

From: George W Laws gwlaws@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Fw: Chicago Region Piston Patter
Date: May 9, 2024 at 5:00 PM
To: Kevin Bowman Kevin.Bowman1@gmail.com

From: SCCA Chicago Region <claire@sccachicagoregion.ccsend.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 10:09 AM
To: gwlaws@sbcglobal.net <gwlaws@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Chicago Region Piston Patter



Chicago Region, SCCA Piston Patter Newsletter April 2024

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Welcome to the April 2024 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.

[2024 Event Calendar](#)

April 13-14, 2024
Learning Curve Solo School
Route 66 Raceway, Joliet, IL

April 18-21, 2024
CenDiv Drivers School
CenDiv Double Regional
Blackhawk Farms

April 27, 2024
Membership Meeting
Volo Auto Museum
Volo, IL

May 11, 2024
South Elgin High School's Cars
and Coffee

May 18, 2024



[2024 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
Chris Gregor – Treasurer-----630-661-7167
Peter LeSueur-----630-569-5026
Dave Tatge-----630-880-0406
Rick Bentson-----708-289-5254
Heather Ingraham-----847-471-3218

May 10, 2024
Spring Tour/Rally
South Beloit, WI

Rich Walke-----847-274-0283

May 24, 2024
Track Day & Time Trial #1
Autobahn Country Club

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

RE Marks

CenDiv Spring Training

The 2024 edition of CenDiv Spring Training was held on March 16th and 17th. This event was held at a new venue. It was at the Milwaukee Area Technical College's North Campus in Mequon Wisconsin. This year's spring training has followed the same format as previous years. That mainly consists of the specialties of the four road racing regions, Chicago, Milwaukee, Blackhawk Valley and Land O'Lakes. These mainly consist of reviewing procedures and highlighting rule or safety changes.

Joining the Sprint Training was the Division's Track Events Committee representatives who focused on the logistics of supporting the first Time Trials National Tour Event in the Central Division. This will be held on April 13 and 14 at Road America.

One of the key training events was the introduction of FlagTronics in-car flagging system. The system was introduced to both the Stewards and Flagging and Communications in a joint training session. This system will be mandated at this year's runoffs at Road America, so the training was timely. Also, Road America announced that they have purchased a FlagTronics system that will be installed in April.

Also in attendance were three members of the National Team, President and CEO Mike Cobb, Region Communication Manager Abby Scher, and Regional Track Program Development Senior Manager Jon Krolewicz. Mike provided a presentation of the state of the club and fielded questions from the participants. Abby covered the resources available to region leaders and Jon supported the FlagTronics discussions and Time Trial National Tour planning.

The annual CenDiv Board of Directors also met this weekend and Elected Chicago Region member Ed Locke as Board President. Congratulations Ed and we are looking forward to working with you

Shift to CenDiv Convention 2025

One of the decisions to come out of the CenDiv board meeting was to expand "Spring Training" into a division convention. It is the desire of the board to expand the event to get all the regions involved. Currently the four road race divisions, Chicago, Milwaukee, Land O'Lakes and Blackhawk Valley, are the primary participants in spring training. That is to be expected as most of the sessions are built around road racing. The board has challenged itself to find topics that the other regions, Badlands, Iowa, Great River, Central Illinois, and Lake Superior would be interested in. Also, build activities around Solo, Rally Cross, Track Events, Time Trials, Hill Climb, Road Rallies, Street Survival, and Road Rally. If you have any ideas or want to help, please contact Ed Locke or any one of the Chicago Board members.

2024 Board of Directors Nomination Committee

The Chicago Region board is looking for members willing to be on the nomination committee that will select the 3 board members for the 2025 board. If you are interested contact any one of the board members. Or if you are interested in serving on the board as a director, again contact one of the board members.

Roger Vilmur

Welcome Ed Locke, CenDiv Board of Directors President

From Mike Smith March 19, 2024

Please welcome, Ed Locke, as our newly elected President of CenDiv. Ed received a unanimous vote of approval of attending Region Representatives at our annual meeting March 17th. Ed is a Chicago Region member with experience in regional leadership serving on the Chicago Board of Directors and the Competition Committee. Ed has been active in Autocross, Time Trails and Road Racing. Ed is currently a CenDiv Road Racing Steward. Ed brings to the table a wide variety of skills and is committed to continue the good things we've developed and nurtured in CenDiv.

Get to know the other CenDiv Board Members and Representatives:
Charles Duncan, Vice-President, Blackhawk Valley Region

Tracey Gauper, Treasurer, Milwaukee Region
Kathy Maleck, Secretary and Convention Chairperson, Land O'Lakes Region
Scott Carlborn, Lake Superior Region
Jon Faber , Badlands Region
Drew Hackett, Iowa Region
Rob Bealer, Great River Region
Jason Daily, Central Illinois Region
Mark Utecht, Land O'Lakes Region

Spring General Membership Meeting
March 27, 2024 at 7:00pm

Canadian American Challenge Cup (CanAm)

The Chicago Region Board of Directors kicked off the 2024 General Membership meeting season with a March hit. The first meeting was held at Blackdog Speed Shop. There is always something interesting to see or look at Blackdog and this visit was not disappointing. The shop was full of interesting vehicles of all types. One that stood out and seemed to create a lot of interest was a 1960 Cadillac two door coupe. At this stage of construction, there was not a lot to look at, in fact nothing but the body, painted flat black and no trim. But something about this car draws people in, I guess it's like a blank canvas to a painter, hundreds of possibilities, your mind runs wild with ideas. Then in the race shop was this year's new Blackdog Racing car. A Nissan Z, that looked rather mean. Does anyone want to take a guess as to how many races and championship this car will win.



The program for the meeting was a visit back to the heyday of SCCA road racing. Tom Stephani, Larry Fulhorst, and Bob McKee presented a fantastic visit back to the beginnings of the USRRC (United States Road Racing Championship) all the way through to the single seat CanAm cars of the 1980s. The focus was on the original Canadian American Challenge Cup (CanAm) from the mid-1960s through 1974, the cars, the drivers, and the stories. Tom Stephani provided a lot of background information, stories of traveling the country with his father and the Nicky Chevrolet racing team. Larry Fulhorst's claim to fame was going to all the races, seeing racing history in the making, and now sharing those stories. Larry also was the program moderator and had a knack for pulling information and stories out of Tom and our third guest of the evening Bob McKee. Bob shared many stories with us about the CanAm series but more about the cars he constructed for race teams. Many of Bob's cars were groundbreaking, way ahead of their time, and the stories of how they became, and their racing history is quite interesting.

If you were there during that time and when asked the show of hands was impressive, you know what it was like with very fast cars and a lot of noise. It was fantastic. If you missed it, we hope that the stories Tom, Larry, and Bob shared his insight into one of the greatest racing programs there ever was. The Chicago Region wants to thank Tom, Larry, and Bob for visiting with us and sharing their stories and adventures it was most enjoyable. So, if you think that was great, there was more. Paul Zimmerman, the Motorsport Collector joined us with CanAm memorabilia and collectables to add to the meetings experience.

If you made it to the meeting, we hope you had a good time, enjoyed this trip down memory lane when

If you made it to the meeting, we hope you had a good time, enjoyed this trip down memory lane when racing was unlimited, just a very few rules and the imagination of the constructor. If for some reason you were unable to attend, we're sorry that happened, you missed a very exciting meeting program and a chance to have your imagination stimulated. We look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting to see and talk about something we all have in common, CARS.

**We'll see you at the April 27, 2024, social meeting at:
Volo Museum (see the notice in this issue of Piston Patter).**

Solo Learning Curve School **April 13-14, 2024**

Chicago Region is calling all potential solo drivers, coaches, and workers for the April 13 and 14 Learning Curve to get signed up! Registration is open and we need you to spread the word. Tell anyone who might be interested about The Learning Curve! It's our introduction to Autocross School and the only one in the Chicago area with a two-day program on a HUGE site like Route 66. Spread the word and recruit those fellow future solo competitors, workers and coaches! We need YOU! Sunday runs like a regular event. As a Learning Curve coach or worker, you will get to test and run your vehicle as well on Sunday! Coaches need to work both days, Worker positions available for one day only. Please help out if you can. Sign up and share the following link far and wide!

To register: click [HERE](#)

2024 CenDiv Drivers School and Championship Series Double Divisional **April 18 - 21, 2024 Blackhawk Farms Raceway**

Event is co-hosted by Chicago, Milwaukee, Blackhawk Valley and Land O' Lakes Regions, SCCA

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/centraldivisionreg> and choose "self register" at the bottom of the page.

DRIVER ELIGIBILITY: The Driver School is open to all valid SCCA Novice Permit holders. Drivers with valid SCCA Full Competition, Novice license holders that have completed the school or have an approved full competition license from any organization listed in GCR App.C.2.8.B 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. All Drivers School students must complete the Central Division Road Racing Online Drivers School.

Link to On-line Drivers School Registrar Information:

Drivers School/Primary Registration	Contact: Divisional Race:
Kathey Beimel	Susan Green
2616 Luedke Ct	19010 Round Grove Rd
Sheboygan, WI 53083-4716	Morrison, IL 61270
regkatscca@gmail.com	swgreen321@gmail.com
<u>920-377-1926</u>	<u>815-718-4881</u>

Please - no calls after 9pm CDT. If you call during the day, please leave a message and your call will be returned after 5pm (when we are done with work)

For more information: Click [HERE](#)

General Membership Get Together

April 27, 2024
Volo Auto Museum

Chicago Regions April General Membership meeting and social gathering will be on Saturday, April 27 at the Volo Auto Museum and Antique Mall, 27582 Volo Village Rd. Volo IL, 60073.



The world-famous Volo Museum started as just a farmhouse in the 1800's. It was then a second-hand store, that added a small collection of fix-and-flip Model T's. The number of rare and special cars grew as quickly as the Grams brothers' reputation and people from all over the area started visiting just to see the collection. Seeing a business opportunity, they started charging \$1 and calling it the Volo Auto Museum. Over 60 years, and 4 generations of Grams later, millions of people have visited from all over the world to see one of the country's largest collection of rotating modern and classic collector cars, an antique mall with 300 vendors, and over 60 acres of the largest collections of the rarest, most fascinating and bizarre mechanical marvels, from boats, planes, and trains, to a military museum, Disney Galleries and a 15,000 square foot animatronic dinosaur park. Volo Museum has been featured on countless TV stations locally and many national TV shows and even had its own series on the History Channel called Volo House of Cars in 2019.

This is a great opportunity to see an excellent collection of cars and numerous attractions, have lunch with other Region members. FREE complements of Chicago Region.

Event Details

Check-in: 10:30 to 11:00am

Brief Meeting, Volo Museum Presentation, and Lunch: 11:00 - 12:00pm

Admission to the museum: 12:00 to 5:00pm

Region Members - Complementary Pizza Lunch and Free Admission to Museum

Region Adult Guests - Pizza Lunch and Museum Admission - \$20.00

Region Guests ages 5-12 - Pizza Lunch and Museum Admission: \$10.00

Region Guests under age 5 - Pizza Lunch and Museum Admission: Free

You must pre-registration for the event by April 22,
To register, click [HERE](#)

For more information about the Volo Museum and all its attractions, go to Volocars.com.

[South Elgin High School's Car and Coffee](#)
May 11, 2024 9:00 to 1:00pm

The Region will help sponsor and have a display at the South Elgin High School's Cars and Coffee. The Auto Tech students are responsible for conducting the event and the proceeds help support their program. The school is located at 760 East Main Street in South Elgin.

The Cars and Coffee will feature the Region's pop-up tent and several "cool" cars. The event provides the opportunity to promote the Club and its activities to a young audience.

If you would like to be part of the Region's display, please **contact Bob Malm at 847-695-0368**. All sports cars and performance cars are welcome. Race cars especially draw considerable spectator interest and attract attention to the display. Ample trailer parking is available. There is no cost for vehicles participating at Cars and Coffee.

Please join us having “fun with cars” on May 11th.
Region needs display cars and member support.

The 2024 Chicago Region SCCA Spring Tour/Rally “Wine in Time” May 18, 2024

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

May 18th 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 be approximately 120 miles ending in Prairie du Sac at The Wollersheim Winery – Distillery – Bistro where we will all meet for lunch and some socializing. The vineyard first began in the 1840's and turned to dairy farming during prohibition. In 1972 the property was purchased by the Wollersheim family, and they resumed wine making. Wollersheim Winery is a National Historic Site and has won many awards for their wines. After lunch if you like you can visit the wine tasting room or the distillery and pick up some treats. Join us won't you, for a great drive, good food, wine, and visit with friends.



Event Information:

When: Saturday May 18, 2024

Registration: Pre-event registration is required. Registration is open on MotorsportReg, <https://www.motorsportreg.com>. The entry deadline for this event is midnight Sunday May 12, 2024

To register, click [HERE](#)

Entry Fee per car: \$25.00 SCCA Members, \$45.00 Non-members (\$20.00 Weekend membership fee for all non-member drivers is required, which 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.

Ending at: Prairie du Sac at The Wollersheim Winery – Distillery – Bistro





2024 Track Day & Time Trial #1

May 24, 2024

Autobahn Country Club

Start Your Summer with a Track Day!

This event includes a Time Trial run group.

The SCCA Chicago Region invites you to the Autobahn Country Club on Friday, May 24 -- the beginning of Memorial Day weekend! -- with an evening Track Event and Time Trial on the SOUTH Course. Overview: We are planning three run groups for this event, and each group is scheduled to have three 20-minute sessions.

Entries: The entry fee for SCCA members for either the Track Event or Time Trials is \$195. For non-members, the entry fee of \$215 covers your entry + a \$20 weekend membership, and the weekend membership fee can be applied to a full SCCA membership. Join at **SCCA.com** and become eligible for discounts, experiences, and even more fun with cars. Transponder rental for the Time Trials is \$30, or you may register and use your own transponder. You can also use a personal lap timer, but your times won't be recorded or published, and inaccurate gridding may create congestion on track.

Event Day: Check-In begins at 2:00 PM; the mandatory drivers' meetings start at 4:30 PM; and on-track activities are scheduled to begin at 5:00 PM.

Run Groups: For safety and everyone's enjoyment, drivers will be divided into run groups based on skill and experience. The Track Event is for drivers of all experience levels and offers two options:

- 1) a Novice run group and
- 2) an Intermediate / Advanced run group. Please sign up early to secure your spot in the correct group!

A third option, the Level 1 Time Trial run group, is open to advanced, intermediate, and approved coach-level drivers in vehicles appropriate to the experiential nature of the program. (e.g., streetable vehicles with current plates, insurance, and registration -- not race cars). SCCA Time Trial licenses are encouraged and can be applied for [clicking HERE](#); alternatively, please be sure your MSR resumé is up to date. Event officials reserve the right to change participants. run group as needed.

Vehicle Eligibility: Trucks, most SUVs and crossover vehicles, as well as race cars, are not eligible for this event. Please **click here** to see the most current SCCA vehicle classifications for Time Trials.

To register, click [HERE](#)

Geneva Concours d'Elagance 2024

August 25, 2024

I am writing to inform you about the 2024 Geneva Concours d'Elagance scheduled for Sunday August 25, 2024. This year as in the past the Chicago Region SCCA will be hosting our "Concours for Sports Cars" as a featured group within the Geneva Concours. Every year our show has a theme, and this year is no exception. This year our theme will be **70 running of the Chicago Region SCCA June Sprints®**. This event will be the kickoff of the celebration of the 70 June Sprints to be held at Road

America in 2025. To help showcase the 70 June Sprints I'm looking for ten to twelve race cars that have competed in the June sprints over the years. If you have one of these vehicles, we would truly enjoy you sharing it with us and the concours spectators. Please contact Steve Laske with a phone call 630-258-3820 or email laske.steve@gmail.com by May 15 confirming your interest and intent to enter your car, this will help with planning the event.

If you have a race car or sports car and can join us, please contact registrar Peg Ball, 306 Weston Ct. ▪ McHenry, IL. 60051 ▪ 815-679-6780 or pegball@comcast.net to receive a 2024 registration form and return ASAP, deadline is May 30, 2023.

Thank you and take care,
Steve Laske

[On The Green Stuff](#)

Names – Rahal, LaGod, Tambourine, Marinangel, MacNeil, Varacins, Bovis, Boden; What is the common connection? What one thing sets them apart from others? The answer - Each has been awarded the Chicago Region Driver of the Year. The most recent

Fred Wacker Driver of the Year

Mark Boden

In a testament to driver dominance, he placed First and Fourth in the Chicago Region Driver of the year standings, Ranking First in T2 and Fourth in T1.

So, who was Fred Wacker? The following is an excerpt from an earlier Piston Patter article. Mr. Wacker was one of us. He was a lifelong member of Chicago Region, He was the first Regional Executive of Chicago Region, and he was President of SCCA National. He brought organizational skills to SCCA in the early days.

The Fred Wacker Driver of the Year Award is named in his honor because of the on-track expertise he demonstrated over and over again.

A sixth in his first ever race – at Watkins Glen against Briggs Cunningham and John Fitch

A first in class at Bridgehampton, A second overall & first in class at Elkhart Lake.

A first overall at the first Sebring 12 hour.

His first Grand Prix was at Chimay, Belgium then onto Nurburgring with Phil Hill

In 1954 in four Grand Prix races, he finished 6th at Monza & Avus in Germany

He was the “classic example of the Gentlemen driver”, he raced against some of the greats – Fangio, Moss, Hawthorne, Collins, Hill and Stuck.

He started what we are today and we honor his accomplishments with this award.

[2024 Solo Schedule](#)

April 13-14 The Learning Curve @ Rt66

April 20 TSSCC Test and Tune @ Grissom AFB

April 21 TSSCC Event #1 @ Grissom AFB

June 22 Event #1 @ Rt66

June 23 Event #2 @ Rt66

June 29 Street Survival School @ Rt66

June 30 Event #3 @ Rt66

July 20 Evolution Performance Driver School Phase 1 @ Rt66

[The Evolution Performance Driving School - Building Champions since 1993 - Autocross, Driver School, HPDE, License \(evoschool.com\)](#)

July 21 Event #4 @ Rt66

July 26 Chicago National Tour Test and Tune @ Rt66

July 27-28 Chicago National Solo Tour @ Rt66

August 3 TSSCC @ Rt66

August 4 Event #5 @ Rt66

August 18 Event #6 @ Rt66

September 3-8 SCCA Solo National Championships @ Lincoln, Nebraska

September 22 TSSCC @ Boomers

October 5-6 TSSCC @ Boomers

October 12 Event #7 @ Rt66
October 13 Event #8 @ Rt66

[Tentative 2024 "NORTHERN CONFERENCE" Majors Schedule](#)

May 17-19: Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course; Ohio Valley Region; Lexington, OH **Hoosier Super Tour**
June 21-23: Road America; Chicago Region June Sprints; Elkhart Lake, WI **Hoosier Super Tour**
July 6-7: Gingerman Raceway; South Bend Region; South Haven, MI
July 20-21: Road America; Milwaukee Region; Elkhart Lake, WI
August 17-18: Grattan Raceway; Western Michigan Region; Belding, MI

**Additional 2024 events will be added as they are confirmed for each Conference*

For the CenDiv 2024 Race Schedule, click [HERE](#)

[2024 Hoosier Super Tour Schedule](#)

(Note: The schedule below is subject to change. Keep an eye on **SCCA's Hoosier Super Tour webpage** for the most up to date schedule list)

- **April 20-21: Hallett Motor Racing Circuit; Jennings, OK**
(Ark Valley Race Group - Mid-States/Southern Conference)
- **May 11-12: Portland International Raceway, Portland, OR**
(Oregon Region - Western Conference)
- **May 17-19: Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, Lexington, Ohio**
(Ohio Valley Region - Northern Conference)
- **May 31-June 2: Watkins Glen International; Watkins Glen, NY**
(Finger Lakes Region - Northeast Conference)
- **June 21-23 Road America – Chicago Region® June Sprints®; Plymouth, WI**
(Chicago Region - Northern Conference)

One additional event will be added.

[Chicago Region SCCA Apparel](#)

SCCA now has an apparel store selling T-shirts, polos, hooded sweatshirts, pullovers, full-zip hoodies, hats, and safety vests with Chicago Region and SCCA logos.

For apparel information and to purchase items, click [HERE](#).

[2024 Chicago Region New & Returning Members](#) **March 1 – 29, 2024**

Chicago Region is pleased to welcome the following new and returning 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.

Alexander Balaguer
Michael Dinardi
Eric Esterly
Kody Gavinski
Scott A. Giles
Erick J. Hallick
Benjamin Harkenrider

Nikhita Kasana
Nate Kindlon
Justin Lahtinen
James Robert Mills
Daniel Nitoi
Michael Dane Nitoi
Ryan Nitoi

Jennifer Harkenrider
Matthew Harkenrider
Nathan Harkenrider
Nicholas Harkenrider
Patrick Harkenrider
Tyler Hodge
Glenn Johnson
Jim Johnson

Andrew Oehring
Robert Omelson
Eugene Plaza
Thomas Pravongviengkham
Mitchell Robert Terry
Jeff Weihe
Lukasz Wojcik

SCCA Chicago Region | 921 Lawn Circle, Western Springs, IL 60558

Unsubscribe_gwlaws@sbcglobal.net

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