



*May we  
never forget...*

Linda Gronlund & Joe DeLuca  
Our fellow SCCA members  
aboard Flight 93

## The Crew and Passengers of Flight 93



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The KnockOff is the official publication of the Mohawk-Hudson Region, Sports Car Club of America. Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the Mohawk-Hudson Region or of the Sports Car Club of America.

The general membership meeting is held on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm at The Orchard Tavern, 68 No. Manning Blvd., Albany, NY.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE MO-HUD MAILING LIST: Go to the MoHud web site (see below), click [INFO](#), click [ELECTRONIC MAILING LIST](#), click [LWGATE](#), click [Subscribe to Mo-Hud DIGEST](#), fill out form, click [SUBSCRIBE](#).

<http://www.mohud-scca.org/>

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# RE REPORT

Russ Burckhard

## October 2011 RE Report

The Tire Rack Street Survival program was held last month. Will Schambach had put together a great group of people to pull the event off. The Joint efforts of Mohud and the Patroon BMW club made for an event that Bill Wade, the National Program Manager for Street Survival, had nothing but praise for. He said it was the best first event that a region had put on. That is something all that helped out with should be proud of. The students started the day off not knowing what to expect. They got more than they bargained for. Every one of them left with a big smile after they drove their parents around the course to show them what they had learned. The parents had smiles that were just as big. You could see how proud they were to see their kids use their newly acquired skills knowing that those skills may someday save their kids lives. I have heard nothing but positive feedback from everyone in attendance. Students, parents, relatives, instructors, volunteers, and spectators were all happy with the way the event was held. I am asking that we do at least 2 of these events next year. Who is with me on this?

The Northeast Divisional Mini Con will be upon us on November 4<sup>th</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga. Please give some thought about attending this event. I am sure we will need some help with this event. Please contact Jack Hanifan or myself for more info.



Russ Burckhard and Jim Bucci both helped students at the Tire Rack Street Survival program.

# SOLO Report

Russ Burckhard

## October 2011 Solo Report

The Solo Nationals were held in Lincoln Nebraska last month. Mohud was well represented with what I believe was record attendance from our region. Those that competed included; Arne Beebe, Olga Bogdanova, Jim Garry, Will Schambach, Alex Shchipkov, Eric Smith, and Ken Hurd. Olga was crowned Champion in D Street Prepared Ladies. Alex was the only other Mohudder to trophy with his 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in D street Prepared.

Mohud helped out the Adirondack Corvette Club with their annual charity event on the top of Prospect Mountain. Phil Shoemaker set the fastest time of the day while I had the pleasure of piloting Steve Jones' ZO6 to the fastest Corvette of the event.

Our 6<sup>th</sup> event was held on September 18<sup>th</sup> at the Fortitech site in Glenville. 56 competitors ran on one of Burt Huiest's challenging creations. Some new sealant that was placed on some of the surfaces added to the challenge. It took the sure footedness of an all wheel drive vehicle to take both the fastest time of the day and the fastest Pax time of the day. The driver this time was Jeff Kanetzky.

Our final event is coming up at Wilton Mall. There are still some battles to be fought for some championship positions. Hope to see you out there.

See next page for important dates.

### Upcoming Solo events;

**October 9** Event 7 Wilton Mall

### Other dates to consider;

**October 22** PDX at Lime Rock Park

**November 4-6** Mini Con at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga

**December 3** Annual Awards Banquet at the Troy Elks Club

## COMPETITION REPORT

Jack Hanifan

The competition report will not be published until next month when Jack will report on the Run-offs at Road America. Look forward to a complete report on his activities there as well as an update on the month's races and new national and local news.

*On the 10th Anniversary...  
we honor their memory.*

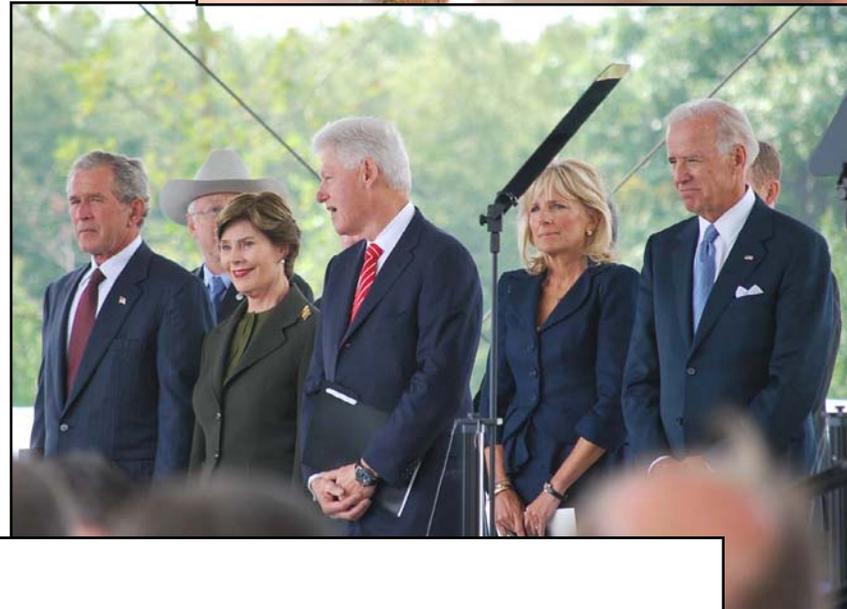
Many MoHud members may never have known Joe DeLuca and Linda Gronlund. None will forget their Flight 93 and what was done by those aboard to spare many more lives on September 11, 2001.

Linda and Joe were on their way to a much anticipated vacation in California when the plane was hijacked. Along with others aboard, they called family to tell them they loved them and let them know their lives were in grave danger.

On the tenth anniversary those families and friends traveled once more to the crash sight in Shanksville, PA to again honor all those aboard.

Linda's mother Doris Gronlund and her sister Elsa Strong attended as well as the Gronlund's family Cousin Tove Johnsen who traveled from Norway to be present.

Joe and Linda were avid race fans and worked a great many events over their years as SCCA members. Linda "flagged" for all the events at Lime Rock, Pocono, Summit Point (when she was going to school in that area), and frequently at the Glen & New Hampshire. Joe was similarly active, although he was racing for more than a decade into the early '90s when he got married and hung up his helmet. But when Joe & Linda began dating in 2001, Joe began volunteering as a Pit Marshal and found himself really enjoying that speciality. It was always so delightful to see Joe & Linda walking hand-in-hand thru the paddock that summer. They were reliving their teenage years again! Joe was creator of "Raymond the Cat", the cartoon seen in the NNJ newsletter. For a link to the NNJR website and much more information about Linda and Joe, see the link provided on the following page.





Walt and Nancy Huber, friends of Joe & Linda, and co-region members of NNJR and MoHud SCCA have kept their memory very much alive at SCCA events held in the northeast in the years since 9/11.

Thank you Linda and Joe! You are truly our SCCA heroes!

Photo taken by a local resident moments after the crash on 9/11 .



Now a large boulder marks the crash site.



NNJR/MoHud co-region members, Walt & Nancy Huber continue to honor their memory as well as all the others aboard Flight 93.

[www.scca-nnjr.org/NNJR\\_Mgmt/Remberance.shtml](http://www.scca-nnjr.org/NNJR_Mgmt/Remberance.shtml)

## Membership Meeting Minutes – September 7, 2011

**Secretary** – no report

**Membership** – summary provided on new members who have recently joined or re-joined SCCA. Member anniversary report also provided. Will reach out to new members and extend a welcome as well as provide info about the Club's activities.

**Street Survival** – Will update the membership on the status of the upcoming Tire Rack Street Survival. Preparations are being finalized. The media has been contacted and will probably be present. We will not have access to the Fortitech building for classrooms, etc. Since the classroom will now be held outdoors, we will need a tent and chairs. We are continuing to recruit instructors.

**Knock Off** – please get articles to Lisa by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Treasurer** – Chip provided a summary of last month's revenue and expenditures.

**Solo** - July was a test/tune and Solo race at Fortitech with 50+ entries. August's Solo event at the OGS lot had 30+ entries. The Solo Nationals in Nebraska had seven MoHud members. Russ gave the finishing places of MoHud members racing at the Solo Nationals and the NE Divisionals. New England Region has given us a donation for using our equipment. The membership agreed to return this check to New England Region, since we have used their equipment in the past at no charge.

**PDX** – scheduled for Oct 22 at Lime Rock Park. 18 students and 22 instructors are currently signed up.

**Activities** – Aqua Duck, Golf, and Go Kart night were recently held and well attended.

**Competition** – National racing is over for the season. Jack gave a summary of MoHud member finishes. Jack also provided a summary of MoHud finishes at the recent Glen race.

**Old Business** – Mini Con price/fee needs to be finalized. Registration will be on Motorsportreg. Hall has been reserved for the holiday banquet. Motion made and approved to order 1000 MoHud stickers.

**New Business** – Chip provided a final fiscal accounting for the July MoHud Lime Rock Park regional race. A motion was approved for the Region to set aside \$1000 to reimburse MoHud members (per registered entry) for those who attended the recently held Solo Nationals.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 pm.

# MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP REPORT 09/16/2011

Dave Wachtel and Will Schambach

**New member report from: 07/01/11 to: 09/16/11.**

*Please welcome these new members to the region.*

| <b>Name</b>        | <b>Joined</b> | <b>City</b>    | <b>State</b> | <b>Comm.</b>   |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--|
| Douglas Anderson   | 07/13/11      | Gansevoort     | NY           | (518)368-6059(H)<br>doug450x@yahoo.com   |
| Dean Baker         | 07/20/11      | Troy           | NY           | (860)638-7506(H)<br>solarwater@gmail.com   |
| Nelson Guay        | 07/28/11      | East Greenbush | NY           | (518)526-3993(H)<br>guay.nelson@gmail.com  |
| GEORGE C. KLINE    | 09/05/11      | Johnstown      | NY           | (518)762-7952(H)<br>HEMI1@CITLINK.NET  |
| Gabriella Varcoe   | 07/29/11      | Schenectady    | NY           |  |
| Ian Wallace        | 07/19/11      | Albany         | NY           | (518)598-8694(H)<br><a href="mailto:ianwal1@hotmail.com">ianwal1@hotmail.com</a> |
| Bernard Tobiassen  | 9/9/11        | Catskill       | NY           | <a href="mailto:toby@mhccable.com">toby@mhccable.com</a>                         |
| Margaret Tobiassen | 9/10/11       | Catskill       | NY           |  |

**Interests report generated on: 09/16/11.**

## **Club Racing**

|                    |        |            |          |  |
|--------------------|--------|------------|----------|--|
| Douglas Anderson   |        | Gansevoort | NY       | (518)368-6059(H)<br>doug450x@yahoo.com                                       |
| Dean Baker         |        | Troy       | NY       | (860)638-7506(H)<br>solarwater@gmail.com                                     |
| George C. Kline    |        | Johnstown  | NY       | (518)762-7952(H)<br><a href="mailto:HEMI1@CITLINK.NET">HEMI1@CITLINK.NET</a> |
| Bernard Tobiassen  | 9/9/11 | Catskill   | NY       | <a href="mailto:toby@mhccable.com">toby@mhccable.com</a>                     |
| Margaret Tobiassen |        | 9/10/11    | Catskill | NY   |

## **Solo**

|             |  |        |    |   |
|-------------|--|--------|----|---|
| Ian Wallace |  | Albany | NY | (518)598-8694(H)<br>ianwal1@hotmail.com |
|-------------|--|--------|----|---|

**Anniversary Report generated on: 09/16/11**

| <b>Name</b>       | <b>Joined on</b> | <b>Years</b> |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
|                   | <b>August</b>    |              |
| Russell Burckhard | 08/06/96         | 15           |
| Ron Checca        | 08/21/96         | 15           |
| Andrew S. Furlong | 08/06/96         | 15           |
| Denise A. Greppo  | 08/14/06         | 5            |
| Frank Greppo      | 08/07/06         | 5            |
|                   | <b>September</b> |              |
| Brian French      | 09/11/06         | 5            |

**There are 314 members in the region.**

# Street Survival

By Will Schambach

The Tire Rack Street Survival program hosted on September 17<sup>th</sup> as a joint venture between MoHud SCCA and Patroon BMWCCA was a resounding success. The event was held at the Fortitech warehouse facility just off the grounds of the Schenectady County Airport in Glenville.



When planning started for our TRSS program around 90 days ago, I was encouraged that there was tremendous support from both the MoHud and Patroon communities and that we had so many capable volunteers who ended up making the event the success that it was.



The initial focus for the program was to cap the program at twenty students, and we would have one instructor per student. When the event registration was finally accessible to students we had no doubt we would be able to fill our program number for students. Word spread to the MoHud and Patroon communities and we drew a number of students from those clubs. The rest of the registrants were friends of club members or friends of other registrants. No other outreach was made and we were able to fill our twenty-student objective a couple of weeks before the event. We even ended up with four students on the event's waiting list.

Outreach to instructors was of more concern for the event. Obviously we wanted the highest quality instructors from the two clubs and also wanted to fulfill our one student per instructor objective. Thanks to the efforts of DJ McArdle and our TRSS Chief Instructor Kevin Belden, our event was set up for instructors on [Motorsportreg.com](http://Motorsportreg.com). Email blasts were sent to all individuals who had instructed for Patroon and/or MoHud events in the past. Response for instructors was somewhat slow but we did sign up roughly half those needed early on. Our one-to-one number looked to be difficult to attain.

A few weeks prior to our event we were still shy of meeting instructor numbers. I decided to reach out to some newer autocrossers who hadn't any previous instructing experience. All were individuals I have driven with on-course, or I've instructed at autocross schools. I was confident they would fulfill their roles in our program. The response I received was very positive. These individuals were thrilled at being asked. I was very pleased with how seriously they took the task. They all asked for instruction materials prior to the event and made sure they



understood what needed to be done on event day. I think being asked to participate in such an important event has provided some validation for these newer region members that they are an important part of our organization.

We ended up having a few more instructors than registered students and the decision was made among the event Chiefs that we would open registration up for a few more students. With last minute cancellations of some instructors and students we were able to accept all of our wait-listed students. With those added we ended with 22 students and one instructor to every student. This allowed Chief Instructor Kevin Belden to move from an active instructing role to

*Bill Wade demonstrates.*

support for our instructors during the day and talk individually with each and every parent present about the program and the progress of their child.

Since this was our Region's first TRSS program, it is program policy to have TRSS National Director Bill Wade provide instruction for the classroom portion. Our future classroom chief Brian Bailey was present all day to follow Bill Wade to learn the ropes of the classroom instruction program. I'm sure Brian learned a great deal in the nearly eight hours of classroom presentation done twice to provide all students in the split-session format that was run.

The hands-on portion of the program started with a panic stop "wake-up" exercise. After which the group was split in two, half making their way to the course and the other half to the classroom. We were lucky enough to have services from the Air National Guard who provided a 4000 gallon pumper truck and at least four guardsmen to flood our skidpad course with water. In combination with a freshly sealed surface, the water made sufficiently slick conditions for students to experience and learn control with under- and over-steer conditions, and, of course, was lots of fun to watch! If the cars wouldn't provide oversteer on their own, our instructors were sure to adjust the physics of the chassis by pulling the e-brake handle.

From the skidpad, the students could head to the full course which was a slalom linked by chicanes into a tight turn linked to a lane change linked to a stop box. Early in the day, most instructors stopped students after each individual element to provide feedback. Later on in the day as their skills progressed, students were encouraged to link exercises together at increasing speeds with mandatory stops only after the lane change and stop boxes.

For increasing their interest and challenge, later in the day, students linked the skidpad into the full course. Additionally, the slalom was changed to provide offsets, differing space between gates, and even helpers throwing cones out as avoidance drills. A bent stop box was set up at the end of the course providing a turn-and-brake maneuver. I didn't get a chance to watch



# 11

every element in detail all day but I can tell you from the really tentative “panic braking” done early in the day to the really hard (but controlled) screeching brake-and-turns happening later in the day by EVERY STUDENT, these kids learned an enormous amount about what their car can do in emergency situations.

At the end of the day all students were provided a program completion certificate. More importantly, they were provided the tools needed to become

much safer drivers on the road. Our event objective was completely fulfilled and the feedback we got from both parents and students was unilaterally positive. As a bonus, everyone had a great time even those students who were not eager participants at the start of the day.



As a past instructor for one of these TRSS programs, I believe our instructors were more fulfilled from the experience than they may have thought they would be. After reflecting on my instructing experience, I really felt we made a huge difference in the student’s life behind the wheel. I have no doubt that many lives are saved because this program or ones like it provide these students with great new driving skills. Scott Goodyear put it well: “Usually the first time a

young driver has their car skid or slide underneath them, they’re on their way to their first accident.”

I owe a large debt of gratitude to our TRSS Chiefs. They really did make my position as event chair easy. They are: Lora Kanetzky, Ron Bass, Brian Bailey, Bert Huiest, Kevin Belden, and DJ McArdle. Thanks also to Russ Burkhard for being the liaison to Fortitech and to the trucking company which provided a semi-truck for a mirror demo. In particular, thanks to DJ McArdle and Kevin Belden



who were on the receiving end of countless emails

from me and as event day got closer, the number of those emails grew exponentially. Eric Smith and Jeff Kanetzky also provided immense help and gave their time to the program and are huge assets to the Region.

Thanks to Fortitech for allowing us the use of the site, SODEXO for providing lunch for everyone on site, and the Air National Guard for the pumper truck and personnel.



Thanks to the following people for instructing. You did the “heavy lifting” for this program and made it what it was: Ron Bass, Kevin Belden, Bill Bennett, Michael Breault, Jim Bucci, Russ Burkhard, Ron Carl, Matt Collings, Kevin Gebert, Tom Hansen, Rob Harrington, Jeff Kanetzky, Doug Kelley, Bruce Kosakoski, Keith Lauria, Phil LePore, Chazz Logue, Tom Moeller, Lyndon Peck, Phil Redington, Moises Samaniego, Eric Smith, and Jon Staude.



***A great event!***





## LOCAL FAVORITE & INDY 500 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR ADDED TO LOST SPEEDWAYS PROGRAM

When the Saratoga Automobile Museum's popular Lost Speedways program goes green on its traditional **"Saturday after Thanksgiving" date, November 26th**, a former Indianapolis 500 Rookie of the Year will be among the speakers.

Hall of Fame driver Denny Zimmerman, known to New York racers and fans as a tough competitor on the asphalt at both the Utica-Rome and Albany-Saratoga Speedways, will be on hand to recall his outstanding career. He'll reflect on his time on the NASCAR Sportsman circuit, his Atlantic seaboard travels with asphalt guru Eddie Flemke, Red Foote and Rene Charland as the Eastern Bandits, and his open cockpit days, which saw him move from URC sprint cars to Indy cars, highlighted by an eighth place finish in the 1973 Indianapolis 500 that earned him Rookie of the Year honors.

Zimmerman, who left racing for a career as an airline pilot, is back racing again, running a midget owned by Skip Matczak, long known as an owner of both modified and supermodified racers. Matczak will join Zimmerman in offering recollections of the early days of the Albany-Saratoga Speedway, which many fear has run its last event since it is currently listed for sale. Especially interesting will be Matczak's recollections of the night the throttle stuck on his gorgeous modified and Buddy Krebs disappeared into the woods with the engine still at peak rpm.

The New Englanders will be joined on the diverse program by motorcycle racing expert Mark Supley, announcer Jim King, who will recall the glory days of the short lived Cairo Speedway and historian Bill Ladabouche, who will illustrate the glory years of Plattsburgh's Airborne Park Speedway.

NASCAR Late Model Short Track division historian Ken Parrotte will also make an illustrated presentation, with five-time division champion and Southern 500 winner Jim Reed on hand to answer questions about his exploits. Parrotte will read a letter from famed stock car and Indy 500 champion Parnelli Jones about his days in the division and his memories of racing against Jim Reed, the dominant driver in the series.

Lost Speedways 2011 will commence with memorabilia on display at 11:30 am with the formal presentations set for 1 pm. Visitors are encouraged to bring their treasures to share with other fans and retired participants.

Regular museum admission prices will prevail, with museum members, as always, admitted free. Directions and other information can be found online at [www.saratogaautomuseum.org](http://www.saratogaautomuseum.org).

### SARATOGA AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM

110 Avenue of the Pines, Saratoga Springs, New York 12866 | p. 518.587.1935 | f. 518. 587.4149

# End of Summer...

## *Our Fish Creek adventure is cut short*

When we planned our annual trip to the Adirondacks at Fish Creek Pond, we never anticipated the campground would be closed due to weather. We have spent more years than I can really remember relaxing and enjoying the beautiful scenery of the Adirondacks at Fish Creek and the surrounding lakes and mountains at the end of every August.

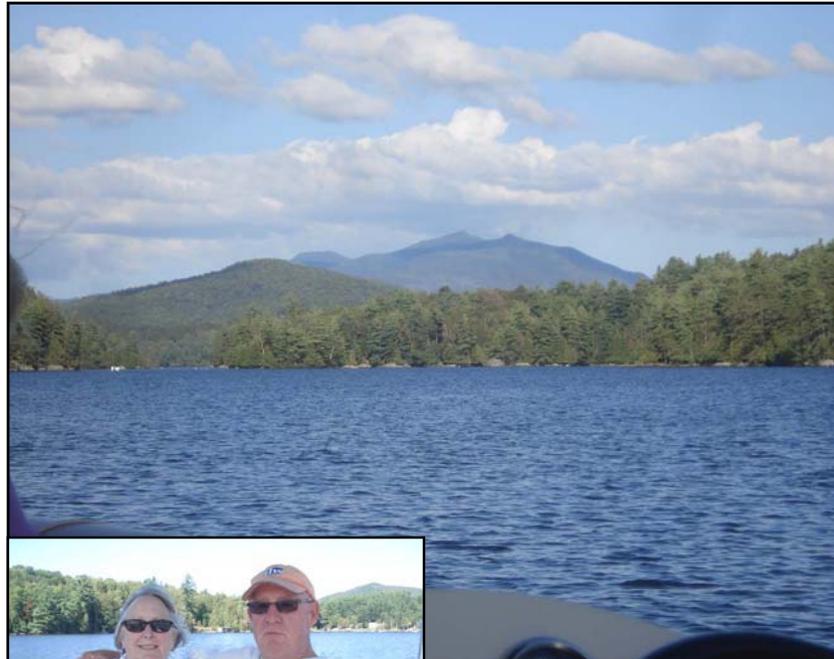
This year we expected to do the very same as in the past. Pete and Diane Smith, John and Denni Sheridan, Tom and Carol Campbell, and us; Jack and Lisa Hanifan trek north with our motorhomes to build campfires, eat outdoors, laugh a great deal and enjoy the beauty, peace and tranquil setting we always find there.

Tropical storm Irene was a far off thought in our minds when we manoeuvred our motorhomes into positions on our sites. We managed to get in five days of lazy book reading, afternoon siestas, and campfires. Our pontoon boat rides on the pond, Upper Saranac Lake and connecting creeks provided us with the serenity we seek up there. We were able to have many adventures and much laughter as always. But it was not to last.

The end of our week was cut short a full day when the rangers announced everyone needed to vacate the campground by noon on Saturday before the storm was scheduled to hit the northeast. Although we had no idea at the time it would be as devastating as it became, we packed up and left, only to long for our next trip back next year, fate willing. You can see from the accompanying photos just how beautiful it is up there and why we continue to travel to this place year after year. It is truly a beautiful place.



Denni & John (behind her) Sheridan and Tom and Carol Campbell ride along one of the streams connecting the pond and lake near our campsites.



Upper Saranac Lake was the backdrop for Diane & Pete Smith enjoying the ride. (Pete is normally captain of the vessel but here he had been relinquished command temporarily to enjoy a snack brought aboard).