

The Mo-Hud

Knockoff



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

The REport

May 2018

SCCA by the Numbers

The home office reports the following 2017 participant numbers:

Solo	75,248
Road racing	29,111
Track Night in America	7,484
Road rally/rallycross	6,667
Street Survival	1,300



Read any good books lately?

I have. It's called *Fast Lines* written by Pete Lyons.

Fast Lines is a collection of 55 of Pete's monthly columns of that name, which were originally published in *Vintage Racer Magazine* between 1998 and 2011. The book includes looks at cars and racers who competed in the 1960s and 1970s. Check it out.



www.petelyons.com



Find your passion

Check out the article in this month's KO written by Assistant RE, Eric Smith, about his experience flagging at the SCCA Runoffs last fall. It is an excellent example of finding one's passion within our sport.

For the good of the sport,
Jim Bucci
Regional Executive

Coming Events: May and...

- **May 2:** 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
- **May 3:** Thursday. Track Night in America Driven by Tire Rack; Palmer Motorsports Park, Ware, MA. More Below...
- **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. MoHud will be there.
- **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 26th.

You and Your Car.
4 Awesome Tracks.
18 Grin-inducing Events.
More #FunWithCars



The *fastest* way to get on track is coming to:

	May 24 June 14		May 25 August 3
	May 3		April 24
	June 5		May 15
	June 28		June 19
	July 17		July 5
	August 9		July 24
September 6	August 14	September 18	October 4

Come play!



www.TrackNightInAmerica.com

The First-ever MoHud Tool Raffle

Through the generosity of Astro Pneumatic and Jim Garry, MoHuders will have the chance to add a useful tool to their workshop if they are lucky ticket holders in the first-ever MoHud Tool Raffle.

The prize:

An Astro 40SLMAX rechargeable LED slim light with XL battery. (a \$60 value).



Tickets:

Tickets will be \$1 each, 3 for \$5. Available at the May and June membership meeting as well as the June 2nd and 3rd Solo Autocross sessions. Drawing to be held at the close of the June 3rd Solo Event #1.

Club Racing

Jack Hanifan/Jim Bucci

By the time you read this, the competition season in the northeast will be in full swing. The Hoosier SuperTour kicked off the 2018 Northeast Majors Tour at Virginia International Raceway on the weekend of April 14-15. While the same weekend saw and the first round of the Northeast Division Road Racing Championship running at Summit Point. Best of luck to all drivers in the upcoming season.

MoHuders at the VIR SuperTour included Evan Karl and Charlie Campbell in Spec Miata; Jeffrey Lehner, Chris Brassard, Patrick Stringers in SpecRacerFord (3rdGen); and Charlie Campbell in E-Production. Modest finishes were the rule, but when you consider how many high-placers from last Falls *Runoffs* were there, it was a good outing for almost all...next month's Campbell Racing Report will expand on that last phrase.

Among the wet and wild doings at Road Atlanta over the April 21st weekend, Yuven Sundaramoorthy got on the podium at least once (3rd) in his K-Hill Motorsports F1600. "Was a good weekend. Did well despite the lack of results..." he noted on FaceBook.

Tech Party Two: Saturday, April 14th

North Country Subaru... Richard Welty, Scrutineering...



So, is Lendrum going to race all of these?



Dave Cowe appreciates Welty humor,
Bill Bennet is not so Sure



Pizza is teched according to
Appendix P of the GCR

Tech Party Two: II



EJ, Bill Dergosits, and Maclin Norray having a good time,
Harry Adalian trying to avoid paparazzi



Bill Dergosits' B-Spec Mazda 2; think 1968 Alpha Romeo Carabo, only more drivable...

While the Carabo's color was an iridescent green based on the Scarabaeus beetle,
the Mazda's color is referred to as Wasabi green. Natch.

Membership Report

Our membership stands at 407 as of 4/24/18, continuing our 10-month slide from mid-spring last year when we hit an all-time high of 580 members. Despite studying the database and looking at tables of information, I cannot come to any certain conclusions as to why this has happened. What has happened is that we are not retaining new and recently new members at the same rate. I'll do my best to find time to reach out to these folks.

If anyone would like to help, please contact me at mhr.membership@gmail.com. For lots of tables and graphs, take a look at the Membership Report in the January 2018 edition of the Knock Off, <http://www.mohud-scca.org/ko/2018JanKO.pdf>.

New members between March 24th and April 18

Brian Borie	Queensbury	Interest: Solo & Rally
Joseph Brewster	Highland	Interest: Solo & Club Racing
Brian Fish	Altamont	Interest: Solo
Nicholas Cattell	Schenectady	Interest: Solo

Welcome and please come out to our autocrosses. Our first one of the season is a school/test and tune on June 2nd followed by a regular event the next day. The location is the Empire State Aerosciences Museum, 250 Rudy Chase Dr, Glenville, NY.

Significant Anniversaries

FIVE YEARS

Jason Krystek
Jonathan Eriksen

TEN YEARS

Ray Tetrault
Susan Campbell
Jon Staude

FORTY FIVE YEARS

Connie McIntyre

Congratulations Connie ,and thank you for all of your incredible efforts over the years. Connie is 8th in seniority of MoHud's members.

And congratulations to all of you!

- Jim Garry



Board of Directors Meeting, March 26, 2018

Orchard Tavern, Albany, New York; Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Solo - A new site has been secured, the Empire State Aerosciences Museum. First event will be ~~Saturday, April 21 with a Test and Tune. Solo race will be Sunday April 22.~~ We're tentatively scheduled for seven events. The Museum is proposing that we join the Museum as an active member. The SCCA van does not need any special work done on it at this time.

Jack Hanifan has resigned as Activities Director. We will be reaching out to the membership to solicit interest for a replacement. Alternatively, Jim suggested that the Chapter form an Activities Committee to develop proposals.

Treasurer - Paul Malecki summarized previous month's income and expenses.

Chapter Officers - Jim Bucci is requesting that Officers prepare job descriptions for their position. Jim also suggested that Officers begin to think about succession planning, including having an interested member "shadow" them and perhaps "deputize" them to show them the position functions.

Raffle - Jim Garry has three tools that he will donate to the Chapter for a raffle. Total value for all three items is approximately \$200. Tickets will be offered to the general membership and solo attendees.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 am

- Ron Bass

Scarabaeus Verde



If you were around when the Alfa Romeo Carabo was introduced in 1968, you'll remember the shock of color and the shape that Marcello Gandini 's design for Bertone sent through the automotive design world. Derivative designs from other car manufacturers followed in such profusion that we now call the late'60s the "Wedge Era." Practical? Probably not. Piece of sculpture? Oh yes.

So now you "get" the comment on page 5.

Formula SAE- A Mix of TRSS, Autocross, Club Racing, and Your Hardest Math Exam

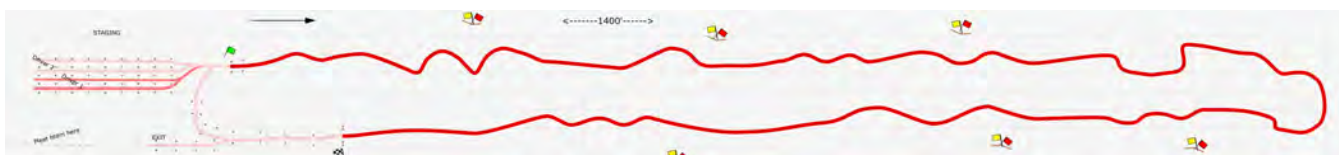


Once again, RPI will be sending a team to the annual Formula SAE competition at Michigan International Speedway, to be held this year from May 9th through the 12th. Competing in 2018 will be 118 technical college teams from 11 countries.

"The concept behind Formula SAE is that a fictional manufacturing company has contracted a design team to develop a small Formula-style racecar. The prototype racecar is to be evaluated for its potential as a production item. The target marketing group for the racecar is the non-professional weekend autocross racer. Each student team designs, builds and tests a prototype based on a series of rules whose purpose is both to ensure onsite event operations and promote clever problem solving." (SAE)

The on-course portions of the competition include skid pad, autocross slalom and endurance events. For full details, search online for "Formula SAE 2018."

RPI's 2018 car looks impressive. Follow them on Facebook at < @RPIFSAE > to see the build process and at least one video of the car in action.



The Autocross Course: more than a half-mile of fun

General Membership Meeting Minutes, April 4, 2018

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

Minutes of last month's membership meeting approved unanimously.

Treasurer - previous month's income and expenses were summarized.

Membership - new member's attending the meeting were introduced to the attendees. The Chapter currently has 401 members. This is the lowest membership level we've had in the last couple of years. Significant membership anniversaries were provided.

Solo - a new site has been found, the Schenectady Aeroscience Museum. June 2 and 3 is the first event for the year. Six solo events are scheduled for the 2018 season - dates will be published in the Knock Off.

Street Survival - is scheduled for Sunday, April 15 at the Saratoga Auto Museum. The school is sold out with 20 students. A couple more instructors are needed as well as support staff for set up and tear down. (*Note: Cancelled; ice storm*)

Activities - we are looking for a volunteer to chair the Activities committee. Please contact Jim Bucci for more info or if you're interested in helping.

Knock Off - reminder that submission deadline is the 15th of each month.

Club Racing - Majors is scheduled at VIR April 14/15. A number of Mo Hud members will be participating.

Old Business - proposed draft Bylaws should be ready to be presented at the next Board meeting. Saratoga Auto Museum Car Show is Sunday May 20. Mo Hud will be showcasing cars. Eric Smith is coordinating. Please contact Eric if you would like to bring your car. Tech Party was at Bob Karls this past weekend.

New Business - Race Worker Report - Rich Alexander reported on the Majors race at Road Atlanta he recently attended. Evan Karl is running well and extremely competitive. July 14/15 - Formula E race in Brooklyn NY needs flaggers. Rich will be working the race and will assist anyone who wants to learn more and possibly get involved with flagging. "On the job" training is available. Food and lodging will be provided. Track Night in America will be at Thompson, April 24.

Arn Beebe won the door prize of an LED flashlight in the evening's random drawing from the Jaguar Heritage Hubcap.

Meeting adjourned - 8:05 pm.

- Ron Bass -

KnockOff Editorial Staff Disiderata

Digitizing Old KnockOffs

Mohud's brass hats (shouldn't it be brass helmets?) are in the process of digitizing ancient issues of the KnockOff. While a fairly comprehensive set is in hand, if you have a run of early ones from say, the '50's and '60s, send an e-mail to Jim Bucci, EJ Smith or the Editor (addresses on next page). Once digitized, the old issues will be available in the clubhouse library (see the April 1st KO for details).

Pete Lyons and His Dad Ozzie

Jim Bucci's REport for this month plugs Pete Lyons' book *Fast Lines*; it's a good read, although it's best perused in small doses - the better to savor each short chapter (3-4 pages each.)

What with the KO staff being inquisitive, one thing led to another. First, it appears that Pete's GE engineer Dad, Ozzie, must have known the five founders of MoHud even if he wasn't an early member. Second, Ozzie's B&W photo of a dirt-track racer c.1938 at the Altamont fairgrounds is a stunner when printed on aluminum (24" x 16"), and no more more expensive than dinner for two at any trendy place in Manhattan or Brooklyn. Go to < <https://www.petelyons.com/> > and buy something; it will make you and Pete very happy.

Ward v. Stewart- Settlement without Closure

The Ward v. Stewart case involving the Canandaigua racing fatality incident back 2014 has been settled on the eve of trial. If anyone is interested in commentary why settlement was pretty much a given, and what may or may not be the legal implications, send an e-mail to the KO editor. You'll receive an op-ed piece that speculates on the "real reasons" why neither side wanted to go to trial - not the reasons they gave the media.

Good Material Always Wanted

The KO staff is always looking for good articles written by MoHuders, such as EJ's in the Journal this month. If members don't submit stuff, KO readers will be forced to put up with articles penned by the Editor. Fair warning!

What is especially appreciated are photos that illustrate the subject, but have not been splashed all over the MoHud FaceBook page. The KO is a publication of record; FaceBook is fleeting, a will-o'-the wisp.

Enzo Ferrai was Wrong

He reputedly said that the 1961 Jaguar E-Type roadster was the most beautiful car ever produced. He spoke too soon. The most beautiful car ever produced was the 2005 Jaguar XK8 coupe. Your 1936 Delahaye with cabriolet body by Figonifalasci (p.6) does not count, as strictly speaking it was not a "production" car.



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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 1st 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...

- EJ on Flagging and the Runoffs



Flagging and the Runoffs

Eds Note: Corner Workers - no not that kind (!) - have several specialties within the overall mission of being the trackside communicators between Race Control and racers. One such specialty is "Flagging," as recounted here by our own E. J. Smith.

My entry into flagging started pretty innocently back in 2009. I had just come back from another track event at Calabogie Motorsports Park in Calabogie, Ontario, Canada, and had noticed while circling the track (avoid tunnel vision while driving so you see the flaggers!) there were a pair of flaggers at Turn 3 that didn't seem to be doing what I thought they should be doing: instead of both of them watching the cars that were coming at them, they seemed to be facing each other and chatting. Why weren't they paying better attention to us drivers??? I knew some flaggers, so the next time I saw them I decided to ask about this behavior and see what they thought...

I approached Rich Alexander, the MoHud flag chief, at the next MoHud membership meeting and asked him about what I observed. Rich explained this was the traditional positioning of a two-person flagger team: one flagger, the "blue" flagger, watches cars approaching the flag station, and the other flagger, the "yellow" flagger, watches the cars as they drive away from the flag station; this ensures a flagger can react with a yellow or other appropriate flag if a car becomes disabled, leaves the track surface, or spins on track, all before the next flag station. The blue flagger can move the yellow flagger out of the way if anything gets too close to the station. As Rich continued his description, I began to understand that the flaggers at Calabogie were actually doing a great job, and whether they were discussing how sweet my blue Mitsubishi Evo sounded or where they were going for dinner at the end of the day, they had our safety covered. This is when Rich went in for the kill: "Why don't you come out sometime and try flagging so you can see what it's all about?" I'm always up for an adventure, especially if it involves motorsports, so I agreed to come out.

Fast forward through my first event at a MoHud Road Race at Lime Rock Park, and despite the hurricane remnants that did their best to drown my "flagging spirits" and the racers, I was hooked. Now skip over another 8 seasons of flagging SCCA Road Racing, various pro race series at Lime Rock and at Sebring International Raceway, and we arrive at the next motorsports adventure: the 2017 SCCA Road Racing Runoffs at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

>>>

EJ on Flagging. cont'd...

The Runoffs promised excitement on several levels: a chance to flag with fellow SCCA members from not just across NEDiv, but from across the country; a chance to be part of one of the biggest amateur road racing events in the world, and to witness an event which promised to draw a record turnout that was drawn by the bucket list venue itself, Indy! Over 1,000 entrants were eager to put that track feather in their cap, and the size of the fields promised to dwarf those that a flagger would see at any regional race.

Peter Kroth, Rich Alexander, and I drove out together the Saturday before the Runoffs, and that in itself was a very entertaining time. If anyone knows Rich, he loves music, and has a great collection of humorous, weird, Dr. Demento-worthy music. As Pete and I have warped senses of humor too, Rich put his collection on heavy rotation and the miles flew by. We did an overnight somewhere in Ohio, and then pushed on the next day to arrive on the Sunday before the start of Runoffs week. Rich and I stayed in a rented house with two other flagger friends from the East Coast, and Pete stayed with former MoHud flag chief Bryan Deane, who is now an Indy Region member. We all called it an early night as, having been through big events before, the days start early and run long when you're trying to push a lot of cars through tightly scheduled sessions on track.

The event itself was a blur of hard work, early mornings, great racing action, lots of new acquaintances, a good dose of laughs, and much satisfaction at putting another successful racing day to bed at the end of each day. Ever witnessed 72 Spec Racer Fords on course at once? I can now say I have, and it was crazy! Ever witnessed a Spec Miata race with 72 cars and little carnage? Again, I have and that was a first. I think my largest SCCA run group I had flagged prior to this event was 43 at Lime Rock. At this event, 43 was one of the smallest run groups, and groups had no more than 2-3 classes mixed. Many groups had enough entries to have a whole race group to themselves, a rarity at the regional level.

The rest of the story in pictures.



Sunday before the start of the Runoffs: When you visit Indy, you need to take the opportunity to kiss the bricks. Pro tip: wear a brimmed hat so you can hide the fact you aren't actually putting your lips in contact with the dirty bricks! >>>

EJ at the Runoffs. cont'd...



Indy Speedway Hall of Fame: It's a must-see when you visit. AJ Foyt was the honoree of their exhibit during the Runoffs, and it was an incredible collection. We spent 3 hours touring and basically ran through. I have many, many pictures of the cars and exhibits available at:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/xGXau5ajmIpy9gMT2>



They say the cars that imprint on you are from your teens: behold one of mine. AJ Foyt's bltchin' Camaro from the IROC series, which I'd drive out of there in a heartbeat

EJ at the Runoffs. cont'd...



Monday, start of the Runoffs:
Flagger meetings sometimes happen at Oh-dark-thirty, or maybe it was 6:30am.



Once it got light, or maybe it was at the weekend of the event when the crowning races happen, we realized that several former and current MoHud members were in attendance.

From l to r: the author (EJ), Bryan Deane, Rich Alexander, Leigh McBride, Mack McCormack, and Pete Kroth.

EJ at the Runoffs. cont'd...

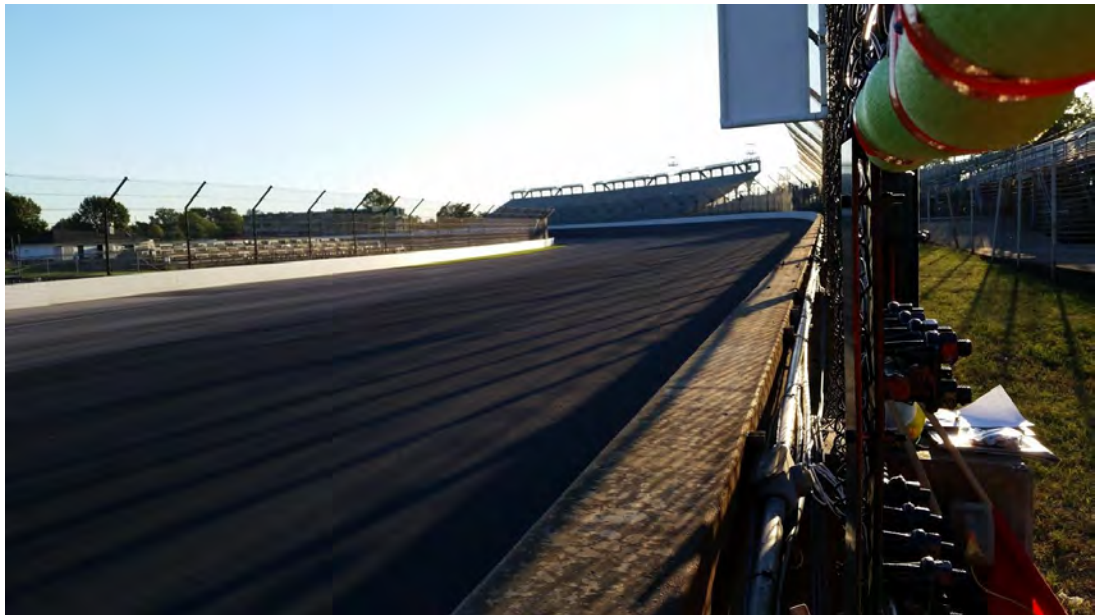
One of my early stations of the week: Station 14, at the end of the road course onto the front straight. Flagging through a gun slit in the fence is never easy, but it was fun to watch the cars come out of grid across the way, and I had the pleasure of working with F&C Worker of the Year, Tiffany Stiller of Milwaukee Region, who was crowned later in the week.



CBS Sports Network covered the event and broadcast all races this past December.

If there's TV coverage and I'm the yellow flagger, I'm a camera magnet during full course yellows (FCY). Working Station 5A, with the famous Tom Fanning (back to camera) of New England Region.

EJ at the Runoffs. cont'd...



(Top) EJ's on yellows at Station 12? Time for a full course yellow. Just in front of me is Dan Hoffman from New England Region, a regular at most of our local NEDiv races. Dan and I got to work together earlier in the week at Turn 2.

(Bottom) The view from Station 12, uptrack. Cars would hug our wall so tightly you could tap the car on the roof, or the driver on their helmet, with your flag stick. I suffered a wad of rubber flung at me by a passing American Sedan car, bouncing off my hat brim and head, that broke skin.

We broke out a woodworker face shield we had brought to protect the blue flagger after that incident!

EJ at the Runoffs. cont'd...



While there were some elaborate rigs and setups of entrants at the Runoffs, this by far was the most humble setup I witnessed. Grassroots racing at its core. He didn't even park in the paddock, setting up in the flagger parking instead. It probably saved him a few more bucks.



Fellow MoHud member and Runoff entrant Jared Lendrum's paddock spot was a bit more mainstream.

EJ at the Runoffs. cont'd...



When parts come off cars, sometimes the flaggers are asked to collect them during a break.

Here a Formula car decided to shed its front wing during racing action, for our entertainment and the driver's chagrin.

EJ at the Runoffs...wrapping up



Wandering in downtown Speedway, IN - where the track is located - you can find some very interesting storefronts

To this day, I always wish I had discovered MoHud and SCCA much earlier than I did, and I wish I had known how much fun flagging was back when I first moved to the Capital District and looking for things to do.

I would urge any motorsports enthusiast to give volunteering a try at a race in any capacity and see if you can find a passion, too.

For my complete set of Runoffs and Indy pictures, please visit <https://photos.app.goo.gl/xGXau5ajmIpy9gMT2>

For more information on SCCA road racing volunteer opportunities, see this great writeup hosted by NER: <http://www.ner.org/race-volunteer/ways-to-get-involved/>

For another volunteer overview, please visit Northeast Racer's "Best Seat In The House" article <http://www.northeastracer.com/assets/03%2018%20bestseatinhouse.html>

- *EJ Smith*

- *MoHud Asst. RE, Solo T&S Chief, Webmaster, and F&C volunteer*