

MADD's Shifting Gears Road Rally and Car Show, October 14, 2006



We had a small contingent representing the club on a day under threat of bad weather. We volunteered to man an SCCA rally checkpoint on behalf of MADD. Larry Vaughn's SL65 and DJ de Jesus' 250SE were entered in the car show held at the Billy Bob's Texas parking lot. New member Jim Hannon volunteered to tend to our cars while the rest of us did our rally duties - his 280SL (r107) was not entered because it was getting its top replaced. We then took off in Cecile de Jesus' E500 for the rally checkpoint. We could not participate in the rally itself because of our duties, which the organizers said required 3-4 people to man, and this was all the manpower we had - other members could not join us because of the bad weather forecasted this day.

Sure enough, in our absence, the sky let loose with a barrage of rain, and poor Jim had to hustle to raise our tops before the interiors got soaked. Due to the intermittent downpours, we had to wipe down the cars twice in one day, not to mention cleaning them the previous night. Jim twice had to put our tops up (it took longer for the 250SE's manually operated top, and windows). It was shaping up to be a really bad day. Finally, it was awards time, and we were not expecting any honors for our club due to our small representation competing with the domestics and a particularly strong presence of souped-up Japanese cars loaded with bling. Well, we were wrong.

Larry won the grand prize drawing - a set of Enkei racing wheels of his choice, which he really had his eye on because of his sports car track hobby. Also, DJ's 250SE won the MADD's Choice award. It was especially nice to gain some recognition for our club in a non-MBCA event while supporting a worthy cause. Of course, it rained again on our way home.











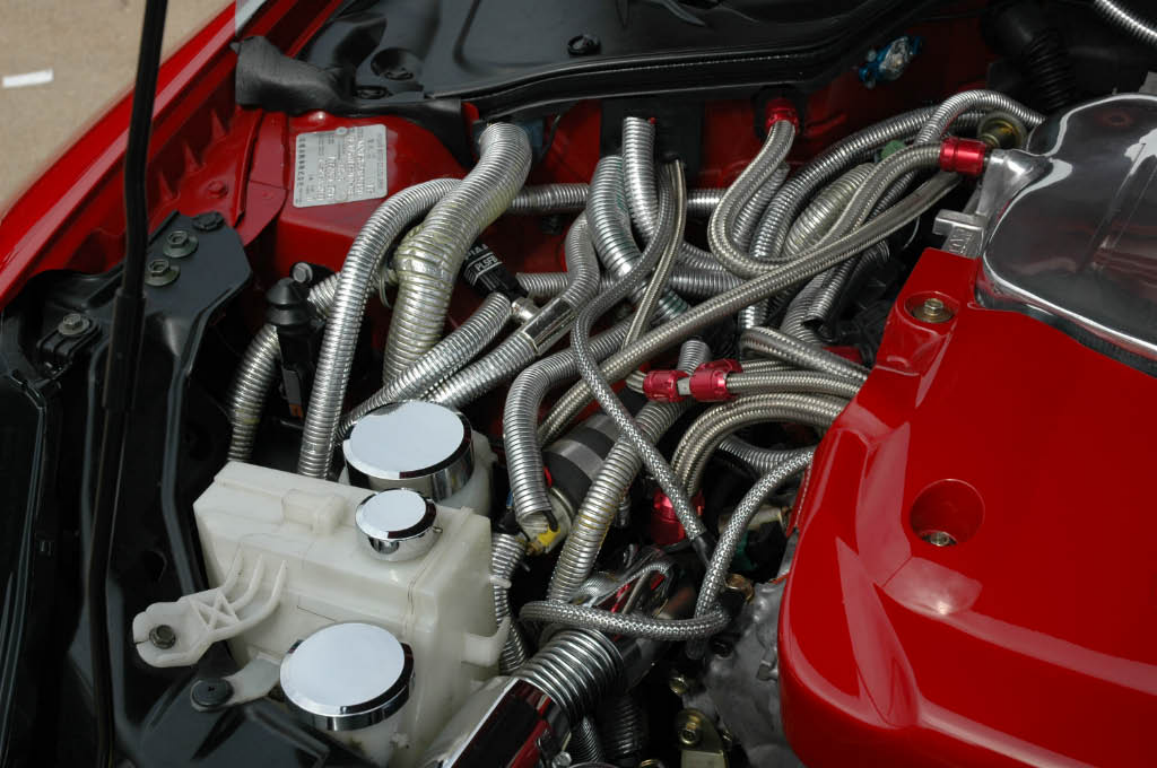












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