

# SPARKPLUG

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NO. 11

## SCCA News: Economy Run Rally To Be Held

Denver--In a major new program designed to provide the motoring public with useful, relevant information on fuel-efficient driving techniques, the Sports Car Club of America has joined forces with the Department of Energy in a contractual agreement to conduct an annual national fuel economy competition.

As the nation's leading automobile enthusiast organization, SCCA sees the Economy Challenge program as a significant contribution toward the conservation of natural resources, and it's 20,000 members nationwide have committed themselves to the success of the program.

The competition, officially known as the DOE/SCCA Citicorp Economy Challenge, will begin in early 1978 with contestants competing to obtain the greatest improvement in gas mileage over the EPA combined miles per gallon figure published in the EPA Gas Mileage Guide for the corresponding make, model and year of automobile.

The DOE/SCCA Citicorp Economy Challenge, 42 local events geographically distributed among the major U.S. population centers, will additionally offer motorists an educational opportunity to evaluate their own driving habits under controlled conditions and provide a forum for the automotive industry and the public to demonstrate the effectiveness of available fuel-saving products.

"We are pleased to join with SCCA in this outstanding opportunity for drivers to learn and showcase fuel-efficient driving techniques that all motorists can use during their everyday driving to increase their fuel economy substantially," said Sydney Berwager, Transportation Program Director at DOE.

A pilot program of fuel economy events was initiated by DOE/SCCA in August with the sponsorship of Citicorp Services, Inc., the company that markets and distributes First National City Travelers Checks. Pilot events, to establish and test the operating format for the 1978 DOE/SCCA Citicorp Economy Challenge, have been conducted in Toledo and Dallas. Two additional events are scheduled in San Francisco, Oct. 15-16 and Washington, D.C., in Nov. 12-13.

"We are indebted to Citicorp Services, Inc. for their wholehearted assistance and support which allowed us the means to put this program together,"

stated Tom Duval, SCCA Executive Director. "We look forward to working with this organization in the implementation of the Citicorp Economy Challenge," he continued.

Preliminary data from early pilot runs indicate competitors were able to comfortably exceed the EPA Combined MPG figures published for their vehicles without sacrificing time or speed.

Entrants in the DOE/SCCA Citicorp Economy Challenge will compete against similar cars classed according to the 1978 EPA Gas Mileage Guide--Mini-compact, Sub-Compact, Compact, Mid-Size, Large and Two-Seater cars. Open and free to any licensed driver, competition is designed for participation by the typical driver and is intended to be a pleasant, motoring experience. The runs will resemble a rally in some respects with contestants following a common course, carefully selected to incorporate conditions found in normal daily driving, with checkpoints to observe performance.

In addition to local events, contestants will qualify for divisional competitions with the winners invited to a national championship in September of 1978.

Editor's note: The Glen Region has the first sanction issued in the United States for the Economy Challenge!

### Champion Classic Crowns 23 SCCA National Titlists

A record 472 road racing drivers participated in the 1977 Champion Spark Plug Road Racing Classic at Georgia's Road Atlanta Circuit Oct. 28-30 where SCCA's National Championship titles were awarded to 23 race winners.

Top amateur drivers from throughout the United States competed in the 14th annual event, four competitors successfully defending their 1976 victory and three drivers earning the first titles to be awarded in the Showroom Stock classes.

Terry Visger of Santa Clara, CA earned his third-consecutive title when he drove his Huffaker Engineering MGB to the E Production class victory. For Todd Wheeler, Portland, OR; Randy Blessing, of Lake Park, FL and Jeff Miller, Plymouth, Wis the 1977 championship titles are their second in two years. Wheeler, driving the Hanna Car

Washes Sprite, took the H. Production championship by a slim margin over former champion Randy Canfield, Gaithersburg, MD Miller's victory in D Sports Racing, in the Wynnfirst-Kohler car, and Blessing's in A Sedan at the wheel of his Camaro were more decisive.

And Jerry Hansen of Wayzata, MN, captured his 17th SCCA National Championship title in winning the A Sports Racing Contest, his seventh title in that class. He had hoped to add another crown to his collection but was not a starter in the Formula B race, won by Kevin Cogan of Redondo Beach, CA. Hansen gave his winning gold medallion to Ron Zimmermann, SCCA's Club Racing Director, and wife Marge. Presenting the medallions, in appreciation, has become a tradition with Hansen over the past several years.

Two of the most popular races--Formula F and D Production--resulted in additional awards for respective winners Dave Wietzenhof of Bath, OH and Tom Robertson, Gales Ferry, CT.

Weitzenhof took the Formula F race by just .18 of a second over Californians David Loring and Dennis Firestone. As many as eight cars duelled for the front position with the lead changing 10 times alone at the start/finish line. Weitzenhof held the lead three times during the race and gained the advantage for good with two laps remaining in the 45-mile contest and held off the exciting challenges of Loring and Firestone to the finish. For his outstanding drive, the 34-year-old product engineer was presented SCCA's most coveted driver award, the President's Cup, at victory ceremonies October 30.

The Mark Donohue Memorial Road Racing Driver's Club award, a special polished wheel/glass topped coffee table, was presented to Robertson, winner of the D Production event. Starting in sixth grid position in his Essex Racing Service Lotus Super 7, Robertson worked his way up past Ken Slagle, Harrisburg, Pa. and Lee Mueller, Lynwood, CA, to take the lead on the 10th lap. He continued to stretch his lead over the Triumph TR7 drivers to take the checkered with a six-second advantage.

In other special awards presented at the victory banquet, James W. Graham of Fort Lauderdale

(Continued on page 3)

# 1977 Regional Officers

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Sparkplug want ad form 1977  
(12 words for \$1.00 extra words are 5¢ each)

Mail to the Sparkplug Editor with payment to the Glen Region, SCCA. Deadline is the 1st of the month.

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extra words 5¢ea  
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# REport

# A Look at the Past

One of the first items to announce is that our Governor reigns again for three more years -- there was no opposition, therefore, no balloting. Bob has also been appointed Secretary of the BOG for the remainder of the year, replacing David Roethel.

As the calendar year comes to a close, we will have a new group of elected officials also, one of whom will be the present editor of the Sparkplug. We will need new leadership for our newsletter for 1978. The "Wanted Ad" could read something like this:

\*POSITION TO BE FILLED\*  
Literary talent--minimum ---  
Must be interested in the whole Club--and in what's going on in the SCCA---  
Experienced past editor will help!!!

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The annual Northeast Division Convention will be held soon in nearby Binghamton on November 11,12,13, and it sounds as if a good number of Glen members are going to attend and expand on their areas of interest. There are many seminars scheduled with Regional Management being one of them -- for which I am to be the panel moderator. If anything interesting develops from the discussion I will REport. The NEDiv Racing Schedule is usually the primary target of discussion at the convention; and the first draft of the schedule of National Races in the division looks compatible, unless there are more to add. If so, then the trouble starts.

Our Glen calendar for next year, still in the development stage, is as full and busy as ever with a new and exciting event being planned. We hope to be a part of the SCCA/FEA Citicorp Economy Challenge next year with an Economy Run to be held sometime in April. SCCA supplies us with all the materials, no entry fee is charged the contestants, and we will receive a fee from SCCA based on the number of entries in our event who finish the rally. We have an excellent working committee with Bill Miller as chairman. Those on the committee with their various duties are: Ade Ketchum, Judy Born, Peggy Miller, Bob Perry, Bill Bradshaw, Ken Bird, and Norm Glueck. The Economy Run Series of which there will be 42 Regionals, 7 divisionals, and a national runoff sounds quite exciting and you will be informed of the various details and just where you will be needed to help as we go along.

I certainly hope that your VOTES were counted in our two recent ballots---AND, I will see you at our annual Christmas and Awards Party on December 3. This is our most prestigious and rewarding and fun-filled event of the entire year.

--Eleanor S. Perry

Nineteen Grand Prix's of the United States have been run in this present series with one at Sebring, Florida; one at Riverside, California; and the rest at the Glen.

There have been two Grand Prix of the United States (West) held at Long Beach, California in 1976 and 1977.

Through the years there have been a large amount of American drivers that have raced in their home Grand Prix's with only Mario Andretti winning one of the two present day U.S. Grand Prix's West in Long Beach, CA. this year.

In all these years there has not been an American car to win the U.S. Grand Prix. American Formula 1 cars have raced in this present series in the following years:

1959	Kurtis-Kraft Midget
1960	Scarab
1966-67	Eagles
1973-77	Shadows
1974-77	Penske
1974-76	Parnelli

There was some talk at this years U.S. Grand Prix of what was the largest number of U.S. drivers to race in this event. I have listed drivers and the cars they drove by year and this includes Long Beach.

1959(Sebring)	Harry Blanchard (Porsche) Sports Car)
	Roger Ward (Kurtis Kraft- midget)
	George Constan (Cooper) tine
	Harry Schell (Cooper)
	Bob Said (Connaught)
1960(Riverside)	Phil Hill (Cooper)
	Dan Gurney (BRM)
	Bob Drake (Maserati 250F)
	Chuck Daigh (Scarab)
	Jim Hall (Lotus)
	Pete Lovely (Cooper-Ferrari)
1961(Watkins Glen)	Hap Sharp (Cooper)
	Roger Penske (Cooper)
	Dan Gurney (Porsche)
	Jim Hall (Lotus)
	Masten Gregory (Lotus)
	Lloyd Ruby (Lotus)
	Walt Hansgen (Cooper)
1962(Watkins Glen)	Richie Ginther (BRM)
	Dan Gurney (Porsche)
	Roger Penske (Lotus)
	Masten Gregory (Lotus)
	Tim Mayer (Cooper)
	Jim Hall (Lotus)/car with- drawn after practice
	Bob Schroeder (Lotus)

PAST Continued

1963(Watkins  
Glen)

Richie Ginther  
(BRM)  
Dan Gurney  
(Brabham)  
Jim Hall  
(Lotus)  
Masten Gregory  
(Lola)  
Roger Ward  
(Lotus)  
Hap Sharp  
(Lotus)  
Phil Hill  
(ATS)

1964(Watkins  
Glen)

Richie Ginther  
(BRM)  
Dan Gurney  
(Brabham)  
Phil Hill  
(Cooper)  
Walt Hansgen  
(Lotus)  
Hap Sharp  
(Brabham)  
Ronnie Bucknum  
(Honda)

1965(Watkins  
Glen)

Dan Gurney  
(Brabham)  
Richie Ginther  
(Honda)  
Ronnie Bucknum  
(Honda)  
Bob Bondurant  
(Ferrari)

1966(Watkins  
Glen)

Richie Ginther  
(Honda)  
Ronnie Bucknum  
(Honda)  
Dan Gurney  
(Eagle)  
Bob Bondurant  
(Eagle)

1967(Watkins  
Glen)

Dan Gurney  
(Eagle)

1968(Watkins  
Glen)

Bobby Unser  
(BRM)  
Mario Andretti  
(Lotus)  
Dan Gurney  
(McLaren)

1969(Watkins  
Glen)

Mario Andretti  
(Lotus)  
Pete Lovely  
(Lotus)

1970(Watkins  
Glen)

Pete Lovely  
(Lotus)  
Gus Hutchison  
(Brabham)

1971(Watkins  
Glen)

Mario Andretti  
(Ferrari)  
Peter Revson  
(Tyrrell)  
Sam Posey  
(Surtees)  
Pete Lovely  
(Lotus)  
Skip Barber  
(March)  
Mark Donohue  
(McLaren)/David  
Hobbs drove car  
in race as Don-  
ohue raced at  
Trenton, NJ

1972(Watkins  
Glen)

Mario Andretti  
(Ferrari)  
Peter Revson  
(McLaren)  
Skip Barber  
(March)  
Sam Posey  
(Surtees)

1973(Watkins  
Glen)

Peter Revson  
(McLaren)  
George Follmer  
(Shadow)

1974(Watkins  
Glen)

Mario Andretti  
(Parnelli)  
Mark Donohue  
(Penske)

1975(Watkins  
Glen)

Brett Lunger  
(Hesketh)  
Mario Andretti  
(Parnelli)

1976(Watkins  
Glen)

Brett Lunger  
(Surtees)  
Mario Andretti  
(Lotus)

1976(Long  
Beach)

Mario Andretti  
(Parnelli)



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1977(Watkins  
Glen)

Mario Andretti  
(Lotus)  
Brett Lunger  
(McLaren)  
Danny Ongais  
(Penske)

1977(Long  
Beach)

Mario Andretti  
(Lotus)  
Brett Lunger  
(March)

--William Green

## SCCA News Con't

dale, FL was named recipient of the S-K Tools SCCA Mechanic of the Year Award. Graham prepared the engines for Formula C champion Dr. Bill Anspach and C Sports Racing title winner Dr. Joe Castellano.

SCCA's New England, Northern New Jersey and New York Regions were presented the Dr. Wilbur Pickett Memorial Award for saving the life of Donald Wolf, Cleveland, Ohio. On the cool-off lap of the D Sports Racing event, Wolf, who had finished fourth, suffered a cardiac arrest at turn 11 of the 2.52-mile course. Workers manning the turn 11 station and Dr. Craig Bradlee, a driver/spectator, immediately began administering cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. Wolf remains in an Atlanta hospital in good condition.



## Halloween Rally



Carrot - Alias Pat Grigoriou  
Witch - Alias Lyn Rexford

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# Members Talk

Mike Lilley joined the Glen Region in 1967 or '68. He lives at 376 Lighthouse Rd., Hilton, NY 14468. Mike is married to Michele and has two children a boy & a girl. He has rallied and autocrossed until becoming old enough to race (that was 21 then). He built and raced an F Production Alfa-Romeo and in 1973 finished 2nd in FP in the New York State Road Racing Championship. In 1974 Mike began racing a Formula B Tecno and he has run this with mixed results. When Mike is not racing, he works Timing & Scoring. Mike is a Mechanical Engineer at Rochester Gas & Electric.

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## Solo II Events

October 9, 1977 Clute Motor  
Company Solo II Results

### C/Modified & B/Modified

1. Art Lynch - FV
2. Ernest Walden - Buggy
3. Erich Scheffler - Buggy

### C/Prepared

1. Joe Gaboriault - 'Cuda
2. Larry Berman - Firebird

### D/Prepared

1. Allen Davis - Capri 2600
2. Dave Rothchild - Pinto
3. Robin Balcom - Datsun 510
4. Doug Pobgee - VW Beetle
5. Buddy Grindle - Pinto

### E/Ladies

1. Ruth Salander - Saab Sonett
2. Jo Ann Molnar - Fiat 128

### D/Stock

1. Duane Anderson - 240Z
2. Thomas Salander - Sabb  
Sonett

### E/Stock

1. Thomas Sparling - Mazda RX2
2. Edward Van Am Burg - Capri  
2000

### F/Stock

1. Doug Born - Monza
2. Joe Atkinson - Cobra II
3. Bob Stevenson - Monza Spider
4. Linda Atkinson - Cobra II
5. Bill Slocum - Camaro
6. Dave Robinson - Camaro
7. Dave Gaboriault - Plymouth  
Satelite

### G/Stock

1. Robert Lacombe - Honda Civic
2. Gary Brouse - Rabbit
3. Mike Besley - Fiat 128
4. Brian Buchauer - Honda Civic
5. Ken Pierce - Opel 1900 Wagon
6. John Pierce - Opel 1900 Wagon
7. Fred Burne - Honda Accord
8. Gerald Sheehe - Toyota Cor-  
olla
9. Perry Poyneer - Ford Fiesta
10. Ned Dickson - Fiat 128
11. Ken Strothmann - Dodge Colt
12. Ann Gustina - Rabbit
13. Peter Masle - Rabbit
14. Rob Maloney - Datsun B-210
15. Mark Angolia - Vega
16. Michael Read - Datsun B210
17. Bev Hopkins - Rabbit

### Fastest Time of Day

Art Lynch - Autodymanics FV

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### Solo II Standings as of 10/9/77.

\* signifies eligibility for  
year-end award. Competitor  
must have entered at least 3 of  
the 6 Solo II's.

#### A/Modified

Carl Matuszek 540\*  
Gordon Walden 122

#### B/Modified

Ernest Walden 814\*

#### C/Modified

Art Lynch 1020\*

John Hamann 812\*

Erich Scheffler 482\*

Eric Hamann 100

#### C/Prepared

Joseph Gaboriault 754\*

Christopher Bucknam 618\*

Larry Berman 150

#### D/Prepared

John Buttrey 720\*

Doug Pobgee 662\*

Allen Davis, Jr. 640\*

James Kellogg 484\*

Harold Krelie 466\*

Dave Rothchild 318\*

Larry Winner 172\*

Robin Balcom 124

Michele Krelie 56

Fred Burne 9

#### E/Prepared

Gary Rightmire 608\*

Chuck Marsh 452\*

Lyn Rexford 120

#### D/Ladies

Judy Born 494\*

Bev Hopkins 202

#### E/Ladies

Ruth Salander 1018\*

Jo Ann Molnar 622\*

Pat Grigoriou 424\*

#### D/Stock

Duane Anderson 968\*

Thomas Salander 610\*

Roy Melling 150

Carl Matuszek 120

#### E/Stock

Peter Robson 984\*

Thomas Sparling 544\*

William Miller 286

Doug Wilcox 200

Thomas Salander 154

William Bradshaw 120

300 Skye Island Dr  
Endicott NY 13760

	1016*
Douglas Born	758*
Bill Slocum	594*
Dave Robinson	540*
Linda Atkinson	522*
Jesse Hall	356*
Robert Stevenson	194
Erich Schwaller	74
G/Stock	
Brian Buchauer	904*
Gary Brouse	822*
Mike Grigoriou	780*
Mike Besley	568*
Beverly Hopkins	444*
Ann Gustina	440*
Robin Balcom	206*
Gerald Sheehe	170*
John Pierce, Jr.	82
Thomas Mahler	78
Fred Burne	60
Carol Swan	22
Rob Maloney	13
Duane Anderson	11

### Solo II Driver of the Year Standings - Congratulations!

1020	Art Lynch
1018	Ruth Salander
1016	Joe Atkinson, III
984	Peter Robson
968	Duane Anderson

### For Sale:

FV McNamara, 4th in Glen 100,  
6th in August; car, trailer,  
spares; \$1,000.  
Call Tom Rotsell (607)523-7397

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Size 7½. Also 1973 RCA Mark  
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and Turn One engine. Needs  
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## Notice !

Wanted: Person who is interest-  
ed in taking over the editorship  
of the Sparkplug in the event  
that I am elected to the office  
of Secretary for the Glen  
Region. Please notify me if  
you wish to see just what needs  
to be done or is involved in  
getting the Sparkplug together  
each month.

--Linda J. Atkinson

Members Data: Please complete & return to the Sparkplug  
editor.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year Joined \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Data \_\_\_\_\_

& Club interests \_\_\_\_\_

