

# KRYDERACING NEWSLETTER

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## “HELPING PEOPLE ACHIEVE THEIR RACING OBJECTIVES”

Racing, racing, and more racing. It's time to get our friends up-to-date on what has been happening.

### APRIL 13 AT NELSON LEDGES ROAD COURSE

Some might call it “opening day” at the local race track. There wasn't any racing, but there was a lot going on. And it was cold. The cold weather (40's) was normal for this event, but at least the rain stayed away this year. So what was going on? If you were a racer and needed an annual tech inspection, Maurice Lafond was available and had plenty of customers. Doctor Mike Saddleton was performing physicals for those who needed tech for their bodies. There were lots of people (experienced and rookies) attending the annual training sessions held for Lake Erie Communications and the Nelson Ledges Safety Crew.

And Kryderacing always sets up a test day for our clients. Bill Pintaric was there testing his GT-2 Nissan, but the cold weather limited it to one short session on the track. It ran fine and there was no desire to start making changes due to the weather conditions. Rob (Spec Miata) and Bob Piekarczyk (T4 Honda) were there with the Ohio Technical College crew.

A few others stopped by during the day. Bryan Tulino has attended a few Fundays in the past and is interested in crewing for us in the future. He is also interested in racing at some future date. Eddy Eckart and Greg Alley stopped by to pick up Kryderacing logos for their cars. They both plan on being on the race track very soon with their Spec Miatas. John Gingery stopped by to update us on the upcoming Tire Rack Street Survival. Norm Merhaus visited Kerrie and Reed to discuss “Friends of Nelson”. Norm and Reed then met with Bob MacDonald to discuss the Nelson Ledges Website. Later in the day Reed and Sandi met with Kerrie to discuss numerous Nelson Ledges and Mahoning Valley Region topics.

There are probably a few items and people missed in the above story. It was a very busy day.

### APRIL 20-21 AT VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY

David Pintaric took his TransAm Corvette to the Majors weekend at VIR. He ran it in the GT-1 class with the hope of qualifying for the SCCA Run-Offs in September. There was some major competition, including several fellow TransAm competitors. Saturday's race was going well until a header cracked. David still managed a sixth place finish. A “band-aid” style repair was performed on the exhaust system during the Saturday evening hours and David responded with a third on Sunday. New headers were built immediately following the weekend.

### APRIL 20-21 AT PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL RACE COMPLEX

Everyone still refers to the circuit as BeaveRun. Steel Cities Region was sanctioning a double Driver's School, a Regional (part of the Kryderacing Regional Championship Series) and a Club Trial. We were helping Bryan Vondran with his Spec Miata in the Regional activities and Eric Orton was driving the Kryderacing rental Spec Miata in the Driver's School. Since most of the regular Kryderacing crew was at VIR, Reed and Sandi filled in as mechanics for the weekend. All went well except for the weather. It was dry, but very cold and windy. It even snowed a little on Saturday morning.

## MAY 5 TIRE RACK STREET SURVIVAL

This was an event which never happened. Mahoning Valley Region's initial TRSS event last Fall was small but very successful. The 2013 edition was to be at the same venue and entries had tripled in size, with more expected on the day of the event. The volunteer support was also increasing with four SCCA Regions now involved.

But a couple days before the event we received a phone call from the 'new' owner of the event site informing us we could not use the site. He claimed our signed approval letter (from the previous owner, his dad) was a forgery and he even mentioned criminal action. The Region had repeated all the steps from the previous year, including approval letters, notifications to police and fire departments, insurance coverage and documentation, notification to merchants adjoining the event site, and a long list of related items. Everything had gone smoothly and not a negative comment had been heard. The reversal in site availability, especially the totally illogical reasons given by the owner, hit everyone hard. There was a flurry of phone calls made informing everyone of the cancellation.

ALL of the participants said to keep them informed if we found a new site and were able to reschedule. As this is being written we are in the process of inspecting and reserving a new site for an October 6<sup>th</sup> Tire Rack Street Survival event.

## MAY 11 AT NELSON LEDGE ROAD COURSE

Fundays are a regular part of the schedule at Nelson. There have been several already this year and attendance has been improving over a successful 2012, especially when the weather isn't nasty. There are two special Fundays on the calendar. They are referred to as Nelson Ledges University and are full-day educational programs. In the past they have been for beginners only. This year we added an intermediate level. The May 11 event featured some of the worst weather possible. It was cold, windy, and wet. Needless to say, attendance suffered. But the students and instructors who braved the weather had fun and hopefully learned a few things. Better weather for the September 8 Nelson Ledges University is desired.

## MAY 18-19 AT MOSPORT

The second TransAm weekend saw the Kryderacing team venture outside of the USA for the first time in many years. Crossing the border takes a lot more preparation than in our IMSA days. Sandi spent many hours talking on the phone and prepping the required documentation. Matt had to spend a lot of time doing inventory for the documentation. David had never been to Mosport, but he managed a ninth place TA class qualifying effort with his Kryderacing prepped Corvette. During the race he advanced to a fourth place finish. This was a big turn-around following the Sebring race which saw him sitting on the sidelines after a first lap drive-shaft failure. Meanwhile, Rob Huffmaster continues to show his skills by qualifying and finishing third with the Kryderacing TA2 class Camaro.

## MAY 18-19 AT NELSON LEDGES ROAD COURSE

Reed has always placed Mosport at the top of his favorite tracks to drive. But he had other obligations during the TransAm weekend, so he wasn't able to view the changes made to the facility since his last visit. By the way, Mosport now ranks very high with David Pintaric after his first experience with the Canadian road course. Reed is Regional Executive for the Mahoning Valley Region of the SCCA and they were conducting a Triple Regional at Nelson on the same weekend as Mosport. This event was also the second weekend of the 2013 Kryderacing Regional Championship Series. Sandi was race chairman and registrar while Reed helped conduct PDX, Club Trial, and Alternate Driver's School programs. He did manage to find some time to relax by sneaking onto the track with the Kryderacing rental Miata. He finished second, third, and fourth in the ITA class.

## MAY 24-25 AT LIME ROCK PARK

Back-to-back TransAm weekends left little time to make adjustments. The Connecticut weather was miserable with lots of rain. There was one partially dry session during the entire weekend. David repeated his Mosport performance with another fourth place TA class finish in the Kryderacing Corvette. Rob Huffmaster was leading overall in the TA2 class Kryderacing Camaro before a transmission problem and off-course excursion relegated him to a DNF. He is still second in the points chase.

## MAY 25-26 AT MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY

It was drier at the MIS SCCA Majors event. This was the first time the facility had hosted an event on the road course in many years. Kryderacing ran an IMSA GTU race there in the 1990's. Reed ran a One Lap of America competition on the track about ten years ago. According to reports we received, little has changed. John Buttermore (son) easily topped the T1 field both days in his Corvette. Matt Carson provided Kryderacing trackside support.

## MAY 31-JUNE 2 AT MID-OHIO

The event was the SCCA Majors. Since it is local for us, it was time for everyone to come and play. Kryderacing supported race cars and crewmembers were everywhere. It was Father John Buttermore's turn with the T1 class Corvette and he finished second both days. Aaron Quine was driving a T2 Corvette and had some minor help from Kryderacing prior to the event. Aaron posted wins both days and also lowered the lap record by a couple of tenths. David Pintaric was driving his ACRX Viper Cup car in the GT1 class in order to complete qualification requirements for the SCCA Run-Offs. The car is not competitive with front-running GT1 vehicles but David pulled off a second place finish both days and is now qualified for the Fall championships. Meanwhile, Bill Pintaric was on track for the first time this year. Bill entered both his GT2 and GTL Kryderacing maintained Nissans. The GTL effort featured a failed starter motor on Saturday's grid. This meant Bill had to charge from last. He took the lead (and win) with only a couple of laps remaining in the race. Sunday's win saw Bill lead from start to finish. It wasn't easy, his lead was never more than a couple of seconds. Bill's GT2 experience was a little different. There were several new Porsche's in the GT2 field and they smashed the old lap record during qualifying. Bill probably would have finished second behind multiple national champion Tom Patton and his Sunbeam Tiger if the Porsches had not made such a dramatic statement. Bill drove very well, but the result was a sixth. Sunday's race resulted in a DNF when a suspension problem occurred. Another Kryderacing competitor was Gary Martz in his EP Mazda RX7. Gary posted a competitive fourth place finish on Saturday but transmission woes relegated him to a DNF on Sunday.

## JUNE 7-9 AT WATKINS GLEN

The fourth event of the season on the TransAm calendar was at Watkins Glen. Reed and Sandi were finally able to attend TransAm. Friday's sessions were in damp conditions but both David and Rob were driving well. Saturday's qualifying session brought two surprises. First, Rob had the end mount of the exhaust system fracture during the second lap. Quick repairs were performed and Rob managed to return on track at the end of the session to record a fourth place grid position. There was some minor burning of the bodywork due to the hasty repairs in the pits, but things were prettied up after the session.

The second surprise was David qualifying the Kryderacing prepped Corvette on the TA class (and overall) pole. David has been fast in the past. Pole positions and wins were anticipated in the future as both David and the team improved over this and next season. But this pole was earlier than anyone forecast. It wasn't a fluke because all the front-running competitors were in attendance and the track conditions were ideal. His time was only 0.10 second off the lap record.

Rob finished where he started in Sunday's 100-mile race. He managed to gain the third position for a few laps, but the car was understeering too much to mount a serious challenge to the frontrunners. He dropped to a comfortable, but unsatisfying fourth for the majority of the race.

David led the early laps. He was at the front of a six-car formation which was gapping the rest of the field. David looked comfortable and while cars were closely following, none seemed able to press him for the lead. All the team's hopes and dreams came to an end when the car's transmission locked in fourth gear.

The Watkins Glen TransAm was held in conjunction with a SVRA vintage weekend. It had also been several years since Reed and Sandi had been to the Glen. There were many reunions with friends from the past.

## UPCOMING KRYDERACING SCHEDULE ITEMS

June 14-16: John Buttermore (son) competes at the June Sprints (Road America).  
June 15: Bill and Sandi Pintaric celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.  
June 16: Matt Miller finally gets a weekend off. Guess what he plans on doing? Racing his car at Mid-Ohio.  
June 19-20: Road America TransAm. David and Rob will be there with the NASCAR Nationwide Series.  
June 21-23: Finger Lakes Region Regional Races at Nelson Ledges Road Course (Kryderacing Series).  
June 29-30: Something must be wrong. No major commitments on the calendar.  
July 5-7: John Buttermore (father) competes at the Watkins Glen Majors.  
July 6-7: Bill Pintaric competes at the Nelson Ledges National.  
July 10: Believe it or not: Reed and Sandi celebrate 42 years of marriage.  
July 12: Chumpcar 12-Hour at Nelson Ledges  
July 12-14: Gingerman Majors. Bill Pintaric and John Buttermore amongst potential entries.

## CHANGES AT KRYDERACING

These are not changes so much as they are clarifications of what has been evolving over the last few years. There are three areas of the company efforts. Matt Miller heads the shop programs and race car preparation. Reed's interference with Matt's agendas continue to shrink, but he still gets involved. Reed also oversees work involving Russ Wilson's ZR-1 Corvette and the Spec Miata rental car. Right now we are looking for some volunteer crew members, especially people who can work weekends or bring specific fabricating skills. These are not full-time jobs, but there are occasions when an extra hand or two is needed.

Several years ago Reed answered a request for instructional help at Fundays. The Fundays program has grown both in the number of dates and depth of his involvement. Meanwhile there have been spinoffs such as being head instructor at special events, writing "How to Learn a Track", Nelson Ledges University, becoming involved with the growing Legendary Marques at the Ledges event, trying to get "Friends of Nelson" up and running, and numerous other track related events. He has also found himself assisting the SCCA through increasing involvement with the Barriers to Entry, Club Racing Experience, and Alternate Driver's School activities.

The third area is restoration of the vintage Kryderacing-built IMSA GTU Nissan 240SX race car. The work is going slowly, but we hope to someday become involved in vintage racing activities.

Sandi continues to handle a variety of office duties for everyone. We would all be lost without her.

## CLOSING COMMENT

The 'changes' mentioned above doesn't mean we are reducing the number of activities Kryderacing is involved with. We still do all the things we have done in the past. We rent race cars. We sell racing equipment, especially safety items such as HANS devices, Helmets, and Driver Suits. The Kryderacing Regional Championship Series is in its fourth decade. We have several clients who come to us for big and small projects. In the past two weeks we have had two serious inquiries for future assistance. Both involved multiple event trackside help and one involved shop preparation. We had a business proposal presented to us at the Watkins Glen TransAm which is receiving some serious consideration.

We are always looking for new opportunities. But we are very much aware that keeping current clients happy with our services is what creates these new opportunities.

Check [www.kryderacing.com](http://www.kryderacing.com) for weekly updates.