

The Mo-Hud

# Knockoff



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

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**March 2018**

## The REport

**As I mentioned in last month's REport**, The SCCA 2018 National Convention was held January 18th through 20th in Las Vegas. This was one of the better attended conventions in recent memory with over four hundred participants.

New vision and mission statements were released:

**Vision:** To be the preferred Motorsports community in the U.S., built on fun, shared passion and access to an exhilarating motorsports experience.

**Mission:** We exist to fuel a safe, fun and exciting Motorsports experience for auto enthusiasts. SCCA is also re-branding a few of our programs.

*Club Racing* will now be *Road Racing* and *PDX* becomes *Track Events*.

Both SCCA Pro Racing and Enterprises lost money in 2017 with the club coming out at a net plus of \$766K.

That's all for this month.

*For the good of the sport...*

*Jim Bucci*

*Regional Executive*

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## Coming Events: March into Spring...

- **March 7:** Wednesday, 7:30pm. MoHud Membership Meeting. Orchard Tavern, 68 North Manning Boulevard, Albany.  
Contact: Jim Bucci [hdjimbu@gmail.com](mailto:hdjimbu@gmail.com)
- **March 31:** Saturday, Noon --> MoHud Club Racer Annual Tech Inspection and Gear Check. Bob Karl's Sales.. 2791 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Troy.  
Not a racer? Bring the kids to see real race cars and munch on hot dogs. One or more door prizes for the young'ns, drawn at random from the Jaguar Heritage Hubcap.
- **March 31:** In deference to Easter, the much-anticipated April 1<sup>st</sup> issue of the KnockOff will be published a day early.
- **April 2:** Monday, 7:00am – 10:00pm. Saratoga Auto Museum bus to NY Auto Show. \$75/\$85.  
Contact: melissa.murphy@saratogaautomuseum.org
- **April 4:** Wednesday, 7:30pm. MoHud Membership Meeting. Orchard Tavern, 68 North Manning Boulevard, Albany.  
While the formal meeting starts at 7:30pm, we start gathering around 6pm to share time with our fellow members.  
Contact: Jim Bucci [hdjimbu@gmail.com](mailto:hdjimbu@gmail.com)
- **April 14:** Saturday, Noon --> Second chance for MoHud Club Racer Annual Tech Inspection and Gear Check. North Country Subaru, 616 Quaker Road, Queensbury.
- **April 15:** Sunday, 8-5. Tire Rack Survival School (TRSS) at Saratoga Auto Museum/ SPAC lot. Sign up as an instructor via < motorspors.reg > More info at < <http://www.streetsurvival.org> >
- **April or May:** First of seven Solo events planned for this year; visit MoHud Facebook page or website to get a first glimpse.
- **May 25:** Friday. Track Night in America Driven by Tire Rack; New Hampshire Motor Speedway. See the following page for more.
- **June 8-10:** Friday – Sunday. SCCA Solo Championship Tour. Sampson/ Seneca Depot, Romulus, NY. MoHud solo drivers nestled snug in their beds, visions of low PAX times dancing in their heads.
- **June 25:** Sunday. The Great Race stops overnight in Troy. Chat with John Corey (if he runs this year). Lunch stop in Bennington at the Hemmings HQ on Monday the 26<sup>th</sup>.

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## Solo Program Loses McCarty Lot!

**Without explanation**, the NYS Office of General Services has informed MoHud and others that "...after careful consideration, OGS will no longer be making the McCarty Avenue parking lot or any of its other state-owned parking facilities available for event usage." This places the MoHud Solo season in hiatus.

The MoHud Solo Advisory Committee and Board of Directors have responded to the challenge by engaging in a survey of possible new Solo event sites, as well as looking at a few program initiatives.

Many comments have been received, and sites visited, by MoHud members in the last several days. If any KO reader has suggestions or leads to new sites, please e-mail Russ Burckhard < [russtduck@gmail.com](mailto:russtduck@gmail.com) > or EJ Smith < [ejevo8@gmail.com](mailto:ejevo8@gmail.com) >.

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## Club Racing

Jack Hanifan/Jim Bucci

### COTA Super Tour results

Congratulations to MoHud member Bob Right, Chatham, for claiming victory in the Formula Continental class at the recent Hoosier Super Tour event at The Circuit of the Americas.

### Track Night in America

The calendar for 2018 **Track Night in America Driven by Tire Rack** has recently been released. Several events are worth noting as they are the night before a NYSRRC/NEDRRC event. Why not suggest to your spouse, friend, co-worker, or neighbor they bring their street car to one of these events. An added bonus is you may be able to convince them to stay for the racing and be your crew for the weekend!

**New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Loudon NH**                      **May 25**

**Lime Rock Park, Lakeville CT**    **June 14**

**Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park**                                      **Oct 4**

For a complete schedule of 2018 **Track Night in America Driven by Tire Rack** events go to:

<https://www.scca.com/articles/2009036-calendar-for-18-track-night-in-america-driven-by-tire-rack>

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## MoHud ROOKIE OF THE YEAR 2015?



**EJ Smith points out** that this clip from the September 2005, KnockOff, featuring Evan Karl and his sister Cassidy, was only off by one year. Evan was MoHud's rookie of the year in 2016.

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**One of MoHud's other young lions**, Yuven Sundaramoorthy, was seen at COTA down in Texas a few weeks ago. But we've seen no pics from his younger (!) days. How about it Papa Gopal? Send the KO something from the scrapbook....

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**The RPI SAE-Challenge crew** is well along in building a new car for this Spring's international competition. Check out *Rennselaer Motorsport* on Facebook for some impressive shots of their work.

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# Club Racing- cont'd

Jack Hanifan/Jim Bucci

*Is your club racing car ready for the upcoming season?*

*Bring it on down to Bob Karl's for its annual tech inspection and gear check...*

## **Mohawk-Hudson Region, SCCA Technical Inspection and Cookout**

Hamburgers, hotdogs, and racecars

Saturday, March 31

12:00PM

Bob Karl's Sales and Service

2791 6<sup>th</sup> Ave

Troy NY

Can't make it to our tech inspection in March or maybe your car won't quite be ready?

## **MoHud has another technical inspection scheduled:**

Saturday, April 14

12:00PM

North Country Subaru

616 Quaker Rd

Queensbury, NY



Tech before you get to the track!

-- Fabian Oefner print

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## Board of Directors Meeting, January 29, 2018

Orchard Tavern, Albany, New York; Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

Attending: Jim Bucci (Presiding), Paul Malecki, Eric Smith, Bruce Kosakoski, and Ron Bass.

Treasurer - general discussion about Mo Hud 2017 and 2018 finances. Issues discussed including the SCCA audit function and debit vs. credit cards issued to officers and event chairpersons.

Mo Hud Events - any contracts that the Region enters into a contract where there is a general liability or participant accident language should be shared for review with the SCCA instance carrier.

Activities - need to consider offering some new activities to the membership for the upcoming year.

Thompson - the track runs a three race series each year. They have asked if we would be interested in discussing a relationship with the event that would incorporate the event into an SCCA function. 2018 dates are June 10, July 22, and August 26. Board requested more information. SCCA National will also need to approve the Region's participation.

Jim asked officers to prepare job descriptions/functions by April. In the event that an officer leaves their position with little or no notice, Jim wants to document the functions for that position.

- Ron Bass

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## Membership Report

As of February 25th, regional membership stood at 426 members, up one from last month.

### We have five new members since January 1st:

Liam Barber	Glenmont	Interests: Club Racing & Solo
Pete Meck	Kinderhook	Interests: Club Racing & Pro Racing
Jon Malm	Saratoga Springs	Interests: Pro Racing
James Luft	Albany	Interests: Club Racing & Solo
Michael Lewis	Catskill	Interests: Club Racing & Solo

Welcome!

### Significant Anniversaries

#### FIVE YEARS

Steven Andrew  
Greg Goss

#### TEN YEARS

Amanda Lo

#### TWENTY FIVE YEARS

Arn Beebe  
Letah Graff

Congratulations and thanks to all!

-Jim Garry

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## General Membership Meeting Minutes, January 7, 2018

Orchard Tavern, Albany, New York

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

January meeting minutes accepted unanimously.

**Treasurer report** - last month's income/expenses summarized.

**Membership** - no membership report provided.

**Solo** - the committee met on Saturday February 10. Seven events are planned for the upcoming year. We are waiting for approval from the State for use of the venue. (!)

**Street Survival** - school fee has been raised to \$95, up from \$75. Volunteers will receive a \$10 Amazon gift card. The Region will get back \$65 for each student attending. 2018 dates are April 15 and October 21 (both Sundays). Registration is on [Motorsportreg.com](http://Motorsportreg.com)

**Rally** - no report.

**Club Racing** - NYSRRC, first place in Formula F was awarded to Chip Van Slyke, Tech Party will be Saturday, March 31 at Bob Karls and Saturday, April 14 at North County Subaru. Eric Smith had his flagging license upgraded to Divisional.

**Activities** - Guptills monthly car show is the 2nd Monday of each month. We will sign up again for a booth this season.

**Club Officers** have been asked to prepare job descriptions for the Regional Rep.

**New Business** - Paul Malecki presented the proposed budget. It was accepted unanimously.

Jack Hanafin has vacated his NEDIV council seat. Jim Bucci has taken his place.

Mini Con is being restructured to increase interest and attendance - suggestions included more timely agenda, more inclusiveness (it should not be limited to road racing but should include solo and rally).

By-laws - regional committee has met and a draft has been prepared (EJ, Russ Gorman, and Bruce). Rich Welty suggested that the by-laws need not be too specific so that administrative flexibility is maintained.

**National Convention** - Jim and Harry attended the National Convention in Las Vegas and provided a summary of the event. Of interest to the membership -

RaceQuip has an agreement with SCCA - they will provide discount prices to members.

A new licensed SCCA worker position has been established - Data Tech for data acquisition.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm

- Ron Bass -

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## The MoHud Bylaws Subcommittee –

**EJ Smith, Bruce Kosakoski, and Russ Gorman**, have been meeting recently and have made good progress on putting together a first draft for a proposed revision of the current Mohawk-Hudson Region's Constitution and Bylaws. The official bylaws were last revised in March of 1989, and since then there have been many changes over the years in the realities of how our club operates that have not been reflected in those bylaws.

We have decided to model our region's bylaws on the current SCCA national bylaws, thereby ensuring our region is inline with SCCA National. As part of this re-write, we'll likely also adopt the national concept of having an operations manual, which means we'll need to separate out the more detailed description of officer duties into the proposed operations manual. We hope to have a draft to present to the MoHud Board for feedback soon, and then eventually to the membership for a vote for adoption by the end of 2018.

While the process moves forward, you can read the current MoHud Constitution & Bylaws right from the MoHud website: <http://www.mohud-scca.org/about/constitution-and-by-laws/>

The SCCA National Bylaws can be found at <https://www.scca.com/pages/scca-bylaws>. If you're interested in the National Operating Manual, you will need to log in to the SCCA National website (<https://www.scca.com/login>) with your user ID and password. Next you will need to navigate using the following links: Go to your Profile page, scroll down and look under the "Leadership" heading and click on "File Cabinet". Once on the File Cabinet page, look under the "SCCA Files" heading and click on "2018 Operations Manual".

If you have any questions or comments about the process, please let me know at [EJEvo8@gmail.com](mailto:EJEvo8@gmail.com).

*EJ Smith, Assistant RE & Bylaws committee Chair.*

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**Those who pay attention** have noticed that each month's Membership Report is accompanied by a photo of a historic sports or racing car.

No room on that page this month, so this will have to do.

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# Mo-Hud Officers and Contacts

**Regional Executive (RE)**

Jim Bucci [hdjimbuc@gmail.com](mailto:hdjimbuc@gmail.com)

**Assistant RE**

Eric "EJ" Smith [EJEvo8@gmail.com](mailto:EJEvo8@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

Paul Malecki [paul@dianenpaulmalecki.org](mailto:paul@dianenpaulmalecki.org)

**Secretary**

Ron Bass [m3apx@aol.com](mailto:m3apx@aol.com)

**Club Racing Chair**

Jack Hanifan [jackhanifan@hotmail.com](mailto:jackhanifan@hotmail.com)

**Rally Chair**

Trish Bucci [trimar71@gmail.com](mailto:trimar71@gmail.com)

**SOLO Chair**

Russ Burckhard [russtduck@gmail.com](mailto:russtduck@gmail.com)

**Membership Chair**

Jim Garry [mhr.membership@gmail.com](mailto:mhr.membership@gmail.com)

**Chief of Pits**

Clark Nicholls [cwnicholls@aol.com](mailto:cwnicholls@aol.com)

**Scrutineering (Tech)**

Open. Contact Jim Bucci or Jack Hanifan if interested...

**Chief, Flagging & Comm.**

Richard Alexander [dweebdad@msn.com](mailto:dweebdad@msn.com)

**Activities Director**

Open. Contact Jim Bucci if interested...

**Merchandise**

Chip VanSlyke [chipperv@earthlink.co](mailto:chipperv@earthlink.co)

**Director**

Bruce Kosakoski [bkbbmw@gmail.com](mailto:bkbbmw@gmail.com)

**Director**

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**WebMaster**

Eric "EJ" Smith [ejevo8@gmail.com](mailto:ejevo8@gmail.com)

**NeDiv License Chair**

Dick Patullo (NER) [patullo@verizon.net](mailto:patullo@verizon.net)

**KnockOff**

Paul Malecki [paul@dianenpaulmalecki.org](mailto:paul@dianenpaulmalecki.org)

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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, 7:30pm, at the Orchard Tavern, 68 North Manning Boulevard, Albany.



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# The KnockOff Journal

This Month...

- Ah yes, I remember it well...
- Advice for Novice Racers



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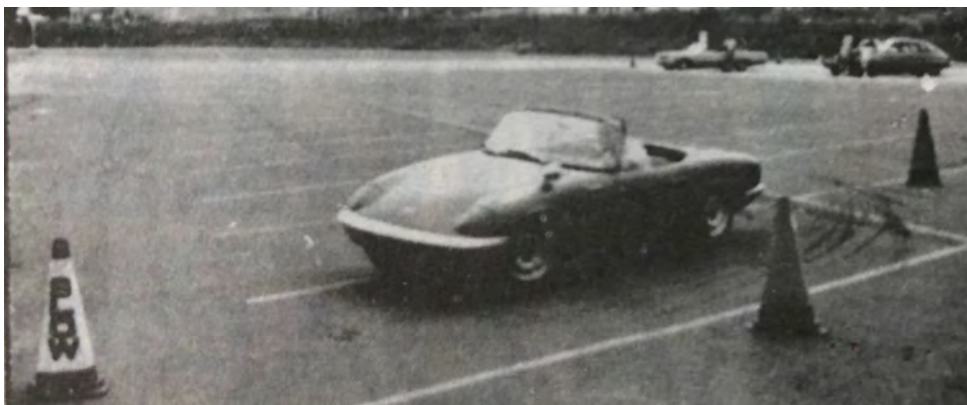
**A copy of the July, 1967, KnockOff** has been placed in the hands of the current editorial staff. July, 1967 takes us back to a time when MoHud was just 10 years old.

Gene Birdsley was RE and Dave McClumpha was Assistant RE. Monthly meetings were held at the Circle Inn on Route 9, somewhere near the current Latham 76 Diner. Nothing we could find on the internet indicated its precise location nor the reason for its demise. Perhaps a senior Club member can fill us in.

Among the articles was a defense, written by Roly Heacox, of tough tech-safety standards being set by National. The basic message was: "It's for your own good..." A throwback to June of 1957 noted that Roly was being welcomed into MoHud at that time.

Back in 1967 the Club gave points for any sort of involvement in activities, but there was no mention of what the podium awards might be. Eleanor Morris had 50 points at mid-year, but no score recorded for Karl.

Gymkhana (*Solo* to you young'uns) was big, as it is now. The "Challenge of Sebring" brought out 37 drivers, with Phil Groggins in his Lotus Elan having fastest outright time. They had some sort of Index of Performance (PAX), but it's not clear how it worked or who won.



Lastly, the current KO staff marvels at the hard work of their predecessors in turning out a newsletter by typing and hand-drawing on stencil masters to be used on a mimeograph machine. Ugh!

## Advice for Novice Racers

**Tony, age 11**, is a dedicated NASCAR fan, but is excited about all forms of racing. To that end he watched quite a bit of the recent Rolex-Daytona 24 Hour live TV-feed.

His mom works with a MoHud member, and when mom mentioned that said member will be running a Spec Miata this coming year, Tony got to work on a briefing sheet. The result, "Some Tracks to Test," is pictured below. Note his careful analysis of the demands of various tracks, and the all-important caution: "Now don't crash!"

Clearly having the SCCA Club Racing schedule in mind, he not only listed nearby Watkins Glen, but also Sonoma - site of the annual Runoffs this October.

Thanks, Tony.

