



PIT SIGNALS



LATE BRAKING NEWS FOR VARAC VINTAGE RACERS - AUGUST, 2018 - JEREMY SALE



The Honda Series!
By John DeMaria.

In this issue; the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix by Dave Good...Waterford Hills report by Ivan Samila and Nick Pratt. Roger Peart retires...Memories of Craig Fisher...Frank Mount and John Sambrook duly recognized...



There are two British cars that can make almost anyone smile, the Mini of course, and the Bugeye Sprite. 2018 is the 60th Anniversary of this iconic sports car so we rounded up some opinions...

Ross de St. Croix

Back in the day Ross drove everything, from MGAs to Lolas to McLarens, ultimately winning the Canadian Championship in 1967. Some memories inside...



Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix– 2018

By Dave Good.

Photo below by Mike Matune.

The 36th running of the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix was held July 14/15 -this event is staged in Schenley Park , an older park in Pittsburgh, certain park roads are closed and a race circuit is created -the circuit is lined with curbs, poles, hydrants, stone walls, (as at right), and has a very distinct crown-very challenging - one of the only true street circuits for vintage racing in North America.



The race at Schenley is actually part of a 10 day vintage car 'celebration/festival' in the Pittsburgh area including another race at Pitt Race the week before as well as car shows, rallies, tours,etc. A great week to be in the area for car fans. The event is actually a charity event-proceeds go to two local charities supporting the fight against autism and developmental disabilities, Over 5MM\$ raised over the events history!

This year the featured mark /car was the BMW 2002-approx 40 were on hand. It was pretty cool seeing all these Beemers put on a show!

This is a huge spectator event -lots of people and families walking the paddock with excited kids getting in the cars-big crowds on the hills surrounding the course- very cool! As usual, a few of us VARAC MG racers participated- David Holmes in his MGA 137, Frank Mount in his 1939 MGTB Special and myself in my trusty MGA 37. John Burgess (the MGA "Chief") came down and crewed for us.

As is typical-the weather was hot and humid-over 30 C-so lots of hot cars and hot drivers!

...Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix– 2018

Below; David Holmes leads Dave Good. Bill Stoler photo.

Friday night is a tour/parade with the race cars through the local suburb, Squirrel Hill, to a downtown area where the cars are parked and on display for the public- a very cool and popular event, David and I were in a small group that got separated from the main the main group and had to make our way unescorted through the downtown--so, our cars got a little more exposure to the public than planned!



All our cars ran well. David runs this course very well and climbed up through the pack over the course of the weekend. Frank got bumped and suffered a crease in the rear fairing -he shook it off and took a podium in the preservation group feature race-Congrats Frank! Lots of fun- a great, worthwhile event! D.G.



Photo by Mike Matune



Frank Mount (in the above photo by Mike Matune) send us this on PVGP.

“The Pittsburgh race through Schenley Park has been run for 36 years and is run entirely by volunteers with the full support of the city. I believe that it is the only real street race still running. We have competed there annually for 19 years. The first five years we ran TC 104 prior to purchasing “Babe” the prewar 1939 MG TB Special. I have finished 1st in the prewar class three times including this year. The track surface has become very rough in recent years, particularly for a Prewar car, but the unique experience it provides makes it worth it. Where else would you get to race around stone walls and over bridges?”

“You might also be interested in hearing about the new race track in the White Mountains of Tamworth New Hampshire. We attended the Inaugural White Mountain Vintage Grand Prix, which was held by the VSCCA and was the first race ever held at the track. The owner of this track is Club Motor Sports. Members sign up for various levels of membership allowing them to participate in lapping sessions on weekends. The track is also used for vehicle and tire testing etc. to pay the bills. The track itself is like nothing I have ever driven on. It has about 12 sweeping corners with huge paved run off areas. I think only one corner is level. Because of the large elevation changes the rest of the corners sweep up hill or down hill. It is a most interesting lap to say the least. The facilities that have been built are top quality but lots of finishing is still required. It is worth a look on the internet.”

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