

the ***Snarling Exhaust***

January/February 2008

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A publication of the Central New York Region of the Sports Car Club of America



- Jane Quinn photo

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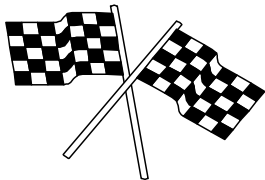
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Karl Hughes photo



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the

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The Snarling Exhaust is published 11 or 12 times per year as a service to the membership of the Central New York Region of the Sports Car Club of America, Inc.

The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month. This deadline still applies to the R.E., even though he might be distracted by all the goings-on of the holiday season.

All editorial opinions expressed in this publication are solely the opinions of the author, and are not necessarily representative of the policies of the Central New York Region or of SCCA.

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Graphics assistance courtesy of Alex Fairbank.

Cover photo: Shawn Fohs leads a downhill charge at NHIS (photo courtesy of Shawn).

From the Editor:

The annual banquet has come and gone, and now we're into that central New York winter stretch. Those of us who are most industrious are putting the finishing touches on their race cars in preparation for an early season event somewhere south of here in a month or two.

I, on the other hand, am just getting ready to get the winter car running. The original plan was to have the car going in time for snow, and definitely before the start of the ice racing season. Well, didn't beat the snow, and sort of didn't beat the ice racing season.

This winter's weather has been terrible from the standpoint of building a nice, thick layer of ice on our local lakes. AMEC has managed one event so far this season, but CNYIRA hasn't had ice yet. So, maybe I will have the car done in time to race it.

My other plan is to try to make it to one of the Finger Lakes Region's winter rallies. They run a superb winter rally program, and the challenge of running a TSD rally on slippery roads during a snowstorm is great fun, if you go in for that sort of thing.

Sadly this car (a '91 BMW) is too new for the vintage ice race CNYIRA will hopefully be holding on the weekend of March 1 and 2. There is a plan for a February 9/10 race, but at this point there isn't enough ice for that date.

It would be fun to take part in the first vintage race of the 60th anniversary year for Watkins Glen. This event is open to a wide variety of "vintage" cars, so it might be worth dusting off a suitable car and going out to play.

On another note, it's time for another call for



Mike Kamm photo

articles for this newsletter. This is the forum for the members, so if you have trackside exploits you'd like to relate, tales of days of yore, or something interesting you'd like to share, send it in. Photos are a welcome addition as well. We have been lucky to have some entertaining and well-written submissions in the last year, and so far during my tenure as editor, no submissions have been turned down. That says something about the quality of what people have sent so far (high) and the quantity (low.) As editor, I'd prefer to have the problem of trying to find space to put it all.

Be seeing you,
-Karl



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Full Throttle

From the R.E., Mike Donofrio

It seems as though I have been on a writing hiatus for quite some time. Yet here it is 2008, with it comes many new things.

For starters the club has two new elected officials, Jon Coffin as the Assistant Regional Executive, and some new guy Rex Franklin as Secretary. Also, after much review of resumes and applications a Membership chair was chosen, Joe Kramer was unquestionably the right person for the job. As they say the cream always rises to the top. Lastly Evan Haas, possibly in an effort to make a hostile Subaru takeover is now the new Webmaster.

The 2008 Solo schedule is well underway; expect 2 events at the NYS Fairgrounds, 3 at Cherry Valley and 1 or 2 at a possible new location. Speaking of Cherry Valley, after years of speculation it finally has a new owner, many renovations are in the works one includes lengthening the track from 4 to 7 tenths of a mile.

The annual awards banquet took place last month for the first time at Nestico's restaurant in North Syracuse. We had excellent attendance and even better food.

Everybody won a door prize and the 50/50 rivaled the Power ball lottery minus about 6 zeros. Needless to say those who decided not to RSVP missed a good time indeed. My advice; make plans now to be there next year.

What would a party be without proper planning? Returning in 2008 is reigning Activities chair Mike

Mollura, without him there would be no party. Besides who else could make such EXCELLENT entrée selections. So when you see Mike; thank him for a job well done.

As I enter my third term as RE I look back at all we have accomplished so far. Gazing into the future I encourage you to buckle up because we are about to hit high gear.



- Mike Mollura photo

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2007 Season Awards

Solo Class Winners

SS	Wayne Kunkel	2003 Porsche
BS	Steven Lerman	1988 Porsche 911
DS	John Izyk	2003 Subaru WRX
GS	George Poniros	2003 Nissan Altima
HS	Mark Bizzozero	2004 Mini Cooper
CSP	Scott Newton	1987 Porsche 944
ESP	Craig Hudson	2006 Subaru WRX
EP	Jon Coffin	1984 VW Rabbit
AM	Richard Mogle	2006 Ram
DM	Leo Sawyer	1989 Lotus 7 replica
EM	Rex Franklin	1962 MG Midget
STS	Pete Hirschey	2000 Subaru Impreza
STX	Evan Haas	2005 Subaru WRX
SM	Mark Gravius	1985 Chevy Camaro
F125	Mike Donofrio	Rotax Kart
FJ1	Hollie Cartini	Kart
FJ2	Jonathan Mogle	Kart



Lee Hidy: Member of the Year - Jane Quinn photo

Mark Bizzozero:
PAX Winner



- Joe Kramer photo



- Mike Mollura photo

Solo PAX Top Ten

1	Mark Bizzozero	HS	2004 Mini Cooper
2	Mark Gravius	SM	1985 Chevy Camaro
3	Evan Haas	STX	2005 Subaru WRX
4	Pete Hirschey	STS	2005 Subaru Impreza
5	Mike Donofrio	F125	Rotax Kart
6	John Izyk	DS	2003 Subaru WRX
7	Scott Newton	CSP	1987 Porsche 944
8	Anthony Donofrio	GS	2007 Mini Cooper S
9	Craig Hudson	ESP	2006 Subaru WRX
10	Chris Parrow	SM	2006 Subaru WRX

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The Rolex 24 from a "Racer's" Perspective

By Traveling Contributor Bruce Parker

A horse walks into the bar and orders a beer. The bartender asks, "Why the long face?"

Early January this year, I sat down to dinner and my wife asked, "Why the long face?"

"I need a racing fix bad, real bad," I replied. Understand that my wife and I, just the previous week, had taken a trip to Watkins Glen. It was during the 60 degree January thaw and we went to the Research Center, talked racing with Bill Green, saw Dan Blocker's (Hoss from the Bonanza TV show) beautifully restored Lola sports racer, went to the

track and watched the old timing and scoring tower being demolished and the foundation being built for the replacement tower in its new location. We even went to the Glen Mountain Café and had breakfast and a couple of their incredible scones...None better in the entire free world. My winter go-cart league had started a couple of weeks before. Nonetheless, I needed more. I looked at my wrist, saw my watch and had an epiphany. The Rolex 24 Hour at Daytona. My wife, Carol, liked the idea of Florida in January, so it was settled.

With the magic that is today's technology, in less than two hours on the computer I had it all handled. Carol and I and a long time motor-head

friend, Frank Johnston, from Lexington, Kentucky were signed up and registered to race in the Rolex 24 Hour. That's right, the three of us were going to race in the Rolex 24 Hour on January 26, 2008 in Daytona.

For a mere \$25 fee helping the Volusia County United Way, we would get a free T-shirt, free tickets to the Rolex 24 Hour motor race and be entered in the 5K race/walk held on the track just prior to the 24 hr.

It works out that 5K is around 3 plus miles which is the length of the Daytona road course. So the 5K is run on the same track as the Rolex 24 hr.

Let's cut to the chase.

Early morning, on Saturday, race day in Daytona, my wife gave me a huge compliment. She called me a genius. That's right. The alarm clock sounded at 5:30 AM and her precise words were, "Time to get up, Genius!" I think she was being a little sarcastic as the blaring alarm on the clock radio had awoken her while I was still sound asleep. We were drinking wine with our friend less

than 4 hours earlier and I don't function well on so little sleep. I also don't function well after drinking wine. But, I couldn't miss that nice compliment about me being a genius. Waking at 5:30 AM would get us out by 6:00 AM and hopefully to the start of the 5K at 7:00 AM. Why these runner types choose to start a race at an hour when sane people would be sleeping is beyond me. But if seven it is, then seven it is.

At 6:55 the singing of the National Anthem was performed by a local celebrity and at 7:00 AM, precisely, the gun sounded.

How did we do? We all finished. There was not an ounce of quit in us!

At 8:00 AM we were in the crowd looking up at the podium. A couple of scantily clad ectomorphs (one male and one female, *I think*) were waving their twig-like arms in victory. We never had a chance really. We were wearing treaded sneakers and they were on slick, expensive racing shoes. Poor selection of rubber compound put us at a disadvantage. Add to that the 50 or 60 pound



weight penalty we were carrying and I think anyone would have to agree we gave 'em a heck of a tussle for what we had.

Now to the motor race.

A couple of things stand out. Perched right up against the outside fence on the main straight grandstand at one o'clock in the morning the sound of each car was like a fingerprint. Blindfolded, you could pick out the specific cars by number lap after lap. What was unexpected was the little hurricane each car generated that would literally blow your hat off. A couple of cars at a time and you had to close your eyes due to the dust and debris.

Who won?

That ain't my bag, baby. Go buy yourself a copy of Autoweek. If you are too penurious to buy your own copy, go to the bookstore. Order yourself a triple

latte, double mocha, cinnamon grande crapaccino (I spell it as I pronounce it). Pull up a chair at the coffee tables and read all about it.

I am an athlete, and my training schedule doesn't leave time for such drivel.

P.S. I only took two pictures at the event. The editor wanted pictures so what you see was the only thing that really caught my eye. The infield Fan Zone at Daytona had a tent with this artwork. That is not a photo of me lying down after the race. It is a sculpted figure called RUBBER MAN. He will be the latest craze. A scoop fresh from Daytona for all of you. Get aboard this one early and be hip.

-Bruce Parker



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Membership meeting minutes

(Cortesia di Stenografi Zingaro)

CNY General Membership Meeting Held on November 14, 2007 at American Legion in Liverpool, NY

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 by CNYR Regional Executive Michael Donofrio.

Regional Executive: Mike welcomed members and with the aid of the club accountants surmised that we had enough folks for our annual voting!! While the membership enjoyed the pizza graciously delivered via Jay Cartini, Mike also announced that Joe Kramer has accepted the new position of membership chairman.

Assistant Regional Executive: Anthony Donofrio.....Was not in attendance.

Treasurer: Jay Cartini - Asked members to forward any bills for approval, processing and payment.

Secretary: Joe Zingaro - Joe Made a motion that the minutes be accepted as printed in the previous October Snarling and the motion passed, however, some members provided commentary on the "Boring" nature of the minutes last month.

Solo II: Mark Bizzozero - Mark was not in attendance.

Activities: Mike Mollura - Announced that the CNYR SCCA annual Awards Banquet would be held on January 28th at Nestico's restaurant on Rt. 11 in North Syracuse.

Flagging and Communications: Bob Holcombe some developments currently in progress at the Glen.

Competition: Joe Zingaro: Joe reported absolutely nothing....other than his usual diatribe.

Rally: No Report

Merchandise: No Report.

Old Business: None

New Business: The annual elections took place and all candidates came out unscathed. Your cast of characters for the upcoming year: RE: Mike Donofrio, Asst RE: John Coffin, Secretary: Rex Franklin, Treasurer: Jay Cartini and Activities Chair: Mike Mollura.

Submitted, Joe Zingaro
CNYR Secretary

Membership meeting minutes

(Cortesia di Stenografi Zingaro)

CNY General Membership Meeting Held on December 12, 2007 at American Legion in Liverpool, NY

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 by CNYR Regional Executive Michael Donofrio.

Regional Executive: Mike announced that it was a slow newsday, however, on a personal note he has made progress on his Miata ! He also raised the question as to if anyone had ever approached ESM High School regarding a Solo in their parking lot.

Assistant Regional Executive: Anthony Donofrio.....Was not in attendance.

Treasurer: Jay Cartini - " The bills are paid"

Secretary: Joe Zingaro - Noted his minutes were late and would be published in a "combo" Snarling to come.

Solo II: Mark Bizzozero - Tempted members with the notion of possible online Solo registration next year and thanked Joe Kramer for the posting of Solo results. The Solo trophies for the upcoming awards banquet have been ordered.

Activities: Mike Mollura - Announced that the CNYR SCCA annual Awards Banquet would be held on January 28th at Nestico's restaurant on Rt. 11 in North Syracuse.

Flagging and Communications: Bob Holcombe and Mick Levy noted all is quiet and not a race car can be heard for miles.

Competition: Joe Zingaro: Joe reported absolutely nothing of value.

Rally: No Report

Merchandise: No Report.

Old Business: None

New Business: Mostly complaining, whining and a little laughing. Oh yea, we talked cars too !!

Submitted, Joe Zingaro
CNYR Secretary



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