



# The Blower

Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

Volume 57, Issue 1

January 2010

## Upcoming Events

SCCA National Convention  
Las Vegas, January 28-30

Ohio Winter Rally  
February 6

Neohio Annual Banquet  
Elks Hall, Ravenna, February 20

Auto Show  
February 27-March 7



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## The Starting Line

REport by Duane Harrington

Here it is, 2010. Happy and healthy New Year to all!

If you haven't noticed, this issue of the *Blower* was mailed to you and it will be posted on our web site. This is the only issue you will receive by mail unless you send back the "Request for Hard Copy" form below. If you did not receive this issue of the *Blower* by mail, the national office may have a bad address for you.

Why are we doing this? It costs over \$1,000 a month to mail the *Blower* to each household which is \$12,000 a year. With this economy and motorsports being off, we just can't afford it. Once again we are asking for your help. If you can get the *Blower* via our web site or e-mail, you do not have to do a thing. If you really want it through the mail, send in the form below to let us know and we will put you on the mailing list. The subscription cost for mailing the *Blower* is \$6.00 per year. Six dollars just covers the cost of the stamps. We have not raised regional dues in a long time and we are trying hard not to. Please help save a tree and the expense of mailing.

Next, with racing around the corner, we are putting together the Competition Committee. If you have some free time and would like to help us put on our races, please give me a call or just show

up at Dimitri's, 1830 Snow Rd., Parma on Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> which is our first meeting of the year. Just stop by and see what it's all about. You don't have to be a racer to help out. Don't just complain about the races, be a part of the corrective force.

Dorothy and I will be off to the convention at the end of the month and before you say we can't afford it, you're right. The only thing the region is paying for is our registration. Now before you think that I am made of money, let me assure you that is far from the truth. The only reason that we are picking up the balance is that I feel it is important that each region be represented and we are also using it as a little vacation time. If there is something you would like us to look into while we are there with SCCA's top brass, drop me an e-mail so I don't forget. Yes, I will still take a phone call if you are not an e-mail type person.

At the beginning of each year, we audit the books. We are looking for a few members to be on the Audit Committee. This is a one Sunday afternoon and then you're done. If you are interested, give me a call or drop me a note. The more we have participate, the faster it goes.

That's about it. A safe, healthy and Happy New Year to you and yours.

### Request for Hard Copy

I would like to receive a hard copy of the *Blower*. Please mail the *Blower* to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Member #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and \$6.00 subscription cost to  
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### Monthly Meetings

Neohio Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at Dimitri's Restaurant, 1830 Snow Road, Parma, OH 44134 at 7:00 PM. Their phone number is (216) 741-3399. Any exceptions will be published in *The Blower*.

Members and guests are welcome at all Board meetings.

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 by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

### Advertisement Rates

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Great Lakes Division website:  
<http://www.greatlakes-scca.org/>

[www.neohio-scca.org](http://www.neohio-scca.org)

# SCCA Runoffs Qualification Changes

In their latest meeting, the Sports Car Club of America's Board of Directors voted to ratify a proposal set forth by the Club Racing Board regarding SCCA National Championship Runoffs eligibility.

The new requirements eliminate the need to be in the top 10 of a Divisional Championship to qualify for a Runoffs invitation. The rationale behind the decision was that, while this would not affect most Divisional races in most classes, drivers competing in higher-subscribed classes were at a disadvantage when attempting to gain eligibility for SCCA's hallmark road racing event.

Additionally, the event requirement that a driver have a minimum of four points within their Divisional Championship has been eliminated.

## NeOhio Awards

The Neohio Board is looking for nominations for the following awards. If you have anyone that you feel warrants a nomination for any of these positions please contact any Board member or come to the November, December or January meetings.

### **Tommie & Bill Benham Memorial Award**

Given to a volunteer worker(s) who contributed to the Region's events above and beyond the call of duty.

### **Betty & Roxy Kincaid Memorial**

For Sportsmanship – devotion to the sport, conduct becoming to a sportsman, involving honest rivalry and graceful acceptance of results.

### **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.



*Runoffs eligibility changes to help drivers make SCCA's premier road racing event.*

*Credit: Mark Weber*

All other requirements for Runoffs qualification remain the same as in 2009, with a driver needing to start and finish a minimum of four National races. Two of the starts must be within his or her Division of record.

The 2010 National Championship Runoffs will be held at Road America, September 20-26.

### **Scarpucci Award**

Awarded to the person who, during the previous year, has contributed outstandingly to the success of the Region's Rally program and of rallying in general.

### **Elden "Dutch" Moore Longevity Worker 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

### **Reed Andrews Friendship Award**

In recognition of the importance of friendship and good sportsmanship in amateur sports car racing

### **Rookie of the Year Award**

A road racing driver that is in their first year of competition racing that shows improvement and diversity in their racing skills.

### **Driver of the Year**

The driver that earns and submits the greatest total number of Regional and National points from any recognized SCCA Division.

## Our Sympathy

Neohio extends condolences to Jeff Colah from Tech who lost his brother in a car accident.

Neohio extends condolences to Greg Schnell and family on the loss of Greg's father, Don Schnell who passed away Christmas week. Don and wife Bonnie have been Neohio members since 1999.



**Save the Date**  
**Annual Banquet**  
**February 20, 2010**

Neohio Region, SCCA's annual banquet will be held on February 20, 2010 at Ravenna Elks Lodge on Freedom Street, Ravenna. At present, the time will be from 5:00 to 11:00 PM.

We will have a cash bar with reasonable prices. The lodge's liquor license will NOT allow BYOB, sorry. On the upside, we were able to invite back the same caterer as last year which was one item requested the most from attendees at last year's banquet. We have not set a price yet since the menu has not been finalized.

If I chair the banquet in 2011, I will try very hard to find a place either south or west for the convenience of many members. I fully realize that those on the west side have had a longer distance to travel. In order to accomplish this I would like to have the names of places that I can check out. Please give me the names of the establishment not just "On the corner of East St. and West Ave." I will do my best.

*Jim Green*

# DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 28	December 29	December 30	December 31	January 1 New Year's	January 2	January 3
January 4	January 5 7:00 P Trustee Mtg/Dimitri's/ Parma	January 6	January 7	January 8	January 9	January 10
January 11	January 12	January 13	January 14	January 15	January 16	January 17
January 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	January 19 7:00 P Comp Brd Mtg/ Dimitri's/ Parma	January 20	January 21	January 22	January 23	January 24
January 25	January 26	January 27	January 28	January 29	January 30	January 31
February 1	February 2 7:00 P Trustee Mtg/Dimitri's/ Parma	February 3	February 4	February 5	February 6 Ohio Winter Rally	February 7
February 8	February 9	February 10	February 11	February 12	February 13	February 14 Valentine's Day
February 15	February 16	February 17 Ash Wednesday	February 18	February 19	February 20 Annual Banquet	February 21
February 22	February 23	February 24	February 25	February 26	February 27 Auto Show I-X Center	February 28 Auto Show I-X Center
March 1 Auto Show I-X Center	March 2 7:00 P Trustee Mtg/Dimitri's/ Parma Auto Show/IX	March 3 Auto Show I-X Center	March 4 Auto Show I-X Center	March 5 Auto Show I-X Center	March 6 Auto Show I-X Center	March 7 Auto Show I-X Center

# Neohio Region SCCA - Board Of Trustee Minutes Dimitri's Restaurant, Parma - November 17, 2009

## Members Present:

Bill Crowe, Jim Dietz, Bob Doernberg, Gail Green, Duane Harrington, John Hinkle, Debbie LaFond, Jim Pracker, Greg Vandersluis, Frank Zuppan

## Excused Board Members:

Penny Freeman

## Absent Members:

Mike Kowalsky, Mike Puskar, Gary Whipple

## Guests:

Welcome to many guests.

The regular monthly meeting of the Neohio Region SCCA was held on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, at 7:00 P.M., at Dimitri's Restaurant in Parma. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as corrected. Debbie LaFond / Greg Vandersluis

## Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was approved as submitted with a note that there are bills to pay.

## Reports & Committee Reviews

### RE's report from the Round Table

New GCR is on-line in mid December. A printed edition will be available after the first of the year.

SM compliance fee dropped. All 29 National Class to be at the 2010 Runoffs.

Runoffs DVD is available.

## Solo

Solo will have sound control, 100dbs.

## Double National

There was a lot of talk about the Double National and the rules that have been set as to who and when the double nationals will be held. Neohio has one more year left to hold a double national then it will roll over to another region. All racing regions will have a chance to host a double national before the double comes back to Neohio. Only two double nationals are allowed in the

Great Lakes Division per year and only one is allowed per state.

## GLD Drivers School

Neohio will host a GLD drivers school in May 2010. The drivers school will move west in 2011. We need to get the word out about the drivers school so everyone interested can attend.

## Roundtable

Detroit will host the Roundtable in 2010.

## Membership

Bob Doernberg reported we have 629 members.

## Rally

John Hinkle reported that The Johnny Appleseed event we had 9 cars.

## Ohio Winter Rally

The Ohio Winter rally is still on for the first weekend in February.

## Solo

Bill Crowe welcomed all of the people who showed up. Paul Magee reported a Solo meeting was held in which 14 people attended. The group is watching

the national schedules and any other Solo venues around the area to not conflict with competing schedules. Bill reported that Solo needs to stay as a Neohio event and that Neohio members should run it.

## New Business

Jim Pracker mentioned that he could not access the *Blower* to receive a ballot. A few others agreed and asked why the ballots were not mailed. It was brought up that it is cost prohibitive to mail out ballots. This needs to be looked into along with why members could not access the *Blower*.

## Banquet

Jim Green reported that the banquet will be held in a new location. This years banquet will be at the Elks Hall on Freedom Street in Ravenna. Invitations will be mailed. They will include a tentative schedule and will also ask if the member wants to receive a hard copy of the *Blower* as well as a hard copy of anything else that needs to go out to members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Gail Green

## Congratulations Champions!

Congratulations to the following Neohio Championship Winners:

AS	Tom Sloe
DSR	Allen Franzolino
EP	Jim Llewellyn
FC	Dave Weitzenhof
FF	Jim Dietz
F500	Jim Goebelbecker
GT-3	John Petrone
HP	Debbie LaFond
ITA	Greg Vandersluis
ITC	Bill Shearer
ITE	Dan Koplow
ITR	Chris Dercole
IT7	Bryan Bartzi
SM	Bob MacDonald
T1	John Stracensky
T2	William Moore

## Member News

Neohio member Carl Goodwin who writes articles for *Classic Motorsports* magazine, featured two of our Neohio members, Chuck Stoddard and Ed Merhar, in the January 2010 issue. His article "The Red Veloce" featured their beautiful Alpha Romeo. It was a great story.

Also in the news, in the February issue of *Grassroots Motorsports* magazine is a photo on page 150 of the DedBull team at the 24 hours of Lemons held in October at Nelson Ledges.

Debbie LaFond

Be sure to attend the banquet for the award presentation.

## Volunteers Needed for Auto Show February 27 - March 7

The Neohio Region will again be exhibiting as a part of the Greater Cleveland Auto Show at the I-X Center February 27<sup>th</sup> through March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. We are trying to introduce the club, and the opportunities it presents to people who enjoy various forms of motorsports. We are looking for members of the region to help tell our story.

First, we need members who can talk about all aspects of SCCA club membership. This isn't difficult; all you have to do is answer questions for people about the aspects of the club that you enjoy. There are always other people around who can provide information about those functions of the club that you aren't familiar with. The people we meet tend to be interested in cars and motorsports, and want to know more about the opportunities that SCCA presents.

We need volunteers who can come to the I-X Center and spend an afternoon or an evening during the show. You are welcome to come as often as you would like, but you have to spend time working in the exhibit. You'll have fun meeting and talking with other members in the exhibit, doing a little mid-winter bench racing and meeting potential new members and seeing them get excited about "joining the fun" that we already enjoy. You also get free admission and the opportunity to walk around occasionally and see some of the show while you are there.

This is a fun event, and it benefits all of us. If you can come and help out in the exhibit, please e-mail Bob MacDonald at bob@impactcommunications.com as soon as possible! You can also call days at (216) 861-1063 or evenings at (440) 846-0065.

## Ohio Winter Rally

Plans are under way for the Ohio Winter Rally on Saturday, February 6, 2010. Please check the website at www.nehio-scca.org for additional information.



# Neohio Solo



It may be the middle of winter, but planning for the 2010 season of Neohio Solo is progressing.

Hopefully, the board will approve the new leadership team and our proposal at the January meeting. If so, here are just a few of the areas we'd like to focus our attention:

- We want to retain the spirit and feel of the previous events. We just want to introduce more people to it.
- We want to make sure that information about the Solo program is readily available electronically and very current.
- We want to build up the social aspect of the Solo group, and build better channels for feedback and ideas.

Of course there are several other items, but addressing these items as priority should help build the foundation of the program.

Assuming we have the ability to move forward following the January meeting, then shortly after we will focus on the Solo online presence right away. Once it's been updated, treat it as 'the place to go' for all the latest on the NEOhio Solo program.

We also want to establish a regular monthly meeting for the Solo program

## 2010 SCCA National Convention South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa 01/28/2010 - 01/30/2010

SCCA is happy to announce the National Convention will again be at the South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa in Las Vegas on January 28-30, 2010. Check SCCA's website at www.SCCA.org for more information!

as well. This does a couple of things. First, a lot of us miss the chance to have a little social time amongst the Solo community in the off-season. Second, a regular monthly meeting is a great way to hear your ideas, tell you what's coming up, and more.

We have a lot of other efforts under way as well, which we will share once we've officially gotten off the ground. I know I, for one, am very excited to get started! We're going to need all of you to participate to make it work!

Until we build a more regular online presence, If you'd like to make sure you're getting the latest Solo news updates, please send me an email (at paul.d.magee@gmail.com) with the following information:

- Your name
- Your email
- If you have a Facebook account, and if so, the address attached to it
- If you have a Twitter account, and if so, your ID

Some of you have already reached out, and I thank you for that. We're really looking forward to an exciting 2010, and we hope you'll join us!

Paul Magee



## I'VE GOT IT - YOU WANT IT

### Classified Ads For Members

Classified ads are a privilege to Neohio members. Each ad will run for 3 issues. If your item sells before the 3rd month, please contact *The Blower* newsletter editor to remove the ad.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Old drivers, new drivers, practically new race helmet and fireproof driver suit. Both size XL. Used 2 times in 2008. Gloves, Nomex underwear and 2 pairs of socks. Contact F. Reed Andrews at (216) 514-8201. \$400 from \$500 OBO.\*

WANTED - Your news events, stories and articles! Please send to Duane Harrington or to Laura O'Neill for publishing them in the next issue of *The Blower*.

#### NEOHIO CLASSIFIED ADS WORK!

To place an ad, contact:

Laura O'Neill  
397 Apple Hill Dr.

Sagamore Hills, OH 44067

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### Motorsports Ministries

## Nelson Ledges Chaplain's Notes

By Chaplain Gray

#### OUR STUFF

It's that time of year when we think of toys for all the good little girls and boys. And maybe there will be some toys for some not "always good" big girls and boys. I am convinced that most racers like their stuff. Sometimes it is their racecar itself, a thing of beauty and speed. Other times it is their tools, enough that could keep even the most highly strung machine purring like a kitten. Maybe it is trophies they won or the winner's cap or checkered flag. The photographs of victories, defeats or maybe just being out there competing are a treasure to most. (I think I looked great in my picture in that \$1,500 borrowed Hankook driver's suit at the Nelson LeMons race.) For those who are more in the spectator mode it may be models of their favorite race cars or a print of a famous victory. Racers and stuff seem to go together.

I have just helped my parents, Ralph and Betty Gray, move 200 miles from the home they lived in Troy, Ohio for 46 years into the beautiful Breckenridge Senior Center in Willoughby, Ohio. To downsize some of their stuff took two garage sales, an auction, too many individual sales to count, and numerous trips to the Restore and other donation centers. With all the downsizing, it has still been like trying to put seven gallons into a five gallon bucket. But even as I helped them move things I never would move, I realized that much of the stuff is wrapped up in memories of good times, good people and those interests that make life enjoyable like racing. I did inherited a 1/18 scale model of the Viper that won the Daytona 24 Hour overall and the 1967 Petty Plymouth that set the record for the most NASCAR wins in a season. (My Dad is a Chrysler Man.)

We give gifts at Christmas because the Three Wise Men brought gifts to the Baby Jesus that blessed Him and his Mother. I treasured gifts that I received at Christmas like my Lionel Train Set and My Aurora AFX slot car set that hooked me on racing. This is the great stuff I still have. It is more blessed to give than receive. My small church is around 200. Through our Christmas is for Kids program every year we purchase and have donations of around 400 gifts for nearly 100 families which we wrap and give with large food baskets. I know the joy of helping the less fortunate. But it is also a treat when someone who loves you gets you that perfect racing gift. Now if I find a copy of the new book *Winning: The Racing Life of Paul Newman* under my Christmas tree, it will bring me joy.

Merry Christmas!

Chaplain Gray  
chapnlrc@aol.com



# The Blower

Newsletter of Neohio Region, SCCA

January 2010

Laura O'Neill  
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## SCCA Neohio Clothing for Sale

Place your SCCA Neohio clothing order by calling Pete Sedlak at (440) 975-9954.

### Apparel Price List

Polos . . . . .	\$20.00
<i>(white and red available)</i>	
Pocket T's . . . . .	\$15.00
<i>(white, red, ash)</i>	
Long Sleeve T's . . . . .	\$15.00
<i>(white, red, ash)</i>	
Sweatshirts . . . . .	\$20.00
<i>(white, ash, heather gray)</i>	
Hats . . . . .	\$15.00
<i>(white, black, khaki)</i>	
Visors . . . . .	\$15.00
<i>(black, khaki)</i>	
Beanies . . . . .	\$10.00
<i>(black only)</i>	
Gym Bags . . . . .	\$35.00
Women's T's . . . . .	\$15.00
<i>(call for colors)</i>	
Men's & Women's Long Sleeve Denim Shirts . .	\$25.00

Call if you don't see what you want.

Pete Sedlak, CSA, Inc.  
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