

# The Mo-Hud

# Knockoff



NEWSLETTER OF THE MOHAWK-HUDSON REGION SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA (Mo-Hud)

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July 2016

## The REport

### Reel'em in

I think there is a justifiable concern amongst many automobile and driving enthusiasts about the way many teens (and even those in their 20's or 30's) have less of a passion for cars and driving than many older people. And some believe that the sport of performance and race driving may begin to suffer from fewer participants (if this hasn't happened already) as the "older" crowd "moves on." For this month's REport, I have excerpted a portion of **Ingrid Steffensen's** fun and interesting book, *Fast Girl*, that is all about how she - someone totally uninterested in driving on a track - became addicted to the sport. So, I think she's well-qualified to talk about how we all should do what we can to get others interested, I mean addicted, to our sport.

*Remember your first time? Of course you do! No, I'm not talking about that first time. That's a subject for a completely different column. I'm talking about the first time you ever smooched a helmet on your head and drove out onto a racetrack. Remember what it felt like? Was it—as it was for me—a mixture of excitement, anticipation, and abject, pants-wetting fear? What circumstances brought you there? Who was the motivator? What kept you coming back for more? How did you feel when that first time was over?*

*If our beloved sport is going to continue to grow and thrive, we have to bring in new participants. Whether you're an instructor, an experienced driver, or even relatively new to the learning curve, it's to your benefit to recruit others. Not everyone you drag along with you to the track is going to want to give it a try, and not everyone who gives it a try is going to become an addict, I mean, regular participant.*

Be an ambassador for our sport. Wear your SCCA and MoHud shirts and gear. Develop and practice a 20 second "elevator speech" when someone asks you "What is the SCCA?" Take a cue from our Solo Chairperson, Russ Burckhard. Whenever Russ is at an event, be it a car show or a solo event, he makes time to promote our club and our sport. Russ always actively engages spectators and those just passing by to explain the event, what is happening, and how people can become active participants in an event.

Bait the hook, cast the line, reel 'em in!

For the good of the sport,

- Jim Bucci -

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## Coming Events

**July 9-10, Friday-Sunday.** Road races at Watkins Glen International, Town of Dix  
New York State Road Racing Championship/North Atlantic Road Racing Championship points

**July 11, Monday, 4:00 – 9:00.** Guptill's car show, Route 9 at Guptil Lane, Latham.

**July 16, Saturday, 6:00 – 9:00.** MoHud 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Saratoga Auto Museum., 110 Avenue of the Pines, Saratoga.  
Details on Page 3...

**July 22-23, Friday-Sunday.** Road races Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, Thompson, Connecticut.  
New York State Road Racing Championship/North Atlantic Road Racing Championship points

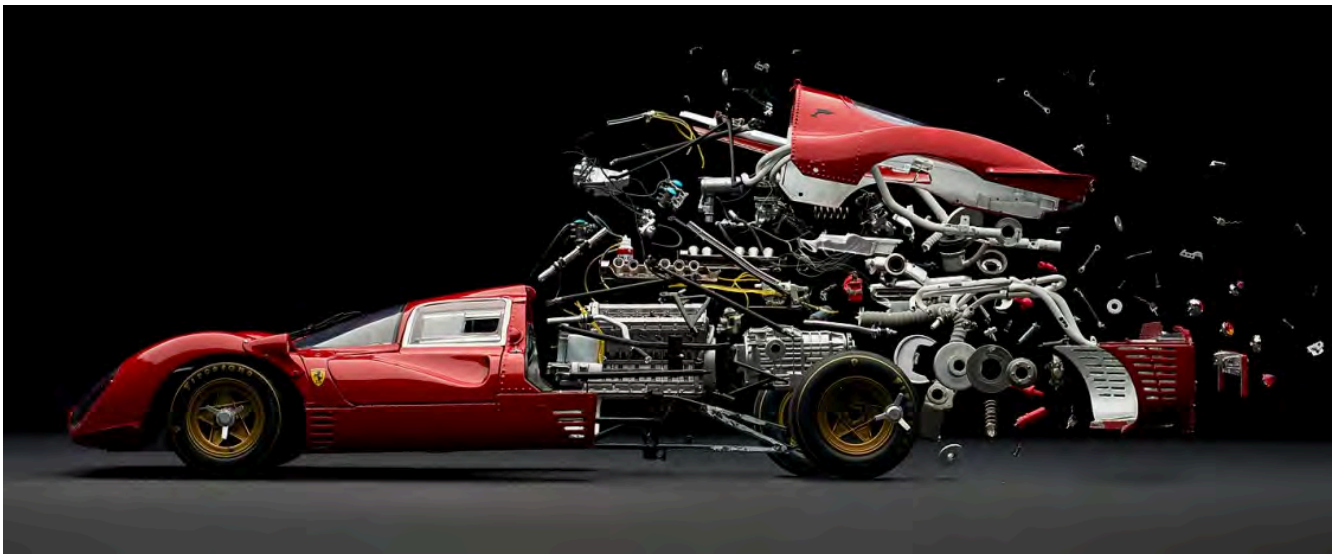
**July 25, Sunday, 8:00 – 5:00.** MoHud Solo time trials. NYS-OGS McCarthy Parking Lot, Thruway Exit 23.

*For additional motorsports events throughout the Northeast, or nationally, check < <http://www.motorsportreg.com> > regularly.*

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## Attention Racers!

***Do Not Let This Happen to You!***



***Safety-Wire All Critical Components!***

*For more on Swiss Artist Fabian Oefner and his "Disintegrating" series of photos, go to <http://fabianoefner.com>*



*You are cordially invited to the Mohawk-Hudson Region  
60th anniversary celebration*

*The festivities will be held Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm  
at the Saratoga Automobile Museum  
110 Avenue of the Pines  
Saratoga Springs, NY*

*Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a fun evening of MoHud memories  
Cost is \$30/person, cash bar*

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*Please RSVP by July 9<sup>th</sup>  
Send check or money order made out to: MoHud, SCCA  
Jim Bucci  
6 Hunter Ave  
Latham, NY 12110*

*Questions? Jim Bucci  
hdjimbu@gmail.com or (518) 944-4371*

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## So you really think you had a rough weekend?

Greg Goss recounts his adventures at Pittsburgh International Raceway, May 14-15

**The NE Conference SCCA U.S. Majors Tour at PIR, May 14-15**, was a one-of-a kind weekend with every kind of weather condition you can think of...I mean rain, sleet, and snow, and some fire thrown in. And that was just mother nature...

After racing in rain, sleet and snow on Saturday, splitting my head open jumping into the trailer and freezing my butt off, I was pretty down. But on Sunday morning we qualified on a very cold, dry track and we were hoping for some dry racing. Instead we got heavy rain, sleet and snow from lunchtime on, but they continued to run the races despite it all.

We had thought we could get the racing in, but after a racer in group 2 ran into the tire wall at Turn 17, causing a spectacular rubber fire, everything changed. Firefighters spent over an hour trying to put out the fire, finally canceling the racing.

I am not sure how points for weekend will be scored, but most likely I will be in the top 3 for points.

So we packed up and got ready to leave the track, and then I noticed a flat on the trailer. Got the spare, changed the flat, and finally we were leaving the track. At this point the truck was low on fuel so I went on a hunt for diesel fuel. After checking 7 stations in the closest town, none of which sold diesel, I had to go 20 miles in the opposite direction. The truck was low enough on fuel to go ding, ding, ding without, stopping, for 20 minutes! Good thing Chevy gives you a 10 gal reserve once the fuel light comes on and it goes ding, ding!

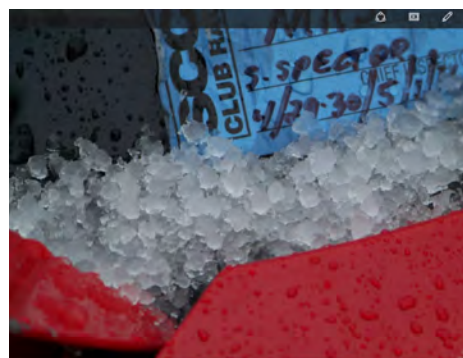
I finally get back to the hotel and took all the wet stuff into the room to dry. Somehow, I left my truck doors open all night (*don't ask*), as I found at 3 am Monday morning when I went out to start the diesel prior to leaving. The entire inside of the truck had frost on it.

Then about 10 minutes after I started the truck (at 3 am) I somehow hit the lock button and locked myself out while it was running -- keys inside and no spare hide-a-key! I spent another 60 minutes finding someone at the hotel to unlock the truck -- finally got on the road at 4:45am.

The best part of the weekend was that I got home in one piece after all the weather and the big fire.



**PIR Hot**



**PIR Cold**

**PS:** Just wanted to mention that George Kline and his crew were at the PIRC race also. We both are on a mission to qualify for the SCCA Runoffs. He got a 2nd and a 3rd place finish as compared to my 4th place on Saturday and, of course, no race on Sunday.

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## SOLO Report

**The season has started** and it is off to a good start. We held our annual pre-event test and tune / school on Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup>. We had an average amount of attendees (20-something) that came out and ran a short but technical course set up by Jeff Grossbard. The weather was either partly cloudy or partly sunny depending on how you look at it with the temperature climbing up to the 70's. Everyone had a shot to get up to 12 runs in and just about all did. There were instructors available all day and if they were like me, they kept busy all day. I found myself as a passenger in over a dozen different cars, gave rides to about half of those, and offered advice to many others that I had watched their run. It is a great feeling to be able to get someone to figure out how to run better. It may not be as good as driving, but it is more rewarding. Even with a lunch break, we were done fairly early allowing everyone to rest up for Sunday's event.

Sunday turned out to be another great day. The forecast for the weekend had a chance of rain for both days. We dodged it on Saturday but Sunday morning was not looking so good. A couple of drops fell here and there early, but it cleared up and the sun came out. The temps climbed up into the mid 70's and the rain stayed away until a brief shower passed as we were getting ready to leave the lot. 64 competitors came out to run the first points event of the season. Out of those, 10 were listed as novices. I believe that number is incorrect as when the novice walk through was called a crowd appeared that resembled what a drivers meeting normally looks like! We wound up having to split the group into two to better communicate with all of them. In an informal pole, it looked like there were at least 10 that were first timers.

Jon Kirschman made his course design debut. For those that remember the first event last season that I set up, it was nothing like it (thankfully). Times ran from the mid 30's to the low 50's and although there were some off courses, with the number of novices that is to be expected. I heard nothing but positive remarks from many of the competitors and I am sure I am not alone in saying that I can't wait to see what he comes up with next.

The FTD was set in a car that the owners bought in the offseason. Figuring their 89 Raptor out in the last heat was Saul Morse with an impressive 35.73. The fastest fendered car, Andy Furlong's Atomic Rabbit, ran a 36.17. The familiar name of Jon Staude was on top of the Pax list in his 89 Civic followed by Ian Wallace, Joe Lagdao, Andy Furlong, and Phil Reddington rounding out the top 5. Top class winners were Jon Staude in the Pro class, Ian Wallace in Street, Charles Dickenson in CAMS, Saul Morse in Prepared/Modified, Scot Carpenter in Touring/Modified, Adam Wright in Street Prepared, and Johnathon Burckhardt in Kart. Full results can be found at <http://www.mohud-scca.org/solo/schedule-results/>

The bus continues to be a great asset to the program. Some work was done at [Bob Karl's Sales and Service](#) (thanks Bob and staff) prior to the event and I have been in contact with Mike from [Squire Designs](#) to get some graphics (maybe by the next event). Loading and unloading is so much easier. We still need to get the equipment a little more secure, but it is not too bad.

- Russ Burckhardt -



Lined Up for Tech



The New Helmets



Channeling Max Balchowsky

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# Competition Report

**Mid-Ohio Majors Weekend**, Lexington, June 3-5 - Charlie Campbell did well with a win in FP in the rain on Saturday and a 2<sup>nd</sup> on Sunday. George Kline had two good races and did well in EP in the rain.

**New York State Road Racing Championship/ New England Region Regionals**, New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Loudon, May 27-29. The New England Region School saw Brandon Krystal get signed off; he raced on Saturday and did well in SM2. The NYSRRC, NERRC Regionals were well attended by MoHud. Dave Ferguson led the way with 3 wins in SRF, Jim Bucci had 3 podium finishes Greg Pecorra had wins in T3 and podium finishes in STU. The Karl family was led by Evan Karl with 3 podium finishes followed by Bob Jr., BK and Nick.

**Northeast Division Road Racing Championship/ North Atlantic Road Racing Championship/ New England Road Racing Championship**, Lime Rock Park, June 16-18. MoHud's participation in the Paddock Crawl at the NER races was a winner, hosted by the Jim and Trish Bucci. Racing results to come.

**Mohawk Hudson Region Road Racing Championship**, Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, Thompson, Connecticut, October 7-8. There will be one change in the Championship rules for this year. At the October MoHud Race at Thompson only your best two races will count. Since this is a MoHud race they would both count double. - Jack Hanifan -

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## Memorial Day racing at New Hampshire Motor Speedway



Jim Bucci (Honda Civic) and Greg Pecora (Mazda MX-5) exit Turn 1



Jim Bucci... Channeling



Greg Pecora--1st in Touring 3. Congratulations Greg!



Dave Ferguson in Victory Lane with his Spec Racer Ford



3 Generations of Karls  
L-R: Bob jr, Bob, Evan



MoHud RE Jim Bucci Finished 3<sup>rd</sup> In Touring 4

*Photos by Jack Hanifan and Trish Bucci*

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## Another Racer is Heard From

*George Kline at Pittsburg International Raceway and Mid-Ohio*

### Looking back the Majors weekend at PIR, May 14-15...

Saturday's race was a combination of snow and torrential rain. Started in 4th and ended up leading the first lap. Not because I made magnificent passes, but I stayed on track as everyone else spun off. The rain never stopped and visibility was so bad that a mini ran into a tow truck and we had a red flag period where we sat in the pouring rain for a half hour while they cleaned it up.

The huge tire barrier fire the next day ended the weekend's racing.

An interesting thing about our Majors escapade at PIR is our tiny trailer, the smallest in the paddock. Over the weekend we had a Prevost motorhome towing a 22 ft trailer on one side of us, and a tractor-trailer setup on the other to support a Spec Miata. Holy c\_\_ \_p, we were like little leaguers in a big league park!"

### Mid-Ohio Majors Weekend, Lexington, June 3-5...

We went to Mid Ohio for the Majors weekend and made all the wrong decisions.

If we put on rain tires.... It stopped raining.

If we started on dry tires.... It poured on the first lap. But, having grown up in the snowbelt, we at least didn't slide off track.

Started 12th and finished 6th and 7th even though we had major fuel pickup problems.



< George and #31  
on a sunny day

**George's car** is a 2000 Caterham 7, based on the third generation Lotus 7 licensed by Lotus in 1973 and built by Caterham with various engine options. According to George, "we run a (Ford) Zetec engine. This is all pretty strange for a Dodge/Jeep dealer to be campaigning. So we painted the valve cover Red and tell people it's a Neon engine."

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# Membership Report

This month Mohawk Hudson Region boasts a total membership of 505! This is the most members we've had in our region in many years. We picked up 67 new members between May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 14<sup>th</sup> (the date that this report was written). Forty of these are students and family from the Teen Street Survival School we held in May. And the rest were from web site inquiries and one phone inquiry. A list of our new members can be found at the end of this report. It is possible one or two are old members who allowed their membership to lapse. If you see anyone on this list who are former members, please let me know.

Our goal must be to retain as many of our new members as we can. We'll be sending out information to these folks about our programs and schedules, inviting them to participate with us. If you have any ideas on how to bring new members into the fold, be sure to contact me  
- Jim Garry -

## Significant June-July Anniversaries

### Five Years

Lyndon Peck  
Nelson Guay

### Ten Years

Stephen Crowley

### Thirty Years

Lester Figarsky

*Congratulations! And we hope you keep having fun.*

## New Members

Charles Beck  
Kiera Collins  
Charles Ragosta  
Catherine Baum  
Jonathan Baum  
Justin Blum  
Janet Woo  
Bowin Bonificio  
Danielle Bonificio  
Jessica Damico  
Lena Damico  
Barry Fisher  
Eli Fisher  
Laura Greene  
Meghan Greene  
Addison Groesbeck  
Gavin Hicks  
Logan Hicks  
Michelle Hicks  
Ethan Howard  
James Humphrey  
William Humphrey

Morgan Lennon  
Peter Lennon  
Keith Meyer  
Rachel Meyer  
Christopher Pedersen  
Grady Pedersen  
Joseph Prestigiacomio  
Jordan Rosecrans  
Sarah Rosecrans  
Amy Roth-Prestigiacomio  
Dylan Sheely  
Jeff Sheely  
Kim Sheely  
Tucker Sheely  
Sonya Stephens  
Caleb Stone  
Robert Stone  
Louis Triggs  
Andrew Voerg  
Chretien Voerg  
Bobbie Waddell  
Maddie Waddell  
Caroline Eigenbrodt

Heather Leddick  
Jahnell Parkinson  
Walter Tague  
Nicholas Graham  
Rachele Kalin  
John Marsden  
Cynthia Pedalino  
Joseph Steller  
Charlotte Hasselbarth  
Louis Coluccio  
Walter Piel  
Jamie Ritson  
Robert Davis  
Antoinette Hueber  
Jason Ramirez  
Keith Shaw  
Penny Wilcox  
Michaela Vertonano  
David Wilbur  
Russ Oasis  
Andrew Krystopolski  
Roxanne Gould  
Eric Buckley



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## Meeting Minutes, June 1, 2016 General Membership Meeting

- Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm
- Motion to approve the May general membership meeting minutes was made and seconded
- Membership – Jim Garry reported that we currently have 499 members! There were 59 new members in the month of May. Two significant anniversaries: Lyndon Peck, 5 years and Lester Figarski, 30 years.
- KnockOff – reminder that the deadline for submissions is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Announcement of a new KO editor, Paul Malecki. Welcome, Paul, and thank you for volunteering. For now, submissions to the KO should continue to be emailed to Jim Bucci at [hdjimbu@gmail.com](mailto:hdjimbu@gmail.com)
- Treasurer Report – Todd Boice was absent but sent his report, there was income in May from the MiniCon and from membership dues. Expenses included TRSS and Solo.
- Solo – Russ Burckhart reported there were 64 people for the Sunday event, see the Solo Report for a full recap. There was also discussion of a Solo audit form, and the need to make up a gift certificate for the give-away at Guptill's events this summer (visitors to the MoHud tent at Guptill's can get a certificate for a free seat at a Solo event). Discussion of the sale of balaclavas at Solo events – charge \$3 each.
- Activities – Dick Stewart reminded everyone of the Go-Kart night at the FunPlex in East Greenbush on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The golf outing will be at Burden Lake Country Club on August 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.
- Competition – Jack Hanifan reported about the event at New Hampshire Motor Speedway May 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Eric Smith told about the Chump Car event at Watkins Glen May 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>
- Old Business – none
- New Business -
  - The MoHud 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary party is being held at Saratoga Auto Museum on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, cash bar. \$30/person. An email invitation will be going out to all members. Motion was made for the club to pay for the attendance of our 50 year members, a hotel room if needed for Roly, and a \$500 donation to SAM – seconded and passed.
  - MoHud will be participating in the Guptill's car shows again this year. Shows are the second Monday of each month, June through September, beginning on June 13<sup>th</sup>. The MoHud bus and banner will be there, stop in and visit or spend some time hanging out talking to interested visitors.
  - June race at Lime Rock Park June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> – this is a NER event, there will be no worker party due to the expense of having it catered so NER has proposed a "Paddock Crawl". Motion was made, seconded and passed to spend up to \$300 on food and drink to participate in the Paddock Crawl worker party.
  - There will be **no July general membership meeting**. The August membership meeting is Go-Karts at the FunPlex. Next general membership meeting at The Orchard will be Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. The next Board Meeting will be Monday, June 27.
  - Jim Garry is going to begin emailing new members and would like to offer them a free seat at a Solo event as a means of attracting interest and retaining new members. Russ and Eric agreed that we could do this without a large cost to the club. Suggestion made to have those people print the email and bring it to the event with them.
  - The RE would like to see MoHud have a greater presence at the John Stim Memorial Race (a NER event). Dick Stewart and Bruce Kosakoski agreed to be a committee to come up with suggestions how we can do this with little cost to MoHud.
  - Jim Garry proposed looking into raising MoHud dues. He is going to look at other northeast regions and see what they are currently charging.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.

(Recorded by Trish Bucci in Ron Bass's absence)

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# Mo-Hud Officers and Contacts

**Regional Executive (RE)**

Jim Bucci hdjimbub@gmail.com

**Assistant RE**

Eric "EJ" Smith ejevo8@gmail.com

**Treasurer**

Todd Boice tboice1@nycap.rr.com Mohudregs@nycap.rr.com

**Secretary**

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**Competition Chair**

Jack Hanifan jackhanifan@hotmail.com

**Rally Chair**

Trish Bucci trimar71@gmail.com

**SOLO Chair**

Russ Burckhard russtduck@gmail.com

**Membership Chair**

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**Chief of Pits**

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**Scrutineering (Tech)**

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**Chief, Flagging & Comm.**

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**Merchandise**

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**Director**

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**Director**

Dick Stewart stewartco@aol.com

**WebMaster**

Eric "EJ" Smith ejevo8@gmail.com

**NeDiv License Chair**

Peter W. Smith tbspete@gmail.com

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For more information about the Mohawk-Hudson Region SCCA, and membership in the Sports Car Club of America, go to < <http://www.mohud-scca.org> >

Membership meetings of the Mohawk-Hudson Region SCCA are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month, excepting July and August, 7pm, at the Orchard Tavern, 68 North Manning Boulevard, Albany.



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