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#### Area 3/SEDiv Officials

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> See the SEDIV website for other SEDIV contact information.



# When & Where

#### **District Meeting** Times and Places

District 1 - 2nd Tuesday of each month except December -7:30 pm at Perkins Restaurant 2626 Gulf to Bay Blvd... Clearwater- NE corner of US 19

**District 2** – 4th Wednesday of each month except December - 7:00 pm at **Beef O'Brady's**, 9311 N. 56th St., Temple

District 3 – 2nd Tuesday of each month except December – 7:30 pm at Logan's Roadhouse 3060 W Sandlake Rd Orlando, FL 32819

District 4 - Contact Governor for details.

District 5 - 2nd Monday of each month except December dinner at 6:30 pm and meeting at 7:30 pm at Charlie & Jakes Brewery & Grill 6300 Wickham Rd in Melbourne, FL

District 6 - 3rd Tuesday of each month except December. dinner at 7:00pm and meeting at 7:45pm at Palm Diner 2710 Kenilworth Blvd., Sebring (behind Kenilworth Lodge).

District 7 - 2nd Tuesday of each month except December dinner at 6:30 pm and meeting at 7:30 pm at Louie's Pizza House - 1347 Beville Rd - Daytona Beach FL 32119

District 8 - 2nd Wednesday of each month except December at 6pm at Jerseys Sports Café - 13971 North Cleveland Avenue, N. Fort Myers, FL 33903.

District 9 - Call Governor for details

#### New to the club?

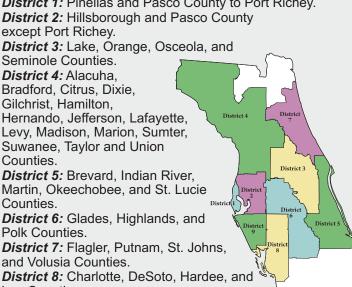
For general information on the membership or meetings please call your district governor. Or, if you want to know about a specific "specialty" call the "chief" listed on the inside cover. Use this list and map to find your District:

District 1: Pinellas and Pasco County to Port Richey.

Suwanee, Taylor and Union Counties.

Lee Counties.

District 9: Manatee and Sarasota Counties.



### The Checker

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#### www.CFRSCCA.org thechecker@osceolapress.com

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Send ads, articles and photographs to:

#### TheChecker@OsceolaPress.com

Articles may also be mailed to: 2775 Old Dixie Hwy., Unit C Kissimmee, FL 34744

#### **Address Changes:**

Make your changes online at: www.scca.com. You will need your member number (and password if you have already created one) to log on. Be sure to add or update your email address so that you can get your meeting notices! Or, call the Topeka office 800-770-2055 to notify them of your change. Any call to Topeka with a request will require that you provide your membership number.

DO NOT SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE CHECKER.

> Cover Photos: Fiona Morrison Christopher Deshong, Kevin Crain



# **Event Schedule**

#### For CFR and Surrounding Regions

	January 2016			April 2016	
8-10	IMSA Testing	DIS	1 ??	Chump Car 14 Hours of Daytona	DIS
	Daytona Road Course, Conducted by DIS			Conducted by DIS	
8-10	Florida Region Majors	HMS	9-10	Driver School & PDX	DIS
	Homestead-Miami Speedway			Daytona School Course	
14	Test Day	SIR	15-17	Southeastern Conference Majors	VIR
	Sebring Long Course, Conducted by SIR			Virginia International Raceway, Alton, VA	
15-17	Southeastern Conference Majors	SIR			
	Sebring Long Course, 12 Hour Paddock			May 2016	
22-24	SCCA National Convention		6		DIS
00.04	Las Vegas, NV	DIO	O	Test Day/PDX	פוט
28-31	Rolex 24 Hours	DIS	7-8	CFR Test Day, Daytona Road Course	DIS
	Daytona Full Course, Conducted by DIS		7-0	Regional/SECS/TES Enduro/SOLO Daytona Road Course, SOLO on Kart Track	פוע
	February 2016				
5-7	SE Division Annual Meeting & Banquet			June 2016	
J-1	Sea Island. GA		10	Test Day	SIR
13-14	Florida Cup Regional/Vintage	SIR		Sebring Short Course, Conducted by SIR	•
13-14	Sebring Long Course, 12 Hour Paddock	Silk	11-12	Florida Cup/Double SARRC/Vintage/PDX	SIR
27-28	Southeastern Conference Majors	NOLA		Sebring Short Course, Green Park Paddock	•
_,	NOLA Motorsports Park, Avondale, LA	110271	18	BOG Meeting	
	March 2040			<b>July 2016</b>	
	March 2016				
5	BOG Meeting		23-24	Driver School/Vintage/TES Enduro/PDX	SIR
	Holiday Inn Express, I4 & US 27			Sebring Short Course, Green Park Paddock	
10-13	St Pete Grand Prix				
	St Pete Waterfront Street Circuit, Conducted by	' IRL		August 2016	
16-19	12 Hours of Sebring	SIR	-		DIC
	Sebring Long Course, Conducted by SIR		5	Test Day	DIS
19-20	Southeastern Conference Majors		6-7	CFR Test Day, Daytona Road Course	DIE
	Road Atlanta		0-1	Florida Cup/Double SARRC Davtona Road Course. SOLO on Kart Track	DIS
				Daytona Road Course, SOLO on Kart Track	

### **2016 Publication Deadlines**

In an effort to keep the content in **The Checker** as fresh and relevant as possible, a floating deadline will be used typically following Club Racing events. With a set deadline of the 15th of the month(the former system), an event which occurs on the 17th of the month would not be included in the following month's issue, but two months following said event, which would make the coverage a bit dated; hence the reason for a "floating deadline."

The deadlines for submission to The Checker for 2016 are as follows:

- January 18, 2016
- February 16, 2016
- March 21, 2016
- April 12, 2016
- May 10, 2016
- June 20, 2016
- July 26, 2016

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## **Old Farts Racers Reunion, Take 3**

photos and story by Karen Galvin



For the third year in a row, a good-sized bunch of racers, former racers, workers, crew and spouses gathered on Saturday at the Turkey Trot at Sebring. Van and Judy McDonald provided a lunch of brats, hot dogs and sides for about 50. Friendships were renewed, new acquaintances were made, stories flowed and good-natured insults flew.

In the evening, many Old Farts attended the barbecue dinner that was held in the Legends



Van McDonald and Jerry Larson

Building to celebrate the life of Bill Martin, who passed away in August.

Among the people who came to the lunch and/or dinner were Bill McDill with his son Richard and grandson Riley, Jack Rynerson, Ted Grieshaber, Charlie Hollis, Alan Borell, Dori Mills and Harry Schneider, Phil Lowe, Don Loftis, Tom Cripe, Dennis Almasi, Wayne Yelton, Pete Smith, Dave Dartt, Dan Liddy, John Tremblay III, Roger Sell, Meredydd and Ken Francke, Mike and Barb Schiffer, Dick Gallup, Don Robinson, Carol Swanson, Dave Theen, Bruce Behrens, David Ellis-Brown, Rich Lee, Bobby Duffy, Wayne Miller, Joel McGinley, Mike Williamson, Jerry Larson, Terry Wolters, Charlie Beck, Kerry Foote and Jim and Gwen Magero.

Mark your calendar for next year! On Saturday of the Turkey Trot weekend, bench racing will occur, T-shirts will be handed out and the truth will be stretched (the stories get better with every telling). Call Van and Judy at 941-729-3545 or email <code>adoxiedogs@gmail.com</code> for more information.





Dori Mills and Harry Schneider



Phil Lowe and Judy McDonald



Some of the Old Farts who gathered for the reunion enjoying a lunch of brats, hot dogs and all the fixings.

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# To the Editor

#### To the Central Florida Region and Others:

Last Saturday at the Turkey Trot Social was truly special as so many came to remember and celebrate Bill.

While it's not possible to thank everyone individually, I would be remiss if I didn't specifically thank the following: The Board of Governors who was unanimous in their support of funding the social; Dennis Joyce who initiated the arrangements for the Legends building; Mike Wingo for his introductory words; Dave Green for the wonderful picture of Bill; Kevin and Melanie Crain for the posters of the picture and Tom Sterrett and his crew who managed the beer, water and sodas with their usual expertise.

I especially want to thank Robin and Jack Ragaglia who so willingly coordinated the food and beverage arrangements and their team (Sharon Priep, Nancy Davis, Bonnie Anderson-McKee, MaryAnn Mullin, Corky Priep) who helped at the event. Everyone had many other responsibilities prior to and during the weekend.

Also, a big thank you to Dave Theen and Tucker Alford for making and installing the sign saying Bill Martin Center on our building and to BiteMe Barbeque for the very tasty food.

To have a sustained relationship with a volunteer organization like CFR is rare in today's world. Yet we (and it's still Bill and me) have enjoyed a hobby that spanned over 45 years - 93 total according to the wording on the Lifetime Achievement Award. We have made friends who have become our second family.

Thank you all for your support, comfort and love. It will never be forgotten.

See you at the races!

Fran

## **Did You Know?**

#### We have a volunteer incentive Program!

Do your friends a favor by inviting them along to participate as a volunteer at any CFR club meeting for **FREE** and, if they enjoy themselves which of course they will, they can become full members for just \$30 for the first year. Even better news - by being their referring member they will get an additional \$15 off! So their first year is just \$15.

SCCA Volunteer Incentive Program reduced membership rates are renewable for second and third years by working at least four (4) days each prior year.

Wait! There is more! YOU can claim a referral discount from national on your renewal for every member you introduce. When inviting a guest it is always a good idea to use the Guest Passes issued in The Checker as this will ease the registration process; please make sure your guest hooks up with the specialty chief at the event or with Darren Gunn, CFR-SCCA Membership, beforehand so we can make their first time as pain free and enjoyable as possible.

For more information please feel free to contact me at any time, contact info on back page. Be safe out there!



# Turkey Trot aka 1st CFR SARRC race for 2016



David Hussey drove the #20 Acura Integra to a pair of group 1 wins averaging a 30 second margin of victory over a field of 50 drivers.



Adren Hance Jr. in the #53 Mazda Miata passing Eric Servick on his way to a pair of WITS wins.



Charlie Lowrance notches a pair of STU victories in the #150 Mazda Miata.



Kevin Koelemeyer notches a pair of T4 victories in the #11 Mazda MX-5.



Mike Ogren drives the #39 Volkswagen Scirocco to two HP wins.



Barry Burgoon drives the #71 Mazda Miata to two ITA wins.





Carl Dassinger racks up two FV wins in the #53 Predator P3.



Andrew Wilkin drove the #65 Ford Mustang to a pair of AS wins.



The Spec Miata group ran both its races on Sunday. The morning Sprint race saw Danny Steyn in the #39 take the win over Selin M. Rollan by a tenth second. Rollan leads the pack in the #87 through Turn 1 in the afternoon Feature and would edge Steyn by .659 seconds for the win.



Bill McGavic in the #69 Mazda Rx7 leads Richard Smith through Turn 16. McGavic earned a pair of GT3 wins and a 3rd in group on Sunday.



# Scenes From The Turkey Trot Social



Pat Hill checking out Bill Martin's memorabilia table Fran shared.



Fran Martin enjoying a margarita...



Lyn Hodges Watts showing the sunburn from working grid?



BOG Chairman Mike Wingo addressed the standing room only crowd.





## Snapshots of the 2015



District 2 Governor and Host, Jerry Hicks



Guest Speaker Joie Chitwood, III



Ron Offutt, recipient of the Distinguished Service Award



Lee Hill and Lyn Watts doing Karaoke?



Paul Troup and the RallyCross 2015 Champions



Outgoing Solo Chair Chuck Lutz and New Chair, Terry Tabor preparing to present Solo trophies.



Jack Ragaglia presenting Club Racing Trophies



Yep, Doc Stan Hallock was that close to the FC Championship (2 points).



Chaplain Steve Kearney reflects...



Louis Galanos shared some Remember When pics at lunch.

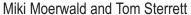


Jimmy & Paula Hildock Club Racing Workers of the Year

## **Annual Meeting**









Charlaine and Michael Wingo



Lyn Watts and Nicole Hecker



Regional Executive Chuck Dawson cheesin' it up for the camera...



Terry Tabor and new District 5 Governor, Angela Carlascio



District 9 Governor and GTL Runner-Up, Charlie Leonard with Lyn Watts



Lyn Watts, again :-) with Rachel Kullman, STU 3rd Place Points Champion



Liz Crogan smiling as she won \$100 in the drawing at lunch.



Jack and Robin Ragaglia



Ginger standing guard over Pamella MacGregor's chicken



Competition Coordinator Dennis Joyce



Club Treasurer Walt Williams



**Until Next Year!** 



# **HSR Daytona Classic 24**

Through the Lens of Louis Galanos































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## **CFR's John Dean II Reaping Pro Success**

#### My Name is John Dean II

I have been a member of SCCA in the CRF region since I was a kid. I believe 1985 was when my dad got my first membership. He was a racer for many years in the region and won multiple championship.

I started racing in the CFR region, I believe in 1999, and won a regional championship back in the early 2000's in an ITA prepared BMW 325. I have been competing in the SCCA Pro Mazda MX5 cup for the past 4 years. I have won more races than any driver ever in the series, been on the podium more times than anyone else, and captured the 2015 Championship. I thought this might interest some local members or even officials that have seen me climb the ladder.

I own a Sebring based team called Sick Sideways, and we captured 1st, 3rd, and 4th in the MX5 cup this year. Our team has a very solid record in the series and will continue on in the new ND mazda MX5 cup next season.

My team will introduce a new member to the CFR this year running in the T4 class with an MX5 starting this fall. I look forward to being back out there coaching him, and engineering with our team.

I'd like to share the following article published Nov 10, 2015 in **Highlands Today**.

#### King of the MX5-Cup by Allen Moody

Few people in the motor-sports world were kept as busy between events as the record keeper for the Battery Tender Mazda MX5-Cup series. Nearly every time he took to the track this year, Sebring's John Dean II was setting a new series record, although many of those were records were ones that he already held.

Making Dean's run through the record books more impressive is the fact that he and his Sick Sideways team have only run in the series since 2012, while others have competed in the MX5-Cup since it was founded in 2006.

Dean has been the model of consistency since he began in the MX5-Cup, finishing third in the championship standings in his first two seasons and second in 2014, before winning the title this season. He's had at least six podium finishes in each season.

"In my four years, I have 12 total wins, nine seconds and seven thirds for 28 podiums, so I have the record for the most podiums in the series," Dean said. "I've also taken 13 poles, so I have the record for poles."

The 12 wins in the series are also a record, with Todd Lamb's eight wins ranking second.

"To be able to label myself as the winningest driver ever in the series is really cool," Dean said. "I can never lose that because we're going to a new car, so I'm the winningest driver ever in the NC, which is the chassis code, in the NC MX5-Cup car, so technically, all of these records will stand forever."

Dean takes a great deal of pride in the record for pole positions, as the majority of those came this past season after a change in the qualifying procedures made individual driver skill the primary factor in a good qualifying run. The new format saw 13 cars on the track in two different groups, so they were spread out over the track enough to make drafting nearly impossible.

"This year it was more difficult to go fast in qualifying," Dean said. "Even though our series has never allowed drafting that just means you can draft on certain sections of the track and not others. With the new format it was harder to slow down and then pick-up a draft from somebody in one of the legal drafting areas, so no one really did that. You just kind of stayed out by yourself and put a good lap together.

"I think that's why I was able to take eight poles this season. I took eight this season and I've only had 13 in four years. The poles are what really led to me winning the championship this year and kind of made up for some of the bad luck I had in some races."

Dean also has his share of track records, with many coming at some of the more historic tracks in North



America, including Road Atlanta and of course, Sebring.

"If I didn't have the track record at Sebring I'd be a little bummed out, but it is cool to have some of the other ones." he said. "The Road Atlanta one was funny because I put the car on the pole with a 1:39.78 and I came in and still had the helmet on and was still in the car and I could hear the guy on the PA talking about John Dean just missed out on the track record. I was thinking, 'Aw, man' and then he started talking about how he missed it out by such-and-such a time over a lap set in 2013 by John Dean so I was like 'well, that's cool. That's OK.'"

Dean also has track records at NOLA, Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca and his track record at Canadian Tire Motorsports Park is also the all-time fastest speed ever in an MX5-Cup car at 94.43 miles an hour.

As far as team records go, Sick Sideways is already No. 4 in wins and poles, which is quite an accomplishment as they are going head-to-head

against larger teams that have been in the series many more years.

"We've been killing the MX5-Cup since 2012," Dean said. "We're down the list in team records a little bit because the series started in 2006, but since we started in 2012, we have more wins and more team podiums than any other team, so there's a lot to be said about that as well."

Dean is already looking forward to the 2016 season, which will begin at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca in April as opposed to Sebring, as it has the past four years, but admits that he'll also miss the old car, which has served him quite well over the years.

"I'm excited about the new car for next season, but I was really just starting to enjoy this car and Road Atlanta was the most fun I've had in this car yet," he said. "I had a blast. It rained; it dried out and then rained again. Our set-ups were so good for both rain and dry it was a pleasure to drive. I hope we're able to make the new car as fun to drive as the old one was."





### Another One Is In The Books...

#### by Jerry Hicks

The 2015 annual meeting is just about a memory now, it's all over but writing the check to the hotel and thanking our sponsors. For those who didn't attend, you missed Joie Chitwood III as our guest speaker before dinner and to me, one of the best speakers we've had at this event. I thought the food was good, the hotel responded to several urgent problems with skill and ability, and the whole weekend followed a mental schedule I'd set for myself.

Anybody who's ever done this or something like it knows that you don't do it alone unless you're completely daft, and I had some outstanding help along the way. I'd like to take a minute or three to thank them here so you all know who was responsible for bringing you this event.

Fran Martin held my hand the whole way with info from past annual meetings/dinners and was my sounding board for just about everything that I encountered. Robin Regaglia handled pre-event registration through DLB and she and Fran met with me a couple of times on menu choice, etc. Chuck Dawson was there when I needed a couple of questions answered from higher up, and Lee Hill was likewise there. Pat and Anna Schimenti also helped contact possible sponsors.

The one work party (and I use the term "party" lightly) had John Schimenti, Lee and Pat Hill, James Crouse, my wife Diane, and a couple of others (I think) to help put together goodie bags, sort the door prize donations and decide what was going where, and give me some direction that evening.

Pat Hill handled the contact with our charity, put together the registration envelopes, and worked registration at the event for most of the weekend.

During this whole process, John Annis worked to get our guest speaker-Mr. Joie Chitwood III- on board and if you think that was easy I'll show you the emails between us as he tried to juggle Joie's schedule with ours for the evening. Lots of changes but John stuck with it and as I said earlier, brought us a speaker that we all enjoyed immensely. A HUGE thanks to John Annis, folks! By the way, not only did we get JCIII, but his father came along with him and we got to meet him to boot. Well done, John, well done.

Tom and Miki handled the hospitality suite from the get-go, even through the hotel moving it several times Friday night. One floor to another, one room size to another...Tom and Miki handled it and from all reports did so very well. I poked my head in at one point and it was standing room only, so they must have been doing something right.

During the weekend, there are many challenges to be handled, and I'd like to thank both Pat Hill and James Crouse for their never-ending support-if something came up and I was doing something else already, James and/or Pat were there to handle it. I can't thank them enough but will always try!

I'd like to thank the hotel staff as well. Sure there were a few hang-ups. Hotel rooms that were supposed to be in people's names but weren't, reconfiguring the banquet room not once but FOUR TIMES to accommodate both walk-in guests who had not pre-registered and the plethora of door prizes we ended up with. Everybody should have gone home a winner on that, and we even had some left over to send home with Charlie Leonard for his turn next year. Yes, we ran out of chicken at one point but not for long. Yes, we had to share breakfast with hordes of football plyers and cheerleaders and others who made it painful to get breakfast on Saturday but the hotel pretty much fixed that on Sunday morning.

Overall, the hotel did a great job of accommodating us all weekend...with the exception of getting a certain group quieted down Sunday morning during the BOG meeting-those of you who were there know what I mean.

Another one is in the books, and the next one is already being planned. To those who attended, thank you for your patience and for being there. Those who helped put it all together, I have no way of thanking you adequately. All that being said, if you can help Charlie along the way, please do.



# "Limey" Jim Swain

by Alan Oppel

I would like to take a few moments to talk about a very dear friend. Here in Central Florida, Jim Swain was known to most of us as Limey, and he filled many roles within our racing community. Most recently he had been working with Prism Motorsports as trackside support. I had the pleasure of working with him with his Formula Enterprises car when he and Keith Field shared a car together. I knew he had a deep background in racing, and I heard more and more, both from him, and others he raced

with. Here is just a small glimpse.

As a Brit, racing it seems is in your blood, and quite so for Jim. Motorcycles, and especially, cycles with sidecars were his first love. He started racing at an early age, before being licensed to drive on the governor's roads, and he won races at an early age. The first win garnered him a photograph in the newspaper, and a

dilemma. He had to be home in time to snag the paper before his Mum saw the photograph, as she was not yet aware of his racing! He raced sidecars through the sixties and into the seventies mostly in England, and as a privateer a championship was always elusive. When he was "on it" he was always quick. I am not certain of the year, but at one time he held a lap record at Brands Hatch as the fastest of all 2, 3, and 4 wheeled vehicles. Considering the racing stars that ran there at the time, that is a badge of honor one could wear proudly, although I did not hear about that statistic from him. His skill and speed was noticed by many, and part of that respect was opportunities to pilot other bikes as well as entering the ranks of the emerging formula Junior cars and a stint in a formula 2 car. However, life progressed, and children were in the picture soon.

Today those children are successful people in their own right, living in England, France, and South Africa. To raise children who can be successful anywhere in the world is truly a mark of a great person. I am amazed and impressed by the number of friends and family from around the world whom I have had the privilege of meeting. The sense of loss is overwhelming and I can scarcely imagine how Donna, his wife must feel.



I miss his humor and hilarious stories. He never let the truth get in the way of a good tale, but in talking with friends and family, there was more truth to the story than most would believe. He could happily take a joke as well as give it out, and if you got one over on him it was a rare pleasure. Whether dining with royalty or

sharing a pint at the track social, he made every moment a pleasure and every person feel like a close friend. Coaching young drivers, he would get animated and you would see the twinkle in his eyes and the passion in his movements and gestures, leaving no doubt he had a clear understanding of the moment.

We have lost many friends recently, and as I sit and think about how they have influenced me, and this is the consensus I am left with. If we sit and wait for some external okay to live our lives, we only get older. Permission only truly comes from within ourselves. So GO, LIVE, PLAY, EXCEL, And ENJOY LIFE!



### RallyCross Champions Crowned in the Rain

by Paul Troup

Port St Lucie was not the most pleasant venue for the final RallyCross event of the year. Rain the day before made the venue pretty soggy and more showers rolled in during the afternoon.



Chi Ho helped set up the course. His first run demonstrated the level of challenge that would confront the other drivers.

There is a saying about "bringing a gun to a knife-fight." A pick-up might not be the best RallyCross vehicle, but Andrew James was able to make it through the course and tow some of the less fortunate to safety...



Working the course proved to be as challenging as driving it. The two course workers watching Laurent Oliver are Doug Williams and Ed Higginbotham. Doug is wearing boots; that was the cleanest Ed's shirt was all day. Laurent garnered enough points to win the Modified All Wheel Drive Championship.



Logan Binnix has helped at a number of events and picked this day to bring his car. All wheel drive sure helped him...





A Volvo seems like a reasonable car to take to RallyCross - at least Lee Reynolds thinks so. Lee sloshed through the course with enough points to take the Stock Rear Wheel Drive championship. By the end of the day his number had disappeared completely from his side window...

Two Subaru Foresters participated in the event, but neither came away unscathed. One had a radiator split and took 6 gallons of water to make it home and the other broke a half shaft and had a visit with a tow truck.





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