

AMERICAN RALLY



American Rally at the Tricky Triangle

BY CATHY POSTON

American Rally-Cross took on the Tricky Triangle or better known as Pocono Speedway on Saturday, October 26, 2013. The team of Gary DeMasi, Ray Morales and John Concha with sponsors JSC Speed, DAD's Performance, Driven, Murphy's Loft, and Susquehanna Motorsports, a list of volunteers across all spectrum's of racing, and a new charity that will benefit from the day of racing, Rally F.A.S.T. put on one amazing day of racing.

Some might think, Rally-Cross at Pocono? Pocono is NASCAR and Indy-Car racing, not Rally. Well, that has changed.

Rally racing originally started in Europe but has since spread throughout the world. The X Games made Rally-Cross popular in the States when they added it to the games in 2010 under the name SuperRally in 2010 featuring Tanner Foust, Travis Pastrana and others.

Gary, Ray, John and the other volunteers put out the word that they wanted to keep racing after trying to hold their events at NJMP (New Jersey Motorsports Park) like they did in previous years under their former name, Grass Roots Rally Cross, however, that was just not to be. If you have followed this group, you will remember that Rally-America came to NJMP in 2012 and was originally supposed to be there for four rounds of racing, but after the first two rounds Rally-America cancelled the remaining two at the last minute. The drivers banded together and held their own event at NJMP for the fans as well as for themselves on what would have been the third round with the help of the loyal sponsors. Since then, the drivers and sponsors have been trying to find a venue to race, so why not Pocono Raceway.

Saturday, the 26th of October was extremely bitter cold and windy but that did not stop the racers, volunteers or the fans from showing up to race hard or cheer on every driver. The day was full of excitement not only for those who had never been to Pocono Raceway before, but imagine the thrill for the Rally drivers being able to actually drive on the Tricky Triangle...

The course was unique and challenging but every driver went out and gave it their all on every lap no matter if it was practice, qualifying or a heat race let alone the actual race. Everyone who participated in the inaugural American Rally-Cross Race 2013 at Pocono Speedway was a Winner, all ten drivers so there will be no one listed here. Yes of course there were actual winners, but I do not plan on listing them because everyone drove hard and gave it their all and Gary DeMasi mapped out a great course for everyone to run, so, like I said, everyone is a winner who participated.

To keep up to date on American Rally-Cross, please check their website at: <http://www.americanrally-cross.com>

Now everyone needs to sit back and wait to see what American Rally-Cross has up their sleeve for their next event. Can they possibly top the inaugural event that just took place at Pocono Speedway? Time will certainly tell. ■

PHOTOS BY CATHY POSTON

