



# The Bulletin®

The Official Newsletter of the  
North Carolina Region SCCA



## As Our Outgoing RE Reflects on the Past 3 Years...

by Mark Senior

Happy New Year and welcome one and all to what I feel will be an exciting new season for the North Carolina Region. I'm writing this article with mixed emotions, as this will be my last one as your RE. While I look forward to stepping aside so I can focus on my family and my racing (in that order!), I certainly will miss all the people and activities that have made the past 3 years so rewarding.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to making my job easy, including: the members of our Board of Directors who provide the real leadership and direction for our club; our Specialty Chiefs and others on the Comp Board who keep our events running like clockwork; our Webmaster and Newsletter Editor who keep us all well informed, the leaders within the Solo program who have built a flourishing program from scratch, and last but certainly not least, all the other volunteers who contribute endless amounts of time and enthusiasm towards making ours an exceptional region.

In the January article, I generally review the accomplishments of the past year. However, since this is my last article as RE, I'd like to begin by going back a little further and look at the overall progress we have made during the past 3 years.

- First, the Region found itself in somewhat of a financial crisis during my first year as RE. Revenues were down and expenses were up. As a result, the Region's budget ended up in the red for the first time in many years. Through effective planning, some sound advice from our Budget and Finance Committee, and a little belt tightening, we are once again back on a sound financial footing.
- Second, I think communications within our Region; between the regions of the SEDiv; and between NCR and SCCA National have improved considerably over the past 3 years. When I started, many members, myself included, felt decisions were being made behind closed doors at the national level with little or no input from the membership. When folks mentioned the "secret car club" this is what I thought they meant. Fortunately, I am very pleased to say that as the result

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## ...Our Incoming RE Makes Plans for the Future

by Glenn Long

Having attended the SEDiv Annual meeting in Jekyll Island, Georgia on January 18-20, I wanted to share my perspective and a few points of interest with you. First off, I was sincerely impressed with the level of dedication and commitment by everyone in attendance. Just like during our events, everyone there was willing to help a 'newby' navigate the terrain.

Saturday & Sunday I attended a meeting on Tech, one on ECR's, another on SARRC, as well as, several of the director and RE meetings.

Phil Creighton, our new Area 12 Director and K.P. Jones, continuing as Area 3 Director, welcomed us all, covered the meeting formats, gave a very general overview of the health of the club (which is very good, by the way) and sent us on our way.

### Tech meeting.

I would say that the highlight of that meeting was that the SCCA BOD has approved a Spec Miata compliance fee based on participant requests. There will be education, training and tools available for our local tech team. National Tech folks will also be attending many events throughout the year. The waterfall effect of the formal training will be that Tech can apply many of the techniques and procedures in most of the classes, in addition to SM. There was also some discussion about SRF tire marking and the new process that should be used for double nationals. Buddy Matthews was there and certainly knows what to do! We also discussed a sticker for each side of the car that contains weight, class and track, i.e. some basic info to help the Tech team with info at a glance. And finally, there was a request to ensure that all drivers have the correct patches on their suits.

### ECR

Big changes - everything stays the same! The big changes are that the ECR series will now be modeled much closer (almost a cut and paste, actually) of the SARRC rules. No more \$35 entrant registration, no more prize money - but trophies instead with no ECR sanction fee. What stays the same? The same great endurance racing, the five-minute pit stop and 1.5 hour race duration remains in tact. These changes were very

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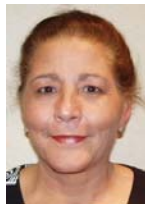
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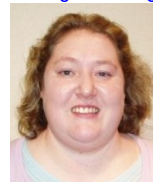
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Looking for a volunteer...  
Who wants to step up?

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of mounting pressure from our Region and others, the current national leadership has gotten the message and has taken an active role in improving communications and seeking input.

- Third, I feel we have made significant strides at putting the fun back into our Club Racing program. I believe many of us felt that within SCCA, the fun had become lost in a cloud of rules, regulations, politics, and bureaucracy. In my first article as RE, I wrote, "If we're not having fun, then something is fundamentally wrong". Based on that position, the BOD embraced the philosophy that if an agenda item did not address making our programs more fun, fair, or safe, then it was of secondary importance to the Region. While we still have room to improve, I think that philosophy has, and will continue to serve the Region well.

Last but foremost, I'm very pleased to say, without hesitation, that our Region's Board of Directors (BOD) has developed into one of the most sincere, most cooperative, and most effective Boards in all of SCCA. Through my interaction with other regions as part of the SEDiv and National Conventions, I have seen other regions falter and stumble as the result of internal conflict and controversy. While not immune to such weaknesses, our BOD has been able to overcome any differences and work together as a team and focus on what's best for the Region. I can't overstate how important this is for the Region and how fortunate we are to have such a dedicated group of individuals as our leaders.

Getting back to the Region's accomplishments for the past year. Those who come to mind include:

- In 2007 we worked hard to improve the Region's relationship with VIR, which I feel was instrumental in allowing us to regain our March race date at the track and to secure the desired date for our upcoming April Double National. This

would not have been possible without the efforts of the F&C team, especially Eric Danielsen, who spent a great deal of time working with VIR staff.

- The inception of a growing PDX program. While this program has struggled with attracting adequate numbers, the support of the Solo group and our BOD resulted in a very popular event this year, as well as at least 2 anticipated events for 2008.

- The solidification of the already established Solo2 program. Richard Franklin and the other leaders among the Solo2 program have done an incredible job in developing this into an outstanding program. While others are struggling just to find sites for events, our program has managed to increase its number of sites and the total number of participants and events has grown each year.

- This past year, the region returned to racing at Rockingham after many years. Based on what I've heard from those who were around when our Region used to race there regularly, 2007 was the largest turnout ever at that track. While less desirable than VIR, I think everyone agreed that the track was fun and the BOD intends to work with the new owner to try to host at least one race there each year.

- 2008 also included a return of a Rally program. While historically not a major part of our Region, Rally is a long-standing program within SCCA and I'm hoping our Region will expand its offerings to regularly include rallies.

I think our biggest accomplishment for 2007 was to finally get everything to fall in place for the Region to host a Double National at VIR in 2008. This achievement was a long time coming and took the combined efforts and perseverance of many region members. I sincerely believe that this event can be

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## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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Deadline for editorial submissions is the Monday following the monthly NCR Board of Directors meeting, which is held on the third Wednesday of each month.

## Advertising rates for *The Bulletin*

Ad size	Number of Insertions / Cost			Type
	1 issue	3 issues	11 issues (Yr.)	
Business Card	\$15.00	\$40.00	\$120.00	Non-Member
	<b>\$10.50</b>	<b>\$28.00</b>	<b>\$84.00</b>	<b>Member</b>
1/4 page	\$30.00	\$80.00	\$225.00	Non-Member
	<b>\$21.00</b>	<b>\$56.00</b>	<b>\$157.50</b>	<b>Member</b>
1/2 page	\$50.00	\$138.00	\$415.00	Non-Member
	<b>\$35.00</b>	<b>\$97.00</b>	<b>\$291.00</b>	<b>Member</b>
Full page	\$80.00	\$225.00	\$675.00	Non-Member
	<b>\$56.00</b>	<b>\$157.50</b>	<b>\$473.00</b>	<b>Member</b>



*Outgoing RE's Report*  
(Continued from page 3)

come the premier National event on the east coast provided our members are ready to do what it takes to put on a first class race. This event will allow us to show the rest of SCCA what NCR is capable of.

I hope everyone recognizes that these accomplishments certainly cannot be attributed to me or to any one individual. They are the result of many of us working together and supporting each other.

While we once again had an outstanding year, there are still some challenges remaining, including:


- Re-establishing MARRS involvement. For a variety of reasons, the MARRS leadership has decided not to include our Mother's Day race as part of their series for 2008. I think most of us agree that the SARRC/MARRS double was one of our most successful and fun race weekends. While we anticipate many of our northern friends will come down to play with us anyway, we are still disappointed we were unable to work things out for 2008. With that in mind, I believe the BOD and Comp Board will make great efforts to work with the MARRS folks to once again include their participation in 2009.

- While we have made great strides in improving communications among the SEDiv regions, I'm hoping we can do more to establish greater cooperation between regions. While some regions are blessed with desirable tracks and can make a profit on most races, other regions struggle to put on viable events without losing their shirts. Two possibilities include working with CCR to keep racing alive at Lowe's Motor Speedway and working with SCR to host an event at Rockingham.

- Due to the recent sale of the Rockingham track, our Region's status there is currently up in the air. We are already working with the new owners to establish a strong relationship, so we can continue to host events there.

- Our biggest continuing challenge will be insuring we have the volunteers we need to put on first class events. Our region has been fortunate to have a dedicated group of fun loving volunteers and unlike other regions, we have never had to cancel an event due to a worker shortage. However, we were precariously shy of workers on more than one occasion this year and we will need to do all that we can to bolster our volunteer ranks.

Since Phil Creighton has been elected as our new Area 12 Representative on the National SCCA BOD, we will need to work with him to insure good lines of communication between our Region and SCCA National. The good news is he has already sent notice that he intends to provide regular reports to us.

Thanks again for your support during the past 3+ years. 


*Incoming RE's Report*  
(Continued from page 1)

well received and after a few minor tweaks will be available on the ECR web site.

### **SARRC**

We discussed year-end tiebreakers of wins and seconds vs. finishing position at the SIC. The decision was to stick with SIC finishing position as the tiebreaker. The SIC will be extended to 20 laps. Also total qualifying time will be increased to 50 minutes. Florida and Central Florida regions will now have the option to run a total of 6 SARRC races with up to, two double SARRCs. This was agreed to, based on the significant increase in fuel costs and the reality of traveling vast distances.

The banquet was excellent as always. Congrats to the many NC region winners. I have plaques that I will get to the Chapter Coordinators for distribution.

So, all in all, I would say that the event was a success, fun and gave those of us who attended the chance to share ideas. 

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**GLENN LONG**  
**919-870-6558**  
**ALONG@NC.RR.COM**



## *Where NCR Meets :*

### **Cape Fear Chapter - Wilmington**

First Tuesday of the Month 7:00 pm  
McAlister's Deli Meeting Room  
740 South College Rd (Across from Kmart)  
Brad Draughon\*, Chapter Coordinator

### **Cape Fear Chapter - New Bern**

First Thursday of the Month 7:00 pm  
Family Tire and Auto Service  
Hwy 70, ¼ mile east of the Mazda dealer or  
just west of Taberna  
Chris Bray\*, Chapter Coordinator

### **Dan River Chapter - Danville, VA**

Dan River Chapter is currently not meeting due to the lack of a Chapter Coordinator. Any Dan River area members interested in reviving the chapter, please contact RE.

### **Triangle Chapter - Raleigh**

First Wednesday of the Month 7:00  
El Rodeo Mexican Restaurant  
Hwy 70 at Pleasant Valley  
James Shanks\*, Chapter Coordinator

### **West Chapter - Greensboro**

First Tuesday of the Month  
Dinner at 6:45, Meeting at 7:30  
Cooper's Ale House  
5340 W Market Street  
Ed Wentz\*, Chapter Coordinator

### **NCR Board Meeting - RTP/Durham**

Third Wednesday of the Month  
Dinner at 6:00, Meeting at 7:30  
Rudino's Pizza & Grinders  
4911 Central Park Lane, Durham  
(919) 474-8833 **All Welcome!**

\* see Chapter Coordinators' contact info on page 2



# Cape Fear Bench Talk

## February, 2008

### NCR Wins in South Carolina, Again!

With our regular season of SOLO completed, about 22 regular NCR competitors took to the road to compete in South Carolina. The two-day event took place at Myrtle Beach's soon to open Hard Rock Park. Nearly 150 competitors took to the largest piece of asphalt in M.B. NCR, as we did in April, took home about a dozen trophies including FTD!! Stan Vann in his CM Caldwell D9 posted FTD with one of the few sub-30 second runs on Sunday.

Hard Rock Park, check out the Led Zeppelin Roller Coaster in the background!!



Thanks to Morgan M. for the pictures!!

More information can be found at [www.scrscca.com](http://www.scrscca.com) or at [www.hardrockpark.com](http://www.hardrockpark.com).  
Thanks SCR!!!

### Leadership Changes for SOLO in '08!

Two new Chapter Coordinators took office at our December meetings in the Cape Fear area. Brad Draughon was elected Chapter Coordinator for the Cape Fear Chapter, and Chris Bray was elected as the New Bern area Chapter Coordinator. Both are looking forward to a great year for SOLO in 2008. We are planning to return to the Global TransPark in Kinston. We would also like to expand our membership base in the Kinston and Raleigh area.

### Early Start to 2008 SOLO Season!

While we are still working on a full schedule for the 2008 Season, we are planning to hold 10 points events this year! Starting with the Spring Fling @ UNCW on February 24<sup>th</sup>, we are planning 4 events at New River Air Station in Jacksonville and 2 events in the Kinston area. Look for two Saturday Novice Schools this season at New River Air Station. Also planned is a Saturday night finish in Downtown Wilmington at Cape Fear Community College in August! Look for schedule updates at [www.ncrscca.com](http://www.ncrscca.com).

Pre-registration will open soon for the February 24<sup>th</sup> Spring Fling @ UNCW at [www.myautoevents.com](http://www.myautoevents.com).

### Second Annual Quest for the Cape Fear Cup!

With the start to the 2008 SOLO Season quickly approaching, take some time to think about Team Autocrossing! It's fun, easy, and adds a whole other level of competition to our SOLO events. All you need to qualify are five different drivers from five different classes per event. There is a maximum of twelve drivers per team. At the end of competition runs, your teams five lowest PAX times are added up and compared to the other teams. The team with the lowest total PAX time wins the event! If you win enough events you may qualify your team for the Cape Fear Cup! Team Kestrel Racing is the defending champion in 2008. If you are interested in creating your own team or joining one of the few established teams, I would recommend attending one of our February meetings.

Brad Draughon – STS #17



## Minutes from monthly Board Meeting November 28, 2007

**Present:** Mark Senior, RE, Rex Deffenbaugh, Buddy Matthews, Scott Gallimore, Blair Stitt, Richard Franklin, Ginny Condrey, Jerry Pell, Heather Powers, Ed Wentz, Joedy Pennington, and, via telephone, Sara Snider.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:34 P. M. by Mark Senior, RE, at Rudino's Pizza and Grinders, 4911 Central Park Lane, Durham, N. C. The RE recognized guests: John Uftring, Brad Draughon, Bruce Dover, James Shanks, Glenn Long and Alana Long.

2. Motion (Deffenbaugh/Franklin) to approve the Minutes of the October 17, 2007, NCR Board of Directors meeting; Passed.

### Reports:

#### 1. Chapter Reports.

A. West Chapter. Ed Wentz, West Chapter Coordinator, reported that approximately 16-18 people attended the last West Chapter meeting. At that meeting the members discussed the shortage of workers and related issues; Ed reviewed with the Board a letter received by him from a worker who worked the Grand Am Koni Challenge Pro event at VIR. The members at the West Chapter meeting also discussed the recent Run Offs, held at Heatland Park, Kansas.

B. Triangle Chapter. James Shanks, the incoming Triangle Chapter Coordinator, reported that 18 members were present at the last Triangle Chapter meeting, wherein the members discussed the Region's planned events at VIR, scheduled in 2008.

C. Cape Fear Chapter/SOLO Program. Richard Franklin, Cape Fear Chapter Coordinator and Chairman of the SOLO Committee, introduced Brad Draughon, the incoming (soon to be elected) Chapter Coordinator for the Cape Fear Chapter. Richard reported that 17 members attended the last Cape Fear Chapter meeting and reported as to the recently held Rumble at the River autocross event, held in Wilmington, in November, and the autocross school. Further, he reported as to the Rally Around the Pumpkin event, recently held at New Bern. Richard also reported that the Cape Fear Chapter members discussed the Region's PDX and Time Trial program, at the Chapter meeting. He advises that there are 18 class Champions recognized this year in the Region's autocross program.

#### 2. Committee Reports.

A. Advertising: The straw poll of Board Members, as to a name for the double national at VIR is, by 2 to 1, Oak Tree Double National. John Uftring presented a color, half page, advertisement sample for potential use in promoting the Oak Tree Double National, at VIR, scheduled for April 11-13, 2008, which advertisement should be run by the Region in SportsCar and in other regions' publications. The April 11-13 date is the second weekend in April, 2008, which was a change from the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in April, 2008, as originally scheduled by VIR, which change was made to accommodate VDCA. In 2009, and thereafter, our event (Oak Tree Double National) will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in April. The RE advises that VDCA has acknowledged its appreciation for the cooperation received from our Region and VIR, in accommodating the VDCA weekend date change in 2008. As to the proposed advertisement for the Oak Tree Double National, in 2008, being a choice between color or black and white, to appear in SportsCar to advertise the Oak Tree Double National, a Motion (Pell/Pennington) was made to use the color advertisement in SportsCar; Passed. The Board then discussed the issue of the need for a special website for the Oak Tree Double National; the consensus of the NCR Board being that a special website is not needed, but that the Region should have a special page as part of its present website for the Oak Tree Double National event. Motion (Pennington/Wentz) that the Region pay for advertising in other region's newsletters for our Oak Tree Double National event, with a total cost cap, as to said advertising costs, of \$500.00; Passed.

B. Awards: Heather Powers will be looking at types of award plaques/emblems, etc. which are sold by Eric Danielson, for use as our Region's annual awards.

C. Banquet: The RE will check with the hotel to re-confirm the banquet date in January, 2008. The RE confirms that the Region will have a band at the banquet in January, 2008.

D. Budget and Finance: Sara Snider advises that she is trying to put together a budget and finance committee meeting in the near future.

E. Competition Board: The Comp. Board is hoping to have a Comp. Board meeting in December. The Comp. Board reports that the feedback on the 13-hour enduro event was, mainly, very positive. Elumaboards performed

very well, with two exceptions. Other issues discussed regarding the 13-hour event included fuel spills and related issues in that regard. The Comp. Board received some good comments about the treatment of the SCCA workers at the 13-hour enduro, who were rotated off station at times during the 13-hour long event. It was reported that there is a good working relationship with the track's corner workers who worked together during the Koni Challenge. There was also a discussion concerning the selection of the individual(s) for that (race chair) position. The issue of the Region's equipment trailer being stored at VIR was discussed. It was pointed out that the Region does not pay rent for leaving its trailer at VIR.

F. Membership: The RE advises that he has ordered ten SportsCar magazines per month, for use in promotion of new memberships. These issues will be sent to Ginny, who will distribute them to various outlets involved in encouraging and recruiting new members. James Shanks, the Membership Chairperson, also handles inquiries from potential new SCCA members, and may make good use of some of the copies of SportsCar.

G. PDX/TT: Mark Senior advises that he has spoken with the new owner of the Rockingham track about our Region's events at "The Rock". He advises that the new owners are positive about accommodating our events at Rockingham, though they acknowledged they are not experienced in road racing events. The RE requested that anyone having pictures of our racing event(s) at Rockingham in 2007-2008, bring those pictures to his attention. The Board discussed the potential of having a PDX event at VIR and the issues involved in holding such an event. The Board further discussed the issues and possibility of holding an autocross event on the skid pad at VIR.

H. Elections. The Secretary reported that he had received nominations for the following offices: RE – Glenn Long and Sara Snider, Members At Large (2 positions open) – Heather Powers, Buddy Matthews and Chuck Stanley, and Secretary – Jerry Pell. The RE advises that the committee to count the ballots will consist of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Deffenbaugh, Scott Gallimore and Ginny Condrey.

#### 3. Finance

A. Treasurer's Report: Attached to these Minutes are the Treasurer's Report consisting of a Profit & Loss Statement for the period October 18 – November 28, 2007 and a Balance Sheet, as of November 28, 2007, together with a Profit & Loss by Class audit for the period through November 28, 2007, covering the 13-hour enduro event, the Goblins Go event, the Grand Am Koni Challenge (non-SCCA) event and the Rumble at the River autocross event.

#### Old Business:


1. Convention policy: The RE discussed those persons who are eligible to attend the National SCCA convention with financial support from the Region. Those eligible and presently going are the new RE, Assistant RE, Secretary, Chief of Autocross Timing and Scoring, and maybe Heather Powers, as a Member At Large (Board Member), and Brad Draughon, as a Chapter Coordinator (Board Member), if these last two individuals decide to attend. The Board discussed others interested in attending. Motion (Matthews/Snider) to send Ron Gentry, a Steward, to the SCCA National Convention, in addition to the above-identified six, who are either members of the Board or is a specialty chief; Passed.

2. The RE reminded the Board that the Board had previously voted not to engage in future contract worker (SCCA worker) events at VIR, as part of a discussion by the Board of a scheduled SCCA pro event, at VIR, in 2008.

#### New Business:

1. Sara Snider advised the Board of the need to encourage a large group of workers to work the 3-day Oak Tree Double National at VIR in 2008. Sara recommended that the Board consider paying for motel rooms for SCCA workers, as in inducement to encourage a larger group of SCCA workers to work this major event. Motion (Snider/Matthews) that the Region pay for up to 3 nights of motel rooms, or pay worker credits, but not both, based upon motel rooms at \$65 per night for double occupancy (2 registered workers per room) for SCCA workers; Passed.

2. The RE discussed the recent election of our new SCCA National Area 12 Director, Phil Creighton, and discussed the upcoming Region's elections and the nominees for the positions now open on the NCR Board of Directors, which nominations the Secretary has previously announced, and discussed possible additional committee positions which may be needed.

Motion to adjourn (Pell/Pennington) at 9:07 P.M.; Passed. 

## Area 12 Directors Report

by Philip Creighton

After being elected in November, I hardly had time to think before I was in Topeka at the Club Office for my first meeting of the SCCA Inc. Board of Directors. All the new Directors go through an orientation process at the Club Office, seeing what the various people in each department do every day. There we were briefed by each of the department heads for Club Racing, Rally, Solo, Pro Racing and Risk Management so that we could get up to speed on their activities. Then it was into the December 'face to face' BOD meeting with a fairly full agenda that was completed with a lot of hard work by all concerned – BOD members and the SCCA staff. The minutes and details will be published in Fastrack shortly.

The first order of business was a presentation of the Insurance Report from Pete Lyons. The bad news is that there will be a significant increase in premiums next year due to losses in Rally or Solo events. After years of no significant claims we had a couple of serious accidents at solo events with out of control cars, particularly in the finish areas. Safety Stewards will need all the participants help in ensuring safe events and compliance with the SCCA's safety requirements, particularly in the finish line areas and with spectator control.

A report on the Street Survival program was given by Larry Dent and it was very positive. The Street Survival prototype events run this year (8 in all) proved that the events are practical and positive, with favorable impact on both regions and the community at large. The national program will be kicked off at the convention and I urge you all to attend if possible. Larry has been directly involved in two of these events, is Chairman of the SCCA Foundation and will be writing "Street Survival For Dummies" sort of paper in the coming weeks. It's an exciting program and I urge every region to try to run one next year.

Next came the budget report and it came as a pleasant surprise – the Club (SCCA Inc.) will probably end up with a surplus in excess of \$200,000 for 2007. Pro Racing will

probably end the year about even and Enterprises will be solidly in the black and repay more of their loan than planned. From the bleak picture a couple of years ago it appears that financial picture is reasonably good at the moment. We are down a bit on membership since the demise of the Subaru 'free' memberships and the Pro Rally department. There were some fee increases to cover increased costs, most notably the Appeal Fee went up to \$175 from \$125 and \$100 retained by SCCA. This was to cover the extra costs of appeals expenses, especially duplicating video evidence to a usable format. We also didn't make as much money off the Runoffs as the entry was down. – from less entry fees and from HPT's payment to the Club.

We spent a fair bit of time discussing and approving the \$10 compliance fee for Spec Miata. I think that there were concerns that the fees would go into the general fund with little competitor benefit as it did in some of the SRF years. However the Technical Staff is gearing up to produce compliance kits of checking tools and a part of the budget will be spent on training Tech Inspectors at the Club Office and in the field in addition to field trips. We really need the competitors to feel comfortable that cars are compliant at both Regional and National level and the only way to achieve it is with the local Tech Inspectors being better able to do their job.

There was some fairly heavy discussion on the current MazdaSpeed controversy at the end of the day. We know how important Mazda's support is at Club level, so we had a meeting between all the parties at the PRI show and resolved the issues. We all decided to move on and nor rehash the detail of who said what. Mazda seemed pretty happy with the result and the procedural changes so that should prevent something like the MXR Classification issue happening again. Mazda and

SCCA Pro announced that Playboy will sponsor the MX5 Cup so that a positive step.

The Runoffs was the main topic of discussion on Saturday. The Staff gave us the results of various surveys that were undertaken to find out why the event had lost both competitors and workers this year. Although all the surveys were not yet tabulated it certainly seems to come down to the fact that Topeka and Kansas is not seen as the best place to hold our Championship Event and even though the track has been improved since last year, it is not Runoffs quality. It's a pity because we have a great track owner in Ray Irwin that has really tried to accommodate the Runoffs by improving the facilities and has spent a lot of time and money on it. We are committed to 2008, by contract, to Heartland Park but 2009 and beyond was discussed at great length. Most of the operational problems this year can be fixed for next year and hopefully the safety aspects of the place upgraded – I had to repair two heavy hits on our own FC from contact with unprotected concrete walls, I'm not sure why they don't like tire walls there.

Beyond 2009, I don't know. We asked Jim Julow and his staff to look at all the possible sites for the Runoffs with perhaps a change in the business model to make it more attractive. We have the option of staying at Heartland Park on a similar deal as today – but it's in Kansas and our members are voting with their feet and not going. One theme that came through loud and clear is that we intend to make the Runoffs the Premier Road Racing event in this country.

Other than that, our Chairman, Bob Introne, has decided to step down and we elected our 2008 officers under the new Chairman RJ Gordy. Even though he's from the wrong coast he seems knowledgeable and fair, he competed in Spec Racer for many years and as an ex-police officer will hopefully keep us all in line! I will be on the Budget and Finance committee as well as the Compensation Committee as part of the new appointments – after 10 years of CRB work I avoided the rules making liaison duties.

We finally finished up with a Conference Call on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December to tidy up some issues and deal with the GT3 Runoffs situation – they will now be allowed to compete at the Runoffs in 08 as the 25<sup>th</sup> class. GP will largely be assimilated into FP and HP as they did not even make the participation numbers. We have a contradiction in that the Runoffs schedules are having an adverse effect on the class structure – we may have too many classes but its not a problem at the National events, only when we have to fit 24-25 classes into 3 days at the Runoffs.

On a more serious note, I am going to try keep you all informed and justify your votes in the recent election. I want to put a buzz back into National Club Racing as that seems to be where our membership feels we have problems.

If you need to contact me the best way is by E-mail at philipcreighton@earthlink.net

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Yes, it's been awhile since the running of the 13 Hour, but, on the other hand, it's the most recent race that NCR has held. Hopefully, these pictures will show you what you missed if you weren't there, and inspire you to come out on November 1, 2008 and join us for what is becoming one of the best endurance races on the East Coast. If you were there in 2007, then maybe these pictures will bring back some fond memories of an always enjoyable race. The weather was much better (pronounced, warmer!) than in 2006 and the racing was as good as ever. If you've never joined us for one of the 13 Hour races, be sure and come out to race or spectate or (even better!) to work it this year.

And don't forget about all the other awesome events hosted by NCR this year. Coming up March 8-9, is our first Regional race of the year, March Memories, which includes an ECR and CCPS race. We'll be running on the North Course at VIR this year, moved back from Rockingham after last year's scheduling problems. Then, April 11-13 (that's 3 days, folks!) is an event you definitely don't want to miss. It's the first Double National held at VIR! Expect it to be rivaled only by the June Sprints or the Runoffs, in terms of the number of participants and the quality of the racing. May 10-11, we'll have a Double SARRC. No MARRS this year, even though we expect many of the MARRS competitors to join us anyway, just because it's such a great event. Maybe next year the MARRS administrators will see the light and realize that we in the NCR know what we're doing! October 25-26 is the date for the Goblins Go, our last Regional race of the year and, as in March, will include an ECR and CCPS race. Finishing up the year, as mentioned above, will be the 13 Hour. Somewhere in the gap between the Double SARRC in May and the Goblins Go in October, we hope to hold a Regional and a PDX at Rockingham. The dates aren't confirmed yet, so just watch this space for news on those events.



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# 2007 Annual Awards Banquet



As the majority of the NC Region Board of Directors looks on, Outgoing Region Executive (RE), Mark Senior (far right) explains the two items he is presenting to Incoming RE, Glenn Long, which he will need to make it through his term...a bottle of Aspirin and a bottle of Tequila! Looking on (left to right) are Buddy Matthews, Member at Large; Blair "Pepe" Stitt, Outgoing Triangle Chapter Coordinator; James Shanks, Incoming Triangle Chapter Coordinator; Heather Powers, Member at Large; Ed Wentz, West Chapter Coordinator and Banquet Master of Ceremonies; Sara Snider, Treasurer; Joedy Penninton, Member at Large; Jerry Pell, Secretary; Rex Deffenbaugh, Assistant RE; Glenn Long, Incoming RE. (Photo © F&S Enterprises)



Worker of the Year was awarded to F&C Co-Chief, Eric Danielsen (right) by Mark Senior. The etched glass award was the only award presented that night which was not made by Eric and his company, All Star Impressions, so it was a complete surprise to him. Pit Co-Chief, Jon Messick was also awarded Worker of the Year, but he was not present at the Banquet. (Photo © F&S Enterprises)

## 2007 Awards

by Heather Powers - Awards Committee Chairperson

The 2007 Annual Awards Banquet and meeting is over and that brings 2007 to an official close. I wanted to recognize a few people and to congratulate the 2007 winners. The committee received a number of nominations and we had some tough choices to make. There were a lot of deserving nominees. We debated who should win some of the awards right up until the last minute. Eric Danielsen and his company, All Star Impressions, were very helpful and patient and provided some great looking awards.

Thanks to my fellow committee members Joedy Pennington, Scott Gallimore, Buddy Matthews, Ed Wentz, Blair Stitt, and Richard Franklin.

Who won, you ask? Well, let me tell you.

In addition to our normal awards we had a couple of special awards this year:

Extra Mile – Ginny and Kevin Condrey

Teamwork – Tim Gardner, Pete Papas, Brendan Scullion

Outstanding Service and Rookie awards for the specialties:

F&C - Rookie of the Year – Chris Layne

F&C - Outstanding Service – James Shanks

Grid - Rookie of the Year – Stephanie Long

(Continued on page 11)



*2007 Awards*  
(Continued from page 10)

Grid - Outstanding Service – Janet Bruce  
Pace Car Communicator - Outstanding Service – Ericka Spencer  
Pace Car Driver – Outstanding Service – Patrick Pardee  
Pace Car Driver – Outstanding Service – Joedy Pennington  
Pit - Rookie of the Year – Steve Tamarack  
Pit - Outstanding Service – Richard Wilcox  
Sound Control - Rookie of the Year – Jean Quick  
Starter – Outstanding Service – Jennifer Dover  
T&S – Outstanding Service – Anna Chrisman  
Tech – Outstanding Service – Jeff Lingle  
Tech – Outstanding Service – Charlie Keadle  
Registration – Rookies of the Year – Jamie and Tim Gardner

(Continued on page 12)



Ed Wentz, Pace Car Chief, presents the Outstanding Service Award in Pace Car Communication to Ericka Spencer.

*All Photos on pages 11 and 12 © F&S Enterprises*



Ginny Condrey (center) recognized Jamie and Tim Gardner as Registration Rookies of the Year.



Flagging & Communications Co-Chiefs Mark Biamonte (left) and Eric Daniels (right) presented a special award for Teamwork to Pete Papas (left center), Tim Gardner (right center) and Brendon Scullion (not present).



Chief Starter and proud father, Bruce Dover, presents the award for Outstanding Service by a Starter to Jennifer Dover.



Gary Gentry, Regional Rookie Driver of the Year receives his award from Master of Ceremonies, Ed Wentz.





Mark Senior (right) was awarded Member of the Year by Master of Ceremonies, Ed Wentz. Among Mark's many accomplishments in 2007 was securing a date at VIR for NCR's long-awaited Double National race.

(Continued from page 11)

Worker of the Year – Jon Messick

Worker of the Year – Eric Danielsen

Member of the Year – Mark Senior

E. Gordon Warren Steward of the Year – Clyde Kiser

Life Time Achievement – Brian Little

Driver of the Year – National – Russ Snow

Driver of the Year – Regional – Rick Thompson

Rookie Driver of the Year – Regional – Gary Gentry

Driver of the Year – Solo – Ken Porteous

Driver of the Year – ECR – Matt Douglas

Rick Cochran Perseverance Award – National – Keith Church

Let me go ahead and plant the seed in your mind to be thinking about who the recipients should be for 2008. As you go through the year, make notes about your fellow members, crew, drivers, workers, etc. With over 900 members in our region it's impossible to know who everybody is and what they have accomplished. Please let us know! It is especially difficult to know who rookie drivers are. You formula and sports racer drivers need to speak up too! There are some workers or crew that go above and



Many, many thanks to Art and Nancy Sinnott of F&S Enterprises. Their help has been invaluable in getting photos for this newsletter as well as for the NCR website. There was no award for them, but we are very grateful for their help and support of NCR. And thanks to you, too, Christina & David!

beyond for the club, but are quiet about it. Also, you may have noticed that we have several recipients from Solo rather than Club Racing. As we grow the Solo program, I would hope that we would see more names. We are still mostly a Club Racing region, so you Solo and Rally folks need to speak up and be heard!

Thanks for your nominations! I am looking forward to hearing from you next year! 🏁

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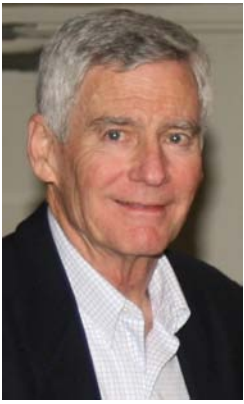
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## Brian Little - Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

This year, the Lifetime Achievement award was presented to Brian Little of Wilmington, NC. The presentation was made by outgoing Cape Fear Chapter Coordinator, Richard Franklin with reminiscences of their experiences with Brian made prior to the presentation by a couple of Brian's good friends and former crew members, Jim Lockery and Ed Bailey. Brian has been an SCCA member since 1964 and has owned, driven and built a great mix of cars. He has won 10 Divisional Championships in C Sports Racers and 1 in a D Sports Racer. Slowed slightly in recent years by Multiple Sclerosis, Brian still Autocrosses his Automatic Miata in E-Stock. "Brian has become a great mentor to us in the Cape Fear Chapter", says Richard Franklin, "a helpful instructor at the PDX and New River Marine Corps Autocross School and he's always willing to help wrench on racecars." Brian's son, Rich Little, is the Solo Steward and Board member with CCR and Brian is devoted to his wife Marion who is also an SCCA member.

Brian gives a lot of the credit for his remarkable career to those who have helped him through the years. On a website showing a history of Brian's racecars (<http://www.geocities.com/MotorCity/Shop/2607/becars/>), he offers the following Thank You to those who have made the trip with him: "SCCA Club Racing is not an individual effort. The following people have done what it takes to produce a SCCA Club Racing career. For almost 40 years, they have contributed at the track, in the garage, and in their shops. They have provided parts, tools, advice, labor, financial support, moral support, and most of all, friendships and memories to last a lifetime. Together, we won eleven divisional championships. I could not have done it without you. Thanks!" He then goes on to list the names of 76 people, many of whom are giants in the world of racing themselves and concludes with: "my fellow racers, and especially ALL SCCA WORKERS and OFFICIALS." 



Brian Little (left) and Richard Franklin. Richard is holding a photo of Brian sharing a laugh with Tim Pierce while wrenching on a race engine. (Photo © F&S Enterprises)



Taken in Cushing, Oklahoma in 1965 at Brian's first drivers school. He is in car #31 in the above shot.



Mild rebodied Lotus 23B This shot was taken at VIR on April 20 or 21, 1974.



These days, Brian autocrosses his E Stock Miata and mentors and instructs in the Wilmington area.





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## Crash & Burn School

It is official; we are having a Crash & Burn School February 23, 2008 at VIR. It will go from 9am to 3pm at the South Tower and Paddock. We will have classroom sessions covering F&C basics through Corner Captain; then Cowboy, VIR's Fire Rescue Chief, will lead the fire training. This will be a great introduction for new flaggers, it will take experienced flaggers to a new level and it will be a good refresher for all flaggers. We will take a one hour break for lunch; everyone should take care of themselves. They may bring their own or buy lunch at the Pagoda restaurant. Attendees need to register at <http://www.ncrscca.com/workers.htm> so they can get in the front gate & we will know how many people to prepare for. 🏁

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Thanks to all the generous contributors of door prizes for NCR's Annual Banquet.

Rick Mitchell: 3 Worker Credits valued at \$90

Ed Wentz: 3 Worker Credits valued at \$75

Blair Stitt: 4 Worker Credits valued at \$120

"Pudgy" Harvey: 6 Worker Credits valued at \$180

Wayne & Jean Quick: 8 Worker Credits valued at \$240

James Shanks: 9 Worker Credits valued at \$270,  
Autographed Carroll Shelby shirt

"Cricket" Harvey: 13 Worker Credits valued at \$390

Jeff Young: \$50 Lowes Gift Card

Dave Page: Framed Photograph

Sara Snider: Art Prints

John Uftring, Natasha Euliss-Uftring & Heather Powers:  
Video

Art & Nancy Sinnott of F&S Enterprises: Video

Eric Danielsen & his company All Star Impressions

Virginia International Raceway 

## Ken Grammer Named to New Jersey Motorsports Park Management Team

**Millville, N.J. (January 22, 2008)** - New Jersey Motorsports Park (NJMP) has added significant Motorsports experience to the management team, with the appointment of Ken Grammer as Managing Director. Grammer has wide ranging Motorsports industry experience. He is the former Director of Operations for SCCA Pro Racing and its World Challenge, North American Championship and Miata Cup series. Ken is also the former President of Synergy Racing, winners of the 2005 Grand-Am GT Drivers Championship, as well as President and Founder of the United States Endurance Racing Association (USERA). Behind the wheel, Ken has driven in SCCA Regional and National events, as well as a number of Motorola Cup (currently Grand-Am Cup) pro events. As Managing Director, he will be responsible for the overall operations of NJMP, including staffing, accounting, security and day-to-day operations.


"We're thrilled to add Ken on the NJMP team. He brings with him invaluable experience in both management and Motorsports," states Lee Brahlin, managing partner of NJMP. "On the development side we've hit top speed and things are progressing very well. Now on the personnel side, we're right on target to drop the first green flag at NJMP this summer."

### About New Jersey Motorsports Park

The New Jersey Motorsports Park (NJMP), featuring Thunderbolt Raceway, is a \$150 million world class motorsports complex located on 700 acres of land adjacent to the Millville, NJ Airport. Members and guests of NJMP will enjoy road, oval and off-road racing venues, as well as luxurious spectator and participant facilities including VIP suites, shade tree garages, event garages and trackside villas.

Like its sister property, Virginia International Raceway, NJMP will mix world-class racing facilities with high-end hospitality venues. NJMP, however, will include luxury condos, multiple hotels and restaurants at varying price points, educational and research facilities in conjunction with Rowan University, classic car galleries and a clubhouse with pool, fitness and tennis facilities. In a nod to one of the seminal characters in the racing world, NJMP christened the Thunderbolt Raceway media center and scoring tower the "Chris Economaki Tower" in honor of the New Jersey native.

Scheduled to open in June 2008, it will be the only US motorsports complex with such diverse venues as two road courses, driver training and skid pad facility, 3/4 mile tri-oval, high performance karting facility, and an off-road vehicle course for extreme sports - all situated in a country club setting. In addition to the motorsports attractions, NJMP will also include a conference center, an aircraft and automobile museum as well as diverse retail shopping experiences.

For more information, please visit: [www.njmotorsportspark.com](http://www.njmotorsportspark.com). 



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## **2008 NCR Club Racing Schedule\***

<b>February 23</b>	<b>Crash &amp; Burn School -- VIR South Paddock 9am to 3pm</b>
<b>March 8-9</b>	<b>“March Memories” SARRC/ECR/CCPS – VIR North course - VIR test day on March 7</b>
<b>April 11-13</b>	<b>Inaugural “Oak Tree Double National” - VIR full-course - VIR test day on April 17</b>
<b>May 10-11</b>	<b>“Al Fairer Double SARRC Challenge” – VIR full-course - VIR test day on May 9</b>
<b>June 28-29</b>	<b>Regional – Rockingham (tentative)</b>
<b>Sept. 13-14</b>	<b>PDX – Rockingham (tentative)</b>
<b>Oct. 25-26</b>	<b>“Goblins Go” 2009 SARRC/2008 Double ECR – VIR full course - VIR test day on Oct 24</b>
<b>Oct. 31-Nov. 1</b>	<b>13 Hour “Charge of the Headlight Brigade” Enduro - VIR full-course</b>

*\* Auto-X schedule is still being finalized. It will be posted here once dates have been confirmed.*