

Laps to Conquer M.S.

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A Charity Drive to End Multiple Sclerosis

December 2011

\$4.900 Donation Made to the National MS Society

My 25th consecutive One Lap of America contributed to adding \$4,900 for a total of \$175,000 “spare pocket change” collected for the National MS Society on the 2011 LCMS *drive to end multiple sclerosis*. With fewer chances for collecting this year than last, LCMS found that folks still had some spare pocket change.

The LCMS principles—me, Fay Teal, primary-progressive MS, and my husband, David Teal—started this year’s *drive to end MS* by looking for a car to use for the One Lap of America April 29 – May 7. Reg Noble, a long-time 1 Lapper, offered LCMS the use of one of his three 1 Lap cars—a 2006 Audi A4 Quattro Turbo Wagon, it was roomy and fast. LCMS said “Thank you”. It would meet the LCMS team at the South Bend, IN, 1 Lap start.

My son, Wayne Hickman, rejoined the LCMS team. The Audi met us at 1 Lap registration the day before the start. David and Wayne “dressed” the Audi—lots of decals—then figured out how to load me and our gear. I rode lying down because of a pressure wound. I asked for a pillow, the tool box was offered; I persisted and finally got a pillow.

It was a year of highs and lows for the LCMS team. LCMS was the highest finishing of the Mid Priced Sedan class—14th overall of the 73 cars running!—at the Wet Skidpad. We knew we couldn’t keep on finishing events that high but my guys didn’t expect the lows that followed.

Among the highs were family and friends visiting the event. David’s son-in-law, Brock Yates, Jr, administers the 1 Lap; his wife is David’s daughter Cyndy and their daughter is Leda. Cyndy & Leda were at the 1 Lap registration and start; then followed it until Brock left Summit Point, WV, Sunday afternoon. My daughter, Rachel—’97 & ’98 1 Lap teammate—and her sons Caellan and Tristan visited there, too. Our friends, the Wantlands & Tolands visited. Unloading and loading me entertained all of them—Rachel was jealous, she wished we had a “grocery getter” station wagon in ’98.

The lows were spread evenly along the way. The first was the Autocross after the Skidpad. David—a past Autocross champion—didn’t study the course map! Others did and scored better. A mechanical gremlin caused a did-not-finish (David’s first in 22 years) score at Carolina Motorsports Park! The Audi was easily fixed.

A high followed when David’s daughter Aimee brought her daughters Abby and Sami to the BMW Performance Center to watch “Grandpop race”. Sami said he didn’t go fast enough! This was the last of the visits by our family and friends. From South Carolina back to South Bend, it was us, the two other Noble cars and 70 fellow 1Lap cars.

More highs and lows followed in Florida. At Daytona Int’l Speedway, David drove the fastest he ever raced in a car—149 miles-per-hour. Then Wayne was last in both Gainesville Raceway drag races.

At Circuit Grand Bayou, LA—formally No Problem Raceway—David had a 24th overall finish. Then we traveled thru parts of the country that had all the severe weather this year. We passed by tornado damage on the way to 32nd overall finishes at Barber Motorsports Park, AL. We saw the flooding as we drove to Autobahn Country Club, IL, for a 30th overall finish.

We returned to South Bend for the last event, the dry Skidpad where David placed 29th overall. The Awards Banquet followed; the 3 Reg Noble teams sat together.

By the time the Awards started, we knew our Audi was 30th overall and 4th of the 11 Mid Priced Sedans. David and Wayne wanted a better finish for my 25th, but I was just glad that they kept reloading me when we were done at the tracks.

Midway through the awards presentation, emcee Brock paused to present a special award. One Lap of America presented to me for my 25 years as a 1 Lap competitor, a mantle clock, and a bottle of champagne. Everyone stood to applaud. I said “I was the primary driver when I started competing; now I’m excess baggage!”

We shared the champagne with our “Noble” tablemates; Reg Noble and Eric Curran in the Porsche who were 35th overall; Bill Unwin and Dwight Kelly in the VW who were 8th overall.

It was a great 25th 1 Lap for me. Being part of the Noble team, renewing old and making new friends, but regrettably, I must stop trying to win a 1 Lap, my body already did. 1 Lappers will drive on without me and I will miss them. Thank you to everyone for helping LCMS.

LCMS was the charity for two SCCA race events. In June at the South Jersey Region National at NJMP and at the August Tri Region National at Pocono International Raceway, *donations to end MS* were collected.

MS still exists, so LCMS will keep increasing MS awareness through motorsports.

Merry Christmas to Everyone!
We’ll see you somewhere down the road!



Thank you, to the Sponsors who fuel the drive to end MS:**Reg Noble**, Ontario, Canada**Dominion Title Services, Inc.** Vineland, N.J. 856.691.6783**Sunoco Race Fuels**, Marcus Hook, PA 800.722.3427**Matt's Automotive Service**, Gloucester, NJ 856.456.0035 **Evolution Graphics**, cdryden@evo-graphics.com**Dutch Dryden** **Stephen Wasley** **Tom Smith** **Meg Meyer** **Eric Harding** **Westbrook-RockHill Foundation****Thank you, to the Donors to the Drive & the Friends of LCMS:**

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Memoriam:

Richard "Dick" Smith
 Brian & Val Heun

David worked Start/Finish for events all season, and raced at Watkins Glen & NJMP Lightning in October.
 David's granddaughters; Abby, 9 in 3rd, Sami, 7 & Leda, 6 ½, in 1st, charm us.
 Fay's grandsons; Dylan, 20 is in college, Caelan, 12 in 6th grade, & Tristan, 8 in 3rd, entertain us.

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