

In the Spirit of the Sport

the glen  region

SPARKPLUG

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Glen Region, SCCA

MAY, 2005

Vol. 48 No. 5

1st National at Summit Point for 2005

The **SPEEDWORKZ** Team went to **Summit Point** Raceway in West Virginia for a fun weekend, and racing had a small part in all the fun. The elements were the real story. We left Thursday for the tow. I knew there was a reason Marc took his chief electronic shop guy with us. **Ian Watkins** and the crew chief, **Patch**, are the very best in working on cars. There is little if anything they cannot do. I don't want to get ahead of the story.

PRACTICE DAY - FRIDAY Friday was bright, warm, short sleeve shirt weather. But only one of the New F Production cars ran, mine. This test day was going to prove important. The transmission on Marc's car would not shift, so Patch and Ian called home and asked Joel Lipperini if he would get another transmission from the shop and bring it down. As we sat in the warm sun with a mild breeze, someone asked why a bolt was sticking out of the Transmission case, sure enough it was the reason the car would not shift. In 30 minutes they Marc, Patch and Ian put the transmission in the car and Marc went out for the last practice session of the day and the car ran great.

SATURDAY QUALIFYING The rain has begun, slow at first then about 10:00 AM it began to pour. **Marc** and I for some reason do well in the rain, he was 3rd in class and I was 4th. During the session it rained so hard there was standing water all over the track but those **Goodyear** Rain Tires were the best I have ever run on. I have not seen rain and wind like this since crossing the North Atlantic on the Queen Mary II this past December. The wind was close to gale force and the rain was relentless. Then the Mud made its ugly appearance. It was all over the place, the cars were sinking in the MUD as the rain continued for hours. We had to tow the race cars which sank almost to the frame out of the MUD. MUD was all over. In the trailer, in the race cars, in the tow vehicles, in our clothes. It was a MESS. Then as the rain began to let up the water began to puddle, 3-4 inches in a few hours and no where to go. It stopped raining just long enough for a partial dry qualifier in the afternoon. It soon began to rain again and did so all night long. **Marc** went to the scales to weigh his car and on the way back it began to miss. **Ian** the electronic whiz and **Patch** figured because the header pipe's from some cylinders were real cold it must be the injectors, then they decided to take the computer out of the wheel well in the passenger compartment and clean and dry it out. I won't tell you how they did it but if you are at a track and have problems just hope **Ian & Patch** are there to help. It was a sight to see how they did it. Marc's car in the afternoon put on a show. Marc qualified faster than all the cars, except a GTL and another F Production car. On Sunday that F Production car was passed before the Start Finish line and ended up 38 seconds back at the end of the race.

RACE TID BITS The wind was so bad on Sunday an out house at one station blew over three times. We had to stand in line for registration to start, but the people were great, some covered us with their umbrellas, others let us go ahead so we were under cover, continued

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SPARKPLUG

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Articles may be reproduced provided credit is given the author, the SPARKPLUG, and the Glen Region. Deadline for submissions to the SPARKPLUG are the 15th of the month prior to publication. All inquiries should be directed to Barbara Luther, 801 Sunset Drive, Elmira, New York 14905 barbaralther@infoblvd.net

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May 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Happy B'day June Walden	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Happy B'day	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 BOD Mtg. @ Watkins	20	21
22 Solo II @ Arnot Mall, Event Chair Pat Scopelliti	23	24	25	26	27 Happy B'day Eleanor Perry Jill Kibler	28
29	30	31 Happy Anniv. Rhonda & Colin Robin- son				

we just thought the people were so nice. I didn't have a renewed license as of Thursday; SCCA in Topeka were great to fax me a copy. I saw a whole bunch of friends at the track. One guy got two tickets for 80 MPH and 78 MPH from the Virginia State Police within 1 mile of each other. I'm working on that project. **John Yarosh** and his protege was there. John had his new T2 Caddy, that did not run so he borrowed Al Nocerini's and started from the back on Sunday. **Bob Hines** and his Dad were there, there are a lot of father son teams. **Joe Aquilante** and his son **Andrew** were working on the decals for their car, Joe the father crashed in qualifying Saturday and Andrew won his race in T1 on Sunday. Barry Brown was there as were some of my friends from last years group. **Guy Pavageau** in his Camaro and **Jonathan Boxwell** with his new bride. I had breakfast with David Pintaric and his brother a few mornings. I spoke with **Brian Holtz** about the flood of Northeast Pennsylvania of all things. Brian is an area Director for SCCA. I had dinner with **Jeff Wendell**, second year in a row. **Jeff** likes Italian food. I spoke with **Terry Hanushek**, a steward from our region.

SUNDAYS RACES I will describe two of the seven races. One as seen thru the eyes of a driver and continued on page 8

Report:

Today was Tech Day. A beautiful sunny day, perfect for inspecting racecars, seeing old friends you have not seen since last fall, and snacking on good food. Once again, this year's Tech Day was held at Bruce Perry's place, (on the far side of Geneseo). I always joke with Bruce about the fact that there is no straight way to get from my place (near Penn Yan) to his place. But the good thing is that there are many, many different ways to get there, always giving you a chance to see more of the Glen Region and our good sister region, the Finger Lakes Region. Much like our Tech crew, which is made up of members and equipment from both regions, the drive to Bruce's involves both regions.

The turn out for Tech Day was great. Cars needing annual inspections and one certain Miata that needed to be issued its Logbook. Training and refreshers are always excellent on Tech Day because it is hands on, without the stress and schedules of being at the track. There's tons of bench racing, and everyone has their non-competitive attitudes on. In fact that is the cost Bruce lists as a fee for having an inspection completed; "A smile and a good attitude".

Smiles and good attitudes are spreading across all of our activities as well. Solo has dates set and may be running on the airstrip at the ex-Army base again! Club Racing has the signed contracts with WGI in place. And the region is working with Watkins Glen Elementary and WGI with the "Reading for Racing" program. The region also supported Earth Day with donations for their events. And the region's pocket calendars are almost ready to be sent out.

Glen Region Members, the good weather is here and our events are getting ready to go! Please be sure to make it to the **next Membership Meeting, June 18 5:00 PM @Gang Mills Fire Department**. There will be smiles and good attitudes all around.

Oh and.....that certain Miata not only runs now, it passed Tech!

See you soon and let me know what events you will be attending! --Ed...

Reprint of a letter to the editor that appeared in the April 6, 2005 issue of National Speed Sport News entitled **Time Penalty:**

Any sanctioning body, whether it be SCCA club racing or Formula One, should remember that those who seriously go racing have disposable incomes. Money is not a problem. Penalties to crew chiefs are also fruitless, as those teams with money also have capable support people to bridge the gaps.

Therefore the optimum situation is for the sanctioning body to impose a time penalty to the offending team. You have done this; so you have to miss 30 minutes of an hour practice session, or miss an entire session completely.

This penalty will throw a team's game plan out the window. I can't scrub the tires that I need. I cannot bed in brake pads and rotors, or run the new rings and pinions needed for the race. This will hurt a team more as they cannot recover something that they need: time.

Jay Puskenalis of Flowery Branch, Ga. [Editor's note; Jay is a member of the Glen Region and we hope he will visit us this summer and work a race at WGI]

Glen Region SCCA BOD Meeting Minutes pf March 17, 2005

PRESENT: Regional Executive: Ed Zebrowski; Secretary: Cheryl Boynton; Treasurer: Lin Hurd; Activities Director: Sandy Sanders; Directors: Joe Atkinson, EdHurd, Dale Terry, Skip Testut; Past RE: Barb Luther **ABSENT:** Assistant RE: Bob Burns **GUESTS:** Tim Meddaugh, Ray Oliver and Ed Sanders

The meeting was called to order at 7:04PM, by RE Ed Zebrowski.

MOTION: by Sandy Sanders, second by Dale Terry, to have Ray Oliver go to merchandise and take appropriate items to donate to Earth Day at Watkins Glen. Carried.

MOTION: by Skip Testut, second by Lin Hurd, to approve the minutes of the 2/17/05 BOD meeting, with the following correction, change 3/26 meeting from dish to pass to pizza party. Carried.

Correspondence: Ed Z received SFI Certification for Tech Inspector. Newsletter judging e-mail came from Mike Dickerson.

MOTION: by Skip Testut, second by Barb Luther, to approve the Treasurer's Report as given by Lin Hurd. Carried.

Membership report was given by Cheryl Boynton.

Activities Report by Sandy Sanders: The region will provide pizza and beverages for the 3/26/05 meeting. [Upcoming Events] F& C training 5/7/05, Membership meeting 6/18/05, Meet the candidates 10/8/05, Annual meeting 11/19/05, Awards Banquet 12/3/05 RSI will handle F & C at WGI for the next three years

Old Business: We have 29 trophies for the WGI/Glen Region reading program WGI Contracts are not back yet. Nazareth has closed entirely Website server problems have been corrected.

Data base of past award winners is being worked on.

By law ballots will be handed out at the 3/26 meeting.**

No new appointments. Calendar will go to the printers soon. Computer part should be in soon. Round Table reservations should be sent in directly to Rochester.

The bank will send a new ATM card.

Motion to adjourn.

In the Spirit of the Sport

Cheryl Boynton, Secretary

** As of April 28th the **RESULTS of the by-laws vote** are in: 48 members voted. All voted yes to approve all the by-law changes on the ballot.

2005 Membership Rosters are available from Cheryl Boynton, Secretary. Please contact her at 209 Veteran Hill Road Horseheads, NY 14845 and she will send you a roster.

We welcome the following new members to the Glen Region

Greg Beresford Waterloo, Ontario Canada

Alan Johnson Elmira, NY

Michele Blauvelt Burdett, NY

Shawn Cummings Tioga, PA

Todd Fitzgerald Geneva, NY

Michael Foster Horseheads, NY

James Pyle Freeville, NY

Daniel Ralph Walden. NY

Johathan Stocum Horseheads, NY

Linda, Noah & Alexis Steadle-Foster Horseheads, NY

All SCCA Rule Books Online in 2005

In an effort to better serve its current and potential members, Sports Car Club of America has confirmed that the 2005 rule books for Club Racing, Solo and Rally will appear online through www.scca.com in 2005.

"This is something our members have asked for over the last couple years, and we're glad to announce that everyone will have easy access to our rules beginning with the 2005 season," SCCA Vice President of Program Development Howard Duncan said.

Previously available in electronic form only on an accompanying CD, the Club Racing General Competition Rules (GCR) and category specifications as well as the entire National Solo and Road Rally books will appear in Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf) online. Previously, only the SCCA Performance Rally and SCCA Pro Racing rules have appeared online.

"Publishing the Club Racing, Rally and Solo books online required an adjustment to some of our policies to remain consistent with our departmental revenue structures," Duncan added. "All licensed Club Racing drivers will now automatically receive a current GCR each year as part of their license package, and at a \$5 overall discount from previous years. In Solo, the requirement still exists to have a copy of the current rules in your possession at a National or Divisional event."

As with the electronic file on the CD in previous years, the online version will not be considered an official document, but rather a reference. The hard copy of all rule books remains the official document.

Electronic versions of all of SCCA's rulebooks will appear on www.scca.com. All books are available in .pdf format.

FINGER LAKES REGION SCCA presents: "WESTWARD HO!"

A DOUBLE Regional Race at Nelson Ledges Road Course

The event dates are: June 11-12, 2005

Go West....where the days are longer for more track time.

Both drivers and Race workers are encouraged to attend this NYSRRC event

To register or for more information see www.flr-scca.com
Wilma Giesy, Registrar can be reached at 315-597-9637 or wlgiesy@localnet.com

Dear Prospective SCCA Member:

To apply for membership in the Sports Car Club of America, the world's largest member participation automotive organization, please complete the form below in full and return, with payment, to your region** or to the

SCCA Membership Department,
P.O. Box
19400, Topeka, KS 66619-0400.

**Glen Region membership chairman:
Elizabeth Page
683 Sawdey Rd.
Beaver Dams, NY 14812-9125

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Single Married Spouse's Name _____ Birthdate _____

Spouse Member Number If Current Member _____

IF APPLYING FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (husband/wife and children), list names & ages of children under age 21:

03 Name _____ Birthdate _____

04 Name _____ Birthdate _____

05 Name _____ Birthdate _____

06 Name _____ Birthdate _____

Have you been an SCCA member before? No Yes: Year _____ Previous Member No. _____

Please send me a Crew License Yes _____ No _____

PRIMARY INTEREST(S) IN SCCA:

Please indicate the areas) of SCCA in which you plan to participate, or which interest you most. Your response will be used to allocate your national dues to the areas you indicate. Thank you.

Club Racing Pro Racing ProRally RoadRally Solo.

Annual National Dues	Annual	Regional Dues	Total
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01 Regular Member \$55.00 + Regular Member \$ 10.00 = \$ 65.00

03 Spouse Member \$15.00 + Spouse Member \$ 5.00 = \$ 20.00

10 Family Membership \$85.00 + Family Membership \$ 15.00 = \$ 100.00

First Gear \$ 45.00 + First Gear (Reg. dues) \$ 0. = \$ 45.00 (you must be 21 and under)

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____ U.S. DO NOT SEND CASH.

VISA MC No. _____ Expiration Date _____

I hereby apply for membership in the Sports Car Club of America, Inc. and its Region [Name/Number _____ and agree to abide by the bylaws.

Sparkplug

Barbara Luther, Editor
801 Sunset Drive
Elmira, NY 14905

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TIME VALUE - DATED MATERIAL

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the other as seen thru the eyes of a spectator. The 2nd race of the day comprising GTL, EP, FP, GP and HP, I drove as did Marc. The first attempted start was waved off and as everyone tried to brake the boys behind didn't get the message causing a few of us to run for cover, in my case that was on the grass on the inside. I got the car slowed and all was well, somebody behind me spun on the pace lap and then the fun began. I thought the race was a good race, there was no banging and bumping as you get in the Showroom stock races, but the drivers of the Production cars have a lot more to lose. Those body parts and suspension parts don't come cheap. I got lapped twice by you know who **Marc** in an identical LOOKING car. Under that hood is a minor miracle of a power plant. I duelled for a while with some E Production and a lot of F production cars, came in 7th out of 14 F Production cars and was happy to do so.

The second race T1, T2, SSB and SSC was the best race I have seen in a long time. The start was wild. Except for **Andrew Aquilante**, the battle for the 2nd spot in T1 was between 4 or 5 Vettes. In T2 it was between the Camaros and a swarm of Subarus in SSB it was between 5 Miatas and in SSC it was between the Hondas. You got it, there was a lot of bumping and pushing. The faster T1 cars had to go around the SSB and SSC cars, the swarm of Subarus had to avoid everyone else. At the first turn the rotors of the Vettes were red hot as they brake from maybe 150 or so. The front wheel cars as they turn in are all on 3 wheels. The show was spectacular. then we went to the chute and watched them there for the last 15 or so laps. For a short while, [VERY SHORT] I wished I was back in SSB. Now that I reflect on it I love Production and want to stay there. **Andrew Aquilante** won in T1 Joel won in SSC, **Payson** was 2nd and **Sam Ryan** was 3rd in SSC. **Jonathan Boxwell** was 2nd in SSB.

Love "the commander" Mike Cefalo