

CVAR Spring Driver's School & Races



Texas World Speedway, TX

February 26-28, 2010

Start of Student Race; #69 Rodger Grantham, 1963 Triumph TR-4; #07 Robert Woods, 1966 Alfa GTV; #118 Greg Cory, 1961 MG Midget; #58 Ralf Kuehnhoefer, 1973 Porsche 911.

-article and photos by Don Gwynne

A large field of 144 cars turned out for CVAR's Spring Drivers School and Races at Texas World Speedway on February 26-28, 2010. Friday was devoted to "test, tune and practice" for the experienced racers, and a full day of schooling for the new students.

In addition to a large group of new students, Greg Reynolds took over as the newly elected Chief Steward (and CVAR Vice President). Greg is a highly experienced vintage racer, who actively campaigns his #89 white 1967 Shelby GT-350. Greg is also co-owner/co-driver of the #89 white 1970 Ford Escort usually driven by Don Gwynne. Everyone in CVAR owes our previous Chief Steward, Bob Green, a huge debt of gratitude for his many years of wise oversight of our racing activities. Bob is staying heavily involved in CVAR, but recently chose to step down from the often demanding Chief Steward position.

CVAR's Spring 2010 Student Class included the following drivers and cars:

Allen Johnson, #1 1958 Devin MGA 1500
James Halek, #3 1971 Bigger Hammer
Formula Vee
Don Weber, #10 1959 Alfa Romeo
Sprint Zagato
James Tanner, #25 1977 Lola T328 Super Vee



**#920 Phil Pickens, 1966 Shelby GT-350;
#57 Guy Morgan, 1972 Porsche 911.**

Greg Block, #26 Bigger Hammer Formula Vee
John Ridings, #57 Copper 1968 Zink C4
Formula Vee

Guy Morgan, #57 1972 Porsche 911
Ralf Kuehnhoefer, #58 1973 Porsche 911
Dennis Collins, #63 1969 Merlyn 11A
Formula Ford

Rodger Grantham, #69 1963 Triumph
TR-4

Jim Sandberg, #84 1969 Chevrolet
Corvette

Steve Knight, #107 1966 Austin Healey
Sprite

Robert Woods, #07 1966 Alfa GTV
Greg Cory, #118 1961 MG Midget
Phil Pickens, #920 1966 Shelby GT-350

Unfortunately, the engine in Jim Sandberg's red Corvette went sour on Friday morning, so he was unable to finish the school.

CVAR takes the development of new vintage racing drivers as its most serious responsibility. Each new student is required to attend each and every "chalk talk" session, no excuses accepted. On-track sessions are supervised by experienced CVAR instructors. Each car is subjected to a rigorous safety inspection; compliance with CVAR's vintage-correct car preparation rules can be partially overlooked the first time out, but safety provisions cannot.

Every new driver is nevertheless given individual attention. From Spridgets and Bugeyes, to Formula Fords and Formula Vees, to Alfa Romeos, everyone has fun while learning. Initial sessions are conducted under strict double-yellow flag conditions

- no passing allowed. As the students learn, they are gradually given more freedom. For the final session on Sunday afternoon, the (Group 5) students had a race all their own.

The Sunday afternoon "points races" were led off by a 14 car field of **Group 6 (FA, FF1, & FF2)** competitors. Houston's Steve Smith, driving his red #27 Ralt RT1, turned in the fastest lap (1:48.162) on his way to the overall win and the FA class victory. Another Houston driver, Bill Johnson, advanced one spot on his last lap to take second overall and the FF1 class win driving his blue #28 Royale RP3A. Mike Bond drove his lime green #98 LeGrand Mk21 to third overall and the FF2 class win.

The **Group 7 (CP, DP, & BS)** race was pretty much a German event. Porsche 911 and 914-6 cars filled all but one of the first 7 finishing positions. Vernon ("Ron") Shade, blue & yellow #810 Porsche 911, took the overall win, the CP win, and turned fastest lap, with a 1:58.129. Skip Duplissey, in his green #71 Porsche 911, followed Shade at the line by just less than three seconds. Ned Cullen, in his white & maroon #12 Porsche 911, was third, and fourth went to Chalmer McWilliams in his green & yellow #36 Lotus Elan. Greg Hibbs brought his red & silver #62 DP Lotus Super Seven to eighth overall, and Tim Woodruff showed the way in B Sedan, finishing ninth overall in his blue #74 BMW 2002.

Third points race of Sunday afternoon was



**#25 James Tanner, 1977 Lola T328
Super Vee; #10 Don Weber, 1959
Alfa Romeo Sprint Zagato.**

for "big thunder" **Group 1 (AP, AS, BP, ASR & FIA)**. After starting in sixth position, Seth Higgins fought his way to the overall win driving his newly repainted light blue #31 FIA Porsche 911 RSR. The big bore V-8 contingent had to settle for various class wins. Tom Upton finished second overall and second in FIA class driving his red #77 DeTomaso Pantera. Third overall and first in A Production was David Fershtand in his red #42 Corvette. Fourth overall and first in B Production was Roy Allen, driving his blue #189 Shelby GT-350. Edward Ziegler placed sixth overall and first in A Sports Racing driving his blue & orange #40 Merlyn Mk6A. A Sedan was won by John Fershtand, driving his blue #47 Boss 302 Mustang, finishing seventh overall.

The fourth points race on Sunday afternoon was for **Group 2 (FP, EP & CS)**. Once again,

Herb Hilton proved that he and his red & white #02 MG Midget are forces to be reckoned with. After leading every lap, he finished first overall and first in F Production class. Only 0.8 seconds back, CVAR driving instructor Bill Haga finished second overall and first in E Production in his dark green #6 MGB. Although finishing third overall and second in F Production, Jay McClanahan posted the race's fastest lap at 2:04.628 in his silver #113 MG Midget. Trevor Bond was the first C Sedan across the line, finishing seventh overall to win CS in his purple #98 Mini Cooper.

In the fifth points race, Team Geezer's Mike Callahan and his white & blue #68 Zink Z-5



#07 Robert Woods, 1966 Alfa GTV.

just nipped Bill Griffith's red #5 Beach C for the Group 3 (FV & SFP) win by less than 0.1 second. Jeffrey Walker drove his black & gold #27 (Bugeye) Spec Sprite to the SFP win, finishing ninth overall.

The last points race of the day was **Group 4 (FFJr, FJr, VB and VC)**. CVAR newsletter editor Jim Yule drive his green & white #9

Cooper T-56 rear-engined Formula Junior (FJr) to the overall win and the FJr class win. Dan Chapman was right on his heels, finishing less than 0.1 seconds behind in his green & white #28 Cooper T-56. Third overall and first Formula B was Bruce Revenaugh and his green #24 Lotus 18. Fourth overall, and first in VB class was Robert Howard in his silver #6 Porsche-powered Pupildy Special. Everyone was pleased to see the return of Chris

Kellner and his beautifully restored red & white #23 Austin Healey 3000, and Chris finished 11th overall and first in VA with the big Healey. Another treat for the spectators was Mike Vecellio's black #12 EMPI Crusader. This rare car is chassis number 2 of either 4 or 6 built (reference books disagree on the exact number built). He hadn't raced it in several years, but when his yellow & black #3 SFP MG Midget developed a terminal oil leak, he was allowed to substitute the EMPI Crusader. Mike finished a creditable seventh overall in his little fiberglass-bodied VW-powered sports racer.

Last race of the day was solely for the Group 5 students. Guy Morgan took the overall win in his white & blue #57 CP Porsche 911. Phil Pickens of Magnolia, TX, finished second overall in his bellowing white #920 BP Shelby GT-350. Ten seconds later, Ralf Kuehnhofer crossed the finish line in third overall with his red #58 CP Porsche 911. In order behind him were Rodger



#69 Rodger Grantham, 1963 Triumph TR-4.

Grantham, red #69 Triumph TR-4; Dennis Collins, silver & black #63 Merlyn 11A Formula Ford; Greg Cory, blue #118 MG Midget; James Tanner, yellow #25 Lola T-328 Super Vee; and Don Weber, red #10 Alfa Romeo Sprint Zagato. Congratulations to all the new student drivers on a weekend well done! CVAR's next event is the Third Annual Mike Stevens Classic at the Hallett Motor Racing Circuit, near Tulsa, Oklahoma, on April 16-18, 2009.

More than two dozen World War II Veterans attended the races this weekend, as guests of Lone Star Honor Flight (LSHF). Many CVAR racers donated to LSHF to proudly wear a red tee shirt honoring these Veterans. LSHF was formed for the sole purpose of flying WWII Veterans to Washington, D.C., to see the World War II Memorial which was built in 2004. At the time it was unveiled, a great many of our WWII Veterans had already passed away. In the last two years, LSHF has paid the costs of three charter flights to shuttle almost 300 WWII Veterans to the nation's capital. Two remaining flights will be made on May 1 and May 22 of this year. For more information about LSHF, please check out their website at <http://www.lonestarhonorflight.com> or contact CVAR racer and LSHF member Jack McClanahan.

RACE RESULTS

GROUP 1

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

1 FIA S. Higgins/Porsche 911 RSR
1:55.041

- 2 FIA T. Upton/Detomaso Red
- 1 AP D. Fershtand 1:57.365
- 1 BP R. Allen/Shelby GT-350 1:57.291
- 2 BP C. Jones/Shelby GT-350H
- 1 ASR E. Ziegler/Merlyn 1:58.866
- 1 AS J. Fershtand/Ford 2:01.901
- 2 AS J. Seligman/Ford Mustang
- 3 AS M. Jenniges/Ford Mustang
- 2 AP M. Mcilyar/Chevy Blue/White
- 3 BP B. Kuers/Ford Mustang
- 2 ASR J. Anderson/Lola T-212
- 4 AS G. Pickens/Chevy Blue
- 5 AS A. Shores/Ford Blue/Black
- 3 AP J. O'Donnell/Chevrolet Corvette
DNF M. Saxe
- 4 AP B. Caudle/Chevrolet White
- 6 AS J. Caudle/Chevrolet White/Blue
- 7 AS R. W. Suggs/Ford Boss 302
- 8 AS G. Hassell/Ford Mustang
- 4 BP G. Reynolds/Shelby Mustang White

GROUP 2 PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 FPH H. Hilton/MG Midget 2:06.868
- 1 EP B. Haga/MG B 2:06.715
- 2 FP J. McClanahan/Mg
- 3 FP J. Sharp/MG Midget
- 4 FP C. Tiras/MG Midget
- 5 FP D. Littlefield/MG Midget

1 CS T. Bond/Austin 2:07.655

- 6 FP P. Sandy/Austin Healey Sprite
- 7 FP A. Hofeling/Mg
- 2 CS R. Soucy/Austin
- 8 FP P. Glawe/Austin Healey Sprite
A. Kramer
- 9 FP W. Collins/Triumph
- 2 EP G. Cecil/Porsche
- 10 FP A. McDougal/Austin Healey
Sprite
- 11 FP R. Fisher/Austin Healey
Sprite
- 12 FP D. McDougal/Austin Healey
Sprite
- 3 EP D. McMillan
- 4 EP K. Morris/MG B
- 5 EP G. Perser/MG B
- 6 EP M. Floyd/Porsche 914
- 13 FP G. Reed/MG Midget
- 14 FP J. Hovey/Triumph Spitfire
- 15 FP M. Coleman/MG Midget
- 16 FP W. Hill/MG Midget

GROUP 3

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 FV M. Callahan/Zink Z-5 2:10.053
- 2 FV B. Griffith
- 3 FV D. Peterson/Zink
- 4 FV T. Stege
- 5 FV R. Bailey/Lynx
- 6 FV J. Revenaugh
- 7 FV D. Rolison/Zink Z-5
- 1 Student J. Ridings/Zink 2:15.834
- 1 SFP J. Walker/Austin Healey Sprite

2:20.709

- 8 FV G. Byrne
- 9 FV G. Block
- 10 FV D. Calkins/Lynx
- 2 SFP G. Emery/Austin Healey Sprite
- 3 SFP S. Coleman/Mg
- 11 FV K. McEntire/Nash Scrambler
Formula Vee
- 4 SFP E. Dick/Austin Healey Sprite
- DNF J. Summerville/Zink C4
- 12 FV A. Summerville Jr.
- 13 FV R. Hoemke/Zink C4
- 14 FV D. Harrison/Zink C4
- 15 FV J. Gaudette/Zink C4
- 16 FV C. Turcotte/Baker Formula Vee
- 17 FV J. Yule/Kiamann Formula Vee
- 18 FV B. Revenaugh/Zink C4
- 19 FV Z. Everett/Bobsy Vanguard
- 5 SFP M. Vecellio/MG Midget
- 6 SFP E. Dick/Austin Healey Sprite

GROUP 4

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 FJR J. Yule/Cooper 2:05.166
- 2 FJR D. Chapman/Cooper Brg
- 1 FB B. Revenaugh/Lotus F1 2:09.319
- 1 VB R. Howard/Porsche 2:12.530
- 2 VB G. Blake/Triumph TR 3
- 3 VB M. Orlie/Porsche Roadster
M. Vecellio
- 4 VB J. Page/Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce
- 5 VB S. Hart/Alfa Romeo
- 6 VB J. McClanahan/Austin Healey 100
- 1 VA C. Kellner/Austin Healey 2:49.901

7 VB L. Marchant/Mg

- D. Chapman
- B. Revenaugh
- 1 DSR J. Furlow, Sr./Dolphin America
- 3 FJR P. Gonzalez/Lotus F. Jr. Garza
Garcia
- 4 FJR J. Breidenbach/Lotus 18 Formula
Jr.

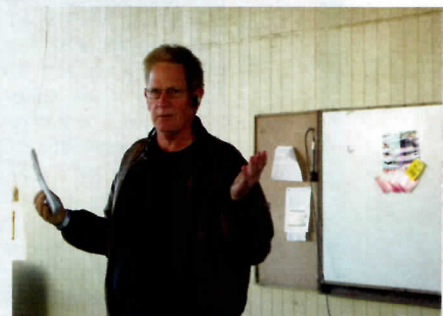
1 SFP G. Emery/Austin Healey Sprite

8 VB E. Williams/Alfa Romeo Giulia

GROUP 5

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

- 1 Student G. Morgan/Porsche White
2:11.597



New Chief Steward Greg Reynolds.

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