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Editor: Bruce Dover  
Approving Executive: Glenn Long  
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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.

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## RE's Report

by Glenn Long

Talk about a fun and busy first 60 days as RE! As you read in last month's Bulletin, the Southeast Division meeting was not only informative, but a great opportunity to meet with the other regions that we play with. Next on the agenda was the SCCA National convention that was very well attended by NCR members (see summary at end of this article). And then there was my first board meeting as RE... We covered a lot of information; I'll try and give you some of the highlights here:

- First, Scott Gallimore has resigned from the Board for personal reasons. Blair "Pepe" Stitt was voted in by the Board to serve the remaining nine months of Scott's Member at Large term.
- Sara Snider is working on a 2008 budget based on input from the various specialty chiefs and committee chairs of the expected revenue and expense throughout the year
- Alana Long has volunteered to manage the Road Race trophies for 2008
- Brad Draughon has an exciting and profitable year planned for Solo
- Mark Senior is investigating the possibility of working with other clubs for future PDX events
- I have asked that we look into the possibility of having the Board of Directors (BOD) meetings held on a conference call line, so that all NCR members could call in and participate in the meetings. Also, I'd like to have at least one BOD meeting in the West and Cape Fear locations per year.
- I challenged the Competition Committee to incorporate one PDX run group into a planned 2008 road race
- John Uftring has volunteered to become the regions publicist
- The BOD approved the 2008 CCPS rule set

## National Convention

The 2008 National Convention proved to be an excellent way to catch up on SCCA news, network with other regions, and provide input to SCCA staff on key issues. The three days offered varied sessions on club racing, Solo, and administrative topics which were divided up by the representatives from our region: Sara Snyder, Rex Deffenbaugh, Blair Stitt, Heather Powers, Jeff Eng, Jerry Pell, and myself. Other members of our region also attending the conference included Ron Gentry and Kay Fairer.

Of particular interest was the Annual Meeting report from each of the SCCA organizations. Pro Racing reported a substantial profit for 2007, their first in many years. Also profitable was both the SCCA Enterprises and SCCA Inc. segments of the club. Key focus area for 2008 are sustained membership growth and continued profitability.

The Competition Review Board Open Forum received quite a number of questions and concerns about the recently imposed Spec Miata registration fee for compliance certification, especially from driver reps in the Buccaneer Region. The CRB gave a high-level summary of the plans for the fee expenditures and promised a more thorough breakdown to be published in the immediate future.

From a personal standpoint, I was able to network with REs from several adjacent regions: I discussed future collaboration with the DC Region RE, both the Central and South Carolina Region REs, and the RE from Northern New Jersey which now has the new track owned by the same owners as VIR.

Please feel free to call, email or write any comments, suggestions or thoughts that you have regarding NCR and/or SCCA to me and/or the BOD (contact info on page 2).

## National Convention Report

by Blair "Pepe" Stitt

Hello everyone and a Happy 2008! Let me just start off by saying that this was my first National Convention and boy do they keep you moving! The closest thing I can compare it to is a driver's school. You are always looking around to find out where you need to be next. Although busy, it was a tremendous learning experience. In my humble opinion, for the first time in quite awhile we have a president that seems to realize that this is a club and we do this for fun.

Since there were many different sessions going on at the same time, the NCR members split up to ensure we had at least one person in attendance at each session. One very interesting meeting on **Volunteer Recognition** talked about new programs some regions are using to help retain and recruit workers. The format for this meeting was more of a roundtable of ideas and suggestions from different regions on what they have tried. Some ideas discussed included:

- "Recognition Wear" – you collect points and can use them to get extremely nice apparel like jackets, etc.
- Creation of two new Region Chiefs: Chief of Retention and Chief of Recruitment. I particularly liked this one. I think it would help keep a dialogue open if workers knew there is someone specific they can go to if they have a problem, a concern, or more importantly, an idea on how to improve something. The ability to voice their thoughts on what they like or don't like about something would be beneficial.
- Connect with a local Tech School.
- Create and distribute cards with the events listed and directions to the tracks. This has been brought up before and I think we need to do this. A nice twist on this idea is for the person giving the card to put their name on the bottom and if the new person attends, the worker or driver whose name is on the card gets points.
- Some regions have had lunch recruiting at the flag and fire safety schools.
- Call people who have shown an interest in the club when a race is coming up and tell them you need their help. People get busy with their lives and this reminds them and shows that you do need them.
- Use car club forums to invite folks to a race. I know this has been done with Mazda Club, but there are many more clubs we could consider.
- Once yearly newsletter focus on recruitment. Explain specialties and lingo. These can be emailed by membership chair to new members at later times. Also consider having some printed to put in businesses. There are many possibilities and we need your ideas and help.

**Drivers Track** was an open discussion with our President, Jim Ludlow, about how to get more drivers involved and interested in the National Convention. Ideas ranged from having more vendors and actually selling their products at the convention to linking it to trade show like PRI. Another idea was to continue with the survey technique recently started. A few weeks ago, a survey was sent to all National licensed drivers for their input on where they would like to hold the Runoffs. I think this is a tremendous step forward for the National Office to start asking questions and listening to its members again.

**The Getting, Caring for and Keeping Members** meeting followed similar lines as the Retention and Recognition session with a lot of open discussion on what people have tried and ideas for the future of the club. Some additional ideas included:

- Call a new worker that did not return and ask them why they did not come back. You might be surprised by what you hear.
- One region has two race teams sponsored by local college auto shops.
- Any new worker gets a ride-around the track in a racecar at lunchtime. Ride-arounds would probably fall under PDX we were told.
- Give drive around people a sticker with the outline of the track.
- Don't use the term "worker" – consider using "volunteer" instead. (Might be semantics, but many liked the idea.)
- Do not call it a "worker party"; call it a "social." (This could bring more drivers to the social to meet and thank the volunteers who make it possible to race.)
- Present the Saturday trophies at the social.
- Collect donations for volunteer stickers at the social. This is a good time to make sure drivers and crew know that volunteers pay for their own gas and hotel. One region said they had a surprising number of folks who were oblivious to this.
- Lastly, here's a rundown of the new volunteer incentive program.
- Two dollars from every car at every event goes to a fund to supplement worker dues.
- Now a new person can get acquainted and work a weekend for free.
- The cost of the first year annual membership is only \$30.
- The rate of membership is reduced for years two and three if they work four days in each of those years.
- Other dues supplements are as follows:
  - Work 4 days, get \$15 off (Silver)
  - Work 6 days, get \$22 off (Gold)
  - Work 8 days, get \$30 off (Platinum)
  - Work 12 days, get \$30 off (Diamond)(and this also comes with special ID cards and recognition in Sports Car)

The best part of all of this is that National is trying to make this as easy as possible to use. They are not trying to make you jump through hoops. You can record online as you go or submit with your renewal.

The last meeting was on our eTicket ride on Express Jet on the way home to Raleigh. But, we ended up in Greensboro. Be sure to ask your Asst. RE Rex Deffenbaugh why airline bags should have an SFI date or at least an annual tech inspection!

## Triangle Chapter Notes

*by James Shanks*

The Triangle Chapter kicked off the 2008 season at our favorite watering hole, El Rodeo restaurant, in Raleigh. Former RE, Mark Senior entertained us with in-car video, as he often has in the past. But this time it wasn't him behind the wheel. The video was from the recent driver's school at Roebling Road, and the featured drivers of Mark's car were his son Ryan, and former Cape Fear Chapter Coordinator and Solo II chief, Richard Franklin. They both passed and have achieved their novice permits. Congratulations, Ryan! And congratulations to you too, Richard! But, didn't Richard have his own car? What was he doing in Mark's? Well, it seems that at some time during the weekend, the flywheel bolts on Richard's FC Reynard parted company with the rest of the power train, so Richard needed to bum a ride. Glad you found one, Richard! And thanks to Mark for exemplifying the spirit of this club by helping out a fellow competitor in a pinch.

Mark also reported that another Chapter member, Steve Rose, who participated in Paul Perez's IT-7 car, passed the school as well. Congratulations Steve! Some of you may know that this is only Steve's second year of membership.

He joined us last year on the new volunteer member program and worked on the corners with us for at least four races, including the 13-hour. We're glad you got a shot at driving too, Steve!

So, the Region had a fine showing at Savannah with three newly-minted drivers to add to our roster. Of course, there may be others I don't know about as well. Congratulations to you all!

Since there hadn't been a board meeting for 2008 yet, there wasn't any official business to discuss. RE Glenn Long and Asst. RE Rex Deffenbaugh had already left for the National Convention in San Antonio, so they weren't in attendance, as they usually are. We're expecting a big report at the next meeting. And, speaking of big, Sam Fouse reported that the GT Lite forum is ablaze with chatter about our upcoming Double National, April 11<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. Sam said that normal GTL attendance at a National is between four to six cars and he's already counted 18 people who have said they are coming. Others present agreed that they had seen similar expressions of interest in the forums that they follow. That got the Chapter energized. We all agreed that that we had to do whatever we could to make this inaugural event a success. After all, it appears that the first Double National at VIR could well be the biggest amateur racing event in the county behind the Solo II Nationals and the RunOffs. Four hundred cars may not be not out of the question. So let's be prepared. If you aren't going to race, consider being a volunteer. We'll need more people than ever to help with registration, flagging, timing and scoring, in the pits, on the grid, and in the paddock. The Sound Control Chief could use an assistant with that many cars. The Race Chair will also need assistants who can help organize feeding all the volunteers, getting the lunch-time drive arounds going, getting Sound Control reports between sessions, and a dozen other things that she will be too busy to do herself. And all volunteers will be able to choose between a free hotel room for the weekend (double occupancy of course) or \$30/day in worker credits. We'll need all the volunteers we can get, so don't be shy. And you can even get some more laid-back experience at the upcoming March Memories event, March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

As Membership Chairman, I was surprised to learn that the National Office has inaugurated a new lifetime membership program. I was surprised because the first that I heard about it was in my renewal letter from Topeka. There was a flyer that outlined the details of the plan. There will be only a thousand new lifetime memberships offered, but those choosing that option will never pay national dues again, and they will receive a special hard card identifying them as lifetime members. They'll also get to choose their own membership number (from 1 – 1000, first come, first served) so that it will be easy to remember. How much? The new lifetime membership is a one-time charge of \$1000. You'll have to take a look at your current national dues and do the math to determine whether this program is right for you. Mine are \$80, so if I were to stay in the Club more than another 13 years, it would pay me to sign up. How about you? Call the National Office at 1-800-770-2055 to get personalized service in signing up.

And, speaking of signing up, we had a new member join us at El Rodeo. He is Justin Strueli, an NCSU student who is pumped about Solo II. How pumped? We'll, he's already read the Solo II rule book and purchased a brand new Snell 2005 SA helmet to compete with. That's right; he bought a new helmet that is legal even for road racing. As he explained it, you might as well buy something that will serve you for the long haul, because who knows what you might want to compete in next year. Atta boy, Justin! I'm guessing I'll be writing about you going through driver's school next season, or soon thereafter. Welcome aboard!

And welcome to anyone who'd like to come out and join us at the next Triangle Chapter meeting, Wednesday, March 5th. Find out all about what transpired at the Crash and Burn school at VIR on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, and at the National Convention, and who's been racing at venues you didn't attend. It'll be fun! I'll see you there...or at the races!

## West Chapter Notes

*by Ed Wentz*

Here we are, by the time this is read we will be well into March, and our first races of the year are upon us! We are breaking in our new RE, Glenn Long. He has the capable help of past RE, Mark Senior. Though the RE position has had a pit stop and driver change with Glenn taking over the driving duties, Mark is not an arrive-and-driver, looking for the lounge chair in the pits now that he is out of the car. He is still actively involved in the Board meetings, and is glad to let Glenn run the show.

One very hot topic at Board meetings as well as Chapter meetings is 'how do we grow the North Carolina Region'? Its obvious we need to welcome new members, but where do they come from? One of our West Chapter members, John Lindquist, had an idea: get a booth space at the Greensboro Hot Rod Show, put his ITA class Pontiac Fiero in it, show some in-car racing videos and have a drawing for passes to our March Memories event at VIR. Since this seemed to be a great idea, several people volunteered to help: Annie Lindquist, Doug Hooper, Heather Powers, Brian Hooper, and yours truly. We let youngsters sit in the racecar, which they could not do with any other car at the Hot Rod Show. And we had a lot of interest! As one of the volunteers has written an article about this, I'll stop there and not steal her thunder.

What can you do? As an NCR worker, you may not realize that you have a free pass to offer a guest for one of our events. Bring someone with you who hasn't been to the track. If they like cars, chances are they may like this too. If you have a racecar, you can display it at various events. While the Hot Rod Show wasn't free, John got some sponsorships of the booth from various entities to help cover the cost. Some events may welcome you for free. Contact your Chapter Coordinator or Ginny Condrey, our Registrar, for SCCA handouts that discuss what we do and how to join the club.

Why should we do this? You may have noticed that at a few of our events last year we scraped by with just barely the amount of workers needed to run the event. Did you know that some SCCA club racing events (thankfully these were not NCR events) were cancelled last year due to lack of workers? That is something we don't even want to consider.

We are interested in your opinion also. If you have worked corners, pit & grid, or some other specialty, but haven't in a while (not counting the winter off-season), what will it take to get you to come back? Is there something that happened that caused you to not want to come back? Let us know. If we have a problem, we need to correct it. However, if we don't see it or know about it, we can't fix it.

As Mark Senior has stated in his first article as RE, "If we're not having fun, then something is fundamentally wrong"...and from there, we need to change things to make it fun.

We are looking forward to a great year of racing. You may have heard about our Oak Tree Double National Race at VIR on April 11 to 13. There are estimates we could have as many as 500 racecars entered! I think its safe to say we will have 300+. And we can use all the help we can get. This could very well be the premiere East Coast SCCA National event, and would really make your Region stand out. If you don't know where you could fit in, let your Chapter Coordinator and/or Specialty Chief know you are interested and we will get you pointed in the right direction and put you with someone with experience.

Any of the North Carolina Region staff would be glad to hear from you, whether you are at every event or haven't been around in a while. As our members, your input is vital to the Region.

Hope to see you at the track!

## Cape Fear Bench Talk March 2008

### **Spring Fling @ UNCW Auto-X!**

The Cape Fear Chapter of the SCCA got its 2008 SOLO Season off to a great start with the Spring Fling @ UNCW! 73 competitors shook the off-season cobwebs away and took to a fast and flowing two lap course at the UNCW Park and Ride Lot on South College Road. The course proved challenging with a tricky double crossover section and plenty of sand to go around. Thanks to Ken P., Chris D., and others who manned our rented parking lot blower to help provide a clean race surface for all. This helped Jacob Lokken in his '06 Subaru WRX STi take home the FTD Trophy with a time of 36.437. Charlie Fullwood took home the PAX Trophy with a raw time of 37.691 in his E Stock '91 MR2. Kelly Brookshire in her '05 STi took home the Ladies Class Trophy with a time of 39.778. Top Novice Driver was Justin Streuli in his '06 STi. Also, we gave out our first ever Cone Killer Award to Charles Erickson in his '07 Lotus Elise. Congratulations to all who took home a trophy! Thanks to all who arrived early and stayed late to help get our season started right!

### **Team Autocrossing!**

The second annual Quest for the Cape Fear Cup heated up at the Spring Fling @ UNCW. The newly formed Auto Source Racing team took home a win in their first event. It was a close race with the top three teams within one-half second of each other! Defending champion Kestrel Racing took home second place, Hurricane Motorsports placed third, and The Replacements came in fourth. There is still a long time to go before the championship is decided, but the competition is getting fierce!

### **SCCA Weekend Membership Program Update**

New to the SCCA in 2008, membership is required for participation in SOLO events. This proved a challenge for our workers at Registration, but we are glad to announce that we signed up 18 Weekend Members! The Weekend Membership is for a five day period and provides a \$15 discount on a full year membership. Hopefully these weekend members will join up for a full year with the SCCA and see how great being a member can be! For more information on the SCCA's Weekend Membership program, check out [www.scca.com](http://www.scca.com).

Special thanks to Jeff Eng/Kestrel Racing for the pictures!

### **Note from your Cape Fear Chapter Coordinator**

I would just like to thank everyone again who worked behind the scenes to make our first event a HUGE success! Our yellow shirt crew is one of the best around and I would not trade them for anything. I am excited to keep the momentum going and look forward to hosting successful SOLO events all year long!! Thanks again!!

Brad Draughon – STS #17

[www.ncrscca.com](http://www.ncrscca.com)

[www.myautoevents.com](http://www.myautoevents.com)

## Minutes from monthly Board Meeting December 19, 2007

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:42 P. M. by Mark Senior, RE, at Rudino's Pizza and Grinders, 4911 Central Park Lane, Durham, N. C. The RE recognized a guest: Bruce Dover.
2. Motion (Deffenbaugh/Pennington) to approve the Minutes of the November 28, 2007, NCR Board of Directors meeting, with two corrections as to the spelling of the last name of James Shanks and Brad Draughton; Passed.

### **Reports:**

#### 1. Chapter Reports.

A. West Chapter. Ed Wentz, West Chapter Coordinator, reported that approximately 17 people attended the last West Chapter meeting, who discussed the Region's decision not to do contract worker events in 2008 at VIR. Ed advises that John Linquist, an SCCA member of the West Chapter, has secured a booth for the Hot Rod Show at the Greensboro Coliseum during the weekend of February 2-3, 2008; John has indicated a willingness to hand out SCCA promotional materials for new SCCA members. The booth is a private endeavor, not related to any business enterprise, and John is seeking contributions to help defray some of the cost of the booth rental. Additional details will be obtained by Ed Wentz, and related to the NCR Board, for further consideration of this request. Ed further reported that another West Chapter member had offered \$500.00 to the Region to be used to encourage more workers to work the NCR race events. The NCR Board then entered into a discussion of various ideas centered around the best way(s) to use said \$500.00 contribution. This matter will also be considered by the Comp. Board at its upcoming meeting.

B. Triangle Chapter. Blair Stitt, Triangle Chapter Coordinator, reported that 14-15 members attended the last Triangle Chapter meeting; the members present discussed the Region's decision not to engage in contract worker events with VIR in 2008. James Shanks told the Triangle Chapter meeting of a program he was familiar with, in Indianapolis, wherein a group prepared an SCCA E Prod car. The members at the meeting also discussed the upcoming Region's elections and the positive attitude expressed by the new management/owners of the Rockingham track with reference to future NCR SCCA events to be held at "The Rock".

C. Cape Fear Chapter/SOLO Program. No report.

#### 2. Committee Reports.

A. Advertising: The RE advises that the color ad which the NCR Board previously approved, to promote the 2008 Oak Tree Double National, has been sent to SportsCar for publication.

B. Awards: Heather Powers reported that the Awards Committee is still in need of additional nominations for annual awards. The NCR Board discussed having some appropriate recognition for the workers who worked all NCR SCCA race events in 2007. One of the suggestions was to give a patch to all workers who worked all NCR SCCA race events. Further, the Board discussed issuing some appropriate recognition/award to the track(s) and SOLO event sites, expressing the Region's appreciation for their cooperation with the NCR, in 2007, with respect to the events held at their respective facilities. The Board further discussed efforts which should be made to encourage an even closer working relationships between the track(s) management/SOLO site(s) management and the NCR with reference to the various events held at each track/site.

C. Banquet: No formal report. However, the RE advises that Josh Lief, the VIR Track Manager and his guest, will be in attendance at the NCR annual banquet, on January 12, 2008, as guests of the NCR.

D. Budget and Finance and Treasurer's Report: Sara Snider reports that she is planning a meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee during the first week of January, prior to the Comp. Board meeting scheduled for January 6<sup>th</sup>, so as to be able to provide the Comp. Board with current data as to actual costs and suggested appropriate entry fees to be charged for the Region's race events in 2008. A P&L report for the period November 22 – December 14, 2007, was presented to the Board, a copy of which report is attached to the Minutes. The Treasurer further reported that the deposit for future track rentals, in 2008, was substantially increased, percentage and dollar wise, over the required

deposit for 2007, from 10%, to 25%, of the applicable track rental cost. The Treasurer further presented a second P&L statement covering the period January 1, 2007, through mid-December, 2007, a copy of which is attached to the Minutes. Further, the Treasurer provided a Balance Sheet, as of December 14, 2007, a copy of which Balance Sheet is also attached to these Minutes.

E. Charities: No formal report. Blair indicated, however, his willingness to continue next year as the Chairman of the Charities Committee; the Board discussed potentially changing the designated charity for the March Memories race event, which charity was in 2007 the American Diabetes Association.

F. Competition Board: Rex advises that the Comp. Board will next meet on January 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 P.M. at Ginny Condrey's home for the purpose of preparing Supps. for all NCR race events in 2008, time permitting.

G. Membership: No report.

H. PDX/TT: The Board discussed the possibility of working with the Blue Ridge Region in a joint effort regarding a future PDX and/or a Time Trial event; further, the RE advised of the status of his efforts to obtain possible event dates at Rockingham in 2008.

#### **Old Business:**

1. Conventions. The Board discussed, and acknowledged, that the newly elected RE, as well as the Assistant RE, Rex Deffenbaugh, the Secretary, Jerry Pell, a Member At Large, Heather Powers (Board Member) and a Chapter Coordinator, Blair Stitt, will be attending the National SCCA Convention in 2008, as Board Members, along with Jeff Eng, Chief of Autocross Timing and Scoring, and Ron Gentry, a Steward, with financial support from the Region. The Board also discussed who will be attending the Annual Southeast Division Conference at Jekyll Island, on January 18-20, 2008; the Board's policy as to this Conference is that all Members of the NCR Board of Directors and all NCR Specialty Chiefs may attend, with financial support from the Region, of reimbursement of limited transportation costs (fuel only, or a rental car with 4 people), motel rental (2 per room) and Conference registration fees.

2. 2008 Schedule. The Board discussed issues regarding which NCR race events can reasonably accommodate CCPS races at VIR and at Rockingham in 2008; the Comp. Board will look at the event(s) schedules to see where there may be sufficient time to maybe accommodate additional CCPS race events in 2008. The Board discussed some of the issues of holding a PDX event at VIR in conjunction with other race events the Region holds at VIR, including the issues of having a simultaneous race and a PDX event on the regular VIR track and on the Patriot course at VIR.

#### **New Business:**

1. A copy of the Area 12 Director's report was provided to each of the Members at the Board Meeting, which report had previously been forwarded, by email, from the RE, to all Board Members.

2. Ed Wentz, on behalf of all of his fellow Board Members, expressed a hearty thank you to Mark Senior for his services as RE of the NCR, which voice of appreciation was unanimous from all of the Members present at the Board Meeting.

Motion to adjourn (Pell/Pennington) at 9:00 P.M.; Passed.

## Racing at Daytona with Tom Long

NCR member, Tom Long recently participated in the Rolex 24 hour race at Daytona, driving a BMW M6 with the Automatic Racing team in the GT class. This was a racing debut for both the car, Automatic Racing, and for Long in this event. The "Fresh From Florida" and BMW Performance Driving School sponsored BMW M6 is the first of BMW's new model to see competition on the race track, and throughout the weekend, the team garnered constant attention from curious fans. In addition, it was the only BMW in the GT class, predominately comprised of Porsches, Mustangs and Mazda RX8s.

Co-drivers Jep Thornton, David Russell, Tom Long and Joe Varde shared the wheel at Daytona. Russell took the green flag, running strong before handing over to Tom. Automatic Racing completed 87 laps in the first three hours of racing, when Tom pitted and handed the car over to Jep Thornton, while the crew refueled and changed left-side tires. Over the next hour, a problem with a control arm bolt began to develop, but Jep Thornton was able to complete his stint before handing over to Joe Varde, and the crew quickly repaired the arm.

The next couple of hours ran smoothly, and Joe Varde pitted during a caution early in the fifth hour to hand off to Tom. A light rain was beginning to fall when the No. 90 M6 came into the pits, but the team opted for slicks.

The rain began in earnest just after the stop, but Tom slowed his pace and stayed out on the track. The move was risky, but paid off when the rain cleared and teams that had mounted rain tires were forced to pit a second time. "What a dream come true to do this!" said Tom. "We decided to stay out in the rain with slick tires, and it was treacherous at first, but once it started to dry out and other cars had to pit again for slicks, track position really came back to us."

A vibration brought the car in shortly after the six-hour mark, and the team pushed the car back to the garage for a closer look. After a valiant effort, the team was forced to retire the M6 due to a power train problem. A disappointment for the race, but the team is optimistic for the future with the M6 car.

Tom's brother Chris, also an NCR member, provided expert spotting for the team from above the press box, a great vantage point for viewing and photos. Both Tom and Chris are looking forward to next year's 24 hour.

## NCR Workin' Daytona

*by Pete Romanowski*

I've been going to Daytona for the 24-hour race since the late 70s, only missing 2 years during that time and I've been Corner Captain all but the first 5. Turn 5, the second of two, tight 180-degree turns on the infield road course, located inside NASCAR turns 1 & 2, is my "kingdom". That is, I'm in charge of the entire crew for the turn (kinda like being Flag Chief). A total of 21 of us were at turn 5 this year. Of those, 8 of us were from the NC Region, 2 from the Blue Ridge Region. Eric Danielsen, Pete Pappas and myself took turns as Corner Captain. (Kaye Fairer was also there, but she was working at turn 1.)

During the race, the 3 duty shifts of 7 workers each are broken up into a 2 hr. - 4 hr. - 2 hr. rotation. This gives everyone a chance to wander around and also, get some sleep. Thursday, the first day of practice and qualifying, is the only day it's necessary to work all day (10am to 8:30 pm), due to the fact that there are fewer workers available. The Central Florida Region treats us well, bringing out lunches on Thursday and Friday. On Saturday and Sunday they open a canteen for us to get Breakfast, Lunch and prime Rib for dinner. Thanks to all the volunteers who staff this!

We had our fair share of spin-and-continues during the weekend. A few made it all the way to the tire wall, but there was no major damage done. Sunday morning we had a little rain and a big oil spill, causing a bunch of spins including the Kodak DP car, which got into the tire wall, ending his race. All in all, it was an enjoyable 4 days. I'd like to thank all those who came down and worked with me. Let's do it again next year!

## **2008 NCR Schedule**

- February 23** Crash & Burn School - VIR South Paddock 9am to 3pm
- February 24** "Spring Fling" Autocross - UNC-Wilmington - Auto-X
- March 8-9** "March Memories" SARRC/ECR/CCPS - VIR North course - VIR test day on March 7
- April 11-13** Inaugural "Oak Tree Double National" - VIR full-course - VIR test day on April 10
- April 20** Global TransPark Solo Challenge - Kinston - Auto-X
- May 10-11** "Al Fairer Double SARRC Challenge" - VIR full-course - VIR test day on May 9
- May 17-18** "MayDay on the Runway" - New River Air Sta. (Sat. Novice School) (rain date May 24-25) - Auto-X
- June 22** "Indy at the Park" - Smith Creek Center - Wilmington - Auto-X
- June 28-29** Regional/CCPS - North Carolina Speedway - Rockingham
- July 20** "Sounds of Freedom" - New River Air Station (rain date July 27) - Auto-X
- August 16** "RiverFront Grand Prix" - Cape Fear Community College (Saturday night finish) - Auto-X
- Sept. 13-14** PDX - North Carolina Speedway - Rockingham
- September 28** TBA - Kinston - Auto-X
- Oct. 18-19** "Rumble at the River" - New River Air Station (Sat. Novice School) (rain date Oct. 25-26) - Auto-X
- Oct. 25-26** "Goblins Go" 2009 SARRC/2008 Double ECR - VIR full course - VIR test day on Oct 24
- Oct. 31-Nov. 1** 13 Hour "Charge of the Headlight Brigade" Enduro - VIR full-course
- November 16** "RiverView Grand Prix" - Cape Fear Community College (Season Finale) - Auto-X

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# NC Region SCCA Board of Directors and Contacts

<http://www.ncrscga.com> 800-342-7390

<http://www.scca.com> 800-770-2055

## NCR Officers

**Region Executive**  
**Glenn Long**  
 10008 Old Warden Rd.  
 Raleigh, NC 27615-1126  
 H- 919-614-4749  
 W- 919-870-6558  
 glenn@longroadracing.com

**Assistant RE**  
**Rex Deffenbaugh**  
 233 E Johnson Street  
 Cary, NC 27511-4046  
 H- 919-542-1457  
 W- 919-467-2884  
 happyjap@mindspring.com

**Secretary**  
**Jerry Pell**  
 4615 Charlottesville Road  
 Greensboro, NC 27410-3619  
 H-336-855-6419  
 pelljerry@aol.com

**Treasurer,**  
**DA Race Administration**  
**Sara Snider**  
 2012 Yawl Place  
 Oriental, NC 28571-9796  
 H- 252-249-6520  
 C- 252-670-3638  
 Ssnider30@aol.com

## NCR OFFICERS (cont'd)

**Members At Large (4)**  
**Buddy Matthews**  
 2319 Albright Dr  
 Greensboro, NC 27408-5415  
 H- 336-288-7744  
 C- 336-312-8858  
 redstarracing@triad.rr.com

**Joedy Pennington**  
 2225 Briar Glen Rd.  
 Winston Salem, NC 27127  
 C- 336-971-3772  
 H- 336-650-1248  
 jpenningtonii@triad.rr.com

**Heather Powers**  
 419 Hillside Drive  
 Greensboro, NC 27401-1930  
 H- 336-691-0127  
 C- 336-707-1344  
 happyfacerracing@mindspring.com

**Member At Large and**  
**SEDiv SARRC Rep.**  
**Blair "Pepe" Stitt**  
 3906 New Bern Avenue  
 Raleigh, NC 27610-1333  
 H-919-231-1777  
 racerpepe@yayoo.com

**Past RE**  
**Mark Senior**  
 3313 Corsham Drive  
 Apex, NC 27539-8335  
 H- 919-662-7502  
 W- 919-890-3826  
 Mark.Senior@ci.raleigh.nc.us

## CHAPTER COORDINATORS

**Cape Fear Chapter -**  
**Wilmington**  
**Brad Draughon**  
 1122 Sunburst Way  
 Leland, NC 28451  
 H-910-233-8348  
 draughonb@yahoo.com

**Cape Fear Chapter -**  
**New Bern**  
**Chris Bray**  
 941 Chair Road  
 New Bern, NC 28560  
 H-252-745-4620  
 C-252-675-8419

**Triangle Chapter,**  
**Membership Chair**  
**James Shanks**  
 4109 Pleasant Grove Ch. Rd.  
 Raleigh, NC 27613-3126  
 H- 919-571-2918  
 jrshanks@bellsouth.net

**West Chapter,**  
**Pace Car Chief**  
**Ed Wentz**  
 5305 Willard Road  
 Oak Ridge, NC 27310  
 H- 336-643-9356  
 SpeedRacerRX@cs.com

**Web Master**  
**Lee Wagner**  
 5568 Teakwood Road.  
 Hickory, NC 28602  
 H- 828-294-6248  
 W- 828-901-6965  
 info@ncrscga.com

## SPECIALTY CHIEFS

**Registrar, Office Manager**  
**Ginny Condrey**  
 4455 NC Highway 87 North  
 Pittsboro, NC 27312  
 H- 800-342-7390  
 H- 919-542-5388 (local)  
 F- 919-542-5384  
 ginnycondrey@hotmail.com

**Pits**  
**Richard Wilcox**  
 6700 Buxton Court  
 Greensboro, NC 27406  
 H- 336-674-7623  
 wilcoxrichard@bellsouth.net

**Grid Co-Chief**  
**Cindy Bules**  
 505 S. Main St.  
 Roxboro, NC 27573  
 H-252-459-1152  
 cinbu@embarqmail.com

**Grid Co-Chief**  
**Jon Messick**  
 6651 W. Hwy. 96  
 Youngsville, NC 27596  
 H-919-562-7506  
 Ep94@mindspring.com

**Scrutineer/Tech**  
**Jeff Lengel, Co-Chief**  
**with Buddy Matthews**  
 1013 Ivy Lane  
 Cary, NC 27511  
 H- 919-469-9739  
 jfl@deltaforce.net

## SPECIALTY CHIEFS (cont'd)

**Fire/Rescue, Medical,**  
**Course Marshal**  
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**Rick Moser**  
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 H- 704-845-9218  
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 805 Nivison Court  
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**Paddock Marshal**  
**William "Scooby" Little**  
 2008 S Mebane St, Apt 732D  
 Burlington, NC 27215  
 H- 336 229-0917  
 scoobyracinnut@aol.com

**Licensing Chair**  
**Peter Krause**  
 8613 Barefoot Industrial Road  
 Raleigh, NC 27613-4704  
 C- 919-740-1871  
 W- 919-781-1871  
 pkrause@attglobal.net

## SPECIALTY CHIEFS (cont'd)

**Flagging &**  
**Communications**  
**F&C Co-Chief**  
**Mark Biamonte**  
 1300 Wellstone Circle  
 Apex, NC 27502  
 H- 919-303-2306  
 mbiamonte@ecds-inc.com

**F&C Co-Chief**  
**Eric Danielsen**  
 621-D Townside Rd.  
 Roanoke, VA 24014  
 H- 540-366-7841  
 Eric@AllStarImpressions.biz

**F&C Co-Chief**  
**David Turner**  
 277 Dogwood Lane  
 North Wilkesboro, NC 28659  
 H- 336-667-2557  
 dfturner@charter.net

**Starter, Bulletin Editor**  
**Bruce Dover**  
 559 Saplin Branch Road  
 Timberlake, NC 27583-9026  
 C- 919-423-6015  
 W- 919-929-0484  
 racestarter@hotmail.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**