



POLE
THE NEWSLETTER OF



AWARD WINNING
POSITION
THE NORTHERN NEW JERSEY REGION

Volume 62, Number 4

Summer Thunder Race at NJMP Thunderbolt, August 20, 21
Solo at the Meadowlands, September 10 & 17
Mini Monte Rally, August 21



RE Chris Mosley drives his own pace car to start the Pro IT Race.

Photo by Mike Feno

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JULY/AUGUST 2011

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Nuts & Bolts by Chris Mosley

We have all heard of Murphy's Law, you know the one that states, "If anything can go wrong, it will." But did you know that there is a specific Murphy's Law for Auto repair? "Any tool dropped while repairing an automobile will roll beneath the vehicle to its exact center." These gems originated with Captain Edward Murphy Jr., a development engineer from Wright's field in Ohio and were written in 1958 (seems someone should have thought of this much earlier than that). These were aptly followed by advise from another wise sage who's only know by his first name, Anthony. Anthony stated, "Any tool when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner." The first corollary to Anthony's rule is so true, "On the way to the corner, the dropped tool will always strike your foot first." The second corollary then sums this up nicely, "The accessibility of the dropped part varies directly with it's size and inversely with its importance to completing the job at hand." But Anthony's best law is one that anyone who works on a car, a house or anything are all familiar with, "Don't force it, get a larger hammer."

Speaking of hammers, here are some of my favorite tool descriptions:

Hammer: originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer now a days is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent to the object we are trying to hit.

Hose cutter: a tool used to make hoses too short!

Drill press: a tall, upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, denting the freshly painted project which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

Electric hand drill: normally used for spinning steel pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age, but also works great for drilling rollbar mounting holes in the floor of a sports car just above the brake line that goes to the rear axle.

Wire Wheel: cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, "Oh sh*t!"

Pliers: used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood blisters.

Vis Grips: generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

Oxyacetylene Torch: used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you want to remove a bearing race.

Two ton engine lift: a tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

It's now nearing the end of June. We still have four months of racing, solo and rally events to go. All of these areas are looking for and need volunteers to run events. We need timing and scoring, corner workers, communications, sound control, tech and live bodies to make weekend events happen. We also need several volunteers to fill empty positions on the NNJR Board. We're not asking for a lifetime commitment, we just need you for a couple of events or a once a month board meeting. Volunteer to work on a committee. We'll give you the guidance or training you need if that's what's holding you back. We need you to step up to the plate and help your club survive and grow.

Here are some of the up coming events you can volunteer to help out at:

7/2/211 – John Stim Regional races at Lime Rock Park. A one-day event.

8/6/2011 – Solo event at the Meadowlands parking lot E. Call Ernie Anderson.

8/20-21/211- Summer Thunder at NJMP, Thunderbolt

8/21/2011 – The Mini Monte Rally in Clinton

9/10/2011 – Solo at the Meadowlands parking lot E

9/17/2011 – Solo at the Meadowlands parking lot E

Huber's HASH for July/August

Phileas Fogg would have applauded. Actually, he probably would have been astounded just as I was. Fogg, the intrepid hero of Jules Verne's classic novel & the 1956 epic movie, "Around the World in 80 Days," succeeded in his quest to circumnavigate the earth in the nineteenth century in eighty days.

However at the 2011 edition of "The Devil in the Dark" endurance race on NJMP's **Thunderbolt Track** April 30th, thirty-six entrants drove the equivalent distance – and more – in exactly 12 hours! Total miles racked up by all the competitors: 25,283¼. As I said: Around the world – and then some!



This year's enduro saw a twenty percent increase in the number of entrants. This event, while only in its second year at NJMP, is fast becoming *the* event for drivers & workers alike. The cars took the green flag at noon on Saturday; they raced all afternoon & into the evening. As twilight turned to dusk, lights came on and the cars kept racing. The "Devil" was our own New Jersey version of Sebring. It was great fun watching cars come out from under the overpass at the head of the front straight, scream down past the start/finish tower, and then see bright brake lights come on as they went into the first turn. The lead car did this 428 times before being shown the checker at midnight!

NJMP had a rock band or two playing (very loudly) much of the afternoon and evening. And when day turned to dark, films of prior race events were shown on a large screen mounted to the side of a truck. There was a bar-b-que and buffet set up outside the garage area where spectators could purchase eats – and this was free for volunteer workers who were 'on break.' A bar was available as well (but *not* for the workers!). They even had a game of something called "beer-pong" in one of the garages – like ping-pong except glasses of beer are set up on each end of the table. If you manage to land the ping-pong ball in one of the other guy's beers, he's gotta drink that beer. It's apparently a new version of some of the games we played when I was in college.



The track had one of the folks from their food catering operation just outside the **Economaki Media Center** working on an ice sculpture. Using an electric chain saw this very artistic sculptor carved a very accurate rendition of the **Jersey Devil** winner's trophy out of a huge block of ice. All-in-all, a great event!

SCCA lost one of our Timing & Scoring stalwarts in April. **Constance "Con" Peplowski** died of a heart attack while preparing for a ProRacing Mazda MX-5 Cup Series race at Road Atlanta. During her career Con had held all the T&S positions available in the club up to and including National Administrator. She was Chief of T&S for the Mazda Cup Series and several other ProRacing series. She had worked with all the other pro series. Con had been T&S Chief at the Runoffs for a number of years. She will be missed.



Tom Merwin was one of the Emergency Medical Service folks for many years at Lime Rock. If you raced at Lime Rock, you probably had occasion to have been towed back to the paddock by "Tommy Towtruck." When a car broke down on-track, he could be counted on to do a "hot pull" of the disabled race car and do it safely, expertly & quickly. Tom passed away in May.

I can remember him at EMS from my earliest days at that track, some 45 years ago. I asked when Tom had started working there and no one could recall. He must have been the longest tenured person associated with the track. A service was held at the Salisbury Congregational Church on May 23 which several SCCA folks were able to attend. He will be missed and our Region's sympathy goes out to Betty, his wife of 60 years, and their sons & families.



Tom Merwin mugs for Mike Paonessa's camera

Philly Region's RE, **George Bloeser**, lost his father in early April. Our Region's sympathy goes out to **George & Judy** and the entire Bloeser clan.

Tim Haines graduated from Newton High School at the end of June. Tim graduated with several honors and earned a full tuition scholarship to William Paterson University where he will study Videography & Cinematography. Eagle Scout Tim continues to also be active in the Boy Scouts. Parents **Jeff & Pam** and brother **Philip** are all justifiably proud.

I read an article about the Mazda folks wanting to shave some 700 pounds of weight from the next generation of the Miata. The earliest generation of Miatas weighed just under 2200 pounds. This little car has put on weight in successive generations and now hovers around 2500 lbs. Mazda is looking to have the car tip the scales at around 1800 pounds. Overall dimensions will be less; a smaller engine of similar power (possibly 1.4 litres) will be standard; and the glove box & owner's manual will be eliminated. Must've been a hefty owner's manual.

I was in an auto parts store the other day. They had a whole rack of auto air fresheners. You know – those things folks dangle from their rear view mirrors to overcome a foul odor. Not all of these fresheners were in the shape of little pine trees. They had a bunch which were shaped like little flip-flops – those sandals beachgoers wear on their feet. I can't imagine why anyone would want to hang something imitating some smelly old footwear and think that this would add a plus to the interior fragrance of their automobile. Might as well drape a pair of three-day old sweat socks over the rear view mirror.

When the SCCA conducts a race event at New Jersey Motorsport Park, our Regions usually try to arrange for lunchtime drive-arounds on the road course so that family & crew as well as spectators can have an opportunity to see and experience the actual race surface. Of course this is at a very moderate pace and usually behind a pace car. As cars go out onto the race surface, they are offered an opportunity to make a free-will donation to a charity. At the **Jersey Devil National Races** in June, the selected charity was **Laps to Conquer Multiple Sclerosis**, the foundation begun by **Fay & Dave Teal** which supports MS research. In two days the drive-arounds and other donations collected over thirteen hundred bucks. Our SCCA family is certainly a wonderful and generous bunch!

I received a phone call from **Dave Panas** when he was at Road Atlanta in his capacity as Chief Steward for the **Formula 2000 Championship Series**. Dave and I are aficionados of good horseradish and he was calling from an *Outback Steakhouse Restaurant* in Braselton where he'd just been served some grated horseradish which, said Dave, cleared all his sinus passages currently known to medical science as well as some which are yet to be discovered.

I commented to Dave that when visiting an Outback Steakhouse I always mention that the reason we select Outback is not only for their excellent steaks, but also because Outback's founder & Chairman, **Chris T. Sullivan**, also serves as the chairman for the fundraising effort to raise funds for construction of the **Flight 93 Memorial**. Sullivan himself has donated about 2 mil of his own wealth to the cause. To my way of thinking, that's a damn good reason to make *Outback* — or *Carrabba's Italian Grill* or *Bonefish Grill* which are some of the other restaurants in the Outback family – a prime choice when deciding on where to eat.

Speaking of the **Flight 93 Memorial**, New York Region's **Marianne Krauss**, who usually can be found toiling away in Timing & Scoring, has been conducting some 50-50 raffles at a couple of recent events at NJMP & Lime Rock. The raffle proceeds are donated to the Flight 93 Memorial out in Shanksville, PA. "*Ka-ching!*" Four hundred bucks were added to benefit the Memorial's construction. Have I mentioned that our SCCA family is thoughtful and generous?



Now hair this! Now hair this! I reported once previously that **Kenneth Burke** had grown his hair long and then donated it through an organization called **Locks of Love**. They use the hair in making wigs for kids who have lost their own hair because of cancer treatments, alopecia areata or other medical reasons. Ken has continued to grow & cut, grow & cut, and grow & cut – he's now done this four times! Four times equals four donations to Locks of Love! And Ken has just graduated from eighth grade. He will be a Freshman in high school come September.

Our friend & neighbor, **Fred Weber**, recently loaned me a book. Fred's the guy who found a '51 MG-TD which had been stored and was deteriorating under a patio deck in the neighborhood. He purchased the TD and did a beautiful job of restoring it. The book tells fifty or more stories of old car finds in barns and fields. I was reading along and a name in one of the stories caught my eye. A Sunbeam Alpine car in the story had been driven to the 1965 F-Prod championship in the **Runoffs** by **Dan Carmichael**. Dan is the father of **Tracy Rand** (nee Carmichael), whose husband **Michael** is the driving force behind the SCCA's F-2000 series. When I showed Tracy the book and the photo at a recent race she was delighted. Dan is now 93 years young, still drives, and lives in Ohio.

Robby Foley is fourteen and has been racing karts for about six years. He also has a 3-day Skip Barber High Performance Driving Experience under his belt. He will be turning fifteen in July, and if all goes as hoped, will have earned his Novice Permit and likely be ready to compete in his first SCCA Regional event in August. I would caution **Catherine and Rob** to be careful after this whenever Robby asks if he can "use the car this weekend," It may be that he's *not* planning to simply take his girlfriend to the Malt Shoppe for a root beer float.

Diane & Dave Miller celebrated their **Golden Wedding Anniversary** on June 11. Dave raced a variety of cars in SCCA Nationals and Regionals over the years. And he also ice raced for many years. Diane frequently volunteered as Race Chair. She also served a number of terms in various Board of Trustee positions for our Region and was awarded our Giltzow Award in 1995. Congratulations to the Millers on reaching this marital milestone. The Region sends wishes for many more years of connubial bliss!

Our Region hosted a round of the **SCCA ProSolo Series** over the weekend of May 20-22 in the shadow of the new Meadowlands Stadium. The competition actually took place in the footprint of the former Giants Stadium. Several hundred entrants competed over the course of the weekend and all reported having a good time.

Northern New Jersey's new **Solo Van** made its official debut at the event. It's been converted out of its former life and into the Solo group's Operations Center. New windows, new cabinetry and everything necessary for Solo operations have been incorporated into its layout. And the outside has taken on a whole new appearance with logos & signage.

Look for event photos and pix of the new solo van elsewhere in this issue. And a huge round of thanks to **Ernie Andersen, Perry Aidelbaum, Kelly Conklin, Frank Burger, Rob Foley**, and all the other Region members who came out to work the event and support our Region in this endeavor, our first-ever hosting of a ProSolo!

A Very Big Thank You to . . .

. . . All the Workers at Pocono May 7 & 8, 2011

Richard Alexander
Darrell Anthony
Glen Atamanchuk
George Bloeser
Judy Bloeser
Jeff Bruckner
Willa Bruckner
Scott Butler
Bart Carlevaro
Jo Chiswick
Charles Dobbs
William Etherington
Jason Evangelista
Eunice Gerstein
Marc Gerstein
Louis Giallanella
Geoffrey Hall
Terry Hanushek
Edwin Hartman
J.D. King
Sue King
Bruce Kolker
Linda Louie
Basil F. O'Connor
Diane O'Connor
Jack Oliver
Arthur Pearson
Karen Petersen
A.G. Robbins
Peter Roberts
Terry Roberts
Dennis Steskal
Phil Tomeo
William Von Suskil

Dan Zane
Craig Zane
Everett Zane
Shirley Zane

. . . The following drivers for their donation to the Pocono Worker Fund

Steve Tumolo Jr.
Jim Tyo
Michael Condict
Jon Farbman
Michael Hausknecht
Ted Heinritz
Robert Karl
Robert Karl Jr.
Howard Robbins
Steven Simpson
Michael Turchuk
Joey Wang-DeFilippis
Gordon Wise
Bruce Allen
Edward Callo
Jim MacNicholl
Tim Mullen
Harold Musler
Walter Ryan
Nat Wentworth
Donald A. Yeske
Dominic Cimino
Burns Moore
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Mark Rubino
William J. Weaver
Brandon Fetch
Mike Feno
Arnold Levine



Northern NJ Region of SCCA



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August 21, 2011

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The SCCA of Northern NJ in association with Raritan Valley Sports Car Club proudly presents the New Jersey Mini-Monte. A rally tradition for over 35 years.

This 80 mile Monte Carlo style Map rally will cover scenic roads in Somerset, Hunterdon and Morris counties. The event is a simple Time-Speed-Distance map rally. All you have to do is follow the route shown on the map, traveling at or below the posted speed limits. All checkpoints will be shown on the map and all route instructions will include mileages.

How much easier can it be ...we give you a map of the route, with restart points in case you want to short cut the route. The event will include 12 manned and unmanned (Do-It-Yourself) checkpoints and should take about 3 hours to complete

We invite *YOU* to join us at this year's **Mini Monte!**

Official Entry Form Class _____

Mini-Monte

Sunday August 21, 2011

Ever Been on a Road Rally?

If you thrive on scenic drives on the back roads of New Jersey, NNJR-SCCA Road Rallying is for you.

Road rallies test the skills of a driver-navigator team in following simple precise instructions along an intricate and interesting course at legal speeds on little-used public roads, staying carefully on time as you negotiate a series of unpredictable checkpoints.

Please plan on staying after the rally for good food, good stories and informal awards. Participants may pre-register by filling out the form below and mailing to the address shown. You may register at the event, however a maximum of 10 walk-in entries will be accepted, so please pre-register to ensure a starting position.

Driver _____ Navigator _____

Street _____ Street _____

City/State/ZIP _____ City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ Telephone (____) _____

E-Mail _____ E-Mail _____

Member of SCCA Yes _____ No _____ Member of SCCA Yes _____ No _____

Region _____ Region _____

Vehicle: Year, Make, and Model _____

Color _____ Registration Plate _____ State _____

Entry Fee Enclosed: \$ _____ \$40.00 per car (Payable to NNJR-SCCA)

At the rally there is a \$5.00 fee for magnetic number that is refundable after Rally.

This event will be conducted in accordance with the NNJR/SCCA Road Rally Regulations. The entrant warrants that an auto insurance policy with liability limits of not less the \$20,000/\$40,000/\$10,000, or the minimum requirements of the of the state of registry, whichever is higher, is in force for the vehicle entered, and said vehicle is in safe operating condition for the state in which it is registered. In signing this form, the entrant(s) agree to abide by all the regulations and decisions of the rally committee. (If either the driver or navigator is under 18, a minor release form must be obtained and filled out before the event)

Driver's Signature: _____

Navigator signature: _____

Mail completed Entry Form and check for \$40.00 payable to NNJR-SCCA to
Arna Cochran, 22 Glen Rd, Bound Brook, NJ 08805-1230

**Scenes from The Joe DeLuca and Linda Gronlund Freedom Races,
May 7 & 8, 2011 at Pocono International Raceway** *Photos by Mike Feno*



The venerable Marc Gerstein in the registration line



Eunice Gerstein, Jan Poor and NNJR's Chief Registrar Terry Roberts keep things moving.



Peter Roberts is determined to fix a registration problem as Terry fixes another one.



Joe Russell checks gear as Marc Gerstein looks on (he gets around).



The garage area. Good insurance for the Pocono weather.

**Scenes from The Joe DeLuca and Linda Gronlund Freedom Races,
May 7 & 8, 2011 at Pocono International Raceway** *Photos by Mike Feno*



Linda Burdge helps Tom get ready for the Team DI Pro-IT race.



Karen Peterson sends them off.



Ben Phillips leads the pack.



Board of Trustees member Matt Rooke, number 16, is not far behind.



Chris brings them to the green flag.

**Scenes from The Joe DeLuca and Linda Gronlund Freedom Races,
May 7 & 8, 2011 at Pocono International Raceway** *Photos by Mike Feno*



Pete Watson gives them the “Go” sign.



Race Control with George Bloeser, Marc Gerstein (He DOES get around!), Bruce Kolker and Terry Hanushek.



Some of our esteemed stewards, Chuck Dobbs, Peter Roberts and A.G. Robbins wonder if the photographer should drive with a broken leg.



The timing “tower”.



Jack Oliver and Shirley Zane timing in the bus.

**Scenes from The Joe DeLuca and Linda Gronlund Freedom Races,
May 7 & 8, 2011 at Pocono International Raceway** *Photos by Mike Feno*



Jo Chiswick, Judy Bloeser and SRF driver Steven Beem timing with watchful eyes. NNJR's T&S Chief Linda Louie was too busy to pose for a photo.



Pete Watson waves the so-called "invisible" flag.

The entrance to the famed racing facility.



**Scenes from The Pro Solo
at the Meadowlands,
May 20, 21, 22, 2011**

*Photos by Walter Huber
&
Ernie Anderson*



Our new truck.

Scenes from The Pro Solo at the Meadowlands, May 20, 21, 22, 2011

Photos by Walter Huber & Ernie Anderson

The starting line at the national event.



Just in case you didn't recognize the Solo van



The cool event T-shirt.



Kelly Conklin and Ernie Andersen installing cabinetry in the new truck.



Darrell Anthony presenting Howard Duncan, from National Solo, a prize from a special box of Cracker Jacks.

Scenes from the June 21, 2011 Membership Meeting

Photos by Mike Feno

New and recent members Murray and Akemi Kane, Bruno Stockinger, Jason Evangelista, Greg Schatz and Jeff Beam.



Walter Huber shows off the new SCCA car badge available to members.



Assistant RE Rob Foley conducts the meeting as Bruno Stockinger and Bob Zecca look on.



An enthusiastic crowd.

Please visit our website at www.scca-nnjr.org

The Adventures of Raymond the Cat




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Deadlines

Jan / Feb - Dec 20

Jul / Aug - Jun 20

Mar / Apr - Feb 20

Sept / Oct - Aug 20

May / Jun - Apr 20

Nov / Dec - Oct 20

Late copy will go in next issue.

Please send all ads with check or money order made out to NNJR SCCA to the Membership Services Chairman.

No ads will be accepted over the phone.

Ad and copy deadline is the 20th of the previous month. Late copy will go in the next issue!

Camera Ready Art or Electronic (.jpg, .tif, .gif) format only. NO ADOBE accepted.

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Dear Prospective SCCA Member:

To apply for a membership in the Sports Car Club of America, the world's largest motorsports enthusiast organization, please complete the form below and return, with payment, to SCCA Membership Department, P.O. Box 299, Topeka, KS 66601-0299.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Spouse Name _____ Birthdate _____

Child's Name _____ Birthdate _____

Child's Name _____ Birthdate _____

Primary Interest:

Please indicate the area of SCCA in which you plan to participate, or interests you the most.
(please check only one box)

- Club Racing
- Time Trials/PDX
- Rally
- RallyCross
- Solo
- Vintage
- Pro Racing

Membership Dues

(Includes region dues)

- Individual \$80.00
- Family \$100.00
- First Gear \$45.00
(24 yrs & under)

Amount Due

Membership Amount	\$ _____
Weekend Membership #1 _____	-\$15.00
Weekend Membership #2 _____	-\$15.00
Referred by SCCA Member _____ # _____	-\$15.00
<small>First / Last Name & Member Number REQUIRED</small>	

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

*I will become a member in the region I reside in or place me in _____ region.
By accepting membership in the SCCA and any SCCA Region I agree to conduct myself according to the highest standards of behavior and sportsmanship in a manner that shall not be prejudicial to the reputation of the Club or fellow members.*

Applicant's Name (Signature Required) _____

Date (Required) _____

Payment Method: Check Credit Card Money Order

Visa/MasterCard (only) Acct# _____ Exp. _____

Applications submitted by fax must be accompanied by a Visa or MasterCard account number for payment.

Dues include payment for subscription To SportsCar (\$24 value)
Dues are not deductible as charitable contributions



POLE POSITION

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