



The Blower

Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

Volume 64, Issue 11

November/December 2017

The Starting Line

REport by Kerry Klotzman

UPCOMING EVENT

Neohio Banquet

February 17, 2018 at Pine Ridge Country Club

See page 5 for information



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What a great night! The 2017 Annual meeting is in the books.

We met at the High Voltage Karting facility in Medina. It is a very nice place, with electric karts that will give you an adrenaline rush for those times when one can't be at their favorite outdoor competition venue. The meeting room was super nice and generous sized, supplied to us by the manager, Tim Obert. This was the largest turnout that I have seen for an annual meeting since I have been involved in this part of the hobby. When I went to the bathroom (yes, the leadership/board still does that), that I knew that this was "our kind of place". On the walls are framed programs from early NEOhio and SCCA races and events.

Elections went well, we had a full slate and more than double the voters submitting valid ballots than in the past few years. Up for election, the positions filled out (unofficially until next meeting): Assistant Regional Executive is Maddie Oswald; Recording Secretary, Jeff Blumenthal; Treasurer, Joe Blaha; and Membership Secretary is Tara Oram. Trustees elected to a 3 year term are Ray Glover, Robert Nick and Jim Pracker. Thank you to everyone who ran, and my deepest appreciation to all who continue

to support and help keep this club running.

It is your club, and it is good to see an increased interest by members that let us know what they want. Thank you for taking the time to vote. Please consider attending the monthly meetings. They will get more interesting as we go along, getting closer to Spring and the return to Nelson. Let us know what part you would like to play, the more, the merrier.

Speaking of meetings, on December 9, 2017, the Competition Committee will be holding a meeting at Panera Solon at 1pm. We are looking for people who have served in a function at an event in the past, may have certification or training in any discipline required to hold a sanctioned event, or anyone interested in being a part of what it will take to hold our event at the newly repaved Nelson Ledges coming up in June, 2018. This will be primarily a brainstorming session. Please contact me or Debbie LaFond if you have any questions.

Kerry



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Track Contacts

Nelson Ledges Road Course

Fred Wolfe

Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course

419-884-2295

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 Kerry Klotzman at regexec@neohioscca.com by the last day of each month.

Contributors:

Jeff Blumenthal,
Kerry Klotzman,
Debbie LaFond



Rallymasters needed!
Northeast Ohio was once a hotbed of road rally activity. We'd love to be able to present a proper Regional Rally Championship series once again. To achieve this we will need some "new blood" to volunteer to help organize rallies, as well as some experienced rallymasters to emerge from dormancy to serve as mentors.
Please contact Greg Lester if interested.

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Great Lakes Division Website
www.greatlakes-scca.org/

Neohio SCCA Website
www.neohioscca.com

Neohio Region, SCCA
Meeting Minutes APPROVED | October 3, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Green, Joe Blaha, Bob Nick, Kerry Klotzman, Tara Oram, Jim Pracker, Madeline Oswald, Jeff Blumenthal, Jason Pokines, Dave Lancaster, Bob MacDonald

EXCUSED MEMBERS: Gabe Gutierrez, Bill Moore

GUESTS: Welcome to all.

Meeting called to order by Jim Pracker at 7:01 pm.

Minutes presented from past meetings for approval. MOTION to accept the minutes as corrected. (Pokines/Lancaster) Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: MOTION – to accept report as presented. (Nick/Lancaster)– Approved.

REPORTS & COMMITTEE REVIEWS

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE:

- Pursuing a Neohio race for summer 2018 @ Nelson Ledges! We will consider collaborating with another region. Worker specialists will be needed and training to be handled.

MOTION: Authorize Kerry Klotzman to select a date for a Neohio race @ Nelson in 2018 (Blumenthal/Lancaster) – Approved.

COMPETITION COMMITTEE:

- Per above.

MEMBERSHIP:

- Membership at 533 currently. 16 will be lapsing soon. New memberships in September = 5

SOLO:

- 9/24 event had only 22 drivers. Next event scheduled for October 22. Still pursuing more sites for 2018.

RALLY:

- Johnny Appleseed starts 10/14 @ Zoar. Covered Bridge event is 10/29.

STREET SURVIVAL:

- Upcoming event on schedule. We would like to have more students!

HALL OF FAME:

- No report. Need to consider new nominees.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Need to prepare for November elections on the 11/14/17.
- Election committee to be formed. Gail Green to chair.

MOTION: Change membership meeting date to 11/14/17 at High Voltage Karting (Lancaster/Oswalt) Approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Solo Trailer Graphic designs presented.

MOTION: Authorize installation of Solo trailer graphics as presented. (Blumenthal/Lancaster) Approved.

Next Meeting: November 14, 2017

MOTION to adjourn at 8:25 pm. (Lancaster / Oram) – Approved

Respectfully submitted: Jeff Blumenthal

DATE October 3, 2017

DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER 2017 / JANUARY 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
November 27	November 28	November 29	November 30	December 1	December 2	December 3
December 4	December 5 7 P Trustee Meeting @ Winking Lizard Bedford Hts.	December 6	December 7	December 8	December 9 Competition Committee Mtg@Panera Solon at 1pm	December 10
December 11	December 12 Hanukkah begins at sundown	December 13	December 14	December 15	December 16	December 17
December 18	December 19	December 20	December 21 Winter Begins	December 22	December 23	December 24
December 25 Christmas	December 26	December 27	December 28	December 29	December 30	December 31
January 1 New Years Day	January 2 7 P Trustee Meeting @ Winking Lizard Bedford Hts.	January 3	January 4	January 5	January 6	January 7
January 8	January 9	January 10	January 11	January 12	January 13	January 14

Neohio SCCA Banquet



Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018
Cocktails: 6:00 PM
Dinner: 7:00 PM
Place: Pine Ridge Country Club
30601 Ridge Road
Wickliffe, Ohio 44092

Invitations will **NOT** be mailed. RSVP no later than February 8, 2018.

Cash Bar Available.

Reservations must be paid in advance to keep our costs down.

Meals will not be available without a pre-paid reservation. No walk-ins.

Reservation for the **Neohio SCCA Banquet**.

Name: _____

E-mail Address for confirmation: _____

Dinner Selection:

<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Cost</u>
_____	Filet Mignon @ \$38.00	\$ _____
_____	Baked Scrod in Lemon Butter @ \$35.00	\$ _____
_____	Chicken Marsala @ \$35.00	\$ _____
_____	Eggplant Parmesan @ 35.00	\$ _____
	Total	\$ _____

Make checks payable to "Neohio SCCA". Mail registration and payment to:

Neohio Banquet
Dorothy Harrington
340 Bellaire Rd.
Avon Lake, Ohio 44012-1503

Questions? Contact Dorothy Harrington: (216) 390-2856 or doubledlh@hotmail.com

Bios of Neohio's Hall of Fame Nominees - 2018

Craig Chima

Craig Chima began his SCCA racing career in 1984. After karting and dirt bike racing as a youngster, he bought a 1600 Datsun Roaster from a friend and attended an SCCA driving school, during which he took 3 seconds off the previous owner's best time. After racing the car for two seasons in Regional races, he realized its limitations and decided to buy a well prepared National level H Production Sprite and raced it in his first Run-Offs in 1988 and 89. He then moved up to a 1275, F Production Midget and put it on the pole at the Run-Offs in 1993, 94, 95 and 96, winning his first Championship in 1994. Next came two seasons in Pro S2000 followed by the development of an Elva Courier which he put on the Run-Offs pole in 2002 and 2003, winning his second Championship in 2002. Craig's 7th Run-Off pole and his last SCCA race was in 2006 in an H Production Midget.

Craig's racing credentials alone would be enough to justify his induction, but he was also named SCCA's Mechanic of the Year in 1996, and has become a nationally recognized constructor and restorer of British race cars, concentrating on Lotus Sevens, Elans and Europas; as well as Midgets, Ginettas, and even a Mallock.

Debbie LaFond

Debbie LaFond is nominated to Neohio Region's Hall of Fame, 2018 based on the substantial contributions she has made to Neohio, her racing accomplishments, and the assistance she has offered other drivers.

Debbie has been very active in her 30 years as a Neohio member, serving as Regional Executive for four years, Assistant Regional Executive for eight years, Competition Board Chair for over 15 years, Board of Trustees for 10 years, Competition Clinic Committee for five years, and banquet awards chair for 20 years. She also organized Tech & Driver Physical Day for over 15 years and was steward for the 24 Hours of Nelson Ledges and Regional at Nelson Ledges. She holds SCCA licenses as Steward, Tech, Registrar, and Flagging & Communications.

Debbie has been an accomplished driver starting in 1986, racing cars prepared by husband, Maurice. She qualified for the runoffs in 2007. She raced until 2014 in a Fiat 850 (HP), MG Midget (FP), Ford Fiesta (ITC) and Honda Civic (ITC, GT4, GT5, GTL, GP, & HP). Debbie won 12 NeOhio Championships, 6 Kryderracing Championships and 4 series 2nd place, 8 CenDiv Championship top 3, and 1 NeDiv Championship. She qualified for 3 Runoffs - in 2006 she finished 15th in GTL & in 2007 she finished 22nd in GTL.

Debbie and Maurice have mentored many drivers and have offered assistance both on & off the track to many more.

She is a great promoter and representative of NeOhio where ever she goes. Last but not least, she makes a damn good pie, which she shares with many at the track.

Submitted by Sherrie Weitzenhof, 11/8/17

Gary Martz

Gary Martz is nominated to the Neohio Region Hall of Fame, 2018, based on his contributions to the region and the workers, his racing accomplishments, and his representation of the "racing spirit". He was an inspirational role model for our racing community.

In the 1970's, Gary became a regular fixture working Lake Erie Communications at Nelson Ledges and Mid-Ohio, volunteering many weekends.

Around 1990, Bob Roberts loaned Gary his RX7 for drivers school. Gary then built an Improved Touring RX 7. He moved up to EP and began a long string of Runoffs appearances. He did nearly all the mechanical work on his cars – his knowledge of what made them tick was profound. He was a great driver, but more than that he was always willing to lend a hand when another competitor needed help - often stretched out under someone else's car on Saturday evening of a race weekend. His help for other competitors included being with Sam Halkias when he took his national championship at Road America. A term that would describe Gary would be "sportsman". He was always willing to help a competitor however he could. He wanted to race his competition fairly on the track.

Gary was on the Neohio board and maintained the Neohio website, winning an award for the website from the national office. He worked as lead instructor at Driver's Schools.

Continued on page 7.

History of Nelson Ledges Road Course

Overall Goal: To create a website including stories, articles, photos, and other submittals.

My intention is to collect submittals from those who know the stories behind the history of the track. It is not my intention to write the history. Anyone desiring to make a submittal needs to write it themselves. I will review it and possibly make suggestions for revisions, but the objective is to leave the wording as submitted. My own writings will include my stories and short sections tying other submittals together.

Continued from page 6.

Gary faced his illness just as he faced his racing: with courage, dedication, and striving to be a better person. When Gary came in off the track he would immediately start to try to improve the performance or handling of his Mazda. When he was faced with the doctor telling him that he had one other option but the side effects would not be good and maybe he would not want to go through with the treatment, Gary told the doctor he knew what the outcome would be without the treatment but trying this treatment might improve his life or somebody else's. So they forged ahead. In the end, it did not help him but he was willing to try. That was Gary in a nutshell, always trying to do or be better.

Gary was a volunteer, racer, mentor, and friend to many. His loyalty to friends and respect to strangers alike was unmatched.

Photos will be accepted with written submittals and separately. Photos need to include comments as to what they depict, when they were taken (if possible), and who took them.

ALL submittals will be credited to whoever made the submittal. I reserve the right to refuse any submittal. Anyone submitting a rejected submittal will be notified with the reason for the rejection so that they may revise their submittal. There will be no 'name withheld' submittals accepted without a very good reason.

After a small collection of submittals have been collected a website will be created and made available to anyone for

viewing. The initial website may not include photos simply for the reason of getting the website up and running as soon as possible. It is my hope the website will encourage additional submittals.

At some point in time selected items may be combined into a book. I say selected items because I hope the scope of the website will be very big. For example, it would be great to have all of Ann McHugh's Longest Day letters included on the website, but only referenced in the book with a few excerpts. The same can be said for published articles which have appeared through the years.

I will also welcome comments and suggestions,

Reed Kryder

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The Blower

Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

November/December 2017

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

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.

MISC

With winter around the corner, I'll bet you are looking for more room to store all those summer items out of the weather. Check out a full description at "Menards" on-line store. Search Shed-in-a-Box, just enter item number 1934878. You will see the it originally cost \$160 but I'm only asking \$100 firm. Still packed in the original sealed box. For more info, e-mail doubledlhtwo@yahoo.com*

Lifetime collection of fishing gear, roos, reels, lures and many extras. Best offer. Call Ed Hughes 330-929-4580.**

1993 Winnebago Warrior 25' Motorhome, 454 Chevy engine, trailer hitch & trailer brake system, tires good—front tires new, awning, everything (a/c, refrigerator, furnace, generator, etc.) works! A great racer's tow vehicle / weekend residence. Needs nothing! \$9,600, 43,000 mi. Bob Piekarczyk, 330-225-8229, parkera1@aol.com***

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Advertisement Rates

For ads, other than classified, 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.

For classified ads, contact Laura O'Neill:

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FREE Classified ads for members.