

The Mo-Hud

# Knockoff



Newsletter of the Mohawk-Hudson Region, Sports Car Club of America

March 2019

## The REport

### SCCA North East Division MiniCon

The NeDiv Mini-Con pulled together SCCA competitors, crew, administrators and other members from throughout the Northeast. We gathered to train new stewards, discuss programs, provide relevant content and presentations across different programs, present divisional awards and, of course, socialize and have some fun outside of a competition weekend.

### Special presenter: Roger Johnson

For anyone with an interest in Solo course design, Roger's presentation at this year's divisional convention was a must-see. When it comes to any autocross event, the course defines the experience more than any other part of the event... and when it comes to course design, Roger Johnson is the Guru. He joined us at the NEDiv Convention for a two-hour session on course design! In addition, MoHud's own Jim Garry conducted a session for those interested in getting their Solo safety steward license.

The sessions list for the mini-con was absolutely stacked with information across all programs - Solo, RallyCross, Road Racing, Time Trials, Street Survival, Road Rally and Hillclimb. In addition, the host region set up some important sessions for region administration and leadership. There was truly something for everyone.

### Award winners

Congratulations to Kathy Barnes, 2019 recipient the Brian Holtz Memorial Award. It is the Northeast Division's highest award and is presented for exceptional leadership and significant contributions to the Northeast Division of the Sports Car Club of America. Congratulations also, to Linda Mosley, North East Division Worker of the Year.

### NEDiv council

All NEDiv executive council members, including yours truly, were re-elected to another term.

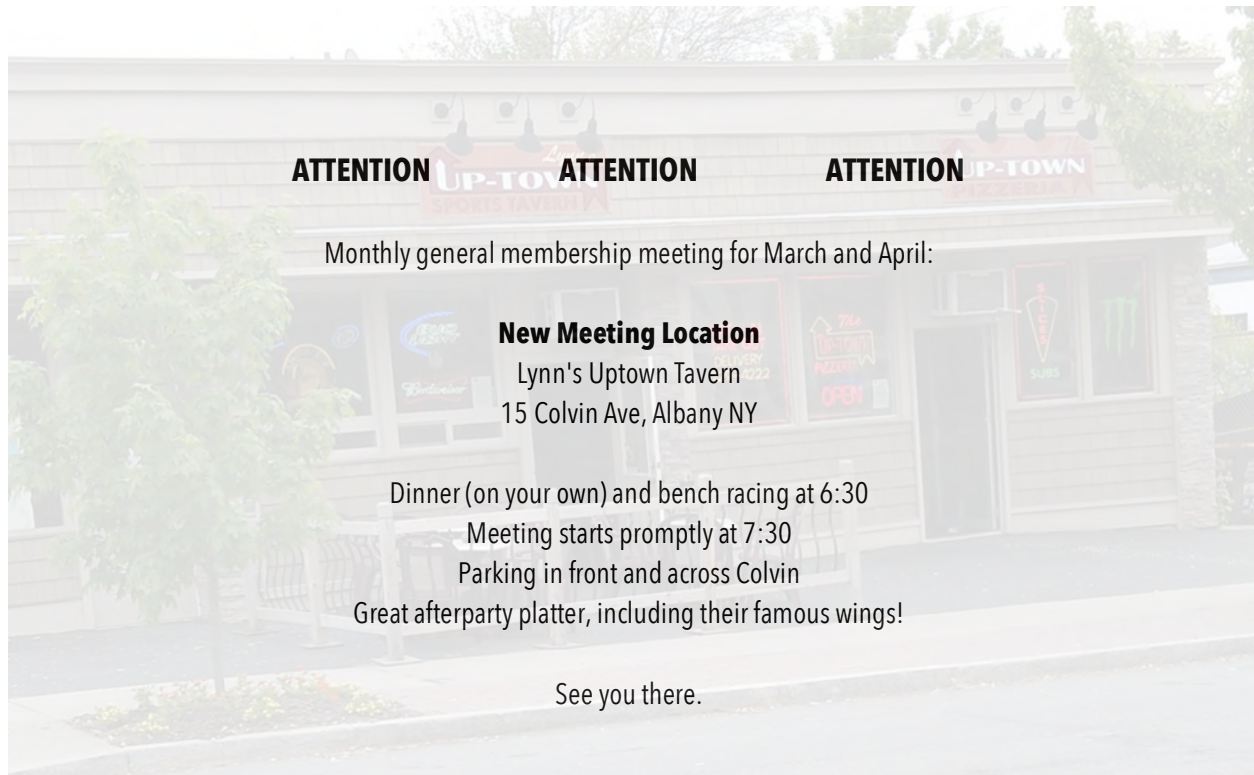
2.0 LITRE STRAIGHT EIGHT  
SUPERCHARGED WITH SINGLE  
OVERHEAD CAMSHAFT AND  
THREE VALVES PER CYLINDER  
2 INLET AND 1 EXHAUST  
ROTOR CAM RIDGER IS KEAR  
DRIVEN FROM THE FRONT OF THE  
CAMSHAFT. THE ENGINE  
PRODUCING 135 BHP AT 5300 RPM

For the good of the sport,  
*Jim Bucci*  
Regional Executive

---

## Coming Events: March and...

- **March 6:** Wednesday, 7:30pm. MoHud Membership Meeting. Lynn's Uptown Tavern, 15 Colvin Avenue, Albany.
- **Through March 24:** VSCCA- Celebrating 60 years of racing vintage sports cars. Saratoga Automobile Museum, 110 Avenue of the Pines, Saratoga. < <http://www.saratogaautomuseum.org> >
- **March 30:** Saturday. Tech Party. 9am- 'til. North Country Subaru, 616 Quaker Rd, Queensbury.  
Preseason Club Racing tech inspection. Spectate even if you aren't racing yet; see something, meet someone.
- **April; 6:** Saturday. Tech Party. 9am- 'til. Bob Karl's, 2791 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Troy.
- **April 28:** Sunday, 8am to 5pm. Street Survival School at Saratoga Automobile Museum/ SPAC. Register as an instructor via < [motorsports.reg](http://motorsports.reg) > You'll come away with a good feeling after helping teens learn how to handle their cars in the real world of driving on the street.
- **July 5-6:** Friday – Saturday. SCCA/NER/CART Time Trials. Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park; Thompson, Connecticut.



---

# Road Racing Report

*Jack Hanifan/Jim Bucci*

## NEDRRC

The NEDRRC (Northeast Division Road Racing Championship) schedule starts in April. This series starts its sixth year, at Summit Point, on April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. The series is open to all twenty- eight SCCA recognized classes plus several others like Club Ford, Club Continental, all IT classes and more. You can find all the classes and rules on the NeDiv.com web site. Or you can contact NeDiv and NEDRRC chairman, Chris Mosley at cmosley1@optonline.net for more info.

Here is the 2019 NEDRRC schedule:

April 6/7 - Summit Point, WV  
May 4/5 - Palmer, Mass  
June 14/15 - Lime Rock, Conn (Fri/Sat)  
July 6/7 - Watkins Glen, NY  
Aug 10/11 - NJMP, NJ  
Sept 21/22 - Watkins Glen, NY (The Fun One)  
Oct 4/5 - Thompson, Conn (Fri/Sat)  
Oct 26/27 - PIRC, Pa



---

## Time For Tech

### MoHud SCCA Tech Party North

**Saturday March 30 12:00-3:00**

North Country Subaru  
616 Quaker Rd  
Queensbury, NY

Jared says....*"We are having our annual SCCA tech inspection party on March 30. Bring your SCCA race car and get your annual inspection done before the racing starts. We're having pizza! Guests are always welcome."*

### MoHud Technical Inspection and Picnic

**Saturday April 6 12:00-3:00**

Bob Karl's Sales and Service  
2791 6<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Troy, NY

Jim says....*"Come over to Bob Karl's. Enjoy some bench racing and great spring weather. Grab a burger or a 'dog and have your SCCA road racing car inspected for the upcoming season. Sunshine is guaranteed!"*

---

## Road Racing Bits



### Racing Drivers School

April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at Thompson. Got to have a car, log book and novice competition permit. At least two MoHuders plan to go. Got to < motorsportsreg.com > for more.

### What, your SCCA Comp license isn't good enough to cruise the Northway?

Yuven Sundaramoorthy has taken time out from Formula 2000 practice with Pabst Racing to get a NY learner's permit! Parallel parking got to be a challenge.

### Crossover Racers

So far, the Adirondack Motor Enthusiasts club has only been able to run two ice-racing events this year. We see Dave Burnham has run in his yellow thing. We might have missed some other MoHudders in the online results.

### RPI SAE Challenge Team

Dyson Racing's Poughkeepsie shop has become a significant donor to the RPI.

---

## Time Trials: Mark Your Calendar

By now you've been excited about Time Trials by Aashish Vemulapalli's reports after his experience last Fall (more in his MiniCon report). So get ready to participate in your car on July 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at Thompson Speedway.

To summarize Time Trials, the event is a mixture of timed laps and timed segments on a road course. Sort of a mixture of Autocross and Track Day at speed, conducted over two days. This is the "hot" area of interest with SCCA membership right now, and the national program will underwrite any losses regions might incur in this "first" season; regions will be able to keep any modest profits.

The July event will see MoHud as a co-sponsoring region, so even if you are not planning to run, your help as a worker will be appreciated by all.

To keep with the rules and keep current with what is happening, go to: < <https://timetrials.scca.com>>.

---

# SCCA National Convention

*Jim and Trish Bucci*

South Point Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV, January 17-19, 2019



## **In 2019 the Sports Car Club of America will be celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**

The theme for this this year's convention was "*Celebrating our Legacy- Building our Future*". Things kicked off with the annual meeting and welcome party Thursday evening, followed by almost 100 Leadership Summit seminars and breakout sessions led by some of the best and brightest leaders across Friday and Saturday. The convention culminated Saturday night with the SCCA Hall of Fame induction and awards banquet. All 3 days were intentionally designed to provide those in attendance with learning, networking, and fellowship opportunities focused on building our collective future for the next 75 years.

Keeping with the convention theme of *Celebrating our Legacy- Building our Future*, SCCA President/CEO Mike Cobb shed the connection between our past and our future and how we'll get there together. He included a "first look" at the new member portal.

Friday's awards luncheon presented awards for Solo rookie and Solo driver of the year, along with various regional and divisional awards.

Friday's seminars included *Marketing & Communications 101* presented by Heywood Wagner. He talked about the basic tools regions need to promote themselves, their events, and their programs. The session introduced social media, email, and websites as marketing devices and gave baseline advice on when to use each and for what cause.

A highlight of Saturday's seminars was a session led by Jeff Luckritz called *The Power of a Positive Team*. He spoke of how to bring members in your region together to create a great team and how to make your members feel more committed and connected to regional activities and events.



L. CEO Mike Cobb welcomes the delegates.



R. Jim and Trish get into the "Fun With Cars" spirit.

---

## Notes from the 2019 NEDiv MiniCon *Aashish Vemulapalli*

**I learned a few things** on a recent Saturday. Driven to achieve their vision to be the preferred motorsports community, the SCCA has received positive feedback to the question of “would you recommend to friends”, that starts at 78% for one of the programs to 100% for road rally. Time Trials is in second place at 98 percent.

Further, for a mid-sized club like ours with no local race track (Lime Rock is 70 miles away), we have an active list of programs from solo, and club racing to the end of season road rally with our members supporting the SCCA in various capacities and wearing several hats - competitor and volunteer. We have administrators, tech scrutineers, flagging and communication volunteers all of whom also compete and volunteer their time in the administration of our club. Some clubs I observed, did not seem to have the depth in membership that we at Mohawk Hudson possess. I think this is a matter of pride for all of us as well as a testament to how much our members live and breathe the values of the SCCA. I have no doubt that if we polled locally, we'd get a 100 percent yes to the question the National office asked.

These realizations came from attending the 2019 Northeast Division MiniCon in Harrisburg, PA. I reached out to Jim Bucci about what I should expect, and his response was simple - to just observe the workings of the SCCA at the Regional Level and then to gather information about the Time Trials Program as well as attend the Solo related discussions.

The conference was a full day and packed full of sessions. Our gracious hosts were the Susquehanna Region SCCA and they did a great job of organizing and staffing the event and making us feel welcome. From MoHud, we had Tom Campbell, Jim and Trish Bucci, Jim Garry, who was also presenting and yours truly who while bleary eyed, walked in with an open mind fueled by caffeine.

With plenty of interesting sessions to choose from, I decided I had to make a decision and identify the topics that I was interested in and that could have a benefit for the club. I reasoned, that Jim would possibly be attending the discussions related to solo, while Mr. and Mrs. Bucci would attend the leadership related topics. I therefore decided to focus on attending the Solo Safety Steward Training as well as sessions presented by Chris Robbins, Director of Regional Development and Jon Krolewicz, Time Trials National Program Manager.

The first session was Solo Safety Steward Training and Jim Garry did a terrific job in presenting what is a rather dry subject. He interspersed his experiences and made sure we had time for a good Q&A session that made the first hour fly. I then attended the SCCA Track Events town hall discussion conducted by Jon Krolewicz. During this session, we learned about the growth of the TNiA program that has doubled since the year it started and is expected to grow further this season. We also learned of the plan for the Time Trials National Tour events (Pitt Race is coming up and Thompson is the weekend of July 4th) and how the National Office plans to run these events with the goal of driving membership to regions and helping them to run similar events going forward by establishing interest among participants and by having a ready template that regions can follow.

>>>

---

**I then attended the session for Improving the Member Experience**, and in addition to learning about the statistics at the beginning, learned how regions could do a lot more in terms of outreach. It struck me that we already were doing some of this, with how Russ pulled in members like Rey Waxali who in turn brought many more recruits that became converts in our solo program. We don't have a formal program, but we have members that mentor novices at our solo events and thanks to Bruce Kosakoski, we have Safety Stewards that are friendly. The gist of this session was that each one of us has an ownership stake in improving the member experience even as we are competing at an event. We should be actively engaged in ensuring that we adhere to the goals of the event, keep it safe for all and contribute to the success of the event. This is what makes members come back and will keep MoHud active for years to come.

Following this session, I attended a session for Marketing and MotorsportReg. This was presented by Kristen Poole and Melissa Mauro who were the RE and Assistant RE for the Susquehanna region and Jon Krolewicz. During this session I asked questions about how the Susquehanna region utilizes MotorsportReg and have a question in to Kristen Poole, to see if they can share their practices and templates with us towards helping us set up MSR for solo registration.

The final session that I attended was the SCCA Time Trials presented again by Jon Krolewicz. Jon talked about the Time Trials program and it was interesting to learn that there were more drivers competing at Time Trials Nationals than there were at the national championship for another sanctioning body that is perceived as the leader in Time Trials. The National Office plans to get regions involved in the execution of Time Trials events in the years following and is willing to share any profit while absorbing losses in the years to come. For those of us in the Northeast, there is the Time Trials National Tour event that will be held at Thompson on July 5th and 6th. This is a great opportunity to get your feet wet and experience this exciting new program. Run groups will be based on experience with each group working with a coach and I sincerely hope that several MoHud members will consider attending. There is also the Time Trials event at Pitt Race at the end of April for those that want to venture out sooner. Keep in mind that one need not simply compete to participate in an event. One can also volunteer to staff the event and ensure it is up and running smoothly. The Time Trials board has a list of Officials and Duties, perhaps there is something at this link that will interest you. <https://timetrials.scca.com/pages/officials-and-their-duties>

As for me, I have committed to becoming a Time Trials Safety Steward and have been placed on a list to receive training. I plan to help the Time Trials program in my own little way while I also compete. I trust you will think about helping out in an additional capacity too with the program of your choice.

Life has a tendency to get in the way and some of us have domestic or other priorities that may not always allow us to volunteer and help with events as much as we'd like to. But, don't let that make you think that what you're doing is any less special. Every time, you show up to an event (solo, club race, rally cross or event du jour) and compete with the spirit of true sportsmanship, lend a helping hand, talk to someone at work about the club, or even show up to your work station without delay, you are taking ownership, are embodying the SCCA values that allow us to have #funwithcars and are contributing more than you know.

- Aashish

---

# Membership Report- February 2019

-Jim Garry Mohud Membership Chairman

**As of February 19th**, Mohawk Hudson Region boasts 405 members, the first time we've retained the 400 membership mark since 2017.

## New Members

New members in February are listed below with their designated SCCA interest:

Race Rappazzo, Cohoes - Pro Racing, Rally, Solo  
Brian Gildersleeve, Castleton  
Scott Zdunek, Halfmoon - Pro Racing  
Wonhee Lee, Guilderland - Rally  
Amy Favro, Watervliet - Rally

May you enjoy many years of fun with cars!

## Significant Anniversaries

Dan Flynn	10 years
Carmine Russo	10 years
Jared Lendrum	15 years
Bob Wright	45 years



Welcome to our new members; the old-timers above have been super contributors to the club.

---

## Rent-a-Car Fun

One of the benefits of SCCA membership is the ability to rent cool cars from outfits such as Hertz and Avis at a slight discount. The KO editorial staff has recently had fun with a Hertz Shelby monster Mustang and a Porsche Cayman (tip: if you are buying one, get the Cayman S).

Turns out that Hagerty, the specialty car insurance outfit, has something similar in its *DriveShare* program. The concept is similar to AirBnB: people with specialty cars make them available on a rental basis. For instance, down in Hilton Head you can rent a 1929 Seagrave fire engine for only \$400 a day. Great for family outings!

*DriveShare* cropped up as an aside in SCCA's recent PR release concerning Hagerty's increased support for various SCCA ventures, especially the Time Trials program. So we'll probably all be wearing those "Shift Happens" hats by the end of Summer...



---

**January 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting**, Maggies Cafe, Albany      Call to order 7:00 pm. *Ron Bass*

By Laws - draft by laws will be shared with members through email and will be posted on the Mo Hud website for member review. Voting on the draft bylaws will be at the next general membership monthly meeting.

2019 Annual Budget - Paul Malecki provided a summary of the previous year's income/expenses. Proposed 2019 budget will be presented to the membership at the March general membership meeting.

Track Night in America Grant Funding - SCCA will provide up to \$3000 in grant funds for an approved proposal that promotes SCCA and Mo Hud activities. Three draft proposals were discussed:

1. design, printing, and distributing interactive cards as a means to recruit new members.
2. purchase new Solo timing hardware.
3. establishing a Mo Hud kiosk at the Saratoga Auto Museum.

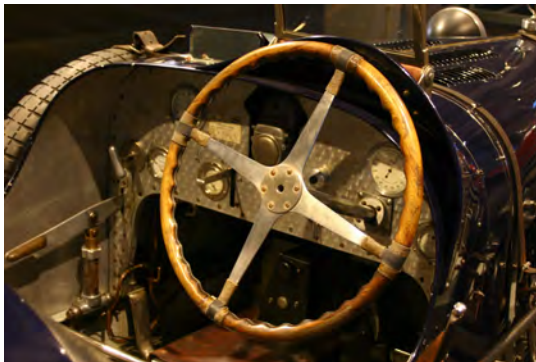
All three proposals will be submitted to SCCA.

2019 Annual Banquet - the 2019 date needs to be finalized. It is tentatively scheduled for the German American Club.

Time Trials - a Time Trial is scheduled for Thompson Motorsports in 2019. We will solicit a member to attend the upcoming NE Div Mini Con to represent the Region and obtain more information about the upcoming Time Trials.

New Business - the Board approved Eric's proposal to sell the Solo PC. It is old and has limited value.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.



---

## **American Red Cross is looking for Volunteer Blood Transportation Specialists**

Transport blood and blood products from distribution center on Central Avenue in Albany to area hospitals.

Red Cross supplies the vehicles, gas and tolls, as well as training for the job and first aid, CPR and other techniques.

Choose your own navigator (great for retired couples) or be paired up.

Needs schedule is flexible. Typical stint is 4+ hours, once or twice a month.

If you've had a clean driver's record for more than 3 years, and are interested, call (518) 694-5103, visit the Red Cross website at < [www.redcross.org/volunteer](http://www.redcross.org/volunteer) > , or talk to Rich Alexander at the next meeting.

---

**February 7<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**, Maggies Cafe, Call to order 7:30 pm. *Ron Bass*

Meeting minutes accepted. One revision - Carleton Foster's name was spelled incorrectly in the previous Knock Off.

Treasurer - previous month's expenses and income summarized. Income taxes have been filed. Carleton's wife thanked the Region for the charitable donation we made in his memory.

Solo - advisory committee has recently met. There are six solo events tentatively scheduled for the upcoming year - first event in May. Other issues discussed - purchase new timing software, lap top, and cones. Also discussed was a proposal to raise entry fees \$5. No final decision made.

Street survival - dates have been confirmed with the Saratoga Auto Museum - Sunday April 28 and Sunday October 20. Student registration is open. Instructor registration will be open shortly. Volunteers are welcome - instructors, course set up, cone shaggers, etc.

Road Racing - Tech Parties scheduled on March 30 at North Country Subaru and Bob Karl's on April 6. Start time for both is 12:00 noon.

Membership - there are seven new members in 2019. We are now over 400 members. Jim Garry also summarized member anniversaries.

Worker Awards - were awarded at the Holiday Banquet and were formally presented to the following - Peter Kroth, Rich Alexander, Eric Smith, Dan Gorss, and Rich Welty.

National Convention - Jim Garry, Jim Bucci, and Trish Bucci attended the recent convention in Las Vegas. Jim noted that a lot of younger individuals are showing interest in the SCCA. Jim will be providing a report on the activities.

Rich Alexander - Volunteers requested to help Red Cross in transporting blood products locally. Red Cross provides all training as well as vehicles. It comprises a four hour shift once or twice a month. Please contact Rich for more info.

SCCA Regional Development Grants - Paul Malecki has drafted three proposals - Interactive Windshield/Handout Cards for Member Recruiting, Interactive Kiosk at the Saratoga Auto Museum, and New Solo Timing Hardware. The proposals were distributed to attendees for review/comment. Proposals will be submitted to SCCA in the next week.

Spring Car Show - Eric Smith will be rounding up cars for the show.

March/April Monthly Membership Meetings - will be held at Lynn's Uptown Tavern, 15 Colvin Ave, Albany. The next Board meeting will February 25, at Maggie's.

Paul Malecki is looking for any "Big Cars" that may have run at the Altamont Fairground in the 1930's/1940's. Please contact him if you have any information or leads.

2019 annual meeting and awards banquet - will be Saturday, January 4. Meeting adjourned - 8:20 pm.

---

## Mo-Hud Officers and Contacts

### Regional Executive (RE)

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

Richard Welty: See his Facebook page

### 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

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

### 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)

---

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 Maggies, Western Avenue (Rt. 20), Albany, across from the SUNY-Albany main entrance.



The marks "Sports Car Club of America," "SCCA" and wire wheel logo are registered and owned by the Sports Car Club of America Inc., Topeka, Kansas, and are used by permission.

The marks "Mohawk-Hudson Region SCCA," "MoHud," "MoHud Knockoff," and the checkered flag logo are owned by the Mohawk-Hudson Region SCCA, a subsidiary affiliated organization of the Sports Car Club of America.