



BackFire

December 2002

WMR Drivers at the Runoffs

No Three-peat for

Andy McDermid and his
American Sedan Mustang

Tom Start's bid for SSC honors
ends at lap 12 in a wild race

Chris Crisenbery moved
his Spitfire from 10th to
6th in a classic G Prod battle



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The Backfire is a monthly publication of the Western Michigan Region of the Sports Car Club of America. The editor must receive items for publication no later than the 15th of the month to be included in the next month's edition, provided space is available. If space is not available, it will be published in the following month. As the Backfire is a publication for and by the members of WMR/SCCA, the editor is pleased to publish letters, articles, and opinions of its members, provided that: 1. They are signed. 2. They are edited for grammar and some expletives. 3. The content is not libelous and / or unsupportable. Articles may be reprinted without permission, provided credit is given to the author.

Submit articles to: Susan and Chris Peet, 411 Garfield Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 or to Repeet68racing@aol.com

Wayne's World

Who's Who and What's What

Rally Worker School / National Office Move

A note from **Barbara Steencken**; Secretary for Detroit Region, (among other things)

There will be a **Rally worker seminar** on Saturday Dec 14th from 1 to 5 pm at the **Livonia Public Library**. It is located on Five Mile Rd. east of Farmington. We will concentrate on Start & Finish controls and may have some new equipment to learn. All are welcome, but I would ask for a sign-up either via email on the **Sno*Drift** website (sno-drift.org) or by calling 248-685-2773. Cheers, Barbara



Remember, the **National Office** will be open in **Topeka** as of **Nov. 18th**. The new Address is: **SCCA P.O. Box 16400 Topeka Ks. 66619-0400**

The phone number's still 800-770-2055 and mail will be forwarded from Denver should it arrive there after the move.

A note from your Editor

Dear Members,

I will do my best in providing an informative newsletter. I need your help, what I need from you are; articles, and ideas. This newsletter is put together for you, the members and I want to make sure you get the right information. There are three ways to get a hold of me, give me a call, e-mail me, or a letter using our postal service.

The season has ended for most of us, but don't forget rally and solo events. As each event approaches you'll see the information you need. Don't forget to send me the articles that you are just dying to have printed. I'll be waiting to hear from you. Since I'm also the Points keeper bear with me, I'm still working on it.

Your Editor

Susan Peet



Classifieds

BackFire Ad Rates

Number of Issues:	One	Three	Six	Ten
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Quarter Page	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$150.00
Business Card	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$75.00

All Advertising done in the Backfire will be done in black and white print. All photo's will be at an additional cost if required. You must provide the black and white photo to be used for the add. The print shop will set the prices for additional work if any. If you request color print, you will be advised of the cost before it goes to print. If you can make these arrangements ahead of time, it will save time for all involved. Please make sure all ads are in by the 15th of the month so they will have time to go to print and make the paper deadline. Call the editor at 269 343-6105 to get more info. All payment are to be made to Western Michigan Region SCCA. All WMR members can put ads for items for sale at no cost, and business cards ads for one year at the cost of \$30.00.



Secretary's Report

Cone World Solo Report

2002 Solo II Season Review, Part I

It was the best of years, and the worst of years. WMR SCCA held six autocrosses, one Solo school, and had no cancellations. We averaged over 100 cars per event. But it was also the worst of times. A full schedule is more work and comes with a bigger bill. In order to secure parking lots, over \$4000 was spent on track and parking lot rental fees. While we had more drivers than ever, we also had more problems with workers/drivers not working. Newbies are sometimes eager to participate but do not always take their turn working. These events take a lot of work, offer no pay and therefore we need everyone's participation.

The season began, not in Traverse City, but rather in Kalamazoo. That's correct; there was no "Cherry Pits" this year. Our beloved airport runway was covered with three feet of construction dirt. Even rallycross was not a possibility. Instead, we started with a driver's school for the SVT club and others arranged by Chris Peet. The following day began our Solo season in Kalamazoo at the W.M.U. Knollwood parking lot. This lot is free from light poles and other obstructions because it is also used for the W.M.U. police school. Thank you Bronco Motorsports and Richard Plank for helping us secure this venue. We had three other events in Kalamazoo this past summer. We also had two events at the Sparta High School. Our season finale was at the Grattan road course that for autocrossing consists of running the last half of the track backwards. All events ran smoothly, we had almost no rain, no injuries, no fires, no crashes, in all a very enjoyable year.

To our workers "extraordinaire" we offered WMR Solo Polo shirts. These gifts were for our workers who went beyond the call of duty. Sorry if we missed anyone. I did my best to recall those who worked before and after the normal event.

First, my heartfelt thanks go to Matt Malicki and my brother Lee Brouwer. Matt was my co-chair for all the events in Kalamazoo. He has all the makings of a grand organizer and future Solo chairman. It was Matt who brought our registration system onto the www.myautoevents.com web site. This web site, designed by Steve Couture, made the volume of cars we processed this year possible. It allowed for advance registration, a must if you're running over 100 cars per event. Lee is one of the few Solo Safety Stewards in our region without whom we cannot run events. Of course, if it were not for him I probably would not be involved in the sport myself (nor know how to drive a stick).

There were two contributors, Vivian Jacobs and Julie "Hammer," who often helped with registration or timing and scoring at our races this year. In most cases they did not actually drive cars. Thanks to these diligent workers who received no g-force reward.

Paul Groh is our contact to the Sparta school system. He teaches at Sparta High School and secures the lot we use there. Rich Carlson, Paul's brother Steve and Steve's daughter Callie help him. The Sparta event has become a strong, regular seasonal site for us. The lot is small, and sometimes the number of entries is small as well. Actually, it's a welcome break in the schedule. It is more like autocrosses of days gone by. Thanks to all the Spartans for their help this year.

To all of the people who helped with tech inspections and course set up this past season, we are in your debt. They included, Chad Houghtaling, Shane Force, Steve Krause, Hector Padilla, Gary Butts, Peter Jacobs, Jeff Secor, Dave VanderSchaaf and Greg Green. Often helping with registration were Tina Slaughter, Tiffany Dickinsen, Bruce Beauvais and especially Roger Booth.

Finally, we thank the region for supporting the Solo program. Thanks Wayne for putting in an extra year as our RE. Thanks Dayle Frame for being the WMR Webmaster, posting our season's race results, flyers, maps and other information.

Plans are already underway for the 2004 Solo season. Part II of the season review, or rather season preview, will be coming in a later edition. If you have ideas, just let us know. There will be more to come.

Steve Brouwer

WMR SCCA Solo Chair

December 2002

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7 GT5 & CSR
8 FM & GT3	9	10	11	12	13	14 Meeting FC & EP
15 GT1 & FA	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 6am ← → 5am All 24 races	26 2002 Runoffs	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2003

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Meeting
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Pro Rally 8pm Speed	24 ← Sno*Drift → Pro Rally	
26	27	28 Pro Rally 6 & 11 pm Speed	29	30	31	

Western Michigan Region of the Sports Car Club of America

Next Meeting:

- Date: December 14, 2002 7:30 pm
- Site: Crowne Plaza Hotel
- Location: 5700 28th Street, SE (just east of I-96 on the south side of the street)
- We'll supply the soda pop and snacks-come on out for the fun and visit with your friends

Don't forget to visit the WMR web site at <http://www.wmr-scca.org>

WMR-SCCA Backfire

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