

HUBER'S HASH for MAY....



by **Walt Huber**
◀◀ (that guy there) ▶▶

Hello again! After not having penned one of these reports for over a year, I'm now sitting here at the old computer (*yes - I always spell it that way*) for the second month in a row and playing scribe. If you read last month's report (and of course, I hope you did!), then you will recall that the NNJR Board of Trustees intends to bring you some information on a regular basis about what is going on in our club in order that you can more fully experience all that membership in NNJR and the SCCA has to offer.

Years back the Region published and mailed a ***Pole Position*** newsletter to members. When it became too expensive to print and mail, the ***Pole Position*** became an e-mag and was sent via the internet. But there were problems with that also. The e-mag format eventually devolved into occasionally plunking a notice on the NNJR website and, if someone happened to visit the website, saw the notice and wished to see the writings, they were redirected to someplace else on the website. And only then would they find the ***Nuts & Bolts*** column of Regional Executive **Chris Mosley**, this ***Huber's Hash*** plus any other writers' offerings which had been posted there. Do you wanna guess how well that worked?

So now you're gonna get something in your e-mail in-box just about once every month with instructions on how to single click your way to Chris' "Nuts & Bolts" and my "-Hash" or any other writings, or to certain specific items which NNJR feels are of such importance that you should take a look at them. (And don't worry -- I don't delude myself into thinking my stuff is "important." I consider it "fun" and I hope you do, also!)

However, there is one such item of importance this time around of which you should be aware. It has to do with the governance of the national organization. New folks may need a bit of background as to how SCCA National is "governed" -- and for those longer term members who dye their hair gray as I do, this is a refresher:

The SCCA is divided into nine divisions which are further broken into "Areas." Each "Area" elects one Director to SCCA's national Board of Directors. There are a total of 13 Area Directors serving on SCCA's Board of Directors. NNJR is in Area 1 of the NorthEast Division and our current elected Director is **Dick Patullo** from the New England Region. Directors are subject to term limits and Dick has served our Area well for six years. He cannot stand for reelection again.

This October we, along with the members of New England Region and New York Region (these three regions comprise Area 1) will be electing our next Director. What is interesting is that we have two folks from NNJR who have thrown their hats into the ring! In my forty+ years in SCCA, I don't recall this ever having happened previously.

Regional Executive, **Chris Mosley** and former Club Racing Board chairman, **Bob Dowie** have both announced that they will seek the Area 1 Directorship. At this time, no other member from the three Area 1 regions has declared him- or herself as a candidate. As mentioned, this is most unusual. New England Region, a "jumbo" region with several times the number of members as NNJR and New York Region combined, has for more than 27 years been the region from which the Area 1 Director has been elected. Actually, it may even be years longer -- I just don't remember back any further.



Bob Dowie

We have had an NNJR member as Area Director in the past, but it was many years ago. Back then they were called "Governors." **Bud Bickel**, who passed away many years ago, was the last NNJR member to sit on the national Board that I know of. But that must have been way back in the '70s.

Recent Area 1 Directors:

2010-2015	Dick Patullo	2004-2009	Bob Introne
1998-2003	Kathy Barnes	1992-1997	Jim Barbour
1989-1991	Omer Norton		

(And as this column is just about to be sent off, the June issue of *SportsCar* arrives and has additional explanatory information on SCCA's governing body on pages 22+23. That article should be required reading before you vote in the Area 1 election this fall.)

That issue of *SportsCar* also has milestone anniversary celebrants listed. Among the folks celebrating an anniversary of significance is NNJR's **Howard Kalmbach** from Glen Rock who joined back in 1990 -- Twenty-five years ago. Congrats!

Also listed in this issue of *SportsCar* are those members who have volunteered significant numbers of days in their areas of worker specialty. This is an area where our NNJR members have typically been prominent. In the 40-plus days category are NNJR members **Linda Louie** (T&S), **Bart Carlevaro** (Grid/Pit), and **Dave Panas** (Steward). I don't know why **Lenore Panas** isn't also listed (Reg. & T&S) since she's at every event which Dave attends. Also listed is dual member **Pete Watson** (40+ days - Start). And dual member **Terry Hanushek** (Steward) is credited with 30 to 39 days. That's a really nice showing from our region! Congrats to all!

I was in Sparta recently and was behind a 3-series BMW for a few blocks before it turned in to the Sparta Township municipal building parking lot. The license plate on the Bimmer was NJ registration "**DENY IT**" so I'm figuring the driver must'a been a defense lawyer.

"A day late & a dollar short." Well, the day late part at any rate. Couple weeks back I received an email from **Brandon Fetch**. It contained a photo of a poster announcing that a bar in Allendale -- the Allendale Bar & Grill -- known to the locals as the "AB&G" -- was having a special "Texas Night" which featured Shiner Bock. The AB&G apparently had all the currently available flavors (available in New Jersey, that is) on tap that evening plus some hard liquor

which I've never heard of as specials that evening. Unfortunately, Brandon sent me the poster photo on Friday the 17th. Darn it!



For those who might not be aware, in 2006 Nancy & I were at the SCCA National Convention which was held that year in San Antonio. That was the first I had ever heard of Shiner Bock. Tried it. Liked it. It's brewed at a 100 year old brewery located in Shiner Texas, about 90 miles from San Antonio. At that time, it was not available in New Jersey. However, I was able to buy it when we were in Virginia and in some other states. In 2010 or 2011 they started importing it to New Jersey. Oh, happy days! In the photo at the head of this column, the yellow neck label you see is from the top of a bottle of Shiner Bock which I'm holding along with a GCR.

For several years after New Jersey Motorsport Park opened in 2008, the South Jersey Region which hadn't had a 'local' track to call its own since the Vineland Speedway closed around 1966, had teamed with NNJR to conduct events at the newly opened NJMP in Millville. But last year, following more than six seasons of cooperative race sanctioning, SJR announced that they were going to go it alone. This year, for the first time since NJMP opened, our name will not be on any event there.

The first of the SCCA events at Millville has already taken place as I write this. The **12 Hour Devil in the Dark Endurance Race** was run on **Thunderbolt** from noon until midnight on Saturday, April 25th. Although there were fewer entries this year than in several recent years, the 38 entries travelled some 11544 laps in the once-around-the-clock event. And with a lap of the Thunderbolt track measuring 2¼ miles in length, that means the cars travelled almost 26 thousand miles -- they would have circled the earth at the equator and then gone another thousand miles. It was about two or three years back that the event had around five more entries than this year. That year the cars went around the earth one and a quarter times. I find that amazing!



Sad news for those who have been playing with sports cars & racing for a bunch of years. Word received that well-known racer and writer, **Denise McCluggage** passed away May 7th at the age of 88.



Denise was a cofounder of the old **Competition Press** newspaper back in the late '50s, back when my sports car & racing interest began. That paper eventually morphed into **Autoweek** and she wrote for these publications until her death. Her writing career, though, had begun with a stint at the San Francisco Chronicle several years earlier. Denise also wrote for the New York Herald Tribune (a long-gone NY bugle). I won't -- I can't -- go into all her racing accomplishments. They're just too numerous. Denise was inducted into the **SCCA's Hall of Fame in 2006** at the convention in Kansas City, the second class of inductees. I believe that was the last time I saw Denise.

By the way, last month's stories about NNJR's rally guru, **Peter Schneider**, inadvertently omitted two pix. One was of Peter and his co-rally



meister, **Gary Webb**, as they won the AICan 5000 overall. The other was a picture of Peter & wife **Joanne** as they

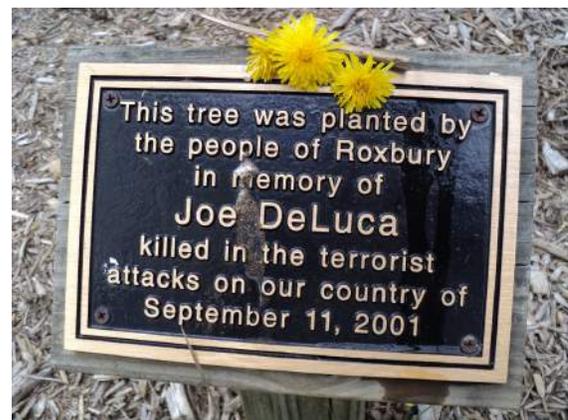


competed in a 'down under' rally in Australia.

And in my quip last month about having seen a license plate ("**CRAZY JD**") on a New Jersey car which I felt had to be owned by **JD King** from our sister region to the south, his photo was missing. I would run the picture again this month, but I don't want to give JD a swelled head.

In early May the **MG Car Club** held their annual "**Britfest**" car show at Horseshoe Lake in Roxbury. This is the town where **Joe DeLuca** was living on 9/11. Back in 2006, on the 5th anniversary, Roxbury dedicated a 9/11 Memorial at Horseshoe Lake and planted trees to honor the two Roxbury residents who were lost in the terrorist attacks. And each year as Britfest winds down, a couple of us head over to the memorial area and Joe's tree. We pay our respects, we remember, and perhaps sip a beer. We found that Joe's tree had suffered from soil & weather conditions and needs to be replaced. We've written to the mayor & council requesting they do this.

But the other tidbit which I wanted to mention is that the lack of leaves over the bronze plaque which dedicates the tree to Joe allowed a passing avian to bomb the plaque with a personal gift -- a very personal item. We spent time thinking of how Joe would have reacted. All agreed that Joe would have absolutely loved it!



Coming up later this month here in Kinnelon will be the annual Memorial Day parade. Also again, the town will have a "**Field of Freedom**" where folks can arrange to have a flag placed on the 'town green' in front of the Municipal Building. The flags fly from Memorial Day weekend through Flag Day on June 14th. The town has done this now for several years. There were over one hundred flags proudly flying on the municipal lawn last year.

The announcement for this Field of Freedom states that it is to honor someone who served in the US military who has since passed on. But when this flags program began several years ago, I spoke with several of the town fathers and they agreed with me. Once again this year -- although they were civilians and neither had ever been in the military -- **Linda Gronlund and Joe DeLuca** will be honored as having been "...among the crew & passengers who fought back and prevented the hijackers from killing many more victims in Washington, DC. Thus they are among the first combat casualties in the War Against Terrorism."

Ya know -- every once in a while, the government does something right!