



# Pylon Press

SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA -  
PHOENIX AZ SOLO REGION

April 2023 – Spring Series #4

## Event Synopsis

Reported by Brian Miller,  
Pylon Press Editor

The day was a very pleasant Arizona spring day with light winds and afternoon temperatures only in the 80s. Drivers got four runs on a creative and interesting course resulting in times the mid forty to high fifty second range. With very few DNF and spinouts the delays were minimal, allowing the run groups to stay on schedule. Several individual contests for various class championships were to be decided in some tight and fun racing. In CAM-T there was plenty of friendly trash talk and group anticipation to see who would come out on top in the highly contested fourth Spring Series event. At the end of the day any of several drivers in CAM-T could rise to the top in Total PAX points. **Scott Spiewak** was the surprise in this tight race as he had only driven in two previous series events and needed to win this one to come out on top. He nailed it by scoring a particularly good lap time of 49.191 and edged out **Michael Hitt** by five total Pax points to claim the series win. As the day progressed lap times continued to drop and when the Group D drivers hit the course lap times got even faster. Several of the Sportsman Class contestants battled it out for TTD and PAX honors. The top ten drivers in the D group finished within one PAX point of each other. With precision driving, there was close competition between the SSP Corvettes of **Jeff Wong** and **Doug Rowse**. **Jeff's** TTD of 44.878 very narrowly edged out **Doug's** time of 44.948. Group D was fun to watch and a great practice arena for our national level drivers. It was a great ending to the Spring Series.



## Car of the Month

Brandon, Amanda & Chris Hall

This month's car of the month is a truck! **Chis Hall** has designed and build a special solo racer for his wife **Amanda** to use in autocross competitions. Amanda is the fourth owner of the 1991 S-10 Chevy Blazer which features a strong list of performance parts. Chis did a considerable amount of work on this truck to make it solo competitive. Some of the upgrades include: 5.3 LS aluminum block motor, with an aftermarket cam and fuel injection. The LS feeds a sturdy T-56 tranny followed by a Blazer rear member. The suspension incorporates Corvette front brakes and light weight Camaro wheels. Rounding out this well-designed build are Viking Coil Overs and a Ride Tech 3 link suspension system. This truck is a family project that incorporates builder Chris, driver Amanda and son Brandon as an able track support person. A great team and family effort makes for a true success story.

# DRIVER OF THE MONTH Scott Spiewak



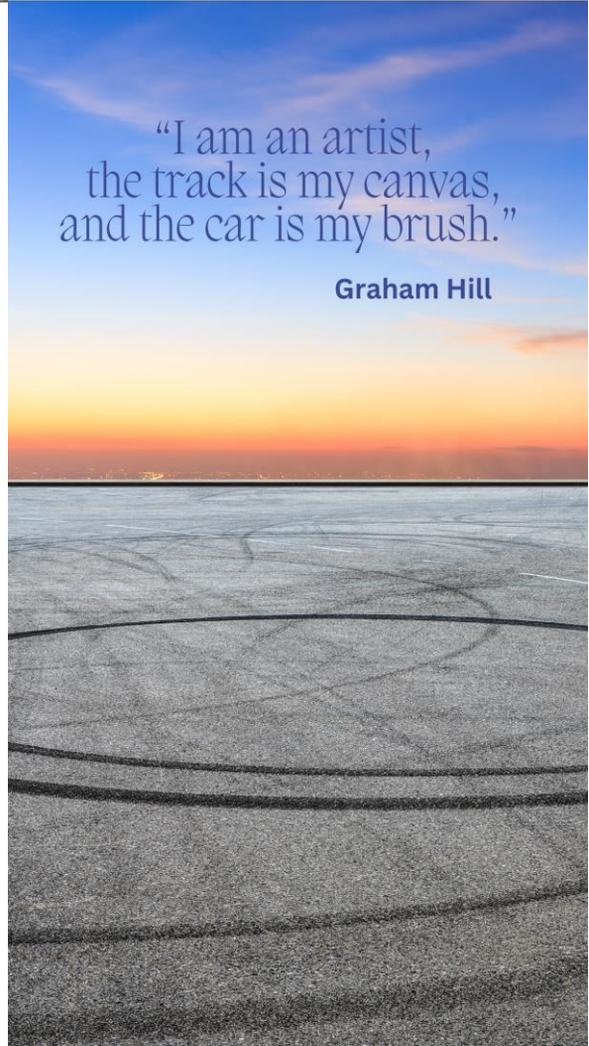
**ATTENTION!**  
DON'T READ THE  
SMALL LETTERS

NOW WE KNOW YOU'LL TAKE A RISK!  
IN RACING YOU SOMETIMES NEED TO DO WHAT  
OTHERS DON'T (OR WON'T) DO!

**Scott Spiewak** began auto crossing in 2015. After attending car shows and finding them a bit too benign for his competitive nature, he entered his first autocross in Phoenix and was hooked immediately. Scott reflects on his first autocross and how he drove the entire course in first gear! He tells of feeling great about his run only to learn his time was not remotely competitive. Scott improved his driving skills rapidly and went on to win the Novice class later that year. He attributes his rise to winning the very competitive CAM-T 2023 Spring Series to lots of seat time and focus on personal improvement as a driver. His current competition car is a 1980 Camaro which he has owned for 10 years. He does his own work on the Camaro. Some of the modifications to the car include a Detroit Speed front suspension, a 383 stoker Chevy small block, C5 Corvette front brakes with Baer pads in the rear. Scott is a great example of how to improve as a solo race driver over time. He stayed with a stock car during his initial years of competition, then moved on to modified cars as his driving skills improved. His patience, perseverance and having the mindset of being a "student of the autocross sport" have paid off and resulted in him becoming a strong local competitor. We glad to have Scott as a member of the PASR community and wish him the best of luck in the most competitive CAM-T group in seasons to come.

"I am an artist,  
the track is my canvas,  
and the car is my brush."

Graham Hill



# Tech Tip of the Month – Eye Health

Source: Asheville Eye Clinic

In solo racing a good well-tuned car is a must for a decent lap time outcome. As important as good equipment is the skill, preparation and fitness level of the driver. If we break down the necessary physical attributes needed for effective performance in solo racing short of good reaction time nothing is more important than good vision.

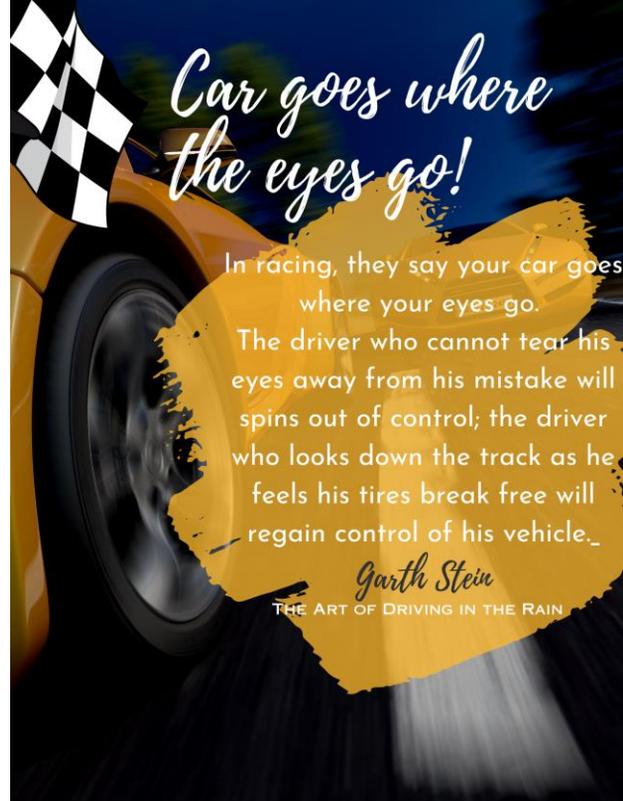
Mayo Clinic Eye and Nutrition experts offer the following lists to help you choose foods for better eye health:

**Vegetables:** Kale, collard greens, peppers, broccoli, sweet potato, spinach, peas, pumpkin, carrots and Swiss chard

**Fruits:** Peaches, blueberries, oranges, tangerines, mango, tomato, apricot, papaya, cantaloupe, honeydew, avocado and grapefruit

**Cautions:** Some of our everyday foods work against our vision. Sugary and highly processed foods are bad for your vision, including condiments, toppings, and dressing. Green vegetables does not have the same nutritional benefit if it ends up drowning in salad dressing. White breads and pasta that have either been processed or bleached virtually wipe out any real nutritional value. They do not supply any real sustenance for our bodies.

A good rule of thumb is when determining nutritional value think of a rainbow. If the color of your food is not in the spectrum of a rainbow, it probably does not have any real health benefits for our bodies, or our eyes, for that matter.



## Car goes where the eyes go!

In racing, they say your car goes where your eyes go.

The driver who cannot tear his eyes away from his mistake will spin out of control; the driver who looks down the track as he feels his tires break free will regain control of his vehicle.

*Garth Stein*

THE ART OF DRIVING IN THE RAIN

## DID YOU KNOW?

You become a better driver when you help other drivers!!



## "We're going to make history!"

– Carroll Shelby



# Spring Series Trophy Winner 2023

Congratulations go out to the following who trophied in their respective classes in the January – April 2023 Spring PASR solo series held at AMP.

Ladies	T1 Mindi Cross, T2 Jessie Bistras
Novice	T1 David Alter, T2 Staford Snow, T3 Ronald Herren, T4 Ben Hardesty
SPM	T1 Brian Peters, T2 Jason Bucki, T3, Doug Rowse, T4 Matthew Underhill, T5 Dave Scholtz
AS	T1 Ben Zukowski
CAM-C	T1 Jermaine LiDrazzah, T2 Patrick Sullivan
CAM-S	T1 Keith Crouse
Cam-T	T1 Scott Spiewak, T2 Michael Hitt, T3 Lance Hamilton, T4 Matthew Leon
CS	T1 Marchell Fletcher, T2 Aaron Skolnik
CSP	T1 Tim Bergstrom
DS	T1 Morgan Lee, T2 Tanner Nolen, T3 Christopher Simons
DSP	T1 Chris Steele
EM	T1 Kei Josephson
ES	T1 John Prieve
FS	T1 Craig Borger, T2 Dan Hawrylkiw
GS	T1 Bruce Benaglio
HS	T1 Mark Shaw
SS	T1 Steve Eymann
SSC	T1 Hayden Pirrera
SSM	T1 Dave Darick
SSP	T1 Kim Kemper
STH	T1 Sid Elorde
STR	T1 Larry Burrow
STS	T1 Kevin Rasmussen, T2 Dov Zazkis
STU	T1 Scott Jones
STX	T1 Ryan Harwell
XP	T1 John Harvell
XB	T1 Chris Marksmann
BM	T1 Chuck Voboril
BS	T1 Jonathan Herold
ESP	T1 Dennis Riehle
XA	T1 Jeff Gehring



# Happiness

(n.) A wide open road with  
no one around.

