

# The Write Line

~ January 2025 ~



Steve Schrag, CAM-C Mustang (Arianna Harlan Photo)

The official newsletter of the Salina Region SCCA

## Regional Executive Views

Happy New Year. What is everyone's New Year's Resolution? I will stick to the one we might all relate to and that is not hit as many cones as I did last season. For some reason I feel like each season I am hitting more and more cones. I guess that's what happens when you try to push the limits as a driver and some. Whatever your resolution might be, I hope you will succeed in it.

Speaking of succeeding, we have an official time and place for our *awards banquet*. It is going to be Saturday, March 1st, 11 a.m. at The Garage in Salina. The exhibit at The Garage is currently Hot Rods, there are not just cars to look at but many on hand activities from hot wheels for the littles to a racing simulator for the more adult crowd.

Look for the MotorsportsReg listing coming soon for exact details. Remember if you didn't think you won a Class Championship Award there are other Awards that will be given out as well including our Year-at-a-Glance awards, a certificate listing all your 2024 trophy finishes.

Look also for our 2025 season schedule on our website as well as on the Newsletter (Page 2). Many great events are coming back from the Famous Mirror Khana to our Sunflower Showdown and our Member appreciation event, OctoberFAST 36. Mark your calendars and I do hope to see as many people out as possible.

What is new for Salina Region this season? Glad you asked. Sometimes we try our best with what is given but things do have to move on. We are in line to purchase a new timing computer as well as reinstall the timing software we use for our events. This should solve some problems we were having with timing at past events which I know everyone will appreciate.

With that the old timing laptop will be wiped and have the timing software reinstalled for a backup. It is the little things that make a big difference and hopefully with this in place we can make for a better experience.

The only other thing would be trying to purchase some new cones for all of us amazing drivers to NOT hit. We are running low on good cones because I have been hitting them or running them all over. We hope to get a good vendor and keep the course nice and clean with new cones.

Thank you for reading and I hope to see everyone at the banquet. Chipotle is on to cater it. ¡Ole!

Be safe this winter.

—Andlee, RE Salina Region



### ► Next Event ◀

*Annual Banquet ~ March 1, 11 a.m.  
At The Garage, 134 S. Fourth St.  
Catered by Chipotle Mexican Grill*

(See Page 4)

Pre-register on [MotorsportsReg.com](https://MotorsportsReg.com) ~ Link at [salinascca.org](https://salinascca.org)

Credit card not charged until after the event.

### Next Business Meeting

7:00 pm, February 6  
On Zoom!

*Business meetings are open to all members and guests*

*Email Andlee (see Pg. 2) to get the connection links*



## Board Members ~ 2025

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VACANT

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## Salina Region Schedule ~ 2024

All events at Berkley Family Recreational Area unless noted otherwise

<u>Event</u>	<u>Chair</u>
Mar 1 – Salina Region Banquet @ The Garage	Phelan Gagnon
Mar 15 – Test & Tune	
Mar 16 – Solo #1	
April 11-13 – Evolution Schools	Rocky Entriken
April 12 – Solo #2	
April 13 – Solo #3	
May 10 – Solo #4 (Saturday)	
Jun 7-8 – Solo #5 & 6, Divisional Championship	
Jun 22 – Solo #7 – Mirror Khana XLIII	Dennis Smith
July TBD – Solo #9 – Sunflower Solo Showdown	Wichita Region
Sep 6 – Solo #10 – AfterNats	
Sep 7 – Solo #11 – AfterNats	
Sep 20 – Solo #12	
Oct 12 – Solo #13 – Octoberfast 36	Salina Region Board
Nov. 2 – Solo #14	

**Would you like to chair an event? Contact Phelan Gagnon**

*A Salina Divisional (if held) and Solo Nationals (Sep. 1-5, 2025) also score in Salina Region's Championship, with bonus points. Lowest four scores are thrown out, five if we do a Divisional*

### MiDiv



### SPS/R&S MiDiv Solo Series – 2024

May 3-4 – Wichita @ Yoder KS (Road Yoder)  
TBD – Kansas @ Independence KS (Independence Airport)  
June 8-9 – Salina @ Salina (Berkley Family Rec Area)  
June 28-29 – NeOkla @ Muskogee (Davis Field)  
Aug 2-3 – Nebraska @ Lincoln (Lincoln Airpark)

**SCCA Solo Nationals ~ Sep. 1-5, 2025 ~ Lincoln, NE**

## MEETING MINUTES

*(Subject to correction and approval at the next Salina Region board meeting)*

**Meeting Called to Order:** By RE Andlee Phengphachanh at 7:11 p.m., Jan 9, 2025, via Zoom.

**Also attending:** Sharon Brillhart, Chandler Brown, Rocky Entriken, Justin Gagna, Phelan Gagnon, Mason Libby, Artt Mann, Dennis and Nancy Smith.

**Minutes:** Artt moved to approve minutes as presented, Sharon seconded. Passed.

**Treasurers Report:** Artt moved to approve treasurers report as submitted, Chandler seconded. Passed.

**Old Business:**

- Computer – Chandler will spec new computer system prior to February meeting. Computer and Axware will also need to be purchased around this time.

- Schedule 2025 Season – Nearly finalized. Unanimous vote to put on Evo School – Target 4/12/25. Planning to include a Novice day in March 15 during Test & Tune.

- Club email address – Andlee will Email Mark Walker (website host) to verify arrange creation of info@sailnascca.org.

**New Business:**

- Ballot, Board Members at large – Current slate re-elected unanimously. Leaving Past RE position vacant. All 2024 Members at Large re-appointed, except Chief of Timing Aaron Loggan, who requested to step down. Planning to appoint new Chief of Timing next month. Dennis Smith (already an at-large board member) was appointed as Chief of Safety.

- Banquet – Planning to do luncheon at The Garage on March 1, catered by Chipotle Grill. Phelan to confirm date with The Garage.

- SCCA Fees went up – Solo Event Fees are increased by \$1.00. Planning to keep region's event registration basic fee at \$30.

▶▶▶ (Continued to Page 3)

# PAX 2025 – Street classes spread farther apart

Drivers in the faster Street classes will have to push harder to find a good PAX score in 2025, while those in the three slower (on paper) classes will find help on the 2025 PAX index.

Which means, nationwide the upper classes were dominating last year while the ES, GS and HS classes weren't. Never mind what was happening here in Middle America with folks like Ron Williams, Theresa Walton, and Russell and Laney Blume.

Those unicorns were not enough to swing the nationwide trends from more than 800 events charted by Rick Ruth in compiling his annual performance index. He calls it the RTP – "Racers' Theoretical Performance," -- but everyone knows it as PAX.

Rick has the chops to figure this. He's been autocrossing more than half a century and is one of, now, five individuals who have competed in every one of the 51 SCCA National Solo Championship.

In the nine Street classes, ES, GS and HS all saw their index drop 2 points – ES, for example, from 0.792 to 0.790 – while SS, BS and DS all went up 1 point, AS rose 2 points and FS climbed 3 points. The CS index did not change.

Over the 52 classes listed, a dozen were hit with a higher index from their 2024 mark, while 19 saw their PAX drop. 21 held fast to their previous levels (or were new listings).

The chart also shows the re-naming of the now seven Street Touring classes with five of them enjoying a drop in their indices. The only unchanged name is SST – Super Street Touring, which enjoys a 4-point drop in its index. AST is a new class. After that we now have lettered classes emulating the pattern of all the other categories (except CAM and Heritage). BST is the former Street Touring Ultra, followed by CST (Roadster), DST (Xtreme), EST (Sport) and FST (Hatch). The bottom four all went down 1 or 2 points.

The Classic American Muscle classes also got help. CAM-Sport got a 4-point drop while both CAM-Contemporary and CAM-Traditional fell 1 point each.

With a year of data to work from, Rick apparently determined his ranks for the two new Club Spec classes were overly ambitious. Both CSX (NC Miatas) and CSM (2005-09 S197 Mustangs) saw their PAX tumble 8 points, the deepest drops of any class. Similarly, the other pure spec class, Solo Spec Coupe, went down 3 points.

Conversely, the Xtreme category went largely the other direction. While the XU (Unlimited, formerly XS) index did not change, XA went up 2 points as XB went down a point, bringing the two classes closer together but the smaller XB cars are still the quicker on index. Electric Vehicles were bumped 5 points, the second-highest increase

of any index.

Of the 10 classes in Street Prepared and Street Modified, only CSP and SSM saw a 1-point drop. Rick includes the ASP and BSP classes in his chart although neither has been officially included in SCCA's class listings since 2023.

SS	0.836	SST	0.832	SSP	0.857	XP	0.890
AS	0.826	AST	0.834	ASP	0.851	BP	0.874
BS	0.819	BST	0.833	BSP	0.855	CP	0.863
CS	0.813	CST	0.830	CSP	0.859	DP	0.865
DS	0.811	DST	0.818	DSP	0.847	EP	0.858
ES	0.790	EST	0.815	ESP	0.840	FP	0.877
FS	0.817	GST	0.810	FSP	0.831	HCR	0.814
GS	0.794						
HS	0.784	CAM-S	0.844	SSM	0.878	AM	1.000
		CAM-C	0.825	SM	0.868	BM	0.978
		CAM-T	0.821	SMF	0.850	CM	0.899
CSX	0.803					DM	0.906
CSM	0.800					EM	0.912
SSC	0.802	XU	0.869			FM	0.917
HCS	0.789	XA	0.846			FSAE	0.980
		XB	0.848			KM	0.937
		EV	0.839				

The same is true of the Heritage Classic category, which SCCA no longer includes on its website rulebook page but which enjoys participation at many local events. The HCS (Street) index dropped 4 points while HCR (Race) went down 1.

The largest bump in index was dealt to the C Prepared class, "The Heavy Metal class," as it terms itself. The race-prepped pony car class, which still annually enjoys the largest turnout at Nationals of any of the P classes. CP was bumped 7 points, and the XP class went

up 3 points. All the other P classes remained unchanged, including BP which has not been in the rulebook since 2006.

A similar fate befalls the Modified classes. Both of the Mod category doorslammer classes – DM and EM – got an index bump of 2 points. CM, mostly Formula F cars (1600 cc Ford and 1500 cc Fit motors, plus Solo Vees) went up 1 point. All the other Mods from the baseline A Mod (index 1.000) down to the KM karts were unchanged.



## MEETING MINUTES

(Continued from Page 2) ▶▶▶

- Solo Safety Steward – Good slate of Safety Stewards available for 2024. Eight Salina Region members have current licenses (six will expire in 2025).

**Open Forum:**

- Rocky mentioned that MiDiv dues of \$30 were due and moved to pay that, Andlee seconded. Passed.
- Club is sending a memorial for Ellis Norton (Justin Gagna's grandfather).
- Rocky moved to invite Julie Mindrup to the award banquet at no charge and present her with a gift in appreciation for being our webmaster, Dennis seconded. Passed. Executive board will determine gift.

**Next meeting:** February 6, 2025, via Zoom.

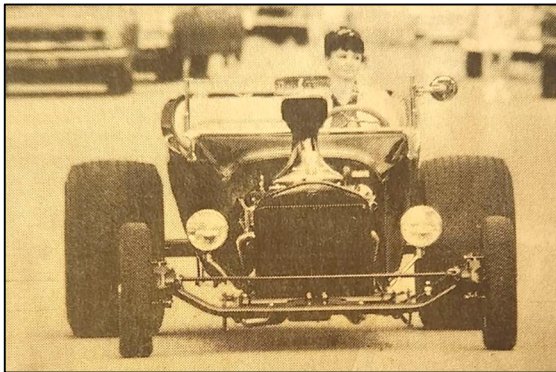
**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:30 p.m.

Submitted, Chandler Brown, Secretary



# Awards Banquet

## THE GARAGE



The current exhibit at Salina's automotive museum is Hot Rods. Pictured is a younger Sharon Brillhart in her 1923 Pro Street Roadster (not part of The Garage exhibit).

Catered by



**11 a.m. ~ March 1, 2024**  
**Reservations at MotorsportReg.com**



## Events

### Elsewhere - 2025



A calendar of AutoX and RallyX events by the Wichita, Kansas, Kansas City, Nebraska, NeOkla and Oklahoma Regions of SCCA. Go see how others do it!

‡ = Test & Tune / § = Street Survival School

Ⓟ = Starting Line School / ● = Region or novice school

**ALWAYS CONFIRM THE EVENT BEFORE MAKING A LONG TRIP!**

(\* = Salina Region autocross on this date)

#### AUTOCROSS

**Aug 29-31 ...ProSolo Finale @ Lincoln Airpark, Lincoln NE**  
**Sep 1-5 .....Solo Nationals @ Lincoln Airpark, Lincoln NE**

#### RALLYCROSS

Feb 16 .....NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
 Mar 23 .....NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
 Apr 6 .....NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
 May 4 .....NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
 Jun 1 .....NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
 Jun 14-15 ....MiDiv Championship, NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK

Jul 6 ..... NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
 Jul 27 ..... NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
 Aug 24 ..... NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
 Sep 28 ..... NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
 Oct 5 ..... NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK  
**Oct 17-19.... RallyCross Nationals @ Hollytree Off Road Park, Hollytree AL**  
 Nov 9 ..... NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK

## Go

### Racing!



Five MiDiv road course tracks are within a 5-hour drive of Salina. Be part of the action as a race worker -- flagging on corners, timing, grid, tech, etc. Or be a driver?

- Hallett Motor Racing Circuit, Hallett OK • Hedge Hollow Raceway, Adrian, MO
- Motorsports Park Hastings, Hastings NE • Ozarks International Raceway, Gravois Mills MO
- I-29 Speedway, Pacific Junction. IA

#### ROAD RACING

Apr 26-27 .... Super Tour @ Hallett Motor Racing Circuit, Hallett OK  
 May 24-25... Majors @ WorldWide Raceway, Madison, IL  
 July 12-13... Majors @ Ozarks International, Gravois Mills, MO  
 Aug 9-10..... Majors @ Motorsports Park Hastings, Hastings, NE  
 Sep 29-Oct 5 . The Runoffs @ Road America, Elkhart Lake WI

# Just Idling Around

—Abner Perney

2024 turned out to be another year of autocross participation sufficient to make me F Street Regional Champion again in my 2005 Nissan 350Z even though I had very little competition. Most notably Adam Perney who after about 20 years of no autocrossing edged me in my own car.

But most fun has been my return to H Street with inappropriate cars. First there was the humble 2020 Chevy Bolt that could squeal its EV fuel efficiency tires almost the entire length of the course and managed to be not the slowest car in the event. Second was my first and so far only Bring A Trailer Auction purchase – the 2012 Fiat 500 Abarth with only 36,000 miles.

High point of that adventure was when I let Aaron Loggan co-drive in our rainy September event and he proceeded to pull off the FTD of the 26 drivers present. I, on the other hand, finished last in HS that day and the remaining events of the year. But, due to the generous nature of our season scoring system, those events plus the one in the Bolt are sufficient to give me 3rd place in that class.

Now 2025 is unfolding before us. I will initially proceed to campaign the Fiat 500. Maybe the whole season. I still need to be disposing of my lifetime collection of stuff, starting with the 2005 350Z – 35th Anniversary Model. Sold in Salina in 2006, used little by first owner, a local businesswoman who sold it to me in 2022. It still has under 14,000 miles! 2 seasons autocross and one road trip to Colorado in the past two years. Practically perfect, with a set of 200 treadwear summer ultra performance tires mounted and set of all season tires included with 2019 date codes. Text me at 785-822-8570 if interested.

Back in the day when I was writing this column every month, I would do a Christmas wish list every December. Now all the coolest cars are outrageously expensive and most of the “affordable” – which means under \$60,000 – are dull and boring. So, my new year wish list is minimal.

- First, I would still like to acquire a Mazda Miata

RF, as a fun all around sports car.

- Number 2 would be a Mustang Mach-E, as soon as used ones drop below \$25,000.

- Number 3, Hyundai Ioniq 5, just because of the appropriate electric age styling and the fact that long time SCCA member, Randy Pobst, set a new production car record last summer at Pikes Peak in a nearly stock N version of the Ioniq 5! I remember long ago that there were two Solo Nationals, in Salina,



*Randy Pobst and Hyundai #49 made it to Pikes Peak Summit! 9:55 breaks the ten minute barrier! Yokohama Advan racing slicks held tight even though it was the very first car out at 7:30 am. The electric Ioniq 5 N TA Spec ran strong the whole way up.*

when I was lined up next to Randy on the grid, and he won the class and I finished not last!

- Number 4, as a practical replacement for my Chrysler Pacifica, I like the looks, size and fuel economy of the 2024 Hyundai Santa Fe Plug-in Hybrid.

- Number 5, just because no one has seen fit to autocross one, but I and Aaron Loggan would, a current model Prius, because it finally is quick enough to be fun, and stylish enough to be a pleasing daily driver.

- And finally, I must admit that I am intrigued with the 2025 Dodge Charger EV with it's brash “Save the World” commercial that starts sounding like an environmentally responsibility pledge and instead is a tire burning offer to save us from soulless, self-driving saneness, or some such phrase, complete with muscle car sound effects, in addition to actual tire shredding torque and horsepower. It will not likely be the only absurdity of the coming New Year!

Happy Trails, —Abner

••• JOIN the Sports Car Club of America •••

**IT'S EASY. GO TO [www.scca.com](http://www.scca.com) AND CLICK ON JOIN SCCA TODAY!**

National membership includes a "local" region of your choice. This becomes your Region of Record. Normally your RoR is the area in which you live, but it doesn't have to be. We have members who live in other Regions' territories, and some of those regions have members who live in our territory.

You may also join as many other regions as you like, paying their local dues for the purpose of winning local championship points and participating in their programs. These are "Associate" or "Dual Region" memberships. Salina Region's Associate Members are fully-vested members eligible for all our championships, voting rights, region offices and other member benefits. "Associate" membership only means region-of-record is elsewhere.

**You must be a member to enter SCCA events. There are several different types of membership available, including Regular, Family, First Gear (under 25) and Military, plus short-term Trial (free) and Weekend (\$15) Memberships. Questions? Call Salina Region membership chair Rocky Entriken at 785-827-5143 or e-mail [rocky@spitfire4.com](mailto:rocky@spitfire4.com).**

••• Associate memberships •••

- Associate Memberships in Salina Region expire concurrent with National and Region-of-Record memberships. Any Associate memberships paid direct to Salina Region are notified to SCCA Membership and expire on their National expiration date. Associate members are fully-vested members of Salina Region, although their Region-of-Record is elsewhere.
- Annual dues are \$15.00 both for single memberships and for family memberships (which includes spouse and children age 20 and younger).
- To become an Associate Member of Salina Region, contact SCCA Membership (call 1-800-770-2055) and ask to be included as a member in Salina Region. The Region's dues will be paid at that time and added to your renewal fees.
- Or, at renewal time, renew online and you will find an option to "Add Region." Scroll down to find Salina Region in the drop-down menu.
- If you choose to pay dues direct to Salina Region (for example, at an event), we will notify SCCA and your Salina Region membership will become part of your National membership renewal.
- Mailed subscriptions are available to non-members, \$15 for the calendar year.

**E-mail or U.S. Mail?**

If you received the e-mail version but would prefer to receive *The Write Line* by mail, just send a message to the editor ([rocky@spitfire4.com](mailto:rocky@spitfire4.com), or 2731 Scott, Salina Ks. 67401) and we'll keep you on the snail-mail list. Likewise, if we sent you the mailed version but the e-mail copy (in color!) would better meet your preferences, just say so.



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