

## Press On Regardless

POR, Boyne City, MI, Sept. 8-10, 2000

The 51<sup>st</sup> annual Press On Regardless rally was run out of Boyne City, Michigan again. This rally has some great history and tradition behind it. After the big noise from two years earlier, this rally got tamed down last year. That kinder, gentler version ("POR light") was not really up to the tradition of a rally called Press On Regardless. For 2000 things would return to normal. Average speeds were up, rougher roads were selected, and some sections were run at night. One of the best things to happen was the inclusion of a section that took the competitors into Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Bryan Murphy and I competed in the Vintage class again with the old rally Colt. We figured our chances to repeat, as winners would be pretty good. A lot had to do with the fact that there was only one other team entered in Vintage. Dick Foster and Bill Secrest came up from Kentucky in Bill's Datsun 240Z. When we saw them on the side of the road - before we reached the first control - we knew things would be in our favor. It turned out they were having fuel pick-up problems. Eventually they routed a couple of 10 foot lengths of fuel hose from the fuel filler neck (into the fuel tank) along the roofline of the car, down the "A" pillar and eventually to the fuel pump under the hood. These two black hoses were an interesting contrast against the pumpkin orange paint. The silver duct tape just added to the look. But at least they were getting fuel to the carbs! About half way through the first day they finally had to drop out. The front shocks had turned to mush and they couldn't take the pounding anymore.

We cruised to an easy win in the class and took 10<sup>th</sup> overall. The winners of POR had to be decided by a recalculation of one of the last legs of the rally. A tie existed between Parps/ Moran and Coughnour/ Andreini. After Jim Mickle rechecked that leg it was determined that Dave Parps and Rob Moran won the rally with a score of 68 points. The second place team of Coughnour and Andreini came home with a score of 70 points. A single point separated 3rd and 4th. Johnstonbaugh/ Hathcock edged out Mapplebeck and VonKaenal 114 to 115. In Limited, Shaffer and Fekete took the class win over Smiskol and Ward (175 to 196). Our Vintage class score of 215 would have given us 3<sup>rd</sup> in Limited, but we gladly accepted the Vintage trophies. Worden and Robinette won stock with 386 points.

After a mild POR in 1999 it was nice to see this rally return to its former glory. Some of the sections run in the Upper Peninsula included special stage roads from the old ProRally days. Among them were such names as Tin Shanty, Conner's Flats and BGDR. This last one gained infamy as "Big Gosh Darn Ruts" or "Bad Gosh Darn Road" (or something similar - I'm not too sure of the "Gosh Darn" part - this is, after all, a family paper). These roads are very wide today and would be too fast for inclusion in any

ProRally, but they were excellent, nonetheless. POR is a real gem of a rally - I hope it will continue for many years to come.



Here is our intrepid crew prior to the start of the 2000 POR. The three-piece band of Harvey/ Murphy and the olde Colt once again took the Vintage class. I have now become an "Ace". This was the fifth win for the Team Harco/ Dragon Lady Rally Colt in the Vintage class at POR. Photo by John Gingrich.

## Season Ending Autocrosses

CCM Champ #7, Warren, MI, Sept. 17, 2000

The autocross season starts to wind down in September each year. The last CCM event I could run was on the 17<sup>th</sup> of that month. The lot and course design did not suit the little Colt. Instead of being in the top five overall, I was outside the top ten. This did not stop me from taking the class win though. This continued a string of class wins that had remained unbroken, in the DCSCC series, since the beginning of the season (and likely dates back several years).

AROC Autocross, Southfield, MI, Sept. 24, 2000

The last AROC autocross of the season was not a champ series event. It did, however, attract most of the usual crowd. What made this better than most other AROC events was the fact that it was held at Lawrence Tech. The LTU lot is one of the larger lots in the Detroit area and has hosted many autocrosses over the years. The usual tight AROC course was laid out by John Hoard and gave me fits. I overdrove the course, and worse, the tires, on all my runs. Luckily, I was still able to win the class, but it was not an artistic success. Sharing the little Colt that day was John Griffith. Not only is John a co-worker but we were also on the same Formula SAE team at LTU in 1991.

Dec. '00 "Open Exhaust"

## New names to be added to POR® list of winners.

Dave Parps and Detroit Region member Rob Moran got their first win at the 52nd annual running of the Press on Regardless® Road Rally in the closest finish in the history of the event. It was a fight for the lead from the beginning and it wasn't until the final scores were tallied that they were sure that they had been able to pull off a win. Dave hails from Grafton, Wisconsin and drove his 2000 Subaru Outback to Michigan for the rally. His navigator, Rob Moran, is from Westland, Michigan. Second, only 1.2 seconds behind were Dan Coughnour from Dayton, Ohio and Joe Andreini from Grosse Pte., Michigan. Parps/Moran had a total error from perfect time of only 40.8 seconds. Considering that the roads used ranged from paved to deep sand logging trails, and everything in between, the scores are outstanding.

In the Limited Equipment Class, past winners Jim Shaffer and Jim Fekete from Franklin Village and Canton, Michigan won with less than two minutes of error from perfect time. John Smiskol from Western Springs, Illinois, and Harry Ward from Toledo Ohio were second, only 13 seconds behind, the same difference as in 1999.

The Vintage Class, for cars built before 1980 and using mechanical distance measuring and calculating equipment that was common in that era, was won by Scott Harvey Jr., and Bryan Murphy. Scott Jr. drove the same 1975 Dodge Colt that his dad, Scott Sr., campaigned when it was new. The only other car in the class had fuel system and suspension problems, which caused them to drop out of the event.

In the Stock Class, for cars without any special rally equipment, Detroit area competitors Richard Worden and Richard Robinette in their 1996 Saab, were the winners with less than four minutes of accumulated error. Local residents, John

Twichel and Kevin Bulow from Boyne City and Stanford respectively, who ran their first rally at POR last year and won the novice class, finished second in the stock this year, less than three minutes behind Worden/Robinette. Third, some 17 seconds back was the team of Fred Cochran from New Jersey and Steve Novatne from Pennsylvania in their Subaru Legacy.

This year's POR, headquartered for the second time in Boyne City, was run over some 560 miles of the best unpaved rally roads in the United States. In it's 52nd annual running, the POR attracted entries from 11 states, including four past winners. Long time rally supporter Brad Schade, owner of Mac Sam Specialties in Boyne City, provided the financial support that helped make the event the success that it was.

Credit for the great course has to go to Rallymasters Tom and Greg Woodside who spent a great amount of time a long way away from home looking for roads that would be fun and competitive without being car breakers.

I can't say enough to thank Bob Martin for his scoring. Not only did he hand out scores for the past section at scorecard pick-up points, at the noon break on Saturday he had up-to-date scores through the break before the competitors had to leave to start the last section of the rally. The final scores were done as soon as I was able to verify the actual location of control 20, which had been mis-located.

Mary and Jerry Shiloff, the registrars, not only did a great job of registration, but worked several controls (as many as they possibly could) each day as well as handling many other tasks. My sincere thanks go out to them also.



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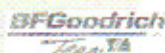
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Bruce Fisher and his son, Matt, as well as Kevin and Sara Essenberg deserve a vote of thanks for not only setting controls, but also pre-checking everything the weekend before the event.

What can I say about my wife Marianne? She was everywhere, doing everything that helped make the event happen, including taking photographs and working controls until we could get a couple of new crews trained. I couldn't possibly have done it without her support, not only the day of the event, but also in all the months leading up to the event.

Sincere thanks also go to the many control workers who took vacation time to make the trek up north and provide timing at the 56 checkpoints. In addition to those mentioned above, Orval and Pat Turley, Rick Shue, Bill Braund, Barb Steenken, Ed Maklenberg, Mark and Matt Bugeard, Mark Henderson, John Gingrich, John and Matt Huber, Pete Padden, Charlie Kapper, Mike Pinder, Roger Turpening, Margo Turpening (both from Boston). Also working were Rich and David Line who did sweep. A special thanks to our biggest supporter, Brad Schade and his Mac Sam Specialties company who paid for shirts for all the participants, Saturday's award dinner and the beautiful trophies. Also, special thanks to Terry Palmer who took time away from his business to be Safety Steward and course pre-checker. Last, but not least, I want to thank Chuck Shapiro for being my driver for course opening. He not only made all the times, he kept my car in one piece.

My very sincere thanks to you all. You helped make a memorable and wonderful event.

Jim Mickle, Chairman

## Final Results

POR-2000, September 8-9, 2000  
Detroit Region, SCCA

<u>Team</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>O/A</u>	<u>Class</u>
Dave Parps/Rob Moran	68	1	1E
Dan Coughnour/Joe Andreini	70	2	2E
Ron Johnsonbaugh/Jim Hathcock	114	3	3E
Fred Mapplebeck/Jack vonKaenel	115	4	4E
David Harkcom/Daniel Harkcom	120	5	5E
Al Tolle/Jeff Boris	144	6	6E
Randy Wittine/Les Talcott	166	7	7E
Jim Shaffer/Jim Fekete	175	8	1L
John Smiskol/Harry Ward	196	9	2L
Scott Harvey Jr./Bryan Murphy	215	10	1V
Richard Worden/Richard Robinette	386	11	1S
Steve Phillips/Paul Gilbert	591	12	3L
John Twitchel/Kevin Bulow	733	13	2S
Fred Cochran/Steve Novatne	1061	14	3S
James White/Jerry White	1326	15	4L
Kevin Kurth/Harold Hopkinson	1857	16	5L
Richard Foster/William Secrest	9556	17	2V

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