

# KNOCKoff

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

## Warm Weather is coming!!

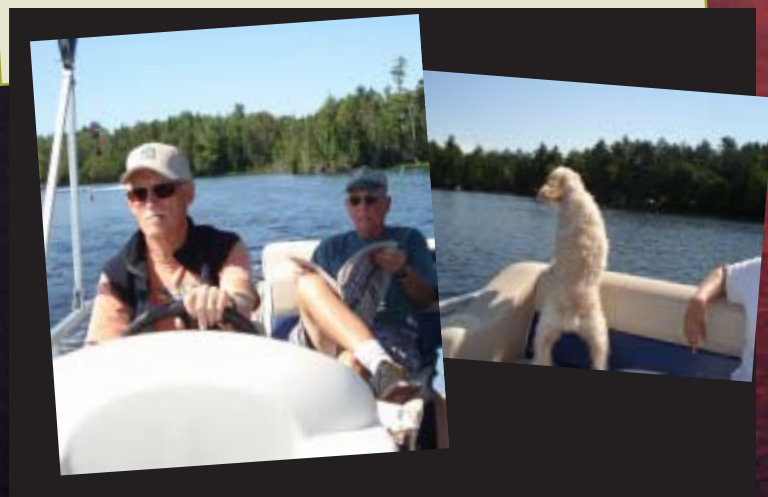


To keep your spirits up in this very cold weather, here are a few photos from last summer taken while Jack and I vacationed in the Adirondacks with the Smiths, Sheridans & Campbells. Lots of laughs, plenty of sunshine, and great food were all the "work" we did while there. Be sure to ask Jack about his "palm tree" and its nightly adventures.

## WORKER KUDOS



At the last membership meeting, trophies were presented to those present who had been unable to attend the annual meeting in December. On the left, DJ McArdle holds his 3rd place Worker Award while to his right, Director Bruce Kosakoski shows off his 1st place Worker award. These two along with Russ Burckhard and several others help make the MoHud Solo program as great as it is. Congratulations go to both of them! You Solo folks owe them a pat on the back and many thanks!



Our fast and fearless Area 10 Director John Sheridan, shown in a warmer moment last summer pilots Pete & Diane Smith's Miss Lily Lily up on a Adirondack waterway while Dave Dartt enjoys relaxation catching up on the news (racing maybe) while his first mate Riley keeps an eagle eye out for any craft looking to pass.

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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.

**SUBSCRIBE TO THE MO-HUD MAILING LIST:**  
Go to the MoHud web site (see below), click INFO, click ELECTRONIC MAILING LIST, click LWGATE, click Subscribe to Mo-Hud DIGEST, fill out form, click SUBSCRIBE.

<http://www.mohud-scca.org/>

## ADVERTISING RATES

Type	Size	1 Issue	6 Issues
Full Pg	10x7	\$20.00	\$100.00
Half Pg	5x7	\$15.00	\$75.00
Half Pg	10x3	\$15.00	\$75.00
Qtr Pg	5x3	\$10.00	\$50.00
Bus Crd	3x2	\$5.00	\$25.00

*All ads must be prepaid. Noncommercial classified ads run in three (3) consecutive issues and are FREE to MEMBERS*

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# RE REPORT

Jack Hanifan

Our next meeting is February 4<sup>th</sup> at The *Orchard Tavern*, 7:30pm. Our NARRC Champions will be presented with their Championship Jackets. Our National Race Scheduled for July 31, August 1<sup>st</sup> at LRP we be discussed. I am collecting data on National entries in the Southeast. The thought is that with the Runoffs moving to Road America and the date on the schedule, the attendance at LRP will be high in spite of the high entry fee. Please attend the meeting and let your thoughts be heard.

Other than meetings our next event is the Flag School at Lime Rock, March 28, 29. This would be a great event to attend if you ever thought about working the races. The School is free and lunch is provided. Graduates will be able to work at any race track in the Northeast. Spread the word, the more people we have to flag, the safer it is to race.

Jim Bishop has a Rally scheduled for Saturday January 24<sup>th</sup>. More details in Jim's flyer elsewhere in the KO. We have not had a rally for several years, this will be a very simple one about 100 miles in Albany County. Jim will give a brief lesson to all who need it before the start, this is your chance.

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## COMPETITION CORNER... Feb. 2009

*Jack Hanifan, Chairman*

**The annual tech party is scheduled for Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>** at Bob Karl's Sales and Service on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Troy. 12 Noon. Our host will provide the Barbeque Grille and the Region will supply the dogs and soda. Now is the time to get ready. All the drivers who attended the January Meeting said they had received their GCR's. If you have not, contact club racing. The SCCA Office toll free number is **1-800-770-2055**. The first major change in the GCR that may affect you can be found on page 76. 9.3.19. C- Required Equipment-Driving Suits. Brand names such as Nomex have been eliminated. The appropriate SFI or FIA standard labels must be on the suit. If you do not see a label, look on the outside back of the collar for embroidery. Note that you may need to wear underwear of fire resistant material may now have to be used with some 3 layer suits. If you need a new suit, Bob Zecca from Driving Impressions has a deal for MoHud Drivers. Call him at **1-800-275-4667**, just tell him you are from MoHud. You will also want to look at the Category Specification for your car.

Any Changes in the GCR are marked by a vertical solid bar on the left side of the page. Changes or amendments are indicated by *italicized* text. A paragraph with a vertical bar but not *italicized* text indicates a deletion.

The National, NARRC and NYSRRC schedules have all been finalized. You can find them all on the NESCCA website at [Nescca.com](http://Nescca.com).

There is a Flag School scheduled for March 28, 29 at Lime Rock Park. If you ever wanted to flag at the races this would be a great event to attend. There is no charge and lunch is provided. If you have a friend who is interested, let them know about it. This is a golden opportunity to get into racing for free.



## January Board Meeting Minutes (12/29/2008) Submitted by Eric Kroth, Sec.

*Members present: Jack Hanifan, Russ Burckhard, Jim Garry, Lisa Hanifan, Bruce Kosakoski, D.J. McArdle, Peter Kroth*

Meeting was called to order by R.E. Jack Hanifan at 7:30 PM.

**New Officers** – New officers were informed of duties of their office.

**Communications** – “What do we need to do better?”

Lisa Hanifan identified that the biggest problem currently is that The Knockoff is not being read. She believes it is because most members do not know that this is being published on the MoHud web site. She also advised that currently she does not have an accurate e-mail list for MoHud membership to inform them when a new issue of The Knockoff has been posted as she is receiving many returned e-mails as undeliverable.

The Board agreed that a postcard should be sent to all MoHud members with details on contacting Lisa by e-mail in order to ensure she has an accurate e-mail distribution list. Lisa will work on a sample postcard to be presented at the January monthly membership meeting.

**Rally** Peter Kroth reported that the 2009 Snowflake Rally is scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 2009 with registration tentatively scheduled to begin at 4:00 PM at Latham Circle Mall and the first car set to depart at 6:00 PM.

Lisa Hanifan advised that she did not receive any information for The Knockoff. It was suggested that perhaps a notice regarding the rally could be included on the postcard regarding The Knockoff.

**Solo** Russ Burckhard reported that 2008 was a good year for the Solo II program. Attendance was down with approximately 50 participants at an average regional event in 2008 as compared to approximately 80 participants at an average regional event in 2007. This may have been due to the cost of gasoline or due to the new mandatory membership requirements.

Looking ahead to 2009, one of the main goals is to acquire a new site. Russ advised that he has a list of sites that he will inquire about with a good possibility of a new local site. It was suggested that a charity event might be a good way to ensure acquisition of a new site. Russ also does not foresee any major expenditures for the 2009 Solo II budget with the largest expenditure being refurbishing of the timing equipment.

The region also received two letters. The first came from SCCA National Office in Topeka congratulating the region on the event held at Clifton Park Commons on October 19, 2008. Included was a check for \$101.25. The second letter was from Clifton Park Emergency Services thanking us for the \$100 donation we made from proceeds received from SCCA for the October 19 event.

**PDX** The Board discussed the possibility of holding a Performance Driving Experience (PDX) at Lime Rock Park in 2009. Currently, New England Region has 6 scheduled and there is currently a “hole” in SCCA events as there are no events on a level between Solo II and Club Racing where a member can experience driving at speed on a track without competition.

The possibility was raised of holding an event in cooperation with Patroon BMW with possible dates in September or October. The Board needs to check for SCCA PDX/Time Trial rules regarding instructor and worker requirements.

**Competition** MoHud is scheduled to host a 2-day National race with a Pro-IT on July 31-August 1, 2009. The big concern for this year will be a way to keep event costs down. One of the biggest costs is lunch for the workers and one of the ways we may look into controlling that cost is to cater ourselves instead of using track catering for lunches.

Jack Hanifan advised that we need to appoint a Race Chair as soon as possible.

### **Upcoming Events**

.1 National Convention is scheduled for February 19-21, 2009 in Las Vegas, NV. Ideally, Jack Hanifan as R.E. and Competition Chair and Russ Burckhard as Assistant R.E. and Solo II Chair will be attending.

.2 NeDiv Round Table is scheduled for March 6-8, 2009 in Hartford, CT.

.3 Flagging & Communication School is scheduled for March 28-29, 2009 at Lime Rock Park.

.4 NeDiv MiniCon is scheduled for November 6-8 in Pittsburgh, PA.

**Activities** Pete Smith has advised Jack that activities for the upcoming year should be the same as last year with a Golf Tournament and Go-Kart Night. We may not do the duck boat tour.

**Meeting Schedule** The Board confirmed the meeting schedule for the upcoming year. This will include a monthly membership meeting scheduled for July 8, 2009 and a board meeting scheduled for July 27, 2009 as these will be the last meetings before the National.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

## **January Monthly Meeting Minutes (1/7/2009)**

Meeting was called to order by R.E. Jack Hanifan at 7:30 PM.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer was not present to deliver report.

**Activities Report** – Pete Smith has advised Jack that activities for the upcoming year should be the same as last year with a Golf Tournament and Go-Kart Night. We may not do the duck boat tour.

**Knockoff Report** – A postcard is in the works to be sent to all MoHud members with details on contacting Lisa by e-mail in order to ensure she has an accurate e-mail distribution list.

**Rally** – Jim Bishop reported that the 2009 Snowflake Rally is scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 2009 with registration tentatively scheduled to begin at 4:00 PM at Latham Circle Mall and the first car set to depart at 6:00 PM. Two classes will be run, Novice and Experienced. Entry fee is to be determined.

**Solo** – Russ Burckhard reported an article in the Schenectady Gazette on Jim Garry and his national championship. The region also received two letters. The first

came from SCCA National Office in Topeka congratulating the region on the event held at Clifton Park Commons on October 19, 2008. Included was a check for \$101.25. The second letter was from Clifton Park Emergency Services thanking us for the \$100 donation we made from proceeds received from SCCA for the October 19 event. There will be a Solo Advisory Meeting scheduled for Sunday, January 18 at 4:00 PM.

**Membership** – Dave Wachtel reported 2 new members and the latest notable anniversaries. The region currently has 365 members.

**Web** – Dave Wachtel and Eric Smith are reviewing web editing and management software. Dave also advised that he is working on updating the MoHud web page.

**Competition** – Jack advised that the new GCR is now available and advised that there are new rules specifically regarding firesuits. MoHud is scheduled to host a 2-day National race with a Pro-IT on July 31-August 1, 2009. The big concern for this year will be a way to keep event costs down. Track rental is \$23,500 per day. One of the biggest costs is lunch for the workers and one of the ways we may look into controlling that cost is to cater ourselves instead of using track catering for lunches. Further details will be available when the annual budget is presented. Jack advised that we need to appoint a Race Chair as soon as possible. Membership expressed concerns about entries. Jack will track entries at events in Florida.

**Board of Director's Report** – John Sheridan began by reviewing issues regarding membership retention. SCCA started a member referral program offering a discount on membership dues for referring new members of SCCA. A worker incentive program was started offering discounts for members working as volunteers at club racing events. Finally the First Gear program was expanded. As of October 2008, membership was up for the year as compared to October 2007. John also noted approximately 1000 members had gone from temporary memberships to full memberships.

John noted that overall in 2008 event participation was down compared to 2007 despite starting the year higher in the first half of 2008 compared to 2007.

John reported that the Board of Directors did have some good news. First was the move of the National Convention to Las Vegas. Next was the new 3-year contract with Road America for SCCA Runoffs. John also reported that SCCA was able to secure better insurance rates for sanctioned events for 2009.

John finally noted that the Board of Directors is currently reviewing operations and is trying to get less involved in the "Day-to-Day" business.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Awards Recap** – Jack recapped the major awards from the annual banquet. In addition, Roly Heacox was recognized for winning the Lewis Award in 1958.



*Roly receives jacket for his years of service.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**“Kill The Bear”** - Discussion was held regarding the presentation from Jeff Dahnert at Mini-Con in November. The purpose of the presentation was to discuss how SCCA should proceed with more motorsports organizations. John pointed out that “The Bear” is us and not the other organizations and refers to things SCCA has to change. DJ McArdle pointed at that SCCA should have some program between Solo and Club Racing and that is one of the things that some of the other organizations have as part of their programs.

**PDX** – Discussion was held on the possibility of holding a PDX (Performance Driving Experience) in 2009. Among the items to be discussed is what such an event will require and what dates are available. Also, there is question as to whether or not the budget will allow such an event. A straw poll found no objection to investigating if a PDX is possible.

## **Upcoming Events**

- 1 National Convention is scheduled for February 19-21, 2009 in Las Vegas, NV. Ideally, Jack Hanifan as R.E. and Competition Chair and Russ Burckhard as Assistant R.E. and Solo II Chair will be attending.
- 2 NeDiv Round Table is scheduled for March 6-8, 2009 in Hartford, CT.
- 3 Flagging & Communication School is scheduled for March 28-29, 2009 at Lime Rock Park.
- 4 Annual Tech Party will most likely be scheduled for the weekend of April 4-5, 2009.
- 5 NeDiv MiniCon is scheduled for November 6-8 in Pittsburgh, PA.

**Meeting Schedule** - The meeting schedule for the upcoming year was confirmed. This will include a monthly membership meeting scheduled for July 8, 2009 and a board meeting scheduled for July 27, 2009 as these will be the last meetings before the National. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

## ***PATRONIZE OUR SPONSOR***



**Gene Tricozzi**  
President

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# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**New member report 01/03/09.**

**From: 11/19/08 to: 01/03/09.**

**Please welcome these new members to the region.**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Joined</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Comm.</u>
Jim Berryann	12/07/08	Averill Park	NY	(518)522-8374(H) Jimmy_B8807@yahoo.com
Peter Matthew Brillis	11/19/08	Elizaville	NY	(845)756-5167(H) Peetah12453@netscape.net

**There were 2 records printed.**

## Interests Report

### Club Racing

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### Pro Racing

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### Rally

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Peter Matthew Brillis (845)756-5167(H)  
Peetah12453@netscape.net

**There were 5 records printed.**

## Anniversary Report

<u>Name</u>	<u>Joined</u>	<u>Years</u>
	<b>January</b>	
Richard Welty	01/12/84	25
William K. Grasso	01/16/89	20
Jason Pelersi	01/31/94	15
Lori Pelersi	01/31/94	15
Michael Pelersi	01/31/94	15
Sue Pelersi	01/31/94	15
Justin T. Zarzycki	01/06/94	15
Lynn M. Zarzycki	01/06/94	15
Thomas Hansen	01/20/99	10

There were 9 records printed.

**There are 365 members in the region, a decrease of seven since last month.**

There has been a lot of email going back and forth regarding the "bears", membership outreach and communication, SCCA administration. There is also an active thread on the message board that currently has eight pages full of messages on these topics and on the topic of PDX events.



# SOLO Report

by Russ Burckhard

## February Report

There is not a lot to report this month since we are gearing up for the 2009 season. The Solo Advisory Committee met and put together a tentative schedule. We are looking at a busy SOLO program this year. The dates we are going after this year are:

**April 25-26 School / T&T, Event 1**

**May 2 Test and Tune at Seneca**

**May 31 Event 2**

**June 28 Event 3**

**July 11-12 School / T&T, Event 4**

**Aug 16 Event 5**

**Aug 30 Event 6 ? (if we can get a new site)**

**Sept 12? Adirondack Corvette Club event at Prospect Mtn.**

**Sept 20 Event 6 ?/7 ?**

**Oct 4 Event 7 ?/8 ?**

Also, the 2009 Divisional Solo Championships will be held in Ayer, MA at Devens Commerce Center on August 8-9. This years event will be hosted by NER.

We also put together a proposed budget for the SOLO program that will be presented at the February meeting.

At the end of this month, I will be going to the SCCA National Convention representing our club as Assistant RE and the head of the SOLO program. If anyone has any issues that you would like me to address, please contact me at [russtduck@nycap.rr.com](mailto:russtduck@nycap.rr.com)

Russ

Rally!! Rally!!

Rally!! Rally!!

# FLOCON DE NEIGE 2009

That's snowflake, if you must know. MHR has had numerous Snowflake rallies over the past 50+ years, but unfortunately they have become something of rare event. Perhaps 2009 will be the start of a new history.

**When:**

**This Saturday, January 24, 2009**

Registration opens at 4 pm  
Entrants meeting at 5:30 pm  
First car off [FCO] at 6:01 pm

**Where:**

**Malt River Brewing Company**

Latham Circle Mall; Route 9 & Route 2

[East of Exit 6 of I-87, north of Albany] Latham, NY

**What:** A straightforward time-speed-distance [TSD] rally covering over 100 miles, lasting over 3 hours. Speeds will be moderate to brisk. All paved roads [or at least treated], but when they are snow-covered, who can tell? No car-breakers at least! All vehicles must be street-legal, and should be capable of handling wintry, rural roads.

**Classes and trophies:**

- 1) Equipped [computers, GPS, etc.] and / or Experienced
- 2) Seat-of-the-pants, Novices, and Luddites

**Entry fees: \$20 per car**

This event is sanctioned by the Mohawk Hudson Region [MHR] of the Sports car Club of America. All participants must be SCCA members. THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$15 FOR *WEEKEND MEMBERSHIP* FOR ONE, OR \$20 FOR TWO, FOR EACH VEHICLE WHERE APPLICABLE. The weekend membership fee is creditable toward full membership. [And there is fine print involved].

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged.

Information & pre-registration: Jim Bishop: 518-346-8366 [good luck with that!]

[jbish46@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jbish46@nycap.rr.com) [highly recommended]

# ***Do we really have to send a postcard?***

**Is this a necessary expense?  
Do we really need to spend club money  
to get your correct address?**

**KNOCKoff**

Newsletter of the Mohawk-Hudson SCCA Region

**The News you need!**

## **Are you lost in Cyberspace?**

Too many MoHud SCCA members seem to be lost in cyberspace. Please send me your [current](#) email address to: [ghanifa1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ghanifa1@nycap.rr.com). I need your help to get you the information you want. If your address is outdated, misspelled or incorrect from national, you are not receiving your KnockOff. If you don't have an email address, you have two choices, go to the MoHud website @ [www.mohudacca.org](http://www.mohudacca.org) or go to your local library to get online. A new KO is posted every month (usually around the 3rd week. Keep in touch! You'll miss lots of great info and events if you can't get our newsletter.

Thanks! Lisa Hanifan, your KO editor

**Please send me your email address.  
My list can be updated so everyone is getting it  
when it's published.**

***I hope to hear from everyone so my email list  
is kept current & you will get your KO  
as soon as I put it into cyberspace.***

**THANKS!**

*Upcoming Events at*

# Saratoga Automobile Museum

## WATKINS GLEN HISTORIAN TO SPEAK AT AUTO MUSEUM

When it comes to the history of the world renown road course at Watkins Glen, Bill Green is the recognized expert.

The resident historian at the International Motorsports Research Library in Watkins Glen, Green also serves as historian for both the race track perched high on the hill overlooking the scenic Finger Lakes village and the Glen region of the Sports Car Club of America.

He will be sharing his expertise with area enthusiasts on **Sunday, March 22, 2009**, when he will address the topic "Open Wheels at the Glen" in the Racing in New York gallery of the Saratoga Automobile Museum. Set for 1 pm, the talk will be Green's second at the museum. His first presentation, in April of 2007, drew a large, enthusiastic crowd to hear an overview of Watkins Glen history.

"This time, I'll look at open wheel racing at Watkins Glen in the modern era, from 1972 to the present," offered Green from his Research Library office. "It will be a one to two hour interactive discussion with dozens of photos to illustrate the exciting events, race cars and driving stars we'll be talking about.

"I'm very impressed by the Saratoga Automobile Museum's dedication to historical education programs that help keep the history of motorsports in New York alive. During my last talk, museum members and racing enthusiasts of all ages asked some great questions and I'm looking forward to sharing another afternoon of Watkins Glen memories with them."

A fifty-year member of the Sports Car Club of America, Green has been associated with the Glen's racing activities for that entire period and is seldom if ever stumped by a question from the audience.

The presentation will be free to museum members, with others paying the standard museum admission charge for the event. The current exhibit in the museum's Golub Gallery is "All That Glitters," a celebration of the automotive "brass era" featuring vehicles from the early 1900's. More information is available on-line at [www.saratogaautomobilemuseum.org](http://www.saratogaautomobilemuseum.org).

*More on following page*





*Dick Waterman*

## HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES TO MEET PUBLIC

Famed stock car drivers Will Cagle, Billy Rafter and Dick Hansen and highly respected promoter Dick Waterman will be the focus of the New York State Stock Car Association's Hall of Fame induction ceremonies on **Saturday, January 17 and Sunday, January 18, 2009.**

After being inducted at the association's annual banquet in front of a huge crowd on hand to recognize outstanding performances at area speedways on the 17th, the four will meet the public the following morning at 11 am in the Racing in New York gallery of the Saratoga Automobile Museum. The event will be held next to the association's permanent display, which honors well over 100 racing legends from around the Empire State.

"It's my favorite event of the year," offered Ron Hedger, chairman of the NYSSCA Hall of Fame committee and the coordinator of the Racing in New York program. "We'll introduce the inductees, discuss the highlights of their career, let the inductees express their thoughts on the occasion and, without the time constraints of the banquet, we can allow the audience to interact with their heroes.

"The event always attracts a number of other Hall of Fame members, racers young and old, fans of all ages and many family members, all eager to see the museum and the permanent display. It always lasts longer than expected, as everyone becomes immersed in memories and rekindling old friendships."

Two-time NASCAR Sportsman champion Bill Wimble, also a Hall of Fame member, will travel from Florida to introduce Camden, NY resident Waterman, so the stories are certain to flow freely.

Cagle, long known as "the Tampa Terror," will also travel from Florida for the event, bringing along wife Barbara and two grandchildren. Hansen, a resident of Red Hook, NY, will be accompanied by his long-time car owner, Bruce Carman.

Information about the Saratoga Automobile Museum, located on the Avenue of the Pines in the Saratoga Spa State Park, may be obtained on-line at [www.saratogaautomuseum.org](http://www.saratogaautomuseum.org).

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