

Pylon Press

SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA -
PHOENIX AZ SOLO REGION

December 2023 – Fall Series #4

Event Synopsis

By Brian Miller,
Pylon Press Editor

Sunday December 17th turned out to be an ideal day for autocross racing. A capacity number of drivers and guests began arriving in the dawn of the morning as early as 6 am. The weather was cool, dry, and pleasant with temperatures ranged from 40 degrees in the morning up to the low seventies in the afternoon. Cold tires and a cold driving surface made for some slides and spins on a fast course that required several right angle turns cleverly leading to short fast straights. A proper driving line and accurate car placement was essential to produce a quality time. The top time of the day and the best PAX score was set by **Brian Peters** in a Tesla EV Model 3 with a time of 45.766. Close behind Brian in the SPM class were **Bruce Hanson**, driving a Tesla Model 3 and recording a PAX index of 992, and **Dave Schotz** in his intrepid Camaro SS, laying down a 981 PAX score. Several class battles for podium spots went down to the wire at this event.

Please plan to attend the Awards Dinner immediately following the January 14th event which will be held at the Beer Shop Company from 5-8 pm in Tempe to celebrate the class winners from the 2023 Spring and Fall series trophy winners.



Aubry Herrell got involved in autocross when she joined the 40 Roll Car Club in Flagstaff. Little did she know her introduction to autocross racing would eventually fast track her into marrying one of its members, **Ramsey Crenshaw**. Aubry and Ramsey took a shine to each other and invested in a stock 1998 Honda Prelude Type SH as a Autox project car.

Upgrades the couple have added to the car include a digital distributor, Tein coil overs, and Toyo Proxes tires that are installed on race days. Working on the car, they nicknamed "Yang Sadie," caused the couple to grow closer, fall in love and eventually marry in October of '23. Since then, Aubry and Ramsey co-drive the Honda at Phoenix autocross events and enter it in an occasional car show. Commuting from Flagstaff to autocross in Phoenix, the couple show a real commitment to the PASR group, and we wish our "Driver of the Month" the absolute best in years to come.



1955 Ford Thunderbird

OWNED BY KEITH & PAM CORRIGAN



Keith Corrigan, and wife Pam, are currently living in Desert Hills in Cave Creek, AZ. The 1955 Yellow Ford Thunderbird has been in the family for 11 years and was originally his wife's car which she used as a weekend pleasure cruiser. Over time Keith has transformed the Bird into a serious competition solo racer. Among mods incorporated in the racer are a removable roll bar, Kirksey vintage racing seats, Aviad dry sump oiling system, CCW wheels and Falken tires. The crown jewel, the motor, is a Chevy LQ4 LS block putting out 630 hp and 590 ft/lbs. of torque. The undercarriage of this yellow beauty is a full custom chassis by *No Limit Engineering*, a Ford 9-inch rear member and a 4-link suspension. Wow, talk about a sleeper! This car is really built for speed! Keith reports being active in autocross and motorsports with various groups across the country including SCCA, Goodguys, USCA and Ultimate Streetcar Competitions. He likes the SCCA format as it necessitates learning the Autox course and getting the car dialed in quickly. What is the future for this special ride? Keith has his eye on a possible national championship in the Goodguys Series and a trip to the LS Fest now that the Bird has a Chevy power plant. A Chevy motor in a classic Ford Thunderbird could turn some heads at the LS Fest! Beautiful car Keith! Thanks for participating locally, and good luck in the upcoming Autox season.



SAFETY TIP

WHAT IS IN YOUR COMPETITION CAR RADIATOR?

AS REPORTED IN

MOTORTREND

What is in your competition car radiator? Filtered and tap water, when used exclusively in a car radiator, can cause corrosion on metal parts such as aluminum cylinder heads. Over time radiator water, when used alone, can seek and draw out missing elements from alloy metals, as well as rust metal parts. **Show Down Garage**, as reported by Motor Trend Magazine, tested a variety of radiator additives for cooling power and recommends the following: If you are using water only in your radiator, try **Justice Brothers Radiator Cooler** or **DEI Radiator Relief**. If you are adding water to antifreeze, the best cooling rates occurred in the tests adding **Hy-Per Lube Super Coolant** or **Water Wetter** to water. The most surprising results from their tests was that water alone is the best motor cooler, however will cause rust and corrosion damage when used alone.

AZ SCCA Nationals Trophy Winners

1295 drivers entered the 2023 50th Anniversary SCCA Nationals in Lincoln, Nebraska this year. Ten drivers proudly represented Arizona by bringing home trophies. Our congratulations to those Arizona drivers who trophied at Nationals this year. Those honored are listed alphabetically:

1. Jay Balducci 7th SS
2. Jason Bucci 2nd SS
3. Jeff Cashmore 2nd DM
4. Bruce Hanson 2nd EV
5. John Hogan 8th CAM Sport
6. Doug Rowse 8th SSP
7. Dave Schotz 1st DSP
8. Elliott Speidell 4th Extreme Street A
9. David Webb 4th DSP
10. Nichole Wong 1st SSPL

YOU DON'T
ALWAYS NEED A PLAN
SOMETIMES YOU
JUST NEED TO BREATHE,
TRUST, LET GO,
AND SEE WHAT
HAPPENS



Tech Tip

FROM A 2022 TIRE RACK TEST

Need new comp tires for the upcoming 2024 spring series?

Here is a sampling of the results as reported on from a 2022 *Tire Rack* dry fire traction test of 11 Summer rated tires with a 200 UTQG rating or higher. The cars used in the tests were three venerable 2022 Subaru BRZ Limited models.

Tires Tested	Lap times
1. Bridgestone Potenza 71RS	146.0
2. Falken Azenis RT660	146.39
3. Nexen N Fera Sport R	146.77
4. Kumho Ecsta V730	147.02
5. Yokohama Advan AO52	147.05

NOTE: This information is for your interest only; it is not a recommendation or endorsement.

Pylon Press Quiz

Synthetic Motor Oils

Which statements are TRUE?

1. The letters SAE on new oil containers stands for the "Society of Automotive Engineers"
2. Multigrade oils are made up of three primary ingredients: Base oil, viscosity modifiers, and solvents.
3. The reason multigrade oils work well is that cold temperatures in the motor activate the solvent which in turn activates the polymers in the viscosity modifiers making oil thinner.
4. All the following ingredients may be present in modern multigrade oils: Detergents, rust inhibitors, antioxidants, foam inhibitors.
5. Zink, which is diallyl Di thiophosphate or ZDDP, is an important anti wear ingredient in multigrade synthetic motor oils.
6. The letter W on an oil container reading SAE 5W-30 means the weight of the oil.
7. Most bearing wear in motors takes place when the cold motor is first started up.
8. SAE warm oil weights (the second number in for example a 5W-30 wt. oil is the rating of the oils viscosity as was measured at 100 degrees C. (100 C Degrees is the approximate operating temperature of most modern internal combustion engines.)
9. The best indicator of the proper oil to use in your car's motor is described in the cars owner's manual or by the manufacturer or motor builder.

All the statements are TRUE, except #3 – Heat activates the thinning of the motor oil not cold. And #6 – The letter W stands for *Winter* not weight.



Synthetic oil washes the engine: This well-known myth is false. We must remember the difference between a synthetic and a mineral is the base used in the formulation. The additives added to the base may differ in each case, yet they always contain detergent additives, whose function is to clean and keep the engine clean. The synthetic base does not have more excellent solvency than the mineral one, so it is not a precursor of a "wash". On the other hand, detergents present in both types of oils do not work abruptly, rather progressively.

Synthetic Oils Affect The Seals And Generate Leaks: Oil manufacturers have for years been successful in reformulating synthetic oils so that no spillage or dripping occurs. At the same time, it can indeed happen in very old cars that always used conventional oils, so technically this is a myth.

Synthetic Oils Are Only For High-End Cars: This myth is quickly dispelled by looking at user manuals. Even for base models, vehicle manufacturers recommend synthetic oils, generally in viscosity 5W-30. This has to do with the new small engines incorporating high technology to reduce consumption and emissions. The concept is called downsizing, that is, low-displacement, high-power engines.

Synthetic Oils Are Not Compatible With Old Vehicles. Conversely, oils of this type increase lubrication and lower engine temperature, making them ideal for older cars or trucks.