



The Blower

Volume 70, Issue 9 September 2023

Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

UPCOMING EVENTS

Neohio Social Sept. 27th
Hoppin Frog Brewery

Johnny Appleseed Rally
October 7

Autocross Pts. Event 6
IX Center October 7

Time Trial @ Nelson Ledges
October 21

Halloween Divisional
At Nelson Ledges
October 28-29

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The Starting Line

Report by Bob MacDonald

It's September, we're heading into the final lap of the 2023 competition season and there's still a lot of opportunities for #funwithcars ahead. For openers, and to learn more about any of our programs, come join us at the Hoppin' Frog Brewery at 1680 Waterloo Rd. in Akron at 6:30 PM for our September (27th) **Social Event**. This is a pay as you go event.

On October 7th, we will be putting on the **Johnny Appleseed Road Rally**. This is an event with a long history here in NEOHIO. It's a straightforward TSD Rally that will cover approximately 165 miles through the rolling hills of Tuscarawas and surrounding counties. There are already entries from across the Northeast United States and it promises to be a good event. The event counts toward both the Great Lakes Division Rally Championship and the SCCA National Touring Rally Championship. However, don't be intimidated if you have never run a rally before. Our Rally leadership team will happily help you learn the ropes and they have built in some fail safes to help new teams avoid getting too far off course. Come and enjoy a beautiful, albeit spirited drive through the country. Registration is open on MSR or can be found through the NEOHIO website.

On that same date, we are hosting **Autocross Points Event 6** at the IX Center. This Solo series has been well attended all summer and I can say from personal experience that the IX Center is a great venue for these events. Registration should be open soon.

On October 21st, we will be wrapping up the Time Trials season with a one-day **Time Attack** event at Nelson Ledges Road Course. There will be run groups for Novice, Intermediate and Advanced drivers. If you have never tried Time Trials before, this is a perfect opportunity to check out this form of competition. Novice classes and coaching will be included. Registration for competitors and volunteers is now open on Motorsports Reg (MSR).

To finish out October, NEOHIO is once again partnering with Mahoning Valley Region to present the **Halloween Divisional Road Race** weekend at Nelson Ledges. This year's event will once again include a 90-minute Enduro (Club Race Experience or CRE) event on Saturday afternoon. On Sunday, instead of running a Track Event, we have extended the feature race sessions to provide maximum track time before we all go into winter hibernation. Registration for competitors and volunteers should be open soon (maybe even before you get this newsletter).

Continued on page 10



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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 7:30 PM via Zoom. Please contact any Officer or Trustee for a current Zoom link.

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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Facebook

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

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.

Neohio Region, SCCA Inc. Calendar of Events

Sept. 27	Neohio Social Event @ The Hoppin Frog Brewery in Akron	
Oct. 7	Johnny Appleseed Rally	
Oct. 7	Autocross Pts. Event 6	IX Center
Oct. 21	Time Trial	NLRC
Oct. 28-29	Neohio Halloween Divisional	NLRC

CCPL	Lake County Captains Parking Lot, Eastlake, OH
GCF	Geauga County Fairgrounds, Burton, OH
NLRC	Nelson Ledges Road Course, Garrettsville, OH
TBD	To Be Decided



Congratulations to our Neohio drivers at the Neohio Pat Prill Memorial race at Nelson Ledges September 16-17.

Rick Kozak - T4 - 2nd both days Chris Arden - IT7 - 1st both days Scott Tharp - F600 - 1st both days David Zuber - SRF3 - 3rd both days April Post - SRF - 1st Saturday Bill Hornack - SRF - 3rd & 2 nd Dave Harris - FE2 - 1st Saturday Bob MacDonald - SM - 4th & 3 rd Brandon Anderson - B-Spec - 1st Sunday Gary David - HP - 1st & 2 nd Stephen Jacko - ITC - 2nd both days Matthew Jackson - ITC - 6th both days Jason Jacko - ITC - 7th & 3 rd Eric Fiest - ITE - 1st both days	Tom Podmore - ITA - 1st both days Evan Gaston - RCFFS - 3rd both days Dave Lancaster - SRF3 - 1st both days Lee Spuhler - SRF3 - 5th & 4th Brian Post - SRF - 2nd & 1st Al Franzolino - P2 - 1st both days Chase McIntyre - SM - 2nd both days Tom Podmore - SM - 5th & 6th Thomas Gaydos - FP - 1st Saturday John Gaydos - FP - 2nd both days Ken Alderson - FP - 3rd & 1st Carl Goodwin - HP - 3rd Saturday John McFarland - GTA - 1st both days Deb LaFond
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And at the Glen Fun One September 16-17 Terry Gilles GT2 4th on Saturday



For some great photos from the Pat
Prill Memorial Divisional, check out
pages 11 and 12!



THANK YOU Carbotech Brakes!
Longtime supporter of Neohio
Region and a major sponsor of our

Neohio Region, SCCA

Trustee Meeting Minutes August 1, 2023

Trustees Present: Bill Crowe '23, Bill Moore '23, Brenda Nick '23, Kurt Stevens '24, Tom Wieland '24, Ashley Medwig '24, John McFarland '25, Taylor Allen '25. **Absent:** Matt Harbert '25

Board Members Present: Bob MacDonald (R.E.), Joe Blaha (Treas.), Ray Glover (Rec. Sec.), Bill Snow (Mem. Sec.)

Excused: Brandon Anderson (Asst. R.E.)

Committee Members and Guests: Dave Lancaster, Duane Harrington, Greg Lester, Bill Stewart, Jennifer Bradford, & Debbie LaFond.

Call to Order: The Zoom meeting was called to order by R.E. Bob MacDonald at 7:33pm.

Review of Prior Minutes: Minutes from the July 11, 2023 Zoom meeting were emailed to the Board by Ray Glover for review prior to the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Bill Crowe, seconded by Tom Wieland, and approved without objection.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Blaha emailed his August Treasurer's Report to the Board for review prior to the meeting. Joe also noted the 2022 tax return was completed and submitted and this month's balance is down from previous months, but is higher than this time last year. A motion to approve the August Treasurer's Report was made by Kurt Stevens, seconded by Tom Wieland, and approved without objection.

Membership: Bill Snow reported the following:

July membership was 645.	13 memberships lapsed in July.
There were 9 new members.	16 memberships will lapse in August.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Regional Executive Report: Bob MacDonald reported the following:

- Congratulations to Brandon and the team for the Pro Solo. There was a glowing write-up on the SCCA Website.
- Continued Existence has been paid.
- Tom Wieland did some start work at the Enduro.
- Track Night in America is tomorrow night at Nelson Ledges.
- Keep thinking about year-end awards and elections.
- Sponsorships – support our sponsors, redeem those Summit coupons.
- Will be reconvening the Communications Committee soon.

Road Racing: Debbie Lafond reported the following:

- The September race supps. have been sent to National for a sanction number.
- We need flags and number boards for start (for Neohio).
- She will be retiring as Comp. Board Chair and is looking for a replacement.

Enduro: Dave Lancaster reported the following:

- There were over 30 responses to the survey with only one negative. 87% positive.
- Next Enduro announcement will be in November.

Time Trial: Dave Lancaster reported the following:

- October 21, 2023 is a free date for a time trial at Nelson Ledges. It's good timing but taxing on workers. It would be a one-day time attack only. Flaggers would probably be the biggest issue.
- Dave would step up to be the Club Race Chair, but he can't do Time Trial too. *Continued on next page*

Solo: Bob MacDonald reported the following from Brandon's text to him:

The Pro Solo went spectacularly, including the welcome party at Boss Pro-Karting. Thanks to Boss Pro-Karting for the facility and Hoppin' Frog for helping provide the beer. We had lots of help from lots of people across the Neohio membership – thank you – it would not have been a success without you. You are all superstars. The national office would like to have more events with us, whether another pro solo or a tour of that. This is very exciting news. There was a lot of positive feedback on the event. There were approximately 189 competitors and 22 volunteers, 16 of whom were from Neohio. National also noted this was the fastest that a national autocross has been organized.

Out next event is August 18 at the IX Center. Trying to get the west lot (the same one used for the pro solo).

Rally Cross: Bob MacDonald reported the following: there are 20 Porsche Club registrants.

Road Rally: Greg Lester reported the following:

October 7, 2023 is the next rally.

Will get Greg some Summit Racing swag.

Street Survival: Bob MacDonald reported the following:

Restaurant near the Captains lot might be a possible classroom space.

Possible use of Summit sponsorship.

Looking at a November Date.

Website: Jennifer Bradford reported the following:

There are some bugs to be worked out – some third-party apps. need updates.

Forms are still a work in progress.

Social Events: Bill Crowe reported the following:

Still looking at September for the next social event – High Voltage in Medina?

Bill Snow noted that Hoppin' Frog would like to host one of our socials. They are near the Akron Airport and are a Region sponsor of special events.

Possible September social at Hoppin' Frog and the annual meeting at High Voltage?

November 14, 2023 as a possible date for the annual meeting.

Old Business: Bill Moore reported the following on the proposed Constitution updates:

The Constitution is currently being reviewed with R.E. Bob MacDonald.

Clean copies will be sent to those who have expressed interest in helping with the review.

Bill will set up a Zoom call to review and decide upon all changes to proceed with.

New Business:

Duane Harrington is OK remaining as the Statutory Authority until the Board decides on a new one.

Bob MacDonald stated \$200 is needed to calibrate the sound meter. Bill Crowe moved to authorize \$200 to calibrate the sound meter, seconded by Tom Wieland, and approved without objection.

Bob MacDonald also noted that new helmet stickers are needed at a cost of \$20. Taylor Allen moved to authorize \$20 for the purchase of new helmet stickers, seconded by John McFarland, and approved without objection.

Kurt Stevens noted he will not be available to Chief the Halloween race, a replacement will need to be found.

Joe Blaha requested a budget of \$175 to renew our Zoom account. A motion was made to approve \$175 to renew the Neohio Zoom account by John McFarland, seconded by Kurt Stevens, and approved without objection.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Bill Crowe, seconded by Brenda Nick, meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.

Next meeting will be September 5, 2023 via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Glover,

Recording Secretary

Dayle Frame
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Notes from the Director's Chair
Area 4 Director Update for September 2023

August was pretty hectic. First are the face to face meetings with the CRB and BoD in Kansas City (8/1-8/6). The following weekend, I'll be at the CAM Solo event in Indiana (8/11, 8/12) as well as a Club Racing event at MidOhio (8/13). That was followed by flagging a Club Race at Grattan (8/19, 8/20). September doesn't slow down as I'll be at the Solo Nationals (9/3-9/9) and the Runoffs (9/23-10/2).

As an aside, I bought a new EV on 7/31 and as of this writing she has 4,515 miles. Trips to KC, Grissom/MidOhio, Grattan and the Halkias memorial service all added up to a lot of cockpit time these past few weeks. With Championship season upon us, there will be many more in the next month before my hip replacement surgery on 10/5. With all of that on my plate next month, I may not have time to craft an October update for you. But I'll be sitting around a lot after my surgery so count on one in November.

So, here's what I did this past month.....

Video Conference Meetings:

Club Racing Board (CRB) (8/1): As I was driving to Kansas City for the CRB and BoD meetings, I was not able to sit in on this meeting. The results of all of the CRB rules changes can be seen [here](#).

Electrified Vehicle Advisory Committee (EVAC) (8/9): With a bit of a hiatus due to the BoD meeting, we reviewed our action items and plotted a course for moving forward during championship season.

Board of Directors (BoD) (8/22): The BoD got an update from Heyward Wagner on the incident at the Hillclimb event that had a fatality.

BoD (8/28): We had a short agenda as championship season is coming up and all programs are preparing for that. Our financials look fine. We are behind the curve a bit as YTD entries and sanction fees are down due to poor weather in the early part of the year.

SCCA Events:

CRB meeting (8/3): We discussed some of the long term, strategic topics that were brought up back at the spring face to face meeting. How would the Runoffs change in the next few years? What classes would be involved? How would the Club Racing program differ from its current incarnation? We also chatted about more immediate issues like "halos" on formula cars, the SMX class, in car flagging systems, etc.

BoD meeting (8/4, 8/5): The BoD meeting would last two days so we could cover the usual oversight items (financials, program status, Enterprises, etc.) but also work on our own governance (bylaws, term limits, etc.). It was an effective series of meetings, and we continue to lay the groundwork for future success. We have a very good set of Directors all working for the greater good of the Club.

CAM Challenge @ Grissom AFB (8/12): Ralieg Boreen has invited me to CAM events for quite a while, but something was always in the way. This year I made it a priority to make sure that I attended one of these events.

continued on next page

While I've been to plenty of Solos and even participated in quite a few, I was not prepared for this event. Yes, I'd seen the CAM classes run at the Solo Nats last year but I didn't get a chance to talk to the drivers too much. This was different. I walked amongst the grid and was able to chat with several of the drivers. And what a wide variety of drivers it was! There were many unique stories that led them to CAM. This set of classes has developed its own culture and there is a tight knit group of members participating. That spells success in the SCCA.

The on track action was neat too. The course was long and the competition was fierce. I was told by Velma Boreen that I would be passenger on one of her runs. What a blast! That gal knows what she's doing behind the wheel. Then the rains came. I was lucky enough to not get soaked. It was interesting watching the big cars dash through the puddles.

OVR Double Regional at Mid Ohio (8/13): After the Solo I drove over to Ohio, stayed the night and went to the Mid Ohio course for day two of a double regional held there by OVR. The car count was a bit depressed due to the fact that there was a race there two weeks earlier hosted by Cincy Region. The main reason I was there was to cheer on the HProd folks who were gathered en masse for the H Production Invitational. As this was my class back in the day, it was nice to see all the usual faces and cars as well as some new ones. Even my old steed was there piloted by a buddy of mine who bought her from me. Chris Schaafsma (defending HP Champion) ran away with the race but there were battles all through the field. It was quite a site to see 30 HP cars on track at once.

Sam Halkias Memorial Service: I want to take a minute to write about the loss of a colleague to this Club. Sam Halkias was a long-time friend who was very supportive of me (and MANY others) when I was just starting out. He was always there with advice, tools and parts (we ran similar old British sports cars). He paid it forward for guys like me and made it easier for the next generation to get into the Club Racing game.

He was the EP Champion in 2009 and I will NEVER forget that race. In a driving rainstorm, he piloted his TR6 to victory at Road America. Several of us watched from T3. We hustled up to the winners circle and I had the pleasure of being the first to shake his hand when he climbed out of his car. He was so happy. All the years of work and preparation had paid off in a title. Someone handed him a phone and he called his wife. He voiced cracked as he told her the good news. As he was a solitary guy at the track (no crew, no family), I had never met her until the service last Friday (8/25). It was heartening to see all the SCCA members who attended the service.

I thought it so apropos that he was buried in his drivers suit with a checkered flag. He will be missed.

Be sure and visit the [GLDiv website](#) for information about all of the SCCA programs within the division. We have schedules, official's contact info, standings, etc. for all the SCCA programs.

Please take a few minutes and make sure your contact information is accurate in the SCCA database. It's important to have the correct information there so the club knows how to contact you. Log in to your my.scca.com page and check.

As I mentioned previously, there is a new path to getting your annual waiver. You can now get it through the Member Account Portal (MAP). Follow this [link](#) to get the instructions. There is also a story about the program [here](#). I've done it and it only takes a couple of minutes. Be prepared to upload a headshot picture of yourself.

continued on next page

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you soon. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have about any facet of the GLDiv. I want you to make the most of your membership and I will help out in any way possible to make that happen.

Great Job For Our Neohio Drivers at Pittsburgh International Race Complex at the August MAARS @ STC August 26-27

John Gaydos - FP - 2nd Sunday

And two new track records set by James Libecco on Saturday in SRF3 and FE2! Deb LaFond

Sanction #23-RXRG-61305



Rally Update

Johnny Appleseed Rally, Saturday, October 7, 2023:

Neohio will host the Johnny Appleseed rally on Saturday, October 7, 2023. The Johnny Appleseed name is a legacy from a National rally that traces its roots to the 1950's.

Competitors can expect an absolutely straightforward Time-Speed-Distance (TSD) rally, with the emphasis on precise timing at well placed controls. Columnar "tulip" style route instructions (similar to those used in stage rallies) will be used. In an attempt to help those with limited prior timekeeping experience, parenthetical perfect cumulative leg times will be provided in each instruction containing a speed change.

Starting in North Canton, the route will wind through the hills of Ohio's Tuscarawas, Harrison and surrounding counties (Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District).

More information can be found, and registration is open here: msreg.com/JAR23

SCCA Great Lakes Division (GLD) Rally Championship News:

Press On Regardless (POR) Rally

Neohio was well represented at Detroit Region's grueling Press On Regardless (POR) rally September 8th and 9th. This year's POR consisted of two very brisk rallies totaling approximately 450 miles of (mostly unpaved) forest roads in the far northern portion of Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

Neohio members Ron Johnstonbaugh and Ron Moran placed first overall in the Friday rally, bettering the New England team of L. Mark Stone and Marc Goldfarb by the slimmest of margins: 1.1 seconds (for 107 scored checkpoints!). Detroit Region's Dave Harkcom and Neohio's Greg Lester finished a close third, 3 seconds back.

Ron and Rob had an odometer sensor cable connector fail early Saturday evening, which allowed Stone and Goldfarb to go on to take the overall POR win (best combined score from both rallies).

In only their second time out as rally competitors, Tom Richards and Thomas Conklin represented Neohio in the Novice class, swapping seats (and cars) each day.

Remaining 2023 SCCA GLD Championship Rallies:

The following rallies remain in the 2023 SCCA Great Lakes Division Rally Championship:

October 7 - **Johnny Appleseed**, North Canton, OH. Neohio Region. msreg.com/JAR23

October 14 - **Moonlight Monte**, Chelsea, MI. Detroit Region.

November 5 - **Lake Erie Covered Bridges**, Conneaut, OH. Misery Bay Region.

November 11 - **Pavement Ends**, Whitmore Lake, MI. Detroit Region.

Summit Racing is celebrating 55 years of business. Founded 1968!



Neohio Region would like to extend our thanks to Summit Racing Equipment for their longstanding support of Neohio Region and motorsports activities in our area! Please show your support by being a customer of our home-grown speed shop.

SEPTEMBER SOCIAL

**JOIN YOUR FELLOW SCCA MEMBERS
FOR AN EVENING OF GREAT BEER,
FOOD, AND SOCIALIZING**

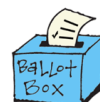
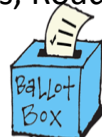
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH
6:30PM - ?**

**HOPPIN' FROG BREWERY
1680 E WATERLOO RD.
AKRON, OH 44306**



Neohio Board of Trustees

Vote for Experience –Brenda J. Nick SCCA member since 1986. Positions currently held: Board of Trustees, and Chief of Timing and Scoring. Programs past and/or presently involved in: Club Racing, Enduro, Runoffs, HPDE, Time Trials, Rally Cross, Road Rally, Solo, & Street Survival.



Join Other Neohio Members for a Fun Evening!

REport continued from page 1

Looking back at our recently completed events, on Labor Day weekend we put on a **RallyCross** in conjunction with the annual 944 Fest at Nelson Ledges! About 16 drivers and cars competed and everyone seemed to have a good time.

Autocross Points Event #5 and the Leroy Miata Cup Round 7 had a great turnout at the IX Center on September 16th. That same weekend, we are hosted the **Pat Prill Memorial Divisional** at Nelson Ledges, honoring the woman who did so much for our region. Thanks to Mike Puskar and his team at **Carbotech Performance Brakes** for sponsoring a wonderful dinner in memory of Pat. Just after the dinner, I received this note from Pat's son, **Eric** and daughter, **Tracey**. *"What a tremendous way to honor our mom, who loved SCCA, Neohio and Nelson Ledges. After our dad passed away, mom took a bit of a break from SCCA, but she returned with a renewed passion for the racing and most of all the people. We wish we could be with you this weekend, but know that mom is smiling down on you all, giving you a thumbs up, just like in the event picture."* We had an outstanding event which included visits from long time members Dave Giorgi and Jim Bennett. Look for pictures and results from these two events elsewhere in the Blower and on our social media channels.

On September 14th, Bill Snow hosted an on-line **Member Orientation** event. The attendance was small, but I felt the content and dialog were great. Notice I didn't say "New Member". That's because I feel there was a lot there that any of us could use to learn more about the other programs available through SCCA. I'm hoping Bill will do it again and that we can get a lot more participation.

It's that time of year again with our club leadership elections coming up at our Annual Meeting in November. If you want to support the ongoing success of this region, please consider joining our leadership. To find out how to get more involved, email me at regexec@neohioscca.com

And finally, for the third issue in a row, NEOHIO Region has earned coverage in SportsCar. On page 11, you will see that NEOHIO continues leading Large regions with 13.2% membership growth year to date and Jonathan Staggs is now in a tie at the top of the leader board for Membership Referrals. In addition, there's a fantastic article featuring our own Ashley Medwig on pages 40 - 42. THANKS to all of you who are building, staffing and participating in our events and keeping our region strong!

On September 16th and 17th, Neohio Region hosted a Divisional race honoring the memory of Pat Prill. She served the region in a number of ways through the years, organizing the Neohio Region 50th Anniversary Celebration at the Crawford Museum with her husband Paul, and several of our annual Awards Celebrations. Before coming to NE Ohio, Pat was active in the Detroit and Cincy Regions as well.

Pictured below is a photo taken at the race showing the "Lunch Ladies" team she would put together for the Nelson Ledges events.

We will miss you, Pat!

**Our thanks to all the volunteers, drivers and crew who came out to Nelson Ledges and made the Pat Prill Memorial Race a success!
And thanks again to Turn13 Photo!**

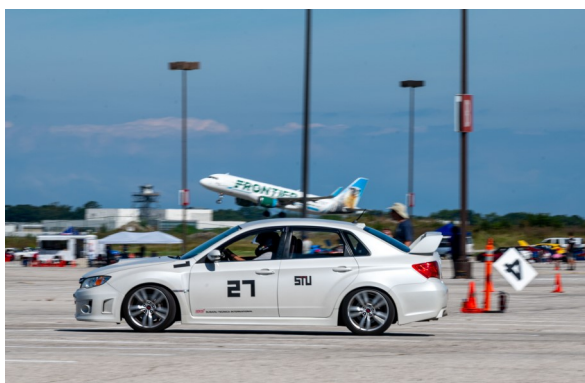


Some great photos from the
Pat Prill Memorial Race
provided by Turn 13 Photo.

Thank you!



The inaugural season of the Leroy Miata Cup finished up at the IX center with Joe Murphy taking the final race win, and Charles White claiming first place in the 2023 championship. With over 30 drivers competing in the series over 7 races, the competition was tight and exciting! The Cleveland IX center provided an awesome finale for the series, with a long, technical, and fast course.





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.

FOR SALE: Two sealed five gallon drums of CAM2 112 Octane Race Gas. Purchased July 26th for \$94 each, sell for \$60 each. Gary David 216-272-5189.

Advertisement Rates Members FREE Classified Ads

- Non-classified ad rates:
- 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"x5")
\$65 / 3 months
- 1/8 Page \$15 / month (3.5"x2")
\$40 3 months