

Renewal of the Spirit  
January 2005

January is the time for renewal of the Spirit. SCCA made great progress in 2004 but our best days are ahead of us; our Club is not broken; and our glorious past is not lost. The best is yet to come!

Pro Racing is healthier than its been in the last 15 years, Club Racing is extremely successful at both the local and national level, Solo is healthy, Enterprises is healthy and making progress, the Runoffs™ is embarking on a new adventure at a new race track, and the new Rally program is the best yet! Wow, we live in exciting times!

I don't know which is more exciting, the new Runoffs venue or the new Rally program but I can only write about one this time so lets talk about Rally.

Rally Cross is, by now, a known quantity in most of our areas. While SCCA National only began a push into this type of event a few short years ago, these events are some of the most exciting and enjoyable for both competitors and spectators and have actually been around for a very long time. "Field Trials" have been held in England since WWII and possibly earlier and I can remember back in the early sixties when my old Region, Central Alabama Region (now defunct) used to run an occasional "gymkhana" on a dirt motocross circuit as well as the usual parking lot venue. Of course, this was before flying became an essential part of motocross. Can you visual an X-Games™ style Moto event but with cars? The mind boggles.

The new closed course rally programs promise to offer the excitement of performance rally with the control and relative safety of road racing. The new Rally Sprint program, with events primarily on dirt, may include limited wheel to wheel competition but, unlike road rallies, will be won by the first car to finish. In other words, a true speed event. Circuit Rally will be similar to Rally Sprint but will up the ante by allowing speeds limited only by vehicles and roads and will feature full wheel to wheel competition. Shades of The World of Outlaws™! This, I have to see!

So, let's scrape the snow and ice off the track and get out there.

See you at the track.

Gary Pitts