

# The Mo-Hud

# Knockoff



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

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**April 2018**

## The REport

### **Celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Month**

A sometimes over-looked or forgotten aspect of our club is that it is almost completely volunteer run. One of the benefits of being an all-volunteer run organization is that there is a value of having passionate people running an event that they have poured their blood, sweat and tears into. They care.

Volunteers are people. They have hearts. They have feelings. They have needs. In this day and age, it is really easy to overlook these things. In honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Month, which is April by the way, here are 10 ways that you can thank our volunteers:

1. **Honor their work** If a volunteer is trying to help you with something, please don't dismiss their efforts. Take the time to appreciate what they are doing for you.
2. **Say "THANK YOU"** It is a really little phrase that goes a long way.
3. **Roll up your sleeves and help.** Event days are long we all know this.
4. **Have fun at the event!** When the volunteers see you having fun, we know our work was well worth it.
5. **Save your drama for your llama** Yes, it is motorsports. Yes, it is ego driven. But at the end of the day the prize is a piece of wood with your name on it. Is that worth making someone's day absolutely miserable?
6. **Shut your should-er** Volunteers work hard, and we love our participants and their feedback. It helps us grow and learn and get better. However, there is something slightly insulting when people come up to a volunteer and say, "You should..." .
7. **A little treat goes a long way** You would be so surprised how much it means to be thought of.
8. **Join us in volunteering** Flag an event. Offer up your talents and join a committee.
9. **Give shout outs** Did you have an instructor/tech inspector/steward/flagger/ev worker or registrar take particularly good care of you? SAY IT!
10. **Smile** It's contagious.

*For the good of the sport...*

*Jim Bucci*

*Regional Executive*

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## Coming Events: Whan that April, with his shores soote...

- **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 29:** Sunday, 8-4. Poughkeepsie Sports Car Club autocross at Lake Taghkanic State Park, Ancram. Remember not to take your trailer on the Taconic Parkway going down there.
- **May 3:** Thursday. Track Night in America Driven by Tire Rack; Palmer Motorsports Park, Ware, MA.
- **May 20:** Sunday, 8-4. Poughkeepsie Sports Car Club autocross at Techcity, 300 Enterprise Drive, Kingston.
- **May 20:** Sunday, 7-3. Spring Auto Show at Saratoga Auto Museum.
- **May 24:** Thursday. Track Night in America Driven by Tire Rack; Lime Rock.
- **June 2-3:** Saturday – Test and Tune; Sunday – Event 1. MoHud Solo season starts at Empire State Aerosciences Museum, adjacent to the Schenectady County Airport, Route 50, Glenville.
- **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. Lunch stop in Bennington at the Hemmings HQ on Monday the 26<sup>th</sup>.

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## MoHud's Solo Season...



... che la fenice more e poi rinasce!

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## Help Wanted: Activities Director

Been looking for a way to get more involved in our club? Here is your opportunity. The Mohawk-Hudson region is in need of an Activities Director.

**What does an Activities Director do?** The AD would work within established budgets and work with the club's officers and members to come up with ideas and make plans for our social activities.

**What sorts of activities?** Well, that is up to you. Of course we'll still have our traditional social events like rallies, the MoHud golf outing and our August go-cart night, but how about some fresh, new, and original ideas. Maybe a dinner cruise? Movie night? Picnic? Caravan to a local cruise night? Off-season go-cart racing series?

**How will I let members know about an upcoming activity I've planned?** The Mohawk-Hudson region has several ways to "get the word out" such as email blasts, our region's newsletter (The KnockOff), and a Facebook page. Or, feel free to use other social media outlets such as Instagram and Twitter.

**How much time will I need to devote to being the Activities Director?** Again, that is kind of up to you. Just a couple of hours a month would probably be enough. We aren't looking for a constant flow of activities or even a monthly event, just a couple of new fun activities to join our traditional social events.

**Do I need previous experience?** Heck no! We're simply looking for an enthusiastic member with some new and fresh ideas.

**Why such an emphasis on finding a new Activities Director?** There are several reasons. There is a new dynamic, a new buzz going on at the national level of the club. One of the ideas pushed forward at the national convention is to drive that same level of excitement out at the regional level. Also, with the potential for a much abbreviated Solo season, or no season at all, we feel it is very important to keep the momentum up and keep members excited and interested in our region and its activities. A few new activities during the year will help to hold member's interest.

**Okay, you sold me on it, what's next?** Contact our Regional Executive, Jim Bucci ([hdjimbu@gmail](mailto:hdjimbu@gmail.com)) to get started. We aren't going to set you adrift to just figure things out on your own. Jim, as well as the other officers in the club, will always be available for questions and guidance.

If you think you might be interested but aren't quite sure, call or email RE Jim Bucci and you can talk more about it. Maybe you'd like to form an activities committee with a spouse or other member(s)? That would be okay too. More hands make lighter work

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

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# SOLO Report – Good News, No April Fool’n!

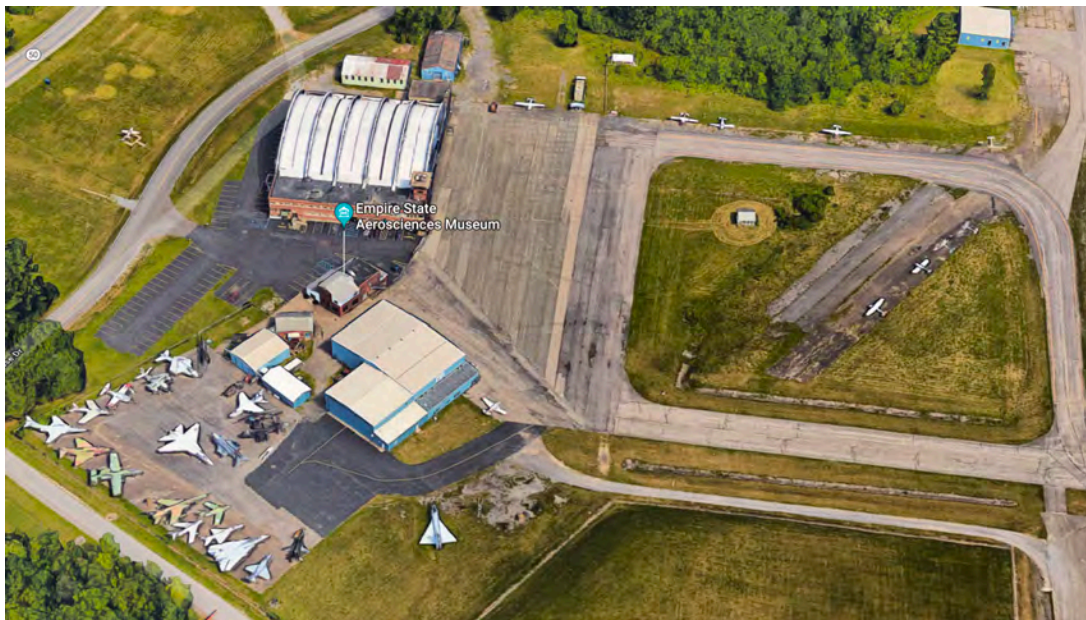
- Russ Burckhard

**Last month was a bummer.** As I was about to submit the 2018 schedule to the Knockoff, the McCarty Ave OGS lot was taken away from us and we were left without a season. But now I am happy to announce that we have a trial setup for a new site. The Empire State Aerosciences Museum has agreed to a one weekend deal to see how we operate. If everything goes well, we could go back for more.

A special *thanks* go out to Miguel Teixeira for making this happen.

## Tentative Schedule-

June 2-3	Empire State Aerosciences Museum	Test and Tune and Event 1
June 24	TBD	Event 2
July 14-15	TBD	Test and Tune and Event 3
Aug 12	TBD	Event 4
Sept 16	TBD	Event 5
Sept 30	TBD	Event 6



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## Club Racing

Jack Hanifan/Jim Bucci

**Congratulations to Evan Karl** on his podium finish in the debut of his new AEM/BK Motorsports Spec Miata at the recent *March Into Spring* event held at Virginia International Raceway.

**Reminder** to our club racing drivers that we have one more tech inspection opportunity:

Saturday, April 14, 12:00PM

North Country Subaru

616 Quaker Rd, Queensbury, NY

For those drivers that need a new logbook for their racecar, the price is now \$7.00

### Track Night in America

We again point out that SCCA's *Track Night in America Driven by Tire Rack* is a great opportunity to taste the fun of driving your car on a true race course. Several regional 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! A few of the many dates:

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>



Buckle in! Fire up! Get on the course!  
A new season is just beginning...

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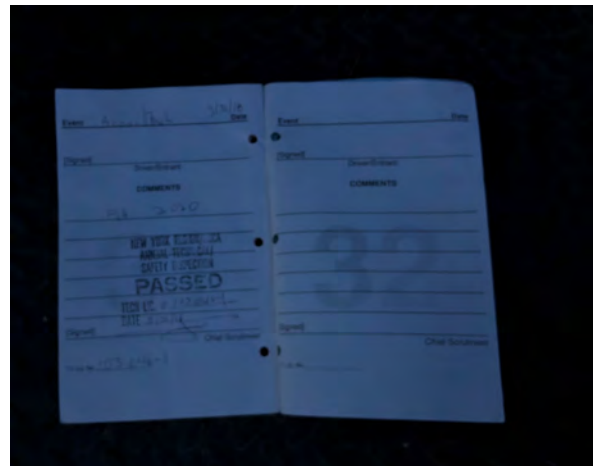
## Tech Party Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

Bob Karl's Shop, Troy... Richard Welty, Scrutineer

### **Annual Inspection**

*At or before the first event of the calendar year, all driver's safety equipment will be inspected by a licensed scrutineer. The scrutineer performing the inspection shall affix a dated, non-removable sticker or decal on the left side of helmets that comply with Section 9.3.20.C.2., to indicate that all driver's safety equipment has been inspected and is in compliance with this section.*

*-- 2018 SCCA General Competition Rules § 9.3.19(A.)*



**The annual tech inspection is a two-step process.** The first step is an inspection of the car to ascertain that the GCR technical requirements are met, and that common-sense safety requirements – based on the long experience of the scrutineer – are satisfied. The second step involves examination of driver gear to ascertain that it meets date and certification requirements (Snell, FIA, FIS) as well as being in good shape. The “diplomas” for success are a stamp in the official logbook and a sticker on the driver's helmet. Here, Dan Flynn's equipe gets a sticker and a stamp. But both are subject to spot re-examination during the year as part of SCCA's rigorous racing rules.



Steve Frederickl rolls out his immaculate new Improved Touring car



Old race cars never die they just get new drivers

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## Tech Party cont'd



Ron Bass' Formula V also seems to have been inspected by TSA



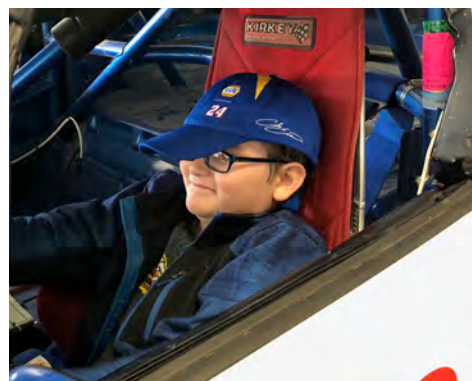
Eenie, meenie, moe, three Miatas in a row



2018 racers discuss the 2019 class changes (see the April 1<sup>st</sup> KO)



Forget that stork story; this is how race cars are born



Young NASCAR fan Anthony Roberts gets a new perspective

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## Membership Report

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

**As of March 20th**, our member ranks stand at 416. This is down 10 from last month's report. Since that last report we lost 42 former Street Survival students whose free membership expired after a year (actually more than a year but the National Membership Department was late in deleting them). However we gained 32 since March 1st of this year with new sign ups for the upcoming Street Survival School (for which we need more instructors! Contact Ron Bass at [m3apx@aol.com](mailto:m3apx@aol.com) if you're interested).

### Significant Anniversaries

Randall Salisbury - 5 years  
Christopher Brassard - 10 years  
Susan Butcher - 15 years



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## February Board of Directors Meeting

*Ron Bass*

February 26<sup>th</sup>, Orchard Tavern- 7:30pm

**Jack Hanifan** has resigned as Activities Director. The Board gives its thanks to Jack. We need to seek out a member to replace him. We would like to offer new activities for the members. Jack will continue as Club Racing Chairperson.

**Solo Program** - a letter was sent to Russ from the State advising that the OGS parking lot was no longer available to the Chapter for its solo events. No specific reason was provided. New solo sites are being searched out.

**Budget** - Jim requested the Board give some thought/consideration on how to reduce Chapter expenses, especially given the pending loss of the solo program and the associated income.

**ByLaws** - the proposed by laws are patterned after the National by laws. Jim indicated that we need to consider adding elected officer term limits to the by laws. If we adopt term limits, we should consider including a "safety valve" in the event that no other member chooses to run for a vacant position. Options include having the Board designate a member who will fill the vacant position. Other proposed by laws provisions included: sales tax exempt status, responsibilities of Activities Director (Race Chair, Solo Chair, etc.).

**Treasurers Report** - previous month's income/resources reviewed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.



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# Mo-Hud Officers and Contacts

**Regional Executive (RE)**

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

**Director**

Dick Stewart [stewartco@aol.com](mailto:stewartco@aol.com)

**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...

- The First VW in the US

... and now you know the real story.



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**The Seneca Army Depot/ Sampson Naval Training Station airstrip** is slated to be the site of an SCCA Solo Championship event June 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>. While lots of MoHuders are already planning a mass migration and campout, we suspect that few know that Sampson was the site of a milestone in Volkswagen history.

The official story line is that the first VWs (two of them) were imported into the US in 1949.

Wrong! Fact is that the first VW came through Sampson in November of 1944, some five years earlier. At that time Sampson was a Naval Training Station, serving as the primary training base for recruits from the Northeast.

The December 1960 Road & Track carried a feature article indicating the first VW "imported" to the US was a complete running '43 Kubelwagen, brought here in November 1944, following its capture from an enemy supply depot in Italy. Following its capture in the Naples area, it was stowed on a supply freighter coming back to the US by an unnamed Navy Supply Corps lieutenant who had bartered – probably several cases of cigarettes -- for it. The VW landed in Staten Island at the US Naval Frontier Base, where it sat unclaimed for weeks, finally added to a war material inventory by a Lieutenant Kogel.

Shortly thereafter this Stateside lieutenant (Kogel), stewarding the Kubel, reversed its status as war material and through some paperwork shuffle gave it to another military friend named A.S. Kramer, who was posted at the military training center in Sampson, NY. To avoid questions from nose higher-ups, it was shipped the 350 miles up to Sampson inside a large service truck. Thereafter it was put on service duty at the base and took part in at least one war-bond parade in nearby Geneva. It was carried in inventory as: "Volkswagen-USN 8669 NTS, complete with 4 USN 600x16 tires, 1 German 5.25 x 16, Type 82, Year 1943, Engine # 685, Serial# 2-019591, 1 USN Willard Battery."

By happenstance, the father of the lieutenant that had originally stowed the Kubel on the supply freighter was a fire chief stationed in Sampson; he recognized the Kubel based on his son's description of it and some work his son had done to fix it up for transit. Thereafter, through another paperwork shuffle, the Kubel ended up being given back to the family of that first lieutenant. Its last known residence is somewhere in upstate New York.

If the car shows up on June 8<sup>th</sup> for the SCCA Solo events, it might be eligible to run in H Street (HS, PAX of .781), and certainly in Heritage Classic Street (HCS, PAX of .791).