



# Chicago Region, SCCA

## Piston Patter Newsletter

### December 2022

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Dear George,

Welcome to the December 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.

### **[2023](#)** **[Event Calendar](#)**

**February 18, 2023**  
Checked Flag Party  
Ferrari Lake Forest

**March 18-19, 2023**  
**[CenDiv Spring Training](#)**  
Best Western Airport

**April 15-16, 2023**  
CenDiv Drivers School &  
Regional Race  
Blackhawk Farms

**June 23-25, 2023**  
June Sprints Race  
Road America

**August 26-27, 2023**  
Kettle Regional Race  
Road America



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

Roger Vilmer – Region Executive-----847-359-7621  
Anthony Serrecchia - Assist RE-----847-997-4845  
Linda Novak – Secretary-----847-934-3905  
Ed Locke – Treasurer-----630-853-2144

**September 9-10, 2023**

Regional Race  
Autobahn

**October 7-8, 2023**

Regional Race  
Blackhawk Farms

Michael Varacins-----847-571-4502

Chris Gregor-----630-661-7167

Peter LeSueur-----630-569-5026

Dave Tatge-----630-880-0406

Rick Bentson-----708-289-5254

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**RE Marks**

**Happy Holidays**

Happy Holidays to all the Chicago Region members from the Board of Directors. May all of you have a happy and safe holiday season with your families and loved ones.

**Board of Directors**

The new board of directors is now in place as of the Annual Business meeting on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

All the officers are returning from last year:

Regional Executive: Roger Vilmur

Assistant RE: Anthony Serrecchia

Treasurer: Ed Locke

Secretary: Linda Novak

This month we will confirm the liaisons between the board and the various committees and board contacts, and I'll report any changes in the January REmarks.

**Chicago Region's Annual Business Meeting**

On November 16<sup>th</sup> we held our Annual Business Meeting in accordance with the Region's By-Laws. The annual meeting serves two purposes. First is the ceremonial installation of the new board of directors as nominated by the independent nomination committee. The second is reports from the Board, Treasurer and the various committees that planned and supported the various events this year. The committees reported that they executed the plans they created for the year, but not without some financial challenges.

The best summary came from Ed Locke's treasurer report. He reported that due to inflationary pressure and unbudgeted worker give aways road racing missed their planned budget but did not lose money for the year. Track Events suffered from less track availability and poor weather conditions. The result was a missed budget but not a loss. Solo, Tours, and Activity committees reported that they made their budgets.

The region overall will have a financial loss for the year due to the overheads the Region needs to support. Fortunately, we had enough saved from previous years to cover the short fall. In all, the Region remains financially healthy and poised to capitalize on a more stable economy in the future.

Roger Vilmur

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## Annual Membership Meeting November 16, 2022

Chicago Region's Annual Membership Meeting took place at 7:00PM on November 16 at Weather Tech. The Region's 2022 committee reports were presented and the new 2023 board of directors was elected.



The new members starting their 3-year term are Rick Benston, Anthony Serrecchia, and David Tatge. Rick Benston is a former RE and an active member of Competition and Track Events committees. Anthony Serrecchia is the chair of the Track Events committee. David Tatge is new to the board experience. Dave is a 10-year club racer in the SRF class and longtime auto racing enthusiast.



IMSA driver Cooper MacNeil gave an excellent presentation on his racing experiences at Le Mans with three podium finishes, Daytona second place, Sebring 2 Wins, and wins at Petit Le Mans, SCCA Runoffs, Ferrari challenge and ALMS.

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## 2022 Activities Committee Annual Report

The Activities Committee primary focus is on social activities and programs within and for the Region. 2022 was a busy year with numerous events and social activities taking place

The year began with the Checkered Flag Party in February chaired by Peg and Claire Ball. The event this year took place at Klairmont Kollections a private car museum.

The committee held four general membership meetings two in the spring and two in the fall. At the March meeting Mike Kertscher, President of Road America was our guest speaker providing insight about the track. In April John Doonan, President of IMSA was our guest speaker and he talked out the future of IMSA and the relationship with SCCA. The October meeting was held at Blackdog Speed Shop and Ray Sorensen manager of the Blackdog racing team talked about the teams past year and what is coming in their future. We also had Rick Dresang a collector of racing memorabilia. Rick shared many stories and displayed many one of a kind collectables. In November the Annual Membership Meeting was held at Weather Tech and David MacNeil provided us with an excellent meeting venue. Guest speaker for the meeting was Cooper MacNeil who shared many stories from his successful racing career.

The South Elgin High school car show was one of our events, we support the schools automotive technical training program while promoting the clubs racing and autocross programs.

The Geneva Concours was on the calendar, but in the eleventh hour the event was canceled. No worries concours fans the event will be back in 2023.

The committee also supports the MiRPA's Meadowdale, Motorsports & Memories Car Show held at the old Meadowdale Race track site. Linda Daro, Chair of the MiRPA's board has been very kind and providing us with an excellent location at the show to promote the sport and the club.

The other major project the committee has been working on is the upcoming Chicago Region 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

The year was an overall success, we meet our budget plan and provided our membership with numerous social activities throughout the year.

R. Steve Laske

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## **Chicago Region SCCA 2022 Annual Solo Report**

Chicago Region SCCA Solo by the numbers for 2022.

- Our 2021 Season banquet in January 2022 had 43 attendees at Emmetts brewing.
- Learning Curve was a great success with over 50 Students and almost 50 volunteers.
- Our Street Survival School had 25 volunteers for over 25 students.
- We hosted 8 points events for 835 competitors.
- We were able to provide 5,520 runs over the course of 8 events.
- We hosted the Tripod Challenge for a third year and we were able to maintain control of the Tripod Trophy Helga.
- Bartek Borowski Earned his 10th National Championship.
- Two events had Pizza parties afterwards.
- The last event had an hour of free Fun Runs.
- Good times were had by all.

Chicago Region SCCA Solo attended two car shows with several ambassadors to the sport of Autocross.

We ended the season under budget with no major financial losses.

2023 brings us our second Sports Car Club of America Solo National Tour at Route66. Date has been secured with site and we are on the 2023 SCCA National Tour schedule (yet to be released).

We have suggested providing a free karting day at Autobahn Country Club during an SCCA Road Race to bring awareness to all facets of Chicago Region. Makes a great way to give back to the members for our 75th Anniversary.

We plan to host eight Autocross points events and The Learning Curve in 2023.  
We plan to host an Evolution Performance Driving School in 2023.  
We will host a Street Survival School in 2023.

Best Regards,  
Chris Perry, Solo Chairman  
Chicago Region SCCA

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### **2022 Rally Committee Annual Report**

The Regions Rally program held two Tour type events one in the spring and the other in the fall. Both events were successful and financially showing a very small profit over a brake even budget.

R. Steve Laske

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### **On the Green Stuff**

If you receive this publication, you are already a member and have access to the good times and excitement that membership allows. As we enter the holiday season, a season known for gift giving and remembering the past year, why not share those times with those near and dear to you. If you had rememberable experiences during 2022 and desire to share the opportunity to be part of the exciting world of motorsports buy an SCCA membership or arrange for a 2023 Autocross or Track Event entry and weekend membership for someone on your gift list.

Contact the Chicago Region office at 847-729-2211 or [Cluboffice@scca-chicago.com](mailto:Cluboffice@scca-chicago.com) for details.

**The 2022 Racing season is over, however, 2023 is only a few weeks away.**

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### **Mark Your 2023 Calendar**

#### **2023 Checkered Flag Party February 18 at Ferrari Lake Forest.**

You will not want to miss this special 75th Anniversary Checkered Flag Party. Plans include a late afternoon social get together with hors d'oeuvres, beverages, jazz band, and silent charity auction of collectable 75-year Region history items.

Dinner will include select serving stations of carved prime beef, potatoes, Italian sausage and penne pasta, salad, rolls, and deserts. Complementary beer, wine, and pop will be available throughout the social and dinner period.

2022 Region awards will be presented after dinner.

Everyone attending the Checkered Flag Party will receive a copy of the Region's 75th Anniversary Book covering the 75-year history of the Region, a Swintel 75th anniversary poster, dinner wine glass, prints of the Swintel seven-decade 6th and 7th artworks used for the June Sprints shirts, and a chance to win the anniversary table center pieces.

This is a Chicago Region highly subsidized event to kick-off the 75th Anniversary and thank its members for their support in 2022 and all the previous years.

**Please register as soon as possible so we have a feel for the size of the party attendance Your credit card will not be charged until the day of the party.**

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

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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 include:

- Special 2023 Checkered Flag Party at the Ferrari Lake Forest dealership.
  - 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.
  - An overnight tour/rally up to Elkhart Lake with a drive around the original street racecourse is being planned. Date and times to be announced.
  - Region 75th anniversary displays at selected large car shows.
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### **[Need Your Help for Charity Auction](#)**

As part of the 2023 Checkered Flag Party, we are having a silent charity auction. We have already started to collect several excellent auction items. We are looking for more auction items.



If you have any interesting Region or racing history items that you would like to contribute for a good cause, please donate them to the charity auction. Obviously, we are only looking for items that someone would like to have for their memorabilia, such as historic posters, special event items, etc.

**This is an excellent opportunity for you to clear out collector memorabilia items you have been storing for years and you no longer want.**

To contribute to the charity auction, please contact Claire Ball at [pdmassociates@comcast.net](mailto:pdmassociates@comcast.net) or 847-660-3460.

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### [2023 SCCA Northern Conference Major Tour Event Schedule](#)

The following is a tentative 2023 U.S. Majors Tour Event Schedule. Dates may be subject to change until confirmed.

April 29-30: Blackhawk Farms Raceway; Blackhawk Valley Region; S. Beloit, IL

May 13-14: Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course; Ohio Valley Region; Lexington, OH

June 23-25: Road America; Weather Tech Chicago Region June Sprints; Elkhart Lake, WI is a Hoosier Super Tour

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### [November Trivia Question](#)



**Question:** What is this a picture of?

**Answer:** LeMans banked curve at Meadowdale Raceway.

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### [December Trivia Quiz](#)



**Question:** Who is the driver of the number 33 Datsun?

**Answer:** Will be in the January 2023 issue of Piston Patter

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### [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.

Athanasios Athanasiadis  
David Corbin  
Paul FencI  
Alexander Lavery

John McFadden  
Zehan Mi  
Erik Pylypchuk

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