



# Chicago Region, SCCA

## Piston Patter Newsletter

### January 2023

#### **Quick Links**

**Region Website**  
**Club & Membership**  
**Incentive Programs**  
**Road Racing**  
**Autocross/Solo**  
**Contacts/ Classified**  
**Motorsportreg**

Dear George,

Welcome to the January 2023 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**

Checkered 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



#### **2023 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-----847-571-4502  
Chris Gregor-----630-661-7167  
Peter LeSueur-----630-569-5026  
Dave Tatge-----630-880-0406

**September 9-10, 2023**

Regional Race  
Autobahn

**October 7-8, 2023**

Regional Race  
Blackhawk Farms

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

**Chiago Region solo, track day, rally, and meeting dates  
are being worked on and will be available soon.**

---

**[The State of Illinios has issued a Proclamation recognizing 2023 as the  
75th Anniversary Year for Chicago Region Sports Car Club of America.](#)**

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 862  
OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE ANNA MOELLER

**WHEREAS**, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to recognize the Chicago Region SCCA (Sports Car Club of America) on its 75th anniversary; and

**WHEREAS**, The Chicago Region SCCA began in the late fall of 1948 with Fred Wacker serving as the first Regional Executive; and

**WHEREAS**, The Chicago Region SCCA members wanted to hold road racing events similar to those being held on the east coast, and in 1950, the original Elkhart Lake race was held on roads just north of the lake and northwest of town; and

**WHEREAS**, Due to the success of the Elkhart Lake races, there was considerable enthusiasm for a closed course road race circuit on a gravelly hillside site on the outskirts of town; with help and assistance from the Chicago Region SCCA, Road America, the first permanent road racing course in the United States, was completed just in time for the Chicago Region to conduct an SCCA national race on September 9, 1955; in June of 1956, a second national race was held, the first ever Chicago Region June Sprints; the June Sprints have been held consecutively at Road America every year since; and

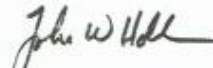
**WHEREAS**, The partnership between the Chicago Region SCCA and Road America remains strong; the SCCA still sanctions two amateur road races a year at Road America, and SCCA members also staff corner stations and key positions at pro-racing events such as IndyCar, IMSA, and NASCAR road races; and

**WHEREAS**, The Chicago Region SCCA currently has 1,364 members and hosts many other motorsports-related events; in addition to four road racing events each year at three different road racing venues, it conducts eight Autocross (Solo) events, seven Track Day events, and several social functions; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS**, that we recognize the Chicago Region SCCA (Sports Car Club of America) on its 75th anniversary and wish them many more wonderful years; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Chicago Region SCCA as a symbol of our respect and esteem.

Adopted by the House of Representatives on November 15, 2022.

  
JOHN W. HOLLMAN  
CLERK OF THE HOUSE



  
EMANUEL "CHRIS" WELCH  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

---

## RE Marks

### **2023 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year**

Happy New Year to all the members of the Chicago Region. 2023 is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chicago Region SCCA. Over the course of the year there will be celebrations and reflections on the rich history of the Chicago Region and its impact on the world of motorsports. Whether it be Racing (Club Racing, Enduros), Autocross (Solo), High Performance Driving Experience (Track Days, Time Trials), Rallying (Touring), Pro Racing (TransAm, CanAm, IMSA, Etc.).

Our First Celebration of the year will be our Checker Flag Awards Event. This is where we as a club recognize the 2022 accomplishments of our participants and workers. It will also be the first distribution of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book which looks back at the Region's history.

Elsewhere in the Piston Patter you will see the Chicago Region's 75th anniversary was recognized by the Illinois State House or Representatives by approving a House Resolution

### **2023 Annual Waivers**

Annual waivers for 2023 are now available on-line. No need for forms or seeking signatures. Just go to SCCA.com and login to your Member Account Portal (MAP) and click on the "Online Store" and select "Licenses and Waivers". Select the waiver you need and follow the prompts. You will also need a photo of yourself to upload (Selfie). The waiver will be good until 12/13/22023.

### **2023 SCCA Nation Convention**

The 2023 National Convention will be held virtually again this year. That means that anyone can be part of the convention. There is no charge to register, and sessions can be streamed on any PC, MAC, or Smart Phone. . The link to Register is here: <https://www.scca.com/pages/nationalconvention>

General sessions include the Annual Meeting, which reports on the state of the club at the national level. There are award presentations for Hall of Fame, Road Racing and Regions. There are "Town Hall" sessions for various club activities such as Club Racing, Time Trials, Solo and more. And finally, there are dozens of "How To" sessions for workers and leaders.

With the convention being free and no travel involved, I encourage every member of the region to register and attend sessions of interest.

Roger Vilmur

---

## On the Green Stuff

Happy New Year! When we reflect on 2022 there is much for which to be thankful - Drivers, crew, volunteers, racetrack staff and spectators. All the above provided a successful season.

The 2023 Competition Season starts the first of January. If that means rebuilding the brakes, a new paint job or rebuilding the engine, a fast timely start is paramount to a season of success. For the volunteers and race staff preparations begin with scheduling, staffing, and training. The Competition Committee commences their monthly meetings in January, the Specialties review personal requirements and equipment for each event. The volunteers scan the schedule, arrange for days off, and prepare worker bags.

First on the schedule is CenDiv Worker Training March 18<sup>th</sup> in Milwaukee. We hope to see you there.

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

---

## **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.



Party schedule will be:

4:00 - 6:00pm Check-in

4:00 - 6:30pm Social with complementary beer, wine, and pop

6:30 - 8:00pm Dinner including select serving stations of carved prime beef, potatoes, Italian sausage and penne pasta, salad, rolls, and deserts.

8:00 - 8:30pm 2022 Region Awards

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.

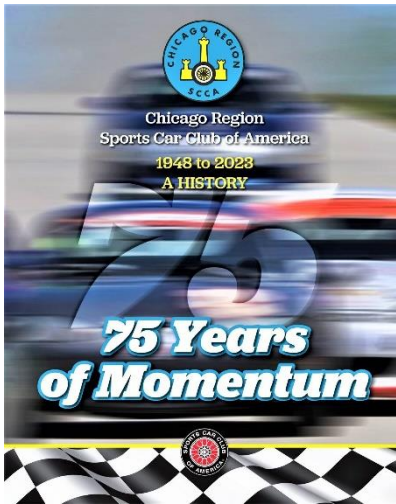
**PLEASE register as soon as possible so we have a feel for the size of the party attendance Your credit card will not be charged until the day of the party.**

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

---

## [Chicago Region 75th Anniversary Book](#)

As previously mentioned, Chicago Region has been working hard to put together a book summarizing the 75 year history of the Region. The first draft of the book is currently being reviewed. Copies of the book will be handed out at the February 18, 2023 Checkered Flag Party.



---

## [Need Collectible Items 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.**

**Time is running short and we need more items for the charity auction.**

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

---

**[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

---

### [December Trivia Quiz](#)



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

**Answer:** Paul Newman

---

### [January Trivia Question](#)



**Question:** Can you identify the Chicago Region members that made-up this gangster group for the 1979 SCCA National Convention and the CATA auto show,

**Answer:** Will be in the February issue of Piston Patter (missing a couple of names. Need your help).

### 2023 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.

Berdelle	Bradley	Ben Richman
Gardner	Michael	Daniel Skrlin
George	Will	Aneliya Valkova
Gupta	Pranay	Kristin Walker
Kelley	James	Christopher Willis
Kuks	Jason	Jaclyn Willis
Lopez	Arturo	Mark Yalda



Pierson

Matt