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Information for Area 4 Members – May, 2014

Dear Area 4 Members,

Hello again. We have a lot of information to report about our club. I attended the April BOD Planning Committee meeting in San Diego and our May BOD meeting in Topeka, numerous Conference Calls and email discussions. Here you go:

Great Lakes Division Website

I'm pleased to announce we have recruited a talented, over qualified ☺ Webmaster for the Great Lakes Division website. Please welcome **Ishmeet Grewal** as our new Editor. When I say "over-qualified" I mean it. Ishmeet knows website design and technology. He can be reached at ishmeetsinghgrewal@gmail.com. Thanks Ishmeet for stepping up and volunteering for this important position. Of course, the GLD website is located at: <http://www.greatlakes-scca.org>.



Membership Up Again

Good news! The SCCA is growing. Membership climbed in April to approximately 44,500 members. Add another 20,000 weekend members and it is pretty respectable. A better economy and (we hope) better programs that retain existing members are helping us grow.

National Convention

One of the fiduciary responsibilities of the BOD is to oversee operations and recognize where we could be saving money. The National Convention operates at a loss, but could hardly be called a loser. Certain mandated club functions are fulfilled by the Convention. In addition, there is a Member/Region training component that is critical to better operations, as well as face-to-face meetings of Program Boards. Still, we are looking at possibly moving some of the awards offsite to other venues and further developing the MSX Show to help offset meeting costs. Of course, attracting more attendees also offsets the cost. Our Staff is hard at work enriching the Convention program to broaden its appeal.

May BOD Meeting

The May 16-17 BOD Meeting in Topeka was highly productive. Highlights included:

- President **Lisa Noble's** report showing effective management of all of our various programs.
- Introduction of the Experimental Programs Dept. under **Heyward Wagner**. Look for great new innovations from "The Lab" in the near future across all of our racing programs.
- A new SCCA Live interface, featuring streaming webcams for the remaining BFGoodrich Tires SCCA Super Tour events in 2014 (starting with Mid-Ohio).
- Voted on various rule changes as presented by the CRB. Results may be read here: [HTTP://www.scca.com/assets/14-fastrack-june-BoD.pdf](http://www.scca.com/assets/14-fastrack-june-BoD.pdf)
- Had an interesting discussion about long-term rules stabilization, similar to the Concorde Agreement that helps govern Formula 1. You will be hearing more of this from other club officials as the idea gains traction.
- Reviewed an updated Strategic Plan (STRAP) that has evolved into a well thought out, goal oriented plan for the future health of our club. This plan is more strategic and less tactical than our last STRAP (December, 2013) and places great importance on member value. I support it without reservation.
- Discussed a few emerging programs (Annual Express Tech, RallySprint, etc.) and some successful new programs (Startingline, the Majors, Street Survival, etc.).
- Reviewed statistics from the "Majors". With 13 of 28 scheduled races complete in 2014, we are exceeding our financial projections and are well ahead of 2013 entries for similar events. So, we are meeting the goal of clustering competition and the racers are participating. But much work remains. We struggle with how to make the Majors more special. Please send me your ideas. This is our Premium product and we want it to reflect the best in amateur motorsports. Email me today!

National Corvette Museum Motorsports Park

We continue to work with the National Corvette Museum to hone a partnership at their new Motorsports Park. We reviewed several concepts in detail at the April Planning Committee Meeting, and again with NCM management before the May BOD meeting. Like any complex arrangement, we are trying to bridge a few issues. Lisa Noble and I, along with fellow BOD members, are working hard to balance the needs of the club with our enthusiasm to be a part of this wonderful facility. Stay tuned.

SCCA Foundation Raffle

There is still time to participate in the SCCA Foundation Raffle. Someone will win an all-expense paid VIP trip to the US Grand Prix in Austin, TX plus \$5,000. The drawing is June 29. Go here for more information:

<https://scca.raffleready.com/off-to-the-races-raffle>

As always, should you need any assistance, please let me know.

Yours for a better SCCA,

Steve