

KRYDERACING NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 3

November 2020

“HELPING PEOPLE ACHIEVE THEIR RACING OBJECTIVES”

Is there light at the end of the tunnel? 2020 has been a year unlike any other. Now we hear vaccines may start to appear in December. Meanwhile Covid seems to be peaking and the holidays are in jeopardy. We hope everyone has stayed healthy. We do know some people who have not been lucky, but so far nobody like a relative, close friend, or client has even tested positive.

You would think Kryderacing has been slowed a lot by Covid and you would be correct. So why did we not take the time to write one of these newsletters? Mainly because while things have been slower, they have also been constantly changing. We bet your lives have also been in constant flux. And now it appears we have a new President. Who knows what changes to expect once/if he takes office.

Since we cannot predict the future, this newsletter is mostly a summary of 2020.

Family update: We reported the passing of Sandi's dad in our previous newsletter. Her mom has since joined him in heaven. It was not Covid, just her time had come.

New TransAm car update: The new car is scheduled to be tested sometime in December. There are still a couple of hold-ups. Hopefully all comes together soon as David is planning on racing at the SCCA Sebring Super Tour in January. The rest of the 2021 TransAm schedule for the car is 'up in the air' since the released schedule shows 14 events and most of the competitors (including David) want no more than 10. Reed sent his thoughts to Tony Parella – don't know if he read them. Meanwhile David is also targeting several SCCA events since he wants to return to Indy for the 2021 Run-Offs to defend his title from a couple of years ago.

Spec Racer Ford 3 update #1: Up until the Mid-Ohio Super Tour in the middle of the summer David Pintaric and Matt Miller were the only two drivers who had competed in the two cars residing in the Kryderacing shop. At Mid-Ohio Justin Hille was invited by David to try one of the cars. Justin had been extremely successful with his Spec Miata efforts and David thought he might be successful in something else. David had great judgment. While Justin did not win at Mid-Ohio he did manage to end up on the podium in his first attempt competing in a SRF3. Mid-Ohio was followed by a tough outing at Road America in order to prep for the Run-Offs at the same venue. Next up was a Divisional at Nelson Ledges. He had terrific battles on both Saturday (winning) and Sunday (second). The second on Sunday was by a fraction of a second with both he and the winner setting new track records during the course of the competition. The winner set the final record. Next up was the SCCA Run-Offs at Road America. The team tested and ran a lot of laps in preparation for the race. Justin was frustrated with 'turn-in' characteristics all week long. Kryderacing crewmembers Matt Miller and Colton Kask were constantly making adjustments and looking for problems all the way through the hardship practice on race morning. The problem was still there during the race. When the race started Justin was not one of the frontrunners, but he wasn't too far back. During the race he hooked up with another competitor who had dropped back from a frontrunner position and both of them starting working together. They progressed into the top ten and had the front pack in site (they were slowly closing on them) when the checker flew. Justin had managed to pass his drafting partner late in the race and in the process set the fastest lap of any competitor in the race. We all hope to see Justin back with Kryderacing in 2021.

Spec Racer Ford 3 update #2: All year long we had been advertising the SRF3 cars for rent. Several people expressed an interest, but with the race schedules in a constant state of flux there were no renters. But then came October and November. The first renter was DJ Galiffa at a Nelson Ledges Tune & Test. He followed that up with a rental for the

Divisional SCCA races at Nelson Ledges during the Halloween weekend. He was joined by Dr. Dan Koplw driving the second SRF3. They qualified side-by-side on the third row of the all SRF3 grid. Neither won, but they both finished well. One side note: DJ is actually Dr. Dan Galiffa (mathematics professor) and Koplw is also a Dr. Dan (dentist). DJ is just starting his racing career and Dr. Dan is a longtime racer from the area who had moved to Colorado Springs several years ago. Dr. Dan send a note saying to save a SRF3 for him sometime next year. Nine days after the Divisional we rented one of the SRF3 cars to Chase McIntyre for a Test & Tune day. Chase is a young driver just starting his racing career and plans on racing a Spec Miata. We hope to work with him in the future.

Additional Run-Offs results: Rob Piekarczyk was a top ten competitor in the B-Spec class and was very happy with the new Goodyear tires. Dan Harding competed in Spec Miata and STL. Mike Olivier was also in STL. All of these races will be on CBS Sports in the near future. Unfortunately, Matt Miller's efforts in T4 will go unnoticed since CBS decided not to broadcast his race. One of our weekend crew members, Eric Fiest was there helping an A Sedan competitor who was near the front of the pack and almost made the podium. The 2021 Run-Offs are scheduled for September 25 through October 3 at Indianapolis.

New/renewed programs at Nelson Ledges Road Course: Last winter track management approached Reed with the idea of reviving the "Fundayz" programs. As a result, two similar, but different monthly programs were started. On the first Wednesday of each month "How to learn a track with Reed Kryder" was held. It was almost exactly like the old Fundayz and targeted participants driving street cars. There were usually three groups with one group consisting mainly of beginners. The second program was held monthly on the second Tuesday and targeted race vehicles. It was called "Test & Tune with Kryderacing". Usually there were three groups with one of the groups just for open wheel type race cars. There was some cross-over between the two types of events. After a slow initial "How to" featuring three cars and lots of rain the programs gradually grew. Track management was very happy with the programs and a winter meeting will be scheduled to plan for 2021.

SCCA racing returns to Nelson Ledges: After a couple of aborted attempts during recent years two SCCA race weekends and a SCCA Time Trial weekend returned to the facility. The MVR and SCCA Regions worked together with Nelson Ledges management to make them happen. The final race event was held on Halloween weekend and featured miserable weather. It even snowed late Sunday afternoon. Long time racers at the track remember when there used to be back-to-back race weekends at the end of October. Each year the Golden Harvest was followed by the Great Pumpkin. For many years both weekends were well attended as many drivers wanted one (or two) more racing events before putting their cars away for the winter. Each year one event had beautiful weather while the other was cold and often wet (sometimes snow). Problem was you could not predict which weekend had the better weather. For several years there was a huge end-of-season party following Sunday's Great Pumpkin races. These parties attracted the local police who could be seen parked on Nickelson Road watching the party. There were never any problems. Also added to the calendar in 2020 were 2 SCCA Track Night in America events. Both were well attended.

Reed's Alternate Driver's School was reactivated: Under the previous ownership of Nelson Ledges Reed helped numerous racers acquire a Competition License. During the 'down time' of track activities the program faded away. But it is back and the first new participant completed his requirements during the Halloween race weekend. As in the past, this one-on-one program helps potential drivers who find it difficult to follow normal pathways such as SCCA or Pro schools. Reed initially needs to be convinced (through observation) the driver knows what they are doing while driving on a race track. This may require observing experienced track day participants or guiding someone with no track experience. Participants with no track experience usually require more than one session. The other basic requirement is confirming the driver has studied the SCCA GCR. This part requires a couple of written tests. Once Reed is happy the driver is competent on track and knows the rules the two of them find a Regional/Divisional race to enter and contact the Chief Steward of that event for permission to participate. During the race weekend the Chief Steward makes a decision whether Reed did a good job and enters his comments in the driver's Novice Permit booklet. There are other Alternate Driver's School programs conducted by SCCA Regions, but they usually are conducted as a Friday program prior to a race weekend and include a small group of participants. Reed's approach is SCCA approved and can help anyone from a beginner to experience track day participant get into actual racing.

Kryderacing clients racing activities in 2020: When Covid hit in the Spring there were numerous race cancellations and reschedules. Finding a race to participate was challenging with the changing state, county, and city rules. Fortunately, most of Kryderacing's clients found enough events to satisfy their hungers. Kryderacing was racing near St. Louis on the Illinois side of the Mississippi River when we were informed to keep a low profile on the internet since there was still some

uncertainty of the event being allowed to proceed. This restriction was lifted Friday evening. Another Illinois restriction lifted that evening was dining at a restaurant. Outside dining was now allowed. The team enjoyed some great Mexican food in what would normally have been the restaurant's parking lot. They even had a band. We also heard of people participating at another race event but lodging across the state border so they would not be required to quarantine upon returning home. Different race tracks had different Covid requirements for people entering their facility. As far as we know none of the events ever experienced any problems during or after the event.

Annual Willow Springs outing rescheduled: October 23rd was to be the 20th anniversary of our annual trip to Willow Springs in California to help Russ Wilson and his friends enjoy a day at the race track. As the summer progressed and restrictions due to Covid increased in California it became obvious the event would not be possible. Fortunately, the track allowed us to move the deposit for the event to Friday, October 22, 2021. We are really looking forward to this happening since some of our best friends live on the west coast and we rarely see them.

Florida visits: For many years we had several races in Florida during the months of January and February. It was a great opportunity to escape the winter weather. Sandi and Reed also used these trips to add visits to several family members and friends spread out across the state. 2020 was not a good year to conduct these visits. Hopefully 2021 will be a different story.

Kryderacing website updates: A couple of things have changed on the website. Reed's "How to learn a track" has been reposted following his increased activities at Nelson Ledges. We have also been posting stuff 'for sale' on the site. There are refueling pieces from our IMSA days, analog radio equipment, and other items which are still in great shape but we'll probably never use again.

2021????: We have been recording a lot of race dates for 2021. All of our clients have been making plans. And we have been meeting with a couple of potential clients. Everyone at the shop is hoping to see Justin Hille back in one of the Kryderacing maintained cars. Dr. Dan Koplow has already told us he wants to fly out from his home in Colorado to have another go in the SRF3. And we have a couple of additional SRF3 rental inquiries. It could be a great year IF Covid and its restrictions go away.

Election comment: As this is being written there is a lot of post- election 's—t' going on. Regardless of your personal political beliefs there is one area which definitely needs attention. Too many of the current conflicts could have been avoided if the election laws were better defined and followed. We cannot fix the past but we can do better in the future. Will we make the required improvements which would avoid the current conflicts???? Or will nothing happen once a president is finally confirmed.

Sayings to live by:

"When in doubt, just take the next small step."

"Worrying isn't thinking."

"You don't get harmony when everyone sings the same note."

Closing: Enjoy your holidays the best you can and pray for a better 2021.

Reed and Sandi Kryder

