been formed. A race chair is needed for the July Divisional.

Banquet Awards Celebration: Pat Prill reported the following:

Rebranded as "Awards Celebration" for this year's virtual event.

How to present awards? Contact the winners of the awards and have them prepared to do an acceptance speech.

Date to be Saturday, February 13, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Prerecorded presenters as back-up.

Acceptances live with award in hand with option to prerecord also.

New Business:

Aaron Woloszyn would like to advertise his business "Wingman Garage" on the Neohio website and Facebook page.

Bob MacDonald noted there are no published ad rate schedules for the various Neohio media. The matter was tabled until ad rates could be determined.

Evan Smith noted that Website suggestions should be sent to Jennifer Dietz.

Joe Blaha requested a budget of \$1,500.00 for year-end tax preparation expenses (same as last year). A motion to approve a tax preparation budget of \$1,500.00 was made by Betsy McIntyre, seconded by Evan Smith, and approved without objection.

Joe Blaha also requested a budget of \$100.00 for this year's miscellaneous Treasurer's expenses. Jason Pokines moved to approve a budget of \$100.00 for Treasurer's expenses, seconded by Ray Glover, approved without objection.

Audit Committee to be: Betsy McIntyre, Jeff Blumenthal, and Dave Lancaster with Dave volunteering his company's shop space for the audit so social distancing can be maintained.

Evan Smith questioned the status of last year's National grant program that was postponed(?) due to Covid. Still on hold until further notice.

Bob MacDonald noted that the Great Lakes Division schedule has been published. Duane Harrington added that it is "tentative."

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Bill Crowe, seconded by Ray Glover, meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Next Meeting to be 7:30pm February 2, 2021 via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Ray Glover Recording Secretary

Nelson Ledges Lap Records Update

We have a correction to the Nelson Ledges lap records that appeared in the January issue of the newsletter.

NEOHIO member Tex Melotti set a new record in STL on October 31, 2020 with a time of 1:15.238.

Congratulations Tex!



Some Photos Provided by Our Members



The activities of NEOHIO members span several types of motorsport and decades of competition. We encourage our members to provide photographs which they would like to share with us by appearing in the *Blower* newsletter. Send them to: newsletter@neohioscca.com. We will note who provided the photo.



Above: Gene Henderson circa 1982.

Both photos provided by Bruce Romano.

Below: Images provided by Ed Dale.



And RallyCross
photos from
Jason Pokines.



Here is a photo of the original layout of the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course



The track was opened in 1962 by Les Griebing and several Mansfield-area businessmen as a location for weekend sports car racing. The track originally had 16 turns, with a left turn in what is today known as "thunder valley," but the turn was straightened after just one year of operation due to complaints of the track being too slow.

In 1982 Mid-Ohio was purchased by Jim Trueman, a racer and founder of Red Roof Inns. Source: Wikipedia

MID-OHIO SPORTS CAR COURSE



IT'S THE "OFF SEASON"

There's no such thing as the off season!!!

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ASK ABOUT YOUR SCCA DISCOUNT

FINANCING AVAILABLE

The Longest Day of Nelson Ledges is back in 2021!

June 11-13!

The race will be a 24-hour event starting on Saturday at 1:00 PM and running straight through to Sunday afternoon. Practice and qualifying will be held on Friday. Entries will be limited to 50 competitors competing in 5-7 classes. The classes will be designed to be inclusive of production-based cars built to specifications of SCCA as well as other organizations. Rules and classing specifics will be available in the coming months. The NEOHIO Region, SCCA Inc. will be operating the event in collaboration with the SCCA National Office. Brian Ross Racing will be the Promoter for the event. This will be our biggest event of 2021 and we will need our members to help bring back this epic race. Please plan on joining us this summer and racers get those cars ready to go! **To be put on the e-mailing list for this event, please reply with your Name, Specialty and email address to: longestday21@gmail.com. Please pass this on!**



We Need YOU!

Contact: longestday21@gmail.com

Workers needed:

- Emergency Services
- Flagging/Communication
- Hospitality/Information
- Paddock Marshalls
- Pit Lane
- Registration
- Tech Inspection
- Timing/Scoring

Longest Day
at Nelson Ledges

June 11-13, 2021



And...some photos taken during the Longest Day of Nelson! See more on page 9.



Photos courtesy of Kathy Gall

Photos From The Longest Day—1990



All photos courtesy of Lisbeth Brown

Dayle Frame
Area 4 Director
Great Lakes Division
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Notes from the Director's Chair Area 4 Director Update for February, 2021

January was a busy month. As I mentioned in last month's update, in addition to the BoD meetings, I also sit in on the Club Racing Board (CRB) and Rally Cross Board (RXB) meetings. There were BoD meetings on 1/11 and 1/25 as well as a CRB meeting on 1/5 and RXB meetings on 1/12 and 1/19. I also sat in on a couple of regional meetings doing an "Ask the Director" session with them. Throw in the SCCA Convention sessions that I attended (five on 1/23 and several more during the rest of the convention) and there was a lot of time spent on video conference sessions.

The BoD meetings were fairly mundane in that we dealt with a lot of boring, procedural stuff. We go over financial reports and other miscellaneous items. For example, we're getting a new board management platform in the next few months. This is a web based, software package that will help us vote, manage meetings, post agendas, etc. Really interesting stuff, huh? We're also trying to coordinate a face to face meeting at some point once the pandemic gets quenched a bit. As you can imagine, we're all pretty busy during the competition season and finding a suitable date has been pretty tough. Yes, there are some super-secret, hush-hush details that I cannot mention here but I will tell you that most of that isn't nearly as interesting as you might imagine.

The CRB meeting was pretty long (3.25 hours) and they discussed a whole myriad of rules and policy changes. The RXB folks discussed policies for expanding RallyX's footprint. For details check out the latest FasTrack bulletins [here](#). I must say that I really enjoy attending these sessions as it reiterates how much passion there is for our sport across all the disciplines SCCA covers.

I've been working on a few other things too:

1. I've started talking with more regions about sitting in on their regional meetings. I have a couple of them already scheduled and am willing to do some more.
2. I've been working with the various divisional stewards about our event schedules. I am REALLY interested in going to a bunch of events this summer. I've penciled in a visit to GingerMan to watch/work the Time Trials National Tour in July (7/16-7/18). I also hope to go to at least one of the Pro Solo events. I've attended and participated in a few Solos over the years, but they've always been of the regional variety. Seeing a Pro Solo will be eye opening I'm sure. I also want to make sure I get to a Road Rally event this summer.
3. I've been working with our webmaster on a complete reworking of our divisional website. It'll look fantastic once it's done.
4. I've been working with Val McCammon, Velma Boreen and Tony Brown on the GLDiv Spring Training meeting. If you haven't done so already, please respond to Val's emails for guidance on what the divisional membership would like to get out of this virtual meeting.

That about sums up January of the BoD for me. 24 hours in front of my PC screen on video conferences and a bunch more wrestling with "all things Area 4". I'm slowly getting into the waters (more than "dipping my toes", less than "up to my neck"). I'm sure the pace will increase as the club maneuvers around Covid-19 in the next few months.

As always, please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or comments. Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Dayle Frame

A Letter to NEOHIO Members Fifty Years of Racing and Hundreds of Memories From Bill Hornack

It's hard to believe that I have been racing one thing or another for 50 years. It all started in racing Enduro karts at Mid-Ohio and moving on to SCCA Club Racing and some Pro racing thrown in when I could get some sponsors. I also had the opportunity to try my hand at some short track oval racing which included an open-wheel Modified and a Mini-Stock. Both were a challenge! I always wanted to be an all-around driver. Which leads me to some time spent driving some Enduro type events including the 12 Hours of Sebring and 3 tries at the Longest Day races at Nelson Ledges.

As far as Pro racing I was lucky enough to dabble in some great series such as the Super Vee, Trans-Am and IMSA events. I started in Formula Vee with a Caldwell D-13, moved up to Formula Ford driving a Crossle 32 and a Van Diemen RF-84. My favorite car was a 1969 Ford Mustang Boss 302 Trans-Am A-Sedan car! I moved on to the Super Vee RT-5, then a Corvette GT1 and Trans-Am IMSA GTO. Sponsorship fell off and I went to Spec Racer and FV again. After a few years I purchased a 924 from Fred Baker which was totaled at Nelson Ledges. Oh well!

I then met Honda Ron and did a few years with him while trying to regroup and in 1999-2000 we did make the Runoffs in GT4. Over the next several years tried a few different cars in different classes like going back to Spec Racer Pro Series, a Ford Focus ITA, Honda CRX in ITC, then F500.

The total includes a T4 Mustang, two 924's, the Improved Touring cars, 3 Spec Racers, 3 Formula Fords, 2 GT1 cars, Corvette, the Mustang Boss 302, plus 3 Mini-Stocks and 1 open wheel Modified. Looks like a total of 20 vehicles that I owned and raced, plus 10 cars I drove but didn't own!

So all in all it's been a great ride (so to speak) and the one point I really want to make is: **The cars were fun but I made such great friends over all those years and races! The cars come and go but the friendships stay!**

I wish I had more space and time to list all the great people I have met from racing, but it's a long, long list. So to everyone that I have met I just want to thank you for your friendship, and in a lot of cases, your help getting me on the track so I could enjoy one of the greatest experiences of my life: RACING CARS!! With some of the greatest people I have ever met. **Thank you all!**



Photos provided by Dave Lancaster.



Editor: What on earth....?



Bob Roberts

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The Blower

Your Place to Buy and Sell! I've Got It! You Want It!

Classified Ads For Members

Ads run for 3 issues. Contact editor if your item sells before 3 issues or if you need to rerun your ad.

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MISCELLANEOUS

14" x 5.5" Mazda RX-7 Alloy Rims with 4x114.3 bolt pattern. Some curb rash and some pitting. These would be great for autocross and rally cross. Or refinish and complete your mid-1980's RX-7 build. Open to offers.
Bill Snow, (216)-659-1179,
bill@radair.com*

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\$120 / 3 months
- 1/4 Page—\$25 / month (4"x5")
\$65 / 3 months
- 1/8 Page \$15 / month (3.5"x2")
\$40 3 months

20% Discount to NEOHIO Members
Payment must accompany ad

Contact Bob Roberts
newsletter@neohioscca.com