



KNOCKff

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

JANUARY 2007

Happy New Year!

KNOCKOFF REQUEST: Alternative Delivery?

The MoHud Board of Officers has requested the KnockOff be made available in electronic format *at each members' request* via their internet email account. Rather than receiving the newsletter in the mail as a paper copy, members may choose to receive each monthly KO issue via email. This method will provide each monthly issue be sent to the email account specified by each member at the time Lisa, the editor, sends it to the printer for printing and mailing. Thus ensuring a much faster delivery of dated material and information to those members who have requested they wish to do so.

The general membership will continue to receive the KO paper copy on the normal distribution schedule. This schedule can be anywhere from a week to 10 days after the editor sends it to the printer. Obviously, the electronic version is a speedy and much improved delivery method for members awaiting dates & pertinent information. This is a win/win situation for the club. Emailed members will get instant information and MoHud will reduce mailing cost. Thus, our treasury will get some much needed savings.

Please consider this alternative! Let either editor Lisa Hanifan (lhani1@nycap.rr.com) or membership chair Dave Wachtel (dwachtel@acmenet.net) or one of the other officers know via an email message. It will be implemented the following month and your name will be taken off the mailing list.

Remember the quality of the newsletter will not suffer. A home printer will do the same job. More importantly, each member who chooses this will have all the latest details of club news at their computer at the fastest possible time.

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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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RE GENE TRICOZZI REPORT

I am open with a thank you to our Directors Dick Stewart, Harry Adalian, Activities Director & Competition Licensing Peter Smith, Treasurer Chip Van Slyke, Assistant RE Bruce Kosakoski and Secretary Bob Karl Jr. for all their hard work this past year. With the exception of Secretary Bob Karl Jr. whose job commitments would not allow him to continue, all will be returning. Our new Secretary will be Geoff Stim. Geoff is a great addition to our Board and I look forward to working with Geoff.

At this time of year Chip has been working very hard on Mo-Hud's 2007 budget that will be presented and discussed at the February General Membership Meeting. We are faced with a financially challenging 2007 and your Board will be working hard to guarantee the continued success of our region. Our Competition Chair Jack Hanifan will be challenged with Mo-Hud's commitment to a two day regional race at Lime Rock Park in May. Jack will have his hands full with an additional day at the track, but if I know Jack I'm sure he will pull a rabbit out of his hat. Bruce Kosakoski is also working hard for Mo-Hud's Solo effort and working on securing an additional site for the 2007 season which, if it comes to fruition, will greatly increase Solo attendance.

Membership is a very important part of any regions viability and we are challenged to change the stagnant

situation we have faced in the recent past. We, the Board, need your input and fresh ideas on how we can increase membership; this is our challenge for this coming year and into the future. Any and all ideas are appreciated, so let's work together to increase our membership.

Geoff Stim and Harry Adalian have been researching indoor go-kart tracks in both the Hartford and Boston area's in an effort to initiate a winter race series. I believe this will bring our racers and Solo competitors to a common event that will showcase their individual skills and bring the competition to a new level. There has been a lot of interest expressed in this idea and I will be updating you as we progress.

By the time you receive this edition of the KO Christmas will have passed as well as New Years day. I hope you all had the chance to enjoy being with family and share all the joy of the holiday season. I wish you all the best in 2007 and look forward to another enjoyable year of friendly competition.

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

As always, I do look forward to any input.

Gene

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

Jack Hanifan



JANUARY 2007 Competition Report

You probably have received your 2007 GCR in the mail, if you have not; it's available online at SCCA.com. You will find that it has been completely reorganized, thanks to the efforts of Joanne Jensen and others.

Most of the sections have been renumbered and all of the changes in content are *italicized*.

Important changes are in the roll cage specs— for Showroom Stock and Touring.

Two side bars connecting the front and rear hoops are required on each side of the car. Two bars forming an "X" are permitted. These changes can be found on pages 90-95.

Another major change is found on page 86—GCR section 9.3.52 Window nets.

Window nets have to have their quick release at the top, the net must be attached to the roll cage and plastic buckles, hose clamps or elastic cords may not be used.

Snell SA95 helmets are no longer acceptable. The new Snell Standard is SA2000 or newer, this can be found on page 76 of the new GCR.

There are many other changes in the GCR but these are the main ones you have to be concerned about for you Annual Tech. Use the winter season to read the GCR and the particular Category Specifications for your race car. Don't forget to check your seat belts for compliance.

The MoHud Regional is scheduled for May 18th and 19th at Lime Rock. This will be **double regional** so both races will count for double points in the Mohawk Hudson Region Road Racing Championship and both races will count for NYSRRC points.

On Station

By Bryan Deane
Chief of F&C

As I sit here it's 2 days before Christmas and I have come to the realization that this year has come and gone way too quickly, again. I hope that everyone had a safe, happy and enjoyable Holiday Season.

Looking forward into the 2007 season I want to highlight a couple of upcoming events of significance for the race workers. First, we are once again participating with NER and NNJ (as of this writing I don't know if NYR will be involved) in holding our biennial Flag and Fire School at Lime Rock Park. The dates are Saturday March 24th and Sunday March 25th with Saturday being devoted to classroom sessions and Sunday to "on track" practical application of Saturday's material. Rich has promised us that this time around there'll be no snow. The Nediv Stewards will also be holding a parallel training session at the track the same weekend so we're going to attempt to integrate as much as possible with them.

Peering further ahead into the season, the calendar shows our Annual John Stim Memorial Race scheduled for May 18th and 19th. This is earlier than normal, but with a 2 day event we should have great turn out of cars and I

hope workers! Stay tuned as the date gets closer, I'll have more to say on the race.

Reflecting on the season past. For my part work got in the way of my avocation more than in years past or I would have liked. Damned promotions, be careful of what you wish for. Hopefully 2007 won't be a repeat of 2006 as far as scheduling is concerned. Still all in all the time spent at the track was very enjoyable! Rich and I had 2 great adventures, our annual trip to Sebring and the perfect bookend a trip to Road Atlanta for the Petite LeMans. Having never been to Road Atlanta before this was and is a trip I will be making again, hopefully often!

My newly acquired car sits safely in my workshop and has since May, unfortunately. The body right now is off the car and in the process of being re-painted and freshened for debut in 2007. The current plan is to get on the track as soon as possible in 2007.

Fred managed to return to the track a couple of times in 2006 with some pretty good results. The "Garage Mahal" project is now behind us save for some landscaping that is to be done. So this winter will be spent freshening the BMW for the upcoming season. While our schedule is still to be determined, both cars are expected to see action, this ought to be interesting!

Well, I want to wish everyone a wonderfully safe and enjoyable 2007 racing season! Until next time, hope to see you "On Station."

Between the Cones



January 2007 Report:

Usually there's not too much to report as the racing and solo season is over.....BUT...Congratulations to Lisa Hanifan on winning the Lewis Award at the 2006 Awards Banquet. As the present/new Knock-Off editor, and along with compiling the 50th Anniversary edition, Lisa had a lot on her plate. Many thanks go out to her for taking on the Knock-Off task, no one was more deserving of our prestigious award.

Speaking of the Awards Banquet, we had 103 attendees. I don't know if this is a record breaker or not...but it is the most people attending since I've been in charge of the dinner. I do hope everyone had a great time. The company was once again outstanding and the food was great, what a festive night. Congratulations to all the 2006 Champions in their respective classes, it had been a hard fought battle for points in some of these classes. Once again the season has grown from the previous year and we hope it continues to grow in the next. Thanks once again to all the people who devote their time to make our program work.

Winter go-carting in Mo-Hud.....hmm..... With 30 type A personalities at the inaugural event on November 18th at the track in Hartford Conn., it proved to be enlightening to say the least. As with any other type of

competition and these types of personalities, the laws of physics were put in question but once again verified that two or more things **CANNOT** occupy the same space at the same time. Tarry Marsh proved to be the **MAN** to beat, followed by, and may I paraphrase, boy scouts, girl scouts and brownies, were I believe the other terms of the event. No one thought that this would start up as popular as it did. Thanks to Pete and Geoff, this started out for us to just try to get enough of us in Mo-Hud to see what the facility was like. We are also examining tweaking our program so we may keep going back..... A Saturday in February looks like another road trip to the track. Let's see what this winter will bring.

The SCCA Convention we be coming up at the end of January. With a new national President at the helm of the Board of Directors and almost a year under his belt, it will be interesting to see the direction that's in store for the club in 2007.

Geoff Stim has joined the ranks of the Mo-Hud executive board as Secretary for 2007. Thank you Geoff! The rest of Gene's crew remain the same.

I hope your holiday season is/was pleasant.
Bruce

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	gms26@nycap.rr.com
Harry Adalian	518.283.4063	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	OR	Harry Adalian
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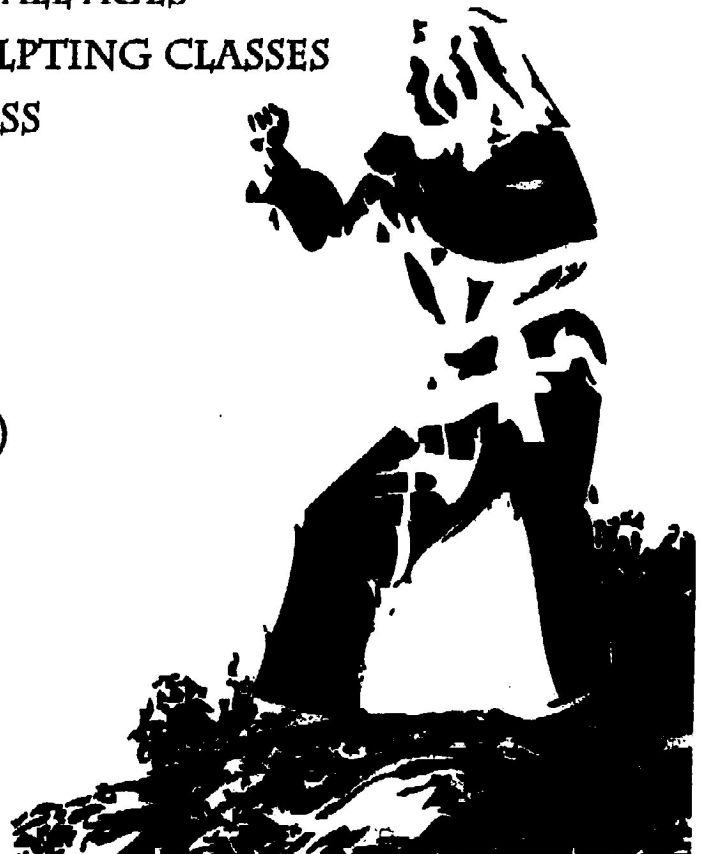
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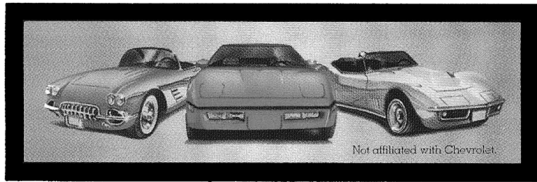
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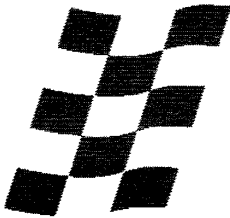
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The UNABRIDGED History of the Mohawk-Hudson Region
of the Sports Car Club of America



The '90s!

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

1990 – Primary autocross sites are SUNY-Cobleskill and Brodie Mountain Ski Area in Massachusetts. Road-racer John Sheridan expands his resume' by signing on as navigator/co-driver for Thom O'Connor's north-of-the-border European style winter rally exploits.

Formula Vee racer and visionary Chris Zarzycki authors a multi-part series in the KO about what's right and wrong with SCCA amateur racing .

The annual race at Lime Rock draws just over 200 cars and barely breaks even financially. As year end approaches membership is up to 250. Race chairman Mike Weir does some statistical analysis of the worker corps and finds that MoHud provided 0% of the Flag & Communications staff, but 60% for Tech, 70% for Registration and 86% for Sound Control.

It's the Year of the Survey. A questionnaire to members gets a 67% response. Age distribution for members who respond is 2 (under 18), 2 (19-23), 25 (24-39), 23 (40-50) and 13 (over 50).

Tom Campbell travels to Road Atlanta to compete in the SCCA National Championship Run-Offs, but

finds that a V7 engine will not get you to the front of the pack. Greg Rickes, on assignment from the Department of Silly Walks, strides around RA's 2.52 miles in 28:31.88, for an average pace of 5.30 miles per hour.

Kurt Weiss scores an unusual double at Lime Rock. At the Little LeMans (support race for the fall IMSA event) he wins ITA and ITB, partnering with Rick Kiceniuk for the overall and ITA win, and then through deft pit strategy he also co-drives Rick Pocock's Alfa in ITB. Pete Smith and Don Jurusik win ITC in a VW Rabbit. The race also marks the return, in modified form, of the LeMans start (if you don't know what this is, ask an old-timer).

Weiss is also the NARRC ITA champ. Out-of-town MoHud member Ken Frey wins the SCCA National Autocross Championship in H Stock.

Tom Campbell is Driver of the Year, while Ira Gelber and Don Jurusik share Rookie of the Year honors. On the abbreviated autocross schedule, season awards go to DJ McArdle, Bill Hudson and Keith Martens.

1991 – Four day Porsche Festival crimps the Lime Rock calendar for SCCA dates and MoHud co-sanctions an August date with Northern New Jersey Region..

Meetings move to Holiday Inn Turf on Wolf Road. Pre-meeting dinners at Playfields, with motorsports videos, are an added attraction.

KT Motorsports comes on board as sponsor of the local autocross championship, which will be a tri-club series (MoHud, EMSC, and BMSC). The series championship is based on points earned from re-scoring class times against something called a PAX factor for a single set of overall results. Dave Cook takes the men's title and Sue Clark is the ladies winner.

Membership is up to 257 at year's end, but no one wants to be Regional Executive.

Rick Pocock (ITB) and Bill Grasso (EP MGB) wins NARRC titles. Pocock is also Driver of the Year.

1992 – As the year begins there's finally a succession plan. Reluctant RE Greg Rickes will continue until mid-year, then turn the reins over to Assistant RE Mike Larimer.



MoHud's Jack Hanifan & Harold Cameron give the camera waves standing atop one of the paddock buildings at Lime Rock.



Tom & Carol Campbell try to keep warm at one of the enduro races at Watkins Glen, known for its nasty weather, no matter what time of year.

Mohawk-Hudson Region moves into the world of professional racing, providing the organizational support for the DuraCell TransAm at Lime Rock. Fifty members sign up for various worker assignments.

There's also a revival of sorts for the MoHud rallye program. Jim Bishop puts together an event in conjunction with Saturn of Albany: 104 happy Saturn owners take part.

Pete Smith makes a last minute decision to enter the World Challenge support race at Lime Rock instead of continuing on to NHIS as was his original plan. In the space of a few hours on Saturday morning he: 1) got his tech'd by SCCA Pro Racing; 2) filled out the forms for his Pro license; 3) got a physical and bought the required tires. All of the effort is rewarded with a third place finish.

NARRC titles go to Dick Stewart (FV), Dave Reynolds (GPMGA), and Pete Smith (ITA VW). Stewart is Driver of the Year, Rookie of the Year is Kim Graff.

1993 – In terms of organizing major events, it's likely to be the most prolific year in the region's history, and it all takes place in the span of four weeks. The month of July starts with the John Stim Memorial on July 5 at Lime Rock. Entry for the one day event is 220 cars.

Back to northwestern Connecticut for the 23/24 weekend for a TransAm and support races, and a week later the Solo II divisional. (there's also a KT Motorsports Autocross series event at SUNY Cobleskill wedged in there).

The Solo II Divisional is held at a facility referred to as "The Drop Zone". Located between New Paltz and West Point, it's an isolated government air strip actually named the Galesville Airport. Its official function is a practice area for the skydiving team from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, but everyone has their own theory about what really goes on there.

Besides the good reviews for the Divisional, the autocross contingent has another reason to smile as they're again granted access, after a long absence, to the NYS Peripheral Parking Lot on Washington Ave.

Another important element in the growth of the autocross program is an innovative idea introduced by Solo Events Chairman D.J. McArdle. The solo folks have been meeting informally for quite awhile to share ideas; D.J. takes this to the next level for forming a Solo Events Advisory Board. The concept helps to spread the workload and gets more members involved, bringing in fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

NASCAR's Busch North series makes it debut at Lime Rock, and MoHud cleans up in the "mini stock" supporting races: Paul Hacker wins ITE, Kurt Weiss takes the victory in ITA, and Rick Pocock comes out on top in ITB.

Dick Stewart shows his winning ways in Formula Vee by taking the NARRC series title; also notching year-long awards are Bob Bunce (Showroom Stock A) and Manny Matz (SSC).

At year's end, Jim Bishop steps down as Treasurer, a post he's held for 12 years, the longest term of elected service in the region.

1994 – Valvoline and Dragonslayer Safety Equipment come on board as sponsors for the local autocross championship.

The John Stim Memorial is a two-day event at the end of June. With 155 entries the turnout is a financial disappointment.

A popular attraction for MoHud members is Berkshire Grand Prix, a time-trial circuit in Pittsfield – the cars are single-seaters with a snowmobile style engine & drivetrain. There's a specially designed track, and all runs are electronically timed.

As year end approaches, membership in the region is 304.

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Pete Smith sits in his ITA Nissan #97 in impound at a Lime Rock Park race.

1995 – Monthly meetings move to Son’s Tavern on Western Avenue in Albany.

It’s a long cold winter; ice trials on Pittsfield’s Onota Lake are held on March 4 & 5.

July 4 race date at Lime Rock is a resounding success.

MoHud drivers have notable success in the NARRC series; class championships go to Jeremy Treadway (Formula Ford), Dick Stewart (Formula Vee), Dave Reynolds (GP MGA) and Rick Pocock (ITB Alfa Spider), who competed in every round of the 13 race series. He was the only driver among all entrants in all classes to put in an iron man effort.

December cover of the Knock-Off features proposed design for the Syracuse Grand Prix, which will use feeder roads for the NYS Fairgrounds; plans are for a feature race for ARCA stock cars and a supporting event for the Shelby Can-Am series

1996 – The cover for the January Knock-off features the circuit design for the Mid-Atlantic Race Complex, proposed for the Calverton Airport on Long Island.

Dragonslayer Safety Equipment sponsors the local autocross series, which includes events by MoHud, Empire Motorsports Club, Tri-Vettes, Adirondack Triumph Association, Patroon Chapter of the BMW Club, and T-A/Z28 Enthusiasts. 122 competitors dodge the cones during the year. Series trophies are awarded in three categories: Modified/Prepared (Bill Hudson, Camaro), Street Prepared (Chris Gruel) and Stock (Chip Van Slyke, Neon)

The July regional race at Lime Rock includes not only the usual NARRC/NYSRRC competitors but also a round of the Shelby Can-Am pro series.

Mid-year membership is 336. In November the region officially launches its WorldWide Web site <http://www.mohud-scca.org.a>

38 MoHud drivers compete in the NARRC series; a pair of MG racers, Kim Graff (E Prod MGB) and Dave Reynolds (GP MGA) earn series championships.

1997 – Three days of ice trials on Onota Lake, as part of the Pittsfield Winter Carnival, get the season off to an early start. For the autocross crowd it will be a year of great variety, with region events at the familiar NYS Peripheral Lot in Albany, Berkshire Mall and Brodie Mountain, as well as a visit to the former Griffis Air Force base in Rome.

An added bonus is an autocross on the infield course at Lime Rock, held in conjunction with MoHud’s annual race date. The race draws 172 cars and the solo event another 34, but the finale for the weekend, a Sunday rallye and picnic at Thacher Park is cancelled due to lack of participation.

Does Mohawk-Hudson have another Solo 2 National Champ? *SPORTS CAR* thinks so. In their recap, they identify D Street Prepared winner Tom Ellam as being one of ours. Some investigative reporting reveals that Ellam lives in Bloomsburg NY but has never officially transferred his region of record from when he lived in California, though he says when he does it will be to join MoHud. Did he ever follow through?

The region also takes a try at offering Car Control Clinics, non-competitive sessions that draw on autocross-style drills. Aimed at non-members, the events never draw in the hoped-for numbers. To broaden public exposure for the club, cars are displayed at Crossgates and Clifton Country malls.

Membership is up to 332 by year’s end.



One of many SCCA exec’s meetings! Standing, l to r: Larry Dignam, Jack Hanifan (MoHud), Rick French, and Don Sommers. Seated, l to r: all from MoHud; Roly Heacox, Larry Morton and Paul Tariello.

JANUARY 2007

Dick Stewart tops the charts in the NARRC series in his Formula Vee, and adds Driver of the Year. Another Vee racer, Rich Alexander, is Rookie of the Year.

Season-long awards on the autocross side go to Diane Palmer (Ladies, VW GTi), Dave Kosla (Stock, Toyota MR2), Bill Hudson (Modified/Prepared, Camaro) and Bill Bennett (Street Prepared, Mazda RX7).

1998 – A Ferrari Festival (bought and paid for by Ferrari NA) ousts MoHud from its racing weekend at Lime Rock, though the region gets some remuneration by providing workers for the event. It also means a change of venue for the John Stim Memorial, which is held at Pocono International Raceway in Pennsylvania. A noble effort nonetheless yields a disappointing return with only 123 entries.

In spite of having to pay the State of New York for the first time to use the Peripheral Lot, there's optimism in the autocross community for a banner season. However to deal with the added cost entry fees will go from \$10 to \$15. Plans are for a 4 event season.

Dick Stewart continues his winnings ways in the NARRC series and Harold Krakenberg wins (Formula 500). Tom Campbell is Driver of the Year, and also ends the year by being elected as SCCA Director representing Area 10. Corvette racer Jeannette Udvary, who went from all the way to SCCA National Championship Run-Offs, and second generation racer T.J. Hanfian (ITC Volkswagen) share Rookie of the Year. This second generation racer adds a unique double when he's also named autocross Rookie of the Year.

Over on the solo side, Mike McMullen comes out on top among Stock category competitors, Street Prepared belongs to Arn Beebe and Prepared/Modified goes to Chip Van Slyke. Drawing on a theme of the racing counterparts, the autocrossers name their first Driver of the Year; the inaugural recipient is Mike McMullen.

1999 – The year starts with membership still climbing, now up to 364. The region's autocross expertise gets drafted to help organize a solo contest for the Tour de Sol, an event for alternative fuel vehicles.

Enthusiasm for the unofficial start of summer is shattered on Memorial Day weekend when news arrives that Formula Vee racer Dave Riggi has been killed in a motorcycle accident. The Riggis have made racing a family affair, Dave's dad Ernie, his mother and sisters were usually there to cheer Dave (and all his FV and MoHud compatriots), along with his wife Karen and two young sons Zach and Lucas. It all makes for very heavy hearts.

Lime Rock and MoHud are together again: back at its familiar location the John Stim Memorial is sched-



Brian Blizzard; far right, with his crew, friend Greg along with Brian's dad, Bill, enjoy some laughs between races at Lime Rock.

uled for July 5, but with increases in insurance and track rental the days of the \$150 entry fee seem to be gone. Even with increased costs and summer heat, the event draws 194 entries, 26 of them from MoHud.

Summer turns into a blockbuster for the autocross community. After drawing only about two dozen cars for the season opener, the Peripheral Lot overflows with 131 cars for round two, the largest turnout ever for a MoHud autocross. In spite of the throng everyone gets three runs.

Things just keep getting better as the region secures its "dream" solo site, the Stratton Air National Guard Base at Schenectady County Airport, with broad expanses of smooth, unobstructed pavement, enthusiastic support from the ANG, and no neighbors to complain about the noise (real or perceived)! Numerically the tally is again 131 entries.

For the racers, it's NARRC championships for Jeannette Udvary (GT1 Corvette), Dick Stewart (FV) and Brian Blizzard (ITA).

As the end of millennium looms, membership is 372



3 members of Sheridan racing dynasty, John, Jimmy, and Jim.

JANUARY 2007

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Awards Banquet Photo Gallery



Award winners Eric Lendrum, above, & Tom Campbell, left, and the winners in the Solo program receive recognition at the MoHud banquet on December 1st held at Mallozzi's in Schenectady.



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