

THE VINTAGE AND HISTORIC RACING NEWS MAGAZINE

Vintage

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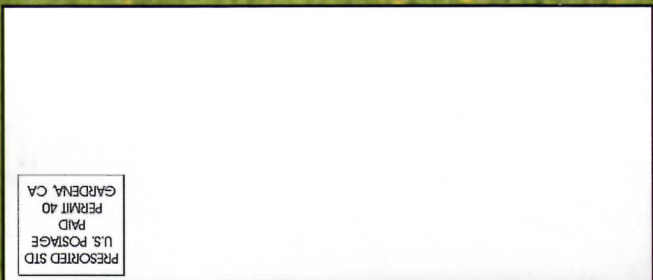
June 2010 - VOLUME 25, NO. 6
\$4 USA \$5 CANADA



CVAR
Mike Stevens Classic



SVRA Savannah Spring Races



PRESORTED STD
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GARDENA, CA



VDCA
Wild Hare Run



#15 Kent Liming, Centaur FSV;
#1 Peter Hoekenga, Lola FF.

CVAR Mike Stephens Classic

Hallett Motor Racing Circuit, OK

April 16-18, 2010

-by George Curl
and Don Gwynne

The best laid plans... CVAR's 3rd Annual Mike Stephens Classic at Hallett Motor Racing Circuit was moved three weeks later this year to avoid any chance of the freak blizzard that hit us last year. This year, no snow, but heavy rains took its place. So much for proper prior planning.

Our second race weekend running Hallett clockwise presented no special problems, unless you ran out of power going uphill out of the hairpin. Running Hallett clockwise gives CVAR what amounts to another new track, yet within a familiar venue.

Off course "excursions" in the rain gave some drivers an entirely new appreciation for the phrase "stick in the mud." Hallett has generous runoffs and no metal barriers to hit; although plenty of people took some exciting slides off the track in the rain, few cars received

any damage as a result. Notwithstanding all the slipping and sliding, there was no metal-to-metal contact. One example of open-wheel rubber-to-rubber contact occurred, but thankfully this resulted in no damage and both cars were able to continue. It is a credit to all the drivers, and to Grover Maurer's excellent CVAR Safety Program, to race for an entire weekend in such wet conditions without a major incident.

David Hopkins filled in for Greg Reynolds as Chief Steward, and did a great job. Scott and Connie Stephens outdid themselves with Hallett's famous hospitality. Friendly is the word of the day there. Saturday's dinner was the best we have ever had. Plenty to eat, good company and lots of bench racing. The party alone was worth the trip.

CVAR welcomed several guest drivers, most of whom came from RMVR and SVRA. CVAR welcomes members of any other VMC-affiliated club to race with us twice a year as guests, without requiring them to join CVAR.

In spite of the threatening weather, we had 84 drivers entered, and the decision was made to temporarily split up CVAR's Group 7 (CP, DP, and BS). Just for this weekend, the CP cars ran with Group 1 (AP, BP, ASR, AS, and FIA) and the DP and BS cars ran with Group 2 (EP, FP, and CS). This made for bigger fields and the elimination of Group 7 from the race schedule let everyone have more time on the track; most races were extended to 20 minutes instead of 15.

One notable exception to the above grouping came about when Eric Wood's yellow #8 Alfa GTAm B Sedan proved to be so much faster than anyone else in his run group on Saturday, he was extended the invitation to move up and run with **Group 1**, which he did on Sunday. Erik did a masterful job of nipping at Porsche driver Ron Shade's heels during the Sunday afternoon points race. Later, Erik commented "I was right on top of the Porsche in the last turn before the checkered flag, but then I put the power on a bit too soon and broke loose. Great racing." Shade's blue and yellow #810 Porsche 911 crossed the line less than 0.7 seconds ahead of the SVRA guest's screaming yellow Alfa. The smaller European cars clearly had the best of it in the steady

Oklahoma rain. Nonetheless, Ted Filer brought his black #63 Corvette Stingray home in fifth overall, winning BP in the process.

Sunday afternoon's **Group 2** points race started with a field of 19 cars, and 18 of them finished the swim to the finish line. Since Erik Wood and his fast yellow Alfa already ran with the Group 1 boys, the rest of the Group 2 grid



photo by Don Gwynne

#62 Gregory Hibbs, Lotus Super 7;
#89 Don Gwynne, Ford Escort.

was pretty closely matched. Gregory Hibbs started on the pole in his red and silver #62 DP Lotus Super Seven, with Don Gwynne's white #89 Ford Escort RS1600 B Sedan alongside. Unfortunately, a deflated rear tire and a spin in the first turn took the Lotus out of the running, and the Escort led the rest of the way. This was Don's first overall win since he started racing with SCCA in 1966. Later, he properly thanked Erik Wood for choosing to run his speedy Alfa with the big dogs in Group 1. David Patton mounted a late race charge to challenge the Escort, finishing second overall and first in C Sedan in his white and black #35 Mini. CVAR President George Curl brought his blue #40 MGB home third overall, winning E Production.



photo by Don Gwynne

#2 Lon McKinstry, Elva; #104 Jack McClanahan, Austin Healey.

Fourth overall and first in F Production was Steve Coleman driving his black and green #52 MG Midget. With Gregory Hibbs and his Lotus Super Seven disabled, Bobby Whitehead scored a welcome win in D Production driving his yellow #39 Triumph GT6.

Twelve very wet formula car drivers came to the grid for the **Group 3** points race. Although Bill Griffith sat on the pole in his red #5 Beach FV, it was Art Summerville, Jr., in his blue #16 Zink FV who took the checkered flag first overall at the end of the race. Second overall and second in FV was Bruce Revenaugh driving his blue and red #116 Zink FV. Official confusion as to what car Bruce was driving resulted in the finishing sheets showing him driving his Lotus 18 Formula 1 car for an unopposed win in FB class, which was simply bogus (there were no FB cars entered). Mike Vecellio took the Spec Sprite SFP class win in his yellow #3 MG Midget, finishing barely a half second ahead of Jeffrey Walker's silver #23 bugeyed Sprite.

Following a soggy lunch break, seven Group 4 drivers took to the track. Mike Orlie sat on



photo by Don Gwynne

#76 Fred Crowley, Austin Healey 3000.

pole in his blue #18 Porsche 356, with Jack McClanahan in the second slot driving his green and white #104 Austin Healey. And that is how they finished. Fred Crowley and his red #76 Austin Healey got stuck in the off-course mud on the fourth lap, and Lou Marchant finished third overall and third in VB class. Forrest Tindall finished fourth overall and first in CM in his blue Mk1 Lola. Lon McKinstry drove his front engined Elva to fifth overall and first in FFJr. In his first race after his TWS drivers school, Allen Johnson brought his brilliant red Devin

MGA home sixth overall and fourth in VB class.

The final race of the weekend saw nine Group 6 formula cars come to the grid. Pete Hoekenga sat on pole in his blue #1 Lola, but ran into trouble and eventually DNF'ed. Kent Liming took the lead on the third lap and never looked back. His red #15 Centaur FSV took first overall and first in FA class. Patricio Junco drove a strong race in his red #21 Merlyn (recently purchased from Andrew Simpson) to finish second overall and first in FF1 class. Scott Clark brought his black #3 Lola to the FF2 win, and third overall. According to the results sheets, Fred Haynie took an unopposed FC win driving his #77. In reality, Fred's red #77 Royale RP19 Formula Super Vee finished second in FA class to Kent Liming's red Centaur (there were no FC cars entered). ❏



photo by Don Gwynne

#25 James Tanner, Lola Super Vee.

RACE RESULTS

GROUP 1 RACE 4

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 CP V. Shade/Porsche 1:46.569
- 1 BS E. Wood 1:47.005
- 2 CP R. Kuehnhofer/Porsche
- 3 CP G. Morgan/Porsche
- 1 BPT. Filer 1:57.634
- DNF BP S. Seitz/Ford

GROUP 2 RACE 4

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 BS D. Gwynne/Ford 1:56.415
- 1 CS D. Patton/Morris 1:55.529
- 1 EP G. Curl/MG 1:56.994
- 1 FPS. Coleman/MG 1:58.352
- 2 CS T. Bond/Austin
- 2 BS G. Bauer/Datsun
- 2 FP H. Hilton/MG
- 2 EP G. Perser/MG
- 1 DP B. Whitehead/Triumph 2:01.512
- 3 FP M. Cory/Austin Healey
- 4 FP J. Sharp/MG
- 3 EP K. Morris/MG
- 4 EPT. Welsh/MG
- 5 EP M. Floyd/Porsche
- 5 FP S. Knight/Austin Healey



photo by Don Gwynne

#1 Allen Johnson, Devin MGA Special.

- 6 EP G. Cecil/Porsche
- 6 FP G. Cory/MG
- 2 DP G. Hibbs/Lotus
- DNF FP D. Williams/Austin Healey
- GROUP 3 RACE 4**
- PL CL DRIVER/CAR**
- 1 FV A. Summerville Jr./Zink C4 1:53.846
- 1 FB B. Revenaugh/Lotus F1 1:54.013
- 2 FV B. Griffith/Beach C
- 3 FV R. Bailey/Lynx
- 4 FV D. Harrison/Zink
- 5 FV M. Callahan/Zink
- 6 FV J. Yule/Kiamann
- 7 FV T. Stege/Formular Vee Beach
- 8 FV D. Rolison/Zink
- 1 SFP M. Vecellio/MG 2:12.813
- 2 SFP J. Walker/Austin Healey
- 9 FV F. Storer/Formcar
- GROUP 4 RACE 4**
- PL CL DRIVER/CAR**
- 1 VB M. Orlie/Porsche 2:01.015
- 2 VB J. McClanahan/Austin Healey
- 3 VB L. Marchant/MG
- 1 CM F. Tindall/Lola 1:48.567
- 1 FFJr L. McKinstry/Elva 2:17.205
- 4 VB A. Johnson/Devin MGA
- DNF VA F. Crowley
- GROUP 6 RACE 4**
- PL CL DRIVER/CAR**
- 1 FA K. Liming/Centaur Fsv 1:45.221
- 1 FF1 P. Junco/Formular Ford 1:50.354
- 1 FF2 S. Clark/Lola 1:49.124
- 2 FF1 M. Hibbs/Merlyn
- 3 FF1 R. Hoemke/Merlyn
- 4 FF1 L. Reyburn/Merlyn
- 1 FC F. Haynie/Lola 2:09.785
- 5 FF1 D. Collins/Centaur Fsv
- 2 FF2 P. Hoekenga/Formular Ford

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