

Don't miss any important KYSCCA news, please be sure to add [SCCA Kentucky Region](#) to your address book.

# DOWNSHIFT



The KYSCCA Monthly Newsletter  
September 2018

## Welcome to the New Downshift! 2018 Season

Dave Melton • [KYSCCA@gmail.com](mailto:KYSCCA@gmail.com)  
*Regional Executive*

### Get Busy!

As I type this some of our members are either headed to or are already in Lincoln, NE. Some are there for the Cam Challenge, some for ProSolo finale, others for SCCA Solo Nationals or some combination the above. We are gearing up to once again host a two day autocross for LS Fest at NCM. Plans are still being finalized for our first autocross at a new site (Clark County Regional Airport). Many of us are also prepping for the first ever Time Trials Nationals. If you aren't busy you aren't paying attention.

My personal schedule has me heading out to Lincoln for the Solo Nationals tomorrow, Sunday September 2, driving a borrowed car in STU Tuesday and Wednesday. Once my run and work heats are completed, I'll head straight for Bowling Green, KY to start prepping for LS Fest Thursday, September 6th. That evening a few of our region members will join me as we host the NCM autocross for Holly's LS Fest on Friday and Saturday. Finally Saturday evening once the trailer is packed and the results are audited, I'll head home with our club trailer in tow.

If you haven't yet attended this Solo Nationals it should definitely be on your list. This is an event on a scale that is hard to comprehend without seeing it for yourself. The paddock alone is larger than any site we have: Over 1300 drivers will attend. That's so many that classes are broken up into two groups, one group of classes runs Tuesday and Wednesday, the others run Thursday and Friday. Those groups are then split into two, with once half running west course one day and east course the other day. Think two two-day events happening at the same site side by side. There are 6 heats with about 60 drivers in each heat. Each driving gets just three runs at each course; their two day combined time determines the winner. These courses are not small either, third gear shifts are

the norm and fast times tend to be in the 60 second plus range. Think about that for a minute because the course takes about that long to drive.

*If you have a question, problem or concern you can shoot me an email at the above address, you can now reach me on Facebook ([RE KYSCCA](#)) or give me a call; most of you already have my phone number, if you don't, ask around.*

*I'm happy to address any topic as it relates to the club with any member.*

## KYSCCA Board Elections

As mandated by our bylaws we have two board of director seats as well as the Regional Executive, Treasurer, Secretary and Activities Director all expiring at the end of the year. Any member in good standing may seek any of these seats for 2019. Should you choose to pursue one of these seats, nominations shall be made **no later than the September 6 Membership meeting**. These are all volunteer seats; We ask that you make a commitment to be present at all meetings as well as self-educate yourself on the needs of the club and be willing to see projects through to completion.



## HELP WANTED!

We are gearing up to once again host an autocross at Holly's LS Fest! This event is a fund raiser for our club. It's a lot of work but also it's a lot of fun. Ask anyone who has done it and you'll hear pretty much the same description. We are still looking for a few extra bodies to help spread the load. The more help we have the less each of us have to work. We reward our helpers with free entry into a local autocross for each day or work. We also feed and provide you with unlimited water.. and if you work both days we'll even put you up in a hotel. It's also a good chance to learn other aspects of running events and the equipment, not to mention the comradery of the shared experience. If you can make it out to NCM to lend a hand, especially on Saturday September 8, we could use the help.

Please contact [KYSCCA@gmail.com](mailto:KYSCCA@gmail.com) if you are able to assist!



Would you like to contribute to our Newsletter? [Contact the Downshift editor today!](#)



# Blue Grass MOTORSPORT

*Built on Performance*

## Thank you to our Title Sponsor!

Bluegrass Motorsports has returned as the title sponsor of the KYSCCA 2018 Solo Series. If you're in the market for a fine automobile, please support our sponsor.

[Contact Chris Evans for further details.](#)

Beyond providing monetary consideration, Bluegrass Motorsports also donated a 2 day PCA Drivers Experience at Putnam Park. We would like to Congratulate Andrew Scott for winning this awesome prize at our 2017 Awards Banquet.



This prize is awarded to a solo class winner at the year-end banquet by way of a random drawing, must be present to win. 2018 is a new season and another chance to win this awesome prize.

[www.bluegrassauto.com](http://www.bluegrassauto.com) • [www.pca.org/driver-education](http://www.pca.org/driver-education)

## How to lose to \$100K Supercars with basic hand tools

*by Andrew Scott*

### Part 4: Steering!

In the previous three parts we've walked through your beater GM G-body from front to back. By now you should have a well running engine, new front and rear springs and shocks and quality brakes. This month we're going to put a few finishing touches on it.

Steering: Unless your car came with the F41 suspension package you have rather mundane 17.5:1 steering box. This probably makes steering your car in tight turns feel like you're driving a bus. On the highway you probably have to move the steering wheel quite a bit before the car actually moves. That's because of an almost certainly shot rag joint. Thankfully this is easily mended.

First, the steering box: The G-Body uses the same Saginaw steering box used in literally tens of millions of cars from the late 1950s until the mid 1990s. Hemmings did a great article a few years ago which is available on the internet which tells you exactly which models had which ratios:

<https://www.hemmings.com/magazine/mus/2007/09/Quick-ratio-steering-boxes/1508711.html>

Some careful scouting at a junkyard should net you a desirable quick-ratio box. If you want

shiny and new, these boxes are also available from just about every speed shop. While you have the steering box out replace the power steering pump. They're cheap and you'll have already spilled most of the fluid on the floor anyway.

While the box is out remove the steering linkage that goes from the firewall to the box. You'll notice once you get it out that the rag joint down near the steering box end is completely shot. That is the source of the play in the steering wheel. Sadly, this steering shaft is not serviceable. But there are options!

A steering shaft from a 1994 Jeep Cherokee can be adapted to the car. If you go that route, the shaft will come out of the box too long. All you do is heat it in the middle to melt the stops out of the shaft and then you can collapse it to the proper length. At the firewall side, you will need to grind a notch in the output shaft from the steering column so the Jeep shaft will slide on and you can get the crimp bolt through and secure.

**Finish reading Part 4**

## Private, Long-Term Lease Garages coming to NCM



**\*\* COMING SOON - SUMMER 2018!! \*\***

Private, long-term lease garages will be available for rent at the NCM Motorsports Park in Bowling Green, KY. Limited space available.

To secure your garage, or for more details and pricing, contact Mitch Wright at (270) 777-4508 [mitch@motorsportspark.org](mailto:mitch@motorsportspark.org)

Layout not yet finalized. Floor plan is modular, and square footage can be determined based on renters' needs.

Perfect for the track day customers looking for a place to keep their track car and supplies; the Corvette owner wishing to leave their car in Bowling Green for use at Corvette events; the customer looking for a secure facility to keep their prized possessions; and the business looking to monetize the space by providing services.

### Pricing:

- 390 sq. ft. \$488/month
- 595 sq. ft. \$745/month
- 1,198 sq. ft. \$1490 / month

### Lease Terms:

- Starting with a 3-year lease commitment but terms are negotiable. Payment plans available.



## MEMBER MEETINGS

**SEPTEMBER 6TH • 7:00PM**

O'Charley's  
1901 S. Hurstbourne Pkwy

## BOARD MEETINGS

**September 26 • 7:00PM**

Shawn Lambert's TBD

**October 31st • Cancelled**

Cancelled due to Halloween

## AUTOCROSS SCHEDULE

**September 16th PE 6**

-CCRA

**September 23rd PE 7**

-NCM

Current membership is 262

KYSCCA would like to wish a Happy Birthday to our members celebrating September Birthdays!

James Anderson  
Don Blackstone Jr.  
Bruce Bridges  
Endre Bujtas  
Raymond Dsouza  
Ron Gordon  
John Lanning  
Alex LaRue  
F Lowrey III  
Mark Bishop  
Scott Kimball  
Daniel Allgeier  
Dakota Pesek  
Lea Player  
Rob Player  
Adam Strange  
Rod Tichenor

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