



# The Blower

Volume 73, Issue 3 March 2026

Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 18 Track Work Day at Nelson Ledges**

**April 25 Intro to Motorsports at Boss Pro Karting**

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## The Starting Line

*REport by Bob MacDonald*

Spring has come to NEOHIO! Two days ago it was 75 degrees and as I'm writing this, it's snowing outside. Warm weather is coming and so is the majority of our competition season.

With that said, plans are moving forward rapidly for our fourth annual Day of Motorsports on Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>. There are several **BIG CHANGES!** First, a new name, "**Intro to Motorsports**". Second, a new venue as we are holding it at **Boss Pro-Karting** on Brookpark Road. Third, there will be no competition cars and no Annual Tech at this event this year. Due to space limitations, we need to limit member attendance to people willing to promote the region's offerings. That starts with Program Chairs and Specialty Chiefs and will likely include a few more people to talk up membership opportunities.

This event is designed for and open to non-members. The goal continues to be to introduce our programs to motorsports enthusiasts so they will participate in our events as either a volunteer or competitor and ultimately join our club. Please share the invitation (page 6) with as many people as you can that might enjoy #funwithcars. [HERE](#) is a direct link to participant registration.

April 18<sup>th</sup> is the date for this year's **Track Work Day at Nelson Ledges Road Course**. This day is an investment in member safety and affordability for our events at the track. We have traditionally had good turnout from our volunteer teams. It would be great to see more Road Race and Time Trial competitors join in this effort! We typically gather at 8:30 and work from 9 to about 2 or 3. If you can't be there the entire time, please come and spend a couple of hours in the morning. The more people participate, the faster we will get done.

We're on track to hold one or two more **Street Survival** events in 2026. The fine folks at **Drive Team in Peninsula** have provided their facility as a venue for **October 31<sup>st</sup>**. We're also targeting a July date at a second venue. We're still working on details for the next event and we hope to have those to you soon. This is an outstanding skills training opportunity for drivers between the time they get their Learner's Permit and graduate college. Many volunteers will be needed to make this a successful event. If you're interested, please reach out to Bryan Hall at [bryan\\_hall5000@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bryan_hall5000@sbcglobal.net).

Looking back, on February 21<sup>st</sup> we held our **Annual Awards Celebration** at the Winking Lizard Party Center. The event was well attended as members celebrated significant competitor and volunteer accomplishments during the 2025 season. We inducted two new members, Carl Goodwin and Jim Green, to the **NEOHIO Hall of Fame**. There is a report and lots of pictures in this edition of the Blower starting on page 13.

Continued on page 19



### R.E. & Club Office

Bob MacDonald  
regexec@neohioscca.com

### Assistant R.E.

Brandon Anderson  
(615) 504-3610

### Treasurer

Joe Blaha  
Treasurer@neohioscca.com

### Recording Secretary

Ray Glover  
recorder@neohioscca.com

### Membership Secretary

Bill Snow  
membership@neohioscca.com

### Board (Trustees/Officers)

board@neohioscca.com

### Trustees

trustees@neohioscca.com

Taylor Allen '28

John McFarland '28

Rachel Rininger '28

Kurt Stevens '27

Flagchair@neohioscca.com

Thomas Weiland '27

Ashley Medwig '27

adorianmedwig@gmail.com

### Trustees Continued

Brenda Nick '26

Chase McIntyre '26

Bill Crowe '26

### Event Chairs

#### Solo Chair

Jonathan Staggs  
solochair@neohioscca.com

#### Time Trial Chair

Brandon Anderson  
TimeTrials@neohioscca.com

#### Street Survival

Bryan Hall  
StreetSurvival@  
neohioscca.com

#### Club Racing Chair

Dave Lancaster  
ClubRacingChair@  
neohioscca.com

#### Rally Chair

Greg Lester  
rallychair@neohioscca.com

#### Rally Cross Chair

Alex Stone  
Rallycrosschair  
@neohioscca.com

### Track Contacts

#### Nelson Ledges

Fred Wolfe  
fredwolfe@  
nelsonledges.com

#### Mid-Ohio

(419) 884-2295

### Blower Contributors

Ray Glover, Bill Snow,  
Debbie LaFond,

### Specialty Chiefs

#### Flagging & Comm.

Kurt Stevens  
Flagchair@neohioscca.com

#### Competition Licensing & Tech Inspection

Maurice LaFond  
(440) 946-2207  
mrl1070@yahoo.com

#### Timing & Scoring

Brenda Nick  
(440) 789-8679  
brenda.j.nick@gmail.com

#### Emergency Services

Jon Schneider  
emergency@neohioscca.com

#### Chief of Pits

Bill Stewart

#### Chief of Grid

TBD

#### Social Media Chair

Jennifer Bradford  
social@neohioscca.com

#### Newsletter Editor

Bob Roberts  
newsletter@neohioscca.com

#### Web Master

Jennifer Bradford  
webmaster@neohioscca.com

#### Registrar

Jennifer Bradford  
jenniferdietz96@  
hotmail.com

### 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.



**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.



**Great Lakes Division**  
[www.greatlakes-scca.org](http://www.greatlakes-scca.org)  
[www.neohioscca.com](http://www.neohioscca.com)

## Neohio Region, SCCA Inc. Calendar of Events

April 18	Track Work Day	NLRC
April 25	Intro to Motorsports	Boss Pro
May 9	Neohio Time Trial	NLRC
	Provisional: Dates for some of these events may change	

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

### Intro to Motorsports at Boss Pro Karting April 25



**THANK YOU Carbotech Brakes!**  
Longtime supporter of Neohio  
Region and a major sponsor of our  
events at Nelson Ledges!

**Neohio Region, SCCA**  
**Trustee Meeting Minutes, February 3, 2026**

Members Present: Bill Crowe ('26) Brenda Nick ('26) Chase McIntyre ('26) Kurt Stevens ('27) Ashley Medwig ('27) Thomas Weiland ('27) John McFarland ('28) Rachel Rininger ('28) Taylor Allen ('28) Joe Blaha (Treas.) Ray Glover (Rec. Sec.) Bill Snow (Mem. Sec.)

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

**Committee Members and Guests:** Jonathan Staggs, Greg Lester, Jennifer Bradford, Bill Stewart, and Duane Harrington.

**Call to Order:** The Zoom meeting was called to order by Treasurer Joe Blaha at 7:31pm.

**Review of Prior Minutes:** Minutes from the January 6, 2026 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 Taylor Allen, and approved without objection.

**Treasurer's Report:** Joe Blaha emailed his January's treasurer's report to the board prior the meeting and reported the following. The cash balance is down a little from last month but up from last year. A motion to approve the January treasurer's report was made by Kurt Stevens, seconded by Tom Wieland, and approved without objection.

**Membership:** Bill Snow reported the following:

676 members as of January. 10 new memberships. 11 lapsed memberships.

He will be asking for a budget for membership awards for the Awards Celebration.

**Officer and Committee Reports:**

**Regional Executive Report:** Joe Blaha reported the following for R.E. Bob MacDonald:

All officer and Trustees were asked to please complete the "Oath of Office" and "Conflict of Interest" forms and return to secretary Ray Glover.

Bob MacDonald has in his possession the won auction items from Pitt Race and will distribute to the appropriate chairs.

There is no news on the possible revival of the Cleveland Grand Prix.

Please send all program updates to Jennifer. Don't forget to support our sponsors.

**Road Racing:** no update.

**Time Trial:** Joe Blaha reported the following for Brandon Anderson:

Neohio to help MVR with a time trial.

**Solo:** Jonathan Staggs reported the following:

Two more Eastlake dates have been reserved to help compensate for the loss of the I-X Center.

Jonathan will take a look at the trailer regarding maintenance, etc.

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**Rally Cross:** no report.

**Road Rally:** Greg Lester reported the following:

There were great conditions for the Ohio Winter Rally. 16 teams.

August rally is still in question.

**Street Survival:** Joe Blaha reported the following for Bryan Hall:

Looking for a date in April.

**Communications/Website:** Jennifer Bradford reported the following:

The template for the *Blower* teaser is complete.

**Social Events:** Bill Crowe reported the following:

Approximately 15-20 people attended the Monster's hockey game on January 22, 2026. Good time and a good game.

Nothing else scheduled yet.

**A Day of Motorsports:** Joe Blaha reported the following for Bob MacDonald:

There will be a change of venue. Will not be at Nelson Ledges, scrambling for a new site. Bill Snow offered his assistance in looking. No Track Night in America either.

**Audit Committee:** Duane Harrington reported the following:

Audit was held January 31, 2016 at the Wickliffe Public Library.

Reviewed bank statements and reconciliations; deposits and supporting documents; monthly treasurer's reports; invoices, expense reports, and receipts; and credit card statements.

No exceptions were noted.

As a housekeeping matter, it was suggested to use staples to attach receipts to check requests. Receipts should also be copied to plain paper due to their volatile ink. Large packets of forms should be binder clipped together in lieu of large paperclips.

Bill Crowe moved to accept the findings of the Audit Committee, seconded by John McFarland, and approved without exception.

**Hall of Fame:** Brenda Nick reported the following:

There will be two inductees into the Neohio Hall of Fame at the Awards Celebration – Jim Green and Carl Goodwin.

**Old Business:**

Awards Celebration – keep promoting and it is open on MSR.

Great Lakes Championship – no update.

Great Lakes Division Conference is coming up. Are there any takers for the scholarships to attend the conference? If so, please send your request to Bob MacDonald and Joe Blaha.

***Continued on page 11***



**APRIL 25, 2026**  
**9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**



**BOSS PRO-KARTING**



**REGISTRATION \$10**

Visit our website for more information and a schedule of events! Please use this QR code to pre-register to ensure you get your FREE GIFT!



The Neohio Region of SCCA is excited to welcome you to the thrilling world of motorsports. We will be showcasing all of our programs and how to get involved at an engaging motorsports expo. Whether you are interested in driving or learning about the behind-the-scenes of racing, this event is for you! This event includes lunch and one karting race, a \$40 offer for just \$10! Must be checked in by 10:00 to be eligible to race.



**@NEOHIOSCCA**

**SOCIAL@NEOHIOSCCA.COM**  
**NEOHIOSCCA.COM**

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## Proposed Rally Schedule for 2026

### (GLD) Rally Championship schedule. Mark your calendars now:

The next event on the 2026 SCCA GLD Rally Championship series calendar is Detroit Region's **Twilight Tour Rally**, which will run on Saturday, May 2.

The following rallies remain (tentatively) on the 2026 SCCA Great Lakes Division (GLD) Rally Championship schedule. Mark your calendars now:

Saturday, May 2, 2026 - **Twilight Tour**, Chelsea(?), MI. Detroit Region.

Saturday, August 22, 2026 - **Johnny Appleseed**, Canton(?), OH. Neohio Region.

Sunday, August 23, 2026 - **Spirit of '26**, Canton(?), OH. Neohio Region.

Friday, September 11, 2026 - **Friday POR**, Gaylord(?), MI. Detroit Region.

Saturday, September 12, 2026 - **Saturday POR**, Gaylord(?), MI. Detroit Region.

Saturday, October 24, 2026 - **Pavement Ends**, Ann Arbor, MI. Detroit Region.

Other 2026 SCCA GLD Championship rallies are in the planning stages. You can expect to see the schedule evolve as dates solidify.

#### **SCCA Great Lakes Division (GLD) Spring Conference**, Saturday, February 28, 2026:

The SCCA GLD Spring Conference will be held at Manchester University in Fort Wayne, Indiana on Saturday, February 28, 2026. Representatives from the various SCCA programs will host training and/or discussion sessions throughout the day. Several members of the SCCA National staff will attend this conference.

GLD Rally Steward Rob Moran will host an informational session for those interested in starting or resurrecting a Regional road rally program.

To find more information, and to register for this conference, please visit [motorsportsreg.com](http://motorsportsreg.com)

#### **Detroit Region Rally School**, Saturday, April 18, 2026:

Detroit Region, SCCA will host a rally school on April 18, 2026 in South Lyon, Michigan. This school will consist of "classroom" sessions introducing basic road rally concepts, and two short on-road practice loops where participants can test their newfound knowledge. For more information, and to register for this event, please visit [motorsportsreg.com](http://motorsportsreg.com)

#### **Day of Motorsports**, Saturday, April 25, 2026:

Neohio Region, SCCA will host its 4th annual Day of Motorsports on Saturday, April 25, 2026. This event is a community outreach showcasing all things SCCA. Representatives from the Club's various programs will be on hand to answer questions, and encourage participation. More information is forthcoming.

#### **A Grand Tour Rally**, Sunday, April 26, 2026:

The Furrin Group car club (Grand Rapids, MI area) will host the Grand Tour rally on Sunday, April 26, 2026. More information can be found here: [furrin.org](http://furrin.org)

#### **2026 Southern Ohio Forest Rally (SOFR)**, June 11-13, 2026:

For those who enjoy stage rallying (flat-out racing against the clock over closed forest roads), an annual pilgrimage to the Southern Ohio Forest Rally (SOFR) is a must. SOFR typically kicks off with a short stage through Yoctangee Park in downtown Chillicothe, Ohio on Thursday evening. Friday and Saturday forest stages are then run in Shawnee State Forest near Portsmouth, Ohio, and in Zaleski State Forest near McArthur, Ohio.

A "cast of thousands" of volunteers is needed to staff the stages and rally service area. Here's a partial list of positions that need to be filled in order for the rally to operate: Amateur Radio communications. Emergency Medical coverage. Pre/post event stage setup and teardown. Stage Start/Finish check-in and timing. Stage access point marshalling. Spectator area marshalling. Service area setup/operation. Etc.

Thank you Leroy Engineering for your support of NEOHIO Solo!



Thanks to our sponsor Summit Racing for their generous support of all Neohio Programs and Activities!



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**APRIL  
25**

## INTRO TO MOTORSPORTS

PRESENTED BY NEOHIO

CHECK IN	9:00 - 10:00
COFFEE & DONUTS with CARS AND COFFEE CLEVELAND Coffee and donuts included!	9:00 - 10:00
LUNCH & DOOR PRIZES	12:00
Lunch and karting are provided with registration	

### PRESENTATIONS

"WHAT IS SCCA?" - NEOHIO REGION	10:00 - 10:15
"SCCA TRACKSIDE OPPORTUNITIES"	10:15 - 10:55
"SCCA RACING PROGRAMS"	11:05 - 11:45

### ACTIVITIES

CARS AND COFFEE CLEVELAND CAR SHOW	12:00 - 3:00
SCCA RACING STATIONS	12:00 - 3:00
Autocross, Road Racing, RallyCross, Road Rally, Time Trials, Street Survival	
SCCA TRACKSIDE STATIONS	12:00 - 3:00
Timing & Scoring, Pit, Grid, Flagging & Communications, Tech, Registration, Admin, Emergency Services	
VENDOR EXPO	12:00 - 3:00

### KARTING RACES

12:00 - 3:00  
One race is included in registration, racing times will be available at check in. You must be checked in by 10:00 to be eligible to race!



BOSS PRO-KARTING - 18301 BROOKPARK RD. CLEVELAND, OH 44142

**NEOHIO Area 2026 Event Schedule**

<b>DATES for 2026</b>	<b>TE/TT &amp; DRIVER'S SCHOOL</b>	<b>DIVISIONALS</b>	<b>MAJORS &amp; SUPER TOURS</b>	<b>SCCA PRO or OTHER EVENTS</b>	<b>Rally/RallyX</b>	<b>Solo</b>
April 4-5 (Easter)			VIR - ST			
April 11-12						
April 18-19	Track Work Day @ NL Saturday (4/18)			Champ @ GM		
April 25-26	DS-WHRRRI @ WAT	Motorsports Expo @ Boss Pro (4/25)		FPromo @ MO		
May 2-3	TTnT @ Eagles		BVR-M @ BHF	MVR Street Survival (5/3)		
May 9-10 (Mother's Day)	NEO TT @ NL (Sat 5/9)			NASCAR @ WGI USF Pro @ Indy		
May 16-17			OVR-ST @ MO	Extreme Exp @ NL SVRA @ RA		LMC Test @ CE (5/16) LMC Round 1 @ CE (5/17)
May 23-24 (Memorial Day)		DET - D-C @ WAT		Champ @ WGI		
May 30-31	Glen TT @ WGI	Glen D @ WGI		IMSA Detroit		Points Event #1 @ CE (5/30)
June 6-7			June Sprints ST @ RA	IMSA @ MO NASCAR @ MIS		LMC Round 2 @ CE (6/6)
June 13-14	TTnT @ CMP			SVRA @ MO		
June 20-21 (Father's Day)		WMR-D-C @ GRA	FLR Super Tour @ WGI	TransAm @ Indy		Points Event #2 @ CE (6/20)
June 27-28				IMSA @ WGI SVRA @ Indy Lemons @ NL		
July 4-5				IndyCar @ MO USF Pro @ MO		
July 11-12	CINCI-TT @ MO (Fri 7/10)	CINCI-D-C @ MO				
July 18-19	TTnT @ Pocono	SBR-D-C @ GM (7/18-19)	SBR-M @ GM (7/17-18) LOL-M @ BR	Fpromo @ WGI PVGP @ Schenley Park DART KART @ NL		
July 25-26			MIL-M @ RA			LMC Round 3 @ CE (7/25)
August 1-2	TTnT @ Autobahn	MVR TT & D @ NL		Champ @ VIR MotoAmerica @ MO		
August 8-9	OVR-TT - (Fri 8/7)	OVR-D-C @ MO		NASA TREC @ NL VSCDA @ Grattan		Points Event #3 @ CE (8/8) LMC Round 4 @ D42 (8/9)
August 15-16						
August 22-23	TTnT @ The Ridge	SCR/NEO TT @ NL	WMR - M @ GRA		JAR - (8/22/26) So'26 Rally (8/23)	Novice Day @ CE (8/22) Points Event #4 @ CE (8/29)
August 29-30	SCR/NEO TBD @ NL	SCR/NEO D-C @ NL				Points Event #5 @ CE (8/29)
Sept 5-6 (Labor Day)				CHAMP - MO Vintage bikes @ NL		
Sept 12-13					Press on Regardless Rally (9/11-12)	LMC Round 6 @ D42
Sept 19-20	FLR TT @ WGI	Fun One D @ WGI				
Sept 26-27				Extreme Exp @ NL		LMC Round 7 @ CE (9/26) Points Event #6 @ CE
Oct 3-4	2026 RUNOFFS @ Road America (Sept 28 - Oct 4)					
Oct 10-11	OVR-TT - (Fri 10/9)	OVR-D-C @ MO		CHAMP - Pocono		
Oct 17-18				AER @ MO		

*Continued on next page*

**NEOHIO Area 2026 Event Schedule**

Oct 24-25	NEO/MVR TT/CRE @ NL	NEO/MVR Div @ NL -D-C			Pavement Ends Rally (10/24)	
Oct 31 - Nov 1				NEO Street Survival @ Drive Team		
<b>LEGEND:</b>						
T=Tentative	R=Restricted	D=Double	M=Major	RX=RallyCross	Confirmed 2026 Dates	
GM= GingerMan	GRA=Grattan	C=Champ Series Event		DS=Drivers School	NEOHIO Events 2026	
NL=Nelson Ledges	MO=Mid Ohio	MIS=Mich Intl Speedway	WAT=Waterford Hills	ST= Super Tour	CE = Captain's Lot @ Eastlake	LMC = Leroy Miata Challenge
BR= Brainerd Raceway	RA=Road America	WGI=Watkins Glen	BHF=Blackhawk Farms	TE - Track Event TT - Time Trial	D42 = Dragway 42 LES = Lake Erie Speedway	JAR = Johnny Appleseed Rally So'26 = Spririt of '26 Rally

*Continued from page 5*

**New Business:**

- Presenters are needed for the perpetual awards. Please coordinate with Bob MacDonald.
- Debbie LaFond requested a budget of \$500 for awards for the Awards Celebration. So moved by Bill Crowe, seconded by Brenda Nick, and approved without objection.
- Bob MacDonald requested an R.E. budget of \$500. So moved by Taylor Allen, seconded by Tom Wieland, and approved without objection.
- Bill Snow requested a budget of \$500 for membership awards. So moved by Bill Crowe, seconded by Taylor Allen, and approved without objection.
- Jonathan Staggs requested \$800 for the additional solo dates at Eastlake. So moved by John McFarland, seconded by Rachel Rininger, and approved without objection.
- Joe Blaha requested a budget of \$3,000 for tax preparation expenses. So moved by Tom Wieland, seconded by Brenda Nick, and approved without objection.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by John McFarland, seconded by Bill Crowe, meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Next trustee's meeting will be March 3, 2026 via Zoom at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Ray Glover, Recording Secretary

Thank You Atomic Autosports for Supporting  
the NEOHIO Time Trials!



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## ATTN: SCCA RACERS

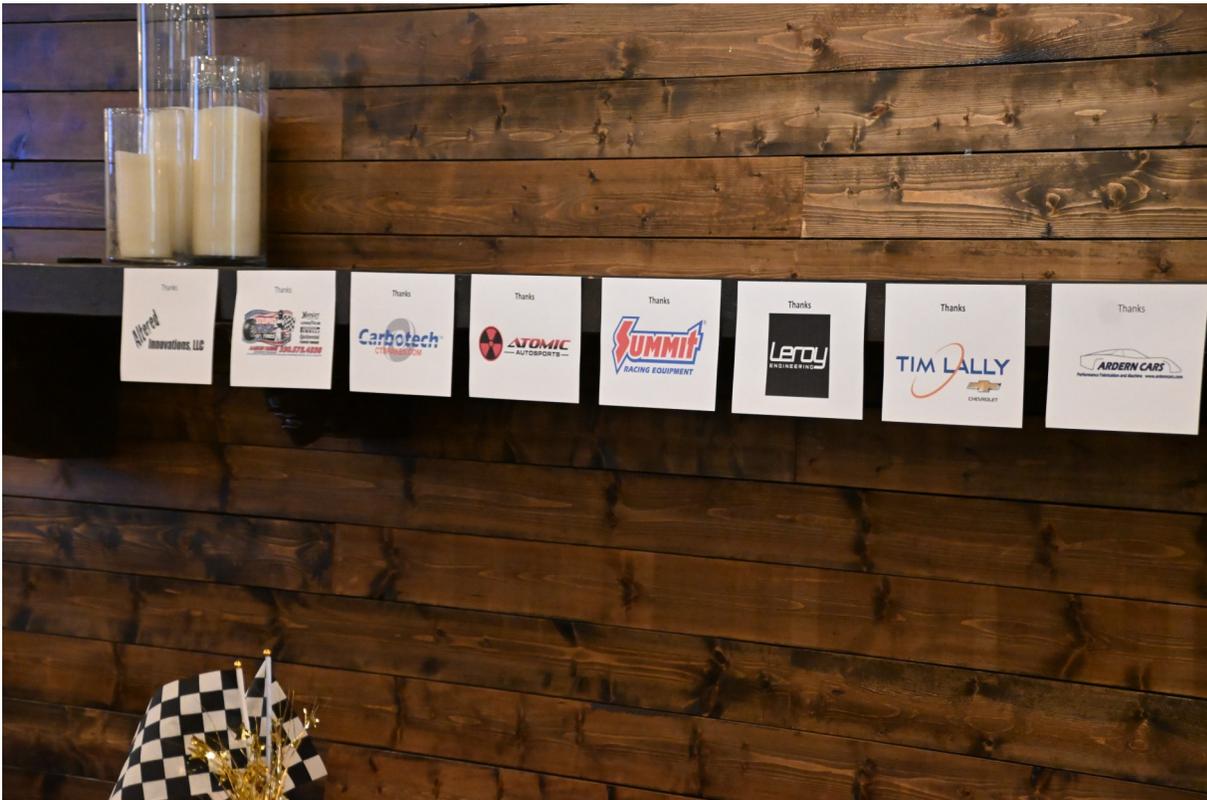
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# Annual Awards Celebration



*Continued on the next page*

## Annual Awards Celebration



**Brian Bartzi**



**EJ Korecky**



**Bill Crowe**



**Brenda Nick**

*Continued on the next page*

## Neohio Perpetual Awards

Brenda Nick - **Tommie and Bill Benham Memorial Award** - For a volunteer worker(s) who contributed to the Region's events above and beyond the call of duty.

EJ Korecky - **The Thomas Prescott Memorial Award** - Michael & Judy Sherwin instituted this trophy to be given to a Neohio competition driver who exemplifies the individual competitive spirit of amateur SCCA racing. It shall be awarded to an otherwise unheralded Competition Driver whose individual competitive spirit and desire to win has characterized his/her racing season.

Joe Harbert - **Betty & Roxy Kincaid Memorial** - For Sportsmanship – devotion to the sport, conduct becoming to a sportsman, involving honest rivalry and graceful acceptance of results.

Bryan Bartzi - **The Reed Andrews Friendship Award** - In recognition of the importance of friendship and good sportsmanship in amateur sports car racing.

Bill Crowe - **Elden "Dutch" Moore Longevity Worker Award** - This award recognizes a volunteer official who, year after year, is dedicated to motorsports in the Neohio Region. This award is presented in appreciation of the longevity of Neohio volunteers.

**Trustees Awards** - Dave Killian and Jeffrey Hutzelman

**RE Award** - Joe Blaha

## Road Racing Great Lakes Division Awards

Brian Post - SRF - 1st Place

Kevin Bus - ITA - 1st Place

Jacob Strong - ITA - 4th Place

Robert MacDonald - SM - 2nd Place

Ray Huang - SM - 3rd Place

Colin Wilson - SM - 4th Place

Jon Schneider - ITC - 1st Place

## Neohio Road Racing Champions

Andy Mistak - AS (GT1 - GT2 - GT3 - AS - SP - GTA)

Eric Fiest - STU (STL - STU - B-Spec)

Rob Dietz - FF (FV - FF - F6 - FM - FS - FST - CFF)

John Gaydos - FP (EP - FP - HP - GTL - SPU - LEG)

Allen Franzolino - P2 (FA - FB - FC - FS - FE, FE2, F1000, FX, ASR, P1, P2)

Kevin Bus - ITA (ITA - ITB - ITC - IT7 - ITS - ITE)

Ray Huang - SM (SM - SMX)

Brian Post - SF (SRF - SRF3)

Rick Kozak - T2 (T1 - T2 - T3 - T4)

**Driver of the Year** - Kevin Bus



**And once again,  
the Pennsylvania/  
Ohio Time Trial  
Champions!**



**Neohio has some amazing members, and we want to put you in the spotlight! We will be picking one member every month to highlight on our social media and in the Blower, our monthly newsletter!**

**Please fill out the form below to be featured!**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfxm3-NL8pttmseVCK0ki4emzJM0vWs0iqzF5n\\_j6ly-cBr4w/viewform?usp=header](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfxm3-NL8pttmseVCK0ki4emzJM0vWs0iqzF5n_j6ly-cBr4w/viewform?usp=header)



#### SOLO PROGRAM UPDATE

Attention Autocross/Solo competitors! With the changes at the IX Center, NEOHIO's Solo Team has moved most of our events to The Captain's Lot at Eastlake, OH. Due to the smaller size of this venue, the decision has been made to create two separate series of competition events. The Leroy Miata Challenge series has grown to about 60 competitors, so you will see dates on the calendar that are identified as LMC for those. All other classes are invited to attend the events on the calendar labeled as Points Events. This plan is intended to manage space in the paddock and maximize the number of runs competitors get. Please note that some LMC events are at Dragway 42 and Lake Erie Speedway in conjunction with other regions/clubs. For more information, contact Jonathan Staggs at [Jonathan.staggs@leroyengineering.com](mailto:Jonathan.staggs@leroyengineering.com)



#### ANNOUNCEMENT

Dave Wolin, author of many books about Auto Racing, is working on a new book about Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course. He's currently looking for stories, results and photos as part of his research. If you have something to contribute, please contact Dave at [davewolin@earthlink.net](mailto:davewolin@earthlink.net)

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***REport continued from page 1***

In this issue we have published an updated view of the year ahead, including new Solo details on page 10-11. Items highlighted in BLUE are confirmed NEOHIO Region events. Items highlighted in GREEN are confirmed to the best of our knowledge.

Our sponsorship program continues to grow. This is important because these businesses support our region, making events more robust and affordable. Please look for our sponsors and advertisers throughout the Blower and continue to support them so they continue to help us.

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you at an event soon!





Bob Roberts

newsletter@neohioscca.com

# The Blower

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