

The Results are In:

Space Coast Takes Three AX Trophies from Florida Citrus

By David O'Neal

The season finale for the Florida Citrus Region (FCR) 2008 Autocross Series was held on Sunday, November 16th at the Lake County Public Safety facilities in Tavares. The 3rd *Annual Ladies Day AX* attracted a large crowd that was divided into three run groups – one exclusively for the ladies. Fourteen Space Coast Region (SPC) representatives were in attendance, including six competing in the ladies division: **Sue Pachaidee** & Blake Blakely, Kevin & **Rita Brackett** with niece **Jamie Everett**, John & **Verena Faure**, Andre & **Cheryl Martineau**, Perry & **Mary Lou Stewart**, Kevin Duffy, Tom Gorsuch, Michael Masters and me.

Autocross involves timed runs through a course defined by traffic cones and is usually staged in a large parking lot. Drivers get between six and eight runs through the course; penalty time is added for displacing cones during a run; only the best time is scored. Cars are assigned to classes based upon model and modifications, if any. Points are awarded based upon the fastest times in each class; 10 points for 1st, 8 points for 2nd, 6 points for 3rd, 4 points for 4th; all drivers receive a minimum of 2 points for competing. At the end of the year, the best six scores from the eight AX events are totaled to determine the season champions in each class.



As with last year, the ladies posted some of the quickest times of the day and continued to reset fastest lap with each successive run. In the end, FCR's Anne Del Villano captured the season title in the hotly-contested SL Class. SPC's Cheryl Martineau tied for second with FCR's Genie Evers and Lynn West. Rita & Kevin Brackett's black Audi R8 *entertained* the masses during several "fun runs". A cone at the final turn was eventually

named after Kevin before the conclusion of the event.



Tom Gorsuch won the 3rd place season trophy in Class P2 in his 944. I managed two milestones during the day; the first: securing the 2nd place season trophy in Class S1 behind FCR's Kevin Abel. The second: collecting EIGHT cones in a single run by *overcooking* the final turn – another season record. FCR's Autocross Chair, Bert Del Villano awarded three season trophies, the first ever that SPC from FCR, at SPC's Holiday Party.

WE NEED YOU. The 2009 AX season begins on Sunday, January 4th; the second event is set for Sunday, March 1st. Midway through the season, FCR versus SPC in an AX Challenge; this year we won one of the classes for the very first time. Email me at doneal@cwisdom.com with any questions or for detailed directions to the AX site.