

SPOKESMAN

SEPTEMBER 2004

Rob's Remarks

By Rob Leone

If you are reading this, you've noticed that there has been a change to the Spokesman. Sometimes, you have to look at the cold, hard numbers. I've had this feeling all year that the Spokesman numbers have never been good, but now we can point to the numbers. In August, we spent \$685 for the Spokesman. 60 copies got mailed and it was accessed 140 times online. It costs the club over \$3 per viewing. A number like that does not make sense, so we need to take action. For this issue we have changed editors to a volunteer and have cut costs. Hopefully we will pay less than 60 cents per issue for an 80% reduction in costs.

I don't think that I have to go out on a limb to say that we, as a region, are capable of great things. I only need to look at the achievement of hosting the Northeast Divisional Solo II Championships as proof. This was the most organized and well-planned event, short of the National Championships, that I have attended. Everything went smooth and we have been commended from everyone I have heard from. There are results and pictures on the website. Everyone who was there knows that when I say that we proved ourselves as an organization that can get things done, it is an understatement. It is already showing results and I will share how when I have more information. The list of people that I need to thank is very long and would take 16 pages (the number of pages in the results) to complete. So to everyone that competed and helped organize the event: Thank you!

I mentioned last issue that I have been catching Solo II rides with friends. Well at the Northeast Divisional Solo II Championships, I returned the favor to a friend and we co-drove my car. We drove in a regional class called STX2. I had not driven in the class before and the car was not prepared to the limits of the rules but since I was an event organizer, driving was not going to be my first priority anyway. It showed too, as I was in 4th place after the first day. My co-driver was even beating me, and he had not driven the car before. On the second day, the event was taking care of itself and I had more time to concentrate on doing well. Before our run heat, my co-driver searched paddock and found for us better tires that were still legal for the class. The tires and rims were teched on another car so they were legal for us to use. As I finished my first run, I heard from the announcer that I was first in class. I never looked back and ended up making all the time back from Saturday and pulling ahead by about half a second on Sunday. See there is "always tomorrow" to make up your time at the big events.

Best Speed Wishes . . .

. . . to all of our region's competitors at the Runoffs and the Solo II Nationals this month.

Wanted

Editor and/or assembler for our Spokesman newsletter. This is a paid position. Pay commensurate with experience and skill. Please contact Rob Leone, Jon Rush or Judy Bloeser for more information. See last page for contact info.

PHILADELPHIA REGION SCCA

**BOD Meeting
August 9, 2004**

Location:

PJ Whelihan's Pub, Blue Bell, PA

Attendance:

Board of Directors:

Rob Leone (RE)
Jon Rush
Judy Bloeser
Steven Rosenberg
George Bloeser
Frank Gonzalez
Steve Landstra
Lori Leone

Others:

Patrick Weaver
Wendel Green.

Treasurer's Report – Steven Rosenberg

Income this month was nearly \$19,000 (\$18,898.00) with expenses of \$13,413.22, resulting in a balance of \$30,164.79. Many of the transactions related to hosting the Divisional Solo II competition, which was basically a "break even" event. A Profit & Loss Comparison was submitted by the Treasurer so that the BOD could see the Club's relative financial position to last year. Due to the financial condition of the Region, the treasurer recommended that we keep the dues the same for the 2005 calendar year. The BOD agreed with his recommendation.

Club Racing – George Bloeser

The organization for this year's Tri-Region August Double National has been facilitated by a set of task lists, so that all person's involved knew what was expected from them and by what date. The final pre-race meeting will be August 10. Ads and articles have been running in Pocono newspapers and magazines. We have had a number of inquiries from people about working this event and learning a specialty. Everyone is welcome. Temporary memberships will be available to workers who are not yet SCCA members.

Joe Aquilante has been receiving good coverage in National magazines. He and his son Andrew will be competing head-to-head at the Double National.

National news– There is a new partnership between the SCCA Club Racing Worker of the Year program and Yokohama Tire Corporation. In addition to awarding all 13 Workers of the Year a set of Yokohama tires, one lucky winner (along with a guest) will travel to the 2005 24 Hours of Le Mans to be Yokohama's guest for the event. Recently Steve Johnson praised the SCCA workers who were on site when Dale Earnhardt Jr crashed and spoke with pride of the training and dedication of the SCCA worker corps.

Road Rally – Wendel Green

"The Furnace Run" to be held August 21 is on track. Teams are signing up, including 4 equipped teams from Northern New Jersey. Remote triggers will be used for open controls. At this time, two more control teams are needed.

The Delaware Valley Triumph Club has asked for our assistance in conjunction with their 2006 Convention. They would like us to set up a rally and autocross for them. Wendel will continue contact with them.

There are two BMW rallies, one sponsored by Mini USA, the other by Otto's BMW. Wendel will keep us updated on these.

RallyCross – Jon Rush

Although the identified sites for possible RallyCross events were not visited, a Lehigh Valley farm family has expressed an interest in developing a course on their land. Jon Rush will continue conversation with these people and work toward an agreement and event this year.

Solo I – Rich Sweigart

This is a busy time in the Solo I schedule with an event every other week. It was suggested that people might like to visit the Duryea Hillclimb to get a good idea of the excitement of this sport.

Solo II

The Divisional was a big success with nice things being said by people throughout the Division. People got good value for their entry. For next year a major effort will be made to give advertisers/supporters more value for their money.

Boeing was a wet event, but everything kept working and 117 people had fun. The Test & Tune Day was a success.

A request for the purchase of EZ-Ups was discussed, but a decision was put off until a full plan for next year's equipment needs is developed.

Mini USA will be having about 20 cars at Boeing around 2:00 for a couple of runs.

Rob Leone was at a track day with the Delaware Valley Miata Club. He had a chance to talk to their motorsports chairman, Jeff Jury, and in the best interest of both clubs, we will try to advertise and support each others events. The first step is allowing the Del Val members entry into our autocrosses at SCCA member prices.

Nazareth – Patrick Weaver

One of the Racing Electronics headsets was missing after the Busch event. The Region will have to pay for its replacement.

We could still use more workers, especially for Friday, August 27. We want this final Nazareth event to be a great success with the track, participants, and workers all happy.

It was agreed to pay Martha Ulery \$75 for her Nazareth pictures, to cover some of the film & development costs. Martha's husband edited the pictures that are on the website before sending them. All of her pictures from the event will be made available to our members.

Website – Lori Leone

The statistics on use are very positive, better than many commercial sites. The quality of the site has caught the attention of SCCA staff members. Updates and new photos are requested.

Other Business

The Spokesman is not up yet. In an effort to have the Spokesman out by the first of the month, the submission date had been changed to the 15th of every month, but the issues are still late. Payment has even been made prior to the presentation of the finished product. This unacceptable situation will be addressed. The motion that "Fred Livezey Graphics will no longer produce The Spokesman" was approved unanimously. Other means of getting information to the members and producing a newsletter are being explored.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Bloeser, Secretary

Board of Directors Nominations

It is time for nominations for candidates for the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Region. Please give your nominations to the nominating committee chair, Robin Lumb. Candidates must be members in good standing of the Philly Region. From the Region Bylaws: Any five members in good standing of the region may nominate a candidate for election to the Board of Directors. Such nominations shall be made in writing, signed by the candidate and the members making the nomination and delivered to the Regional Executive or the nominating committee prior to the close of the October meeting of the membership.

Meeting Notice

Due to the fact that the regular night for the September BOD meeting is Labor Day and the regular General Membership meeting falls on a date after many of the Board members will have left for Topeka, it has been decided to hold the BOD and General Membership meetings for September on September 1 at P.J. Welihan's with the BOD meeting starting at 6:30 and the General Membership meeting at 8:00. P.J. Welihan's is located on Route 202 (DeKalb PIke) in Blue Bell (north of King of Prussia).

The October BOD meeting will occur on October 11 followed by the General Membership Meeting on October 13. Both will be held at P.J. Welihan's in Blue Bell.

Current Membership: 794
We welcome these new members:

Bonnie Achenbach
Michael Achenbach
Mazyar Ahmadi
Jay Aigeltinger
Mason Apostol
Jonathan Asber
Marian Basiago
David Bond
Donna Bond
Kyra Bond
Nia Bond
Ronald Bond
Scott Borelly
Glenn Brooks
Fred Brubaker
Rich Byron
Paul Cimino
Cheryl Connelly

Chris Conner
Denys DePalma
Scott Dietriah
Merion Dixon
Ryan Dunn
Jeffrey Erni
Daniel Fatell
Andrew Filak
Petra Filipkowski
John Garrett
David George
Andrew Greene
Jake Greisiger
Lou Greisiger
Nick Greisiger
Patti Greisiger
Samantha
Greisiger

Yoshiki Hakutani
Robert Hecht
Tania Horne
Kevin Hughes
James Kallas
Danielle Kulp
K. C. Kulp
Cy Lee
Christopher
Lindinger
Jason Livingood
Melody McWherter
Eugeniusz Meisel
Sarah Monk
Stephen Netti
John Oldt
Albert Pancam
Tim Patton

Tim Podgurski
Klevis Prifti
John Prudente
Richard Rapoport
Douglas Riordan
Bohdan Sachok
Aaron Scharper
Jason Schreffler
Jeff Schussler
Dru Smyth
Robert Trader Jr
Katrina Vannicolo
Michael Wairiri
David Walker
Matt Weis
Paul Weis

PHILADELPHIA REGION SCCA

General Membership Meeting
August 18, 2004

Location:
Grandview Speedway, Bechtelsville, PA

Attendance:
34 members and guests

The evening began with a short tour of the property led by Bob Miller, promoter of Thunder on the Hill, during which time questions were asked and answered about the technical aspects of the cars, the organization of the races, and the physical track layout.

We were told that the cars carry enough fuel for many caution flags. Laps run under "Caution" before lap 50 do not count, but they do count after the 50th lap, so it's possible for many more than the scheduled 100 laps to be run. In fact, there were 14 caution flags through lap 53, probably adding an extra 40 or so laps to the feature event. It was during this time that the "critical mass" of cars was

brought from the starting 30 to a highly competitive and entertaining 16.

Cars involved in metal to metal incidents which stop the flow of the race are moved to the back of the pack, making for some interesting racing as skill and adrenaline combine in an attempt to take back the original position. Side by side restarts during the first 50 laps made for highly competitive runs through Turn #1. After lap 50, all restarts were single file as the competitors hit their stride going for the checkered flag. It was interesting to note that drivers who left the track and entered the paddock were able to regain entrance to the race (no matter how many laps behind). Race timing and scoring was accomplished through use of transponders.

Minutes were made available to members and questions about upcoming events were answered. The multigenerational group of motorsports enthusiasts enjoyed the evening and requested that similar events be planned for the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Bloeser, Secretary

Thanks for the Memories

Saying Goodbye to Nazareth

" . . . thanks for all the wonderful years of working together at Nazareth. I made SO MANY friends in different realms of racing over the years. . . . I'll NEVER forget all the special friends from SCCA. It has been a pleasure to work with you all! I hope that we can get together again sometime. Please keep me in mind IF we all go to the GLEN! Thanks for the memories!!" (Beth)

"Holly and I want to thank you for giving us the opportunity of doing the sweeps through the pit area as it provided a real opportunity to see part of the racing scene we will remember for a long, long time. I also thank you for the "tour" you gave me Friday, which helped me greatly to know which end was up Sunday. We really enjoyed the day Sunday, despite the heat. Every one of the SCCA folks we met was nice. A great experience." (Jim)

"Wow! What a weekend! Solid track action for three straight days. Thank you to all who helped at Nazareth. Again you guys were the best. Scorching heat and high humidity did not have a chance against our passion for something I can't quite put a name on.

For most of us who try and explain it to others, maybe at work the next day, you just can't seem to get the feeling across to them. . . . Over 100 of us did understand these past 4 days at Nazareth and today at work we are probably trying again to explain to the guy or girl who is getting ready for the football season.

Good luck, and thanks to all the fantastic volunteers who worked their butts off in August and last May. When the lights at the tunnel finally went off and we handed the operations back to the track, it hit me pretty hard. It's over. Back at the top, some of us hung out and gave the remaining haulers a cheerful goodbye. We watched some track workers line up at the start finish line with their own flagger and race their work carts

around the entire track in the dusk (with Gino in hot pursuit after he saw them). We shared some stories and one by one we left. I drove my car down the paddock for one more look at Nazareth, to the pumps and back to the tunnel, and with a honk to Judy and George's motorhome, it really was over. This is the last time I will use huge amounts of bandwidth about Nazareth. Thank you Philadelphia SCCA! It has been a hell of a ride." (Patrick)



Racing Report

George Bloeser, Chairman

August was quite a month of competition for many Philly Region members, not only at Club Racing events, but also at Region activities. Our first group outing was at Grandview Speedway on Wednesday, August 18 where we learned a bit about the track and the big block modifieds racing in the Thunder on the Hill event, and then watched drivers (that most of us didn't know) do things we'd only seen on TV. The dirt flew, but the racing was strong as we watched heat after heat decide the first few positions and the order of pulling for the rest of the starting positions. The main event started out as advertised - a "traffic jam" with many cautions in the early laps. As cars were eliminated, the competitors reached "critical mass" for some excellent racing. We saw the exit of the leader #91, only to have him return a few laps later and gradually pick off the field, easily passing some and having to set up others, passing both high and low on the 1/3 mile banked clay oval. We were riveted by his display of raw talent and only wished he had had the chance to capture the lead once more, but the 100 laps ran out.

At the end of the month about 100 Region members and friends were witnesses to and participants in the last days of IRL racing at Nazareth. Notice I didn't say "the last days of USAC racing at Nazareth." That's because many of us are working hard to help keep Nazareth as a place for USAC to bring its many divisions, especially Midgets, Sprints, and Silver Crowns. This section of Pennsylvania has such a rich heritage of racing that, while we won't see the track revert to dirt, we may get to see the down home enthusiasm which used to pack the stands at Flemington, Reading, and the Allentown Fairgrounds. We managed to get all the racing completed this year without rain or snow (remember the snowman in the Nazareth paddock on a cancelled CART race day.)

Judy and I spent our first racing weekend at BeaveRun for a Regional race. It's a challenging course with significant elevation changes and interesting turns. As an SOM that

weekend, I had some time to visit with chiefs of specialties and heard of the improvements being regularly added to the site. The only thing I saw that I would change is the exit from the Pits, which presently empties out, into traffic at Turn 1. Other than that, I had that momentary urge to once more put on my driver's suit and see the track from behind the steering wheel.

While many of us enjoyed our participation at Grandview and Nazareth, and Judy and I thought a weekend with Steel Cities friends was special, our major involvement for August was the staging of the successful Double National at Pocono 8/20 to 8/22. As most of you know, Philadelphia Region's role in this event is as a member of the Tri-Region race group (with NePA and S. Jersey), for whom I am Vice-Chairman and Chief Pit Marshal.

The infamous Pocono weather was again a major player in this event, ranging from hot and humid on Friday, to monsoon rains on Saturday that flooded the track and garages with water above the floorboards of cars, to a beautiful sunny Sunday. Several Philadelphia Region members competed, see bottom of article for the member's results:

It was good to see Jim Schultz and Adam Zimmerman on the track again and giving such solid performances. Also of note were the two generations of Aquilantes competing. Joe and his son Andrew gave us quite a show in the T1 race with Andrew taking the win on Saturday only to be unintentionally "punted" by his dad on Sunday. But there was another Aquilante in that same race group. Tom Aquilante's daughter Elizabeth competed in SSB (8th and 4th) while Tom raced his AS later in the day, taking a 5th and 4th.

It is interesting to look at the statistics from the Double National and recognize the importance of the event on the calendar. With it being the last National racing event of the season in the Northeast, some drivers, whose accumulated points had already secured a spot at the Runoffs, opted out of attending, while others from across the country came seeking out-of-division points to garner enough to make the trip to Ohio. The drivers' hometowns

were in 24 states, 2 Canadian Provinces, and the Bahamas. Winners came from Pennsylvania: 9; New York: 6; Connecticut: 5; New Jersey: 3; Virginia: 3; Ohio: 2; and Wisconsin, Massachusetts Ontario, Quebec, Maryland, California, Delaware: 1 each. Eleven drivers swept to double victories, certainly making it worth the tow. One of those was FP driver Les Handley who chalked up four consecutive wins at Pocono, having won both sides of the Double last year.

If you look closely at Race Group 4, there were 45 drivers in 4 classes from 18 states and 22 regions. They had come from Indianapolis, Malibu CA, Las Vegas, Woonsocket RI, Chapel Hill and Greensboro NC, Des Moines and many places a bit closer to the track. What brought them to the event? They came for the competition, the points, and a meaningful event to close the season. Those fans who

watched from the grandstands or the infield, and those workers (23 from Philly Region) who watched from flag stations, pit lane, the school bus or starters' stand had quite a show. We look forward to seeing many of them at the Runoffs.

A final note – two of our Region members played special roles at the Double National. Jay Smith, who was named Co-Race Chairman for the event with JD King from South Jersey, had the full responsibility come race days because JD and his wife became parents part way through the weekend. Assistant Regional Executive Jon Rush willingly took on a new role as racing technology specialist and co-commentator, sharing the microphone with announcer Russ Dodge, explaining some of the fine points of racing to those in ear shot of the track speakers. Thanks to both for a job well done.

<u>Saturday</u>			<u>Sunday</u>		
Group 1	EP	4th	Steve Limbert	4th	Steve Limbert
		7th	Mike Morris	7th	Mike Morris
	FP	1st	Les Handly	1st	Les Handly
		7th	Mike Abraham	5th	Bill Ball
	8th	Bill Ball			
GT4	1st	Joaquin Banha	2nd	Joaquin Banha	
			3rd	Howard Gerstein	
Group 2	F500	1st	Jim Schultz	1st	Jim Schultz
	FV	8th	William Young	9th	William Young
Group 3	DSR	1st	Robert Gardner	1st	Robert Gardner
		5th	Adam Zimmerman	2nd	Adam Zimmerman
	S2	5th	Martin Hulick	7th	Martin Hulick
Group 4	T1	1st	Andrew Aquilante	2nd	Chip Ott
		6th	Chip Ott	3rd	Andrew Aquilante
		10th	Joe Aquilante	5th	Joe Aquilante
	T2	4th	David Ameen	2nd	David Ameen
		10th	Don Knowles	3rd	Don Knowles
Group 5	FC	5th	John Thompson	4th	John Thompson
	FF	6th	Lawrence Hendrickson	5th	Lawrence Hendrickson
Group 6	AS	12th	Matt Naegle	7th	Matt Naegle

REGIONAL OFFICERS

Regional Executive

Rob Leone (05)
58 Heather Rd.
Churchville, PA 18966
215-355-2456
robleone@comcast.net

Assistant Regional Executive

Jon Rush (04)
2131 Hamilton Drive
Coopersburg, PA 18036-3436
610-965-2815
jdrush@enter.net

Secretary

Judy Bloeser (05)
PO Box 346
Coopersburg, PA 18036
610-965-0585
(Fax) 610-966-1061
macmassie@aol.com

Treasurer

Steven Rosenberg (06)
845 Plymouth Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
610-313-9397 (h)
215-576-6666 (w)
steven@arandagroup.com

Anyone wishing a copy of the Region budget or monthly Treasurer's Report should contact Steven Rosenberg.

Other Board Members

Joe Aquilante (05)
1435 Dogwood Lane
Chester Springs, PA 19425-1501
610-482-0141
jfaphoenix32@aol.com

George Bloeser(04)
PO Box 346
Coopersburg, PA 18036
610-965-0585
Fax 610-966-1061
indy33@aol.com

Frank Gonzalez (06)
1033 Hemlock Dr.
Blue Bell, PA 19422
215-643-5968
gonzalezfj@cs.com

Steve Landstra (06)
974 St. Matthews Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425
610-827-9420 (h)
484-923-2261 (w)
stlandstra@aol.com

Lori Leone (04)
58 Heather Rd
Churchville, PA 18966
215-355-2456
Lori_Leone@lenox.com

SPOKESMAN Editor

Open

SPOKESMAN Classified Ads

Rich Sweigart 215-249-9138
RSRacing356@yahoo.com

Club Racing Chairman

George Bloeser
PO Box 346
Coopersburg, PA 18036
610-965-0585
Fax 610-966-1061
Indy33@aol.com

Licensing (Driver)

Dave Drissel
158 Blackberry Lane
Jim Thorpe, PA 18229
570-325-8278
drissel2@ptd.net

Licensing (Officials)

Marc Gerstein
PO Box 7
Center Valley, PA 18034
610-282-3932 (after 8 PM)
marcag7@cs.com

Membership Chair

Robin Lumb 610-313-9397
845 Plymouth Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
rl40fm@comcast.net

Merchandise Chairman

John Groves
2 Hyllwynd Dr.
West Chester, PA 19382
610-430-7157
jgroves@jenntec.com

Rally Chairman

Wendel Green
45 Parkridge Dr.
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010,
610-527-4223
wendel_green@hotmail.com

Solo I Chairman

Rich Sweigart
1004 Broad Street
Perkasie, PA 18944
215-249-9138
RSRacing356@yahoo.com

Solo II Chairman

Ken Buck
5659 Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Bernville, PA 19560
acouplebucks@comcast.net

Publicity Chairman

Lori Leone
58 Heather Road
Churchville, PA 18966
lorileone@comcast.net
lori@phillyscca.com

Racing Chiefs/Contacts Flagging and Communication

Bob Lindenmuth
610-358-3567
sccaflagger74@yahoo.com

Paddock

John Chatley
610-696-7125

Pits

George Bloeser
610-965-0585
indy33@aol.com
215-355-2456

Registration

Eunice Gerstein
610-282-3932 (after 8 PM)

Scrutineering

Karl and Marg lochum
215-338-7576

Sound Control

George Miller
732-545-4767
gnmiller@patmedia.net

Timing and Scoring

Judy Bloeser
610-965-0585
macmassie@aol.com

Anthracite Racing Assoc. Representatives

Brian Holtz 610-867-0399
George Bloeser 610-965-0585
Joe Aquilante 610482-0141
ARA Alternates
Judy Bloeser 610-965-0585
Jon Rush 610-965-2815
Karl lochum 215-338-7576

PHA Representatives

Rich Sweigart 215-249-9138
Connie Sweigart 215-249-9138
Chuck Christ 610-3958738

Tri-Region Race Tri-Region Representatives

George Bloeser 610-965-0585
Marc Gerstein 610-282-3932
Bob Peterson 610-458-8148
Tri-Region Alternates
Judy Bloeser 610-965-0585
Marge lochum 215-338-7576
Bob Maurer 610-253-2870

SCCA National Office

PO Box 19400
Topeka, KS 66619-0400
800-770-2055
785-357-7222
Fax 785-232-7228

Area 2 Director

Brian Holtz
1775 Center Street
Bethlehem, PA 18017-4625
610-867-0399
beholtz@compuserve.com

Philadelphia Region Website

<http://www.phillyscca.com>

Other Internet Sites

<http://www.scca.com>
<http://www.nescca.com>
<http://www.triregionracing.org>
<http://www.na-motorsports.co>