



Ursula Whisler has been involved with hill climbing since the late 70s and early 80s, when she got involved with her parents. She started off in timing and scoring at road races at Summit Point.

When she got fully involved with hillclimbs, she worked mostly as a corner worker. As a corner worker she also took pictures of the drivers as they were coming up the hill and when she got those pictures developed, she would give them to the drivers so that they would have awesome shots of their cars.

During her time as a corner worker, she recruited and trained many workers. From the early 80s to late 90s/early 2000s she was very involved with helping as much as she could at the hill climbs.

After her daughter Crystal was born in 1987, when she was at the hills, she helped Lynne DeHart with Control so that she could keep an eye on her little one. One year at Rose Valley, the timing system didn't want to work, so Ursula and her sister Jen ran timing with just an ohm meter and a stopwatch!

Ursula took time off in the late 1990s/early 2000s. She was at the hills off and on throughout those years, but her daughter was involved with softball, and she also went off-roading with her husband, and we didn't see her as much as we would have liked to.

In 2005, Ursula got back involved after her daughter started racing. In 2010 she had gastric bypass surgery which helped her to lose enough weight to finally be able to feel comfortable getting into the race car which is something she has always wanted to do.

Ursula finally got her opportunity to race when her father had to get back surgery and her daughter had other plans. So, Duryea of 2014 she suited up got strapped in and made her first run. When she got in the car it was like watching her mother all over again. She was natural! She was beating the owner of the car.

Over the next few years, she improved and improved and went from just beating the owner to beating others in the class. In 2016 she got the class record at Shenandoah when we ran laps. That has forever been preserved as we no longer run laps there.

Over time, as life usually works out, she had to take off again from racing. Not long though, this time when she came back it was like going full circle she was back helping with timing.

Ursula has been helping out with timing for the last few years and has been at almost every event, carrying on her legacy of being exactly where she is needed.

At Shenandoah 2025, Nancy Lewis, chief Timing and Scoring, suffered a medical emergency Sunday morning. Ursula was first to respond, remained calm, kept Nancy alert and summoned the track ambulance. After which, she continued to perform timing duties for the remainder of the event. Ursula stayed over Sunday night to be available to drive Nancy home from the hospital.

