

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

February 2019

The REport

New year, new faces

If you haven't already heard, the SCCA has opened the New Year with some reorganization and staff additions within the marketing department at the national office in Topeka, Kansas.

Heyward Wagner has been promoted to Senior Director of Marketing and Experiential Programs. Jon Krolewicz has shifted to Time Trials Program Manager, and Andie Albin to Creative Manager. Blair Deffenbaugh joins the national staff as Marketing Project Manager, and Courtney Rivers has been added as Staffing Coordinator for the Track Night in America Driven by Tire Rack program. In addition, SCCA Ventures Inc., has named Sydney Davis Yagel as General Manager of SCCA Pro Racing.

By the time you read this, I will have just returned from the SCCA national convention. Look for a full report in next month's Knockoff.



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

PS: In this month's Journal: Jon Waterhouse goes to a rally at Monza

Coming Events: February and...

- **February 3:** Sunday. Ice racing scheduled at Lake Algonquin, near Wells, New York. Racing scheduled for Saturday and Sunday the following weekend on Lake George. Go to Adirondack Motor Enthusiast Club's website <icerace.com > to see if, when and where there might be proper ice.
- **February 6**: Wednesday, 7:30pm. MoHud Membership Meeting. Maggies Cafe and Sports Bar, Western Avenue, Albany.
- **February 15-16**: Friday-Saturday. Northeast Division Mini Convention at the Radisson Harrisburg (PA) Hotel. < http://www.scca-susq.com/2018-nediv-minicon/ >
- **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 6th Avenue, Troy. (Date tentative)
- April 28: Sunday, 9am to 5pm. Another Street Survival School at Saratoga Automobile Museum/ SPAC. Register as an instructor via
 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.
- **The Year Ahead**: Comprehensive schedule of Road Racing and Time Trials in the northeast at NEDiv's website:
 - < http://www.nediv.com/nediv-info/2019-nediv-schedule >



Awards Committee Chairperson Trish Bucci presents the Lewis McClumpa award to Peter Kroth, 2018 winner. Peter's frequent volunteering for all matter of club tasks and SCCA events makes him a worthy recipient. (*Presented at Maggie's on January* 2^{nd})

Fall Back Rally Recap

~ Trish Bucci, Rallymaster

Hopefully you're aware that MoHud hosted a rally back in November. Or, perhaps, you even participated in the rally and know how much fun it was.







Yup, There's an App for That!

There was actually some excitement beyond just the thrill of competing in a road rally. While it was a clear weather day, it was windy, and that wind brought down a tree limb that brought down some power lines – and it all happened right in front of one of our competitors! Unfortunately, the sudden stop caused some brake-line damage and Tom Moeller and his navigator were unable to finish the rally. Fortunately, there was no major damage and no injuries. The rest of the competitors were faced with a blocked rally route at that point. And the rallymaster had no idea because she was sitting at a checkpoint where there just wasn't any cell service (mental note to consider that in future rally planning). Sort of a perfect storm. A couple of competitors who had already passed the checkpoint did come back to let us know about the situation and we were able to get everyone to the mid-point break location or the post-break restart location and the rally continued on.

By all accounts heard at the social gathering and trophy presentation after the rally, everyone had a good time in spite of the unexpected change of plans.

I want to thank everyone who participated, your support of rally events is very much appreciated! MoHud doesn't have a very large group of rallyists but I sincerely thank those of you who continue to come out and support our events and have fun. Rallyists frequently say they have the best stories, I think the Fall Back Rally bears that out.

I would also like to especially thank Peter Kroth for manning a checkpoint during the rally, and Greg Rickes for a lot of advertising to get the word out in hopes of drawing a larger turn-out for us.

And finally, thank you to Jim for helping me put the entire rally together – which means that he drove while I navigated and figured out where the heck I wanted to go; he tolerated my multiple requests to back up because I missed something, and/or complete changes of plans because a road didn't go where I thought it did; he had to drive the complete route many times to be sure we had everything right and also as the safety steward to ensure there were no safety issues; he helped me figure out the math in my first-ever-from-scratch TSD rally; and he had to wash the car multiple times because of those dirty roads. Thank you for all of it!

Trophy winners and post-rally fun >>>

Fall Back Rally Debrief



3rd Place: Diane & Paul Malecki



2nd Place: Ron & Eileen Bass



1st Place: Ken & Michelle Relation



Along the Route, Late Fall Colors a Blur....



Bench Rallying Afterward!

Rallying can be family fun

Young Ayrton Servis helped parents Andrew and Sarah win the Family Lego Trophy



Road Racing



"Without data you're just another person with an opinion." - W. Edwards Deming, Data Scientist

Meet interesting people

Learn new skills

WANTED RACE DATA TECHNICIANS

For more information CONTACT:

Glen Thielke "The Data Guy" Race Data Technician Email: techdata@scca.com

SCCA Road Racing

Data Acquisition is a volunteer specialty within the Sports Car Club of America. "Data Techs" place small GPS driven data collection devices in race cars at various SCCA events. The data (speed, acceleration, g-forces) is then downloaded, analyzed, and reports written and provided to the Club Racing Board and Class Advisory Committees to aid in making Balance of Performance adjustments. Volunteers are needed, and an opportunity exists to learn a new specialty and put your social and analytical skills to work. Guidance, training, and moral support provided.

Talk to Bruce Kosakoski or Harry Adalian, on your right in the wanted poster above, at the February membership meeting; they're always happy to share information and enthusiasm.

Tire Rack Street Survival ~ Trish & Jim Bucci

Our most recent Tire Rack Street Survival event was held October 21, 2018 (and yes, I know we're very late in submitting this). Once again Saratoga Auto Museum hosted the event, providing space for breakfast, lunch and snacks as well as for our classroom portion of the day. The Route 50 SPAC lot was our driving course again. As we have come to expect, we had a completely full class. And last but certainly not least, we had volunteers show up for the day to participate in the form of in-car instructing, classroom instructing, cone-shagging, meal prepping, and coordinating all of the things that needed coordinating before, during and after the event. As the local chairpersons for this event, Jim and I sincerely thank each of you for your commitment to this incredibly worthwhile event.

In case you don't already know, we have scheduled two events for 2019. The first is on Sunday, April 28th and the second is Sunday, October 20th.

Please consider volunteering your time on one or both of those days to help us continue to host successful TRSS events. We need and will happily accept volunteers to serve in any role. You can just show up the day of the event and we will find a job that needs your skillset.

We are always looking for new in-car instructors, too, and if you wish to give that a try for the first time, you will need to prepare ahead of time. There is a short online course to take and then our Chief of Instructors, Kevin Belden, will talk with you a bit about your driving experience and "certify" you as an instructor. Trust me, it is a very rewarding thing to do!

Thank you, Trish & Jim



Everybody's Favorite: the Skidpad

TRSS at SPAC Pics



Classroom instructor Brian Bailey talks about proper hand positioning on the steering wheel



Practical Demonstration of Weight Transfer During Hard Evasive Maneuvers



Left: Another highlight, the lunchtime tractor trailer demonstration and talk with driver Andy Cottone

Below: Graduation Picture



Track Night in America

No better way to get a taste of going fast on a race track, Tire Rack/SCCA Track Night in America will be held at several of our neighboring tracks this year. Here's a listing of tentative dates:

Lime Rock Park; Lakeville, CT May 22, May 23, June 13

New Hampshire Motor Speedway; Loudon, NH May 24

New Jersey Motorsports Park; Millville, NJ April 23, May 21, June 25, July 24, August 13, September 10

Palmer Motorsports Park; Palmer, MA
May 2, June 6, June 27, July 18, August 8, September 5

Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park; Thompson, CT April 23, May 9, June 18, July 11, July 30, August 22, September 12, October 3

For more information, go to < https://www.tracknightinamerica.com And look for some tech tips in the March KO.

In Memoriam: Carlton Foster





Here's Carlton showing off some of his Keene Memorial Hillclimb badges, and here's Carlton showing off his Saab 850 in what was probably the '66 event. (Thanks to Greg Rickes/ Joe Corbett archives)

Canada Bound?

So you're planning to run in a Canadian motorsports event.

Nutt'n to it, right? Sorta!



Driving to Canada and back again is a lot more complicated than when I was a kid. All you needed to go over the Peace Bridge in Buffalo was a well-scrubbed face and knowing where you were born. And as long as you didn't say "in a hospital," that was it.

Today, thanks to NAFTA and Canada's bitterness over the recently escalated tariff wars, it's a little more complicated.

Assuming you always have your license, car registration and insurance card with you when you drive, all you need for pleasure trips to Canada is your passport. Take your other documentation with you if you are not a US citizen; that way you have a better chance of getting back in from Canada.

Driving a track-day car, or trailering a race car, there's the potential issue of tariffs.

Importing and exporting production automotive products tariff-free was a key component of the original NAFTA agreement (think "Windsor V-8"). If you are going to bring a retail-saleable automotive item into Canada, the regs require you to pay the appropriate tariff at the border, then apply for a refund when you leave with the item in your possession. Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) Form B29E covers it.

Fortunately, Canadian Tariff Item 9993.00.00.00 provides an exception when importing items for short-term use in Canada and return to the US. The exception allows for a bond, covering the items, to be posted either by the importer or a Canadian sponsor.

In practice, reputable Canadian motorsports promotors obtain a covering bond evidenced by Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) Form BSF259E. This is accompanied by a letter from CBSA detailing the sponsor and event(s) covered. Don't leave home without a copy of the letter covering your event! No copy available? I'd not go.

So what's CBSA interested in? Equipment, racing fuel, tires and anything else you might sell there, including your car. To make your border stops entering and leaving Canada are relatively short, make sure you have the following with you:

- The "9993.00.00.00 letter" for your event
- Proof of car ownership if the car is unlicensed
- List of all race equipment and supplies being carried, including value of each significant item. (ps: don't carry more racing fuel than you'll reasonably need)
- A calm demeanor

- ed.

Membership Report- January 2019

-Jim Garry Mohud Membership Chairman

As of January 22nd Mohawk Hudson Region has 396 members. We've been holding steady in this range for about a half year. Remember, try to sell our club to anyone you know who might be interested in the SCCA.

New Members

James Carrk, Delmar Interest: Rally

Troy Dinkel, Ballston Spa Interest: Club & Pro Racing, Rally

Robert Clear, Fort Edward

Significant Anniversaries

Vince DePaul	5
David Young	20
Bruce Kosakoski	20
Nancy & Todd Boice	25
Jack Hanifan	45



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

KO Now Preserved in the Cloud

Past issues of the KnockOff, coming from the Archives as shepherded by Jim Bucci, and from the personal collection of Clark Nicholls, have been digitized by Clark for continuing access via the MoHud website. As the digitizing project continues, issues back to the Club's founding in 1956-57 will be available for online reading or downloading as PDFs. No word at present as to any plans for creating an electronic index. The entire project is, as they say, "in progress."

To easily access issues back to 2005, go to the MoHud website < www.mohud-scca.org , click on the "Welcome" tab at the upper left-hand side, and drag down to "Knock Off." You'll see each available issue listed, with more recent issues tagged with short summary of contents. A collection of KO's from 1957 through 2001 is available at < http://www.mohud-scca.org/ko-archives/ >

Keep in mind that the entire project is, as they say, "in progress," so more issues will be available as the months roll along.

Membership Meeting Minutes 7Nov'18 ~ Row Bass

Maggie's Cafe, Western Avenue, Albany. Meeting called to order 8:00 pm.

October meeting minutes as published in the Knock Off accepted unanimously.

Treasurer - Paul Malecki summarized previous month's income and expenditures. Paul will be preparing the draft budget that will be shared at the January membership meeting.

Membership - there are presently 395 members with four new members.

Solo – Tire Rack Street Survival was at the end of October. It was at the Saratoga Auto Museum. There were 21 students and 22+ instructors. There are tentative plans for two schools next year in April and October. The Schenectady Gazette printed an article about the school.

Road Rally - the Fall Back Road Rally was last weekend. There were 8 entrants. It was not without event. The first stage had to be halted due to a fallen tree and a downed power line. The second stage was uneventful. Dinner followed with awards.

Activities - we're still in need of an Activities Chairperson. Please contact Jim Bucci if you're interested. We are planning on having a kart race at Checkers Out this winter in Johnstown.

Club Racing - Tom Campbell described his and Charlie's experience at the Runoffs. He is preparing an article for the upcoming Knock Off. The Runoffs videos are now available online. Club Racers should send their top 5 finishes for the season to Jim prior to the upcoming Awards Banquet (details were in the October Knock Off). Harry Adalian and Bruce Kosakoski attended the Runoffs as Data Collection Technicians. The goal is to identify parity between cars. Aashish Vemulapalli have a report on this year's first SCCA Time Trial Nationals.

Old Business - Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet will be at the German American Club on Saturday December 1, 6:00 pm, dinner at 7:00 pm. Officer elections will be at the Awards Banquet. Nominations were closed at the end of the evening's meeting. Draft bylaws were published in the October Knock Off. General discussion followed. Need for an annual activities report and voting requirements on the bylaws was discussed. Paul Malecki will offer a legal opinion to the Board on how to proceed with membership voting on the proposed changes to the bylaws.

New Business - for the National Convention, the Chapter will reimburse expenses for officers or Event Chairs attending. Jim Garry is expected to attend. Saratoga Auto Museum has a new display - vintage race cars, many which are SCCA. Tom Campbell was thanked for arranging the recent tour of the Jim Taylor auto exhibit.

Officer nominations were closed at the conclusion of the meeting. The following members are on the ballot:

Chip Van Slyke – Director

Bruce Kosakoski - Director

Jim Bucci - Regional Executive

Eric Smith - Assistant Regional Executive

Ron Bass - Secretary

Paul Malecki - Treasurer

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Annual Meeting Minutes

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Mohawk Hudson Region SCCA Annual Membership Meeting, December 1st, 2018 German American Club, Albany NY 65 Members and Guests in Attendance Meeting called to order - 7:56 pm.

Officer elections - Secretary cast one vote for the officer slate:

Jim Bucci - Regional Executive

Eric Smith - Assistant Regional Executive

Ron Bass - Secretary
Paul Malecki - Treasurer
Chip Van Slyke – Director
Bruce Kosakoski - Director

Treasurer - Paul Malecki summarized the clubs expenses, income, and current balance.

Membership - Jim Garry summarized the previous year's monthly membership numbers. The Club needs to continue to focus on membership acquisition and retention.

Bylaws - review and approval of the recent redraft by the membership will be done over the next several months. The draft bylaws were published in the October Knock Off.

Solo - Russ Burkhardt, Solo Chair, awarded the 2018 Solo awards. Prior to beginning the award ceremony, Russ noted that Solo grew dramatically this past year, with an average of 75 members per event with 164 individuals. The site owner, the Empire State Aeroscience Museum was thanked for their support.

EJ and Chip Van Slyke awarded the Mo Hud Road Race Awards.

EJ awarded annual Club Awards.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.



Membership Meeting Minutes 2Jan'19 ~ Row Bass

Maggie's Cafe, Western Avenue, Albany. Meeting called to order - 7:30 pm.

Treasurer - Paul Malecki provided a summary of the previous month's income and expenses. The Region recently allocated support money that would be offered to members who attended the Runoffs and Solo Nationals - a \$1000 tow fund with a maximum of \$200/driver and \$100/worker. Paul identified those members who were eligible to receive a portion of the allocated funds.

Solo – the Region will again be running at the Aerospace Museum. The Solo Committee will be meeting shortly to develop the 2019 schedule.

Activities - we're continuing to search for an Activities Chairperson. Any member interested in volunteering to help at this position should contact Jim Bucci.

Tire Rack Street Survival – 2019 dates are April 28 and October 20. It will again be run at the Saratoga Auto Museum.

Knock Off - Clark Nichols is in the process of digitizing old copies of the Knock Off.

Road Racing - NYSRRC and NERRC race schedules for the upcoming year have been published.

Mo Hud member Carlton Fox recently passed away. The Chapter has made a donation in Carlton's memory.

Regional Development SCCA Grant - Paul Malecki described the intent of the grant funds, which will be awarded to successful Region applicants. Maximum available is \$3000. Jim requested written proposals be submitted to the board prior to the next board meeting, which will be on Monday, January 28th, 7:00 pm.

National Convention - Jim, Trish, and Jim Garry will be attending. Please contact them directly for any issues you would like to be addressed at the Convention.

Saratoga Museum Update – the 2019 car show will be on May 19th. The Auto Museum Auction will be September 20/21. Current museum exhibit is vintage race cars, many of them which are SCCA.

Lewis McClumpa Award was awarded to Peter Kroth.

Altamont Fairgrounds – Paul Malecki is researching the history of auto racing at the fairgrounds. Please contact Paul if you have history or information on auto racing that took place 1930's thru 1950's.

Next general membership meeting will be February 6 at Maggie's. Maggie's Cafe has been sold to a new owner. The March meeting will need to be held at a new location - to be announced.

Meeting adjourned - 8:10 pm.

Mo-Hud Officers and Contacts

Regional Executive (RE)

Jim Bucci hdjimbu@gmail.com

Assistant RE

Eric "EJ" Smith EJEvo8@gmail.com

Treasurer

Paul Malecki paul@dianenpaulmalecki.org

Secretary

Ron Bass <u>m3apx@aol.com</u>

Club Racing Chair

Jack Hanifan jackhanifan@hotmail.com

Rally Chair

Trish Bucci trimar71@gmail.com

SOLO Chair

Russ Burckhard russtduck@gmail.com

Membership Chair

Jim Garry mhr.membership@gmail.com

Chief of Pits

Clark Nicholls cwnicholls@aol.com

Scrutineering (Tech)

Richard Welty: See his Facebook page

Chief, Flagging & Comm.

Richard Alexander dweebdad@msn.com

Activities Director

Open. Contact Jim Bucci if interested ...

Merchandise

Chip VanSlyke chipperv@earthlink.co

Director

Bruce Kosakoski bkbbmw@gmail.com

Director

Chip VanSlyke chipperv@earthlink.co

WebMaster

Eric "EJ" Smith ejevo8@gmail.com

NeDiv License Chair

Dick Patullo (NER) patullo@verizon.net

KnockOff

Paul Malecki 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 1st Wednesday of the month, excepting July and August, 7:30pm, at Maggies, Western Avenue (Rt. 20), Albany, across from the SUNY-Albany main entrance.





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The KnockOff Journal

This Month...

- A Different Kind of Rally



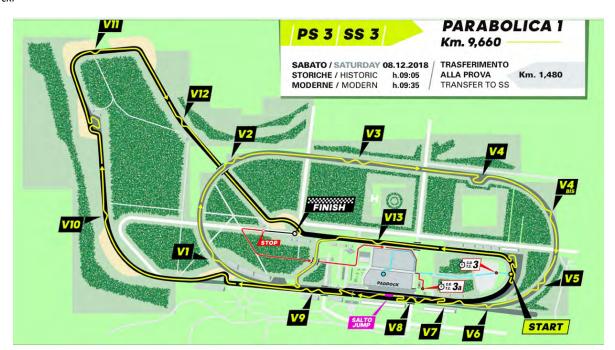
MONZA RALLY SHOW 2018

~ Jon Waterhouse

I had not given any thought of attending the Monza Rally Show until Greg Rickes emailed me a press release that he had seen on the internet. The event is held at the famed Monza Autodromo, home of the Italian Grand Prix, on the first weekend of December. To the uninformed (me), I thought the Monza Rally Show would be a car show. The name Show in the event title is misleading, as it is a four-days of activity starting with practice on Thursday and three days of competition.

After attending I now know: THE EVENT IS THE SHOW!

I decided to go on Saturday, the second day of competition. The city of Monza, where the track is located, is just east of Milan and about an hour's drive from my apartment in Stresa. The track is situated in a huge municipal city park at least twice the size of Saratoga Sate Park. The access into the track from the boulevard that runs parallel to the park is a narrow 2-way public street. The line of cars going in is long and I wondered what this is like when they have the Formula one race here! Admission was Twenty-five euros and I was directed to park in a large field next to a foot path that runs along an access road that leads to the track.



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Monza, cont'd, II...

After a ten-minute walk I arrive at the outer grand stands along the front straight. Here I decide to take the access road that goes under the track and into the paddock area behind inside grand stands. As I approach the entrance to the paddock there are throngs of people standing on both sides of the access toad. Security people with yellow vests start blowing their whistles and push the crowd back. Rushing towards us comes a WRC rally car zig zagging and power braking on its way to the staging area trying to get heat into the tires and brakes.

Once into the paddock I see transporters, pavilions, and hospitality tents as far as the eye can see. Many factory supported teams representing Ford, Hyundai, Toyota, Citroen, Peugeot and Renault. Big name sponsors such as Red Bull and Monster Energy Drink. Competitors come from many backgrounds. World Touring Car, Moto Grand Prix. LMP1 and Formula One. They don't sell programs, so I don't have an entry list or even a schedule.

There are various classes competing as established by the World Rally Championship (WRC). The cars in the fastest class are prepared to WRC 1.6 Turbo rules. Engine output in the 360HP range. Brakes are large 4 pot calipers with full floating rotors, sequential six speed gear boxes, coil over strut assemblies with remote reservoirs, big box fenders with aero tweaks, front splitter and rear wings for down force.





As I work my way around the paddock, I also find the historic group. On display and competing this weekend are older Porsche 911, Lancia Stratos, Ford Sierra Cosworth, BMW M3, and Mazda RX7. There are many hospitality tents set up for the teams sponsors as well as many corporate tents such as ENI Fuels and Michelin. I notice a huge crowd around a transporter with the number 46 on the side. It is Italy's MotoGP Cross legend and many-times World champion Valentino Rossi. He has been competing in this event for many years and is a repeat winner. Today he drives a Monster Energy drink sponsored WRC Ford Focus.

Today is the second of three days of competition. Each day competitors make a timed run through two different stages utilizing portions of the circuit that gates and switch backs have been incorporated. A great combination of high-speed braking, hand brake turns, and hard acceleration. Times for each stage are added up to determine the winner over the three days.

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Monza, cont'd, III...

All grand stand seating is open, and I can watch the action from both inside and outside the circuit. One of the grand stands is at the end of the front straight where the famous Prima Variant or first chicane is. Here the cars brake from a run from the last gate on the straight and gather up a pretty good head of steam. The cars are noticeably hunkered done under braking and downshifts are rapid fire. It is a quick right and left out of the chicane and hard acceleration headed to the Curve Biassono. Some of the drivers hit the curbing and are bicycling on two wheels and get off the throttle to set the car back down to be able to change direction.

One of the iconic landmarks of Monza is the high-banked oval that was used long ago (late 1950s) when the roadsters of the Indianapolis 500 came to Italy, and later also incorporated into some of the Formula One races. The banking has not been used for circuit racing in decades, but it was the rarest of treats to see that the rally cars used it as part of one of the timed stages.

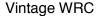
After walking a good part of the circuit, I climb up the stairs to the top of the grand stands on the front straights. From here I can see the cars going through the gates set up on the front straight, many with switchbacks which require hand brake turns. The more powerful four-wheel drive cars light up the tires as they change direction and accelerate away.

Now it is approaching 4 o'clock and it's time to head back to Stresa to avoid the traffic on the autostrada around Milan. I wish I had more time to watch as the sun is starting to set, and the competitors are now running with their lights on. On the ride home, I reflect of the day's activities and have a new perspective of rally sport.

The sports section of Monday's paper reads," Valentino Rossi is the winner of the 2018 Monza Rally Show that took place at Monza Eni Circuit. It's the fourth win in a row and seventh in a total for one of the world's greatest motorcycle racers who proved once more that he's a master on the four wheels too."

- Jon







Vintage Valentino Rossi