

Message from Out Going President

December 2011

I'd like to thank all our members for a great year in 2011. Even before the year started, we were working on one of the biggest events with which our club has been involved. We were fortunate enough to have been selected as the organization to sanction the 2011 Mount Washington Auto Road Climb to the Clouds. But while we were working on the details of that event, we had quite a bit going on. In mid-January we held a fun event at New England Indoor Karting in Haverhill, MA preceded by a scavenger hunt.

February we held our first winter driving event in a few years and our first at NHMS. The turnout was very good so we decided to expand the 2012 Wintercross series to two events. Maybe this time the AWD drivers will figure out how to beat a bunch of old guys driving front wheel drive cars.

In April we started our autocross series at NHMS but we also provided two pace cars for the Dartmouth College bicycle race.

May was quite busy with an autocross, autocross school, drift clinic and the Spring Mt Ascutney hillclimb. June started with another autocross and drift event at NHMS and ended with the 5 day Climb to the Clouds at Mt Washington. Unlike Ascutney, we didn't have to supply all the workers, but even with 'just' needing to cover the spectator and pit areas we had to enlist more than our normal amount of workers.

July allowed us a little rest with only one autocross and drift event. Then we had a bit of a break until late August when we were well represented at the Northeast Exotic Car Show at the Budweiser plant in Merrimack, NH as well as our second autocross school and our 5th autocross. However, hurricane Irene showed up and we held the autocross one week later on Labor Day weekend. This made our September a little busier than anticipated. The following weekend we hosted an autocross clinic for the Smokin' Stangs Mustang club, Drift Spot held their final event for the year and we held another autocross. A week after that we were back in Vermont at Mt Ascutney for the fall hillclimb.

October brought our competitive events to a close for the year with 3 planned events at NHMS, our 7th and 8th autocrosses and the North Country Rumble. The final autocross for the season was scheduled for Halloween weekend, but an early snowstorm forced us to cancel the event since October 31st is the latest we can hold competitive events at NHMS.

Our year finished with the annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet in Loudon on December 3rd where over 60 members joined together for a great time. We also closed out the year with a healthy bank account and a membership roster of 150.

In addition to all the events we held we also donated over \$2000 to a number of local charities – Belknap-Merrimack County Community Action Program (Concord Area Food Bank), Speedway Children's Charities and the Kevin Young Memorial Scholarship.

Everything the club did this year was because of the time and effort put into it by you, our members. The officers and chair people of the events get to stand up and take the praise once in a while, but without the workers and entrants, we would not be able to have all this fun.

Dave Burden

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2011 President