

# The Mo-Hud

# Knock<sup>SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA</sup>ff

---

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

July 2019

## The REport

**Happy Birthday America--** REMINDER, no July Mohud meeting. You'll have to provide your own fireworks rather than the usual explosive action we have at the monthly MoHud meetings.

**Who's the best MoHud "driver"**—Check out the details in this issue for our upcoming MoHud golf outing and August go-cart night.

**Speaking of the MoHud meetings...** Beginning in September, the Mohawk-Hudson region will have a new location for its monthly membership meeting. They will still be the first Wednesday of the month and they will continue to start promptly at 7:30PM. Stay tuned for the announcement of our new meeting spot as our New Meeting Location Committee is still hard at work locating an appropriate venue for us.

For the good of the sport,

*- Jim Bucci*  
Regional Executive



*This Month: Club Racing is in full swing...*

---

## Coming Events: July and...

- **July 5-6:** Friday – Saturday. SCCA/NER/CART/MoHud Time Trials. Thompson Motorsports Park. Work or run.
- **August 7:** Wednesday. MoHud Family Go Kart Night at Funplex. Details next page.
- **August 15:** Wednesday. 6:30pm. Ice-cream at Guptil's, Route 9 in Latham. Even though MoHud does not meet in July and August, a bunch of BMW-Patruners will be re-enacting the famous Guptil's "drive ins." Make sure you drive something cool/ spiffy.
- **August 15:** Thursday. Upteenth Annual MoHud Golf Outing. Details on page 4.
- **September 4:** Wednesday. 6:30pm. MoHud membership meeting at a site TBD. Stay tuned.
- **January 4:** Saturday. 5:30pm. MoHud Annual meeting, German-American Club, Albany. In addition to the usual awards and business, the Second Annual MoHud RunOffs will be run on a new course, featuring a new class of spec racing cars that will be highly prized in coming years. Promises to be a family-friendly good time for all.

---

## News and Notes

- **Time Trials at Thompson.** As of this writing, seven MoHud racers and autocrossers are registered: DJ McArdle, Greg Goss, Diane Malecki, Dan Gorss, David Burnham, Adam Wright, and, of course, Aashish Vemulapalli. Registration is slated to be open right up to Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup>, so still time to plan for your entry. < <https://timetrials.scca.com> >

If you want to work, Aashish has pointed out that you can register online at [https://timetrials.scca.com/events/1994033-2019-tire-rack-scca-time-trials-national-tour-at-heartland-park-presented-by-hagerty-worker-registration/event\\_registrations/new](https://timetrials.scca.com/events/1994033-2019-tire-rack-scca-time-trials-national-tour-at-heartland-park-presented-by-hagerty-worker-registration/event_registrations/new) >

- **Solo Autocross.** By now most of our readers know that the MoHud autocross season has been put on hold due to the unavailability of the Aerosciences Museum site related to pavement deterioration issues.

But take heart. Russ Burckhard and EJ Smith have been scouting far and wide, and to date have newly identified two possible autocross sites. Meetings with the owners will be held in the next few weeks. In the meantime, anyone having about 10 paved acres of land, appropriately zoned and not used on every weekend, should contact either Russ or EJ.



# Mo-Hud Family Go Kart Night

Wednesday, August 7, 6:30pm

Funplex

589 Columbia Turnpike  
East Greenbush



Pizza, Soda, and Several Prizes

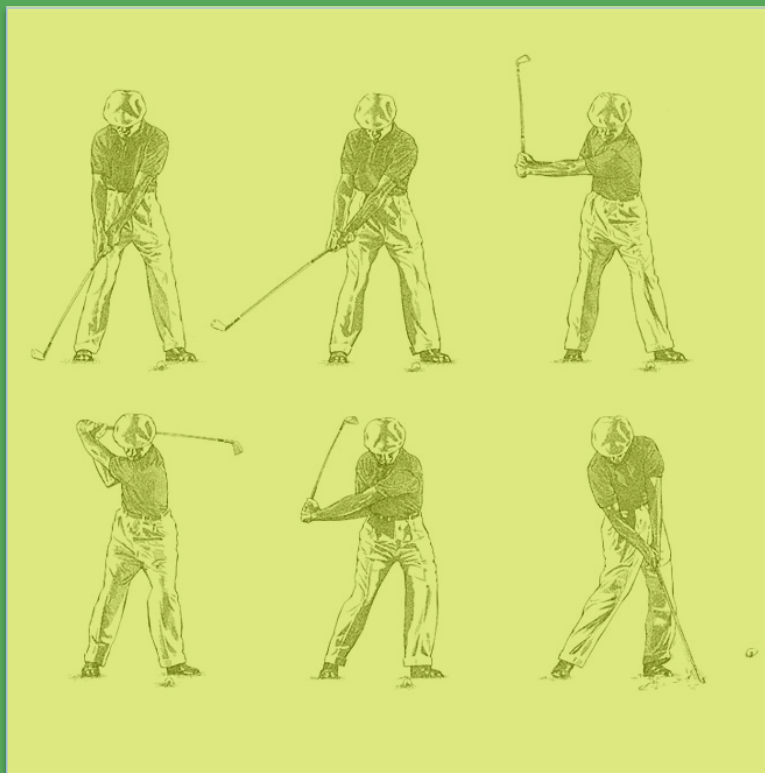
A \$20 wristband buys 2 hours on the track

Funplex also offers miniature golf, rock-climbing,  
and other family activities...

Contact: Dick Stewart  
stewartco@aol.com

# MOHUD UPTENTH+ ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>  
2:00pm



**Burden Lake Country Club  
Averill Park**

**\$36= 9 holes + cart + 3choice dinner  
and maybe a trophy**

**contact: Dick Stewart @ 518-674-5683 He'd like a head count ahead of time**

---

## Road Racing Report



*Jack Hanifan/Jim Bucci*

New England Region Road Racing Championship  
New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Loudon, NH  
Memorial Day Weekend, May 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>

Congratulations to all the MoHud drivers on a very successful Memorial Day weekend at New Hampshire Motor Speedway.

**Evan Karl** led the BK Motorsports team making it 6 for 6 in SM and SM2. **Grandpa Bob**, dad **Bob Jr**, and uncle **Nick** also had good runs in Spec Miata.

T-3 Subaru racer **Jared Lendrum** scored 3 poles and 3 wins for the weekend.

Congratulations to **Bill Dergosits** on setting a new B-Spec lap record during Sunday's feature race at NHMS.

Other MoHud members competing included **Doug Garrison**, **Maclin Norray**, **Ron Bass**, **Tyler Reynolds**, and **Dave Ferguson**.

Sorry if I missed anyone but the website I was using for results, Mylaps/Speedhive, doesn't show the car class or driver's region of record.

*Jim*

Evan with his  
trophy-getter  
Spec Miata





---

# More Road Racing...

## Venimus, vidimus, vicimus

**On June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**, Lime Rock was home to the annual NER Paddock Crawl regional races. Approximately 200 cars were registered; by eye-count in the paddock, some 326 of those were Miatas.

MoHud was represented by 10 drivers (listed below), at least two flaggers (EJ and Peter Kroth), a senior Tech Inspector (Richard Welty) the Chief Announcer (Greg Rickes) and our own Social Directors (Jim and Trish Bucci). A bunch of other MoHuders served as crew members.

Results of the final "trophy races" on Saturday are noted in the following table. Several notes: this was Ken Relation's first race weekend after receiving his competition license. Also, no MoHud members were responsible for wrecking a rent-a-Miata (three of them destroyed over two days).

Group 1 Ken Relation	3- in LT-1	Group 5 Macklin Noray	2- in T4
Group 2 Ron Bass	11- in FV *	Group 6 George Kline Jonathon Waterhouse Johannes Krauss	1- in EP 1- in HP 2- in HP
Group 3 Adam Figarsky	2- in SM2	Group 7 Doug Garrison	7- in SRF3
Group 4 Chip Van Slyke Bob Wright	1- in FF 2- in FC		

*\* Got to the grid thanks to a fellow FV driver who had a spare/rare suspension bolt.*



Ken Relation's crew... Trish Bucci readies the Margarita machine; crumpled Miata in background...

---

# Going Fast at Lime Rock

*Thanks to James Ray, NER, for sharing some of his pics...*



Doug Garrison  
Spec Racer Ford 3



Maclin Norray  
Touring 4  
Subaru Impreza



George Kline  
E Production  
Caterham Super  
(think Lotus 7..)



Jonathan Waterhouse  
H Production  
Mini-Cooper



Johannes Kraus  
H Production  
VW Scirocco



---

# More Going Fast at Lime Rock

*...KO Staff Snapshots*



Ken Relation  
Touring 1  
Ford Mustang  
"Rebecca"



Ron Bass  
Formula V  
VW Mysterian



Chip VanSlyke  
Formula Ford  
Crossle 62F



Adam Figarsky  
SpecMiata2  
Miata NA



Robert Wright  
Formula C  
Radon Rn10



---

# Super Tour Nationals at Watkins Glen

June 21-13

Results from Race 2, "Trophy Race" on Sunday:

**Group 1-**

<i>Jeffery Lehner</i>	Spec Racer Ford	21st
<i>Patrick Stringer</i>	Spec Racer Ford	22nd

**Group 2-**

<i>Charlie Cambell</i>	SM-Miata	6th
------------------------	----------	-----

**Group 4-**

<i>Jared Lendrum</i>	T4-BRZ	1st in a squeaker
----------------------	--------	-------------------

**Group 6-**

<i>Charlie Campbell</i>	FP-Miata	1st
<i>William Degosits</i>	B-Spec Mazda2	6th

**Group 7-**

<i>Jason Smith</i>	AS-Mustang	5th
--------------------	------------	-----

Charlie and Jared get interviewed for SCCA-TV >>>



---

## Same Weekend at Road America

Yuvan Sundaramoorthy was driving a Pabst Racing Road to Indy F2000 car; participating in the support races for Road America's Indy Car event. Modest mid-pack results, but pretty darned impressive from a young man still in high school.



---

# Membership Report- Mid-June 2019

*-Jim Garry Mohud Membership Chairman*

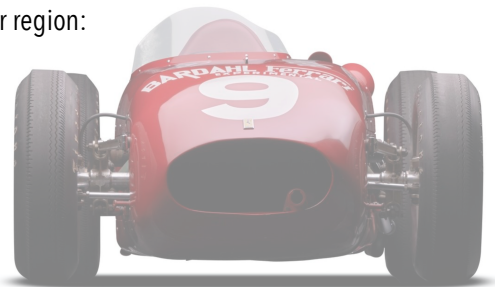
On May 22nd Mohawk Hudson Region had 450 members. As of June 19 our membership total fell to 418. The primary reason for the decline is because a batch of Teen Survival students from last year dropped off the list. However we continue to take in many new members. During May, fifteen new members joined MoHud:

<i>Stefanie Johnson</i>	<i>Fort Johnson</i>
<i>Pam Long</i>	<i>Ravena</i>
<i>Jose Martinez</i>	<i>Halfmoon</i>
<i>Stephen Markham</i>	<i>Schenectady</i>
<i>Everett Mayhew</i>	<i>Nassau</i>
<i>Paul Novotny</i>	<i>Clifton Park</i>
<i>Ivan Zdrahal</i>	<i>Clifton Park</i>
<i>Karina McClelland</i>	<i>Fort Plain</i>
<i>Hilda Meixueiro- Gonzalez</i>	<i>Halfmoon</i>
<i>Steve Tomb</i>	<i>North Creek</i>
<i>Edward Zemeck</i>	<i>Schenectady</i>
<i>Giuseppe Carberg</i>	<i>Schenectady</i>
<i>Kenneth Wilcox</i>	<i>Cohoes</i>
<i>Lou Pirro</i>	<i>Schenectady</i>
<i>Albert Schnide</i>	<i>Niskayuna</i>



And between June 1 and June 19 an additional three new members joined our region:

<i>Stephanie Donnamura</i>	<i>Delmar</i>
<i>Al Figols</i>	<i>Ghent</i>
<i>Yann De Rochefort</i>	<i>Elizavile</i>



## Significant Anniversaries in July

### Five Years

*David Marchetti*  
*Drew Welcome*

### Forty Years

*Thomas O'Connor*



---

## Membership Meeting- June

*Ron Bass, Sect'y*

Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, Pirate's Hideout, Halfmoon. Dank and Rainy, but the ice cream was great.

Call to order - 6:50 pm

- Treasurer - previous month's income and expenses summarized.
- Solo - the Aerospace Museum has halted use of their property for solo. They are concerned about the condition of the pavement. We are looking for a new site.
- Membership - no report.
- Knock Off - reminder that deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month.
- Activities - Go Kart outing will be Wednesday, August 7, at the Funplex in East Greenbush. Cost is \$20 for two hours worth of activities. Thursday, August 15th, will be golf and dinner at Burden Lake Country Club. Cost is \$36. .
- Reminder - there is no July membership meeting. We still need to locate a more permanent meeting place.
- Competition- June 14 and 15 is the regional "Paddock Crawl" at Lime Rock Park. Friday evening is the "Paddock Crawl" party with food and drinks. National Time Trial will be at Thompson July 5 - 7.
- Long time member Ernie Riggi passed away last month. The Region sent condolences.
- Watkins Glen SCCA Super Tours Race is June 21 thru 23 - Harry Adalian and Bruce Kosakoski will be doing Data Acquisition for SCCA. Anyone interested in assisting can contact either Harry or Bruce for more info.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

---



## Brings Back Memories?

If you or someone you know has memories, especially photos, of "big car" racing at the Altamont Fairgrounds 1925 - 1955, Paul Malecki would appreciate a shout out.

He is compiling a history of these events, with the first "publication" to be an illustrated lecture at the Saratoga Automobile Museum on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.



---

# 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)**

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.net](mailto:chipperv@earthlink.net)

**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. See the "Coming Events" page of the KnockOff, or MoHud's Facebook page for meeting place and time.



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.

---



# The KnockOff Journal

This Month...

- Campbell Racing



## Campbell Racing at Mid-Ohio May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Another long Super Tour weekend** with difficulties but, in the end, a much better outcome than the “non-race” at Pittsburgh two weeks ago. It started on a sour note when we arrived at the track Wed. evening to find that because of some facility work they weren't letting anyone into the paddock until 6am Thursday morning. We spent the night in a Burger King parking lot.

But on Thursday morning we arrived at the appointed hour and got right in and found a very nice spot, complete with an electric power hook-up which we have never had at Mid-Ohio before. It certainly helps make the entire weekend go easier if you don't have to live on batteries and generators.



Test day on Thursday went well. It was cool and damp to start but the forecasted rain didn't happen. We did the two morning sessions with the Spec Miata and the two afternoon sessions with the F Production car. All was good!, Charlie worked on finding a little faster line through some of the turns and we finished the break-in of the new motor in the FP car. I did the initial break-in on the Quantum Race Works dynamometer the week before and this motor is just as strong as the one that failed at Pitt. >>>

---

## Mid-Ohio, cont'd.....

The FP car was on track first this weekend. In the Friday morning practice session all went well. The lap time were good, about where we were a year ago, and we were second on the time sheet leading into the afternoon qualifying session. The SM, likewise, was performing well and Charlie would start qualifying in mid-pack but was happy with the handling. We were putting much fresher tires on both cars for the afternoon.

The "difficulties" I mentioned started on the grid for the FP qualifying session. The car wouldn't start. It had blown a fuse in the ignition circuit. As soon as the grid had cleared I was able to get at the fuse panels and change the fuse only to have it immediately blow again. Something was wrong and we weren't going to find it in time to join the qualifying session. So we towed the car back to the paddock, posting no qualifying time and I started trying to locate the proverbial electrical gremlin.

The SM qualifying session went without problem and Charlie ended up in 15<sup>th</sup>, about where he expected to be.

I worked all afternoon and pretty much used up all the spare fuses I had with me. The fuse that was failing fed the power conditioner which is a big black box full of electrical engineering widgets and totally a mystery to me. The only guy in the paddock who understood this piece of wizardry assured me that it was pretty much fail proof. He did say, however, that the fuses we were using in that circuit were too small. But he provided me with a few things to check and some precautions for its operation ... and some additional fuses to keep the troubleshooting going. In the end, we couldn't duplicate the problem and declared that the larger fuse was the answer (a typical mechanical engineer's answer to an electrical engineering problem).

Saturday morning was the second qualifying session, the FP car first at about 9:00. It started and self-propelled to the grid where we lined up at the end of the line instead of in front since it was based on the lap times from the first session. On command it started and all seemed to be as it should. Charlie did the out-lap; a second rather slow timed lap; and then called on the radio that it was running rough and then just sputtered to a stop. The one lap was good enough for 15<sup>th</sup> on the grid, which was much better than last place but still a big disappointment.

Back in the paddock it wouldn't duplicate the problem which seemed to be happening at speed and in the corners.

The data logging system I have in the car should have helped diagnose the problem but it hadn't been working all weekend long. The electrical gremlin's buddy? So we were, again, looking for something we didn't know but hoped we would recognize when we saw it.

In the end it seemed to come down to two possibilities; either the battery itself or the power conditioning box was causing the problem. The Saturday races started right after the lunch break so I just bypassed the power conditioner and replaced the battery (with the \$50 NAPA special that I had been using to power the winch in the trailer).

The car started on the grid and was a "rocket ship". It was running without any issues and by the end of the third lap Charlie was up to third place and slowly catching the leaders. In lap 4 he caught the leader, also an FP car, and was right on his bumper. The two stayed this way for most of the race until a lapped car got in between them going into a corner and Charlie fell back to about a 1 second gap. This gap held until the end of the race. Second place and a lap time that was about 2 seconds quicker than on Friday morning. A very satisfying finish.

>>>

---

## Mid-Ohio, III .....

The SM race was up next, there was one group between our two cars. So Charlie hustled back to the trailer to get into the SM while I stayed with the FP car in post-race impound.

The SM race went without problem; Charlie had improved his qualifying position from 15<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> during the Saturday morning qualifying. He had a clean race and moved up and down a place or two before finishing where he started, in 13<sup>th</sup> place. There is a lot of stiff competition in this class at the Super Tour events, drivers from all over the country.

Back in the paddock, I was still trying to figure out what might be wrong with the FP car. I could leave it alone but that would leave me without anyway to test once we left the track. Also, the actual purpose of the power conditioner is to keep a steady voltage to the engine management system as the battery voltage drops off. So without the conditioner the engine power would be down a bit. So I decided to reconnect the power conditioner, leaving the alternate battery in place, and test during the morning warm-up session on Sunday morning.

We were able to put about 10 minutes on the car during warm-up and it continued to work well. So the power conditioner would stay on line for the Sunday race.

Sunday morning was about 15 degrees cooler than Saturday afternoon and the track was still damp in places from the big thunderstorm which came through during the night. In fact, there were still a couple puddles that hadn't completely dried out.

Based on the lap times from the Saturday race, Charlie started third, behind the lead FP car on the pole and the lead EP on the front row. Although in the second row, he was directly behind the leader which was probably the best place to start. At the start the two of them, the two FP cars, took off and left everyone else behind. Charlie stayed right on the other car's bumper throughout the entire race. This was the Acura of our friend Kevin Ruck from Ohio. Kevin was the 2016 National Champion where he beat us to the finish line at Daytona by less than a car length. The two of them looked like they were chained together. Even when they started lapping the field around the 7<sup>th</sup> lap, they were doing it in tandem. The Acura had the power advantage, the Miata was lighter, and a bit better in the corners and under braking but not enough to make a pass unless Kevin made a mistake, which he didn't. A little past half distance both cars set their fastest lap, Kevin a little under the track record and Charlie just a few tenths of a second slower. Our time was almost two seconds quicker than when we were at this event last year.

Finally, they had a little trouble getting around a lapped car and Charlie lost about a second and shortly after that, with only 4 laps to go, an incident brought out the double-yellow flags and the field slowed and formed up behind the pace car. Although this brought Charlie back to the Acura's bumper, there wasn't time to clear the incident and the race ended under the caution flags. Another second place trophy and a personal best lap time. We were well satisfied.

Once again, Charlie headed back to the trailer as soon as the trophy presentation was completed to get the SM car to the grid while I stayed with the FP car in impound.

>>>

---

## Campbell at Mid-Ohio, fini...

**Unfortunately**, the SM race didn't go well. Again starting 13<sup>th</sup> Charlie held position until on lap 8 he felt something going wrong in the front of the car, suspecting (from experience) that a wheel bearing was failing. So he brought the car in to the pits where I confirmed that was the problem and it went back to the trailer.

So two hard earned second place trophies and the series points that go with them. Both cars home without damage. Another weekend with our friends from around the country. This event gets high marks.

Next up, another Super Tour event at Watkins Glen in three weeks. We consider The Glen to be our home track so we are really looking forward to this event. I'll let you know how it turns out. As always, you are all invited to join us at any of the races. Just let me know and I'll put you on the crew list.

*- Tom and Charlie*



This is what the nasty bits of a badly-behaved Miata front wheel bearing look like back in the shop.  
...ed