

The Mo-Hud

# Knockoff



---

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

May 2021

## The REport

**As I write this**, winter is threatening to make a brief return to the area, but despite that, we're gearing up for the 2021 competition season. We had a good time at the North Country Subaru tech party and want to thank Jared Lendrum and the Lendrum family for hosting us. Next up, we'll have :

- NER will kick off the road racing season at Palmer Motorsports Park on the weekend of May 1st & 2nd. Race workers can register to volunteer here.
- Weather permitting, we'll try to hold a member meeting in person at Guptill's Ice Cream on Wednesday evening, May 5th. Stay tuned to the website for details.
- MoHud will once again be displaying our member's competition cars in front of the Saratoga Auto Museum during their Spring Car Show on May 15th. If you're interested in displaying your competition car, please email me at [EJEvo8@gmail.com](mailto:EJEvo8@gmail.com).
- Registration is open for MoHud's first autocross of the season on May 16th, at the old IBM Kingston lot. Details can be found on our [MotorsportReg.com](http://MotorsportReg.com) site.

**On a different note**, MoHud has enjoyed having Paul Malecki as our *Knock Off* editor for the last 4+ years, but Paul has expressed a desire to hand off to someone else. We are looking for someone to take over the editor's position for the *Knock Off*. If you are interested, please contact me. Paul has offered to assist with the transition.

We thank Paul for all of his contributions as the KO Editor.

~ *EJ Smith* Regional Executive

---

## Coming Events: May and...

- **May 5:** Wednesday. 7:00pm. Monthly membership meeting. Depending on the weather, it might be at Guptils, or it might be via Zoom. Watch for a broadcast E-mail, a note on the MoHud website, or the Mohud FaceBook page.
  - **May 15:** Saturday. 9:00am – 3:00pm. Spring Auto Show at Saratoga Automobile Museum. MoHud competition car display at the front entrance.
  - **May 16:** Sunday. 8am – 5pm. Solo Event #1. Tech City, 550 Enterprise Drive, Kingston. About 1 hour from Albany.
  - **May 31:** Sunday. The 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of local driver Lee Wallard's Indy 500 win. A small gravesite at Prospect Hill is planned.
  - **July 11:** Sunday. 8am – 5pm. Solo Event #2. Tech City, 550 Enterprise Drive, Kingston.
- 

## What are they up to now?

### Gracie Hackenberg

Having turned wrenches at Donovan Motorsports and paced her Miata at the usual MoHud-favored tracks, Gracie is now on the Arrow McLaren SP Indycar team, supporting drivers Pato O'Ward and Felix Rosenqvist. After the first two races of the season – Alabama and St. Petes – O'Ward is up to 11<sup>th</sup> place in the driver standings.

After races in Texas on May 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup>, it's off to Indy for a "road race" on the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 500 on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Busy schedule!

### Evan Karl

MoHud's 2020 Driver of the Year will be graduating from Wooster Polytechnic in a few weeks, then moving down to North Carolina to serve as a race engineer with Joe Gibbs Racing's Xfinity campaign.

### Yuven Sundaramoorthy

Proud papa Gopal keeps a running commentary on FaceBook. Latest in this year's Road to Indy F2000 series was a third place in race #1 at St. Pete's April 24<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, in race #2 a driver who we can only assume came up through the Spec Miata ranks did Yuven in. He too is heading for Indy in mid-May...

---

## Time Trials

- *Aashish Vemulapalli*

**Registration for Time Trials Nationals** at NCM Motorsports Park in Bowling Green, KY has opened and is nearing capacity. Salvatore Baisley, Greg Goss and Mike Park have signed up to represent MoHud at this 4 day event that includes one full day for practice and set up. Salvatore Baisley has already scored a win of sorts for MoHud by being the first registered entry for the event for which he will receive a prize from the vendor handling Transponder Rentals.

Registration for the Time Trials National Tour at Palmer is scheduled to open on April 28th. This event scheduled for July 3rd and 4th will be shared with Global Time Attack. In the past, such shared events have entailed a lower participant limit and this event could very well sell out soon. Keep an eye on [TimeTrials.SCCA.Com](http://TimeTrials.SCCA.Com) on the 28th and make sure you sign up as soon as registration opens. This is all the more crucial if you have a preference to use a certain number for your car, as numbers are first come, first serve.

Track Night season has started in the Northeast. For more information about Track Night events and to register, please visit [TrackNightInAmerica.com](http://TrackNightInAmerica.com).

---

## Having Fun With Cars – starter videos

**If you're having trouble explaining** – or learning – the varieties of all those SCCA competition programs and classes, the mothership and Hoosier Tires have teamed up to produce a series of short videos called the Hoosier Shop Manual Series. Each of these videos runs from 2 to 3 minutes, with narration by a driver who runs in the class, showing the cars in action, talking about the attractions of the class, and pointing out the basic class specs.

The intent of these videos is to help you decide what program and what class you want to compete in, not to give you expert advice on setup and driving to win trophies. You can get to these videos by going through the SCCA website, but it's more direct to go to YouTube and search for Hoosier Shop Manual. The titles are spread across Road Racing, Autocross and Time Trials.



---

# Road Racing

~ PaulM and Rich Welty

## Competition Licensed Driver Tally

As of April 23<sup>rd</sup>, MoHud had 49 members with SCCA Competition Licenses. The mothership in Topeka lists Nicholas Carl, William Better, Saul Morse, Craig Reed, and Joseph Zemeck as holding Novice licenses; give'm a hand when you see them in the paddock.

## Hoosier Super Tour: Virginia International Raceway: April 9-11, 2021

According to *Race Monitor*, MoHud was represented by four drivers at what was pretty much the first race of the season for Northerners.

Charlie Campbell ran his FP Miata to a 1<sup>st</sup>, but appears to have completed only 9 of 13 laps in a second race. His SM Miata did not get him to a podium during the weekend. We expect a Campbell Racing Report to show up next month for a more complete story.

Chris Brassard, Jeff Lehner and Patrick Stringer appeared to have fun in their SRF3 sports racers within a field of 46 cars.

What's an SRF3? It's a Spec Racer Ford Generation 3. The cars are rear-engined, full-bodied, tube-frame, center-seat racers whose 1.6 liter Ford engines, 5-speed transmissions, electronic control units, and shocks are all sealed by SCCA Enterprises to assure no car has a 'cheater' advantage. With some 1,000 SRFs of all generations built, the class rivals all flavors of the Mazda Miata in numbers raced. Here's a few pictures of an SRF3 recently advertised for sale at [www.accelracetek.com](http://www.accelracetek.com):



>>>

---

# Road Racing- MoHud 2021 Tech Parties I

## Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>- North Country Subaru, Queensbury

Annual trek up to the Lendrum garage, where additional cars for Ecurie Lendrum seem to grow each sunless winter.

Annual inspection of car and gear for conformance to the GCR (SCCA General Competition Regulations) conducted by Richard Welty with his usual (somewhat) sardonic humor. A fount of knowledge on all things tech, past and present. This year he was followed closely by inspector-in-training Bill Fish. Bill's day job is taking care of those German cars made by a WW I aircraft engine manufacturer.

The party atmosphere was reinforced by pizza, soda, and the shop's air pumps, all provided by the Lundrum/ North Country Subaru folks. Air pumps? Yup. They put down a two-tone three-beat track that any electronic dance music fan would love.

Below are shots taken by our reporter on the ground:

Part of Ecurie Lendrum... Maclin Norray's new Touring 4 Subaru (more on this next month)... Nick Galuardi returns to racing with a "new" Formula V that Welty and Fish examine while the young Galuardi looks on... "I've got a custom Dolce & Gabbana gear bag to match the car colors, but I ain't bringing it out on a cold day in March; this'll do for now..."



>>>

---

# Road Racing- MoHud 2021 Tech Parties II

## Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>- Bob Karl's Sales & Service, Troy

Annual trek over to Troy, where the weather was cool, but the attendees were warm and friendly. Chief Inspector Welty was again shadowed by Bill Fish, and joined by Tracey Burckhard. Bob Karl thoughtfully turned on the gas heater in the garage, so log book updates and gear inspections were accomplished in reasonable comfort.

While the Troy party did not have background music as they did up in Queensbury, there was no shortage of good eats. Bob Karl provided four huge pizzas from Liberty Pizza up the road. D&P Vintage Racers provided soda (or pop if you are from certain parts of the country) and cider from NinePin, while EJ brought chocolate chip cookies.

Below: Ron Bass demonstrates the proper *salute* stance, per the International Fencing Federation, to be undertaken prior to using the Dzus tool; Welty, Fish and Burckhard tech *yet another Miata* (three were in attendance). This one is John Ogle's; Another Miata; The MoHud van disgorges its contents for the first-in-a-long-time inventory; Bob Karl shows Ed Zemek the workings of the combined driving suit and beer cooler that comes with some SM2 Miatas. If the car looks familiar, you may recognize it as the one that our NER neighbor James Ray ran for a few laps back in, if memory serves, 2019.



---

# Membership Report- May 2021 *-Jim Garry*

*Mohud Membership Chairman*  
< mhr.membership@gmail.com >

**Now standing at 311 members** we are comfortably past the 300 mark in membership picking up ten new members in April and fourteen since late March for a net gain of six members since last month. We still need to try to do a better job of retaining existing members.

## **New members since March 29<sup>th</sup>; including their hometown and interests:**

<b>Bryon Ayers</b>	East Nassau	
<b>Pierre Massena</b>	East Greenbush	
<b>Noah Brownsey</b>	Niskayuna	Solo & Rallycross
<b>Oliver Brownsey</b>	Niskayuna	
<b>Leon Zavos</b>	Averill Park	
<b>Stephen Magee</b>	Slingerlands	
<b>Elizabeth Lendrum</b>	Berne	
<b>Christopher Yates</b>	Rock City Falls	
<b>Sam Abbott</b>	East Berne	
<b>Steven Spinicchia</b>	Troy	Solo Club Racing Rally Rallycross
<b>Brandon Knoll</b>	Haines Falls	Solo & Club Racing
<b>Erika Knoll</b>	Haines Falls	
<b>James Verkamp</b>	Mechanicville	Solo & Club Racing
<b>Blair Davis</b>	Albany	Solo



## **Significant Anniversaries**

- Please forgive me folks, this month I failed to request information from our members who were celebrating significant anniversaries. Information offered this month is from the membership database and personal knowledge.

### **Five Years**

**William Dergosits** - William possesses an SCCA competition license and races in the B-Spec class.

### **Fifteen Years**

**Jessica Lendrum** - A member of the Lendrum racing family.

### **Twenty Years**

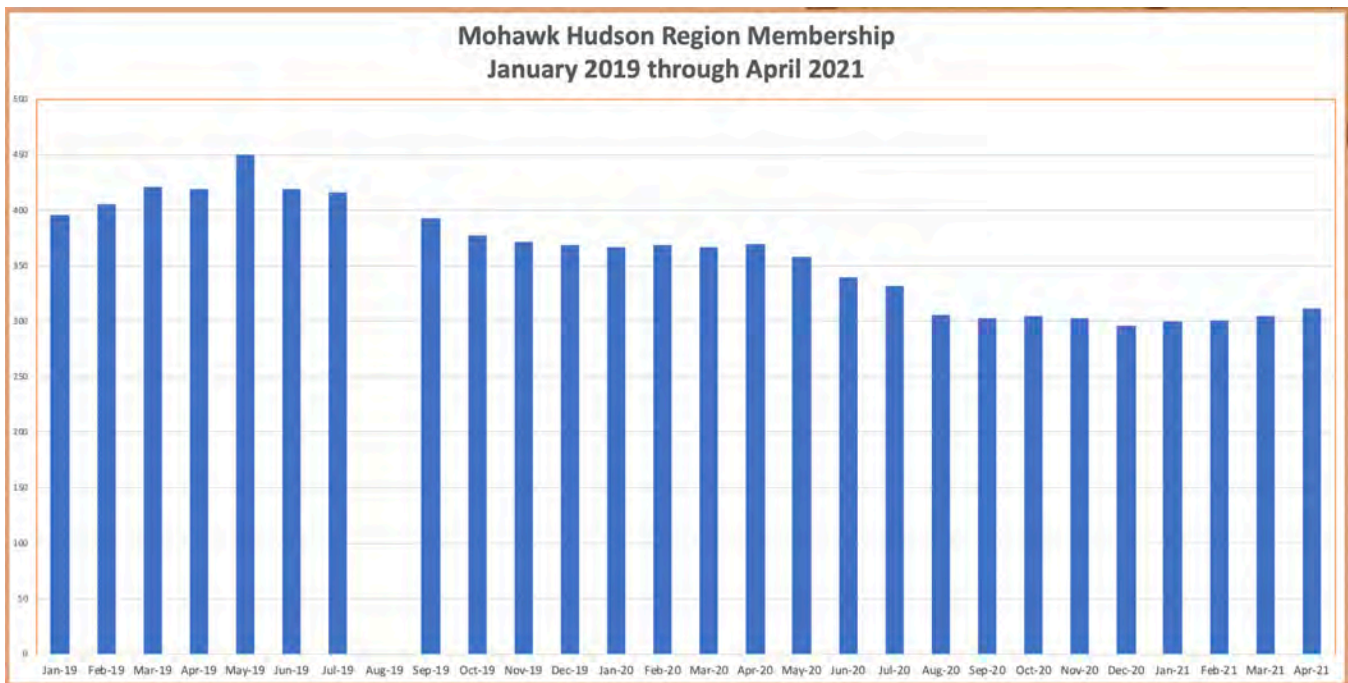
**Rich Teal** - Rich is an SCCA Life Member.



**Eric Smith** - EJ is our Regional Executive and has been doing a tremendous job in his first year in this demanding role. He started out and continues as a quick autocrosser who runs our region's timing and scoring efforts. EJ is also a longtime track day driver and instructor. And for the last few years he's been having fun and doing a great job as a race flagger including a trip to the SCCA Runoffs in 2019.

---

## Membership, *cont'd...*



---

### **Mohawk-Hudson Region SCCA Board Meeting of March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 7:11PM**

Location: Zoom

Officers Present: Eric Smith, Jim Garry, Paul Malecki, Bruce Kosakoski, Chip Van Slyke, Salvatore Baisley, Shelby Blanchette, Aashish Vemulapalli, Richard Welty

#### **New Agenda by Eric Smith**

- Was asked to approach NER to name a race group after Jack Hanifan as a memorial
- All officers agree should talk to NER and see what that entails
- Audit Committee needs another member has Sheri DeJan, Salvatore Baisley and had Tracey Burkhard but Tracey gets a lot of reimbursements
- Shelby Blanchette offered to ask Kirby Vaillant-White if he would like to help
- No deadline for Audit
- Someone contacted Tracey Burkhard asking what advertising rates were for the knockoff, she asked Eric Smith who was unsure
- No current advertising rate for the Knockoff, may need to look a few years back to see
- Will have to research other region's prices, member rate vs. non-member rate
- Bruce Kosakoski suggests increasing rate during racing season and decreasing during off season
- Saratoga Auto Museum Spring Car Show Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>
- Cars from Mohud needed, especially cars from tech party
- autocross, track and daily cars welcome
- Richard Welty inquires if Mohud decided price of logbooks, per Eric Smith no vote was taken
- Shelby Blanchette states it is written in past minutes
- Eric Smith states we will look back and check

>>>



---

## Board Minutes, *cont'd...*

### **Old Business**

- Per Paul Malecki, award for Evan Karl for Driver of the Year was presented to him, costs covered by a private donor.
- Tom Campbell reported memorial brick for Roly Heacox has been ordered and paid for, memorial check has also been sent to the research center.
- Eric Smith, Paul and Kirby will work on brochures, SCCA will do a free black and white brochure
- Salvatore Baisley will put a poll about Sim racing on Facebook to gauge interest

### **Treasury Report by Paul Malecki**

- \$27,423.78 in checking account this morning
- income this month \$360 from SCCA for membership meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8PM. Minutes recorded and submitted by Shelby Blanchette.

---

## **Mohawk-Hudson Region SCCA Membership Meeting of April 7th, 2021; 7:02 PM**

Location: Zoom

Officers Present: Eric Smith, Salvatore Baisley, Jim Garry, Paul Malecki, Rich Welty, Chip Van Slyke, Bruce Kosakoski, Aashish Vemulapalli, Richard Alexander, Russell Burkhard

Total Members Present: 24

Shelby Blanchette makes a motion to accept minutes as published in April's Knockoff.

Bruce Kosakoski seconds motion.

### **Membership Report by Jim Garry**

- 303 members
- Significant anniversaries; Chris Keenan, Mary Reid, Richard Reid 5 years, Debora Garrison; 25 years, Doug Garrison, Allison Welty, Kim Graft; 30 years. Philip DeJan also has an anniversary.
- 11 new members in March

### **KnockOff Report by Paul Malecki**

- April Fools and real April edition published
- Paul Malecki will be stepping down from the KnockOff editing
- looking for a new editor
- Eric Smith thanks Paul Malecki for his hard work on the Knockoff
- Per Eric Smith, may be putting out a streamlined version until we get a new editor settled however, Paul Malecki will stay until we find a replacement
- Club may need to buy Acrobat Pro for the future editor

### **Treasurers Report by Paul Malecki**

- \$10.00 of income this month
- \$27,433.78 in bank

>>>

---

## Membership Meeting Minutes, *cont'd...*

### **Solo Report by Eric Smith**

- May 16<sup>th</sup> first solo event in Kingston
- other sites not solidified
- five events in total, 5/16<sup>th</sup>, 7/11<sup>th</sup>, 8/8<sup>th</sup>, 9/19<sup>th</sup> and 10/3<sup>rd</sup>
- Registration is open for first event
- Spectators will have to register
- Jim Garry instructs how to renew safety steward certification; there is a form on the SCCA website, need a webinar and to have worked five events in the past 3 years

### **Street Survival Report by Jim Garry**

- No Spring events
- October 1<sup>st</sup> is scheduled but so far away nothing has been done yet
- Mohud's and the Street Survival decision to allow in car instructors, if no in car instructors allowed would not be able to do event.

### **Road Rally Report by Eric Smith**

- According to Russell Burkhard, sanction was approved
- According to Sheri DeJan registration is in person on the lot

### **Road Racing by Paul Malecki and Richard Welty**

- Per Paul Malecki, Mohud members at VIR
- Richard Welty reminds us April 17<sup>th</sup> is the Tech party at Bob Karl's

### **Track and Time Trials by Aashish Vemulapalli**

- Registration is open for National Time Trials in Kentucky
- Palmer Time Trial National Tour is July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>
- September 25<sup>th</sup> weekend at Limerock an event with BMW club

### **Old Business by Eric Smith**

- Financial Audit, Sheri DeJan and Salvatore Baisley doing it, need one more member
- Shelby Blanchette states Kirby can do it
- Sheri DeJan will check to see what's legally required
- Inventory: Salvatore Baisley will bring bus to Bob Karl's Tech party
- Russ Gorman may be able to help with inventory
- Russell Burkhard has some items in basement
- Roly Heacox memorial check has been sent out for donation and for memorial brick
- Per Paul Malecki still have some funds left from the SCCA Grant

### **New Business by Eric Smith**

- Should promote Mohud at Car shows like Cars and Coffee April 10th at 8AM suggested by Greg Rickes
- Think about having mentors for interested people for all parts of club
- Mentors would show new people the ropes and get them settled
- Eric Smith approached at tech party to talk to NER about having future race group named after Jack Hannifan
- Eric Smith reached out to NER ran idea by him and asked who to speak with, JB Swan or their current RE, Richard Welty will ask them
- Greg Rickes; original club Knockoff archives
- Clark Nichols digitized all Knockoffs from first edition, what to do with originals?
- Per Greg Rickes SCCA Archives at Watkins-Glenn has offered to keep them in storage
- Just have to get them to Watkins-Glenn, Richard Alexander and Paul Malecki volunteer to bring the originals there

Eric Smith makes a motion to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded by Pete Kroth.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Minutes recorded and submitted by Shelby Blanchette

---

## Mo-Hud Officers and Contacts

**Regional Executive (RE)**

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

**Assistant RE**

Salvatore Baisly [sa26bais@gmail.com](mailto:sa26bais@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

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

**Secretary**

Shelby Blanchette [shelby\\_blanchette@yahoo.com](mailto:shelby_blanchette@yahoo.com)

**Director**

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

**Director**

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

**Membership Chair**

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

**Road Racing Chairs**

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

**Solo Chair**

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

**Track Chair** Time Trials and Track Nights

Aashish Vemulapalli [aashish2@gmail.com](mailto:aashish2@gmail.com)

**Rally Chair**

Ken Relation [Kenneth.Relation@dot.ny.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Relation@dot.ny.gov)

**Flagging and Communications Chair**

Rich Alexander [dwebdad@msn.com](mailto:dwebdad@msn.com)

**Merchandise**

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

**KockOff Editor**

Open

**WebMaster**

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

---

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, 7pm, at locations as announced on the Region's Facebook page.



*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," "Mo-Hud," "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...

- **Greg Rickes finishes updating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary KnockOff Commemorative Issue.**



---

## The MoHud Saga--- 2017 to 202021

### 2017

It's an auspicious start to the year when Mohawk-Hudson Region is presented with the "Tom Burke Award" at the SCCA National Convention. The Burke Award recognizes exemplary efforts to grow and activate the SCCA.

There's great anticipation for the SCCA National Championship Run-Offs, which will be held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

It's time for another winter-ish Rallye. Not the Snowflake, but the 4 Points, on March 4.

There's a jovial April 1 special edition of The Knock-Off. Who knows what a Curta Calcuator is?

In real news The 4 Points Rallye offers a unique format: entrants were given a list of four destinations, no exact address and only a couple of clues, and they had to find each destination using maps to determine their own ideas of the shortest/best route.

Nearly all of the teams finished the rally with a total mileage difference of less than 15 miles (and within 20 miles of the Rallymaster's total mileage). In a closely fought contest victory goes to the team of Tom Patnode and Iris Meadows.

It's a gorgeous spring day for the first Street Survival program. Meanwhile at Palmer the region's racers get rolling. Joe Nolette notches a trio of wins in his T1 BMW, ditto for Evan Karl (and a new lap record) in Spec Miata. Jonathan Ericksen adds a win in P1. Charlie Campbell's national championship quest gets a boost with a victory in the F Production race at Pittsburgh International Race Complex, then continues his Pennsylvania streak with a win at Pocono.

Guilderland teenager Yuven Sundaramorthy embarks on an ambitious rookie season, contesting Formula F at SCCA Majors races and the Formula Race Promotions F1600 Championship. It's a year made even more memorable when he scores his first ever race win, and it comes at the FRP event at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway! Ponder that for a moment!

The autocross season rolls along with strong entries, mostly good weather, and technical innovations. Event results are now available in real time on your smartphone. Unusual sights include Dave Burnham's homebuilt Citroen/Maserati powered ice racer, and Paul Malecki's E-Type Jaguar winning the vintage champagne award, along with 8 year old Angela McCleod in the Junior Kart class.

>>>

---

## **2017** – Cont'd.

Charlie Campbell, Greg Goss and Jared Lendrum wrap up a busy summer of racing by clinching class championships in the Northeast Division, guaranteeing entry for the National Championship RunOffs.

The Watkins Glen July Sprints prove a popular attraction for local racers, with a dozen on hand, Class wins go to George Klein (EP), Chris Brassard (SRF), Pete Smith (FP) and Jon Ericksen (P1).

At the National Championship Run-Offs Charlie Campbell has mixed fortunes. The F Production car is a DNF with brake problems, while the SpecMiata provides lots of racing as Charlie overcomes qualifying problems that put him in in 62<sup>nd</sup> (!) starting position. Amazingly the SM races goes full distance without a full-course caution, with Chargin' Charlie passing 19 cars to finish 43<sup>rd</sup>. Yuven Sundaramorthy is right in the picture for a Formula F podium until a tap from behind spins him out of contention on the final lap.

Back home, early November brings the "Highway to History" Rallye. Eight teams take part, including five teams that were newcomers to the region and rallying. Andrew, Sarah and young Ayrton Servis team up for the win.

Jack Hanifan is presented with the annual Brian Holtz Award for dedication to the SCCA and its Northeast Division. Former dirt-track sprint car racer Jonathan Eriksen is named NEDiv Rookie-of-the-Year.

Capping another successful autocross season produces an array of statistics and awards. Average event attendance is up to 59 (helped along by a hefty 81 at the seventh and final event), but only 13 make every event (down from 18 the year before). On the awards side Novice of the Year goes to Andrew Decker. Most Improved Driver is Chris Keenan. Perennial Female Driver Of The Year is Tracey Burckhard, and Joe Staude takes top honor as Driver Of The Year. Tom Moeller is recognized as Worker of The Year. The Outstanding Performance Award (which hasn't been presented since 2006) goes to Tom Taft.

Evan Karl tops the MoHud Regional Club Racing Championship, Jim Bucci and Chip VanSlyke are class champions in the New York State Road Racing Championship, Chad Mulhall is Rookie of The Year, and Jon Eriksen takes the honors as Driver of The Year.

The Lewis/McClumpha Trophy for outstanding service to the region is presented to Eric Smith. Membership at the end of 2017 is 426.

## **2018**

Paul Malecki joins the Executive team as Treasurer

MoHud marks a pair of milestone membership anniversaries: Roly Heacox, at 60, and John Sheridan at 45.

The autocross program takes a setback when, for unexplained reasons, the OGS Lot on McCarty Avenue is no longer available. Disappointment turns to elation when a new site at the Empire State Aero Museum at Schenectady County Airport comes on-line.

>>>

---

## 2018 - Cont'd.

The April 1 "Special Edition" of The Knock-Off announces that Mohawk-Hudson Region will soon have its own 30,000 square foot clubhouse, autocross pad, and racing circuit on 12.5 acres on Riverview Road in Rexford. To accommodate the financing, monthly membership dues will increase to 77.65 per month.

After decades at The Orchard Tavern the time has come for MoHud to seek a new location for monthly meetings. The new autocross site at ESAM proves to be a popular attraction, with over one hundred entries for the first event.

Campbell Racing goes all the way to Wisconsin for the Super Tour event, only to blow up the engine in the F Production Miata at the Thursday test day. Weekend over.

There's growing popularity for Solo Karts, both grown-ups and Juniors, at autocross events, earning them a feature article in The Knock-Off.

Maggie's Café on Western Avenue in Albany comes on-board as the new meeting location, reprising a role it held in the mid 1970s (under another name).

Extensive due diligence brings forth a comprehensive update of the region's bylaws.

Aashish Vemulapalli is totally smitten by the SCCA's new Time Trials program, and extols the praises of the first ever TT National Championship (held at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green Kentucky) in a comprehensive report for The Knock-Off.

Campbell Brothers Racing makes the long haul to the West Coast for the National Championship Run-Offs. It's bad luck for SpecMiata as a problematic week ends with a early DNF with fuel pump woes, but that disappointment is more than offset by the elation of Charlie's third place finish in the F Production Miata. Along with the Campbells, Bruce Kosakoski and Harry Adalian make the trek to Sonoma to work as Data Techs, a new element of the SCCA's racing program.

It's a festive season for awards. On the racing side Bill Dergosits wins the region's Racing Championship with a fruitful season in his B Spec Mazda 2. Chip VanSlyke is the New York State Road Racing Championship titlist in Formula F. Driver of the Year goes to Jeff Lehner, who competes in the heavily-populated SpecRacerFord category.

The Bill Lewis/David McClumpha Award for contributions to the region's programs is presented to Peter Kroth. The Dave Riggi Award for outstanding support of the region's racing program is a joint award this time, going to Bob Karl, EJ Smith, Phil Shoemaker, Jared Lendrum, Bill Dergosits, Dave Cowie, and Ron Bass, in recognition of their combined efforts to guide Diane Malecki through the steps of entering the SCCA racing program.

The autocross program continues to be popular. The average attendance for the six event season is 75, with a total of 164 different drivers taking part. 22 make all 6 events, and another 17 only missed one event, all of which underscore the popularity of the site at the Empire State Aeroscience Museum (ESAM) at Schenectady County Airport. At the end of the season Steve Palleschi is recognized as Novice Driver of The Year, Ken Relation is Most Improved.

>>>

---

**2018** - Cont'd.

**More Autocross:** In a close battle Katherine Hogan is Female Driver of the Year, and Nick Austin is Autocross Driver of the Year. Expanding on the previous Worker of The Year, the autocross program now awards Spirit of Solo for noteworthy contributions; the 2019 awardees are Miguel Teixeira, Joe Cassidy, Ray Waxali, and Tracey Burckhard.

Membership at year's end is 440.

## **2019**

A bit delayed, but there's a full report on November's "Fall Back" Rallye. It's the first try at a true TSD (Time/Speed/Distance) in quite awhile. Unexpected excitement includes a tree falling down across some power lines along the rally route, but when all the drama was over the win goes to Ken and Michelle Relation.

Long-time region member (he was a course marshall at the MoHud drivers' school at Lime Rock in 1966) Carlton Foster passes away early in February.

Monthly membership meeting is on the move again, to Lynn's Uptown Tavern on Colvin Avenue.

The April 1 "Special Edition" of The Knock-Off explores the unique motoring history of a rare car called The Cyclops.

The SCCA's new Time Trial Tour program includes an Independence Weekend date at Thompson.

The May membership meeting is a special treat, taking place at Jeremy Baye's 1945 Speed & Custom Shop on River Street in Troy.

Rich Welty produces a series of YouTube videos to help explain the intricacies of SCCA's racing technical inspection. Aashish Vemulapalli reports on his latest Track Day experience, at Bushy Park on the island of Barbados!

Charlie Campbell has another hard-chargin' day, starting 69<sup>th</sup> (out of 70) in SpecMiata at the Hoosier Super Tour race at Virginia International Raceway. By the time the checkered flag comes out he's passed 36 cars!

Autocross season opens at ESAM with 61 entries. Thanks to efficient organization everyone gets SEVEN runs. MoHud members enjoy success at the New England Region race at Palmer. Class wins go to George Klein (E Production Caterham 7), Jared Lendrum (Touring 3 Subaru), Bill Dergotis (B Spec Mazda 2) and Maclin Noray (Touring 4). Evan Karl makes it a double, winning SpecMiata and STL.

The Spring Street Survival (sponsored by Tire Rack) at the Saratoga Auto Museum draws another capacity entry, and enthusiastic support from the MoHud membership who staff the event.

Evan Karl and Jared Lendrum have perfect weekends at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. It's a trifecta of wins for Lendrum in T3, and a daily double trifecta for Karl, 3 wins in SM, and another three in SM2.

>>>

---

## 2019 – Cont'd.

Closer to home Chip Van Slyke (Formula F), George Klein (E Production Caterham 7) and Jon Waterhouse (H Production MINI) take class wins at Lime Rock.

Travelin' man Aashish Vemulapalli treks to the Pittsburgh International Race Complex for the Time Trial Tour event and comes home with a third place trophy.

Tough news for the autocross program as the popular ESAM site is no longer available due to deteriorating pavement. The search is on for a new location.

There's strong MoHud representation at the Time Trial Tour event at Thompson, with 9 entries. Michael Park and his Corvette are fastest in the Novice category. A good time is had by all with both track activities and social events, highlighted for many by a stop at Thompson's legendary "Bogie's" ice cream stand.

The autocross program gets back under way by trekking to Berkshire Mall in Pittsfield, long-time home of the Berkshire Motor Sports Club. Proving there's no shortage of enthusiasm in Western Massachussets the opening event draws 60 cars.

After the traditional August meeting/gokart night at The Funplex, Diane Malecki arranges for a new monthly meeting spot at the Gateway Diner in Albany.

Results-wise it's a tough week for Jim Garry at the National Championship Autocross in Lincoln Nebraska but his many long-term contributions to the autocross program at all levels, from local events to the national level, are recognized when he is awarded the SCCA's "Solo Cup". Did you know it was Jim who came up with the name "Tour" for the nation-wide series of autocross events? He was also one of the pioneer Solo Safety Steward instructors.

Northern Division racing class championships go to Charlie Campbell (F Production Miata) and Jason Smith (A Sedan Ford Mustang). At the Watkins Glen Fun One Bob "BK" Karl hangs up his helmet for the final time, having seen his family through three generations of SCCA racing. Grandson Evan makes the occasion memorable by winning the one-hour enduro in his #18 Miata.

There's an enthusiastic contingent from MoHud that makes the journey to Kentucky for Time Trial National Championship. Best performance is by long-time autocrosser Alex Schipkov who takes a class third.

At the road-racing National Championship Run-Offs at Virginia International Raceway Charlie Campbell has a stunning race-long duel for the F Production win, missing out on the checkered flag in a photo finish. The official margin of victory was .096 of second. After three previous third-place finishes, the runner-up spot is his best Run-Offs result. It matches a pair of Run-off runner-ups scored by MoHud's Phil Groggins in 1965 and '66.

MoHud also has a strong turnout on the operational side of the Run-Offs: Eric Smith, Peter Kroth, Rich Alexander, Leigh McBride, Mac McCormack, and former MoHud member (he's now out at Indianapolis) Bryan Deane all report for duty at the flag stations, and Harry Adalian and Bruce Kosakoski get a look at the analytical side in their role as Data Techs.

>>>



---

## 2019- cont'd

As another season comes to an end it's time to look back on the accomplishments of our diverse members. It's an abbreviated three event season for the autocross program. Average attendance nonetheless held up with only a slight drop to 69, though total entries were down to 127. That notwithstanding, the number of competitors making every event climbed from 22 to 27. Novice Of The Year is Shelby Blanchette, Matt Huchro is Most Improved, Tracey Burckhard regains the title of Female Driver of the Year and Scott Monti is Autocross Driver of the Year. Spirit of Solo recognition goes to Sal Baisley, Saul Morse, and Sherry DeJan.

The region institutes a new award, The MoHud Track Star, to recognize members who participate in Track Night and Time Trial events. The award is based not only on performance, but also dedication, innovation and enthusiasm. Dan Gorss, who has participated in more Track Night in America events than any other driver nationwide, as well as taking his first try at the Time Trial program, is the inaugural MoHud "Track Star".

On the racing side, Bill Dergosits (B Spec Mazda2) wins the MoHud Road Championship, Maclin Noray (T4 Subaru) is Rookie of the Year, and Jason Smith (A Sedan Ford Mustang) is Driver of the Year.

Two region awards also undergo a name change. The Lewis/McClumpha Trophy for outstanding dedication and participation in regional activities, is renamed The Mohawk-Hudson Member Of Excellence. Rich Alexander is the first recipient. The Dave Riggi Award is renamed the Spirit of The Competitor, and is presented to Greg Goss. The region's Worker Appreciation Award is presented to Arn Beebe,

Membership at the end of the year 371.

## 2020

The year starts on a somber note as long-time member, racer, and regional officer Jack Hanifan passes away after a long illness. Jack's membership dates back to the mid 1970s, and his dedication to the region, and SCCA, is legendary. Long before there was such a thing as #FunWithCars, Jack and his inseparable sidekick Pete Smith were MoHud's Dynamic Duo. They could have been the poster boys for getting the most enjoyment out of SCCA activities. Jack started off autocrossing a FIAT 124 Spider, moved into racing with a Showroom Stock Ford Pinto, spent many winter days ice racing at places like Warners Lake, raced in pro events with IMSA's Firestone Firehawk series and the SCCA Volkswagen Bilstein Cup, and won titles in the North Atlantic Road Racing Championship (NARRC) and the New York State Road Racing Championship. Over his long tenure he served as both a regional officer, and an administrator in the SCCA's Northeast Division.



---

**2020**, cont'd

With Jack's passing, and Pete sidelined due to health concerns a colorful and vibrant era comes to an end. Little did we know how all of our lives would be changing in just a matter of a few weeks.

With the onset of the Covid Pandemic in mid-March all of the hopes and aspirations for the upcoming season of motorsport are put on hold, as we all learn about social distancing, quarantine, community spread, and a whole array of new behaviors as our identities are outwardly masked. Thanks to nifty technology the monthly membership meeting makes a transition to ZOOM, enabling members to keep in touch amidst so much personal isolation.

Restrictions imposed by the pandemic make it even more challenging than usual for the autocross program, with social-distancing and other protocols imposed on top of the difficulty of finding event locations. Three summer events at Tech City in Kingston make up a limited schedule but get enthusiastic support.

The SCCA Time Trial National Tour returns to Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park for Independence Day weekend, and also the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the SCCA's first track event, which was a Time Trial held at the original Thompson Speedway in July of 1945. Along with lots of close competition MoHud is recognized for the effort put in by its members to participate, promote, and volunteer at the event. In addition to a comprehensive event report, The Knock-Off reprints the original event recap from 75 years ago.

A few weeks later also at Thompson there's a new format as New England Region presents road-course racing after dark on a Saturday night. With the permanent lighting on the stock car oval and some temporary lighting on the rest of the course it proves to be a popular attraction. It's the familiar orange and white #18 of Evan Karl in the winner's circle in SpecMiata. September brings a new social experiment, an outdoor meeting/ice cream social and informal car show at Guptil's. The concept is well-received with around 40 members on hand for the festivities.

Aashish Vemulapalli makes the trek to Michigan for the Time Trial Tour event at Gingerman Raceway. While he doesn't win a performance award he's named a Time Trial Champion for his on-going support and enthusiasm for the TT program.

Evan Karl concludes a short but notable season with a trifecta of SpecMiata wins at the Thompson finale.

It's a frustrating year for Charlie Campbell, and his brother and crew chief Tom, at the Championship Run-Offs at Road America in Wisconsin. A broken transmission in SpecMiata qualifying puts Charlie back in 51<sup>st</sup> starting position (among 70+ cars). In the SM race he gains a spectacular 29 positions but still can't latch on to the lead pack and finishes 21<sup>st</sup>. The F Production car casts its own issues, not quite on the pace it showed at the June Sprints, qualifying 8<sup>th</sup> but ending the day early with mechanical problems.

With a sparse racing schedule SRF drivers Jeff Lehner and Pat Stringer brave the cold and rain to close out the season at New Jersey Motorsports Park in late October. They put their ice racing skills on display to score a victory apiece against the "southerners".

>>>

---

## 2020- cont'd

Ken Relation takes over as Rallye Director. In early November, despite numerous challenges, he organizes "How'd We Get Here", which explores the Barge Canal/Mohawk River transportation corridor. Eleven teams take the start, and the Burckhard family expands their expertise beyond autocross to score the win.

Later that month the region undergoes a significant transition as Regional Executive Jim Bucci steps down, as move south to Florida reaches fruition for Jim and Trish. Though the region gains an annex in the Sunshine State it loses the direct involvement of two of its most dedicated members.

As this year unlike any other comes to an end Ron Bass ends his tenure as Secretary. Ron demonstrated true dedication to the club by serving in this role for 11 years. That's the longest continuous service by any elected officer. With Jim Bucci's departure Eric Smith becomes Acting RE.

Not surprisingly the annual awards process also undergoes modification. Presentation of autocross awards is postponed until sometime in 2021. The second annual Track Star award goes to Nick Austin, with Honorable Mention to Adam Wright and Salvatore Baisley. The only racing honor awarded is Driver Of The Year, to Evan Karl. Clark Nicholls receives the Member of Excellence.

Tom Campbell is inducted into the SCCA Hall of Fame, recognizing his long commitment to the club in a variety of roles from competitor to Area Governor to CEO of SCCA Pro Racing.

Not surprisingly by the end of the year membership shows a decline, to 299

## 2021

Amidst a mixture of optimism and frustration over the on-going Pandemic another year begins.

Eric Smith continues the role of Regional Executive and welcomes to the Executive Board Sal Baisley (Assistant Regional Executive) and Shelby Blanchette (Secretary).

Owing to the ongoing restrictions for public gatherings the region conducts its first "virtual" annual meeting and awards ceremony.

At the end of January MoHud celebrates its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the dedication to having fun with cars continues.....



*~ Greg*