



THE KNOCK OFF

August 2026 Issue

The Publication of the Mohawk-Hudson Region SCCA



The MoHud Compound at the Thompson Majors

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www.mohud-scca.org



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MoHudSCCA/>

From the Editor

This month the Knock Off and the region say goodbye to a friend. I first met Andy Furlong autocrossing back in the '90s. We had many great battles in our DSP Acuras. A stalwart of Mohud events, Andy was always there with a dry quip to make us laugh. Andy, you will be remembered.

Another packed article this month thanks to our contributors and in the middle of summer, no less. Thanks to Paul, Diane, Theresa, Pat, EJ, and Jim.

For Sale

Contact Tom Campbell tomcampbellscga@gmail.com



**Nitrogen bottle, industrial grade
regulator, mounting bracket and 25 ft.
air hose with reel.**



Paddock Scooter: Honda

What's Happening

- Aug 5, 2026** **6:30pm. Cars and Cones summer social gathering #3. Guptil's Ice Cream 1085 Loudon Rd, Cohoes.**
<https://www.facebook.com/Guptillsicecream/>
- Aug 9, 2026** **Solo Event #3, Tech City, 550 Enterprise Dr, Kingston NY**
<https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/mohud-solo-2026-event-3-tech-city-kingston-ny-scca-mohawk-hudson-509428>
- Aug 15, 2026** **Midnight Madness, Thompson Speedway, Thompson CT. Mohud Road Racing Championship Event #3.** <https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/ner-midnight-madness-5-w-cre-hrg-thompson-speedway-motorsports-park-scca-429127>
- Aug 30, 2026** **Solo Points Event #4, Tech City, 550 Enterprise Dr, Kingston NY.**
<https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/mohud-solo-2026-event-4-tech-city-kingston-ny-scca-mohawk-hudson-664064>
- Sept 7, 2026** **Solo National Championship, Lincoln Airpark, Lincoln NE,**
<https://www.scca.com/events/2009396-2026-tire-rack-scca-solo-national-championships-lincoln-airpark>
- Sept 29-Oct 5, 2026** **The Runoffs National Championship – Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI**
<https://www.scca.com/runoffs>
- October 22-25, 2026** **Time Attack National Championship, Eagles Canyon Raceway, Decatur TX.** <https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/scca-national-time-trials-eagles-canyon-raceway-trial-637587>

Check out the full regional calendar at:

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=4l0pcskqj0sbmtg8scke5et658%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America%2FNew_York

Tales from the Track

*Intrepid reporter **Theresa Lux** brings us three race reports this month!*

Hoosier Super Tour, Watkins Glen International, Friday June 19th- Sunday June 21st

Racers from all over the country came out for the Hoosier Race Tires Super Tour hosted by the Finger Lakes SCCA region at Watkins Glen International. Five MoHud members made the trip despite the severe weather on Thursday.

Doug Garrison was once again enjoying track time in his Enterprise SRF 3 in a group of 36 cars. Doug improved upon both of his two qualifying times during Race 1 with a time of 2:10.382. He successfully completed both races crossing the finish line on the same lap as the lead car.

Aided by Sal Baisley as crew, Max LuxRamos competed in his second Super Tour. Max's entry to the race was in question earlier in the week after a post-race inspection from his wins at Lime Rock noted the engine needed a rebuild. Calling upon his mechanical skills, Max was able to disassemble and rebuild the 2011 Mini Cooper car with a back-up motor by Wednesday.



Doug Garrison at the HST at the Glen



Before and after photos of Max's 2011 Mini Cooper from the engine swap out

The field of 10 B-Spec cars were given a split start with a second pace car for each race. Throughout the 25-minute race, Max held positions 3, 4, and 5 in Race 1 ultimately landing in 4th due to a late in the race pass by the 2025 National Champion. The podium was even closer in Race 2 with an early 2nd place position. At the end of the race, Max was closing in from 4th to take 3rd ; another lap with handling the corners may have been the answer that was needed to counter the back-up motor's sluggish uphill on the esses.

In the Race 2, Austen Levesque (2017 Toyota GT86) shaved 6 seconds off his first qualifying time. Off season adjustments and mechanical issues have plagued Austen this season thus far but his comeback in Race 2 points for a better season going forward.

Non-racers had the opportunity to drive (at 20mph) or walk the track during Friday's track walk. While in the driver's seat of my 2017 Fiesta SE with four race drivers, I was instructed on the preferred driving lines, experienced the rumble strip at turn one, noticed how much elevation change the track has outside of the boot, went wide in the bus stop, and crossed the checkered finish line. The experience showed how much talent is needed to handle the complex course and highlighted the thrill in handling these challenges drivers encounter.



Austen Levesque at the HST at the Glen

NER Last Chance Majors at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park- July 3rd and 4th

With temperatures near 100, racers with eyes on the SCCA Runoffs had one last chance to complete the Majors eligibility requirement over the 4th of July weekend. In line with the format for all Majors (including at The Glen), the event consisted of two qualifying sessions and two races. Positioning for the second qualifying and both races was based upon the best lap in any of the preceding events.

Max LuxRamos (2011 Mini Cooper in B-Spec) set his best lap time for positioning in the first qualifying event placing in him in the second row on the inside for each race. After a change of tires between Race 1 and 2, Max was able to improve upon his race finishing position from 4th to 2nd.

Jared Lendrum (2017 Subaru STI) and Austen Levesque (2017 Toyota GT86) raced each other in T3. They were just getting up to speed when double yellow came out during lap 3 and the already short session ended. Group 5 had better luck with the 20-minute qualifying session allowing Jared and Austen to improve their lap times. Saving their best laps for last, Jared finished 2nd in Race 1 with Austen 7 tenths behind him in 3rd place. Given the schedule with Enduro qualifying, T3 did not take the track again until after lunch on Saturday. Jared started in second and then led T3 for the first six laps crossing the finish line in second place. Austen ran as number 8 all weekend rather as 88 was taken be a driver in another class.



Little LeMans Enduro winners B Team Racing: Sal Baisley and Jim Cutler

After a successful pilot last year, the Little LeMans Enduro returned. Co-drivers for B Team Racing Sal

Baisley and Jim Cutler (2012 Mazda 3) came for the fun of endurance driving and left as repeat champions. Jim made some changes to the car from last year to this year, so Sal took the seat during qualifying to get reacquainted with the car. Qualifying was black flagged in lap 6 as 'Thom the Turtle' was making an attempt to join the race. Once Emergency Services carefully returned Thom back into the woods and away from the track, qualifying continued. Sal took the wheel first and after the mandatory 15-minute stoppage Jim drove across the finish line 5th overall and 1st in E4. The heat did not hamper Jim's enthusiasm noting "it was hotter than any race I've been in. The cool shirts were the savior. We can't wait to try it again". Looking forward to seeing the two team up again in 2027.

Vince Gentile and Richard Welty found some shade in the garage working in Tech and Theresa Lux spent Friday in the air conditioning working at Timing and Scoring. Mohud Members are NERRC Points leaders in 3 classes. Max is the leader in B-Spec, Jim is the leader in C-Spec, and Austen tops the leaderboard in T3 by two points over Jared.

NERRC Race Against Leukemia #4: July 18th & 19th at New Hampshire Motor Speedway

MoHud fans had three drivers to watch in Group 3. Ronald Bass was back on track in the FVR class (#51 - 1998 Volkswagen Mysterian) after some collateral damage from the New Hampshire race in May. Between track sessions on Sunday, Ron was tightening loose valves to improve the car's performance and his race experience in the Feature Race. The FV class saw Hilton Tallman (#8 - Vallis BRD BRD) and Tyler Reynolds (#33 - 2001 Citation) racing. Tyler is a "Karter" turned Road Racer having raced karts with Jim Cutler's son Jimmy at Adirondack Karting. Tyler flew from Texas for this



Ron Bass 1988 Mysterian

weekend's event after moving for work three years ago. Tyler keeps his car in here and hopes to return for Palmer and the Championship Race at Thompson in October.



Hilton Tallman Vallis BRD

Max LuxRamos (#9 - 2011 Mini Cooper) and Jim Cutler (#192 - 2012 Mazda 3) shared the track in Group 5. Group 5 experienced green-to-checked for all three events. Racing against his personal best and track record, Jim set a new C-Spec track record in the Sunday morning race, 1.5 seconds faster than his previous record. Jim enjoyed an extra lap around the track taking a victory lap at the end of the Feature Race.



Tyler Reynolds 2001 Citation



Max and Jim at Turn 1.

If you look very carefully you may spy Sal Baisley high up in the Control Tower. Sal shared responsibilities in Control coordinating and communicating with flaggers for the two-day event

After spending one day volunteering in Timing & Scoring, I Also had the opportunity to enjoy a lap around the track riding in a pace car for the start of one race. Experiencing Turn 3 firsthand at 45 mph gave just a peek into the skill needed by our road racers to handle the turn at much higher speeds and often wheel to wheel with another car or two.

Solo Report

Solo Event #1 (07/12/2026)

By Pat Clair and Eric Smith

The first autocross event was held at the Tech City lot in Kingston. Sixty-two (62) entrants tackled a very fun and fast course, providing some thrills and chills throughout the day. We would love to see this number of competitors at every meet!

The day was warm, but the entrants seemed to be able to cope. The course was a hit. One comment mentioned: "It was a kind of course that even when I am running mid-pack, it felt like I was winning because I was going so fast!"

There were a couple of mechanical challenges. Two competitors had punctured tires, one of which was acknowledged as having occurred before the event. EJ Smith developed a hole in his Civic Type R's oil cooler line. Many thanks to Sal Baisley, Matt Fraley and Vince Gentile for shuffling around cars to get EJ's car delivered home, ready for its next ride to the mechanic. (It was time for an oil change anyway!)

Many thanks to those who pitched in to make sure our equipment was on site while our new bus was being prepared. Shout out to Sal Baisley, Matt Fraley, Vince Gentile and Joe Cassidy who carried the load to and from.

The new "Andy Furlong Memorial" digital timing display made its debut. Andy Furlong made this generous donation to Mohawk-Hudson SCCA as part of the legacy he wanted to leave behind. We thank Andy for his generosity in his final days, and his family for being so appreciative of our efforts to honor Andy's memory this season.

Sal Baisley ran Andy Furlong's "Atomic Rabbit" as #117. (Andy will forever have the #17.) Also, we enjoyed some chocolate cookies in his remembrance. Andy always brought a tin of homemade cookies to Solo Advisory Committee meetings.

Per Andy's request, the Rabbit is to be enjoyed by anyone who wishes to take a spin through the cones.



The second autocross event is set for July 29, 2026. Come see the new bus!

Race Report

Pittsburg Vintage Grand Prix

July 18 – 19, 2026
Schenley Park, Pittsburg PA



Return with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear. From out of the past come roaring exhausts and squealing tires. Vintage racers come alive again!

You really ought to experience the Pittsburg Vintage Grand Prix, and the giant car show that accompanies it, at least once in your life. The 2.33 mile course runs uphill and down through Schenley Park, bordered by Pitt, Carnegie-Mellon, and neighborhoods such as Shadyside. All walkable.

At the course, Turn 9 hairpin is one of many great places to watch. Cars screaming downhill through 8, keeping to the left then braking hard to go through 9 on the right as a continuous curve to place themselves on the extreme left to blast up the hill to 10 and 11. Braking going into 9 a challenge; great opportunities for passing from 8 up to 11.



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Pittsburg Vintage cont'd 02

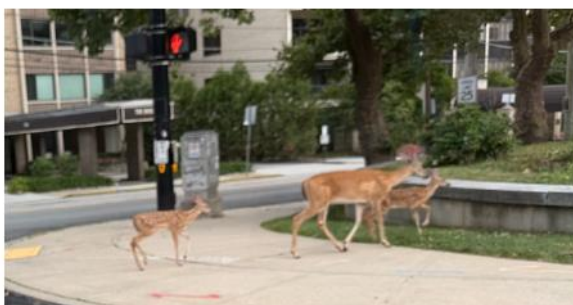
Although Pittsburg's Annual Picklesburg festival was a big deal that weekend, the Grand Prix festival had a great deal of media attention and good attendance.



Vintage Weekend

In addition to the vintage racers, SAE Challenge had cars from three local universities (RPI doesn't seem to have been invited), there was a drifting exhibition, and corrals on the hills around the course were filled with several hundred special-interest cars such as older Jaguars, Ferraris, Mustangs, and Fiats.

Even some of Pittsburg's urban deer decided to take it all in...



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Pittsburg Vintage cont'd 03

The hills surrounding the race course were **alive** with eye-candy cars...



Lust object: 1981 Fiat-Abarth Spyder 2000

~

Some Ferraris refuse to get dirt on their tires

No M. Heinz, we do not serve ketchup with frites.

~

Sprechen sie Deutsch?

>>>

Pittsburg Vintage cont'd 04

And on the race course...



To see and hear classic sports cars race – not parade – a few feet from your curbside vantage point is to experience how it must have been in Alexandria Bay, Watkins Glen, Briarcliff Manor, or even the 1939 World's Fair.

Above all it's the sound. An MG or Frazer-Nash using all its gears to keep revs high to overcome the lack of torque. The roar of a Jaguar Lightweight Competition Coupe.

But nothing can top the thunder of an SCCA A-Production Cobra at full bore, a few feet from the tips of your sandals!

Go there! See them! Hear them!



~ Paul 'n Diane M.

Membership Report

On July 25th Mohawk-Hudson Region's membership count stood at 334. That's up one from last month, down 14 from May when we reached a five year high mark.

New Members in June and July

Tyrone Alleyne, Mount Tremper

Victor Castillo, Bronx

Richard Tucker, Schenectady

Jeffrey Baringer, Middletown

Brian Jacon, Selkirk

Scott Newton, Ballston Spa

Luis Llanos, Schenectady

Aidan Fahy, Johnsonville

Jamie Samyn, Delmar

Significant Anniversaries in August

5 Years

Ryan Eamer - Ryan has fun autocrossing with MoHud. Thanks for hanging with us.

30 Years

Russell Burckhard - Russ is the man. He makes the Region's Solo Program go. He has help from the Solo Advisory Committee and Tracy but he has worked tirelessly to put on our events for a couple of decades. These days he sets up the course, conducts the novice walk through, and runs the driver's meeting. That comes after pre-season confirmation of a site, sanction/insurance requests, and other organizing tasks. He is also a very accomplished driver, often taking top PAX at our events. For our Teen Street Survival schools he usually sets up the training course. All this and he serves as a Director-at-Large on our Board of Directors. Thanks for all you do Russ.

Andrew Furlong - With much sadness we acknowledge what would have been the 30th anniversary of Andy's time with Mohawk-Hudson Region and SCCA. Andy passed away on June 30th after a truly courageous, composed, and valiant journey with cancer. He remained positive throughout, attending autocrosses, membership meetings, and the winter banquet. I recall that his autocross cars were always extremely well balanced and fast. His dry humor was unforgettable and very entertaining. Just one of countless examples came years ago at a relentlessly rainy National Tour event at Griffiss Air Force Base. He and a few other MoHudders including me were standing together in the downpour in our

overwhelmed rain gear. No one was saying anything; just waiting for the event to end. After about a minute of silence Andy took a sip of his Coke, looked thoughtfully into the can, and then impassively remarked, "I keep drinking this can of Coke ... and it keeps filling up". That was Andy. We will miss him tremendously.

The following was in the prior edition of the Knockoff:

Long-time MoHud member Andy Furlong passed away on Tuesday, June 30, 2026. Andy was a few months shy of his 30th year of SCCA membership, and had participated in various programs, including MoHud's PDX program as an instructor, and in the Solo program as a competitor and Solo Advisory Committee (SAC) member. In addition to his time and talents, he also recently donated a new LED timing display to the MoHud Solo program. According to [Andy's obituary](#), "There will be no service. If you are one of the many people he helped, we ask that you pay it forward and help someone else." We hope that the people Andy's life touched remember him fondly and pay it forward.

Treasurer's Report

August 2026

By Pat Clair

On **June 30, 2026**, the accounts totaled **\$24,052.37**–

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| • Checking/Money Market | \$ 8,877.03 |
| • 6 Month CD #1 (Matures 11/05/2026) | \$ 5,027.20 |
| • 6 Month CD #2 (Matures 09/07/2026) | \$ 5,056.04 |
| • 6 Month CD #3 (Matures 07/05/2026) | \$ 5,091.10 |
| • Savings | \$ 1.00 |

July Banking Activities (To Date):

- Transfer matured CD #3 Interest to Money Market.
- 2015 Chevy Bus – Inspected, registered, plated, filled with gas, added to EZ Pass account, duplicated key fob, loaded up with autocross inventory and delivered to its summer home!
- 1998 Chevy Bus – Turned in plates, cancelled insurance, removed from EZ Pass account.
- Solo #1 (07/12/2026) income and expenses.
- Bus Insurance Policy – Paid balance due (addition of new 2015 bus minus refund of removing the old 1998 bus).
- SCCA Membership Dues (June 2026) income.
- IUE-CWA Local 81981 – **Donation in memory of Andy Furlong**

As of **July 22, 2026**, the accounts totaled **\$23,800.13** –

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| • Checking/Money Market | \$ 8,715.89 |
| • 6 Month CD #1 (Matures 11/05/2026) | \$ 5,027.20 |
| • 6 Month CD #2 (Matures 09/07/2026) | \$ 5,056.04 |
| • 6 Month CD #3 (Matures 01/04/2027) | \$ 5,000.00 |
| • Savings | \$ 1.00 |

Upcoming Financial Transactions:

- Solo #2 (07/26/2026) income and expenses.
- July interest.
- 1998 Chevy Bus – Decommission (scrap); Registration refund from DMV.

Regional Directory

Board of Directors

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