



Root Beer Float

**Root Beer and
Checker Club**
Established 1944
September 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

Birthdays
Club/Other News
Event Previews
Blue Claws
Day at the Races
Member News
Business Bulletin Bd.
Cartoons of the Month

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A publication of the

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Checker Club**

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Issue 203

President's Message

The Labor Day holiday is quickly receding in our rear view mirrors. Where did the summer go? I hope Route Beer and Checker members enjoyed their summer time at the Jersey Shore. Thankfully, there was no draught and water restrictions like a year ago, as evident by our green lawns.

Our Root Beer and Checker Club had a busy summer, with many fun activities that you can read about in this issue of the Float. In August, we had an enjoyable, if not very profitable, Day at The Races at Monmouth Park, and we enjoyed a Blue Claws baseball game that defied weather predictions for a rainy evening.

But unfortunately, the Fall Party at the Rumson Boat House **has been cancelled**, due to lack of members signing up. This is very disappointing to me personally, since the Rumson Boat House is such a great venue for our Fall Party. But it's even more disappointing considering the amount of our volunteer time that was spent organizing this event. Maybe it came too early after Labor Day, and/or the price increased too much? The Root Beer Board would like to know your opinions about having such social gatherings going forward. Stay tuned for a survey that we are preparing to get your feedbacks and suggestions.

But wait, there's more! Our Holiday Party is schedule for Wednesday, December 13 at the Beacon Hill Country Club. The details will be announced soon. I would encourage you to put this on your calendars and send in your checks, the earlier the better, so we can make this a festive social event for our members and their guests during the Holiday Season.

Upcoming RBCC events include seeing Hair at Two River Theater on Sunday, October 15, and our annual Fall cruise up the Hudson to see the Army Football game at West Point on Saturday October 28. And also cycling every Thursday at Sandy Hook with lunch, of course.

I would express my sincere appreciation of our club's volunteers and Board members who give generously of their time, talents, and energy to keep the Root Beer and Checker Club a great organization that represents the outstanding business and professional people of the community. As it says on our website, "let's have lunch sometime!"

Rich Vodhanel



Club News



**Rich and Nancy Vodhanel
Ballroom Dancing !**



August's Birthday Cake

Photo, Jim Powers
with Paul's camera

CARE COMMITTEE

Note, that if anyone should know of a fellow member being ill, incapacitated or unfortunately deceased, please let one of the Board members know so that as a club we can get in touch by phone call, get well/sympathy card, or hospital/nursing home visit.

Health News - As per our Dr. Tim Sullivan, COVID is still out there. Consider getting booster (no longer free).

RB&CC Annual Membership dues and other payments

Due to some issues not everyone has received the latest invoice so please send in a check for the annul dues if you haven't already done so !

In order to clarify the process and maintain sound fiscal financial policy please note that the RB&CC Board of Directors has agreed to the following: **Annual membership dues are \$120 due July 1st with invoices being emailed in June.** Payments for luncheons are due monthly. Payments for special events such as Spring, Fall and Christmas/Holiday parties are due in advance of the dates involved.

Club News (cont.)

Our Birthdays This Month

Hunter Corbin	6	Gary Boyd	14	Terry Flynn	16
Paul Baeri	19	Gene Ritchie	19	Ken Gahre	20

August's Birthdays Cake - Bahr's Tuesday, September 19th

Fall Cocktail Party CANCELLED

~~Boat House at the Rumson Golf and Country Club~~

~~September 13th - \$78 p/p member and guest - Starts at 6 pm~~

Bill Bennett - **The Back Nine** - October 3rd
(Not necessarily about golf)

Paul Lieberman - **Cyber Security** - October 10th

Two River Theater Production of Hair - October 15th - 3 pm
(Further details below)

Fall Football - Saturday, October 28th

Army Black Knights vs Umass Minutemen at West Point, NY
(Details on the next page)

Holiday Party, Beacon Hill Golf and Country Club - December 13th

\$55 p/p member and guest - Details to follow.

Speakers in the works - Details to follow

Kim Guadagno - Sisters of Charity in Asbury Park

John Barrows - Fair Haven inventor

KAL - Cartoonist for Economist

FYI - If anyone is having a problem with transportation to our lunches or special events, please let Jim Powers (seamuspowers@yahoo.com) know.

Note - Emails from Dona Topinka are your RB&CC invoices !

Club News (cont.)

How about some Fall Football this year?

Travel to West Point on Saturday October 28, 2023 to see:

**Army Black Knights vs UMass
Minuteman**

**If interested contact Lew Anderson at lganderson@att.net
and/or sign up at lunch.**

About the trip:

Ticket— \$130 for game ticket and round trip boat ticket (boat only \$85)

Leave Atlantic Highlands at 8 am on Sat Oct 28.

Sit in the end zone with other RBCC people.

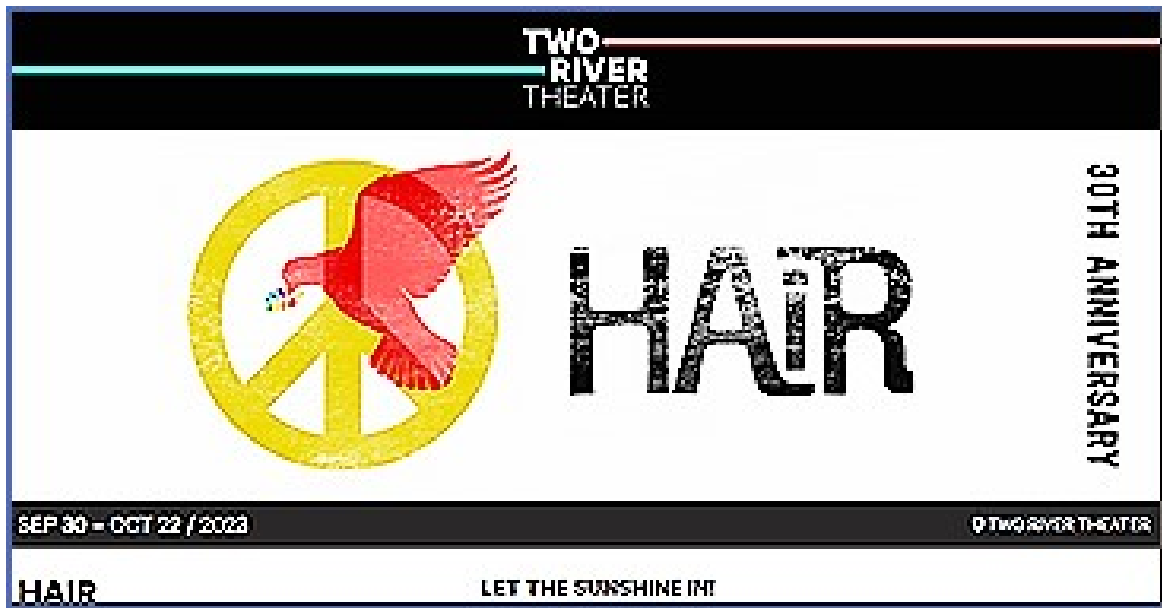
Shuttle bus from West Point Dock to Michie Stadium.

Scenic boat trip up Hudson River to West Point and back to Atlantic Highlands.

Return home after the game.

I will pass a sign up sheet at lunch (or give me a call or send email)

Club News (cont.)



Let the sunshine in! During the Summer of Love, a group of young Americans dream of a beautiful future filled with harmony and understanding. The groundbreaking rock musical includes the Grammy Award™-winning hits “Aquarius,” “Good Morning Starshine,” and the title song’s ode to long, brilliant, beautiful “Hair!” Opening Two River Theater’s 30th anniversary season, Director James Vásquez (Old Globe Resident Artist, *American Mariachi*) and choreographer Mayte Natalio (*Love in Hate Nation*) bring their 2021 staging from the Old Globe Theatre, which was hailed as “A first-class production. A *Hair* to seek out (*San Diego Story*).” Peace now, freedom now, *Hair* now .

~~Club members who are interested in getting tickets should be aware that using the word “Checker” will give them a discount which will show up when you reach the payment page.~~

The Board chose the **October 15th** performance at **3:00 pm** as a date we could join together. Members are responsible for purchasing their own tickets.

The discount deadline 8/15 has passed !

Blue Claws Game—August 15 (Jim Powers)

The weather forecast was intimidating—thunderstorms and high winds. Yet an intrepid group of seven Checkers decided to brave the elements—besides we paid for the tickets. Aside from a sprinkle in the thrrd inning, the skies withheld their torrent and blessed us with a cooling breeze. The seats in section 109 were excellent. And the game never stopped. Unfortunately the Blue Claws never really got started. At the end of nine innings they lost 2 to 1. Here are some photos. Two of our guys sat behind the plate to get a great view of the action. They are missing in the photo. These players look so young!



Thanks to Frank Seggio for this timely shot of the score board announcement of our club.



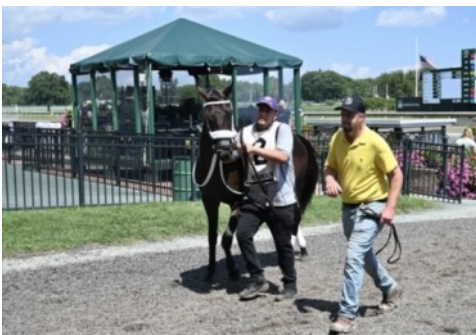
RBCC's Day at the Races - August 13th - Rich Vodhanel

We had **22 eager racing enthusiasts** gather at Monmouth Park to enjoy the races, and maybe place a few wagers. We enjoyed the races while socializing and having lunch in the Dining Club. I like to pick horses with clever names. My favorite was a horse called Two's A Crowd. Living up to its name, that horse was scratched because it threw off its jockey and was running solo around the track before post time. You can't make that up!

I would like to thank **Charlie Parr** who shared his experience organizing this event for many previous seasons. And thanks to **Paul Hester** who took photos of our fun Day at The Races.



RBCC's Day at the Races - August 13th - Rich Vodhanel (cont.)



Birthday Boys - 8/15 - Paul Hester !



L - R

Walter Rapp

Paul Hester

Guy Albanese



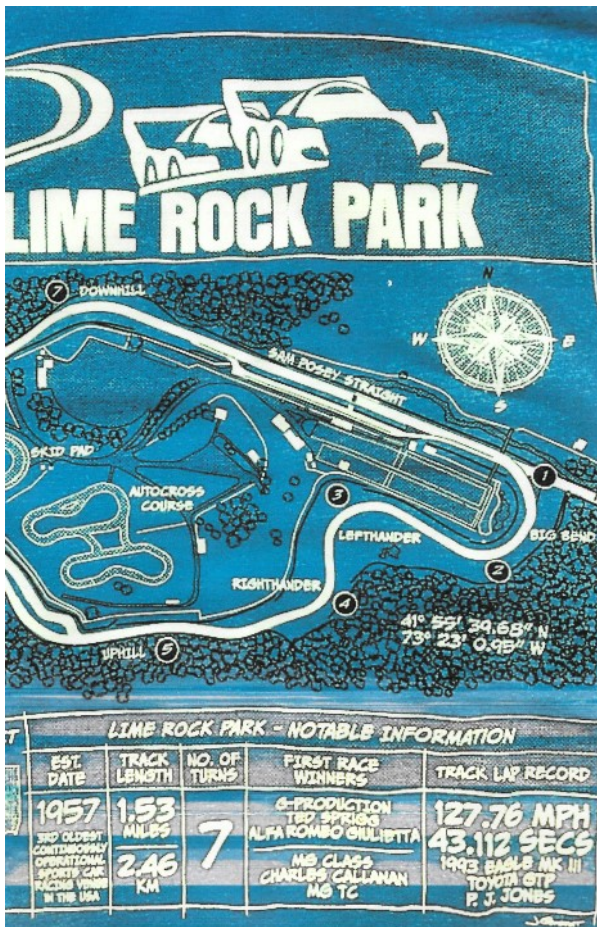
Lew and Scott Anderson - Lime Rock Park, CT - 8/4

Son Scott and I went up for a “**Tapas Day**” driving session on August 4. (I didn’t know, but “Tapas” is Spanish for an “appetizer or sample”.) It’s a 2-hour session of driving your own car on the racetrack at Lime Rock. No helmets or tech inspections required.

Highlights:

- 1) You drive your own car under supervision of a track supplied instructor or leader along with a helper.
- 2) Typical group size is 10 cars. Ours was 8, two people cancelled probably due to rain in the forecast that day. Cars were Scott and I in our two 911s, BMW 2dr sedan, Mercedes sedan, Volvo station wagon, Mustang, Kia, Miata.
- 3) Each driver is given a 2-way radio for listening to the instructor. (no transmitting)
- 4) The first hour is spent on a smaller section of the autocross course.
 - A. 2 cars are on the course at one time. Each group had 3 sessions of about 4 or 5 laps each.
 - B. The instructor stands in the middle of the course and coaches you over the radio.
(eg “turn in now,” “brake harder,” “go faster” etc.)
- 5) The second hour is on the road racing course.
 - A. Lead/follow with the instructor in the lead car, talking to you on the radio.
 - B. Top speed is limited to approximately 95 mph I would guess.
 - C. The lead car behind the instructor drops back to the end of the line each lap so everyone gets a chance to be right behind the instructor.

One of these sessions is certainly not a substitute for a day of driver education, but in my case, it was a good way for an old man to show that he can find his way around a race course. I did driver education several times a year for 20 years with the last time in 2006. I really enjoyed the experience, brief as it was. You can find more information on the Lime Rock Park website.



GET BEHIND THE WHEEL AND DRIVE

Lime Rock Park is the place in the Northeast to get out and drive. Not only is journey extraordinary, but once you're here, there are so many ways to get in on the driving fun.

TRACK TAPAS – A two-hour program that allows participants the opportunity to experience both the FCP Euro Proving Grounds and the 1.5-mile road racing course in their own car.

AUTOCROSS LAPPING – Drive your street car, racecar or rented vehicle on the FCP Euro Proving Grounds in our Summer Autocross program.

Lew and Scott Anderson - Lime Rock Park, CT - 8/4 (cont.)



Birthdays at the Beach - 8/28 - Bill Tice !

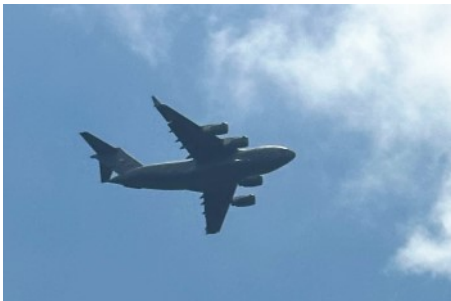
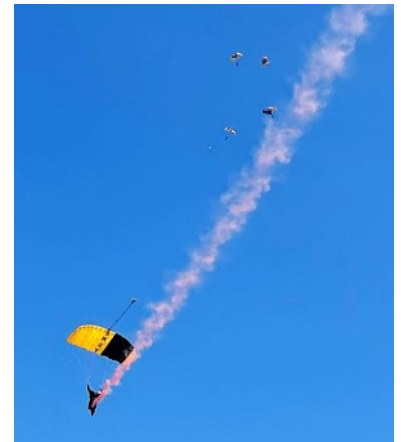
On Sunday August 27th, Lynne and I enjoyed a family gathering on Manasquan Beach celebrating our son Chris' birthday along with the birthdays of his twin sons Austin and Brody. A perfect day and a little flying of the kite!



Atlantic City Airshow - August 16th - Bill Tice

Over the last few years son Bill, friend Moe, and I have attended the Atlantic City Airshow. This year we set up shop along with about six hundred of our closest aviation enthusiast friends. We were too comfortable to get better photo angles so next year I'll have to break down and actually bring my camera instead of just using my cell phone. One of the transport planes was from the German Luftwaffe (Snoopy and the Red Baron were nowhere in sight). The highlights of the day were the displays put on by the two P-51 Mustangs and the Harrier. The Mustangs did their entire routine about 15 feet apart, some skill set there!

The Harrier hovered on it's jet exhaust. We left before the delayed Thunderbird display.



Max Lieberman online photo



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*We all long for
smooth sailing.*



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Songs of Martin Torbert 

Recorded by the artist "Fezziwhig" available on the Web at:
Spotify/Apple Music/I-Tunes/YouTube/Amazon Music/Deezer/ReverbNation/Etc.

Google: **Fezziwhig**

sensibleshoesmusic@yahoo.com



Oceanportphotos@gmail.com
732-963-7628

**Hats ! We've got Hats !
Thanks to Terry Flynn
for making this happen !**

**\$22 each billed through
monthly invoices.**

***Cartoons
of the
Month !***



YOU'VE BEEN SCROLLING
FOR 40 MINUTES WITHOUT
READING ANYTHING
PROPERLY - GO STRAIGHT
TO BED.

YOU'RE NOT MY DAD, YOU
PIECE OF AI GARBAGE!

THE ROOT OF THE 2050 WAR BETWEEN
HUMANS AND MACHINES

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I'M STYLISH AND
FAST, YET... I STILL
ENVY THE SOUND
OF A V8...

ABSOLUTELY...

SELF-DRIVING AI CARS CHATTING
AT THE CHARGING STATION

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