



New Sprint

"Better to have been a racer for a moment than a spectator for a lifetime"

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Mark Your Calendar

- Club Show At the Logan Valley Mall Altoona on April 3
- Autocross School at Mid-State Airport April 16
- Test & Tune at Mid State Airport April 17
- Club Show at the Nittany Mall State College April 23 & 24
- First Competition Event at Mid-State Airport is May 1

Newsletter Goes On-Line This Issue and your new editor prepares his first publication

YES, you can now go to the club website at www.scca-cpr.com and download this newsletter. And in the near future you will be able to have the newsletter sent to your e-mail address as soon as it is published. And, of course, if anyone wants a hard copy sent to them by mail, just let me know and I'll be happy to put you on the mailing list. My contact information is on the back cover.

Thanks Karl Bender, this would not have happened without your hard work.

AND, Who's Your New Editor?

Hello, my name is Ron Dotts and I'm your new editor. I come to you with absolutely

zero experience, but I also come to you with a commitment to do the very best I can. And what is it that I am committing to do? To make sure this publication is for and about you, the members, and to make this publication an interesting resource that you look forward to getting, and to make sure this publication is something you can all be proud of.

As most of you know, I am accepting this responsibility from the departing Toby Mordkoff who has been extremely helpful in the transition. Thanks Toby !! I hope I can count on your continued support as time goes on.

I hope to provide you with interesting stories about what's going on both nationally and

locally, along with technical articles, member biographies, member commentary, and any other topic that members want to see. Which means, of course, I want your input, I want your requests, I want your commentary for publication, and yes, I want your criticism.

Thank you for this opportunity.

By Ron Dotts



Scene from winter rally cross

A Message From Your Regional Executive, Dave Mohar

It has been a long winter and I am sure there are a lot of us itching to begin racing again. Some of us were able to participate in rally-crosses over the winter months to get us over the hump. The new event worked out very well for the club. We had good participation for the first year of this type of event and everyone en-

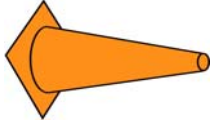
joyed themselves. A big thanks to Paul Stinson for allowing us to use his property to hold these events and lets not forget all the time he put in preparing the event site. We really appreciate all your hard work, Paul.

We held our 2004 Awards Banquet in February. It took place at Damon's Restaurant in State

College. We had a very nice buffet dinner. Gary Gurchik once again provided the delicious carrot cake for dessert. The summer and fall series awards were handed out after dinner.

We are getting ready for the 2005 season. The schedule is

(see Message page 2)



Message (CONTINUED from Page 1)

Scenes from the 2004 Awards Banquet



set and can be found on our website. We have a slight change of venue this year. We will have access to part of one of the runways at the airport at four of the scheduled events (these runway dates are marked with an asterisk on the website).

The sponsors for the year are mostly secured. We will provide a list of them in the near future. I encourage everyone to support these businesses because without them we would not be able to pur-

chase many of the things necessary to help grow as a club.

We held a Safety Steward School on March 20th at Mid-State Airport. We had 10 people attend the class. Bryan Smith did a very good job instructing the class. Having the extra safety stewards will greatly benefit the club.

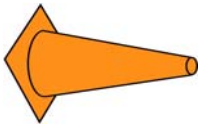
We are working on a summer picnic for the 50th Anniversary of CPR-SCCA. More information on this event will be provided when

the plans are finalized.

In conclusion, I hope everyone has had a chance to work on their cars over the winter and that everyone is ready for the new season! I look forward to seeing you at the test & tune or at the first event.

By Dave Mohar

*Editors Note:
Schedule is also shown on page 4 of this publication.*



FUN TIME AT THE 2004 AWARDS BANQUET

The 2004 Awards Banquet was held on Saturday, February 5, 2005 at Damon's Restaurant with cocktails at 5:00 pm and dinner being served at 6:00 pm. There were approximately 35 in attendance.

The mouthwatering meal included Bar-b-que Ribs, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Parslied Potatoes, Corn, Tossed Salad, Pasta Salad, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Trays. And who can forget the famous Carrot Cake with Cream Cheese Frosting supplied by Chef Gary! Thank you, Thank you!

Our hats off to Dave Mohar, Jim Wegielewski and others who contributed to the designing and pur-

chasing of the exquisite plaques given to this year's award winners. A recognition award was also given to the Mid-State Airport for the use of their facility by our club. Awards were presented by Dave Mohar, Gary Gurchik and Barry Duvall.

Club T-shirts were given to all drivers present at the banquet who attended every Fall event, bringing to a close another great SCCA-CPR Awards Banquet!

On a personal note, as I wandered from table to table taking pictures of my very first awards banquet with SCCA-CPR, stories were being heard. Stories

of mistakes and modifications, stories of tires and timing, and stories of what was and is to become. But one thing was evident at each table I passed by, and that was the love that each has for Solo II. And this banquet was a chance for all of us to not only eat a fine dinner and receive awesome awards, but to spend time with friends who share this passion for Solo II.

Thank you, Barry, for putting it all together. It was a great night for all of us!

By Karen Hoover



SAFETY STEWARD SCHOOL DEEMED "THE BEST EVER"

On Sunday March 20, 2005 an educational seminar was held at Mid State Airport for training new safety stewards for our club. The instructor for the school was Bryan Smith and in addition to Dave Mohar, the trainees were Lauren Mohar, Mike Cunningham, Keith and Karen Hoover, Ron Dotts, Chris Gottschall, Toby Mordkoff, Josh Duvall, and

Jim and Melissa Wegielewski. All agree that Bryan did an EXCELLENT job of instructing. All agree that we all learned a great deal about the serious responsibilities of becoming a Safety Steward.

After the training session, the trainees are required to work

with a licensed Safety Steward for two events, after which time, the trainee is permitted to apply for Safety Steward status if they choose to move forward.

Thanks again, Bryan, for a job well done.

By Ron Dotts



MEET-A-MEMBER

MEET BRYAN SMITH

On Saturday, Just Before This Publication Went On Line, I Caught Up With Brian For An Interview. Here's What He Had To Say:

Question: "Well Bryan, let's start with the basics, tell us a little about yourself personally".

Answer: "I'm 36 (37 April 9) and live in Duncansville. I just recently moved there from Pleasant Gap. I just recently started a new occupation as an over-the-road truck driver".

Question: "What is your favorite pass time and favorite music"?

Answer: "Well, I love driving so much I guess that's my favorite pass time and my favorite music is Classic Rock and Blues".

Question: "How did you get involved with racing?"

Answer: "I grew up with SCCA racing—my father was involved with SCCA in the 70's and he drag raced also. So I was always involved in racing at some level. I went to an SCCA club event in 2000 on campus and the rest was history. In fact, if it wasn't for my parents I would never have known about SCCA"

Question: "Tell us a little bit about Frankenstein and how did it get that name"?

Answer: "Frankenstein originally started out as a 1991 RS Camaro v6 automatic. I wanted something with few options, so I started buying up cars looking for components. So my car is actually made up of about 20 cars. Hence, Frankenstein was born".

Question: "How many cones have you hit"?

Answer: "Enough to layout my

own ProSolo event on two tracks".

Question: "How long have you been a member of CPR and do you have any special classifications with your membership"?

Answer: "I've been a member since 2000. I have a regular license and crew license. I'm also a Safety Steward and Instructor.

Question: "If you had your choice of any car, what would you autocross with and why"?

Answer: "I would probably stick with what I have - a third generation Camaro. This is because the handling characteristics are excellent "out of the box" and I've always liked the American made muscle cars".

Question: "What is your favorite type of racing"?

Answer: "My favorite is autocrossing but I'm leaning toward SCCA road racing. But for competition, I'm still into autocross".

Question: "What is your favorite track"?

Answer: "I really like Summit Point and Nelson Ledges but I would say Summit Point WV because of elevation changes".

Question: "What is your goal for 2005"?

Answer: "My goal is to make every event and to be a strong competitor in the ESP class and to have as much involvement in the club as my profession will allow".

Question: "What achievement are you most proud of"?



Bryan Smith in his 1991 Z28 Camaro (A.K.A. Frankenstein)

Answer: "What I am most proud of is my 13 year old daughter but as a racer, it has to be a ProSolo I ran in 2002. I borrowed Sam Strano's 91 Z28 and placed third in my very first event".

Question: "What's the biggest benefit you get from being an SCCA-CPR member"?

Answer: "It's not necessarily 'member' benefits but the camaraderie and the friends I've made. That is the greatest value to me".

Question: "What change would you like to see happen with SCCA generally"?

Answer: "I sometimes wish they would be a little more loose in rules for modifications in each class and I'd like to see more major competition on the East Coast instead of West Coast".

"Thanks Bryan, you're an interesting driver with a really cool car and we wish you the best for 2005".



by Ron Dotts

Some serious officiating by Josh and Dave



2005 Schedule

Solo II Autocross Event Information

Registration & Tech are from **8AM - 9:30 AM**

Date	Event	Location
April 17th	Test & Tune	Mid-State Airport
May 1st	Event #1	Mid-State Airport
May 15th	Event #2	Mid-State Airport
May 22nd*	Event #3	Mid-State Airport
June 5th	Event #4	Mid-State Airport
June 19th*	Event #5	Mid-State Airport
July 3rd	Event #6	Mid-State Airport
July 24th*	Event #7	Mid-State Airport
July 31st	Event #8	Mid-State Airport
August 14th*	Event #9	Mid-State Airport
August 28th	Event #10	Mid-State Airport
* Denotes extended course days		
September 11th	Event #1	Mid-State Airport
September 25th	Event #2	Mid-State Airport
October 2nd	Event #3	Mid-State Airport
October 16th	Event #4	Mid-State Airport



WINTER RALLYCROSS RESULTS

Event # 1

January 16,

<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Car</u>	<u>Run 1</u>	<u>Run 2</u>	<u>Run 3</u>	<u>Total</u>	
2WD	John Stevens	Volkswagon GTI	68.963	67.993 1	60.770	199.726	
	Forrest Graeff	Cadillac	74.734	67.860	64.054	206.648	
	Mike Cunningham	Toyota Camry	73.172	70.757	65.674 1	211.60	211.603
	Lauren Mohar	Toyota Camry	75.724	70.669	66.230	212.623	
	Ruby Stinson	Volkswagon GTI	77.251	75.759	67.109	220.119	
	Josh Duvall	Toyota Camry	71.812	67.892	DNS	no time	
4WD	Dave Weaver	Subaru Impreza	66.484	65.320 1	55.331 1		191.135
	Toby Mordkoff	Eagle Talon TSi	67.067	65.575	59.944	192.586	
	Keith Hoover	Subaru Legacy	68.155	65.586 1	62.927	198.668	
	Ron Dotts	Subaru Legacy	68.626	68.733 1	63.271	202.630	
	Karen Hoover	Subaru Legacy	76.170	69.652	67.695	213.517	
Open	Paul Stinson	various	69.656 1	64.985	60.899	197.540	
	Gary Gurchik	various	89.620	63.709	61.773 1		217.102

EVENT #3

February 13, 2005

<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Car</u>	<u>Early AM</u>		<u>Late AM</u>		<u>Total</u>
			<u>Run 1</u>	<u>Run 2</u>	<u>Run 1</u>	<u>Run 2</u>	
2WD	Lauren Mohar	Toyota Camry	72.582	76.307	79.273 1	82.805	312.967
	Alex Quirk	various	78.864	79.300	79.531	83.075	320.770
	Mike Cunningham	Toyota Camry	73.324	72.200 1	85.488 1	86.295 1	323.307
	Josh Duvall	Toyota Camry	76.833	79.514	103.743	104.229	364.319
	Ruby Stinson	Volkswagon GTI	80.388	81.373	102.756	103.808	368.325
	Ashley Henning	Toyota Camry	85.422	88.022	125.335	129.475	428.254
4WD	Toby Mordkoff	Eagle Talon TSi	67.767	71.054	86.540	88.030	313.391
	Keith Hoover	Subaru Legacy	73.377	72.292 1	79.262 2	87.278 1	320.209
	Karen Hoover	Subaru Legacy	75.439	77.397	88.935	90.981	332.752
	Justin Walsh	Subaru Legacy	82.770	83.272	101.916	102.461	370.419
	Christine ?	various	91.096	91.134	118.619	118.945	419.794
Open	John Stevens	Volkswagon GTI	71.882	72.644	83.066	83.748	311.340
	Paul Stinson	Volkswagon GTI	75.682	75.719 1	85.951	87.373	326.725
	Dave Mohar	various	74.520	74.737	85.849 2	90.396	329.502
	Gary Gurchik	various	77.231	77.813	88.477	87.101 1	332.622

TECH-TALK

With Gary Gurchik

As the new season is finally upon us, now is a good time to do a maintenance check on your car to ensure you will have no problems passing tech at our auto cross events. Being Tech Inspector for the last few seasons, I have seen many cars pass through. Most have no problems at all, but some have issues that could have been resolved by spending a little time the day prior to make sure your car is safe for our event as well as everyday driving. With this in mind, I hope the following suggestions will help you.

Whether your car sat all winter or whether it's a daily driver, check, top off, or replace all vital fluids. It is also suggested to carry a small bottle of each fluid that your car takes to refill as necessary on site. While in the engine bay, check belts, hoses, clamp tightness, condition of each as needed. Also suggested is to check all bolts, screws you can reach. Check for a firm throttle return. The most over looked item is always the battery. Sure, the car starts, but is it secure in the car? Tie downs or bungee cords are not acceptable. Most auto parts stores sell universal battery hold down clamps. Purchased one if needed. Check terminals and look for bare wires also. If your battery is in the trunk or in the car, it must be in a secure battery box.

I'm not sure but most of you have a car jack or have access to one. Raise each

corner at a time. Please use a jack stand when under the car. Check tire condition, both sidewalls and tread wear. Pull the wheel to check for loose bearings, ball joints, steering play—all should be snug. Remove the wheel, check brake pads, lines, drum or rotor condition. Replace if cracked or warped. Is the brake pedal firm? Bleed as necessary. You topped off the fluid—right?? With the wheel off, now is a good time to check on all bolt tightness that you have access to. Look for anything loose or hanging such as lines or wires. Secure them as needed and replace the wheel. Tighten and properly torque the lugs, lower the car, and move on to the next corner....

Junk in the trunk? You know what I mean. Only bring with you the items you need for the event, and remove them BEFORE you come to tech. Check spare tire security, you may remove it if you choose. If you have stereo amps-sub woofer boxes-battery, they MUST be securely attached. Just ASK THE OWNER OF the brown coupe Camaro how much damage can happen when something works loose and bangs around inside the trunk. Remember, you are not on a Sunday cruise. Your car is going to experience some G forces and anything that can come loose may come loose. So recheck things regularly through the day.

Inspect the car interior. No loose items here as well. Cell phones, radar detectors, etc should be removed. If you have

a camera mounted, make sure it is secure. Watching a bouncy ride that was a smooth run won't be very enjoyable. Pad any exposed metal as needed.

Present your car to tech as you plan to run it. All cleaned out and ready to go. No longer will be accepted is "I will clean it out before I run". Come early and be prepared.

A few words about helmets. We have loaner helmets available. We ask that you return them promptly after your run so somebody else may use it. If you have your own helmet, it must be DOT AND SNELL certified. Snell 1990 helmets will expire at the end of this season as they are allowed 15 year usage. The Snell rating tag will be inside, possibly under the lining. If you plan on purchasing a new one, look for the highest year rating. Full face or open face is allowable. It's your choice. I personally prefer the full face helmet as it is more versatile. Remember the saying "If you have a \$10 head, buy a \$10 helmet". Look for quality and comfort.

I hope this article will help prepare you for your first autocross or your hundredth. I also recommend the purchase of a SCCA Rule Book to learn more of the sport and your car class.

Lets have a safe, fun and competitive year. Remember I'll be seeing you.

Thanks and good luck,
Gary



MORE SCENES FROM THE WINTER RALLY CROSS AT THE PAUL & RUBY STINSON PROPERTY



January 2005 Minutes

Call to Order: Dave Mohar (RE), Gary Gurchik (Asst RE), Lauren Mohar (Trsr), Toby Mordkoff (Sec), Mike Cunningham, Ron Dotts, Josh Duvall, Karen Hoover, Keith Hoover, Kip Kilmer, Ryan Lower, Lonny Selego, Paul Stinson, Jim Wegielewski, and Melissa Wegielewski.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$5379. Lauren and Dave are now the (only) signers on the account. Two sponsors from 2004 have still not paid.

Newsletter: The cost of producing *NewSprint* was discussed. Motion to purchase ink cartridges for color laserjet passed.

Old Business: *Safety Steward School:* Dave is working on becoming a SSSI. *50th Anniversary:* Paul is locating alumni with help from Craig Colwell and Dave Dix. *RallyCross:* as long as the ground remains frozen, events are on; question of wristbands discussed. *2004 Awards Banquet:* questions concerning special award points were answered. *T-shirts for 2004:* Josh is ordering. *Timing Vehicle:* front pads done; front coils, exhaust manifold, oil-pan, Y-pipe, and transmission and oil lines all need attention; rough estimate is \$2,000 to \$3,000.

New Business: *Appointments:* Josh Duvall, Solo2 Chair; Ron Dotts, Newsletter; Dave Mohar, Sponsorship; Karen Hoover, Membership; Karl Bender, Website. *Velocity-style Driving School:* to be held the day before the Test & Tune and organized by Toby with at least half of the "slots" offered to the Penn State car club (LPAC). *Evolution Driving School:* after a discussion, a motion not to host such an event passed. *Event Fees:* after a discussion including comparisons with other SCCA regions, a motion to raise the fee by \$5 passed; a separate motion to continue giving a \$5 discount to SCCA members also passed. *Perquisites:* after a discussion, a motion to (only) pay the national dues of the Officers passed; no other perks will be given to anyone. *New Cones:* motion to purchase 60 cones passed. *Trophies:* motion to spend \$500 on 2004 trophies passed.

Sponsorship: It was pointed out that the previous sponsorship package has the potential of costing the club money, as opposed to making money. A motion to (only) offer each sponsor one free event (competition & non-comps) passed; Toby will create the coupons. Two sponsors were announced: Alice's Pub in Philipsburg and Five Star Suzuki.

Adjournment: Gary, seconded by Mike.

February 2005 Minutes

Call to Order: Dave Mohar (RE), Gary Gurchik (Asst RE), Lauren Mohar (Trsr), Toby Mordkoff (Sec), Mike Cunningham, Ron Dotts, Josh Duvall, Karen Hoover, Keith Hoover, Ryan Lower, Alex Quirk, Jenna Roy, Paul Stinson, and Justin Walsh.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$3167. The same two sponsors from 2004 have still not paid.

Solo2: The proposed 2005 schedule was presented and passed. Some events will include the adjacent runway which should attract more drivers, but allow for more overlap. However, these courses will require more workers. The question of how to increase awareness of the club's events was discussed. The new cones [see January Minutes] have not yet been ordered, but will.

Newsletter: The first *NewSprint* for 2005 should be produced in the next few weeks and might include a piece of the rallycrosses held at Paul's farm. An exchange of mailing lists between Ron, Toby, and Karen must also be done.

Sponsorship: Five Star Suzuki will probably be the title sponsor for 2005. Dix Honda will probably be a Level 2 sponsor and also continue the Dix Dollars program. D.L. Automotive has signed on, with many other possibilities being worked on.

Membership: Currently the Region has slightly fewer than 100 members.

Merchandising: There was no table at the banquet, but 2005 rulebooks are available for \$20. It should be noted that a hard copy of the rulebook is required for season tech and national-level events, even though the rules are now on-line for free.

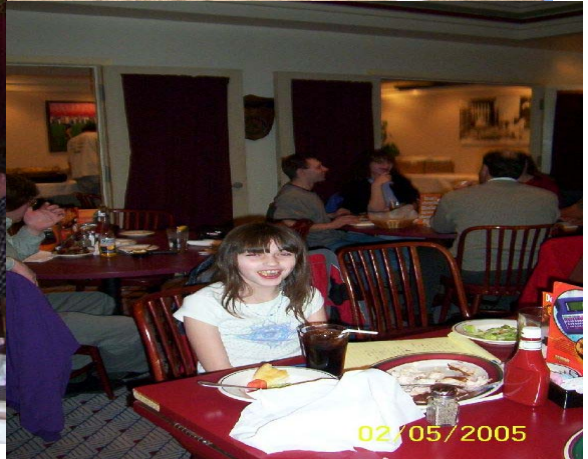
Old Business: *Safety Steward School:* this will not be conducted by Larry Long (as they have in the past); Paul and Bryan are joining Dave is working on becoming SSSIs. *50th Anniversary:* Paul has resigned from this position, citing a lack of help from other members; Dave will take over and work with Craig Colwell. *Rally-Cross:* there have been no reported problems and no money is being lost. *2004 Awards Banquet:* everyone agreed that the plaques were some of the best in memory. *T-shirts for 2004:* for sale for \$15. *Driving School:* the fees have been set at \$50 with a \$5 discount at the Sunday event; Toby is collecting half of the money in advance; an official motion to hold this event passed.

New Business: *2005 Autocross Schedule:* approved by the airport; the events prior to Nationals will be the "Summer Series" and those after will be the "Fall Challenge." *Mall Show:* there was enthusiasm for such, so a date is being sought. *Timing Vehicle:* the possibility of adding lettering was discussed and then tabled. *New Fund Raising:* after a discussion of some option, including selling tickets to Triangle Car Wash, this issue was also tabled.

Items for 2005: The following issues will need attention in the near future [those will ideas are encouraged to contact any officer]: FM transmitter options, cone-count display, hard-wiring the terminal for sound, a members-only test & tune day, event awards and series scoring methods, the timing vehicle's mechanical state, the possibility of helping to resurface parts of the airport, and verifying the state of the fire extinguishers.

Adjournment: Alex & Paul (tie), seconded by Mike.

MORE PICS FROM WINTER RALLY CROSS AND 2005 BANQUET



**CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA
REGION - SCCA**

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