

April 2009



Lone Star Region  
Sports Car Club of America  
PO Box 302648  
Austin, TX 78703-0045

# LONE STAR DRAFT

## 2009 Lone Star Region Board of Directors

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The Lone Star Draft is the official publication of the Lone Star Region, SCCA. Reprints of articles permitted with acknowledgement.

## Pace Lap

Well, it's been a busy two months since we last talked. The SCCA National Convention was held in Las Vegas back in February. LSR sent Roger, Brent and Eric to check it out and their reports will be printed here just as soon as they get around to submitting them (hint, hint). SCCA has uploaded the available session presentations on the National website. The pdf files can be found under the "Resources / Convention" tabs after you log in to the website. All materials are for member informational purposes and are not for public/non-member consumption.

The Lone Star Texas Two Step Double National was held at Texas World Speedway March 6-8, 2009 and by pretty much any measure was a big success. 180+ drivers took to the track over the weekend and while there was the usual breakage nobody was seriously hurt. Thanks to everybody who came out to drive and to help put on the event. Without the volunteers there would be no event. Speaking of volunteers, a big

thanks goes to Brent McNaul for beating the bushes for workers for this event. We had three people on each corner which is a luxury we have not seen in a while.

Speaking of volunteers, due to personal issues Scotty Guernsey was forced to resign as LSR secretary. LSR is looking for somebody to step up and finish out his term. On the same subject, elections are just around the corner in June and we are looking for a few good people to run for expiring BOD positions. If you are interested in running for office, contact and current board member.

The Solo season has kicked off with the Houston National Tour event on April 4-6, 2009. LSR was well represented and took home a number of well deserved trophies. Several members will be headed to Lincoln, Nebraska for the Pro Solo in early May. Lincoln is the site for this years Nationals so we will be checking out the new digs and reporting back.

Until next time.

## 2009 Lone Star Texas Two Step N/N

Wow, what a GREAT weekend we had. Awesome car count (180+), great people and lots of them (about 10 more volunteers than last year I think), great weather, excellent racing. We were able to run the long course as planned without having to draft drivers and crew, and had 3 to a corner on Sat and Sun. That was good because we had a lot of action and quite a few responses on the track, near the track, and across the track. We had a handful of new volunteer race officials which was refreshing, along with a bunch of experienced veterans.

I, along with the rest of the Lone Star Region, wish to personally thank each and every one of you who helped pull off this excellent event, the Texas Two Step N/N at TWS. This thank you is for all specialties, all volunteers. Here's some rambling thoughts of things I can remember from the weekend:

- \* Gary Tomlin's description of the trophy skunk seen out by T8
- \* Wheels coming off at least 2 cars (not sure if they ever found one of them lost in the wilderness by T7)
- \* Jake coaching a new tow truck driver who had never been to the track
- \* #05 GT-1 taking out the lead car and himself on final lap, final turn
- \* Ute diagnosing a car stuck in gear
- \* Mike Sauce leading, then radio call of possible new leader just before checker... he won, but out of gas?
- \* SMART car pacing the GT-1 race
- \* 41 Miatas, 34 Wings and Things, ~35 Spec Racer Fords
- \* Jake really is a magnet
- \* Banquet was really fun
- \* Spring forward time change (nope, didn't care for it, stayed up way too late Sat nite)
- \* what the heck caused that #00 yellow corvette to smoke like that decelerating in the GT-1 race?
- \* just how many times did the #1 formula ford spin out?
- \* Gregg M walking around looking at the ground (lost his ign key)
- \* Putting the keg beer into jugs because they were kicking us out of the banquet room
- \* The Plaza hotel... sounds ritzy, doesn't it ??

Met a lot of great people last weekend and realize what a great division SowDiv is. Thank you for your support and we hope you'll return for the Lone Star Grand Prix Memorial weekend race (Sat/Sun)...

Text and photo by Brent McNaul



# 2009 SCCA National Convention Report 1

Unfortunately, I did not write this report immediately after returning from Las Vegas. Apparently I'm getting old and the ol' memory just ain't what it used to be. I'm sure there are a number of things I was going to mention but I just can't remember them right now. And it has nothing to do with the current Vegas motto. I wish it did... I do remember the following:

- SCCA has several membership and volunteer recruitment programs. You can view the details by logging on the [scca.com](http://scca.com) website and going to the Resources / FileCabinet menu.
- Safety at road races and Solo events was a big talking point this year. Due to our loss history, SCCA insurance rates are not the best. To reduce the rates it will take several years of reduced claims.
- SCCA wants all incidents to be reported to Topeka even if it does not result in an insurance claim. Reporting more incidents lowers the percentage of claims/incidents and makes us look better in the insurance carriers eyes. That's a good thing.
- SCCA is working with BMW CCA and TireRack to promote the Street Survival schools for teen drivers. Go to <http://www.streetsurvival.org/> for more information and the schedule. LSR would like to put on a school but we need local volunteers to make it happen.
- All SCCA entities finished in the black for 2008, even Enterprises! Projections for 2009 are guardedly optimistic.
- Austin is being considered as a future convention location (2011+). Anybody want help plan?
- SCCA wants suggestions for technical presentations at future conventions. Got an idea? Send it to Colin Arnold at the national office.
- Las Vegas has two indoor kart tracks with electric karts. Hey, you didn't think racers could find a place to go play? Dirty drivers put me into the wall once but I'll get even...
- I managed to return to Austin with a shirt on my back. Woohoo!

## *The Draft...*

Welcome to the electronic version of the Lone Star Region *Draft*. We hope you find this an easy way to keep up-to-date on activities and enjoy our newsletter in color! Future issues of *The Draft* will include more pictures along with information on what is happening in the region.

Submission deadline for articles and photos is the day of the board meeting. Comments? Questions? Contact Eric Jones ([editor@lonestarscca.org](mailto:editor@lonestarscca.org) or 512-249-6432) or Danny Benzer ([re@lonestarscca.org](mailto:re@lonestarscca.org))

Thank you for your support.

# The Solo Report

Thirty One members of Lone Star Region headed South to Gulf Greyhound Park In La Marque, Texas for the 2009 Houston National Tour the weekend of April 4-5, 2009. This is the Texas stop of the SCCA's NT series and attracts drivers from a one thousand mile radius. After a welcome party of pizza and beverages, entrants were treated to two of course designer Roger Johnson's best efforts that made good use of the available space and the undulations in the asphalt surface. Other than a few grumbles about tight starts, we were uniformly praising the fast technical courses that rewarded the driver who was able to place their car in the proper line. One tiny mistake usually resulted in hitting a penalty cone. More than one driver went through the weekend without a clean run. In spite of this everyone had a good time and is looking forward to the next event.

LSR trophy winners are:

- 1st - AM Brianne Corn
- 1st - BS Eric Jones
- 1st - CSL Dani Pedroza
- 1st - STX John Hale
- 1st - BSP Michael Wootton
- 1st - DP Drew VanderPloeg
- 1st - FP Tom Holt
- 1st - SSM Erik Strelnieks
- 2nd - SS Lance Adams
- 2nd - CS Dan Pedroza
- 2nd - BSP Kyung Wootton
- 2nd - DP Steve Hudson
- 2nd - FP Rick Martinez
- 2nd - SSM Stanford Curry
- 3rd - ST Andy Hollis
- 3rd - SSM Beth McClure-Strelnieks



Drivers were left to their own devices on Saturday night so LSR hosted a shrimp boil in our pit area. Over forty people were treated to shrimp, potatoes and corn on the cob. Plus the odd adult beverage or two. Thanks to chef Tom Holt nobody left hungry.



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We're on the web—  
[www.lonestarscca.org](http://www.lonestarscca.org)—  
check out the latest on activities!!

LSR monthly Board of Directors meetings are normally held the first Wednesday of the month. The usual location is Athena Manufacturing, 9011 Tuscany Way, Austin, TX 78754. A big thanks to Bill Johnson for allowing us to use his conference room. All LSR members and guests are welcome to attend these meetings. We suggest you verify with a BoD member that the date or location of the meeting has not changed before you come by.

### Coming Up:

- May 1-3 — Sunburn Grand Prix, Texas Motor Speedway
- May 2-3 — Lincoln Pro Solo, Lincoln, NE
- May 6 — LSR BoD Monthly Meeting, Athena Mfg.
- May 23-24 — LST Grand Prix R/N, TWS
- June 3 — LSR BoD Monthly Meeting
- June 20-21 — SOWDIV Solo Divisional #1, College Station, TX
- June — Lone Star Region Annual Elections, Time and Place TBD