

# The **Tonneau**

LAND O'LAKES REGION, SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA



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## RE 1207

Mary Utecht

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As another competition season draw to a close, I'd like to take a moment to congratulate those Land O'Lakes members that have been crowned **National Champions**.

Brent Carlson - Rallycross National Champion – Prepared AWD  
Mark Utecht – Rallycross National Champion – Modified 4WD  
Dan Wasdahl - Solo National Champion - A Modified

You'll find elsewhere in this issue the results for those who attended the Rallycross, Solo and Club Racing National Championship events along with article on what is like to attend a National Championship event by Mark Utecht. Attending a National event is a very different experience and I commend everyone who is willing to take on the challenge.

As a reminder, the Annual Meeting and Banquet will be held at **DeGidio's Restaurant** on West Seventh Street in St. Paul on January 10<sup>th</sup>. The event is open to anyone with an interest in motorsports. See the Banquet flyer in this issue. **Nominations** forms for the Land O'Lakes Year-End Awards are available in this issue and the Announcement section of the discussion forum of the website. If you would like a copy sent to you via U.S. mail or e-mail, please feel free to contact me at 651.408.1203.

The **Land O'Lakes Board of Directors will remain unchanged for 2009**. Per the bylaws, if there are the same number of candidates as openings, the BOD can appoint those willing to serve without the expense of ballots and election. This will save the club approximately 500.00. Thanks to **Jim Griggs**,

### LOL Annual Meeting and Banquet

**When:** January 10, 2009

**Where: DeGidio's Restaurant**  
(on West Seventh Street in St. Paul)

**Who:** Everyone who is interested in motorsports!

For registration form and more information go to **page 5**

**Dan Corgard** and **Randy Van De Loo** for agreeing to continue to serve the region as Directors.

Looking forward to 2009, we've already set the date for our first Tire Rack Teen Street Survival event for Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Many thanks for Dan Bidinger for getting the ball rolling on this event. If you have teen-aged drivers in your family, I strongly encourage you to check it out. There has been discussion with the BIR regarding a date for a Double Regional Club Race this summer but no date has been firmed up. Keep checking the website for upcoming announcements.

It's not too early to start thinking about the **Minneapolis Autoshow**. I know that it's barely December but there has been an exciting development. Due to consolidation of the show, we will be downstairs on the main level this year. This means that we will be more visible. We'll be looking for more volunteers to staff this booth this year due anticipated higher traffic. Look for signup information in February.

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered their time in the past year to region activities, in 2008. I am looking forward to an exciting and challenging 2009.

Mary Utecht

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## SCCA 2008-2009 Road Rally Report

This is the 19th season of the Winter Rally Series organized by the Arrowhead Sports Car Club of Duluth, MN. Each rally is a Touring style event (no traps, no gimmicks), easy course following over challenging roads.

### Here is the schedule for 2008-2009.

**Dec. 6** - Wisconsin Winter Rally. Solon Springs, WI. RM Tim Winker & Dave Cizmas.

**Jan. 10** - Sno\*Fall. Cloquet, MN. RM Randy Jokela

**Feb. 7** - Lucas Flamethrower. Red Wing, MN. RM Ed Solstad.

**Feb. 21** - [TBA]. Rhinelander, WI. RM Jim Jurgenson.

**Mar 7** - Keweenaw Winter Rally. Houghton, MI. RM Scott Carlbom.

Rules and more details will be posted soon at [www.arrowheadsc.org](http://www.arrowheadsc.org).

Tim Winker

Faster than your average TSD, but easier than a Club Rally. The ASCC Winter Rally Series. Details at: <http://www.arrowheadsc.org/wrs.htm>

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## Message from the Editor

### Email updates

Many thanks for all of you who sent your corrected email address.

A challenge we face is the federal Can-SPAM law. It says that to send to an email list, everyone must opt-in. We are working on a registration page that will allow members to opt-in so we can send email versions of the newsletter (saving postage!)

Watch for updates, and be sure to sign-up.

## Land O'Lakes Region SCCA National Championship Attendees

### RallyCross

1<sup>st</sup> Modified 4WD Mark Utecht  
1<sup>st</sup> Prepared AWD Brent Carlson  
7<sup>th</sup> Modified 4WD Kevin Beck  
7<sup>th</sup> Prepared AWD Amy Springer

### Solo

1<sup>st</sup> A Modified Dan Wasdahl  
2<sup>nd</sup> B Stock Neal Tovsen  
4<sup>th</sup> F Modified Chris Mosley  
6<sup>th</sup> B Stock Ladies Katie Lacey  
7<sup>th</sup> F Modified Keith Beumer  
11<sup>th</sup> Street Touring Extreme Joshua Berman  
11<sup>th</sup> D Street Prepared Stephen Jones  
16<sup>th</sup> Formula SAE Eric Lee  
17<sup>th</sup> Formula SAE Samuel Voegeli  
18<sup>th</sup> Formula SAE Andrew Pautsch  
18<sup>th</sup> C Street Prepared Michael Brausen  
19<sup>th</sup> H Stock Trevor Jones  
20<sup>th</sup> D Stock Chuck Bower  
25<sup>th</sup> D Stock Matt Murphy  
26<sup>th</sup> H Stock Todd Freeman

### Club Racing

2<sup>nd</sup> F500 Aaron W Ellis  
10<sup>th</sup> F500 Steven A Jondal  
12<sup>th</sup> GT2 Timothy M Gray  
14<sup>th</sup> FV Bruce W Livermore  
16<sup>th</sup> SRF Reid D Johnson  
DNF FC Tim Walsh

Road Rally results were not available at time of publishing.

## 40th Anniversary at BIR—A great success!

Even though the weather gods didn't co-operate we had a great weekend at BIR for the **40th anniversary party**. Many thanks to **Tom Fuehrer** and all who showed up, as well as **Bill Groschen** and the vintage stalwarts. You had to be there to appreciate just how much work went into this last minute effort to make this a memorable event, with everything imaginable running on the new "competition" track. The racing was the best in recent history, and the banquet with **Chris Economaki** and **Bobby Unser**, catered by Prairie Bay, was truly memorable. Look for the **BIR 40th anniversary DVD** to be available soon on the BIR

([www.birperformance.com](http://www.birperformance.com)) website.



We had the pleasure of meeting many of the members who have made LOL such a great region, such as **Cal Steffan, Kathy Goetsch, Pat Lamon, Mark Utecht, Jimmy Griggs** and others. If you missed this event you need to gear up now for what's coming up next year, as we'll be having some great racing and tons of fun at our new "home track" in the near future. It will only get better from here on out, as Jed seems to be determined to bring road racing back as a permanent feature at BIR, and the new track has the potential to make road racing even more fun, as it is busy, fast and can be attacked in every corner. By the time you read this, bikes, the **BIR performance driving school** and the **Porsche Club** will have run there. Lets get ready, the time for fun is coming up soon, with a whole new history ready to be written, even as people like **Dick Kantrud** and **Bob Youngdahl** keep the past alive. Does it get any better than this?

Steve Dunsworth



**The 2008 Year-End Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting**

Please join us for a night of awards and socializing.

We will also be electing new LoL officers and discussing the 2009 Competition Season. This event is open to all so bring a friend.

Saturday, January 10 at  
DeGidio's Restaurant  
425 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Paul MN 55102

**6:00 p.m. Social Hour**

**7:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner**

**8:00 p.m. Welcome and Program**

Menu: Mostaccioli pasta with family recipe spaghetti sauce, Italian sausage & bell peppers, Tender baked chicken, Italian salad, Garlic breadsticks, Frosted brownies, Coffee.

Cost is \$20.00 per person.

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Please make checks payable to LOL-SCCA and include with R.S.V.P. below. Please respond on or before December 29, 2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## Going to Nashville!

The **2008 SCCA RallyCross National Championship** event was held in Nashville, TN. LoL had a group of our local talent make the trek to Nashville to see how our folks stacked up in the national pool. **Kevin Beck, Brent Carlson, Amy Springer** and myself (**Mark Utecht**) all entered the event. They were accompanied by a crew of **Carrie Carlson, Amanda Ingle** and **Mary Utecht**.

We left Mpls at oh dark thirty on Thursday, October 23 on a thousand mile journey to the Country Music Mecca. In the interest of fiscal responsibility (we're cheap), we packed snacks and lunch fixings. It was an uneventful trip besides the Waffle House stop in Paducah, KY. Carrie Carlson (she's a dentist) wanted to perform an emergency extraction on the snaggletoothed cook. We all had a laugh about it afterwards.

We arrived at our cabin that was located in the Cedars of Lebanon State Park a mere 10 minutes from the event site at Nashville Speedway. The accommodations were perfect with enough room for all seven of us and a full kitchen. Friday morning brought french toast and bacon thanks to the culinarily adept crew. It also brought a continuation of the rain we drove down in the day before.

There was a test and tune track available on Friday. However, we all decided that the conditions were so bad that we did not want to risk the cars for what appeared to be a very small chance of actually learning anything about the conditions for Saturday. So we headed back to the cabin to dry out and maybe even grab a little rest. We had invited a few folks over to the cabin that evening for a bit of a social hour and that turned into a very amusing time.

Someone suggested playing spoons. I had never played and had no idea. Someone said that they had a household rule banning the playing of spoons due to previous fighting and household damage. This just got me more interested. You see, spoons is a combination of cards and musical chairs. You try to get a certain hand of cards and then grab a spoon from the middle of the table. Once anyone grabs a spoon, everybody does regardless of what you have in your hand. Of course there is one less spoon than players. Without going into details, the result of this little game was a number of bruises, Brent Carlson crawling around on the floor, Carrie Carlson laying across the table and a deck of destroyed playing cards. Anyone that wants to be introduced to this gem of a game, ask any of us at the LoL banquet (January 10<sup>th</sup>) and we will be happy to explain it in detail.

Saturday morning was grey but the rain had ended. It was still very muddy at the event site and the first group had a tough time with the course. Brent and Amy were in the same group as Kevin and I. Brent wasn't familiar with the car so Amy beat him on the first run. However, Brent is a fast learner and by the end of the first run set was really starting to pick up the speed.

Next, Kevin and I took our runs. Based on the start draw, Kevin ran first and had some cone trouble. I took over and laid down the fastest time so far. The course was very fast and flowing. Our underpowered car (compared to the others in our class) was taking advantage of light weight and good suspension. We also had the right tires for the conditions.

After the lunch break, things really sped up. The surface was drying out and the grip was increasing. Brent continued to close the gap to first in Prepared AWD and I was opening my lead in Modified 4WD. However, on my last run, the course had degraded to the point that my car hit ruts that got me up on two wheels multiple times. Twice I had to steer into the bicycle to set the car down and avoid a roll over. Both instances caused me to hit a cone. At the end of the day, Brent was only 3 seconds out of first in PA and I was .049 seconds out in M4.

Sunday was a different course and even faster than Saturday. In fact, some thought the course was outside what was allowed by the rules, myself included. I brought the issue to the attention of the officials and the end result was a course change was made to slow one section of the course. There was discussion going on that I should not have done what I did and ultimately, a protest was filed against me for unsportsmanlike conduct.

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(Going to Nashville, continued)

More on that later.

Brent, Amy and Kevin are doing their thing and **Brent has moved into first in PA**. The course is too fast for Amy's comfort level so she is making sure not to do anything to jeopardize Brent's chances. Kevin is trying to make time but missed a gate and that effectively ends his chances at a podium finish. I take the course motivated by my frustration with the course and really lay one down, beating the entire field by four seconds on one run.

The rest of Sunday is a blur of frustration for me. I know that Kevin and Amy have both decided to save the cars for Brent and I (for which we are both grateful). I continue to beat everyone in my class on every run by seconds per run and Brent is doing the same.

On the last run of the weekend, Brent is at the start line when there is a multiple rollover out on course. The runs are stopped. Amy hears there was a roll and knows that Brent was about to run and thinks it many have been Brent that rolled (in her car). We quickly calm Amy down by pointing out that Brent is sitting at the start line with all the shiny bits still gleaming in the sun.

The roll requires some changes to the course and those are made quickly. The problem is, Brent is the only one in PA that hasn't taken his last run. The other problem is the rest of the PA drivers have headed back to the paddock to begin packing up their cars. In a quick driver's meeting, the rest of the PA drivers decide that Brent has clearly been beating everyone and they decide to give **Brent the fastest time and hand him the win in PA**. That's what sportsmanship is about.

I take my last run and wait to hear the ruling on the protest against me. At the end of the day, I am informed that the protest committee needs more time to render a decision and they will not be ruling at the event. All the awards in the other classes are given out and we head for dinner and back to the cabin.

On Monday morning we all got up early and piled into the vehicles for the trip home. The trip is mostly uneventful until we get about 30 miles east of Hudson WI. The other car can smell brakes while following us. We stop in Hudson to find a spun wheel bearing on the trailer. I have the parts to replace the bearing but we are unable to remove the spun bearing race. We decide we can make it the remaining 40 miles with a tricycle for a trailer. The rest of the trip is slow but we make it with no additional drama.

On Tuesday, I receive an e-mail stating that I have been disqualified from the event as a result of the protest. After a serious conversation with the rest of our team, we decide that an appeal is in order. In an effort to put all this behind us I will just state that the appeal went our way and I was reinstated into the results.

I am proud of the job that Amy and Kevin did at their first SCCA national event. **Brent won PA by 10 seconds and I won M4 by 14 seconds**. There are things I would do differently but I am proud of our results behind the wheel.

Mark Utecht

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**ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATIONS  
LAND O'LAKES REGION SCCA and  
SNOW STATES AUTOSPORTS CLUB**

**Each award is listed with its description. Please provide the name of the nominee and the reason for the nomination and submit that information to the Competition Board Chair. In order for your nomination to be considered, you must give reasons and examples for your nomination as they relate to the award description.**

**All nominations will be forwarded to the Competition Board and the Worker Awards Committee for final consideration. The person(s) selected will be announced at the Land O'Lakes/Snow States Autosports Club annual Awards Banquet. Any of the awards may be rested when no member of the region meets the qualifications for the award.**

**SKOGMO MEMORIAL AWARD**

Given annually to the MOST IMPROVED DRIVER IN LOL/SSAC. To achieve this award a driver should have made dramatic improvements in a season of competition. The award may go to an average driver of long standing who suddenly becomes outstanding, or one who has shown steady improvement over a season, or to a beginning driver who made outstanding progress during a season.

The Skogmo Award was named in honor of Kristin Skogmo, daughter of LOL racer Don Skogmo. Kristin died as the result of an accident while preparing to attend a race at Road America. The award was established in 1958. Don Skogmo died at Road America in 1966.

**BROOKE KINNARD TROPHY**

Given annually to a driver who most exemplifies the characteristics of the amateur driver. This driver will have shown an ability to overcome adversity, a willingness to help other drivers, an interest in the activities of the Region, and ability and enthusiasm as a driver.

The Trophy was named after Brooke Kinnard, an active LOL member who served as Regional Executive, as well as being an active small production car racer. Brooke loved racing and the people involved in it. He died during the 1965 June Sprints.

**SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**

Given to a driver, group of drivers or other individual(s) who have shown extraordinary sportsmanship towards a driver or group of drivers. The person(s) selected to receive this award will have shown a willingness to sacrifice for the ultimate good of the sport.

**JUDY KRAUSE AWARD - Outstanding Worker**

Awarded to a worker chosen for his/her longevity, quality, and diversity of involvement in LOL/SSAC. *The previous recipients choose the individual given this award through the use of the list of nominees.*

**CREW MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

The recipient of this award will be an LOL/SSAC member who serves as a crew member on a racing car. This individual may perform mechanical preparation of the racing vehicle or engage in any number of other functions a crew member may be called upon to perform during an event weekend.

**ROAD RACING DRIVER OF THE YEAR**

Awarded to the outstanding road racing driver who best "carried forth the colors of the LOL Region and SCCA" during the previous season. The road racing driver of the year shall have shown outstanding ability as a road racing driver and participated in the activities of the Region with a positive attitude, serving as an example to others. The recipient will have demonstrated pride in his/her membership in LOL/SCCA through performance as a road racing driver even under the most difficult of circumstances. The Road Racing Driver of the Year shall be outstanding in every respect and shall have served as an inspiration to LOL/SCCA members in every way.

(con't on page 9)

**SOLO II DRIVER OF THE YEAR**

Awarded to the outstanding Solo II driver who best "carried forth the colors of the LOL Region and SCCA" during the previous season. The Solo II driver of the year shall have shown outstanding ability as a Solo II driver and participated in the activities of the Region with a positive attitude, serving as an example to others. The recipient will have demonstrated pride in his/her membership in LOL/SCCA through performance as a Solo II driver even under the most difficult of circumstances. The Solo II Driver of the Year shall be outstanding in every respect and shall have served as an inspiration to LOL/SCCA members in every way.

**RALLY DRIVER OF THE YEAR**

Awarded to the outstanding rally driver who best "carried forth the colors of the Snow States Autosports Club" during the previous season. The rally driver of the year shall have shown outstanding ability as a rally driver and participated in the activities of the program with a positive attitude, serving as an example to others. The recipient will have demonstrated pride through performance as a rally driver even under the most difficult of circumstances. The Rally Driver of the Year shall be outstanding in every respect and shall have served as an inspiration to program participants in every way.

**RALLY CO-DRIVER/NAVIGATOR OF THE YEAR**

Awarded to the outstanding rally co-driver/navigator who best "carried forth the colors of the Snow States Autosports Club " during the previous season. The rally co-driver/navigator of the year shall have shown outstanding ability as a rally co-driver/navigator and participated in the activities of the program with a positive attitude, serving as an example to others. The recipient will have demonstrated pride through performance as a rally co-driver/navigator even under the most difficult of circumstances. The Rally Co-driver/Navigator of the Year shall be outstanding in every respect and shall have served as an inspiration to program participants in every way.

**ROAD RACING ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**

Given to the road racing driver who excels in his/her first year of driving. The person selected will have overcome his/her fears, shown enthusiasm for driving and the Region's activities, and helped promote the sport of amateur road racing. The person selected must be a driver in her/his first year of SCCA road racing.

**SOLO II ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**

Given to the Solo II driver who excels in his/her first year of driving. The person selected will have overcome his/her fears, shown enthusiasm for driving and the Region's activities, and helped promote the sport of Solo II. The person selected must be a driver in her/his first year of SCCA Solo II competition.

**RALLY ROOKIE DRIVER OF THE YEAR**

This award is given annually to the Driver who, in his or her first year of competition in Road Rally, RallyCross, or Stage Rally, has demonstrated exceptional skill and aptitude in rally driving ability. In addition, this individual will have shown sportsmanship qualities in dealing with all officials, workers, organizers, and other competitors. He/she will have carried the colors of LOL/SSAC forward, and contributed to the betterment of the sport.

**RALLY ROOKIE CO-DRIVER/NAVIGATOR OF THE YEAR**

This award is given annually to the Co-Driver/Navigator who, in his or her first year of competition in either Road Rally or Stage Rally, has demonstrated exceptional skill and aptitude in rally navigating/co-driving ability. In addition, this individual will have shown sportsmanship qualities in dealing with all officials, workers, organizers, and other competitors. He/she will have carried the colors of LOL/SSAC forward, and contributed to the betterment of the sport.

**SERVICE AWARDS**

These awards are given to people who have made significant contributions to LOL/SSAC. People receiving multiple nominations and whose contributions committee chairs recognize will be considered for these awards.

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## Upcoming LOL / SSAC Membership Activities/Reminders

**Saturday, January 10th: LOL Annual Meeting and Banquet**

**See page 5 for more information**

**Awards Nomination form: page 8**

Address Service Requested

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Please make sure your address is correct and complete. The Postal Service prefers to see ZIP +4! If you need to correct your address, please contact Kathy Gillen at 763-241-8010