



HUILA



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Goodbye, Barber's Point

As my time in Hawaii grows short, it is hard for me to believe that it took me six of those years to discover the SCCA and autocrossing here. Even though I'm a relative newcomer to the club, I wanted to leave you with a few thoughts on the Solo II program in Hawaii. In short: There is something very special here.

I recall driving to my first event wondering where I was going as I followed the sign down the bumpy path, in the bushes at Barber's Point. Having no prior experience, I was convinced I'd make a fool out of myself somehow, so I just sat and watched that first day. After seeing that it looked like a friendly competition, I returned the next month to drive. What I recall most about the first few events was how friendly and free with advice everyone was. Driving a 911, I naturally gravitated toward Lindsey Akamu and Collyer Young, who were (and are) both extremely helpful to me.

As I gradually improved, Lindsey and Collyer continued to be helpful and supportive, even as my times ticked down towards theirs. In addition, I began sharing

ideas with others as I got to know them. The Sunday autocross soon became a high point of each month, not only because I could drive my car fast (legally), but because of the sense of common interest and infectious enthusiasm present in this club. For instance, where else would you see drivers riding along on fun-runs with their competitors so they could compare (the fastest line) and help each others driving?

I think what I am trying to say is that the club has a great Solo II program, which deserves everyone's support. Lindsey and the core of volunteers do a great job of putting things together, but it is a LOT of work, so please, help them out! Set up the course, or work an extra corner, and you might even drive faster, since you will know the course better.

When I thanked Lindsey at April's event for all of the fun I'd had, he said, "thanks, sometimes I wonder if it is all worth it". Well it has been for me. This club and it's supportive environment have helped me get a great start in racing, and as I leave for California, to live very close to Laguna Seca and Button Willow, I look forward to more challenges on the track using the skills I learned here.

Thank you all for the fun Sundays—I will miss them.

Steve Van Scoy