



AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE PENNSYLVANIA HILLCLIMB
ASSOCIATION

UP HILL



AND THE MID-ATLANTIC TIME TRIAL SERIES

SPRING 2008

www.pahillclimb.org

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New PHA Hall Of Fame Inductees
Norma Oswald (left), Charles Christ Sr (center), Carol Lipperini (right)

Next PHA Meeting April 12th at Giannotti's on Rt. 12 in Reading

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6-24-07 – The Aftermath

This letter is long overdue – I am doing fine, my arm is almost mended; I've recovered almost all of my motion. The Wheeler is not so far along, but I've started restoration.

June 24, 2007 was my second bad crash – the first was at **Red Rock Hillclimb** in 1976. I always meant to write a note to Bruce and the others, but never did. Consider this a long overdue thank you to them also for pulling up the pieces of my Caldwell and loading it onto my trailer and taking care of my wife and children while they checked me out at Bradford Hospital (misreading my broken collar bone x-ray and loosing the wheel off the trailer on the way home is another story.)

In turn 6 – Oh Sh** - at the **Pagoda Hillclimb** (June 24, 2007), the left front steering arm broke and spun me through the right side guardrail. By the time the car came to a stop at the bottom of the bank, **Will Sekella** was next to me (see the video) looking for the kill switch and calming me! Seemed like less than a minute later, **Jim Oswald** was there checking me out – my head, my arm, my back. Then a few minutes later, the ambulance and the ride to the **Reading Hospital**.

Jim also saved my fire suit from the scissors of the unbelieving emergency people at the hospital.

So, **Thank You** to the people who lessened the impact of my crash:

Will Sekella who was there first.

Jim Oswald who checked me out and saved my suit.

The corner workers who collected all the parts.

The ambulance crew.

Rick Kase who stored my car at his house.

Jim Cosner who helped load the wrecked pieces and drove my rig home.

The quick acting **Pagoda Hillclimb organization and crew** who set things in motion and anyone else I've missed.

The doctors and nurses at the **Reading Hospital** who fixed my arm and put up with me for 4 days.

My second reason for this letter is to remind the hillclimb drivers, the contestants, of the dedication and professionalism of the unpaid hillclimb workers of the **Blue Mountain Region** and the **PHA** – **they are as good as any other racing group and better then most!**

Thank you for being there for us.

Ted Klaus # 78

OLD HILLCLIMB SITES WANTED:

Tussey Mountain (allegedly near State College but Tussey Mt is a mountain ridge that's about 30 mi long)

Town Hill (or Towne Hill) somewhere south of Breezewood but again this name could be anywhere in a wide geographical area ...

Breezewood Was this obliterated by the Turnpike reconstruction approx 1968?

Send comments to Ron Mann

rmann@hersheys.com

Promoting PHA

The Pennsylvania Hillclimbing Association will participate in three events this spring to promote our sport. The most important aspect of our involvement in these events is the continued effort to seek volunteers to assist in the running of our time trial events. Below is a list of the upcoming events to promote our time trial series and recruit volunteers:

Wilkes ASME Car Show

Saturday, April 26, 2008 from 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.

This Car Show is conducted by the Mechanical Engineering Students at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Hershey Vintage Hillclimb

Saturday & Sunday, May 3 & 4, 2008

Many PHA Drivers participate in this event conducted in Hershey, PA. Gordon Wise has been so kind to man a display to promote our events. He could certainly use some help.

Concours d' Elegance

Saturday, May31, 2008

The Concours d' Elegance is conducted on Sunday, June 1 with some incredible vintage cars. This event is very well publicized in the Lehigh Valley Area.

For the second year, car clubs have invited to participate in a car show the day before on Saturday. We were invited to participate this year. All who participate in the car show will receive free tickets for Sunday's Concours d' Elegance. The event is conducted at the Northampton Community College which contains huge parking lots providing ample space for trailers and big rigs.

More details of all events will be provided at our April 12 PHA Organizational Meeting and on the PHA Forum.

More promotional brochures with our 2008 schedule will be available for all of our events. Both car shows will require race cars for display to show the kind of cars that participate in our Time Trial Series. If you are willing to provide a car for any of these two car shows contact:

Tom Knorr 610-863-4709 tknorr@epix.net

If there is a car show or cruise in your area, you can distribute the brochures on behalf of PHA.

Brochures will be available at the April 12 Meeting.

It is everyone's responsibility to help attain volunteers for our events.

PHA Team Challenge Rules

Team composition and fees:

Teams shall be composed of six drivers. The best results from five out of the six will count for points per event. A minimum of three teams is required for a team championship. A maximum of two members of any team may run in the same class. The entry fee is \$60.00 dollars per team.

Registration:

Teams are encouraged to register as soon as possible after January first of the competition year. A complete roster is not necessary to register a team. A final roster of all team members must be submitted before the second event (2008 Spring Weatherly) of the racing season to the point's keeper.

Prize Money and Awards:

Prize money will be awarded to the top three teams at the conclusion of the last event of the season. Team jackets will be awarded to the 1st place team at the annual banquet.

Team responsibilities:

Teams are required to display the sponsors banners at all PHA events and place the sponsors stickers on all team cars. Team members should list the sponsors name on the biographical data sheet for each event. At the end of each event, at least one team representative should be present at the awards ceremony.

Scoring:

Team points will be awarded as follows:

2 points per event for each team member who completes at least one timed run.

1 point will be awarded for each car beaten in class

2 points will be awarded for breaking a class record.

1/2 point will be awarded per event for each team member who has at least one timed run at all events.

Please send your intent to enter in the Team

Championship to:

John Stinsmen

3436 Lincoln Ave.

Allentown, PA 18103

j3stinsmen@aol.com



2007 PHA Team Challenge Winners

(from left: Joe Perlo, Chris Mower, Mike Ancas, Joe Foering & John Pitman)

2008 PHA Schedule

Spring Jefferson Track Trial, Summit Point, WV
May 24-25

Spring Weatherly Hillclimb, Weatherly, PA
June 7-8

Pagoda Hillclimb, Reading, PA
June 21-22

Giant's Despair Hillclimb, Wilkes-Barre, PA
July 5-6

Rose Valley Hillclimb, Trout Run, PA
July 19-20

Polish Mountain Hillclimb, Flintstone, MD
August 2-3

Duryea Hillclimb, Reading, PA
August 16-17

Fall Jefferson Track Trial, Summit Point, WV
August 30-31

Fall Weatherly Hillclimb, Weatherly, PA
September 13-14

PHA Banquet, Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey, PA
November 22



PENNSYLVANIA HILLCLIMB ASSOCIATION

Tom Knorr, President
Rich Rock, Vice-President

Rich Sweigart, Treasurer
Gordon Wise, Secretary

February 29, 2008

Dear Friend of Amateur Racing:

The Pennsylvania Hillclimb Association (incorporated in 1963) sponsors some of the oldest sporting events on the East Coast. Sports Car Hill climbing is one of the only true forms of road racing left in the United States. The courses are laid out on paved public roads, usually uphill, and have many turns to test driving skill. Vehicles are divided into classes with similar performance potential and race against the clock, one car at a time. Giant's Despair near Wilkes-Barre and Duryea in Reading are two of the association's premier, long-running events.

The Association is planning their banquet at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey, PA on November 22, 2008. I am asking you for your support. Please consider extending that support by becoming a supporting patron of this celebration for \$20. Your business name will be printed in the banquet program and is sure to be seen by your target customers... the motor sports enthusiasts!

This year we are also making advertising available: 1/4 page ad (business card size) for \$25.00; 1/2 page (3" x 4") for \$50.00; and full page ad (4" x 7") for \$100.00. Indicate below the method you choose; please provide your business card or copy of the advertising you desire and send it along with your check made payable to PHA to the address below.

Additionally, we are seeking door prizes to help make this affair as successful as possible. Can we count on your for help?

Thanks for your support of racing in the past and future help to motor sports.

Sincerely,

John Pitman, Banquet Chairman
P O Box 941
Carlisle, Pa. 17013 Telephone (717) 226-0459

My contribution to the banquet is:

____ \$20.00 Supporting Patron Listing in the banquet program (one line) should read:

____ \$25.00 1/4 page Business Card Ad. Enclose a copy of your business card.

____ \$50.00 1/2 page Ad. Please enclose copy of ad size not to exceed 3" x 4"

____ \$100.00 Full Page Ad Please enclose copy of ad, size not to exceed 4" x 7"

____ Yes, I have door prizes I can supply and here is my telephone number _____ Please call me.

Pocono Sports and Outdoor Show

On January 10, 11 & 12, the **Weatherly Hillclimb Association** and **NEPA SCCA** participated in the annual **Pocono Sports and Outdoor Show**.

The promotional campaign at the Mt. Laurel Convention Center in White Haven included four race cars, banner displays promoting the **Weatherly Hillclimb**, **Weatherly Sponsors**, **NEPA SCCA**, and **PHA**, and a video showing race cars from recent **Weatherly Hillclimb** events.

Fairway Subaru also had a display with many of their new models. Many positive connections were made with attendees and volunteer brochures were disseminated.

Many thanks to the members of the **Weatherly Hillclimb Association**, especially **Dan Lipperini** who constructed a steel support structure to display banners.
Tom Knorr, PHA President



Bench racing at the PHA Banquet



PHA Class Championship Points Structure

The PHA Championship series points systems are similar to that used in previous years. To refresh the memory of all concerned the Individual points methods are listed below.

INDIVIDUAL POINTS STRUCTURE

The class champion in any class is the person with the greatest points in the class, but that person must have run more than half the events to receive a yearend trophy. Multiple class winners will receive one trophy. An event is each SCCA sanctioned event in the series.

Points are awarded as per the following schedule.

Points are awarded for each class.

First place - 10 points	Sixth place - 5 points
Second place - 9 points	Seventh place - 4 points
Third place - 8 points	Eighth place - 3 points
Fourth place - 7 points	Ninth place - 2 points
Fifth place - 6 points	Tenth place - 1 point
After Tenth 0 points	
Events drops - Five events or less - none	
Six to Eight events - 1 drop	
Nine to ten events - 2 drops	
Eleven or more events - 3 drops.	

PHA points keeper:

Rich Sweigart 1004 Broad St. Perkaise, PA 18944
Email: RSRacing356@cs.com

Photos courtesy of John Pitman
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The PHA Trophies

2008 PHA/SCCA TIME TRIALS SCHEDULE

The 2008 PHA/SCCA TIME TRIALS Series starts on Memorial Day Weekend with a Level 3 track event on the Jefferson Circuit at Summit Point Raceway, and continues with an event scheduled every 2 weeks until the final event – Weatherly Hillclimb in mid-September. This is a total of 9 events, 7 Level 4 hillclimbs and 2 Level 3 track events.

Here is a brief description of each event- the course and my perceptions of them...

The Jefferson Circuit, located in Summit Point, WV, is a 1.1 mi. course with 7 turns including “esses”, off-camber, and decreasing radius. While not a hillclimb, it is an excellent place to dial in both you and your car after a winter of inactivity. The course is run in the clockwise direction during the Memorial weekend, and counterclockwise over the Labor Day Weekend; this gives drivers an opportunity to run essentially 2 different events at the same circuit. The facilities are excellent, with adequate parking, restrooms, a classroom, room to camp and a patio for parties.

Weatherly Hillclimb, located in the PA coal-region town of the same name, is a 1 mile course with 6 very challenging turns including turn 3- the “wall”, and turn 5- the “jump”. This driver considers this hill to be a “finesse” course; if you get all 6 turns “right” on one run, you’re really driving! Warning! Don’t relax too much after you cross the finish line because the finish is on a crest followed by a downhill turn, and you have to both steer and brake...it can be nasty in the wet. The townspeople are friendly and welcoming and the facilities are improving each year. The event is run both in the Spring and the Fall, so you get a chance to correct your mistakes the second time around.

Pagoda Hillclimb, located in City Park, Reading, PA, is a 1 mile course with 7 turns and a run around the side of the mountain that allows you to build up speed before you are faced with a blind left-hander (turn 6) followed almost immediately by a 90 degree uphill lefthander (turn 7). This combination is fondly known as “Oh, S**T!” This course comprises the bottom half of Duryea Hillclimb, starting at Duryea’s turn 2 and ending after turn 8. This is an event worth running in its own right, but definitely as a primer for Duryea Hillclimb. The facilities are good with camping available at the top of the hill by the fire tower, and a number of good motels and restaurants in the Reading area.

Giant’s Despair Hillclimb, located in Laurel Run (a suburb of Wilkes Barre) PA, also in PA’s coal region, is one of the oldest hillclimbs still in existence. First run in 1906, it celebrated its 100th Anniv. in 2006. The course is 1 mile long with 6 turns with a 22-degree grade from turn 6 to the finish line! Turn 2, known as the “devil’s elbow”, is no longer as violent as it was, but it is still a challenge to get right and carry any speed up the course. Ever-expanding facilities, always a large entry, and a variety of motels and eating places, make Giant’s a worthwhile event to enter.

Rose Valley Hillclimb, Trout Run, is located in north central PA in what are known as the “Endless Mountains”. It is a 1.2 mile course with 7 turns. The start line is a short distance from the pit/paddock area, but this does not present any real problems. A series of “S” turns followed by an acute, uphill left turn can be very tricky. The course road is somewhat “crowned”, so cars with low ground clearance need to be careful. Drivers need also to watch the off-camber in the last turn before the finish. The local fire company personnel who man the hill are friendly and welcoming. The scenery is breathtaking! Nestled in a valley and surrounded by mountains, the location itself is worth the trip.

Polish Mountain Hillclimb (aka Flintstone- for the town where it is located) held its’ inaugural event in 2007 and this driver had a great time! Located in western Maryland not far from the PA border, Polish Mtn. HC is 1.2 miles long with 7 turns, including a 2A&B and a 6A&B, and a separate return road. The course is deceptively fast with a couple of decreasing radius lefthanders that will catch out the unwary. It took this driver until Sunday morning to figure out the course- and then it rained! The promoters and townsfolk are most enthusiastic and welcoming. This event is a “must” for this driver!

Duryea Hillclimb, located in City Park in Reading, PA, is, in this driver’s estimate, the best and most challenging course in the series. The course is 2.3 miles long, starting with a series of tight climbing “180’s” followed by a long “straight” around the side of the hill...then more tight climbing “180’s” past the “Pagoda” (yes the building does look like a pagoda)...a climb up to a crest, a quick right-left then a sweeping downhill run past a model airplane field on the right. The upper part of the course from the Pagoda on is a high speed, horsepower section; cars have been clocked in excess of 130 mph over the finish line! The finish line is located at the “fire tower” at the top of the hill. Drivers are cautioned to keep left after crossing the finish line since the waiting area (turn around) for cars that have already run is down the road on your right. Good facilities on site, and a number of motels and restaurants in the Reading area make this a “must do” event.

Following Duryea, the series returns to the Jefferson Circuit in WV for Labor Day weekend. As mentioned earlier, the course is run in a counter-clockwise direction as opposed to Memorial Day weekend, but the facilities are the same and the course is just as enjoyable. Some drivers say they go faster in one direction as opposed to the other, why don’t you find out for yourself.

The series ends with a return to Weatherly for the Fall running of the Hillclimb where, as I said earlier, you get a chance to correct your mistakes. This driver considers this to be one of the more enjoyable events to compete at- not that any event is not enjoyable-, but we all have our preferences.

Joe Foering, #37 ITB

PHA Team Performance Challenge

Please list the name, address and phone number for each team member

Team Name _____

Sponsor _____

Driver #1 _____ **Class** _____ **Team Captain**

Driver #2 _____ **Class** _____

Driver #3 _____ **Class** _____

Driver #4 _____ **Class** _____

Driver #5 _____ **Class** _____

Driver #6 _____ **Class** _____

Rules: \$60.00 per team with a minimum number of 3 teams to make up the Championship Teams will consist of 6 members with a maximum of two members in the same class.

. Teams must be submitted to the points keeper by the start of the first timed run of the second event.

Scoring as follows:

2 pts. Per event per team member, must have 1 run

1 pt for each car beaten in class

2 pts for breaking an existing class record

.5 pt per event if member completes one timed run in all events

Make checks payable to PHA Sponsorship.

Mail to: John Stinsmen, Sponsorship Chairman
3436 Lincoln Ave.
Allentown, PA 18103.

Email- j3stinsmen@ aol.com – Phone 610-432-7254