



# Chicago Region, SCCA

## Piston Patter Newsletter

### February 2022

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Dear George,

Welcome to the February 2022 Piston Patter Newsletter. The **Quick Links** on the left will allow you to easily connect to the Region website for detailed information on the various Region activities.

If you have any event or personal interest articles for the Newsletter, please contact Peg Ball at 815-679-6780.

### **[2022](#)** **[Event Calendar](#)**

**February 19, 2022**  
**Checked Flag Party**  
**Klairmont Kollection**

**March 19-30, 2022**  
Spring Training  
Best Western, Milw

**April 8-9, 2022**  
CenDiv Drivers School  
Double Divisional

**June 17-19, 2022**  
June Sprints

**August 27-28, 2022**  
Kettle Moraine

**September 10-11, 2022**  
Autobahn Classic

## Reminder

**Checked Flag Party registration closes in 12 days**  
**NEW - At this time, proof of vaccination is not required to attend**

**PLEASE Register now. Click [HERE](#)**

### **[2022 Chicago Region](#)** **[Board of Directors](#)**

Roger Vilmur – Region Executive	847-359-7624
Anthony Serrecchia - Assist RE	847-997-4845
Linda Novak – Secretary	847-934-3905
Ed Locke – Treasurer	630-853-2144
Michael Varacins – Activities	847-571-4502
Chris Gregor – Solo	630-661-7167
Peter LeSueur	630-569-5026
Steve Greenhill	847-727-0999

Michael Varacins – Activities	847-571-4502
Ed Locke – Competition	630-853-2144
Chris Gregor – Solo	630-661-7167
Anthony Serrecchia - Track Days	847-997-4845
Michael Varacins -Tours & Rallies	847-571-4502
Linda Novak – Communications	847-934-3905

## [RE Marks](#)

### **Congratulations George Laws**

During the National Convention last week, our very own George Laws was named this year's Member of Excellence. Member of Excellence award goes to a member selected by the SCCA Board of Directors who provides a great contribution to the Club overall regardless of competition area throughout the previous year. Congratulations George, a well deserved recognition.

### **Off Season**

You would think that in the "off" season there would not be much going on in the club. If you thought that you would be wrong, very wrong. Right now, the various committees, Competition, Solo, Track Events, Activities, and your BoD's are actively planning this year's events.

All the committees are preparing their budgets for the year. What's in a budget? The budget covers the expected expenses such as track or facility rentals, social event expenses, meals, consumables, and equipment. The committees are also getting dates for this year's events. The Competition committee already has their dates for club racing. You can see them here: <https://scca-chicago.com/road-racing/>. The Solo and Track Events and Activities should have their dates soon. Watch our website for updates.

Every committee could use more help. If interested contact one of the committee members on this page: <https://scca-chicago.com/contact-us/>

### **Worker Volunteers**

While I'm speaking of help, every event can always use more worker volunteers. As a worker volunteer, I see worker shortages in our club racing and track day events. Without our worker volunteers these events cannot happen. My feeling is if every participant could have one friend or family member volunteer to work an event; it would help solve our worker volunteer shortages. Even for just one day. Participants, please consider finding a worker amongst your inner circle. For club racing contact the specialty administrators, F&C, Pit Marshalls, Tech, etc. or track event committee members. They can be found on this Web page: <https://scca-chicago.com/contact-us/>. For other events contact the committee members listed on the same Web page.

### **Check your Helmets**

As of January 1, 2022, all 2005-rated helmets from Snell and SFI (SA2005, M2005 or K2005; SFI 31.1/2005 or 41.1.2005 for example) as well as BSI are no longer allowed in SCCA activities — that includes Solo, RallyCross, Time Trials and Track Events. For the Road Racing program, SA2010 and FIA 8860-2004-certified helmets have also reached the end of their eligibility.

### **Checker Flag Party**

Only two and a half weeks until our annual Checker Flag Party. The dinner is a celebration of the achievements of our club's participants and volunteers. Please join us. Details can be found elsewhere in this month's Piston Patter.

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## [George Laws Recipient of the SCCA Member of Excellence Award](#)

By Steven Laske

The Member of Excellence award was presented at the 2022 SCCA Convention which was again held virtually. This award is presented to a member/volunteer who shows the greatest commitment to SCCA Motorsports activities. The recipient can be involved in Solo, Rally, Club Racing, Time Trials and/or Track Events. This person should personify the SCCA volunteer who gives of his/her time and effort to helping organize, work in a specialty or any volunteer role necessary to a motorsports event. To be selected, the member must have rendered long-term service working

SCCA events or activities for a five-year minimum. The recipient cannot be a paid SCCA staff member, current Board of Directors member or any member who is a paid consultant to SCCA.

The Member of Excellence award is presented annually from nominations from the membership, and includes a trip to any motorsports event, anywhere in the world, through a generous grant from an anonymous member. This year, Chicago Region member George W. Laws Jr. was the recipient of this prestigious award.

Chairman of the SCCA Board of Directors, and fellow Chicago Region member, Peter Jankovskis had the honor to call George to inform him of his award. Jankovskis said "George was speechless, after hearing the news." Allowing the surprise of the call to settle in Laws said "A myriad of thoughts and words filled my head – honored, proud and energized among them... To the Board of Directors and everyone with me along the way who helps make the SCCA so successful, two words: thank you."

As are so many of our members, George is involved in many areas within the club. He is Chairman of the Competition Committee, and as comp chair is at every road race helping to oversee the daily operations of those events, he is also Safety Car Admin for the Region. He serves as Treasurer of the Track Event / Time Trials Committee and attend all of these events as well. George is also a member of the Activities Committee, and last but certainly not least he serves the Region as our Club Office Manager. George you were very kind to recognize all those that work with and assist you to ensure SCCA is successful. With that the Chicago Region, its Board of Directors and membership say Thank You to you for all that you do.

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### **Kevin Coulter Recipient of the SCCA David Morrell Award**

By Steven Laske

The David Morrell Award is presented to recognize an active Steward in the Stewards Program who has exhibited outstanding performance and dedication to the sport and its highest principles. The recipient is selected by the Chairman of the Stewards and the Executive Stewards. Kevin Coulter was named the 41st recipient of The David Morrell Award at this year's convention.

Kevin become a National Steward in 2009 and has been a part of the Stewards staff at the Runoffs since that time. Kevin has also served the Chicago Region as Chief Steward of the Chicago Region June Sprints® for the past seven years. In 2015 he was selected to be an Executive Steward for the Central Division and since 2018 has been the Executive Steward's liaison on the Stewards Training and Development Committee. He was awarded the Steward Worker of the Year in 2017 at the Runoffs. Kevin currently serves as one of the Hoosier Super Tour Clerks of the Course, also he has served as the Clerk of the Course for the Runoffs since 2020.

To add to the distinctiveness of this award presented to Kevin. Like Kevin, Dave Morrell was a Chicago Region member and steward. For one to meet the values and principles of this award named for Dave is a great achievement. Doing so as a member of David's beloved Chicago Region with that same dedication and devotion is an even greater achievement. From the Chicago Region, congratulations Kevin, well done.

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## Bob Stone

**Passed Away  
January 25, 2022**



The racing community has lost a devoted friend and fan. The Chicago Region and the Sports Car Club of America have lost a treasure. Bob Stone, passed away on January 25, 2022, at the age of 84.

Bob joined SCCA as a young man in the 1950s in Ohio eventually moving to the Chicago area and becoming a member of the Chicago Region. His vocation was in marketing and while working for Team Penske and then for Newman Haas Racing he honed his craft. He was a people person and had friends and contacts throughout the sport of motor racing.

Bob was an advocate for the SCCA volunteer worker, always thinking of them and wanting nothing but the best for them. In 2017 Chicago Region Director Bob Stone, facilitated an agreement with American Honda Motors to provide an opportunity for one lucky club member/volunteer to be a passenger in the Indy Racing Experience two seat Indy car for one lap of Road America.

Bob served the Chicago Region in many ways, He was a member of the Region's Board of Directors for a total of twelve years, and a member of the Competition Committee for many more years. He was responsible for establishing the driver awards program for the June Sprints. He was also a member of the Activities Committee (i.e. The FUN Committee) since its inception in 2016 with its focus on the membership and social activities.

As a member of the Activities Committee, Bob would reach out to many of his friends and contacts in the sport for the Region's membership meetings programs. In early 2020 Bob arranged for Doug Fehan, then Chevrolet Corvette Racing Program Manager to speak about the racing program and the new Corvette C8 race cars. Bob took this one step further and facilitated having a brand new C8 Corvette on display for the meeting. Again, another example of his devotion to the club and its members.

In recognition of his many years of participation and support of the Chicago Region, Bob was a recipient of the Founders Award in 2015. In 2019 Bob received the "RE" Recognition Award for his support of the Region's racing program. Bob loved the sport, the people, and the friendships he gained over the years. He was a true treasure and will definitely be missed.

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### On the Green Stuff

Look out the window at all the white-white-white snow and dream of green grass, blue sky, and warm temperatures. In less than 90 days we WILL return to the track. We WILL be inundated with the sights, sounds, smell, and feel of Motorsports. We WILL!

But first, Make a special note of March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Spring training will take place in person in Milwaukee. More information is available on the CenDiv Website – [HTTPS://cendiv-scca.org](https://cendiv-scca.org) .It all starts with training. No better place to learn, shake off the cobwebs and get the juices flowing than a great session with your fellow volunteers.

After that at the CenDiv Drivers School / Double Divisional CenDiv will conduct another session of "Introduction to Racing". Sometimes called "what is this think called racing" or "How can I get involved". If you

want to join us at the track for a day of information, contact the Chicago Region Office at 847-729-2211 to be included.

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## 2022 Checkered Flag Party *February 19, 2022*

### **Klairmont Collections**

3117 N Knox  
Chicago, IL 60641

The Klairmont Kollection is a private collection of over 350 beautiful vehicles together with a large banquet room for our dinner. This is a good neighborhood location approximately 9 miles northwest of downtown Chicago with a private limited access parking lot.

Klairmont Collections has award-winning and eclectic vehicles from 1900 to present day. You can fully immerse yourself in what is truly a unique experience. Not only will you have the ability to transport yourself back in automotive history, but the two-story facility holds vintage posters, Chicago relics, neon signs, and other collectibles from floor to ceiling.



Please plan to kick off the 2022 season by joining the Chicago Region, SCCA at its annual worker/member thank you party. This beautiful Klairmont Collections facility will be a great place to enjoy a 2-1/2 hour social with sports car friends and see an amazing collection of vehicles

- 4:30 - 6:00pm Check-in
- 4:30 - 7:00pm Tour & Social (complementary beer, wine, pop, and appetizers)
- 5:00 - 7:30pm Live jazz trio
- 7:00 - 8:30pm Buffet Dinner
- 8:30 - 9:00pm Special Chicago Region Awards Presentation

Additionally, each attendee will receive two color prints of Jim Swintel's special artwork used for the Region's 2020 and 2021 June Sprints shirts. For collectors, this is the 4th and 5th in a series of seven special "Seven Decades of Motorsports" prints leading up to the Region's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Also, all attendees will receive a complementary set of Region's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary license plate frames.

**This event is open to SCCA members and their guests. Pre-registration is required. The ticket price is \$50 per person. Registration fee will not be charged to credit cards until just prior to the event in case COVID forces us to cancel the event. NEW - At this time, COVID vaccinations are not required to attend the event.**

**To register, click [HERE](#)**

For information and location map about Klairmont Collections go to:  
[klairmontcollections.com](http://klairmontcollections.com)

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### [2022 GEN2 Pro Tour Series](#)

Beau and I have been talking about the 2022 GEN2 ProTour Series and want to give you an update as you begin to plan your season. The thinking is to stick with what worked well in 2021 -- a four-weekend, eight-race series, with the tracks and sequence being the same. The good news is that the series finale at Autobahn will be much earlier. So, here's what the series looks like:

April 9-10 - Blackhawk Farms Raceway  
June 25-26 - Blackhawk Farms Raceway  
Aug 27-28 - Road America  
Sept 10-11 - Autobahn Country Club

The plan is to continue with the awards, raffles and prize money structure as we did last year, and to add another participation incentive to be part of the full series. More on that to come when details are worked out.



We also know of three possible new drivers to be part of our series in 2022.

Perhaps with the earlier season finale we will be able to have a proper post-season gathering too. The weather at Autobahn last October did not make for the best situation.

George Sanchez has been talking with me and Chris about creating a nice video from 2021. The holdup has not been on George's end! And we'll be working on getting some additional trackside video in 2022.

In the meantime, stay warm if you are staying in the Midwest and send me any suggestions, comments, criticisms, video, or whatever as you see fit.

All the best,  
Jim Perry, GEN2 ProTour Series Co-Director  
P and B Motorsports  
5157 North Loop Road  
Larsen, WI 54947  
(920) 594-1337

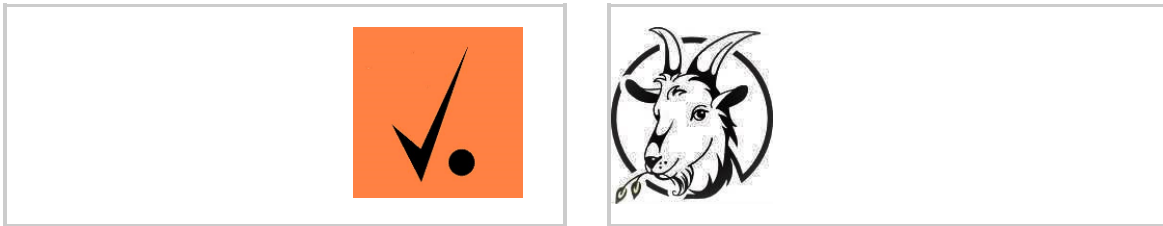
Email: [jim@pandbmotorsports.com](mailto:jim@pandbmotorsports.com)  
Web: <http://pandbmotorsports.com/>  
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/PandBMotorsports>

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## Chicago Region SCCA Spring Tour May 7, 2022

Get Out and Tour Series (G.O.A.T.S.)

The Chicago Region SCCA is planning our spring tour focused on great driving roads in southern Wisconsin. John Sutton our Rally/Tour master has already mapped out the tentative route and has found a local brewery for our end point. So mark your calendar (**Saturday May 7, 2022**) and make plans to join us for another enjoyable day on the best backroads drive available. Watch Piston Patter for more details over the next couple of months and for when registration opens in MotorSportsReg.



The G.O.A.T.S. will be waiting for you!

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GENEVA  
CONCOURS  
*d'Elegance*

**August 28, 2022**

Do you have a sports car or race car that is unique, has some history, or just plain fantastic? Would like to show that car, share the beauty of its shape and lines, and talk to like-minded people about your pride and joy, than we have just the opportunity for you? Come join us at the Geneva Concours de'Elagance on Sunday August 28, 2022. The Chicago Region SCCA is again participating in the Geneva Concours with our "Concours for Sports Cars".

The Geneva Concours has taken place for seventeen years and regularly draws well over 200 classics, exotics and racecars. The Concours organization is a Not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) promoting the "art of the automobile" to benefit the LIVINGWELL Cancer Resource Center, in Geneva, Illinois. The Chicago Region's participation in this event will also support this benefactor.



The concours held on the fourth Sunday of the month (August 28, 2022) is a one day event located on south Third St. in Geneva Illinois. The Chicago Region will again also be conducting our own concours on that day, the "Concours for Sports Cars". The Region's concours will be our own car show within the Geneva Concours. There is no entry fee for our concours, we will have four trophy categories and the Chicago Region will also be selecting one vehicle from our display to be a recipient of the prestigious Carl Benz Trophy from the Geneva Concours d'Elegance. So come join us as we celebrate the "art of the automobile", be part of an exciting and enjoyable day.

**If you interested in displaying a car, please email Peg Ball, registrar ([pegball@comcast.net](mailto:pegball@comcast.net)) to receive the entry form.**



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## **2023** **75th Anniversary of Chicago Region SCCA**

2023 will be the 75th year that Chicago Region has been putting on sports car events for its members. To celebrate this milestone, the Region is working on several special projects to commemorate the occasion.

Planned events, at this time, include a special 2023 Checkered Flag Party to kick off the anniversary year. Commemorative 75th anniversary license plate frames that will start being distributed at the 2022 Checkered Flag party. A 75th anniversary book covering the history of the Region from 1948 through 2023.

For this book, we are looking for region member input, including articles/history, photos, etc. for the book. **Please send information or ideas to Claire Ball, 306 Weston Ct., McHenry, IL 60051: cell 847-660-3460: [pdmassociates@comcast.net](mailto:pdmassociates@comcast.net).**

**HELP MAKE THE REGION'S 75th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL**

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**January Trivia Quiz**



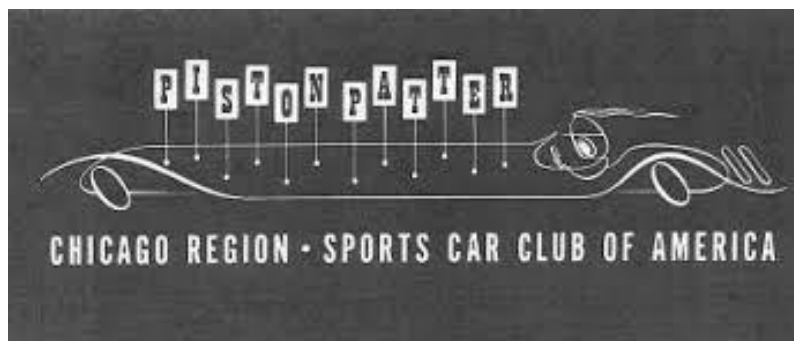
**Question:** Paul Newman, award winning actor, film director, and entrepreneur. We all knew him best as race driver, team owner, and fellow club member. When was the first time Paul Newman drove a race car at Road America?



**Answer:** Paul Newman first drove a race car at Road America in 1968 during the filming of the movie "Winning". He played the character "Frank Capua" and the race was the "Road America Red Burne 200".

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## February Trivia Quiz



**Question:** This was the masthead for The Chicago Region SCCA newsletter / magazine created by R. Sidney Dickens who also played a significant role in the early years of the Chicago Region. Sid severed on the Chicago Region Board of Directors for five years, 1953 – 1957. He was Regional Executive in 1954 and the first to be identified as Ex-Officio. In 1956 /57 Sid was editor of Piston Patter the clubs newsletter and brought the magazine to a new design level. This masthead was initially used on April 1951 with the printing of the first Piston Patter. When was this masthead last used? (If you don't want to wait until the March issue of Piston Patter come to the Checkered Flag Party, February 19<sup>th</sup> to learn the answer)

**Answer:** Will be in the March issue of Piston Patter

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## 2021 Chicago Region New Members

Chicago Region is pleased to welcome the following new members. If any of you have questions, please contact the Region board members responsible for your area of interest or the Region office (listed at the beginning of this issue of Piston Patter). We hope you enjoy your membership and have fun participating in the various club activities.

Chris Bailey  
David Borys

Joshua Malecki  
Steven McWilliams

Kasia Borys  
Justin Clark  
Karen Crider  
Mike Franz  
Przemyslaw Grzywacz  
Craig Holst  
James Hugger  
Paul Josephson  
David Lindstrom

Alex Mobashery  
Andrew Salazar  
Benjamin Somers  
Terry Staskowicz  
Robert Stowell  
Lukasz Walasinski  
Olivia Walasinski  
Alexander Walasinski  
Marcin Walasinski

