



#256 Roger Cassin, 1964 Elva Mk 7S; #11 Bob Tkacik, 1965 Elva Mk 7S; #70 Joey Bojalad, 1960 Elva Mk VI.

VSCCA Empire Cup Lime Rock Park, Connecticut

May 31-June 1, 2019
— story by Dow Smith

VSCCA, this nation's oldest vintage racing organization, cooperates each spring with the SCCA associated Historic Racing Group as well as the Empire Drivers, an offshoot of the Jaguar Club, for the Empire Cup at Lime Rock Park. The Empire Drivers bring out a wide variety of vehicles including Jag sedans for two lapping sessions.

This week is actually the second largest gathering of vintage racers at Lime Rock each year and only one of four weekends where racers can run without mufflers. Unlike the VSCCA's low-key Spring Sprints and Fall Finale events this weekend does feature full timing and scoring but still no trophies.

Again this year the featured group for the VSCCA was vintage sports racers from the 1950s and early 1960s. In other words the club was paying homage to the race cars that

created the race car industry in the United Kingdom including Lotus, Lolas and Elva racers.

While the VSCCA just celebrated its 60th anniversary, HRG is a bit newer having been chartered in 1997 by the SCCA and is part of the SCCA North East division. As on this weekend, HRG runs as a stand alone group with their own rules partnering on 5-6 weekends a year with the SCCCA, VRG and the VSCCA. HRG uses a different format than some of the other vintage groups. Classes are based on the traditional displacement approach. There are five classes and all run on track at the same time. So you can have HRG1 with cars less than 1300cc in the same race with HRG5, which features cars over 3500cc, and all cars with v8s such as big bore Trans Am Mustangs.

It is quite a spectacle with whale tail 911s passing Bug Eye Sprites but it works. HRG driver and administrator Mike Harmuth with a Triumph Spitfire says it all works because they all love racing, strive to keep it clean and put on a great show for the spectators.

For this Empire Cup weekend HRG with 36 entrants had two races as Group 3 on the schedule. In the first race early Saturday afternoon the Donovan Jaguar XK-Es of Jack Bush and Jason Rabe finished first and third with a class 3 Porsche 911ST of Jim Hamblin taking second.

The highest class 1 car was Peter McCarthy in 20th with his 1962 Austin Healey Sprite.

In the second race for HRG later Saturday afternoon Chris Horner and his 1964 Corvette took the checkered flag ahead of Michael Dube's 1973 Camaro and Alan Tosler's 1962 Lotus 7.

VSCCA Event Chair Charles Bordin had three race groups organized including group 6 for the featured sports racers. Group 4 included the standard production car grid with a variety of makes including MGs, Morgans, front engined Formula Jrs. and Vees. Saturday's first race for this group was won by Frank Filangeri in his 1951 MG TD after a close dice with Eric Russell in his MGA. Eric Logan in his Formcar FV got past Mike Virr's Morgan to finish third. The next race saw Filangeri holding off Russell who failed to finish so Virr came in second and James Juhas in his MGA third after starting in seventh. Late in the afternoon, in the final Group 4 race it was all MGs as Filangeri, Michael Clifford in an MGA and Juhas in a tight finish.

Alfas made up the majority of the pack in Group 5 for faster production cars so it wasn't surprising when Paul Glynn in his 1957 Veloce



#225 Jim Messenger, 1957 Alfa Giulietta; #576 Whit Smith, 1958 Alfa Romeo Sprint.

took all three races for this group. Veteran Jim Bok turned in a strong performance finishing second in all three races. Larry McKenna driving his beautiful 1959 Stanguellini Formula Junior was second in the first two races but Anthony Thompson and his Lotus 7 took third in the final race.

Bob Thacik and Roger Cassin both in very fast Elva Mk 7s dominated the featured sports racer event. Thacik held off Cassin to win the first races but was edged out by Cassin in the second race later in the afternoon. He also won the final race of the afternoon. Joey Bojalad was third in the first two races in an Elva but this time he was driving an Mk VI. Laurent Fumex in a Ginetta was out of the top three in the first two races but second in the last race ahead of the Lotus 7 of Baxter Phillips.

VSCCA Chief Steward Bob Melhado reported that three of the students from the VSCCA driver's school during the Spring Sprints did well and he was able to sign off on their VSCCA license.



#447 Mike Virr, 1959 Morgan 4; #928 Frank Filangeri, 1951 MG TD; #116 Michael Clifford, 1959 MGA; #311 James Juhas, 1957 MGA.

ENTRANTS LIST

GROUP 1

DRIVER/CAR

E. Assentato/2017 Ford Focus
S. Barton/1995 Camaro
K. Carlson/1963 Jaguar XK-D
R. Clarkson/1999 Jaguar XK-8
K. Danneil/1988 Pontiac Fiero
J. Depietro/1976 Jaguar XJ-6C
G. Deutermann/2015 Subaru BRZ
E. Hot/Audi
M. Husted/2002 Lexus IS 300
E. Ignatowski/2013 Subaru BRZ
B. Knoll/2013 Subaru WRXSTI
A. Lindemann/1965 Shelby 350GT
C. luia/2001 Corvette
T. Moses/1970 Jaguar XK-E
F. Nemzer/2004 Mazda Miata
M. Otey/1975 BMW 2002
S. Porter/2002 Corvette
H. Shamamian/1995 Jaguar XJ-S
T. Spadaro/1965 Lancia Fulvia
B. Stark/2008 Cadillac STS
A. Thompson/1998 VW Jetta
A. Washburn/1965 Ford Shelby GT 350
R. Webber/2009 Mercedes SL550



photo by Phil Maddalena

#181 Anthony Thompson, 1959 Lotus 7.

GROUP 2

DRIVER/CAR

A. Bass/2015 BMW i8 Hybrid
J. Berger/2002 Corvette
J. Brown/1984 VW GTI
A. Ciarullo/Alfa Romeo GTV 1971
C. Clark/1987 Mazda RX-7
D. Cusano/1965 Jaguar XK-E
M. Dunham/2004 Corvette
M. Goodman/2014 Porsche 911
G. Hackenberg/1999 Mazda Miata

G. Hagopian/1964 MG Midget
D. Hagopian/1968 Porsche 911
D. Lee/2016 Porsche Cayman GT4
S. Lentz/1990 Mazda Miata
A. Lindemann/1966 Shelby 350 GT
J. Loring/1994 Dodge Viper
P. Porter/2002 Corvette
L. Spada/2002 Corvette
R. Zisa/1988 Corvette



photo by Dow Smith

#58 Len Schrader, 1965 Volvo Amazon 122.

GROUP 3

DRIVER/CAR

R. Black/1971 Ford Pinto
B. Brady/1974 Alfa Romeo GTV
J. Bush/1965 Jaguar XK-E
J. Clapp/1970 Datsun 240Z
J. Creel/1963 Triumph Spitfire
A. DeBonis/1967 Corvette
J. DeSantis/1965 Ford Mustang
B. Donovan/1962 Jaguar XK-E
M. Dube/1973 Camaro
P. Dunn/1963 Morgan 4/4
J. Einhorn/1964 Austin Healey 3000
G. Every/1969 I Corvette
N. Ferreira/1971 Fiat 124
J. Glass/1965 Corvette
T. Goneos/1968 Porsche 911
D. Gott/1962 Triumph TR-4
P. Gott/1965 Triumph TR-4A
F. Grimaldi/1968 Camaro
M. Gunsalus/1966 Shelby GT350
J. Hamblin/1968 Porsche 911 ST
M. Harmuth/1963 Triumph Spitfire
C. Homer/1964 Corvette
D. Hutchings/1972 Porsche 911
H. Jones/1972 BMW 2002tii
C. Lampe/1968 Camaro
R. Lang/1973 Triumph TR-6

M. Leccese/1967 Triumph TR-4
A. Lynn/1985 Porsche 911
P. McCarthy/1962 Austin Healey Ashley
Sprite
G. Meindl/1965 Ford Mustang
J. Messenger/1963 Jaguar XK-E
S. Moulton/1971 Ford Pinto
J. Neiblum/1969 Porsche 911
P. Paparella/1973 BMW 2002tii
J. Rabe/1967 Jaguar XK-E
J. Scott/1973 Porsche 911 RS
B. Shields/1973 Alfa Romeo GTV
S. Stickle/1963 Jaguar XK-E
V. Vaccaro/1972 Alfa GTV
B. Whipple/1962 Austin Mini Cooper

GROUP 4

DRIVER/CAR

E. Brown/1957 Morgan +4
R. Campbell/1959 Crosley H-Mod
M. Clifford/1959 MGA
K. Eckler/1958 Morgan +4
T. Ellsworth/1935 Ford Amilcar
J. Feingold/1960 Alfa Romeo Giulietta
F. Filangeri/1951 MG TD
S. Forer/1951 Jaguar XK-120
T. Hill/1965 Alfa Romeo Giulia TI
J. Hoover/1960 Austin Healey Sprite
J. Juhas/1957 MGA
T. LaCosta/Lancia
D. lees/1965 Volvo P1800



photo by Dow Smith

#68 Michael Dube, 1973 Camaro.

M. Loefferts/1959 Stanguelini F Jr
E. Logan/1964 Formcar
R. McCurdy/1957 Triumph TR-3
T. Monti/1962 Formcar
E. Russell/1961 MGA
L. Schrader/1965 Volvo Amazon 122
J. Sienkiewicz/1959 MGA

B. Tarlow/1959 Austin Healey Sprite
W.C. Towner/1951 Morgan +4

GROUP 5

DRIVER/CAR

D. Abraham/1958 Alfa Romeo Giulietta
A. Bachana/1963 MG Midget
J. Bok/1961 Lotus 7
D. Dazet/1961 Austin Healey Sprite
D. Giedra/1965 Datsun Roadster
P. Glynn/1957 Alfa Romeo Veloce
J. Goodman/1958 Alfa Romeo Veloce
R. Hill/1965 Alfa Romeo Giulia TI
S. Lehrman/1959 Alfa Romeo Giulietta
J. Messenger/1957 Alfa Romeo Giulietta
B. O'Connor/1959 MGA
C. Pitt/1964 MG Midget
N. Polemni/1959 Volvo PV544
E. Sanson/1960 Alfa Romeo Giulietta
W. Smith/1958 Alfa Romeo Sprint
S. Spadaro/1958 Alfa Romeo Giulietta
Sprint

A. Thompson/1959 Lotus 7

M. Virr/1959 Morgan 4

GROUP 6

DRIVER/CAR

A. Battifarano/1968 Lotus Super 7
J. Bojalad/1960 Elva Mk VI
R. Cassin/1964 Elva Mk 7S
C. Chenoweth/1959 Lola Mk 1
T. Clifford/1956 Lotus 11
C. Cogswell/1958 Lotus 11
J. Freeman/1958 Devin SS
L. Fumex/1968 Ginetta G-16
C. Fumex/1962 Lotus Super 7
B. Gelles/1965 Chevron B-31
W. Herman/1959 Lola Mk 1
M. Kaleel/1962 Lotus Super 7
R. Kresch/1965 Beach Mk IV
T. Kurtz/1967 Ginetta G-12
M. McCullough/1962 Lotus 23
L. McKenna/1959 Stanguelini F Jr
M. Oritt/1959 Elva Mk IV
B. Phillips/Lotus 7
D. Rose/1959 Lotus 11
A. Saidel/1959 Jomar SSR 1
B. Tkacik/1965 Elva Mk 7S
A. Tosler/1962 Lotus 7
C. Whitney/1955 Lotus Mk 9
D. Zavetsky/1959 Devin Healey PE-5 ?