



Jerry Morici, Lotus 22; Rick Maloumian, Austin Healey 100; M. Stein in an Austin Healey 100.

VSCCA 2010 Season Opening Vintage Races & Racing School

Pocono Raceway, PA

April 10-11, 2010

-story by Shaun Henderson

-photos by Ed Hyman

Pocono holds a special place in the VSCCA calendar as the first event of the season after a long, slow Winter. Much of my time during the cold months had been spent huddled with J.R. Mitchell at GMT Racing planning and executing a comprehensive rebuild of my "duct tape & bailing wire" Morgan. Not to go any quicker, since it is already faster than the driver, but to improve the handling and safety, mostly safety. J.R. and I firmly believe that no one should ever get hurt racing a vintage car.

The Pocono mountains in April are subject to snow/rain/ cold. This year the "no-rain God dance" worked and a dry race weekend ensured plenty of track time for everybody. Pocono is also the drivers School for new members who numbered an impressive 18 students. Wily Howarth Gilmore had persuaded me to help the students with a mentoring program to ensure they knew the bathroom locations and understood tech inspection of their widely varying would be

race cars. I was quite impressed at the level of enthusiasm and commitment with cars ranging from a 60's Mini to a '59 Peerless. Students are building cars and really getting in to the spirit of VSCCA showing up at later events in the calendar. Josh Mitchell showed some talented DNA and will prove to be a very good driver in the future.

Charles Bordin runs the school in a low key and understandable way that makes the students feel comfortable and safe; very important for newbies. It is only two years ago that I was a student wondering what I had gotten into, and which gear exactly did one race in? Several students had come from other series and showed considerable speed later in the weekend, especially that Mini dicing with Activities Chairman, Bob Klingenburg in his 356.

Friends often say, somewhat wistfully, that they wish they could go racing too. I remind them that I started only two years ago at the ripe old age of 60 and do not have a trust fund to pay for this activity. It is a fairly inexpensive sport to get into, VSCCA now has a class for Mid Century Saloons so that 60s Volvos, Saabs, Austins and Morris are a great way to begin. I am preparing two cars for this new class, a 1960 Riley 1.5 and a 1967 Citroen ID 19, neither will

be the fastest car on the track but I predict will be very enjoyable to drive and watch. And you make wonderful friends.

Event chairs Andrew Perlman and Ryan Smith do a splendid job of organising a great fun weekend at this huge facility. The ghosts of 42 thundering NASCAR's 3200lb monster machines circulating at near 200 mph is never far from ones mind. My Morgan reaches about 115 mph on the banking which is probably pace car speed for the "Pros".

VSCCA uses the North Course which comprises one turn, half a straight and a complex mid field twisty section. Surprisingly challenging and massively enjoyable.

Lap times are very similar to Lime Rock Park, in my case 1.10-11's when cobwebs are blown away. I immediately blotted my copy book and got black flagged for spinning in a straight line on very cold tires. Uncle Andrew was not amused.

Pal Kevin Murphy accompanied me and quickly got into the swing of things. He will be a new member this year and is good with a wrench.

Since my car generally runs mid-pack I am concentrating on getting good starts and being consistent. Super star driving coach Bruce Mac Innes says be in a higher gear for quicker times, it takes time to penetrate my thick noggin. The car definitely felt more stable from GMT's care so speed will come eventually.



David George, Alfa;
R. Smith, Daimler SP250.



Bob Kingenberg, Porsche 356;
Jim Stein, Porsche 356.

ENTRY LIST DRIVER/CAR

B. Gelles/Stangullini
J. Morici/Lotus 22
J. Mitchell/Lotus 18
R. Maloumina/AH 100
A. Miller/AH 100
N. Berke/Elva
B. Klingenburg/Porsche 356
S. Fenly/Elite

J. Beil/RSK
R. Maloumian/MGA
M. Stein/AH 100
R. Maloumian/AH 100
J. Stein/Porsche 356
E. Sanson/Alfa
J. Goodman/Alfa
A. Schmidt/MGA
D. George/Alfa
B. Rudin/Alfa

D. Baker/Porsche 356
T. Earle/AH 100
S. Henderson/Morgan
R. Miabile/AH 100
C. Schwab/Turner
J. Stein/356
R.J. Mirabile/AH 100
J. Amorosa/TR2
J. Juhas/MGA
R. Laepple/Porsche 356
T. Potter/Alfa
J. Warren/MGA
G. Ford/HRG
R. Morse/MGTC
M. Mulroney/Morgan
J. Schiefflin/Volvo
J. Greller/Veritas
D. Baker/356
J. Juhas/MGA
B. Rudin/1934 Alfa
**STUDENTS
DRIVER/CAR**
K. Dornemann/AH 100
T. Ferratti/Camaro
T. Ferratti/Turner
R. Koon/MGTC

D. Levinson/Bugeye
E. Logan/Formcar
D. King
P. Mccarthy/Sprite
L. Neuman/MGB
R. Noble
C. Sauro/Sunbeam
J. Sienkiewicz/MGA
W. Scheeren/MGA
G. Tarjan/Peerless
B. Whipple/Mini
J. Mitchell/Lotus 18
P. Rhel/BMW



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