



Chicago Region, SCCA

Piston Patter Newsletter

September 2022

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Dear George,

Welcome to the September 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**

**September 10-11,
2022**

Fall Classic Regional,
Autobahn

September 10, 2022

Time Trials #2
Autobahn

September 10, 2022

Meadowdale
Motorsports & Memories
Car Show
Carpentersville, IL

September 18, 2022

Solo Event 6
Route 66 Raceway

October 1 & 2, 2022

Solo Events 7& 8
Route 66 Raceway

2022 Chicago Region **Board of Directors**

Roger Vilmur – Region Executive	847-359-7621
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 - Nominations Committee	630-569-5026
Steve Greenhill -At Large	847-727-0999
Rick Bentson - At Large	708-289-5254

Ed Locke – Competition	630-853-2144
Anthony Serrecchia - Track Days	847-997-4845
Michael Varacins -Tours & Rallies	847-571-4502
Linda Novak – Communications	847-934-3905
Linda Novak – Social Media	847-934-3905

October 8-9, 2022
Fall Sprints Double
Reg.
Blackhawk Farms

October 8, 2022
Time Trials #3
Blackhawk Farms

October 15, 2022
Fall Tour/Rally
Wisconsin

RE Marks

The Kettle

As I write this column, I just arrived home from the Kettle Double Divisional at Road America. I was there as a corner worker, Saturday at turn 13 and Sunday at turn 7. I have been working corners for 9 years now. How time flies when you're having "fun with cars".

How did I get into working corners? Well, I was recruited by Dennis Bednar telling me that they were shorthanded for the Drivers School in 2014 and would I like to come out. I had not considered volunteering for club racing as I was originally interest in Track Events (Track Days). As being recently retired, I was looking for more things to do so I said yes. I did not have any expectations going in but after that weekend I was hooked.

What hooked me? I was now a part of the race. All without a competition license and a race car. I was communicating with the drivers with flags and hand signals. I was communicating with race control and my corner workers on what was happening on track. Without the volunteers the race can't happen!

Back to the Kettle. On Saturday I worked turn 13 with Ken Loerch, who has been doing this a lot longer than I have. Our main responsibility was to show the yellow flag when a race car is on or off the track and not making forward progress. But we need help from turn 14 because we can't see all the way to the next station, and we help corner 12 because they can't see all the way to turn 13. How do we communicate with the other corners and race control? It is called the hard line, which is basically a telephone conference bridge that connects all the corners, race control and others together. The next big duty is blue flagging, warning lapped cars that a faster car is approaching, which I think is the most fun about corner work. It's a challenge to find the lapped cars coming out of the turn and how close the faster car is and get that flag out before the lapped car goes by. Feels good when you get it right. On Sunday I was at turn 7 all alone, as on turn 13 I had help from turn 8 and I helped turn 6.

And yes, there was racing and not just corner working. The weekend had a good turnout. Lots of good racing especially mid pack. We also had a special racer; our SCCA CEO and President Mike Cobb was in the SRF group. He told me at the Saturday dinner that Road America was on his bucket list of tracks and that he would be back the first chance he has. The plus this weekend we also had a Time Trial. Three 20-minute sessions where 16

drivers tried to tame Road America in their street legal and licensed cars. Congratulations to Keenan Prusank for having the fast time of the day. And yes, it rained, but it adds another dimension to racing. Watching the drivers choose different lines in the corners adds to the race to see who can get through the corner the fastest. And I get to watch it all up close from my corner. Unfortunately, lightning cut our Sunday short. Group 5's race ended just beyond the halfway point and Group 6 never got to see the green flag

Fall Classic and Fall Sprints are next with Time Trials

The Fall Classic will be at Autobahn Country Club on September 10th & 11th and the Fall Sprint October 8th & 9th at Blackhawk Farms. There will also be a Time Trial on the Saturdays with 3 20-minute sessions. So, drivers and volunteers, let's close out the year with two weekends full of race cars and volunteers. Register at MotorSportsReg.com. And remember volunteers do not need experience. We have plenty of veterans willing to share their skills with you. Come out and play with us.

Roger Vilmur



August 28, 2022

Unfortunately, this year's Geneva Concours de'Elagance scheduled for Sunday August 28, 2022 was postponed until next year. With that happening the Chicago Region's "Concours for Sports Cars" had to be cancelled as well. The Chicago Region regrets that this took place, and we are looking forward to next year when the Geneva Concours de'Elagance will be back for 2023. The Chicago Region will be ready for next year and we have already begun planning. The Geneva Concours has taken place for almost two decades 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.

2023 will be the Chicago Region's 75th Anniversary year and the concours will be one of the featured events on the Region's calendar. 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, then we have just the opportunity for you? We hope you will be able to join us as a participant, event volunteer, or spectator at the Geneva Concours de'Elagance on Sunday August 27, 2023.

The Region's concours will be our own car show within this one-day event. 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. Burt Levy will also be joining us again and will be presenting the Buddy Palumbo Award to one of our entries. Watch Piston Patter for more

information over the next few months and invitations to enter will be sent out early next year. If you're interested and would like to enter and show your car contact Peg Ball (registrar) at pegball@comcast.net or Steve Laske (event chairman) at stvelaske@sbcglobal.net and we will add you to our invitation list.

14th Annual Meadowdale Motorsports & Memories Car Show **Saturday, September 10, 2022**

Ghost Track Comes to Life

The Chicago Region SCCA has been invited to participate in the 14th Annual Meadowdale Motorsports & Memories Car Show on Saturday, September 10th at Raceway Woods, Route 31, Carpentersville, IL The event is hosted by the Midwest Racing Preservation Association (MiRPA) and celebrates the historic significance of the former Meadowdale International Raceway in Carpentersville, Illinois. The inaugural race was held in 1958 and was sanctioned and run by the Chicago Region.



The Car Show begins at 9 am for staging display vehicles, with spectator viewing from 10 am to 3 pm. The event offers a wonderful opportunity to promote the Club and “having fun with cars” to hundreds of fellow enthusiasts. Last year, the Club’s car display and information “booth” was very well received. In 2021, the Show drew 450 entries, a record number. There is no charge for spectators.

There is still some space available in the Region’s display, if you are interested in showing your car. Please contact Bob Malm at 847-695-0368 for more information or to sign up. To learn more about MiRPA, go to their website mirpa.org.

The Chicago Region SCCA Presents:
Chicago Region Autobahn Fall Classic SCCA Double Divisional



September 10-11, 2022

Two full-length Divisional races will be held at the Chicago Region Fall Classic Double Divisional!

This event will count toward the 2022 CENDIV Championship Series and 2022 Runoff eligibility.

Central Division reserved car number held until August 26, 12:00pm CDT

Online registration closes September 7, 11:59pm CDT

Deadline to cancel without penalty is September 7, 11:59pm CDT

Special license confirmation with Topeka due by September 2, 6:00 pm CDT

Credit cards will not be processed before September 10

For more event information and to register, click [HERE](#)

[Chicago Region SCCA Fall Sprints Double Divisional Races](#)



October 8 & 9, 2022

Blackhawk Farms Raceway– 1.95 miles

Two full-length Divisional races will be held at the Chicago Region Fall Sprints Double Divisional!

This is a qualifying event for the 2023 Runoffs

Time Trials will be running Saturday - more info to follow

PERTINENT DATES FOR THIS EVENT (ALL DATES 2022)

Central Division reserved car number hold - September 23, 12:00 PM CDT

Online registration closes - October 6, 11:59 PM CDT

Deadline to cancel without penalty - October 5, 11:59 PM CDT

Special license confirmation with Topeka, make request by - October 3, 6:00PM CDT

Credit cards will not be processed before - October 7

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#)

The 2022 Chicago Region SCCA Fall Tour/Rally
“Fly back in time”

Brought to you by GOATS “Get Out and Tour Series”

October 15, 2022

The Chicago Region SCCA will be running another G.O.A.T.S. (Get Out and Tour Series) event. Join us this fall as the colors are changing for another drive through southern Wisconsin on some of the most scenic backroads there are to enjoy.

This Chicago Region SCCA, G.O.A.T.S. backroads tour will provide you with an enjoyable day of driving, using great Wisconsin backroads providing scenic views and plenty of turns and elevation changes. The drive will take approximately 3 hours to complete ending in Monroe WI at Suisse Haus on the square in downtown Monroe, where we will all meet for lunch and some socializing. Join us won't you!

The Tour/Rally is scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 15, 2022. The starting point will be in the South Beloit, IL. The route has two recommended planned stops, the first stop will be the Kelch Aviation Museum which is a “Fly back in time to the golden age of aviation”. The hangar is filled with a stunning collection of restored aircraft from the 1920s and 30s. The museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, operating entirely through generous donations from people like us. Admission is free of charge, but a small donation per adult is encouraged to help the non-profit thrive. So, if you stop, please help out with at least a \$10.00 dollar per car donation.



Our second stop for you cheese lovers, is at Alp & Dell Cheese Store near the end point where you can pick up some of their award winning cheeses to take home. Just in case you're wondering, there are over 150 different cheeses to pick from, there has to be one you like. The fall colors should be in full display as an added touch to the 120 mile drive. So, keep an eye on MotorsportsReg and be sure to enter for another fantastic G.O.A.T.S. event.

Event Information:

When: Saturday October 15, 2022

Registration: Pre-event registration is required. The entry deadline is midnight Monday October 10, 2022

Entry Fee per car: \$15.00 SCCA Members, \$30.00 Non-members (Weekend membership for all non-member drivers is required and this membership fee is included in entry). All cars must have a driver and a navigator, any navigator / passenger who is not an SCCA member will be asked to sign a Trial Membership document at the starting point (no additional fees assessed).

Starting point: Flying J Travel Center, 16049 Willowbrook Rd. South Beloit, IL. 61080 (the northwest corner of I-90 /39 and Illinois Rt. 75) by the Denny's Restaurant. Check-in at the event will open at 9:00 am, with the first car off promptly at 10:00 am.

To register for the Fall Tour/Rally, click [HERE](#)

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

October General Membership Meeting

October 26, 2022

The Chicago Region will be holding our October membership meeting on Wednesday October 26th at Blackdog Speed Shop. The program for the evening will be the collectables market. Paul Zimmermann of the Motorsports Collector will be joining us to talk about the current collectable market. Paul will also be bringing some items from his personal collection and some collectables for sale from his store.

Blackdog Speed Shop is the perfect venue for this meeting, there is always something interesting in the shop, there may even be a life-size collectable we can view. Blackdog is located at 600 Barclay Blvd. Lincolnshire IL 60069 and the meeting begins at 7pm.

So, come join us won't you, for this most interesting subject at one of the area's most exciting event venues

We will be asking attendees to please register for the meeting, but it is not required. We just want to know who and how many will be joining us.

To register, click [HERE](#)

Don't miss out, we'll see you there.

Mark Your 2023 Calendar

**2023 Checkered Flag Party will be on
February 18 at Ferrari Lake Forest.**

You will not want to miss this special 75th Anniversary Checkered Flag Party
Details will be coming in the next issues of Piston Patter.

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 are already being distributed to members at region events. please get a pair and display them on your car to help promote the 75th anniversary.

A 75th anniversary book covering the history of the Region from 1948 through 2023 is currently being put together and will be handed out at the Checkered Flag Party.

HELP MAKE THE REGION'S 75th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

August Trivia Quiz



Question: With new resurfacing of the Road America racetrack later this fall, when did the beginning construction of Road America racetrack start?

Answer: 1955

[September Trivia Question](#)



Question: What year was the first street race held in Elkhart Lake? What county road was the start/finish line located on?

Answer: Will be in October issue of Piston Patter

[2022 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.

Mike Anderson
Benjamin Blander
Irbad Chowdhury
Danny Ciopasio
Doug Cooke
Joe Dambrose
Tim Dowling
Anthony Fischer

Stephen Hamman
Matt Knighton
Tracy Locke
Liqian Ma
Tanner Markut
Arthur Tokarczyk
Kelsey Trepka

2022 Chicago Region Social Events

10/15/22 Fall Tour/Rally
10/26/22 Member Membership Meeting, Blackdog Racing Shop
11/16/22 Annual Membership Meeting, Weathertech

2022 Chicago Region Road Race Events

9/10-11/22 Fall Classic Regional, Autobahn
10/8-9/22 Fall Sprints, Blackhawk Farms

2022 Chicago Region Solo Events

9/18/22 Solo Event 6, Route 66 Raceway
10/1-2/22 Solo Event 7&8, Route 66 Raceway

2022 Chicago Region Track Days -Time Trials

9/10/22 Autobahn
10/8/22 Blackhawk Farms
