

KNOCK ff

Official Publication of the Mohawk-Hudson Region Sports Car Club of America



'Tis the Season...

*Wishing all members
and their families peace
much happiness throughout
this holiday season!*



On-Track Karting

The initial 'scouting' trip to **On-Track Karting** on Sat. 11/18 was a huge success. For this informal trip there were 30 participants who all drove to Wallingford, CT for an extremely exciting day of karting. The big winners were:

1 st Place	Tarry Marsh	37.889
2 nd Place	Chris Zarzycki	38.030
3 rd Place	Joe Sell	38.270

A Mo-Hud bus trip to the track is planned for February 17th 2007. For all the details, see page 3 for the event info.

DECEMBER NEWS:

History of MoHud: The 80s

see page 8

Competition Report

see page 7

NARRC Banquet Photos

see page 11

Formula First Official

see page 7

RAFFLE!!

see page 4

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The KnockOff is the official publication of the Mohawk-Hudson Region, Sports Car Club of America. Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the Mohawk-Hudson Region or of the Sports Car Club of America.

The general membership meeting is held on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm at The Orchard Tavern, 68 No. Manning Blvd., Albany, NY.

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The REport

GENE TRICOZZI

This month's report is mainly results from the Mini-Con in Cherry Hill, New Jersey which I attended on Nov 10th – 12th. Harry Adalian and I attended the NARRC regions meeting and I am pleased to announce we have secured **May 18th & 19th** for MoHud as a double regional race at Lime Rock Park. This will be a NARRC & NYSRRC points event. NARRC points will be awarded for the first race only, NYSRRC points will be awarded for both races. This Mo-Hud Race date is the result of the rotation of choices of race dates among all the NARRC regions. There are 6 race dates available at Lime Rock for the 2007 season. The result of drawing of straws determined which region had first choice. We had one choice of dates for the upcoming season and are positioned to have first choice of dates for the 2008 race season.

A new race class has been added, Formula First, based on Formula V. The specs are now available. As a thumbnail overview, these cars will

have a 1600 cc motor, disc breaks, rack and pinion steering, and a longer wheel base to accommodate larger drivers. This class should fit in with the Formula V's and Formula 500's.

Geoff Stim and Harry Adalian coordinated a scouting trip to On-Track Karting in Wallingford CT on November 18th. 30 participants attended and reported karts were fast and competition tight. Look forward to their report and announcement for a bus trip for February.

Another last minute reminder, plan to attend the Mo-Hud Awards banquet on December 1st at Mallozzi's in Rotterdam. It will be a night of photo's & clips of the past years' events and awards for both drivers & workers. Hope to see everyone there.

As a reminder, submissions to the KO should be e-mailed to Lisa Hanifan and the deadline is the 15th of the month.

I do look forward to any input.
Gene

WALLINGFORD, CT

On-Track Karting BUS TRIP

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2007



MoHud will be hosting a fun bus trip to **On-Track Karting** in Wallinford Ct. on Saturday, February 17th, 2007. Check out their website at www.ontrackkarting.com. Each participant will get three (3) 8 minute runs, 1 practice, 1 qualify, 1 race. There will be 3 seeded groups & 1 unseeded group. Please pre-register with via email or phone to:

Geoff Stim 518.631.2439
Harry Adalian 518.283.4063

gms26@nycap.rr.com
hadalian@nycap.rr.com

The cost will be \$70 per person. Entry's will be limited to the first 48 paying participants. MoHud members will be given first choice for entry's.

Seal the deal by sending a check payable to "Mohawk Hudson Region – SCCA") to:

Geoff Stim
41 Wallflower Drive
Rexford, NY 12148

OR

Harry Adalian
808 Mann Ave
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Check out their website at
www.ontrackkarting.com.

DRAWING FOR \$500 GIFT CERTIFICATE

Driver Instruction/Coaching & Car Setup Evaluation

A drawing will be held at the first MoHud meeting in January to award a free gift certificate providing driver instruction/coaching and car setup evaluation and advice at a Tuesday test day at Lime Rock Park (or a race weekend at Lime Rock Park). The recipient will be responsible for getting the race car to Lime Rock and paying all track fees. The instructor will be Bob Hebert, driver of the Donovan Motorsport/Jaguar Vintage Racing XKE. Bob is recognized as one of the top vintage racing drivers in the United States. He is a holder of the prestigious SVRA Driver of the Year Award. Having started in Formula Ford in the early 70's, he became a team driver for Lotus East Racing Formula B Lotus in the US, Canada, and South America. He has driven in numerous Daytona

24-hour races, the last being in a Viper for a French team. He was a competitor in the Firehawk series and raced a Mazda-powered IMSA GTP car in numerous events. Bob has competed on most of the major race tracks in the United States, with Lime Rock being his home track.

This is open to all SCCA members and is transferable. The value of the certificate is \$500.00!

Next to a new set of tires this will be a significant performance enhancement for the novice or more experienced driver.

Entries must be submitted to Dave Hathaway by the January 3rd MoHud meeting, where the winning drawing will be held at the end of the evening.

MO-HUD GIVE-AWAY GIFT CERTIFICATE ENTRY FORM

Entry must be received by Dave Hathaway
by club meeting on Jan. 3, 2006

Drawing will be held at the end of the club meeting that evening.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

You must be a paid-up member of SCCA at time of drawing to be eligible to win.

Send entry forms to:

Dave Hathaway • 27 Beverly Street • Pittsfield, MA 01201-7303



BETWEEN THE CONES

By the time this is read by most members the 2006 Awards Banquet will be history. It is also a slow time of year with not much to report.

The Solo Committee had our annual budget meeting in November and has an estimated budget for the 2007 season to submit to the Executive Committee. With the success of this last season we can only hope for an even better season for next year.

The 2007 Convention will be coming up in early February and is being held in San Antonio, Texas. There have been different safety symposium's in years past and all have been excellent. We can only hope for more of the same.

A group of us are heading for Hartford, Connecticut to do some indoor go-kart racing this Saturday, Nov. 18th. This experience may fill my January report.

Once again, I would like to thank all the Solo Committee and worker chiefs for the excellent job this past season. By their dedication to detail, the events went as well as anyone could expect.

I would like to also thank all the people who participated in our events. Because of their diligence to

work assignments, most entrants got a lot of seat time in the number of runs per event and the fun these folks made them for all. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season, and lets look forward to 2007 as being even better than this year.

Happy holiday's

Bruce

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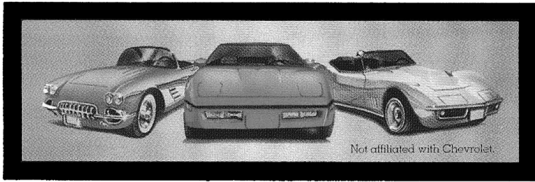
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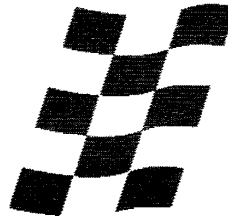


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Latest News from the **COMPETITION CORNER...** *Jack Hanifan*



December Competition Report

The NeDiv club racing schedule is set for 2007. The Mohawk Hudson Region race will be May 18 & 19 at Lime Rock Park. It will be a Double Regional with a special event for Formula Vees dedicated to Dave Riggi. There will be six SCCA events at Lime Rock in 2007, 5 Regionals, 1 National and 1 school.

The 2007 GCR is available online at SCCA.com. Check out the changes on helmets, window nets, annual inspections and cages.

The NYSRRC banquet is the Saturday after Thanksgiving and quite a few MoHud Drivers will be honored- more next month. Thanks to the drivers who have sent in their 2006 MoHud Road Racing Championship points, they will all receive their 50th anniversary club racing t-shirts at the annual banquet.

Formula First comes to the Northeast



Formula First (FST) was confirmed as a 2007 NEDiv regional class at the NEDiv Mini-Convention in Cherry Hill, NJ on November 12th. FST has been a CenDiv regional class for the past two years with entries over 100 per year. The FST class made its NorthEast debut at Watkins Glen in July with an 11 car field. Many of the FST cars are based in the Eastern Great Lakes area and expect to attend races at the Western NEDiv tracks. It is expected that over 40 FST cars will race across the country in 2007.

Formula First was introduced as a class which would “plug in” to the FV/F500 race group. This will boost entries in a race group with room for expansion but will not affect any other existing groups or their track time. FST performance is between classic FV and F500 levels.

Formula First race cars are much like the Formula Vee that has been raced in the U.S. for over 40 years. The later air-cooled VW Beetle provides inexpensive components which are still manufactured for an international VW aftermarket. The complete front axle assembly is used with steering rack, ball-joints and disc brakes. A restrictor plate is used on a strictly modified 1600 cc engine. Other features include spec gear ratios, enlarged driver compartments, and long-wearing spec Hoosier tires. Classic FVs can be converted with absolutely no disadvantage.

For more information, please visit <http://www.formula-first.org/> or contact the NorthEast FST Driver Representative ... greg13rice@hotmail.com



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The UNABRIDGED History of the Mohawk-Hudson Region of the Sports Car Club of America



The '80s!

MoHud SCCA history continues... by **GREG RICKES**

1980 – Membership count is 167. 42 teams contest the Snowflake Rallye.

Featured speaker for Guest Night (at the Polish Community Center) is racer/broadcaster Sam Posey.

For an investment of \$2,300 Jack Hanifan moves into SCCA Club Racing with a Showroom Stock C 1978 Ford Pinto. The car is race-ready including rollbar, seat belts, and 12 wheels/16 tires). On his way to the Rookie of the Year award Jack wins SSC at the MoHud Silver Mines regional race (beating a Chevy Monza, Mercury (Bobcat?), Datsun, and Renault LeCar). His fastest lap is 1:17.30

Largest starting grid at Lime Rock's Silver Mines races is Formula Ford, with 30 cars (plus another 5 that are DNS). MoHud's Peter Dus sets a new B Production lap record with his Corvette at 58.88 seconds.

A highlight of the autocross season is the "Identi-Car Challenge", where a select group of drivers all get to drive the same car — this time it's a BMW provided by Capital Cities Imports. Best of the Best is Skip Gifford.

1981 – Silver anniversary for Mohawk-Hudson Region, but also a year not without its difficulties. Attendance at membership meetings has dipped noticeably, and there are production and distribution problems continuing to plague the Knock-Off, making for a muted celebration.

Paul Hacker tallies another pro series championship, driving a Rabbit to the VW Cup title. He's also named Driver of the Year. Another Rabbit racer, Bobby Hart, is Rookie of the Year.

Somewhere around this time MoHud develops a worker specialty team that excels at Grid & Pit Marshalling – spearheading the group are Berkshire country members Dave Hathaway and Clark Nicholls.

The four-club (EMSC, BMSC, MoHud, and RPI SCA) Town Crier/Becker Realty rallye series features eight events; championship winners are Eileen and Mike Wierzbowski. The autocross series features eleven events (plus the annual school), average entry is 50 cars per event



Bob Henderson discusses driving points with Jack Hanifan after his #55 Pinto finished his race while Lisa takes notes.

Autocross champs for the year are Skip Gifford, Gerry Michney, Randy Magee, Jim Bishop, Gary Hollinger, with Linda Gray and Anne Luther in a tie for Ladies class honors

Continuing his winning ways, MoHud racer Peter Kuhn is featured as "Bachelor of the Month" in *Cosmopolitan*.

1982 – Monthly meetings start out at the Cordial Greens Country Club in Schodack. Featured speaker for April is Ron Bouchard, NASCAR Winston Cup Rookie of the Year and Talladega 500 winner. By summer the club is back to Glenmont at the Starlite Lounge on Route 9W (if this sounds familiar it's the same location as 1974-76 but with a different name).

There's sad news for the club in July with the passing of Ted Baran. Besides being one of MoHud pioneer racers (MGA and Cooper-Norton 500cc Formula 3), Ted's business, Northeast Foreign Car Accessories, was not only a regular stop for many, but also a sponsor of individual racers as well as many MoHud events.

Drivers' school and regional race have become standard fare: 46 cars and drivers go through the school, 137 run the race.

It's a plentiful year for autocrossers: there are 12 events (most co-sanctioned by MoHud and EMSC), attracting 145 different drivers. Average entry per event is 37. Solo 2 class champions for the year are Paul Vooris (Formcar FV), Skip Gifford (SAAB), Gerry Michney



Roly Heacox puts in his opinion to John Stim and Tom Campbell at the MoHud Silvermines race at Lime Rock.

(Mini), Randy Magee (Opel), Ray Zabinski (Toyota Celica), Gary Hollinger (Camaro), and Linda Gray (Formcar FV). Prime solo event site is Northway Mall

Formula Vee racer Jim Winkleman is MoHud's Driver of the Year. Manny Matz is the top money-winner in the NARRC SSA class, worth \$105.33.

1983 – Silver Mines regional race attracts 119 cars. Paul Hacker is back on top in the VW Cup series. For the first time since the region was founded, MoHud does not organize a single rallye or autocross during the year.

A special issue of The Knock-Off is produced for April, under the title "Knock (It) Off, Unofficial publication of the Mohawk-Hudson Region SCCA". April Fools !

1984 – Jack Hanifan takes the helm – he starts the year not only as Regional Executive but also Knock-Off editor. Membership is just over 170, bolstered by a continuing relationship with the Skip Barber Racing School. Another benefit of the SBRS relationship is the return of AutoSprint at Lime Rock, held in conjunction with a SBRS Formula Ford series event. An artistic success, the event nonetheless draws just 12 entries.

On the regional racing front, cars no longer eligible to compete in Showroom Stock will now be included in the new Improved Touring classes added to the NARRC series.

38 cars are signed up for the drivers' school and 122 for the regional, which is again part of the NARRC series.

Region member Jeff Andretti starts the year strong, winning two Formula Ford National races (and a pro event too) in Florida.

The proposed Woodbine Motor Sports Park in Cape May, New Jersey merits a Knock-Off cover

story; former area enthusiast Jack LaBounty is part of the promotional team.

Monthly meetings move to The Sheraton on Wolf Road and then to the Ramada Inn on Western Ave. Regional dues increase from \$5.00 to \$10.00.

Knock-Off editor Clark Nicholls talks about changing the name of the newsletter since hardly anyone even knows what a "knock-off" is anymore.

Paul Hacker is on top again in VW Cup racing; this time his brother Karl is runner-up; Paul is also MoHud's Driver of the Year. Jim Garry wins the SCCA National Autocross title in C Stock, driving a Mazda RX7.

1985 – The nineteenth edition of the Snowflake Rally (run on March 23) attracts 11 cars.

Ice racer Pete Smith and an innovator from the dirt track world, Dick Stewart, get their start in SCCA club racing. Entry for the season-opening regional race at Bryar Motorsports Park includes 5 IT cars and 4 of the new Spec Racer Renaults.

Entry fee for MoHud's driver school and regional race at Lime Rock is \$95/each or both days for \$175.

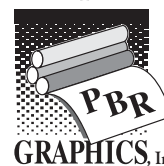
In VW Cup pro racing it's three straight for the Hacker Express.

1986 – For John Sheridan it's a bookends year. He starts things off by taking over the gavel from Jack Hanifan as Regional Executive. At season's end it's a clean sweep as he wins the Lewis Trophy and Driver of the Year.

The region also boasts a pair of NARRC champions: George Smith in GT1 and Rick LaPierre in SpecRacer.

1987 – Its time for the claimed 32nd (?) edition of the Snowflake Rallye; a meager 10 teams take the challenge. Membership is right around 190.

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MoHud members remembered Marilyn Heacox by planting a tree on the hill at LRP after she passed away in 1987. Marilyn was one of the most active members in all aspects of the club for a great many years.

In May the region is saddened by the passing of former Regional Executive Marilyn Heacox. A tree is planted in her memory on the hillside overlooking Lime Rock's paddock.

Silver Mine race moves to September. The two day event attracts over 280 cars. In an unusual set of circumstances, the racing extends until nearly 7 pm. (the usual Lime Rock curfew is 6pm); the extra time is allotted because racing stopped for 50 minutes to accommodate a wedding at Trinity Church.

Region autocross champs are Jim Bishop (D Modified), Nancy Hudson (C Prepared), Bill Hudson (B Prepared), Jim Garry (C Stock), Keith Martens (G Stock) and Art Boreali (H Stock); it's a short season around the pylons as only 3 events are held.

Pete Smith parlays a New York State Road Racing Championship into Driver of the Year. Don DeLapp (Formula Vee) is Rookie of the Year, and Fred Besch gets Most Improved.

1988 – A year Charles Dickens could have written about: it was the best of times, it was the worst of times. The Snowflake Rallye is on the calendar again, but only 5 teams show up and none of them make it beyond checkpoint 2. Better attended is a charity event to benefit the Arthritis Foundation, where 26 teams compete.

Mohawk-Hudson Region gets the "honor" of hosting its first NARRC awards banquet, which for some reason is scheduled not in region territory, but in Connecticut. In spite of the geographic handicap, Lee Schaller wins acclaim as the hostess with mostest.

New member Jim Bucci gets off to a strong start with a pair of autocross wins, driving a Mustang.

In the June Knock-Off RE John Sheridan muses that there are clouds on the horizon, as he detects symptoms of burnout and stagnation inflicting the region.

Hardly have those thoughts sunk in when word arrives that John Stim, who has been battling health problems, has passed away at age 41. His loss is deeply felt as he was a motivator and a do-er in all aspects of the region's activities. In his honor, the September race at Lime Rock becomes the John Stim Memorial.

The race itself seems to carry forward conflicted circumstances. A record entry of 305 cars turns out, but the numbers overtax race organization and cause many headaches.

Membership at year's end is 232. Rick LaPierre (Spec Racer) wins Driver of the Year and another Formula Vee driver, Jon Handy, is Rookie of the Year.

1989 – Jim Garry reflects on the co-dependent problems of the autocross program, lack of suitable locations and critical mass of participants. To underscore Jim's comments the autocross opener in June (at SUNY Cobleskill) is deluged with rain, holding entries down to less than two dozen.

John Stim Memorial moves to mid-August; the two day event will feature 23 lap races. Entry is a manageable 280. 33 cars run in Formula Vee.

A member identified only as "Joe" advertises a Cosworth Vega for sale, asking price \$1000.

Jack Hanifan is the NYSRRC champ in ITC, and Tom Campbell scores is GT1. On the NARRC side it's Rick Pocock (ITB Alfa), Jack Hanifan (ITC FIAT), and Pete Smith (FP MG Midget) atop the charts. Hanifan's winning ways earn him Driver of the Year. Second generation racer Ian O'Connor is Rookie of the Year.

'Till next time....

John Sheridan takes a lap at LRP in his #16 Bugeye Sprite.



NARRC Banquet Proves Successful!

Despite a last minute change in the date, the NARRC Banquet was held at the Troy Elks Club on Saturday, Nov. 4th. The turnout was a bit smaller than hoped for but nevertheless proved to be an enjoyable evening for all attendees.

The newest Lime Rock Park CEO Georgia Blades and her husband were there. Dave Perlman was presented with the Henryk Szamota Award which was well deserved. The evening was enjoyed by all in attendance, most especially those going home with awards.



Dave Perlman accepts the prestigious Henryk Szamota Award.



▲ *Jack Hanifan presents the trophy to first place in F500, Ed Capullo.*



Many race enthusiasts make the NARRC banquet a place for celebration for a good race year as well as lots of fun. This table of driver and guests was no exception.



MoHud member 'Doctor' Dick Stewart was a trophy recipient in FV. Looking on as Dick accepts his award is NER Regional Exec, Kathy Barnes & our own Jack Hanifan, Exec Steward & Competition chair.

DECEMBER 2006



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Please do your part to get sponsors! If every member brought in one sponsor we could afford to increase the number of pages each issue which directly relates to the mailing cost.

We need to cut costs or increase sales for ad space. One way to cut costs, is to cut back on mailing. If you wish to receive the KnockOff via the web, let us know. Contact the editor, or Dave Wachtel, membership chair.

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HELP OUT!
KEEP THE
KNOCKOFF
IN THE **BLACK!**