



Pylon Press

SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA - PHOENIX AZ SOLO REGION

October 2025 Spring Series #2 & #3



Event Synopsis

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October was a busy month for the club involving a combination of three autocross event activities with two points series races and a driver's school being conducted. This issue of the Pylon Press is dedicated to reporting on a summary of those three events.

The October weather was warm, yet not insufferably, for the driver's school as well as the series points events numbers #2 and #3. Turnout was good for the school with a full complement of students attending and volunteer instructors participating. School directors **Steven King** and **Craig Borger** structured the day to give each student as much personal instruction "in the car" as time permitted. Looking at the points spread across the three fall series already completed, the results reveal several close car class contests that will come down to the winner of the December 6th event taking 1st place in those respective fall series contests.

DRIVING SCHOOL DIRECTORS



Stephen King
Craig Borger

Drivers School Report

On Saturday, October 4, 2025, 50 students and 25 instructors gathered at Phoenix Raceway for a day dedicated to autocross driving instruction. Most attendees were relatively new to autocross, benefiting from extensive course time under the guidance of experienced PASR teaching volunteers. A special thank you goes out to the CAM group for their impressive turnout of driver instructors who generously offered their assistance.

With blue skies and moderate Arizona temperatures, each student completed twelve runs on the course, receiving valuable pointers and feedback after each pass. During the lunch break, students had the unique opportunity to ride along with instructors, enhancing their learning experience through advanced insights.

Overall, the day proved highly productive, contributing to the skill development of an already talented cohort of over 500 PASR members. Special thanks to Chief Instructors and event coordinators **Craig Borger** and **Stephen King** for organizing such a successful and appreciated school.

CAR OF THE MONTH



Bryce Stodola
2021 Toyota GR Supra

The car boasts a remarkable track record, including a Nürburgring lap time of 7:52.17, faster than its BMW Z4 counterpart, and an impressive 1.07 g on the skidpad, as tested by *Car and Driver*.

While this specific VIN may not hold a deep personal history, it carries sentimental value for Bryce. He recalls being captivated by the Toyota FT-1 concept car during middle school, dreaming of owning such a stunning vehicle. Printing pictures of the car in class, he shared his aspirations with friends, and now, he feels grateful to have worked hard enough to justify owning the Supra at a young age. It has undoubtedly become his favorite car to date.

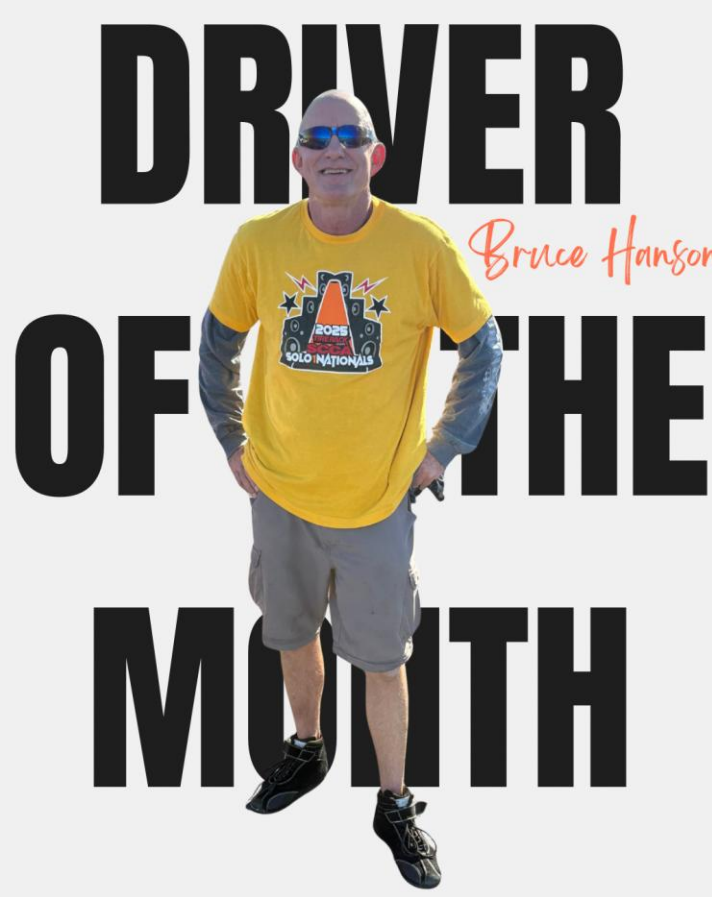
Looking ahead, Bryce aims to continue developing as a driver, focusing on refining his skills before making further modifications to the car. He recently participated in a three-day High-Performance Driving Experience (HPDE) at Bondurant (now Radford Racing School) and is active in competitive sim racing, particularly on iRacing. Notably, on October 4th, just before the Autocross event, he and his teammates secured fourth place in the GTP Class during the iRacing Special Event Petit Le Mans at Road Atlanta, completing a grueling 10-hour race.

The Car of the Month is a vibrant **2021 Toyota GR Supra 3.0 Premium** owned by **Bryce Stodola**. Approaching his second year with this eye-catching yellow coupe, Bryce has enjoyed a diverse automotive journey that began with a 2014 Ford Fiesta ST, which he used to compete in SCCA Border Region Autocross events. Though he temporarily stepped away from Autocross due to a demanding sales job at Audi North Scottsdale, his passion for motorsport never waned.

The Supra stands out as a highly recommended choice for solo driving enthusiasts. Its inline 6-cylinder turbo engine delivers an impressive 382 horsepower and 368 lb-ft of torque, allowing it to accelerate from 0 to 60 mph in just 3.9 seconds. During his ownership, Bryce has made notable modifications, including Eibach lowering springs, Klassen ID R20 3-piece forged wheels, and an upgraded downpipe. He has also replaced the stock brake pads with EBC Bluestuff and fitted Michelin PS4 tires, with plans to switch to 200 treadwear tires soon. Bryce chose the Supra for its extensive aftermarket support, making it versatile for various motorsport disciplines.



Anything worth having is worth dreaming about
and
planning toward



Bruce Hanson grew up in Sturgis, South Dakota, where the roar of engines at Black Hill Speedway ignited his passion for racing. After high school, he raced dirt track cars while running a mechanic shop in Gillette, Wyoming. However, the demands of family and business led him to pause his racing pursuits.

In 2006, Bruce purchased a GT500 Mustang, which rekindled his interest in motorsports. Later, in 2008, he and his family became snowbirds, moving to Phoenix for the winter. He brought the Mustang along and participated in his first event at Arizona Motorsports Park. Eager to gauge his car's potential, he sought out **Brian Peters**, a racer with multiple national championships under his belt.

Brian agreed to drive Bruce's Mustang. After observing Bruce drive, Brian took the wheel himself, clocking a considerably faster time. This experience humbled Bruce and motivated him to improve. He frequently reached out to his mentor for advice, leading him to transition from the GT500 to a GT350, and eventually to a Tesla Model 3 Performance.

With Brian's encouragement, Bruce entered the SCCA Nationals. After extensive preparation, he won the championship this year, marking a significant achievement in his racing journey.

Recently Bruce sold his winning Tesla and is now competing in a 2024 model, focusing on suspension modifications through Mountain Pass Performance. With aspirations of returning to the Nationals, Bruce continues to pursue his passion for racing, demonstrating resilience and dedication in the sport.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



DON SATTLER



Don Sattler has lived a life filled with passion for autocross racing. He discovered this thrilling sport in 1975 when he first drove a Datsun 240Z. His journey in racing began the joined the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) in May 1977, holding membership number 12345. Over the years, Don drove many cars, including a Honda Accord, Nissan 240SX, and several Miatas, which he found particularly enjoyable. He took part in 12 National Championship events, earning trophies twice. His commitment to the SCCA went beyond racing; he organized events, designed courses, and instructed drivers. He's always eager to offer assistance and help out where needed, even if he had no official title. At most current autocross events you will find him at the wavier station.

Don currently co-drives a Mercedes SLK32 AMG with his friend **Mark Shaw**, keeping his love for racing alive. Through racing, hiking, and friendships formed over the years, Don has found joy in a fulfilling life on and off the track.

Pylon Quiz

Do you know your SCCA history? True or False,

1. The SCCA was founded in 1944 in Boston, Mass. **T or F**
2. Early founders were primarily focused on racing their sports cars. **T or F**
3. The early events of the SCCA members were rallies and hill climbs. **T or F**
4. Road racing was first introduced by the SCCA in 1946 at fairgrounds in Buffalo. **T or F**
5. The current membership of the SCCA in the USA is 67,500. **T or F**
6. The headquarters of the SCCA is in Lincoln, Nebraska **T or F**
7. Racing sites in the 1950's were predominately on abandon air force bases. **T or F**



SCCA Vintage Cars 1944-1960

Answers to Quiz questions:

1. True – A small group of sports car enthusiasts formed the original club in Boston
2. False – Early focus of the club was on rallies and preservation and showing of vintage race cars
3. True – The first organized wheel to wheel sports car racing did not start until 1948
4. False – The first racing was in Watkins Glen not Buffalo
5. True
6. False – The SCCA headquarters is in Topeka, Kansas
7. True



Tech Tip

VISUAL AWARENESS

Auto crossing, a motorsport discipline that involves timed runs on a designated course, demands not only skill and precision, it also requires acute visual awareness. Understanding how eyesight impacts performance can significantly enhance a driver's effectiveness on the course. Here's a quick look at how eyesight relates to auto crossing and tips for improving visual performance.

The Importance of Vision in Auto Crossing

Depth Perception: Successful auto crossing requires an accurate assessment of distances between obstacles, turns, and the car's position on the course. Depth perception allows drivers to judge how far away cones or barriers are, which is crucial for making split-second decisions.

Peripheral Vision: This aspect of vision helps drivers monitor their surroundings without needing to look directly at every element. Maintaining awareness of the track and potential hazards is essential for safety and performance.

Reaction Time: Good eyesight can enhance a driver's reaction time. The faster a driver can visually process information, the quicker they can respond to changes in the environment, such as sudden obstacles or shifts in traction.

Focus and Concentration: Maintaining focus on the course while managing speed and steering is critical. Drivers need to be able to shift their gaze from the track ahead to upcoming turns, ensuring they maintain a clear line of sight.

Tips to Enhance Visual Performance for Auto Crossing

Clear eyesight is crucial for optimal performance in auto crossing, influencing everything from depth perception to reaction times. By focusing on maintaining good vision and engaging in exercises that enhance visual processing, drivers can improve their skills and safety on the course. Here are a few things you can do to enhance your visual performance:

- 1. Regular Eye Check-ups:** Ensure your vision is optimal by scheduling regular eye exams. Corrective lenses may be necessary for those with vision impairments.
- 2. Practice Visual Drills:** Engage in exercises that enhance depth perception and peripheral awareness. Simple drills, such as tracking moving objects or focusing on multiple points, can improve visual processing.
- 3. Focus on the Track:** During practice runs, consciously work on shifting your gaze ahead of the car to anticipate turns and obstacles. This helps train your brain to process information more quickly.
- 4. Stay Hydrated:** Proper hydration can prevent eye fatigue and dryness, which can impair vision. Drink plenty of water before and during events.
- 5. Limit Distractions:** Minimize distractions in the car that could divert your attention away from the course. This includes both physical distractions and mental clutter.