



# Chicago Region, SCCA

## Piston Patter Newsletter

### April 2023

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Dear George,

Welcome to the April 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](#)

**April 13-16, 2023**  
CenDiv Drivers School &  
Regional Race  
Blackhawk Farms

**April 15-16, 2023**  
Learning Curve  
Solo Driving School  
Route 66 Raceway

**April 29-30, 2023**  
Solo Events #1 and #2  
Route 66 Raceway

**May 6, 2023**  
Spring Tour/Rally  
South Beloit, IL

**May 26, 2023**  
Track Day #1  
Autobahn South course



#### [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

**June 10, 2023**  
Street Survival School  
Route 66 Raceway

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

Chris Gregor-----630-661-7167  
Peter LeSueur-----630-569-5026  
Dave Tatge-----630-880-0406  
Rick Bentson-----708-289-5254

**A list of all Chicago Region solo, track day, rally, and meeting dates are provided at the end of Piston Patter**

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## RE Marks

### **Board of Directors Nomination Committee Process**

The Committee will consist of 3 members appointed by the Board of Directors and 4 members nominated by the Board of Directors. What's the difference between being appointed and nominated? Appointed members of the committee cannot be challenged by the general membership. However, according to our by-laws the nominated members can be challenged by the general membership. The membership can submit an alternate slate of 4 nominees with a petition, with 260 membership signatures (20% of the active membership) to the Board of Directors Secretary by June 20. If an alternate slate is presented to the Secretary, then the membership will vote on the eight nominees with the top four vote getters being appointed to the committee. This process gives the nomination committee voting majority to the membership and not the board of directors.

### **2023 Board of Directors Nomination Committee**

The Board of Directors has appointed the following members to the nomination committee. Dave Tatge Jeff Kumler Jerome Cahuzac

The Board of Directors has Nominated the following members to the nomination committee. Mike Smith Jim Marinangel Ed Locke Steve Laske

### **Club Racing's Driver of the Year**

The Chicago Region Driver of the Year Award is presented to the driver who has achieved the best all-round performance over the course of the club racing season. Chris Schaafsma was the 2022 winner. So drivers, if you are aspiring to be next year's driver of the year, here is how you gather points. First you must be a member of the Chicago Region and points are awarded by class. So, if you are a multi-class driver your points are awarded by class achievements.

First are the series championships, Cen/Div, Majors, and Super Tour. Second is the run-offs. Points are awarded for first, second and third in class. Points are also awarded for the first 5 places in class at the June Sprints. Triple-Crown® winners get bonus points.

Points are also awarded to class winners at any Major or Division race. Lastly participation points are awarded for attending the 3 Chicago Regional races.

Roger Vilmur

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**Henry "Hank" Jaffe**  
**July 21, 1935 - March 19, 2023**  
**57 Year Member**



The racing community has lost a devoted Chicago Region member. Hank was actively involved in region activities for most of his life. Starting as a race car builder and driver of numerous cars and progressing to a race worker. Hank spent many years actively working numerous races as a corner worker and became a race steward in mid-1980s. He also served on the CenDiv competition committee from 1990 to 1996. In 2012, Hank was awarded the Chicago Region Founders Award for his dedicated service to the Region.

Regretfully, the Region has lost another good long time friend.

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### [Road America Resurfacing Project](#)

ELKHART LAKE, Wis., – November 3, 2022 – A ribbon cutting at America’s National Park of Speed commemorated the completion of the long-anticipated replacement project of the racing surface that has not been overhauled since 1995. Milling and grinding the entire 4.048-mile racetrack, including the pit lane, began on October 3. Fine grading, a new base layer, and a new final surface asphalt layer followed in late October. Now the all-new race surface has the entire off-season to cure before the 2023 season.

The big news is that aside from the opportunity to make minor adjustments, the original configuration of the entire racetrack remained the same. Advanced Materials Services consultants, Walbec Group engineers, and their Northeast Asphalt team were mindful of the tracks’ history and authentic character. Before milling off the old surface, the entire racecourse was surveyed to allow the engineers and Road America to review the track’s unique characteristics and make decisions that guided the grade control process during each step of the repaving process. Over 7,000-grade control points were set to direct the grading and paving process to ensure that the track width, camber angles, and curbing locations were accurate within a tenth of an inch.

“Our goal was to put the track back exactly as we found it to maintain its distinct features and preserve the track’s significance in the racing world,” said Craig Donze, Engineering Manager for the Walbec

Group. “High-quality aggregates were locally sourced from Wisconsin, and the team used a highly polymerized asphalt mix to maximize durability. Multiple tests were performed throughout the project to ensure the surface would handle the weather and racing stresses. Teamwork from initial planning through construction resulted in a racing surface that will provide competitors and racing fans enjoyment for years to come.”

Engineers and Road America worked collaboratively throughout the project to improve drainage around the property and upgrade features that cross beneath the racing surface before paving. This included increasing the size of culverts and running new conduits under the track to support the facility’s events. Over 800 truckloads were removed during milling, with nearly the same number of trucks bringing in the new asphalt racing surface for paving. During the project, two paving machines ran in an echelon (side-by-side) pattern to minimize the center seam visibility and maintain a consistent density.



“This was a massive endeavor, and we are extremely excited to have a new racetrack for competitors and fans to enjoy,” said Mike Kertscher, Road America’s President and General Manager. “The goal was to keep it the same as our founder Clif Tufte envisioned, and we’re certain we met that goal. We look forward to the future with this all-new track and pit lane, and we encourage everyone to get their season passes, tickets, and camping for what we anticipate will be an incredible season in 2023.”

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### [Chicago Region March Meeting](#) March 22, 2023

The Chicago Region held its first General Membership meeting for this year at Blackdog Speed Shop. Ray Sorensen graciously hosted the event as we all gathered in the race shop. This year Blackdog Racing is competing in the Fanatec GT World Challenge with a GT4 Camaro driven by Tony Gaples and the car was in the shop as they prepared to leave for the first race of the season at Sonoma Raceway this past weekend (Mar 30 – April 2).

At the meeting, the Region recognized our members reaching milestone membership years and those who have served on committees throughout the past year.



**Bonnie Gladish received the 60 Year Member Award**



**50 to 60 Year Region Members Honored**



**Region Committee Award Recipients**

Following the awards presentation, **Peter Jankovskis our Area Director and President of the SCCA Board of Directors** provided an overview of material presented and discussed at the CenDiv Spring Training event. Peter J also discuss the new rule requiring in car cameras in all race cars at all race levels. Peter shared what he knew about the new rule and answered questions from the membership in attendance. It appeared that for every question and answer it created yet another question and further discussion. Overall it was a good exchange of information and conversation on the topic continued well after the business portion of the meeting ended.



## 2023 CenDiv Drivers School and Championship Series Double Divisional

**Blackhawk Farms Raceway  
April 14 -16, 2023**

Co-hosted by Milwaukee, Chicago, Blackhawk Valley and Land O' Lakes Regions

Featuring a complete SCCA Driver School program starting on Thursday evening and running through Saturday morning, and full SCCA Regional Races on Saturday and Sunday

This is a CENDIV Championship Series points event. Series rules, including regional-only car classes can be found on the CENDIV website at <http://www.cendiv-scca.org>  
Friday Drivers School Students must complete the SCCA Online Training Course

The instructions can be found in this document [https://sccatraining.com/centraldivision\\_reg](https://sccatraining.com/centraldivision_reg) and choose "self register" at the bottom of the page.

*\*\*\*Annual Tech Inspection: Will be available this weekend*

**DRIVER ELIGIBILITY:** The Driver School is open to all valid SCCA Novice Permit holders. Drivers with valid SCCA. Full Competition licenses may enter the Driver School with the approval of the Chief Steward prior to submitting entry. Chief Steward can be reached at : [mbeaumia91@att.net](mailto:mbeaumia91@att.net)

All Drivers School students must complete the Central Division Road Racing Online Drivers School. [Link to On-line Drivers School](#)

Registrar Information: Primary  
Drivers School/Primary Registration  
Kathy Beimel  
2616 Luedke Ct

Contact: Divisional Race:  
Ann Marie Stinehelfer  
380 Greystone Circle

Sheboygan, WI 53083-4716  
[regkatscca@gmail.com](mailto:regkatscca@gmail.com)  
920-377-1926

Plymouth, WI 53073  
[amstine45@gmail.com](mailto:amstine45@gmail.com)  
720-339-0991

**For more information and to register, click [HERE](#)**  
(Deadline 4/11/23 11:59pm)

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## **The 2023 Chicago Region SCCA Spring Tour/Rally “Ride the Rooster”**

Brought to you by G.O.A.T.S. “Get Out and Tour Series”

**May 6, 2023**

The Chicago Region will be running another G.O.A.T.S. (Get Out and Tour Series) event. Join us this spring for another drive through northern Illinois and 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 backroads providing scenic views and plenty of turns and elevation changes. The drive will take approximately 3 hours to complete ending in Lena Illinois at The Rafters restaurant where we will all meet for lunch and some socializing. After lunch if you like you can visit the Lena Brewing Company and the Red Barn gift shop both are on the same property as the restaurant. Also, if you are wondering where the name for this tour came from, you will have to drive the tour to find out. Join us won't you and we will all know about “Ride the Rooster”.

### **Event Information:**

**When:** Saturday May 6, 2023

**Registration:** Pre-event registration is required on MotorsportReg. The entry deadline for this event is midnight Sunday April 30, 2023

**Entry Fee per car:** \$15.00 SCCA Members, \$35.00 Non-members (Weekend membership for all non-member drivers is required, fee is included in entry) the weekend membership fee can be applied towards a full SCCA membership. 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, Click [HERE](#)**

**Brought to you by the Chicago Region SCCA, Get Out and Tour Series (G.O.A.T.S.)**

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## Solo School



The Learning Curve is a bit different than the average autocross event. The goal with this 2-Day Instructional Course is to get folks who are new to racing to be more comfortable with the process and nuances so they can be more focused on racing and having fun while at the race. An autocross can be a stressful day if you aren't prepared, and by the end of this weekend you will be ready for pretty much anything that could come your way on race day.

Learn how to race your car on a closed race course with personal instruction. Autocross or Solo racing is the sport of racing against the clock on a race course made of small orange traffic cones. The goal being to navigate the course in the shortest amount of time possible without knocking down any of the cones or deviating from the course which would be known as a DNF or did not finish. You race one at a time, this is not wheel to wheel racing. The best instructors in the area will give you one-on-one instruction in your car and get you up to speed! How to attack the day from the beginning to end. We will teach you the basics of the sport including how to prepare your car and yourself for the day and also how to work the course. What to expect the day of the event from registration through the trophy ceremony. No matter where you attend an Autocross event, you will be well prepared after having attended the Learning Curve.

**For the Saturday & Sunday schedule, entry fees, event information, and to register:**

[Click HERE](#)

Registration ends April 13, 2023 8:00pm

## 2023 Solo Competition Events



Full Event Schedule and Rules can be found on our site here:



**Must Pre-Pay on MotorsportReg!**  
**No Cash or Credit Card Payment will be accepted on site!**  
**Your card will be charged 24 Hours prior to the event. You must cancel by 7am of the event day to ensure full refunds. All other exceptions subject to the discretion of the Board. Prompt communication is the most important factor.**  
**PLEASE FILL OUT AND BRING WITH TO EVENT (TECH SHEET)**  
[https://scca-chicago.com/wp-content/uploads/Solo\\_Tech\\_Sheet.pdf](https://scca-chicago.com/wp-content/uploads/Solo_Tech_Sheet.pdf)  
**For race day schedule, event fees, driver's information, and to register for each event:**  
**Click [HERE](#) for Event 1 and [HERE](#) for Event 2**  
**Early Registration ends April 29 & 30 at 8:00am**

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**June 23-25, 2023**  
**Registration is Open**

**Register at: [msreg.com/junesprints2023](https://msreg.com/junesprints2023)**

Drivers without internet access may request a paper entry form and mail it with their entry fees to the Chief Registrar. Any check not processed by your bank will result in an incomplete entry to be resolved between the Chief Registrar or Club Office and the Driver or Entrant. Do not mail entries by any method that requires a signature for delivery. Phone / fax entries will not be accepted.

Chief Registrar:  
Sue Green  
19010 Round Grove Road  
Morrison, IL 61270  
Telephone (815)718-4881 (Phone calls returned after 6:00pm)  
Email: [registration@junesprints.com](mailto:registration@junesprints.com)

Please complete the entire entry form. Complete the Reserved Parking form to request a parking space. The biographical information is optional, but please complete it for the announcers. If you do not register on-line and mail the forms with your check to the Chief Registrar, please include your parking and race entry fees in the same check. Do not send a separate check for parking. For the 2023 Chicago Region June Sprints, competitor motor home camping in your paddock space is included in the parking fee. All parking questions should be directed to the Parking Coordinator.  
Roger Vilmur, Parking Coordinator Email: [junesprintsparking@gmail.com](mailto:junesprintsparking@gmail.com)

Race details, specific dates, entry fees, refund information, test days, and schedule are available on the msreg June Sprints website.

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## [On The Green Stuff](#)

After a very mild winter – in Chicago, anyway – Spring is upon us. In Spring trees awaken, racing starts, grass grows, racing starts, flowers bloom, and did I forget to mention, RACING STARTS! The return to the racetrack with new friends to meet and old friends to catch up with is just around the corner. So get ready! Your friends will be attending the CenDiv Drivers School / Double Divisional on April 14 to the 16. Volunteers and Drivers can register at Motorsports Registration by clicking [HERE](#)

NEW TO RACING: At the CenDiv Drivers School / Double Divisional CenDiv will conduct another session of “Introduction to Racing”. Sometimes called “what is this thing 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.

See you there!

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# GENEVA CONCOURS *d'Elegance*

On August 27, 2023 the Chicago Region SCCA will again participate in the Geneva Concours d'Elegance in Geneva Illinois with the Chicago Region's “Concours for Sports Cars” being a featured group. 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.

If you have a sports car or competition car and would like to enter it in our event, **please email Peg Ball, registrar ([pegball@comcast.net](mailto:pegball@comcast.net)) to receive or submit the entry form or if you have any questions contact Steve Laske at [laske.steve@gmail.com](mailto:laske.steve@gmail.com) or 630-258-3820.**

If you are looking for something that is fun and enjoyable to do, please come and join us. Entry for spectators to the concours is free. So mark your calendar, August 27, 2023 a day and an event you won't want to miss. Watch Piston Patter for more details.



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## [2023 Chicago Region SCCA Photo Contest](#)

As a throwback to the 1990's when the Chicago Region held a photo contest, this year the Activities Committee has established a photo contest to record our anniversary year with photographs. We are requesting our membership to take photos at our events up to the end of October, using a digital camera or their cell phone. The photo categories' are open to the photographer's imagination. We are asking for photos of events, meetings, people (group or singles), action photos, quiet moments, cars (both street and racecars) just about anything that shows who we are and what we are all about.

We only want digital photos and are requesting these photos are entered by the photographer through our link on the Region's Website under the "Contact Us" tab then click on "Media Submissions". This will open the page to allow photo submissions. Make sure to record your name, the subject, and details about the photo so we know what it is about. The photos which are submitted will become property of the Region and may be used by the Region in Piston Patter and or other media promotions moving forward.

At the end of October the contest committee will select the out standing photos which will then be judged for the winners. Contest winners will be announced at the November General Membership Meeting.

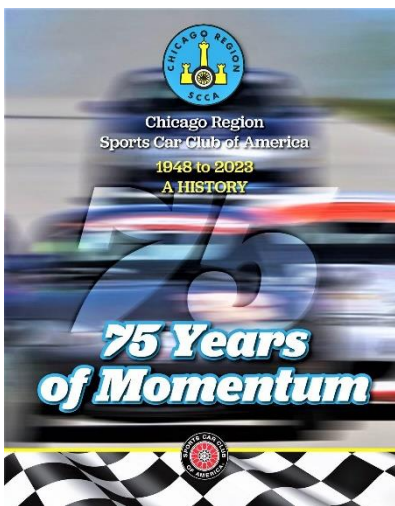
**We are looking forward to your participation and photo entries,  
remember this will only be a success if you participate.**

Thank you, the Activities Committee

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

**Get your copy at Chicago Region 2023 events.**





**To anyone interested in our Gen 2 Pro Tour Series.**

I want all of our group to have the first opportunity to watch this incredible video that George Sanchez and his team put together. Thank you George, for this amazing effort and piece of work. Click below to watch the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3W5J68zPz4>

Enjoy!

Jim Perry

SRF GEN 2 PRO TOUR 2023 Co-conspirator

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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**March Trivia Question**



**Question:** Match the first race dates at each of the following racetracks:

Blackhawk Farms 1950

Elkhart Lakes Street 1953

Meadowdale Raceway 1956

Road America 1958  
Wilmont Hills 1969

**Answer:** The first race dates at each of the following racetracks are:

Blackhawk Farms	1969
Elkhart Lakes Street	1950
Meadowdale Raceway	1958
Road America	1956
Wilmont Hills	1953

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### April Trivia Quiz



**Question:** With the celebration of the Regions 75th anniversary year:

- How many of the current 1358 regions members have been members for over 50 years? (27, 39, 51, 63 or 91)
- Of these 50-year members, how many are at least 75 years old? (27, 39, 51, 63, or 91)

**Answer:** Will be in Piston Patter May issue.

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### 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.

Matthew Azari  
Alex Bachwich  
Michael Bartenfelder  
Larry Best  
Keith Candiotti  
Michael S. Canfield  
Xiang Chen  
Spencer Crist  
John Duncan  
Brian Finegan  
Heather Finegan  
Mason Finegan

Nick Lo  
Joseph Marlo  
Aria Moscinski  
Pedro Uriel Olivo  
Barbara K. Parks  
Prithul Patel  
Joe Pratt  
Jessica Reineck  
John Reineck  
Paul E. Reineck  
Sebastian Reineck  
Merritt Schall Canfield

Nolan Finegan  
Patrick Finegan  
Joseph Heinz  
Kevin Hillner  
Edward Jackson  
Eli Jacobson  
Phillip Jue  
Pavel Kochanicek  
Sylvia Kosalka  
Christopher A. Lemp

Sachin Shah  
Stylianos Stavrakis  
Cassie Storbeck  
Pete Surges  
Michael Tetrick  
Craig Thompson  
Dheeraj Vemula  
Lorence Waterman  
Timothy Wiggins

## **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

## **2023 Chicago Region Road Race Schedule**

6/23-25, 2023 June Sprints National Race, Road America  
8/26-27/23 Double Regional Race, Road America  
9/9-10/23 Double Regional Race, Auytobahn  
10/7-8/23 Double Regional Race, Blackhawk Farms

## **2023 Chicago Region Autocross/Solo Schedule**

### **Autocross: (tentative)**

4/15-16/23 Learning Curve  
4/29-30/23 Event 1 & 2  
6/4/23 Event #3  
7/14-16/23 Chicago National Tour Event  
8/13/23 Event #4  
8/20/23 Event #5  
9/17/23 Event #6 Tripod Challenge  
10/7-8/23 Events #7 & 8

### **Street Survival**

6/10/23

## **2023 Chicago Region Track Day Schedule**

### **Track events:**

5/26/23 Autobahn South course  
6/9/23 Autobahn Full course

7/1/23 Autobahn South course  
7/22/23 Autobahn south course  
8/18/23 Autobahn North Course  
9/8/23 Autobahn South Course

**Track Sprint:**

6/11/23 Autobahn South Course  
8/19/23 Autobahn North Course