



Group 6 grid at CVAR's Oktoberfest.

CVAR Oktoberfest

Motorsports Ranch Houston, Texas

Sep. 29-Oct. 1, 2017
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 – photos by *Jeffries Art*

Near perfect weather and a good number of entrants made for a fun and successful weekend of CVAR racing at MSR-Houston. The Fall Drivers School included six students, ranging from first timers to old heads knocking off the rust.

During lunchtime on Saturday, exhibition rides in race cars were immensely popular, with more than 20 workers and spectators enjoying the opportunity to see “what’s it like out there”. On Saturday night, pizza and beer was hosted by Race Chairman Mike Briggs.

Sunday morning’s special feature event was a 25-minute **CONTINENTAL EUROPEAN** race for non-British cars, with 10 of them coming to the line (eight Porsches, one BMW, and one NSU). Carl Janin sat on pole in his white #18 Porsche RSR, with Bassam Al Haddad alongside in his #13 white Porsche 911. When the race started, Bassam jumped

into the lead, only to drop out on the sixth lap. Janin went on from there to take the overall win and the FIA class win. After a mid-race battle with a couple of Porsche drivers, Tim Woodruff finished second overall to win B

Sedan in his blue #74 BMW 2002. Jay Zitterer finished third overall and second in FIA class in his silver #39 Porsche 914-6. School student Bjorn Dischington put in an impressive drive, starting last and finishing fourth overall in his blue and orange #587 Porsche 911. In fifth overall, John Kish won the C Production class driving his red #58 Porsche 911E. Tom Giertz won the E Production class with a sixth overall finish in his silver #59 Porsche 914.



#449 Kirby Schrader, 1971 De Tomaso Pantera.

Sunday afternoon's races began with the big thunder of **GROUP 1**. Of the 16 original entrants, only nine came to the line for the points race. Phil Mulacek sat on the pole in his real-deal blue #19 Cobra, with Alain Vinson alongside in his white #18B Shelby GT-350. They ran in that order for the first several laps, then began a mid-race back and forth that eventually had Mulacek spinning and dropping back. Vinson took the overall win and the B Production class win. CVAR President Herb Hilton finished second overall to win the A Sedan class in his yellow #17 Mustang. Jim Sharp took second in A Sedan with his yellow #85 Camaro in third overall. After starting on the second row, Louis Gladfelter dropped out on the second lap with a clogged fuel system in his white #55 Shelby GT-350. Jim Sandberg took an unopposed A Production class win in his red #84 Corvette.

Early go-homes reduced the **GROUP 2** field from 22 entrants down to only seven starters for the points race. CVAR's Chief Instructor Berkeley Merrill started on pole in his silver #12 Porsche 914, and eventually finished first overall to win the E Production class, but not without a mid-race struggle with Pete Sandy's white and blue #04 Bugeyed Sprite. Sandy led briefly then dropped off. Ronald Reed also benefitted when Sandy's Sprite faltered, and finished second overall and second in E Production with his yellow



#19 Phil Mulacek, 1964 Shelby Cobra.

and red #9 Porsche 914. Gary Reed won the F Production class in his yellow #15 MG Midget in third overall. Drew Fisher took an unopposed C Sedan win in the red #2 Mini Cooper in sixth overall.

The **GROUP 3** Formula Vee drivers hung in there on Sunday afternoon, with 19 of 27 entrants coming to the grid. CVAR Race Coordinator William Wolfe sat on pole driving his white #68 Zink Z-5, with Dwight Calkins alongside in his red #87 Lynx B. Elliot Barron put on a stunning drive, carving up through the pack from 15th on the grid to take the lead on the fourth lap and go on to take the overall win, slightly more than two seconds ahead of Dwight Calkins in second place. William Wolfe finished third. Student George Curl (IV) finished ninth overall in his own white #42



#77 Thomas Schluter, 1972 Datsun 240Z.

Zink C-4, and fellow student Brandall Binion finished in 14th overall in Bigger Hammer's red and blue #24 Stinger.

CVAR's more historic **GROUP 4** brought six cars to the grid, with the smallest displacement car in the field sitting on pole. Gary McFarlane really had his white #91 "Thundermug" humming, and went on to notch a flag-to-flag overall win and the VC class win. Lou Marchant's BRG #183 MGA crossed the line about 15 seconds behind Thundermug to win the VB class. Spec Sprite racers Jackson Williams and David Turner battled back and forth for the SFP class win, with the green #72 Austin Healey Sprite coming out on top. Behind these two, Chris Kellner took the VA class win in his white over red #23 Austin Healey 3000 in fifth overall.

Six of the **GROUP 6** open wheel entrants came to the grid on Sunday afternoon. Edward Copley sat on pole in his red #43 Ralt, led from flag to flag, turned the fastest lap, and won the FA class. Angus Lemon placed second overall to win the FF1 class in his purple #86 Merlyn. Jim Gewinner won the B Sports Racing class in third overall driving his green #33 Lotus 23B. The FF3 class win went to Jeremy Suydam's white #73 Royale RP3 in fourth overall.

The **GROUP 7** grid was the last of the day, with only

four cars coming to the grid. The blue #55 Fiat Sport Coupe driven by Cynthia Trifilio sat on pole and led from flag to flag for the overall win and the B Sedan class win.



#90 David Lasco, 1965 Shelby Mustang.

Fastest lap, however, was turned in by the second overall car of Phil Lee. His #66 red Triumph TR-4 won the D Production class in the process. John Kish won the C Production class in his red #58 Porsche 911E in third overall. Russ Rosenberg's white #83 Yenko Stinger was less than three seconds behind Kish at the checkered flag to finish second in D Production.

CVAR's last race of the year will be the Race For The North Pole of Texas, Dec. 8-10 at Eagles Canyon Raceway.



#172 Richard Wright, 1972 MG Midget

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#55 Louis Gladfelter, 1966 Shelby Mustang, #77 Thomas Upton, 1972 De Tomaso Pantera; #84 Jim Sandberg, 1969 Corvette.

CONTINENTAL EUROPEAN

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 FIA C. Janin/1974 Porsche 911 1:51.907
- 1 BS T. Woodruff/1974 BMW 2002 1:54.095
- 2 FIA J. Zittner/1970 Porsche 914/6
- 1 S B. Dischington/1974 Porsche 911 1:52.143
- 1 CP J. Kish/1973 Porsche 911E 1:59.928
- 1 EPT. Giertz/1972 Porsche 914 2:00.656
- 2 CP J. Iturbe/1972 Porsche 911
- 3 CP R.B. Williams/1970 Porsche 911 1:54.107

GROUP 1

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 BP A. Vinson/1966 Shelby Mustang GT350 1:49.488
- 1 AS H. Hilton/1967 Ford Mustang 1:49.460
- 2 AS J. Sharp/1971 Camaro
- 1 AP J. Sandberg/1969 Corvette 1:53.079
- 2 BP J. Robau/1964 Corvette



#587 Bjorn Dischington, 1974 Porsche 911.

- 3 BP D. Lasco/1965 Mustang Shelby
- 4 BP P. Mulacek/1964 Shelby Cobra
- 3 AS M. Baker/1970 AMC Javelin
- 5 BP L. Gladfelter/1966 Ford Shelby

GROUP 2

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 EP B. Merrill/1972 Porsche 914/4 2:01.634
- 2 EP R. Reed/1972 Porsche 914
- 1 FP G. Reed/1967 MG Midget 2:02.117
- 3 EP J. Jones/1972 MGB
- 2 FP D. Vick/1964 Triumph Spitfire
- 1 CS D. Fisher/1960 Mini Cooper 2:09.574
- 3 FP P. Sandy/1959 Austin Healey Sprite

GROUP 3

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 FV E. Barron/1969 Pegasus C4 1:57.309
- 2 FV D. Calkins/1972 Lynx B
- 3 FV W. Wolff/1968 Zink Z-5
- 4 FV H. Barron/1969 Kellison Mk 2

5 FV M. Wolff/1969 Lynx B

6 FV B. Griffith/1972 Treuhaft

7 FV F. Phillips/1969 Zink C-4

8 FV H. Barron/1969 Zink

1 S G. Curl/1970 Zink C-4

2:01.048

9 FV K. Barron-Fuller/1963

Autodynamics Fv

10 FV J. Strnad/1967 Zink C-4

11 FV J. Lynch/1963 Formcar FV

12 FV B. Wright/1964 Zink FV

2 S B. Binion/1972 Bhrv Stinger

13 FV A. Hughes/1970 Zink C-4



08 Ken Morris, 1969 MGB.

14 FV W. Murphey/1969 Lynx B

15 FV E.O. Barron/1963 Kellison Fv

16 FV L. Summerville/1968 Zink-4

GROUP 4

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 VC G. McFarlane/1960 H-Mod Thundermug 2:13.568
- 1 VB L. Marchant/1959 MGA 2:14.457
- 1 SFP J. Williams/1972 Austin Healey Sprite 2:23.709
- 2 SFP D. Turner/1964 Austin Healey Sprite
- 1 VA C. Kellner/1959 Austin Healey 3000 2:37.852

GROUP 6

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 FA E. Copley/Ralt 1:43.307
- 1 FF1 A. Lemon/Merlyn 1:47.632
- 1 BSR J. Gewinner/Lotus 23B 1:49.616
- 1 FF3 J. Suydam/Royale RP3 1:50.319
- 2 FF1 W. Wiggington
- 2 FF3 G. Smith

GROUP 7

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 BS C. Trifilio/Fiat Sport Coupe 1:57.619
- 1 DP P. Lee/Triumph TR-4 1:57.303
- 1 CP J. Kish/Porsche 911E 2:03.041
- 2 DP R. Rosenberg/Yenko Stinger