



Pylon Press

SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA -
PHOENIX AZ SOLO REGION

December 2022 – Fall Event #4

Event Synopsis

Great weather with sunny skies and little wind provided for another full day of Autox activities at the **Arizona Motor Sports Park** in Litchfield Park. The course was tight, fast and technical. It rewarded smooth car control and sharp reaction driver responses. Drivers were given 5 runs per group. Lap times between 40 through 50 seconds were prevalent. The course got progressively faster with the D group Sportsman pushing times into the low 40 second range. It was especially fun to watch the national level drivers battle it out for top time of the day. The Sportsman group set the pace with **Jason Bucki** putting down a 39.695 run, with **Jeff Wong** and **Nick Sloan** coming in within a few tenth of his fine time. The interesting thing here is the variety of cars in this threesome: a Corvette, a Porsche, and a Tesla running neck and neck in performance. It appears good drivers can go fast in diverse kinds of car brands and types. Fine driving fellows – you are an inspiration to all.



Drivers of the Month

Congratulations to all the Arizona drivers who attended the **49th SCCA 2022 Tire Rack Solo Nationals Championships** held September 6th-9th in Lincoln, Nebraska. Listed in alphabetical order are those who were class award winners.

Jay Balducci	7 th Super Street
Jason Bucki	6 th Super Street
Jeff Cashmore	3 rd E Mod
Mindi Cross	2 nd Ladies C Street Prepared
Steven King	10 th D Street
Christopher Mayfield	1 st Xtreme Street A
Manfred Reysser	2 nd Street Touring Xtreme
Dave Rock	3 rd CAM Sport
Doug Rowse	1 st Super Street
Dave Schotz	2 nd CAM Contemporary
Elliot Speidell	9 th F Street
Jeff Wong	1 st Super Street Prepared
Nicole Wong	1 st Ladies Super Street Prepared

Racing is Life!

Everything before and after is
just waiting!

Steve McQueen

Car of the Month

Eric Hankins 1966 Pontiac LeMans



Among the more interesting cars at the 4th Fall Series event was the **1966 Pontiac LeMans** of **Eric Hankins**. Eric, a resident of Scottsdale, has owned the car since 2007 and has had great times with what he calls his "favorite car". He purchased the car on eBay from a guy in New York and it needed a complete remodel. When the final paint job was completed, the only original metal left was the firewall, roof and trunk lid. This beauty is no trailer queen! It was recently driven in cross country trips to the Pontiac-Oakland Club Nationals in Tulsa, where Eric drag raced on a Friday evening and took first place in the car show the following day. The LeMans, nicknamed 'Phyllis' after his mom, was also recently driven to San Diego for the "Cops and Robbers" car show where it won the Best Pontiac Award. This classic is powered by a 6.2-liter LS3 with 4L-70e transmission, a Ford 9" rear-end with 325 gears, custom air intake, Dakota Digital, custom interior, Hotchkiss Extreme front and rear sway bars, Ride-Tech adjustable coil-overs in the front and True Track System, and Hotchkiss lowered springs in the rear with air bags. His buddy, Tim Blattner, who owns **Blattner Autoworks**, helped with the restoration and painting of the car. Eric praised the hospitality and strong welcome he received at his first ever PASR Autox event and looks forward to coming back often.

Fun Fact

The Pontiac LeMans /lə'mɑːnz/

was a model name applied to subcompact and intermediate-sized automobiles marketed by Pontiac from 1962 to 1981. The cars were named for the French city of Le Mans which has been the site of the 24 Hours of Le Mans, the world's oldest active endurance sports car race since it began in 1923

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Faith Hare



REQUEST FROM waiver team

As you approach the waiver station, please have your cell phone waiver photo or annual waiver pass readily available!

Thanks to Faith and her fine crew for a job well done. Next time you go through the waiver station consider extending a big THANK YOU to them!

Insurance and liability requirements requires that each entrant to the PASR events sign two waivers for entry. One is for SCCA, which we take care on Speedwaiver – where we upload our mug shot to show at the waiver station. The second one is for the AMP track insurance requirement. All this insurance business is made reasonably painless for drivers and guests by the online convenience of Speedwaiver and the vigilant efforts of the waiver station crew. Our Waiver Chief is **Faith Hare**, a Flagstaff resident and co-driver of a 2013 Corvette Grand Sport. Originally from California, Faith first got interested in motorsports by attending weekend stock car races and driving sand buggies. Faith and her husband, Todd, have been involved in Autox events since 2009. Faith is a great name because she is very dependable in managing a critical workstation area that runs smoothly at each event. She gives credit to the entire waiver team for the efficient work of getting long lines of cars entering AMP through quickly which then allows the cars to smoothly go on to tech and registration . Faith and her crew are part of the reason we start events on time and give each run group the maximum number of runs possible.

**Better to
be a racer
for a
moment,
than a
spectator
for a
lifetime.**





CAM CHALLENGE

Who's the best all around driver in the CAM driver group? This creative crew concocted a "CAM Challenge Event" to find out. Hats off to **Chris Hall, Lance Hamilton, Mike Hitt** and **Matt Leon** for being willing to "go for it!"

The rules were simple: Each driver drove all four cars owned by themselves and the other drivers one time around the course in the *Time Only* entry portion of the event. The driver with the best overall combined time of the four runs in the four different cars was the winner.

The winner? Nobody seemed to care much! They put the pedal to the metal, never let the fires really settle, and ended the competition by eating pizza and drinking a pint after the event off site reminiscing about the unique characteristics and quirks driving each other's rides brought.

Was there a winner? Well, there were certainly no losers! Mike Hitt technically qualified as the overall winner. Let it be noted the **CAM Challenge** was a very close contest full of laughter, grins and friendly trash talk. Noted was the camaraderie and comedic relief.

Stay Safe



DRIVE AS IF THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD ARE DEPENDING ON YOU!

Blessings from Phoenix AZ Solo Region



The young "Gung Ho" drivers from Flagstaff graced the December event. They always bring the best attitudes!

DO MORE OF WHAT YOU LOVE

Flagstaff touts nearly 100,000 residents. These fine folks are among the fastest and most fun!



TechTips



RESEARCHED & COMPLIED BY BRIAN MILLER, PYLON PRESS EDITOR

The main components of a good autocross program include a positive attitude, a well-prepared car, good driver preparation, adequate course knowledge, and a modicum of driving skill. A variable not so obvious for success on the autocross circuit is good vision. If we can't clearly see the fast-approaching course ahead of us on the skid pad course, we are forced to slow down a bit to compensate. Good vision requires a good eye regiment: Correct prescription eyeglasses, and equally important, eye nutrition.

What foods nurture good vision? Envision Eyecare & Eyewear provides us with a great list of foods for eye health. See how your diet lines up with a good eye nutrition regiment.

1. Fish, salmon, tuna, sardines are all rich in omega-3 fatty acids which will protect against dry eye, macular degeneration and even cataracts.
2. Leafy Greens, such as kale, spinach and collard greens, are packed full of lutein and zeaxanthin, all of which can help slow the development of macular degeneration and cataracts.
3. Eggs protect against dry eye and night blindness by providing a good source of vitamin A needed for eye health.
4. Whole grains can slow the development of macular degeneration. Swap out white bread for non-GMO whole wheat and grain-based items here.
5. Citrus items, such as oranges and grapefruits, help provide the needed vitamin C intake.
6. Nuts of all kinds boost omega-3 and our required vitamin E allotment.
7. Legumes, including beans, black-eyed peas and lentils, are a good sources of bioflavonoids and zinc to protect retina health.
8. Sunflower seeds are another source of vitamin E and zinc.
9. Lean beef contains zinc for better absorption of vitamins in general.

For a more detailed discussion of these beneficial eye foods listed above go to www.myenvisioneyecare.com or research the National Library of Medicine at pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

Pylon Quiz

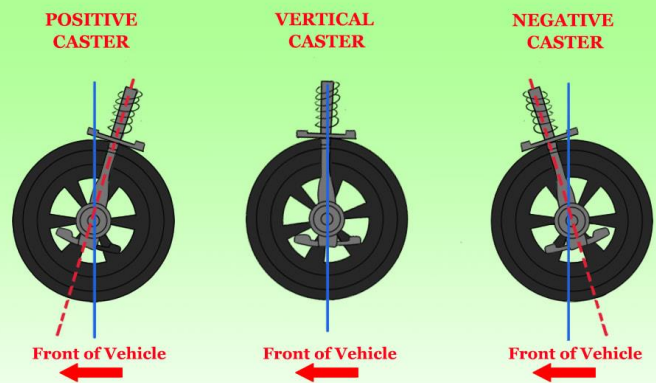
True or false

1. If the tires and track are cold, it is generally better to lower tire pressures a bit for better grip? **T or F**
2. If the outside of the tire on your car is considerably hotter than the middle or inside, you need less negative camber in that tire. **T or F**
3. Caster in auto cross suspension settings is best set at a positive point for good steering wheel response. **T or F**
4. In auto cross events, with rear drive cars want a slight front wheel toe out alignment setting provides for a better turn in response. **T or F**
5. Setting for optimum tire pressure in auto cross tires is greatly over-rated with plus or minus 5 pounds variations in tire pressure basically providing negligible differences in performance. **T or F**

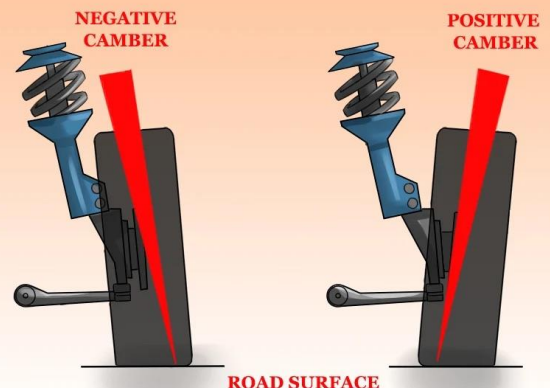
Answers 1, 3 and 4 are True. Question 2 is false as more negative camber is needed. Question 5 is false as correct tire pressure for each individual car and condition is critical for optimal lap times.

Helpful Terms to Know

Caster angle: Caster is the angle in which the front suspension is positioned in reference to the vertical position. Caster is only set on the front suspension of your car. This angle cannot be seen by eye yet must be measured with the correct alignment equipment. On most vehicles this angle is set in a positive manner which assists in steering and vehicle stability at higher speeds. This angle does not usually affect tire wear.



Camber angle: Camber is an angle that is set which you can see when looking at some vehicles. Camber is the tilt of the top of the tire according to how it sits on the road. If you are looking at a tire and the top appears to lean towards the engine, then that is considered negative camber. If the tire leans away from the vehicle, then that is considered positive camber.



**IT'S HARD TO DRIVE AT THE
LIMIT, YET IT'S HARDER TO
KNOW WHERE THE LIMITS ARE.**

Sir Stirling Craufurd Moss

Info from www.mymechanic.com