

CVAR 17th Annual Marvelous May Races

Eagles Canyon Raceway, TX May 16-18, 2008

photo by Don Gwynne

#914 Brant Mcclung, Porsche 914/6; #631 Thomas Murphy, Jaguar XKE.

-story by Don Gwynne

CVAR's second event at Eagles Canyon Raceway was held in beautiful May weather, with puffy clouds over a clear blue sky. Umbrellas were popular items on the formula car grids for protection against the bright Texas sun.

During Friday's "test and tune" day, a group of Formula Vee drivers served a free lunch to all. Group 3's Team Geezer stepped up to provide gratis hot dogs and condiments for all CVAR competitors, crew, corner workers, and officials. Because last November at TWS a Geezer was awarded the AGITATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD, Team Geezer is eager to change their image. They asked to be known henceforth as "Hot Dogs" (the title currently given to most Group 1 drivers) or "the best of the wurst". The esprit d'corps of these CVAR Group 3 drivers is noteworthy.

A special ceremony honored Grover Maurer, who decided at age 77 that it was time to leave the racing to a younger crowd.

Grover has been a beloved fixture at CVAR races for years, driving his green #77 MG Midget in SFP (Spec) class. Grover's entire family came out to wish him well on his farewell weekend. He vowed to remain involved in future CVAR vintage events, just not as a driver.

Rob Ludlow's "barn find" 1957 Corvette made a welcome appearance, even though it was plagued all weekend with minor teething problems. This 283 cubic inch Corvette was initially owned and raced by Bud Ogle, and later was owned and raced by Rob Ludlow from 1975 through 1986. In 1986, an engine failure at Hallett, near Tulsa, OK, resulted in Rob putting his Corvette up on blocks in his own barn.

Twenty-two years later, he is resurrecting the car at Brad Balles' Alpha Garage facility, and Eagles Canyon was its first outing. Make no mistake, this is no over-restored princess more suitable for museum display; this is a real war horse, still bearing old scars. It was a treat for everyone to see this historic SCCA race car gradually coming alive again. CVAR's tech

inspector balked, however, at letting Rob onto the track shod with the same tires as that day in 1986 when his engine failed at Hallett (good job, David Griffith!).

In the true CVAR spirit, fellow racers stepped forward with a set of suitable tires, and Rob was good to go for the weekend. Unfortunately, a series of minor gremlins kept him from getting in very many good laps, but it was a beginning, and fun to watch. Brad loaned Rob the Alpha Garage A40 Sedan so that Rob could complete his weekend on track.

Another interesting car seen at Eagles Canyon was trailered all the way from Springfield, Missouri, by its owner/driver, Forrest Tindall. His metallic blue #17 Lola Mk1 contains quite a few pieces and parts from an even earlier Lola BR1 he once owned. That car is now on display in a UK museum.

Forrest said that the early design Weber sidedraft carbs on #17's 1500cc Ford non-crossflow engine originally came from an Aston Martin.

Easily the fastest closed-wheel car of the weekend was Sam LeComte's red 1970 FIA

Camaro. This awesome car has an extensive racing history, mostly in Mexico. It has always been a race car, and was raced extensively in Mexico from 1970 through 1982. Gene Felton restored and raced this SVRA Medallion car from 1986 to 1996. Sam LeComte bought it two years ago. 3R Racing in Denver set up the suspension, and did it well, judging from its blistering on-track performance.

Sam has posted wins driving this car at the HSR Rolex at Daytona two years ago, at Miller last year, and at the Road Atlanta Mitty just a month ago. It is powered by a 350 cubic inch small block Chevy with downdraft Kinsler fuel injection. In Saturday's Group 1 race, Sam took the overall win and the FIA class-win the best time posted by a closed wheel car all weekend, 1:57.292, for a 76.7 mph average around the 2.5 mile Eagles Canyon course. Saturday evening's free Italian dinner for everyone was thanks to the generosity of Sam and his family. Unfortunately, mechanical problems cropped up during the Sunday points race, and Sam was DNF on Sunday afternoon.

A medium-sized CVAR Group 2 field (13 FP, 6 EP, and 2 CS) started the first points race on Sunday afternoon.

Twenty minutes later, Herb Hilton took the overall win and the FP win driving his red and white #02 MG Midget. Kurt Gauthier's green and yellow #572 MG Midget crossed the line only four seconds behind the winner to take second overall and second in FP, rewarding his long tow from Boyce, LA.

John Hamilton, driving his orange #80 "Great Pumpkin" MGB, led CVAR President George Curl's blue #40 MGB to the EP class win, finishing fifth and seventh overall, respectively. John makes the long tow from Navarre, FL to nearly all CVAR events, and it sure paid off this trip.

Rodger Soucy won C Sedan, in eleventh spot overall, driving his blue #155 Mini-Cooper S.

Sam Partin placed second in C Sedan driving his beautiful red #44 Alfa 1300 Junior.

The Group 3 (FV, SFP) race field was somewhat smaller, with 10 FVs and one Spec FP car, that of retiring Grover Maurer driving his green #77 MG Midget in his last CVAR race.



photo by Don Gwynne

#04 Steven Cole, Fiat 124 Coupe; #16 Scott Brady, Fiat 124 Coupe.

Every car finished the race, with Bill Griffith taking the overall win driving his red #5 Beach FV. Team Geezer's Mike Callahan finished a close second in his white & blue #68 Zink, less than one second in arrears. Grover Mauer finished his CVAR driving career with an unopposed win in SFP class on Sunday.

Of the eighteen cars entered in **Group 4** (VA, VB, VC, CM, FFJr, FJr), ten started the Sunday points race. The Group 4 drivers voted unanimously to shorten their race from 20 minutes down to 15 minutes due to unseasonably warm temperatures. Jim Yule's surprisingly quick gray #1 Elva 100 took the overall win and the front engined Formula Junior (FFJr) class, followed closely by visitor Forrest Tindall's (front engined CM) blue #17 Lola Mk1.

Third overall and first in VA class was Fred Crowley driving his red and white #76 Austin Healey 3000. John Page in his white #61 Alfa Spider Veloce finished ahead of Lou Marchant's green #186 MGA to take the VB class win. Reed Yates drove his green #11 MG TF to the VC win, finishing approximately 13 seconds ahead of rival Gary Bauer's yellow #05 Bugeyed Sprite.

Fourth points race of Sunday afternoon was for **Group 6** (FA, FC, FF1, FF2). The Group 6 drivers followed the lead of the Group 4 drivers and also voted for a 15 minute race. At the end of the period, it was Pete Hoekenga who took the overall win and the FF2 class, driving his blue and yellow #1 Lola T-540.

Trevor Bond's bright green #98 LeGrand Mk21 was 9.9 seconds behind at the checker, to finish second overall and second in FF2. FF1 class winner was Chalmer McWilliams, who placed third overall in his green & white #19 Lotus 51A. With Stephen Page's white & blue #29 March Atlantic car out with mechanical woes, Kent Liming enjoyed the FA class win in his red #15 Centaur with a 19 second margin ahead of Steve Garrisi's red & white #44 Fiat Abarth.

Page's consolation was that he set fastest lap



photo by Don Gwynne

#29 Stephen Page, March Atlantic; #32 Patricio Junco, FF Ford Lotus 51-B; #26 Dave Salls, Lotus 51.

of the weekend during the Sunday morning non-points race. Stephen set this mark while charging to the front for the overall win after starting near the back of the field. He hustled his March around the 2.5 mile ECR track for a best lap of 1:53.668, for an average speed of 79.178 mph.

The penultimate race of the weekend was for **Group 7** (CP, DP, BS) and it saw a good-sized field of 21 cars that took the starter's flag.

First through third overall were all CP Porsche 911s. George Kopecky was first in his psychedelic #97, followed only a half-second later by Steve Kent in his red #58, followed by Ned Cullen's white & maroon #12.

Fourth overall and first in DP was Norm Dodson driving his red #1 Lotus Super 7, only 1.7 seconds behind overall winner Kopecky. Tim Woodruff scored a first in B Sedan, eleventh overall, driving his blue #74 BMW 2002.

The **Group 1** (AP, BP, AS, FIA) big iron rolled out for the last race of the day. Although Sam LeComte's red #156 FIA Camaro was dominant at first, as it had been all weekend, it faded after three laps with a mechanical problem.

Jody O'Donnell took over in his white & green #46 Corvette and was never headed, finishing first overall and first in AP class. Seth Higgins

passed Daryl Gough's #167 red/white/blue FIA Corvette in the fifth lap to put his brown #31 FIA Porsche RSR into second overall and first in FIA class. Tony Shores took fourth overall and first in A Sedan driving his light blue & black #00 Mustang, with Tod Zelinski finishing right behind him for the B Production win in his white #5 Mustang.

Eagles Canyon looks like a fine addition to CVAR's annual schedule. The facility is first rate and is sure to attract racers from all over North America.

RESULTS

GROUP 1

PL CL DR/CAR

1 AP J. O'Donnell/ Chevy Corvette
2:02.808

1 FIA S. Higgins/ Porsche 911 Rsr
2:00.772

2 FIA D. Gough/ Chevy Corvette

1 AS A. Shores/ Ford Boss 302 2:04.488

1 BP T. Zelinski/ Ford Mustang 2:04.542

2 BP M. Hargrave/ Ford Mustang

1 AS J. Fershtand/ Ford Mustang

2:07.848

1 AP J. Macaulay/ Chevy Corvette

2:12.782

3 FIA A. Trotter/ Chevy Corvette

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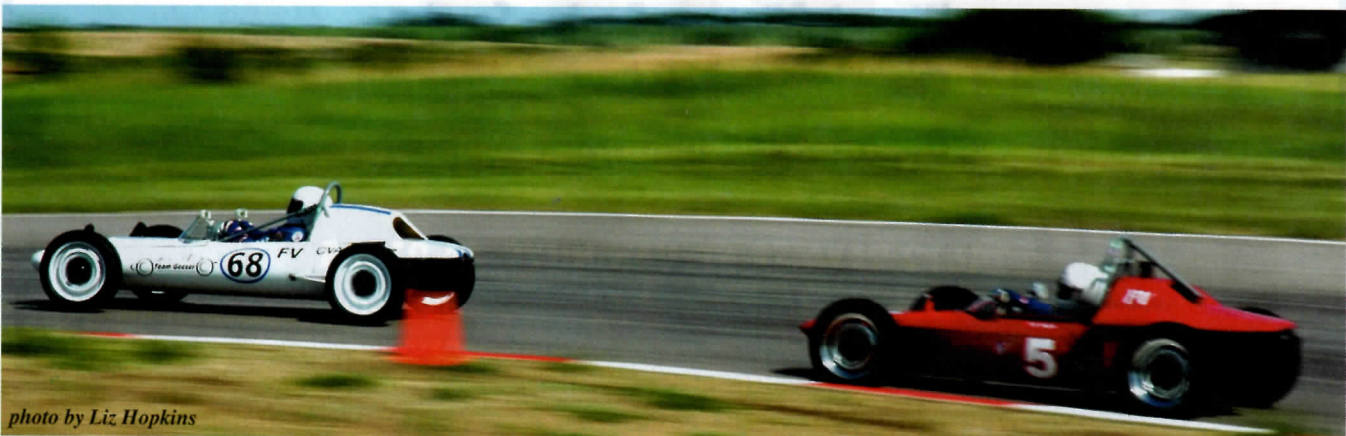


photo by Liz Hopkins

#68 Mike Callahan, Zink Z-5; #5 Bill Griffith, Adams 5C.

CVAR results

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- 2 AS G. Hassell/ Ford Mustang
- 3 AS J. Atwell/ Ford Mustang
- DNF FIA S. Lecomte/ Chev Camaro
- DNF BP S. Seitz/ Ford Mustang

GROUP 2

PL CL DR/CAR

- 1 FP H. Hilton/ MG Midget 2:12.729
- 2 FP K. Gauthier/ MG Midget
- 3 FP P.D. Sohn/ MG Midget
- 4 FP D. Littlefield/ MG Midget
- 1 EP J. Hamilton/ MGB Roadster 2:15.552
- 5 FP W. Hill/ MG Midget
- 2 EP G. Curl/ MG B
- 6 FP D. Williams/ Austin Healey Bugeye Sprite
- 7 FP S. Coleman/ MG Midget
- 3 EP T. Welsh/ MG MGB
- 1 CS R. Soucy/ Austin Mini Cooper S 2:21.261

- 8 FP D. McDougal/ Austin Healey Sprite
- 9 FP J. Mcclanahan/ Austin Healey Sprite
- 4 EP B. Whitehead/ Triumph Gt6+
- 2 CS S. Partin/ Alfa Romeo Gt Junior
- 5 EP D. Hoffman/ Porsche 912
- 6 EP K. Morris/ MG B
- 10 FP W. Gardner/ Austin Healey Sprite
- DNF FP R. Fisher/ Austin Healey Sprite
- DNF FP D. Doidge/ MG Midget
- DNF FP A. McDougal/ Austin Healey Sprite

GROUP 3

PL CL DR/CAR

- 1 FV B. Griffith/ Adams 5C 2:14.778
- 2 FV M. Callahan/ Zink Z-5

- 3 FV R. Bailey/ Lynx B
 - 4 FV D. Harrison/ Zink C4
 - 5 FV F. Storer/ Formcar
 - 6 FV Z. Everett/ Bobsy Vanguard
 - 7 FV A. Summerville Jr./ Zink C4
 - 8 FV B. Heuer/ Shark P69
 - 9 FV D. Etcheson/ Rca Formula Vee
 - 10 FV D. Rolison/ Zink Z-5
 - 1 SFP G. Maurer/ MG Midget 2:31.057
- ### GROUP 4
- #### PL CL DR/CAR
- 1 FFJr J. Yule/ Elva 100 2:21.121
 - 1 CM F. Tindall/ Lola Mk 1 2:22.301
 - 1 VA F. Crowley/ Austin-Healey 3000 2:23.126
 - 1 VB J. Page/ Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce 2:23.690
 - 1 VB L. Marchant/ MG A 2:23.341
 - 1 VC R. Yates/ MG TF 2:27.581
 - 2 VC G. Bauer/ Austin-Healey Sprite
 - 2 FFJr L. Mckinstry/ Elva 100 Jr
 - 2 CM J. C. Lopez/ Lotus Westfield Xi
 - DNF HP B. Balles/ Austin A-40

GROUP 6

PL CL DR/CAR

- 1 FF2 P. Hoekenga/ Lola T540 1:57.520
- 2 FF2 T. Bond/ Legrand Mk 21
- 1 FF1 C. McWilliams/ Lotus 51A 2:00.116
- 2 FF1 P. Junco/ Formula Ford Lotus 51-B
- 3 FF1 D. Salls/ Lotus 51
- 3 FF2 M. Domiteaux/ Titan Ff Mark 9B
- 1 FA K. Liming/ Centaur Fsv 2:08.648
- 4 FF1 A. Fawcett/ Lotus 51
- 4 FF2 E. Copley/ Lola T340
- 2 FA S. Garrisi/ Fiat/Abarth Formula Abarth
- 5 FF1 L. Lydick/ Formula Ford Merlyn Mk 11A



#33 Edward Cullen IV, Porsche 911;

#78 Richard Reeves, Porsche 914.

- 6 FF1 D. Fawcett/ Lotus 61 Ff
 - 5 FF2 S. Jacobs/ Dulon Mp-15 Formula Ford
 - DNF FF2 S. Clark/ Lola T-540
 - DNF FA S. Page/ March Atlantic
- ### GROUP 7
- #### PL CL DR/CAR
- 1 CP G. Kopecky/ Porsche 911S 2:07.737
 - 2 CP S. Kent/ Porsche 911S
 - 3 CP N. Cullen/ Porsche 911
 - 1 DP N. Dodson/ Lotus Super 7 2:06.092
 - 4 CP S. Duplissey/ Porsche 911

- 5 CP P. Sullivan/ Porsche 914-6
- 6 CP B. Mcclung/ Porsche 914/6
- 7 CP R. Reeves/ Porsche 914
- 8 CP E. Cullen IV/ Porsche 911
- 9 CP J. Bartos/ Porsche 914-6
- 1 BS H.D. Woodruff/ Bmw 2002 2:16.795
- 10 CP D. Drosche/ Lotus 7
- 2 BS S. Cole/ Fiat 124 Coupe
- 11 CP K. Caldwell/ Porsche 911E
- 12 CP T. Taff/ Porsche 914 6
- 3 BS S. Brady/ Fiat 124 Coupe

SOVREN results

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- 15 G. Hill/63 Elva Courier Mk III
- 16 P. Burckhard/64 MGB
- 17 J. Gates/65 Alfa Romeo
- 18 J. Street/66 Datsun 1600 Fairlady
- 19 S. Cotter/63 MGB
- 20 B. Walker/59 Austin Healey Sprite
- 21 B. Williams/65 Alfa Romeo Giulia Spider
- 22 G. Willet/69 Alfa Romeo GTV
- 23 G. Silcox/63 MGB
- 24 S. Shelby/67 Alfa Romeo Giulia Super
- 25 S. Hare/63 Triumph Spitfire
- 26 B. Weaver/69 Morris Mini Cooper S
- 27 M. Zubko/62 Porsche 356
- 28 S. Newby/61 Morris
- 29 J. Voss/65 Sunbeam Imp

GROUP 1 RACE 3

PL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 K. DelBene/60 Lola Mk1 1:36.697
- 2 S. Clark/60 Lola Mk1
- 3 C. Healy/53 Porsche Cooper
- 4 T. Johnson/59 Lotus 15
- 5 J. Goodman/58 Devin SS
- 6 J. Goffette/54 Victress
- 7 W. Cox/57 Lotus 11
- 8 J. Roth/62 Elva MKVI
- 9 G. Stuart/58 Volvo PV444
- 10 B. Westmoreland/65 Formcar
- 11 B. Hunt/69 RCA
- 12 M. Lang/69 Autodynamics
- 13 M. Winbigler/59 Sadler Fjr.
- 14 J. Cotts/64 Bobsy Vanguard
- 15 S. Fahnestock/70 Zeithler FV
- 16 R. Winbigler/68 Breach FV
- 17 K. Johnson/68 Zink C4
- 18 S. Russell/67 Crusader
- 19 R. Duperon/69 Crusader
- 20 E. Fitch/63 Form Car FV

- 21 J. Kerney/68 Lynx B
- 22 D. Escrava/57 Austin Healey 100-6MM
- 23 M. Lyford/69 RCA
- 24 L. Johnson/64 Autodynamics
- 25 D. Bloomquist/60 Lola Mk1
- 26 R. Federspiel/64 Crusader
- 27 D. Phillips/57 AH 100-6

GROUP 4 RACE 3

PL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 K. Frieser/72 Lola T290 1:25.352
- 2 T. Osborne/68 Crossle 15F
- 3 J. Giannini/68 Chevron B14
- 4 G. DeWater/78 Argo JM2
- 5 G. Grosanko/71 Titan Mk6
- 6 C. Lyford/68 Winkelman WD-1 FF
- 7 A. Morrison/68 Lotus 51B
- 8 J. Johnson/72 March 729
- 9 A. Duncan/69 Caldwell D10
- 10 G. Willis/69 Lotus 61M
- 11 J. Ballantyne/69 Titan MkIV
- 12 A. Kamerer/79 Tiga SC79
- 13 R. Korn/79 Tiga SC79
- 14 A. Peterson/68 Marcon MR6
- 15 L. Lyford/69 Caldwell FF
- 16 G. Stephen/72 Elden PH10
- 17 M. Kincer/71 Hawke DL2B
- 18 D. Loofburrow/69 Lotus 61M
- 19 F. McDonald/68 Lotus 51 FF
- 20 T. Thor/63 Elva Mk8
- 21 D. Bingham/63 Lotus
- 22 K. DelBene/64 Elva Mk8

RACECRAFT U2 TRANSAM

PL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 M. Reischl/67 Porsche 911S 1:38.538
- 2 J. Froula/67 Datsun Bluebird
- 3 W. Cox/69 Porsche 911
- 4 J. Healey/69 BMW 2002
- 5 S. Schuler/69 Porsche 911
- 6 T. Johnson/66 Alfa Romeo GTA
- 7 B. McKean/65 Alfa Romeo GTV
- 8 J. Hall/69 Alfa Romeo GTV

- 9 S. Foss/69 BMW 2002
- 10 J. Larson/68 Datsun 510
- 11 R. Dempsey/69 BMW 2002
- 12 J. Murray/66 BMW 2000CS
- 13 F. Chynoransky/65 Porsche 911
- 14 T. Forland/68 BMW 2002
- 15 M. Alfstad/69 Alfa Romeo GTV
- 16 E. Millman/63 Cortina GT
- 17 D. Durr/68 BMW 2002
- 18 M. Godsoe/68 BMW 2002
- 19 C. Perkins/68 BMW 2002
- 20 D. Kingstone/69 Alfa Romeo GTV
- 21 M. Cobert/67 Alfa Romeo GTV
- 22 M. Deilke/69 BMW 2002
- 23 R. Slusher/66 Corvair Corsa

GROUP 2 RACE 3

PL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 A. Connor/61 Porsche 1:41.570
- 2 G. Campbell/64 Porsche 356C
- 3 M. Aker/56 Porsche Speedster
- 4 B. Hegy/66 Lotus Elan S3
- 5 J. Gordon/67 MGB
- 6 B. Hart/59 Porsche 356
- 7 S. Gilmore/60 Porsche 356
- 8 D. Calandra/54 Porsche 356
- 9 T. Flynn/68 Porsche 912
- 10 J. Gates/65 Alfa Romeo
- 11 G. Hill/63 Elva Courier Mk III
- 12 J. Street/66 Datsun 1600 Fairlady
- 13 P. Burckhard/64 MGB
- 14 B. Williams/65 Alfa Romeo Giulia Spider
- 15 G. Willet/69 Alfa Romeo GTV
- 16 B. Walker/59 Austin Healey Sprite
- 17 S. Hare/63 Triumph Spitfire
- 18 S. Winfree/60 Porsche 356
- 19 J. Quick/67 TR4-A
- 20 G. Gilmore/58 Porsche 356
- 21 S. Cotter/63 MGB



#42 Jack Goffette, 1954 Victress; #84 Stephen Clark, 1960 Lola Mk1; #98 Thor Johnson, 1959 Lotus 15.

- 22 B. Weaver/69 Morris Mini Cooper S

- 23 J. James/65 Triumph TR4

GROUP 1 RACE 3

PL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 C. Healey/53 Porsche Cooper 1:39.369
- 2 T. Johnson/59 Lotus 15
- 3 K. DelBene/60 Lola Mk1
- 4 R. Federspiel/64 Crusader
- 5 B. Westmoreland/65 Formcar
- 6 B. Hunt/69 RCA
- 7 M. Lang/69 Autodynamics
- 8 R. Winbigler/68 Beach FV
- 9 S. Fahnestock/70 Zeithler FV
- 10 S. Russell/67 Crusader
- 11 D. Escrava/57 Austin Healey 100-6MM
- 12 R. Duperon/69 Crusader
- 13 G. Stuart/58 Volvo PV444
- 14 F. Eric/63 Form Car FV
- 15 J. Cotts/64 Bobsy Vanguard
- 16 M. Lyford/69 RCA
- 17 J. Kerney/68 Lynx B
- 18 L. Johnson/64 Autodynamics