



## HUBER'S HASH for APRIL

by **Walter Huber**

It's gettin' on close to the end of the month and I'm just gettin' started putting together a column for April. I guess I can blame it on the nice spring-like weather we've been enjoying recently. To be sure, we didn't have an awfully bad winter over the last several months. Just that one weekend of eighteen inches worth of the white crap -- and even that went away quite quickly. Yeah, team! Now we're already enjoying some really nice warm weather. Again: Yeah team!

We had a great "**Start-up the Season Party**" last weekend. You will perhaps recall that, although the Region had arranged for our mid-winter party to again be at the Packanack Lake Clubhouse in Wayne where it'd been the last couple of years, a local troop of Boy Scouts had also scheduled a function there for the same date as our party and the Scouts were given preference over us. Our mid-winter party and awards function had to not only be moved elsewhere when the error was discovered, it wound up also being much delayed.

Kind of somewhat understandably, the Region's solo community didn't want to delay awarding the trophies to the 2015 season winners any further into the new year, so they made other arrangements and recognized their champions earlier. And in fact, the solo events season had already begun by the time the winter party came about (in the Spring) and a portion of the Solo competitors were missing from the party. (But that left a whole bunch more of the delicious food for the rest of us!) I believe we had about forty-five folks in attendance at the Wyndham-Hamilton Park Hotel & Conference Center for our "Mid-Winter" Party. A good time was had by all. And we didn't have to worry about any snow! .

Lots of the SCCA gang know the Morehead folks -- **Grandma Marilyn Moorhead** is NNJR even though she is now retired and makes her home in Florida. Marilyn's son, **Steve Morehead**, and his family are still Pennsylvanians. We see them whenever we are at Pocono International Raceway for an event. Steve not only has a competition license and races, he also has volunteered at Timing & Scoring for as long as I can remember. We've watched Steve's kids grow up. And a recent note from Marilyn informs that her grandson, **Mickey**, ran in the Boston Marathon this year. He must've been practicing, however, 'cause he wasn't among those folks who finish way back in the mass of humanity which participates in that race. Out of the more than 30 thousand folks who started the race, Mickey ran the 26.2 miles in 2 hours & 54 minutes. That means he ran those twenty-six miles at an average speed of just over nine miles an hour. Holy crap! He was the 754th finisher in the race, just behind those Kenyan, Ethiopian and Ugandan professional runners who do nothing 'cept run through the Africa forests & jungles all the time. 'Way to go, Mickey!

Earlier this month, former NNJR Regional Executive **Tom Lynch** was in Atlanta with the **Pro-Formula Championship Series**. Tom drives the pace car for the series and also handled that same duty for the **Trans-Am** held there that same weekend. Afterward, Tom detoured on his way back to New Jersey and stopped in the Carolinas to tour the **BMW factory**, as well as to visit the **BMW Museum** and the **BMW Driving School and Racetrack** there. Knowing he

wanted to do this, before heading south he got in touch with New York Region's **Dave Perlman** who has taken some BMW driving courses there in Greer, South Carolina as well as at a similar BMW driving academy in California. Dave is acquainted with several of the folks that work there.

Dave introduced Tom to an BMW acquaintance in Greer, **Scott Hughes**, who teaches at the driving school and who happens to have known **Joe DeLuca** -- they rallied together many moons ago. And of course, **Linda** was also well-known to the Bimmer folks in Greer since she worked at BMW HQ in Woodcliff Lakes and was the person who handled legal issues when the complex in the Carolinas was under construction.

Well, it turns out that Scott and Tom hit it off well on meeting. Tom not only had a personally guided tour of the Museum and the Foundation, the guys also had lunch and spoke about their memories of Linda & Joe. Plus, Tom also got a few laps at speed on the track with Scott.

*(Huh? Oh. -- You mean that I wasn't supposed to mention that? Okay- okay. Don't anyone read that sentence which speaks about being on track at speed. Okay?)*

I've been remiss in having not mentioned any of the significant membership anniversaries which have been celebrated recently. Allow me to play catch-up. And to do that I've gotta go back a whole bunch of months.

**50 Years -- Joseph Salvatore** -- April 1966

**45 Years -- Alex Arns, Craig Coleman, Walter J Huber** -- March 1971

**40 Years -- Dominic Cimino, Susan Conklin** -- January 1976:

**35 Years -- Ken Frey** -- December 1980

**35 Years -- Kjell Skavnes** -- January 1981

**35 Years -- Edward C. Picard, Allen J. Sockol** -- March 1981

**35 Years -- Christian C. Schneider** -- April 1981

**30 Years -- Joseph T Doyle, Paul Paparella** -- February 1986

**30 Years -- Matt Murray** -- March 1986

**25 Years -- Maria Zeckhausen** -- December 1990

**25 Years -- Bruce Bellom, J. Mark Wendling** -- February 1991

**25 Years -- Barbara Bell, Linda Wendling** -- March 1991

My apologies for not having recognized these folks & their membership anniversaries sooner.

Also, there are many of our friends from neighboring Regions who are have celebrated and are celebrating significant anniversaries in their SCCA membership.

And I know that I'm going to get a note from **Sue Conklin** about her membership tenure with SCCA, so allow me to "head her off at the pass." Susan has been a member for even longer than 40 years, but there was some sort of glitch forty years back in the national office's record-keeping and she 'lost' a couple of years tenure in the official record books. Sue is currently here stateside, having had a hip replacement back on March 8th, but she and hubby, Ben, will be heading back to the South Island in New Zealand to play with the Koalas on May 6th.

Also, if you saw the entry in the "Anniversaries" portion of *SportsCar* for my name the other month and were wondering if the guy listed as being a Mohawk-Hudson Region member was me, well it was. While my "Region of Record" has always been Northern New Jersey Region, Nancy and I are dual members in Mo-Hud as well as South Jersey Regions. And apparently, whoever pulls the names for *SportsCar* inclusion, simply took the alphabetically earliest region name instead of the proper Region of Record name. Oh well.

I think it was back in January that I gave a listing of the members of the **Board of Trustees** for our club -- the eight members who have the responsibility of keeping our SCCA Northern New Jersey Region running on an even keel. Back then I mentioned that one Trustee position was 'open' and it was likely that the Board would select someone to fill the position rather than wait until election time later this year. At the April BoT meeting that's exactly what happened. The Board of Trustees is now back up to full strength -- eight members. **Regional Executive is Brandon Fetch, Ass't. R.E. is Butch O'Connor, Secretary is J.R. Malone, Treasurer is Jason Evangelista.** Those four are Officer-Trustees. And **Matt Rooke, Christopher Mosley & Peter Schneider** have now been joined by **Mark Labbanz** to fill the fourth **Trustee-at-Large** position on the Board. Welcome Mark!!

**Linda Louie**, our Region's Chief of Timing & Scoring, has another new title. She's been selected by the national office to be the High Honcho of T&S. (Actually, I don't know if that's the official title, but I can't get hold of Linda on the 'phone to check it.) Linda has been working with the SCCA Pro-Racing side of the club as well as our amateur side. This bilateral expertise has always been recognized by SCCA and she was recently appointed as the **National Administrator for Timing & Scoring** or whatever the actual, proper name happens to be. She mentioned this appointment at our recent NNJR party. Congrats to Linda!

And one more item before I close. Just received an e-mail from **Mike Feno** who sent a posting from National Speed Sport News. **Robby Foley** has been racing for a couple of years. And he has enjoyed much success in the Mazda MX-5 Cup Series. Read the report lifted from the recent issue of NSSN below. Congrats to Robby!

The report is reproduced on the next page down. So just line-space down and read about Robby's success!

## Foley Takes Scholarship To MX-5 Cup

by **NSSN Staff**



Robby Foley

IRVINE, Calif. — Robby Foley didn't just win a championship in 2015, he joined an elite list of Mazda scholarship winners on the Mazda Road to 24 racing ladder.

Thanks to his on-track success, he earned a \$100,000 scholarship to help move his racing career to the next level. Foley has chosen to take his scholarship money to the Atlanta Motorsports Group racing team, and will compete in the 2016 Battery Tender Global Mazda MX-5 Cup presented by BFGoodrich Tires.

“Winning the Mazda scholarship has been a goal of mine ever since I began racing cars,” Foley said. “There truly is no other defined ladder system where young drivers receive such great support and are given the opportunity to learn about all aspects of motorsports. I am so honored to join past champions and proven talents on the Mazda ladder system and take on a bigger role within the Mazda family.

“Racing in the Skip Barber series the past few seasons, I had the luxury of an inside look at how all of the teams operate, and to me, the Atlanta Motorsports Group operation was a step above the competition and a place I would fit in well. The team has a passion for success, and their proven championship pedigree aligns with my goals looking forward. I can't wait to get the season going in a few weeks.”

Foley, 19, will make his debut April 29 at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca in Monterey, Calif.

“We're thrilled to have Robby Foley join the list of Mazda scholarship racers,” said John Doonan, director of motorsports, Mazda North American Operations. “He is an impressive young man, both on and off the track. We expect he'll have a great season in 2016 and beyond.”