VINTAGE RACER GROUP
VRG
JULY 2012 VOL. 9.3

PVGP/VRG Historic Races at PIRC, (formerly known as BeaveRun) AUCTION for AUTISM

NEWSLETTER

WWW.VRGONLINE.ORG

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You Know You Are a Racer When*...

* You feel compelled on a road trip to beat your previous time.
* You are happiest when your street car's tires are worn to "racing depth"
* When something falls off your car you wonder how much weight you just saved.
* When you hear "overcooked it" instead of food you think "off the track"
* You change engine oil every other week.
* You sometimes hear little noises from passengers when you get on the throttle right after turning in
* Your racing budget is one of the big three---mortgage, car payments and maintenance.
* Your e-mail address refers to your race car rather than you.
* You walk "proper lines" through the grocery store.
* You've paid $10.00 a gallon for gasoline without complaining.
* You buy new parts because you can't remember where you put the spares.
* You find that you need a new house because you've outgrown your garage and the neighbors are threatening violence if you park one more vehicle in your driveway or in the front yard.
* The requirements you give your real estate agent are (in order of importance):
* 8-car climate controlled garage with an attached shop.
* Outside parking for six cars, a motor home, a crew cab dualie, a 28 foot enclosed trailer, 3phase 220V outlets in the garage for your welder.
* A grease pit.
* Conveniently close to a hazardous waste disposal site.
* Deaf neighbors.
* Across the street from a paint and body shop.
* Some sort of house with a working toilet and shower on the property or a hookup for the motor home.
* You measure all family acquisitions in terms of the number of race tires that could have been bought.
* You sit in your racecar in the dark garage and make car noises and shift and practice your heel and toe, while waiting for your motor to get back from the machine shop.
* You look at the purchase of tools as a long-term investment.
* Your wife says "if you purchase another set of tires, I'm getting a new mink"
* Your garage holds more cars than your house has bedrooms.
* You have enough spare parts to build another car.
* More than one racer supply house recognizes your voice and greets you by name when you call.

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VRG RACE SCHEDULE

2012

FEBRUARY 11, 2012	WINTER WARM-UP KARTING - GRAND PRIX NEW YORK, MT. KISCO, NY Event Chairman: Darry Bova, Tel: 203-329-9710 Email: darry@vrgonline.org
MARCH, 2012 (TBA)	PITTSBURGH AREA VINTAGE RACERS WINTER DINNER Event Chairman: Keith Lawrence, Tel: 412-995-7101 or Email: keith@vrgonline.org
APRIL , 2012 (TBA)	VDCA WILD HARE RUN, VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY, ALTON, VA Event Chairman: Mike Jackson, Tel: 561-622-7554 Email: vdca@vintagedrive.com
MAY 12-13, 2012	VINTAGE CELEBRATION - NEW HAMPSHIRE MOTOR SPEEDWAY, LOUDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE Event Chairman: Dave Fromer, Tel: 802-253-8854 Email: dave@vrgonline.org Gary Hagopian, Tel: 413-537-8427 Email: gary@vrgonline.org John Kieley, Tel: 603-878-1220 Email: kieley@vrgonline.org
MAY 17-20, 2012	"JEFFERSON 500" AT SUMMIT POINT, WEST VIRGINIA Including Free Test Day. Driver's School begins Wednesday, May 16th Event Chairman: Steve Limbert, Tel: 717-432-4116 Asst: Cal Trumbo, Tel: 704-248-0321 Email: cal@vrgonline.org Registrar: Jim Karamanis, Tel: 571-762-3125 Email: jim@vrgonline.org
JUNE 14-17, 2012	VARAC - CANADIAN HISTORIC GRAND PRIX, MOSPORT Event Chairman: Bob DeShane, Tel: 705-878-53305422 Email: bob.deshane@varac.ca
✓ JULY 13-15, 2012	PVGP HISTORIC RACES, PIRC, WAMPUM, PA Friday, July 13 is Optional Test & Tune Event Chairman: Keith Lawerence, Tel: 724-941-5330 Email: keith@vrgonline.org
SEPT. 22-23, 2012	"NEW JERSEY HISTORIC RACES," NJMP MILLVILLE, NJ, on Lightning Raceway Event Chairman, Butch O'Connor, Tel 973-769-7707 Email: butch@vrgonline.org
OCT. 12-14, 2012	VRG AT THE GLEN, WATKINS GLEN, NY Event Chairman: Bob Girvin, Tel: 508-429-2818 Email: bob@vrgonline.org Registrar: Mike Lawton Tel: 978-274-5935 Email: lawton@vrgonline.org
NOV. 23-25, 2012	TURKEY BOWL XIII, SUMMIT POINT, WEST VIRGINIA Event Chairman: Cal Trumbo, Tel: 704-248-0321 Email: cal@vrgonline.org

Visit the VRG website at www.vrgonline.org for changes and updates to the schedule

You Know You Are a Racer When*… con't

* You think the last line of the Star Spangled Banner is " racers start your engines".
* You're registered for birthday gifts at Pegasus and Racer's Wholesale.
* Your Christmas list begins with "another set of Hoosier TD'S and aluminum rods" and your significant other knows what these are.
* After you answer to "what did you do this weekend?" the next question is always "and you do this for fun? Right?"
* You have a separate drawer for garage clothes.
* Your reading material in the bathroom consists of auto parts and racing supply catalogues. Several books written by famous drivers, none of which have centerfolds.
* People know you by your class letter car number and car color.
* People know you by your "offs". "oh you're the one stuck in the button bog last weekend".
* Your first date involves asking her to crew for you.
* Your criteria for selecting a significant other includes auto repair skills, tools optional.
* Your friends don't recognize you without a helmet and driver's suit.
* You plan all significant events around the race schedule.
* You astound the clerk at Sears by bringing in a snapped Craftsman breaker bar every other week or so.
* You remember the dates and details of every race you've ever been in but can't remember your phone number.
* Your family brings the couch into the garage so they can spend some time with you.
* You complain that cars in front of you on the highway off ramp don't hold the racing line, causing your exit speed to drop.
* A neighbor asks if you have any oil, to which you query, "Synthetic or regular" to which they reply "vegetable or corn".
* You refer to the corner down the street from your house as turn one.
* You look at the fire hydrant on that corner and see an apex marker.
* You always late apex the intersection and try to pass a few cars coming out.
* Everywhere you go you always try to find the fastest line through the turn.
* You always do a heel toe downshift while your passengers give you a real funny look.
* You think that traction control and ABS are for those who can't drive.
* You save broken car parts as mementos.
* Your last several highway forays included just brushing the curbs as you apexed the on ramps perfectly.
* You've found that your lawn mower runs pretty good on 108-octane gas, but doesn't care for alcohol
* The local tire shop manger won't honor the tread life warranty on any car that you have been within 50 yards of.
* The local police and highway patrol have a picture of your car taped to the dashboard.
* You spend more time polishing you exhaust tips every day than you do bathing.
* Instead of pictures in your wallet you have qualifying times.
* You would choose a roll bar over air conditioning if it were an option.
* You consider the redline on your tachometer as a "conservative' suggestion and your rev limiter as a "fun" limiter.
* You spend more on insurance premiums than on food.
* Your idea of a good time is sitting around figuring out gear ratios and the ideal final drive ratio for a given situation.
* When someone asks you where you went to school you reply "Skip Barber".
* You have racing shops programmed on your speed dialer.
* You own five cars and only one of them is street legal.
* You know the ¼ mile times and skid pad numbers of you rider mower and you want to improve them.
* You've started looking for sponsors for your daily commute.
* After you tell your wife where you would like to go on your vacation she replies "why.. is there a race there?

Excerpted from VSCDA Newsletter January 2002

New Hampshire 2012 photos by Phil Maddalena

NEW HAMPSHIRE MOTOR SPEEDWAY
Photos by Philip Maddalena Racing Photography

NHMS Vintage Racing Celebration May 12, 2012

The 22nd Annual Vintage Racing Celebration was another successful weekend of racing for VRG members, with good weather, good driving, and good food!

Two days on a dry track produced some exciting racing in three race groups with students in group 4 getting practice starts on Saturday, and actual racing on Sunday. Drivers stayed mostly on the track, resulting in nearly incident-free racing all weekend.

Ed Valpey ran the VRG Driving School. It was well attended by some pretty impressive students. Dick Fryberger, an experienced vintage racer entered as a Level 3 student and even he picked up a few pointers. Ed selected Michael Marek as the outstanding student and presented him with an award.

Friday night saw the start of a new tradition with our Garage Special BBQ. It was well attended as we invite all drivers and families, crew and corner works to enjoy some local BBQ. Special thanks to this years sponsor Gary Hagopian. We hope this continues and grows to be part of the event weekend.

Competition was evident all weekend resulting in spirited racing by all of the race groups. In Sunday's sprint races we saw three different race winners in Group 1. Pete Sanders, Paul Bova and Ray Quaranto all took race wins and were followed closely by Gregor Tarjan in his Elford Porsche 914, John Faulkner in an MGA and Nial McCabe in an AH Sprite. Group 2 had Don Denomme and Peter McLaughlin each win with Ivan Frantz, John Rutherford, and Richard Morris giving chase. And last, but certainly not least, Group 3 saw Chris Homer and Frank Grimaldi trade wins and in their final race swap leads many times thrilling our spectators, while Rod Folia, Dave Reid, Robert Black, and Matt Hagopian gave chase. You can find all of the results at www.mylaps.com

We took a moment to honor John Kieley's many years of dedication in chairing the Vintage Celebration, by awarding him the Belknap Cup. This trophy is provided by the track to recognize the member most embodying the spirit of vintage racing. In appreciation, new event chair David Fromer presented the trophy to John to the applause of his appreciative fellow VRG racers. Thanks John!!

A special thanks to Ralph Steinberg who gave up his weekend to drive from PA just to tech inspect our 70 cars. Thanks too, to Mack McCormack and grid master Ken Astrove, who were on the grid keeping things in order.

The delicious lobster dinner at Makris Restaurant was served outside on a beautiful evening, followed by Gordon Kirby's amazing recollection of his 39 years of covering all types of racing events. We also presented VRG Club awards in each of the three (3) race groups. These awards recognize competitors who exemplify the spirit of our club. Group 1 award was presented to Paul Bova, Group 2 award went to Richard Morris and Group 3 award went to Doug Fraser.

The 2013 NHMS Vintage Racing Celebration will be held on the first weekend in August when our racing calendars are not so crowded, and the weather is more dependable. We look forward to seeing you August 2, 3 and 4 in 2013. Please pencil in the new date, and plan to join us next year for another fine weekend of racing !

Dave Fromer

New Hampshire 2012 - Photos by Michele Allen

JEFFERSON 500 2012

In 2012, the "reborn" Jefferson 500 became fully mature, with the organization and operation of the event hitting on all cylinders. Many wonderful features, from the early-bird entry reward of a free test day on Thursday, the inclusion of the IMSA RS Reunion, the great turnout of Formula Fords, Formula Vees and Sports 2000 cars, the nearly perfect weather and the presence of this year's Grand Marshal, Cobra Daytona Coupe designer and Brock Racing Enterprises (BRE) principal Peter Brock, all combined to make this Jefferson 500 easily the best ever.

As the US historic racing schedule becomes more and more crowded, tracks and clubs both are struggling to find a balance that will attract like cars (and like enthusiasts to drive them) in enough of a quantity to make the event worthwhile. The combination of palpable upgrades at an already conveniently located track, one where a very good driver in an average car can often beat a good driver in a great car, makes the Jefferson 500 one event that enjoys tremendous and valuable loyalty among it's participants.

From the initial vision of Steve Limbert and Bob Houston resulting in the relaunch of the event several years ago to the seamless schedule and safety crew headed by Chief Steward Steve Hyatt and the thoughtful, incredibly thorough Drivers Committee chaired by Bob Girvin, the real stars of the show were the dynamic VRG duo of Registrar Cal Trumbo and Webmaster and Trumbo's Man Friday, Jim Karamanis.

Communication, a workable schedule and execution were vastly improved over previous years. This year, every competitor wore a broad smile! Peter Brock was gracious in his time and comments at the dinner, but seemed to relish pace car duties the most, as a real racer would! The Friday evening Track Walk to benefit Wounded Warrior Foundation proved very popular, raising nearly $1600 for this great cause. A big shout out to John Deford, who was the gracious and generous high bidder for one of the two banners signed by every one of the event participants. John won that race easily!

Let's talk about the racing, which was as good as the rest of the event! The small-bore turnout was reminiscent of the early days of the Jefferson 500 in the early '90's, so much so that the Lola Cup for under 1500cc cars was split out from the burgeoning Marlboro Cup, traditionally the group for 1300cc to 2500cc sports cars. In the Lola Cup race, the buzzing hornets nest of Spitfires, Minis and Spridgets (along with the Konsin's indecently fast MGA) put on a great show. In the small bore formula car group, Group 6, a huge turnout of Formula Vees boasted crowded fields and exciting racing.

In the larger bore formula and sports racing car group, an exceptional turnout of both Formula Fords, Club Fords and Sports 2000 cars assured that there would always be someone to race with. One of the prettiest cars

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JEFFERSON 500 2012

View more Jefferson 500 photos at www.billstoler.com

JEFFERSON 500 photos by Bill Stoler

JEFFERSON 500 2012, con't

present was Steve Haessly's stunning Lola T-492 Sports 2000, one of the first of it's kind and nearly 35 years old, resplendent in black and bright red livery. Steve used this event to return to racing nearly a decade and a half after last racing at Summit Point in the same car. One of the most exciting drivers in a Formula Ford, Lotus aficionado Kyle Kaulback, flung his pretty Lotus FF around at great speed. Bob Bruce and the father/son duo of David and Scott Fairchild were a lot of fun to watch, too.

A few rare and unusual small bore Production cars and specials included Doug Meis' Honda S-800 Roadster with it's 10,000 RPM redline, Hugh Tompkins' aluminum tube-framed Alfa Romeo powered sports racing Bobsy built in Ohio, Dan Leonard's beautiful "time warp" Speedwell Sprite coupe and a favorite of mine, the stunning 356 from Porschephile Tom Beil's collection.

From Jim Freeman's Matich Can-Am (the Kangaroo car) to Nial McCabe's Sprite, everyone had someone to race with, very reminiscent of the Jefferson 500's from the early '90's. In the Eifel race for Porsches, Kent Bain and Porsche Club of America Club Racing founder Alan Friedman put on a great show, with Dave Gussack and a rapidly improving Dan McChesney nipping at their heels. In the IMSA/SCCA RS 2.5 Reunion Race, local ace and Washington DC Region SCCA GT Pinto class founder Bruce Shelton, one of the winningest drivers at Summit Point held off the charging Alfa Romeos of Rob Mocas and Tom Benjamin in their Alfa Romeo GTV's. Organizer and cheerleader for these cars, Brian Walsh put on another good show in his forty-year old IMSA RS Pinto raced originally by his father!

In the Formula Car race on Sunday, Vintage Racing Services principal Brian Rechtiene triumphed again in his immaculate GRD, but the real show was Bob Bruce pipping Scott Fairchild to the line by four-tenths of a second for the Club Ford win and Scott Nettleship's pretty Crossle nipping Dave Fairchild's Zink Z-10 by a half-second! In the Monoposto Classic Ford battle, a rapidly improving Bill Demarest showed well behind Cal Trumbo's winning performance in Sunday's race. The FVee crowd was well represented, with VDCA principal Mike Jackson putting on a clinic in Harvey Templeton's beautiful and fast creation over Paul Buttrose, Paul Meis and brothers John and Doug White. It was a great race to watch!

A hallmark of the success of this event was how people lingered as they packed up on Sunday afternoon, not anxious to leave their friends and the special feeling of the weekend. The results of the online survey indicate that if the event continues the way it did this year, run the way it was this year, nearly ninety percent of the respondents will be back next year. You can't get a better result than that!

Peter Krause

(Peter Krause has been to every Jefferson 500 since it's inception - ed)

2012 Jefferson 500

Bill Stoler Photography

Jefferson
500
DATSUN
Dynamics
Vienna
15
S2
10
GP
27
6
49
310
88

Jefferson 500 Dinner

VRG Drivers Schools 2012

It's been a milestone year for VRG's driver development program, which had more than 30 participants. We once again held our traditional NHMS school, but the real news was our first drivers school at a second facility, Summit Point Motorsports Park. The school was held in conjunction with the Jefferson 500. The Summit Point (SPR) facility began hosting motor races in 1970. More importantly, however, with the track's purchase by Bill Scott in the early 1980s, was SPR's transformation into a training facility for EVOC and Counter-Terrorism driver training. As demand grew so did the facility, which today boasts 3 independent race courses, a karting/training track and two skid pads.

VRG's school was held on the Shenandoah circuit, which can be divided into multiple courses, and the accompanying paddock, which has an excellent, purpose-built skid pad. As a result, we were able to divide the students into three groups that ran various exercises concurrently. While the skills portion of the school took place during a single day, the seat time was at least double what we've been able to offer in the past. While one group honed car control skills the skid pad, the second worked on threshold braking, trail-braking and heel-and-toe downshifting and the third group worked on the racing line. During the following day, a test day on the Summit Point track, students were given three dedicated run groups where they worked on racing lines and practice starts.

VRG's drivers school has earned the respect of the vintage racing community, and the Summit Point facility has allowed us to raise the bar even further. We're hopeful of a long and prosperous relationship.

Edward Valpey

VINTAGE RACER GROUP

VRG

MARK PALMER, SECRETARY
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Nazareth, PA 18064

WWW.VRGONLINE.ORG

For the driver who enjoys racing with others who value driver attitude, skill and car preparation.

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Paul Bova, Treasurer
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PIRC (BeaveRun) July 13 - 15,

Remember To Bring Auction Items

Please don't forget to bring an item for our charity auction.!!

As in previous years we will hold an auction at PIRC to raise money for the PVGP charities.

If you have an item kicking around your garage or basement that you no longer need or want please *go get it and put it in your trailer right now.*

Our auction is only as successful as the items that we offer. Let's make this year's auction a record breaker!