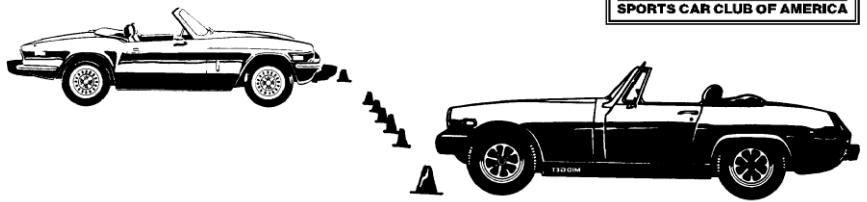


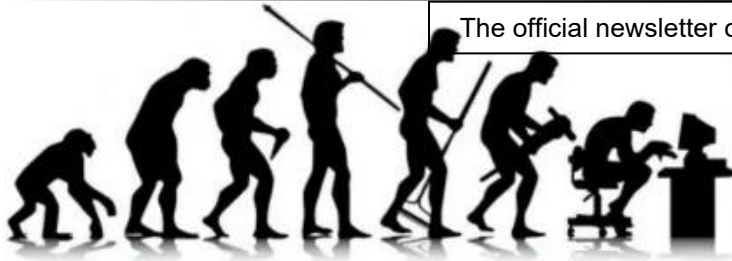
The Write Line

~ September 2026 ~



Original Mirror Khana flyer artwork

The official newsletter of the Salina Region SCCA



Evolution of a Writer

Oct. 11 is going to be quite a festive day!

We're going to start with Octoberfast 37, one of our annual events. Then after we pack it up it's off to Flareside Performance for a PAR-TAY!

Autocross is generally a social sport – we spend 6-8 minutes on course and hours talking about it. And so for the past several years Salina Region has turned Octoberfast into our Member Appreciation Event. That means it's **FREE!** to all Salina Region members. Everyone else pays regular price.

(Yes, you can join at the window.)

Octoberfast also represents the cutoff for our autocross championship season. Everyone at every event scores points, but as of Octoberfast all non-members' points are deleted from the chart. If you've been to at least four events – or plan to be by the end of the season (Oct. 11 and Nov. 1) – and sign up as a Salina Region member by Octoberfast, you're in line for our championship awards to be handed out at our annual banquet, likely in February.

The course is kinda sorta the same each year, and as

the name implies, it's fast. Usually. It was designed by Dave and Jo Richards in our first year, 1990, and drawn on a map which remains in our file cabinet.

Unlike Mirror Khana it is not painted on the pavement, so how it goes down each year based on that map is always a little bit different. Lately it has additions in the middle portions to get us safely past Barkley Park.

Octoberfast also offers BBQ lunch at \$10 a pop, proceeds to go into the trailer fund.

And then, *and then*, gather at Flareside Performance after the event for a social occasion. We've been planning for this for a few months now and hope to see many of our members there.

It's an occasion to socialize, enjoy each other's company, have **#FunWithCars**, check out Flareside's DynoJet 224x dynamometer setup with owner Josh Reich, have a munch and a drink, maybe watch a sunset.

See y'all there!

— Rocky Entriiken, Editor



► Next Event ◀

Octoberfast 37 ~ Oct. 11

After Party at Flareside Performance, 3425 N Old Highway 81 – 4 pm to dusk

► See Page 7 ◀

Berkley Family Recreation Area, 841 Markley Road, Salina

Member Appreciation Event – Salina Region members **FREE**

Entry fees: SCCA members \$33

Non-members \$53 (includes Weekend Membership)

Check-in/Tech opens 8 am, closes 9 am ~ Coursewalk approx. 8:30 am

Novice guided coursewalk 9:15 am ~ Drivers meeting 9:30 am

Registration on MotorsportsReg.com

Credit card not charged until after the event.

Next Business Meeting

Oct. 15

7 pm, via Zoom

Contact Andlee (see Pg. 2)

For Internet Link

*Business meetings are open
to all members and guests*



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Salina Region Schedule ~ 2026

All events at Berkley Family Recreational Area unless noted otherwise

Event

Oct 11 ~ Solo #10, OctoberFast 37
Nov 1 ~ Solo #11

Chair

Salina Region Board
?

Would you like to chair an event in 2026? Contact Phelan Gagnon

A Salina Divisional (if held) and Solo Nationals (Sep. 7-11, 2026) also score in Salina Region's Championship, with bonus points. Lowest four scores are thrown out, five if we do a Divisional

MiDiv



SPS/R&S MiDiv Solo Series - 2026

~~May 2-3 - Wichita @ Yoder KS (Road Yoder)~~

~~June 13-14 - NeOkla @ Muskogee (Davis Field)~~

~~Aug 1-2 - Nebraska @ Lincoln (Lincoln Airpark)~~

SCCA Solo Nationals ~ Sep. 6-10, 2027 ~ Lincoln, NE

MEETING MINUTES

(Subject to correction and approval at the next Salina Region board meeting)

No September Meeting

Lessons of Racing

In a field of 20 Racers only one will be a winner. 19 of them will not win the race.

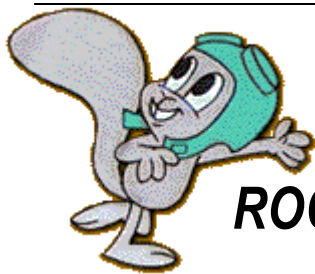
In a field of 20 Racers 19 of them will have a chance to do better next time, and one of them can only do worse.

In a field of 20 Racers 20 of them will gain something that trophies and awards can't replace..... The desire and motivation to do better than yourself did the last time, each and every time.

In Racing everyone walks away with something. And if you don't..... That's when you have lost. Lost the race, lost sight, lost direction, lost hope, lost self-respect and lost determination.

Racing teaches much more than mechanical skills, driving skills, math or organization skills. It teaches real life lessons that can be used in the real world. Lessons our kids need to face this world and survive.





ASSORTED NUTS FROM ROCKET J. SQUIRREL

—ROCKY ENTRIKEN

I don't normally write TWO Assorted Nuts in one issue of The Write Line. In fact, never. But this September is unusual and this subject is easily more important than the other on Page 9.

On Sept. 11, 2001, the SCCA Solo Nationals were just getting under way at Forbes Field in Topeka when the planes hit the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center. One plane was a horrible accident, two was realized as an attack. Then there was the hit at the Pentagon, then Shanksville, PA, where 40 passengers stormed the cockpit and brought down a plan believed headed to the U.S. Capitol. Two SCCA members on that one.

I've been reading a USA Today special section on the 25th anniversary of 9/11. On Page 4 is the bold statement, "Those of us who witnessed Sept. 11 have a responsibility to share what we saw, remind younger generations what happened, and preserve the stories of those who were lost." On another page was the command that journalists have a duty to keep reporting the stories of 9/11, to keep them in the memory of those who were seeing it on that day, and in the minds of 4 million Americans born since then who know of it only as history.

I'd been thinking recently of when I was a kid in the '50s. World War II was ancient history, Korea also mostly distant. Both less than a decade behind me then. But as I have become adult, Vietnam, now almost 50 years past, still seems fairly recent and 9/11 was just last week.

Now I'm a journalist. I'm part of that duty to keep 9/11 in the memory, or knowledge, of those who need to know.

If you lived in New York or New Jersey, or most anywhere on the Eastern Seaboard, 9/11's terrorism was happening in your back yard. In Topeka, Kansas, it seemed distant at first, then rapidly loomed closer.

At the Solo Nationals two heats had been run on the North Course and the third heat was under way on the South when word came to abandon the Forbes Field site.

I'd awakened in my hotel room, turned on the TV to check the weather and found the South Tower smoking. Announcers were reporting the "accident." Then cameras picked up the second plane and it became apparent this was no accident. I watched the feed past the Pentagon crash, then decided to go to Forbes Field to prepare my own competition. I wasn't scheduled to drive until Thursday, North Course first.

I got there to find the North Course inactive, so I took the opportunity to walk it. Several times. The oddity I noticed was the line of large vehicles, tanker trucks, armed

Humvees, tightly parked along the edge of the Air National Guard base there. It's a refueling wing and they were making sure nobody in our group was going to make a purposeful right turn toward their planes.

The order came to leave the site, by which time everyone was aware of what was going on back east. By then all air travel had been grounded. At the Solo Nationals there was little to no complaint. We understood. They finished third heat on the South Course but then we were all gone, most of us banished to parking lots at Forbes' industrial park, outside the airfield fence.

At one point a National Guard tanker took off. We'd heard that President Bush was flying around the Midwest in Air Force One and we wondered if the tanker was sent up to refuel it (He later landed at Offutt AFB in Nebraska, so he was in the area).

Sometime later I learned the evacuation was SCCA's own response to the emergency. We didn't wait to be told, we just got out so as not to be anybody's additional complication. Wednesday we had a banquet with no championships awarded. But by then we knew our future, SCCA leadership had conferred with the airport and the National Guard. Roger Johnson, the emcee, delivered a stirring, defiant speech: "We must persevere."

Thursday we'd be back to the event site. If you ran Tuesday, you were done. Only seven classes ever saw the North Course. The rest of us would all get three runs on the South Course, the North Course standing idle as a buffer.

On Thursday six heats were pushed through the South Course. Friday saw nine heats! 669 cars total.

The year before, 2000, the entry had broken 1000 cars for the first time, 1073 actually. 2001 was on track to break that record but didn't. Only 954 ran – 127 drivers were marked DNS. Some turned back for home, some never left.

Conventional wisdom was to start a car every 25 seconds or so, any faster would overwhelm workers, the cone chasers and timers. Now they were pumping cars out on course 16 seconds apart, and the amazing thing is the event did not become overwhelmed.

"We must persevere." Indeed!

The competitors, plus various significant others, were determined to pull this championship off. Many volunteered for extra work shifts. 285 cars competed on Thursday, 669 on Friday. If you went into Topeka looking to buy a flag, the city was sold out. Drivers who could find one tied them to radio aerals and B pillars, whatever they could find.

The thing is, a thousand SCCA members were highly aware that what they were doing on a silent airfield in Kansas was utterly unimportant in the grand scheme of things that day. But it was the one thing that impacted us, and we were damn well certain no terrorist was going to say we couldn't.

A couple of days playing with cars, we knew, was not important. What was important was the freedom to do it.

~~ Saturday Solo • PAX Rankings ~~

Driver	Class	Best	Index	PAX
Sharon Brillhart	ESL	58.981	*0.788	46.477
Mason Libby	HS	61.667	*0.780	48.100
Les Davis	AST	57.789	*0.836	48.311
Phelan Gagnon	HS	62.151	*0.780	48.477
Rocky Entriiken	ES	61.55	*0.788	48.501
Chandler Brown	AS	58.687	*0.830	48.710
Nancy Smith	HSL	63.048	*0.780	49.177
Andlee Phengphachanh	BST	59.091	*0.835	49.341
Henry Brillhart	ES	62.713	*0.788	49.417
Kimbal Mackinnon	CAMT	60.876	*0.819	49.857
Brent Holm	CAMC	60.075	*0.828	50.404
R Abner Perney	HS	67.804	*0.780	52.263
Tarin Carlson	HS	68.307	*0.780	53.279
Cameron Dawson	HS	68.415	*0.780	53.363
Pieter Miller	FS	65.958	*0.817	53.887
Nicholas Lake	FSP	64.862	*0.833	54.030
Heath Carlson	HS	71.044	*0.780	55.414
Jason Adamson	CAMC	72.291	*0.828	59.856
Benny Dawson	HS	78.174	*0.780	60.975
Eugene Spencer	HS	92.821	*0.780	72.400
Don Herrick	HS	D.N.F.	*0.780	—

SALINA REGION MEMBERS (Points after final for Annual XLV)						QUALIFIED FOR AWARDS (WINNERS OF LOCAL EVENTS)								
SS	Rick Chapman*	*48	<i>For most of the season all competitors are listed. However, only Salina Region members are eligible for championship awards and must be members before Octoberfast and run at least four local events. As of Octoberfast all non-member points are stripped.</i>						KM	Andlee Phengphachanh*	12			
AS	Chandler Brown*	*45							Wild	Mike Herrick	*48			
	Frank Wietharn	12								Michael Mace*	*48			
BS	Matthew Grieb	12								Andlee Phengphachanh*	48			
	Lucas Hitz	12								Luke Broberg*	*41			
CS	Greg Dunham	21	HS	Mason Libby*	*87	BST	Andlee Phengphachanh*	36	Nick Pahl	21	Darla Presnell*	36		
	Hank Dunham	12		Don Herrick*	44	CST	Alex Redman*	*48	Matthew Kuffel	19	Tarin Carlson	22		
	Mason Smith*	11		Abner Perney*	*39		Tracy Presnell*	*46	Jason Adamson	18	Everett Hopkins	19		
CSL	Darla Presnell*	12		Dennis Smith*	36		Geoff Leazer*	*35	Phelan Gagnon*	12	† = required, 3 different classes			
	Illiana Ali Loggan	9		Phelan Gagnon*	*34		Zachary Damiani	16	CAMT	Kimbal Mackinnon	24			
ES	Jason Rash*	*93		Tarin Carlson	13		Mike Herrick	12		Justin Blew*	12	♦ PAX – Top 10 ♦		
	Rocky Entriken*	*72		Everett Hopkins	12		Israel Lopez De Jesus	12		Opie Viets	11	ESL	Sharon Brillhart*	595
	Henry Brillhart*	*66		Benny Dawson	9		Brandon Spencer	9	XA	Aaron Loggan	12	ES	Jason Rash*	580
ESL	Sharon Brillhart*	*96		Doug Gill	9		Bret Vaughn	9		Artt Mann*	12	HS	Mason Libby*	574
FS	Abner Perney*	*42		Eugene Spencer	8	CSTL	Dagmar De Jesus Roman	12	XB	Samuel Krauss	12	ES	Henry Brillhart*	554
	John LaRandeau*	40		Lori Gill	6	DST	Michael Groeneveld	12	SSP	Ryan Pemberton*	16	ES	Rocky Entriken*	553
	Pieter Miller	33		Cameron Dawson*	5	EST	Mike Herrick	36		Bill Pemberton*	7	HS/CAMC	Phelan Gagnon	547
	Cameron Dawson	30		Heath Carlson	4		Conner Herrick	18	FSP	Nicholas Lake*	*96	HSL	Nancy Smith*	539
	John Phillippe	21	HSL	Nancy Smith*	*96	GST	Ben LeDocq	24		Tarin Carlson	9	HS	Don Herrick	534
	Luke Broberg*	14	CSM	Don Knop*	6	CAM-S	Dylan Reed	24	SM	Chris Lawrie	12	CAMC	Brent Holm*	531
	Everett Hopkins	7	SST	Mark Hill7*	10		Jim French*	6		Michael Mace*	12	FS/HS	Abner Perney*	521
GS	Russell Blume	22	AST	Les Davis	24	CAM-C	Brent Holm*	*88	SMF	Michael Mace*	36			
GSL	Darla Presnell*	12		Roger Hill	12		Luke Broberg*	27		Joe Silva*	15			

Just A Saturday Solo

Salina Region SCCA ~ September 19, 2026 ~ Berkley Family Recreational Area, Salina

Class	Driver	No.	Car	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3	Run 4	Run 5	Run 6	Best	
AS	• Chandler Brown	19	2005 Lotus Elise	59.485	58.851	58.592+2	58.076+1	58.687	57.362+1	58.687	
ES	• Rocky Entriiken	4	2000 Mazda Miata	63.271	62.232	D.N.F.	62.225	61.550	61.632	61.550	
ES	Henry Brillhart	48	1999 Mazda Miata	D.N.F.	66.019+2	64.039	63.819	62.713	61.783+1	62.713	
ESL	• Sharon Brillhart	28	2003 Toyota MR2	63.741	60.818	60.475	60.190	58.981	59.508	58.981	PAX/FL
FS	• Pieter Miller	42	2005 Nissan 350Z	68.952	D.N.F.	D.N.F.	67.524	65.958	65.331+1	65.958	
HS	• Mason Libby	62	2007 Pontiac G5	63.806	62.976	65.043	61.688	61.667	62.693	61.667	
HS	• Phelan Gagnon	6	2007 Pontiac G5	63.814	62.908	63.950	62.681+1	62.151	61.741+2	62.151	
HS	• R Abner Perney	5	2023 Nissan Leaf S	69.805	69.275	67.040	67.328	67.474	67.004	67.004	
HS	Tarin Carlson	2	2008 Chevrolet HHR	72.103	71.277	70.936	68.307	70.203	69.103	68.307	
HS	Cameron Dawson	4	2011 Chevrolet HHR	73.017	71.639	69.876	68.415	69.113	68.884	68.415	
HS	Heath Carlson	9	2009 Chevrolet HHR	D.N.F.	71.920+1	71.667	D.N.F.	71.044	71.850+2	71.044	
HS	Benny Dawson	57	2009 Chevrolet Cobalt	83.614	87.155	80.749	81.248	78.907	78.174	78.174	
HS	Eugene Spencer	14	2020 Ford Fusion	D.N.F.	103.056	97.210	D.N.F.	96.860	92.821	92.821	
HS	Don Herrick	8	2015 Ford Fiesta ST	D.N.F.	D.N.F.	D.N.F.	D.N.F.	D.N.F.	D.N.S.	D.N.F.	
HSL	• Nancy Smith	77	2013 Mini Cooper	D.N.F.	95.328	65.603	65.861	64.299	63.048	63.048	
AST	• Les Davis	91	2021 Mazda MX5	58.360	58.712	57.849+1	57.867	D.N.F.	57.789	57.789	FTD
BST	• Andlee Phengphachanh	23	1988 Toyota Celica AllTrac	60.101	59.797	59.091	59.216	59.169+1	59.479	59.091	
CAMC	• Brent Holm	5	2011 Ford Mustang GT	62.187	62.009+1	60.875	61.213	60.086+1	59.173+1	60.875	
CAMC	Jason Adamson	13	2016 Dodge Charger	D.N.F.	D.N.F.	75.690	72.644	71.646+1	72.291	72.291	
CAMT	• Kimbal Mackinnon	191	1969 Chevrolet Chevelle	D.N.F.	63.569	61.972	63.317	61.074	60.876	60.876	
FSP	• Nicholas Lake	11	2005 Ford Focus	66.248	65.944	65.523	65.510	65.628	64.862	64.862	

• Trophy

FTD – Fast Time of Day

FL – Fast Lady

PAX – Top PAX

MIRROR KHANA XLIV

Salina Region SCCA ~ September 20, 2026 ~ Berkley Family Recreational Area, Salina

W = Win L = Loss X = DNS – = Bye

Name / Hometown	Class	Rgn	No.	Car	Prelims	Finals
TOP DOG						
T1. Dylan Reed / St. John	[CAMS]	—	87	Corvette	W W W	W
T2. Brent Holm / Enterprise	[CAMC]	Sal	5	Mustang GT	W W L	W L
T3. Les Davis / Neal	[AST]	—	91	Mazda MX5	W L W	W L
4. Alex Redman / Maize	[CST]	Sal	97	Toyota MR2 Spyder	L W W	L
5. Nicholas Lake / Salina	[FSP]	Sal	11	Ford Focus	W L W	
6. Jason Adamson / Abilene	[CAMC]	—	13	Dodge Charger	L W L	
7. Chandler Brown / Great Bend	[AS]	Sal	19	Lotus Elise	X X	
Andlee Phengphachanh / Salina	[BST]	Sal	23	Toyota AllTrac	X X	
87>97	97>23x	97>13		91>97	5>91	87>5
11>23x	13>19x	91>11				
91>19x	87>11	87>5				
5>13	5>91					

MIRROR KHANA XLIV

<u>Name / Hometown</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Rgn</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Car</u>	<u>Prelims</u>	<u>Finals</u>
BIGBORE						
T1. Kimbal Mackinnon / Manhattan	[CAMT]	—	191	Chevelle	— W	W
2. John Phillippe / Wichita	[FS]	Wich	43	Dodge Challenger	W L	L
3. Pieter Miller / Salina	[FS]	—	42	Nissan 350Z	X X	
191-bye					42x	191>43
43>42x						42-bye
E STREET						
T1. Rocky Entriken / Salina		Sal	4	Mazda Miata	W W	W
2. Jason Rash / Holton		Sal	1	Mazda Miata	W L	W L
3. Sharon Brillhart / Wichita	[ESL]	Sal	28	Toyota MR2	X X	
Henry Brillhart / Wichita		Sal	48	Mazda Miata	X X	
1>28x					1>x	4>1
4>48x						28x/48x
H STREET						
T1. Mason Libby / Salina		Sal	62	Pontiac G5	W W	W
T2. R. Abner Perney / Salina		Sal	5	Nissan Leaf	W L	W L
T3. Tarin Carlson / Salina		—	2	Chevrolet HHR	L W	L
4. Eugene Spencer / Abilene		—	14	Ford Fusion	L L	
5. Cameron Dawson / Minneapolis		Sal	4	Chevrolet HHR	X X	
Phelan Gagnon / Salina		Sal	6	Pontiac G5	X X	
Don Herrick / McPherson		Sal	8	Ford Fiesta ST	X X	
Heath Carlson / Salina		—	9	Chevrolet HHR	X X	
Benny Dawson / Minneapolis		—	57	Chevrolet Cobalt	X X	
Nancy Smith / Minneapolis	[HSL]	Sal	77	Mini Cooper	X X	
62>2					5>2	62>5
5>14						2>14
77x/8x						
4x/9x						
6x/57x						
KING OF THE HILL						
T1. Rocky Entriken / Salina	[ES]	Sal	4	Mazda Miata		W W
2. Dylan Reed / St. John	[CAMS]	—	87	Corvette		W L
3. Mason Libby / Salina	[HS]	Sal	62	Pontiac G5		L
Kimbal Mackinnon / Manhattan	[CAMT]	—	191	Chevelle		L
					4>62	4>87
					87>191	



The theme of the Tire Rack SCCA Solo Nationals this year was video games, represented mostly by Super Mario characters – a lot of Mario and Luigi caps and a few in Waluigi garb. Mostly competitors went for the cartoon-y games – some Zelda and Donkey Kong also. Didn't see any real nods to Call of Duty, Assassin's Creed or Grand Theft Auto, or even Madden. Not to say they weren't there, just I didn't see any.

Salina Region had 10 members competing, two of them Region of Record (•), the others are ROR elsewhere. One champion, one more trophy winner:

Champion

Ryan Pemberton, SSP, Mitsubishi Evo IX

7th Trophy Finish

Trophy. 4th Place

• Joe Silva, SMF, Honda Civic

15th Trophy Finish

Also Competing

Bill Pemberton, 4th SSP, Mitsubishi Evo IX

Mark Hill, 10th SST, Mitsubishi Evo IX

Opie Viets, 14th CAMT, Camaro Z28

Mason Smith, 21st CS, Mazda MX5

Jim French, 31st CAMS, Corvette

John LaRondeau, 31st FS, Ford Shelby GT350

• Rocky Entriiken, 34th ES, Mazda Miata

Don Knop, 37th CSM, Ford Shelby GT

ANNIVERSARIES

••40 Years••

Bob Lambert

••25 Years••

Dennis & Nancy Smith



Racers say:

FINISHING RACES IS IMPORTANT, BUT RACING IS MORE IMPORTANT. —DALE EARNHARDT

Racing makes heroin addiction look like a vague wish for something salty. —Peter Egan

Just being a mediocre driver has never been my ambition. That's not my style. —Michael Schumacher

Driving a race car is like dancing with a chainsaw. —Cale Yarborough

I am not designed to come in second or third. I am designed to win. —Ayrton Senna

I am an artist. The track is my canvas, and the car is my brush. —Graham Hill

A lot of people criticize Formula One as an unnecessary risk. But what would life be like if we only did what is necessary?

—Niki Lauda

Events

Elsewhere — 2026

A calendar of AutoX and RallyX events by the Wichita, Kansas, Kansas City, Nebraska, NeOkla and Oklahoma Regions of SCCA. Go see how others do it!

‡ = Test & Tune / § = Street Survival School

Ⓟ = Starting Line School / ● = Region or novice school

ALWAYS CONFIRM THE EVENT BEFORE MAKING A LONG TRIP!

(* = Salina Region autocross on this date)

AUTOCROSS

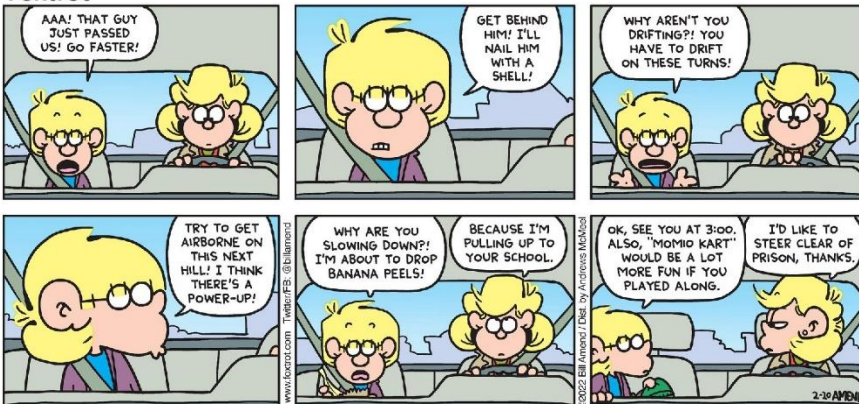
Oct 3.....‡ Nebraska @ Lincoln Airpark, Lincoln, NE
 Oct 4.....Nebraska @ Lincoln Airpark, Lincoln, NE
 Oklahoma @ Remington Park
 Oct 18.....Kansas @ Darana Heartland Motorsport Park, Topeka, KS
 Oct 19.....Kansas @ Darana Heartland Motorsport Park, Topeka, KS
 Oct 24.....Kansas City @ MetroCC Driving Center, Independence MO
 ‡Nebraska @ Lincoln Airpark, Lincoln, NE
 Wichita @ Road Yoder, Yoder KS
 Oct 25.....Kansas City @ MetroCC Driving Center, Independence MO
 Nebraska @ Lincoln Airpark, Lincoln, NE
 Wichita @ Road Yoder, Yoder KS
 Oct 31.....NeOkla @ Davis Field, Muskogee OK
 Nov 1.....* NeOkla @ Davis Field, Muskogee OK
 Nov 7.....Oklahoma @ Remington Park
 Nov 8.....Oklahoma @ Remington Park
 Wichita @ Road Yoder, Yoder KS (Endurocross)

RALLYCROSS

Oct 4.....Kansas City @ Holsworth Farm, Garnett, KS
 NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK
 Oct 11.....* Nebraska @ Raging Beaver Racecourse, Beaver Crossing, NE
Oct 16-18 RallyCross Nationals @ Camp Verde, AZ
 Nov 7.....Kansas @ McCain's Off-Road Park, Carbondale, KS
 Nov 8.....NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK
 Nov 15.....Kansas City @ I-35 Speedway, Winston, MO
 Nov 22.....Kansas @ McCain's Off-Road Park, Carbondale, KS
 Dec 6.....NeOkla @ Billy Bob's Farm, Billings OK (Tent.)
 Dec 12.....Kansas @ McCain's Off-Road Park, Carbondale, KS



Foxtrot



Go

Racing!



Five MiDiv road course tracks are within a 5-hour drive of Salina. Be part of the action as a race worker -- flagging on corners, timing, grid, tech, etc. Or be a driver?

- Hallett Motor Racing Circuit, Hallett OK • Hedge Hollow Raceway, Adrian, MO
- Motorsports Park Hastings, Hastings NE • Ozarks International Raceway, Gravois Mills MO
- I-29 Speedway, Pacific Junction. IA

ROAD RACING

Sep 28-Oct 4 . The Runoffs @ Road America, Elkhart Lake WI

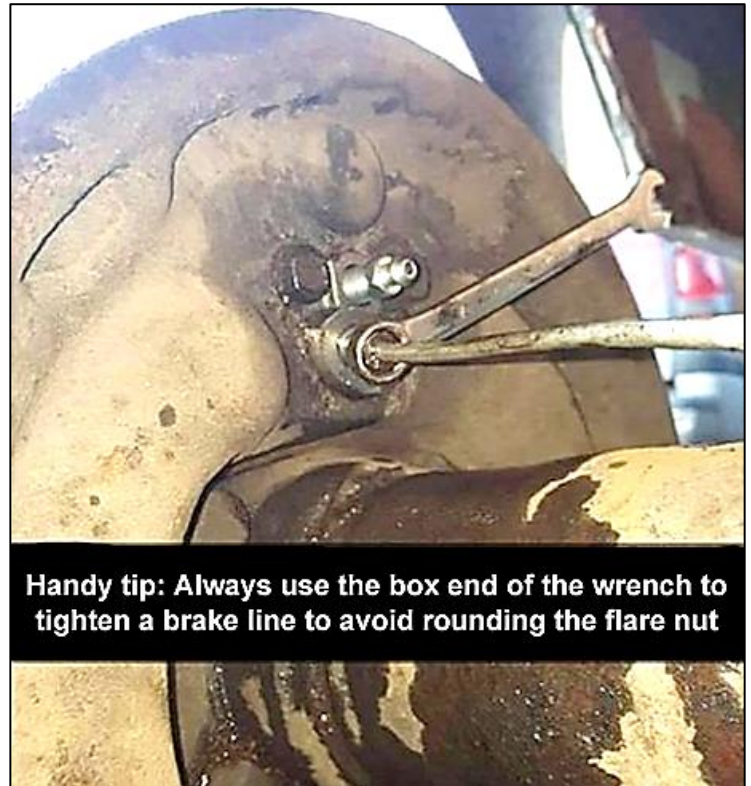
MIDIV TIME TRIALS SERIES

Oct 4 @ Hedge Hollow Raceway, Adrian, MO

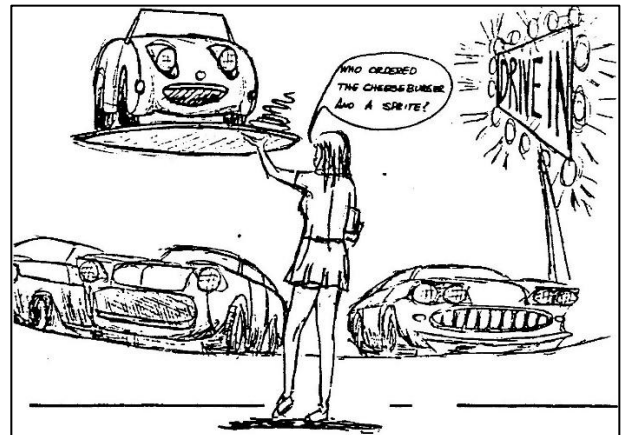
Oct 24-25 ... Time Attack Nationals @ Eagles Canyon Raceway, TX

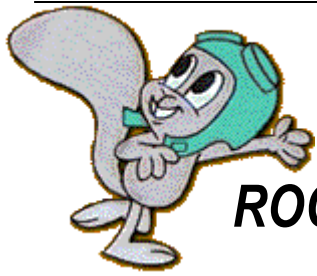
TRACK NIGHT IN AMERICA

Oct 1 @ Hallett MRC, Hallett, OK



Handy tip: Always use the box end of the wrench to tighten a brake line to avoid rounding the flare nut





ASSORTED NUTS FROM ROCKET J. SQUIRREL

—ROCKY ENTRIKEN

Andlee came up to me after the final run and said, “You have to write this!”

“What?”

“THIS, THIS,” he said, waving his arm to indicate the whole Berkley Family Recreational Area site, or rather, the Mirror Khana XLIV just concluded.

So with all due propriety and humility, I shall undertake the task: *I WON! I WON! I WON! I WON! I WON!*

Unbelievably, I had just triumphed in the King of the Hill final runs of the Mirror Khana.

Mirror Khana XLIV, rescheduled from June, was titled with Andlee as event chair but it was mostly me. I set the brackets Saturday evening and pretty much ran the show. But it was definitely Andlee who decided we should run a King of the Hill at the end.

The winners of the four brackets would go for a heads-up showdown. Top Dog was a mélange of classes seeded by PAX ranking, with Dylan Reed atop the heap in a CAM·S Corvette whose PAX index was 0.847. Then Bigbore ran CAM·T and FS together, won by Kimbal Mackinnon’s CAM·T Chevelle, index 0.819.

On the other side, me in E Street with a 0.788 index, and H Street winner Mason Libby’s Pontiac G5, index 0.780.

Now first I had to win E Street. Where Jason Rash has had my number all season. We’d paired up seven times this season and he won all seven. By margins as much as 4.4 sec. Closest I came was 1.9 sec at both June events.

With the Brillharts not returning on Sunday (an overnight storm caused significant damage at their home) ours was a two-car class. I figured it would be a classic two-and-out. And it was – except I won both matches! How’d that happen? First pairing it was by about a car length. That gave me lane choice for the final and I took the downhill (northbound) side again. This time I crossed the line just as Jason was clearing the last right-left turn.

On to King of the Hill. I hadn’t planned on doing that so it was all Andlee’s fault! 😊 I’d already packed up my car because of the brief drizzle that fell just before second heat, so I had to unload everything again. At least it was dry.

First I had to deal with Mason Libby, who in eight prior events had four wins, three 2nds and a 3rd. In those eight events, I’d run the better times just twice, including Saturday’s event when I was all of 0.117 sec quicker. In earlier events he’d topped me by as much as 2 sec.

As I told him after, ES may be quicker on paper, with an index 0.008 sec higher than the HS index. But he’s generally been quickest on pavement. Mason has really

been getting that Ponty around well lately!

King of the Hill would be a one-and-done affair. One shot, that’s it. By then we’ve all had at least four runs.

Chasin’ Mason I missed a 2-3 upshift, which cost a bit. Comin’ at the finish Mason was ahead by maybe a car length, but back at my grid I’m told he’d hit four cones!

Wow! I’m in the final, But now I get Dylan Reed’s noisy ‘Vette with an index 0.059 higher than mine in my meek li’l Miata. So okay, just go have fun. No real hope here. Just try to drive it well. Dylan chose the uphill start so for the 5th time in six runs I started downhill.

Made the first turn, Pushed the skid circle just enough, grabbed my 2-1 downshift for the buttonhook and rocketed toward the box turn. SMACK! Two cones on the exit.

Ignore it. I know I can do the right/left flat out. And then third gear! And I didn’t miss the shift.

Sailed through the chicane on the edge of adhesion and did the slalom in 3rd, grabbing 2nd at the end (whew, got it this time!). On the northbound run, flat out through the stairstep, caught a cone in the elbow turn, and now the one last right/left – telling myself you have three cones already don’t hit four! And didn’t.

Dylan was a good 1½ car lengths ahead at the finish and I was really stoked just to be that close. But you know that “Henry the 8th” song? “Second verse, same as the first.” I get back to my grid slot and here comes a grinning Andlee handing me the FTD magnet for winning King of the Hill. Corvette: 4 cones. Miata: 3.

So here I sit, at age 85. Autocrossing since 1965. At this point I’ve driven every one of the 44 Mirror Khanas. The only person on the planet who can say that. That’s gotta be more than 200 laps around that course – which has changed a lot over the years but the flavor is the same. Only a chunk of the south end remains as it was when I first designed it in 1974.

I keep my pylon magnets (which go back to 2011) on a steel door between my kitchen and the garage. I checked, the only magnets I have from past Mirror Khanas are a pair of 3rd place finishes in 2011 and 2023. I have won some back in the day (we never did King of the Hill then), but that was in my Spitfire race car.

* * *

First thing I usually do on Mirror Khana mornings is check that the course is right. I put on 30 of them, since then others have taken on the task. But sometimes they miss something. I know where the cones go.

When I got to the chicane after the southbound start, it had been moved over to the right. I started to “fix” it, then realized why. The new extension to the dog park makes it the target area for a spin there. So I left it as it was altered. Driving it, I could still see the possibility of hazard.

So <SIGH> before the next one I plan to modify that. Probably a new sharper turn similar to the one at the beginning of the skid circle. I think the slalom will still be just fine if I can get everyone there safely.

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