

Laps to Conquer M.S.

www.lapstoconquerms.org

A Charity Drive to End Multiple Sclerosis

December 2016

\$6,000 Donation Made to the National MS Society

Laps to Conquer MS donated **\$6,000** to the National MS Society from the shortened 2016 *drive to end multiple sclerosis*. LCMS has collected about **\$206,500** of “spare pocket change” for the NMSS since 1989.

The 2016 LCMS schedule was short because no event was at Pocono Int'l Raceway. LCMS attended most of the South Jersey Region, Sports Car Club of America—SJR, SCCA—race events at the New Jersey Motorsports Park. The names given to SJR events at NJMP relate to the legend of the Jersey Devil and/or the WWII planes built there. David Teal was the Chief Starter for most of the events. The Chief Starter's job is to recruit and organize the Start/Finish staff. *Donations to end MS* were collected at one of this year's events.

Race weekends aren't all work. At lunch, dinner and during evenings folks socialize. If the weather is bad, folks visit in the Teal's RV—Chief. Most days Fay Teal stays in Chief with a scanner to hear what happens on course and her Kindle books to read—mostly history.

April 2nd – 3rd Drivers' School started the SJR racing season. David and his fellow starters were busy putting the drivers through various race procedures and warming themselves during the blowing, cold breezes.

April 23rd LCMS attended the “Devil in the Dark”, the 12-hour race that starts at noon and ends at midnight. 37 cars with their 2+ driver teams started. At midnight only a few of the cars were not running when the checkered flag waved.

June 3rd – 5th The “Lightning Challenge” moved back to the Lightning circuit this year. David worked Start for the event. Almost 170 cars spread over 8 race groups took to the track. Each group qualified and had 2 races—and you readers think race workers have it easy.

July 22nd – 24th LCMS was the event charity for the “Jersey Devil Majors” Race held on the Thunderbolt circuit. Over 160 drivers entered to race. But LCMS' David and Fay Teal did not attend to suffer through the weekend's heat. As Chief got half-way there, a rental truck pulling out from a side road hit him! Chief was too hurt to get to the track. Fay's kids, Wayne Hickman and

Rachel Watson, rescued them. Wayne took David and Fay home; Rachel got things needed for the race weekend to the track. The many *friends of LCMS* at the track, carried on in the heat without them. During the lunch breaks Saturday and Sunday, Drive-Arounds were held. With a pace car leading, folks—crew, workers, spectators—drove their street cars on the track. Before going onto the track, each car had rules explained—no squealing tires, no passing the pace or other cars—and was asked to donate to LCMS. They gave **\$1,227** of *spare pocket change* to help end MS.

August 13th & 14th It was still hot for “Summer Thunder” held on the Thunderbolt circuit. Chief came home for a week to take David and Fay to the event. David was Chief Starter for the event that had 126 racers over nine race groups.

September was a quiet month. David was Starter at NJMP-Lightning for the Vintage Racing Group.

October 24th & 25th was the last race at NJMP for SCCA this year. David and SJR member Nick DiMeo both drove Nick's BMW. The car can run in 3 race classes but 2 of those ran in the same race group. Nick and David chose which group each would race in. The car must not be over-revved; David did it twice. The car raced only 1 day giving each their required race to get next year's license. David went to the Starters stand; Nick packed to take the car home—no photos were taken. So LCMS had no card for this year!

Many Friends of LCMS carried graphics on their cars in SCCA races. Tom Smith and John Hainsworth, after many race Wins, also raced in the SCCA National Runoffs held at the Mid-Ohio Raceway. We thank them and many others for their efforts.

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

Thank You Everyone!
Have a
Very Merry Christmas!

Thank you, to the Friends of LCMS who fuel the drive to end MS:

THE COUNTRY PRESS

Tom Smith Meg Meyer Eric Harding

Thank you, to the Donors to the Drive:

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In Honor of:

Val & Brian Heun
Theo & Laura vonWallmenich, III

David's granddaughters: Abby, 14, in 8th grade and Sami, 12, & Leda, 11½, in 6th grade are amazing girls.

Fay's grandsons: Dylan, 25, is working; Caelan, 17, in 11th grade, & Tristan, 13, in 8th grade are handsome guys.

Laps to Conquer M.S., Inc. www.lapstoconquerms.org

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