



RING FREE GOES RACING – AGAIN



2013 Glenora Wine Cellars U.S. Vintage Grand Prix WATKINS GLEN INTERNATIONAL

Shortly after leaving Lime Rock Tuesday morning we ran into problems with the motorhome which turned out to be the fuel pump. Fortunately, we had a spare electric fuel pump for the race car which we spliced into the motorhome fuel line. We stayed overnight in Owego, NY and arrived at The Glen at 10:30 Wednesday morning.



Our early arrival gained us an ideal spot in the paddock complete with an electric hook-up.



Tech Inspection was held in the garages. Due to the bad weather at Lime Rock we had to change rear ends here since the bad weather prevented us from making the change before we left Lime Rock. We used the 4:11 for Lime Rock however, *The Glen* required the 3:89.



Chuck Cantwell, Carroll Shelby’s project manager on the 1966 Group II Notchbacks, was at the event. He mentioned that he was actually the first driver to take our car out on the track (Willow Springs) for testing.



Historic Trans-Am Photo

Our first practice session was Thursday afternoon. Our best time was a 2:40 which was a good 10 seconds off our best time in 2006.



Historic Trans-Am Photo

In Friday mornings Qualifying session Jan was able to get down to a 2:29.6. This time kept us in a pack with Tom McIntyres’ 1968 Penske-Hilton Sunoco Camaro, Christi Edelbrock, in Smokey Unick’s 1968 Camaro and the 1969 Ford Mustang of Marty Beaulieu.



Historic Trans-Am Photo

This pack was to be seen swapping positions for the entire weekend.



Reunited are two ex-John Gimbel Mustangs. Our 1966 Shelby Notchback and the 1969 Shelby Boss 302.



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Franklin Street, Watkins Glen, NY

Due to the unfortunate incident during the 2006 Downtown Old Course re-enactment, passenger seats and seatbelts are now required for the passenger(s) on the trip into town. As we have no passenger seat, I went into town with our good friends Sharon and Steve Francis while Jan drove the car in.



Along with the race cars a section of Franklin Street is reserved for a concours.



Historic Trans-Am Photo

Two 1966 Notchbacks heading into town.

Once again it was a terrific turnout in town. The car was left to speak for itself as Sharon, Steve, Jan and I took in the local atmosphere and hospitality.



Jan and Michael Eisenberg enjoying the festivities.



Sharon and Steve at the mural on Franklin Street



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Historic Trans-Am Group drivers, owners and crew

Saturday there was a Media Lunch for the Historic Trans-Am Group in the Watkins Glen Media Center.



Robert Barg, Bill Kaltschitz, Christina Nelson, Jan Nelson

Besides Jan, there were two other original drivers from the *Golden Years of Trans-Am* at the luncheon. Robert Barg, driver of the #39 Camaro and Warren Agor, driver of the #13 Camaro.



Warren Agor and Chuck Cantwell

Saturday evening we skipped the “SVRA” dinner in favor of a buffet given by Bob Kaufmann of the “Historic Trans-Am Group”. After the buffet dinner Steve Francis picked us up and took us to the Seneca Lodge to top off a great evening. The memorabilia on the walls and ceiling and the honky-tonk piano is something to be seen and heard!



Historic Trans-Am Photo



Mark Robinson, Greg Galdi, Jeff Norton, Jan Nelson and Steve Francis at the Seneca Lodge.



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Historic Trans-Am Photo

Many of the same Trans-Am cars exiting turn 1 as they did 43 years ago at *The Glen*.



A pre-race “Historic Trans-Am” drivers meeting was held under the Edelbrock tent by “Historic Trans-Ams” Tom McIntyre. Afterwards, the drivers posed for a group photo outside “the big red tent”.



Alphabetically

Ken Adams
Marty Beaulieu
Terry Bookheimer
Walter Brown
Bill Bryan
Christie Edelbrock
Vic Edelbrock
Mike Eisenberg
Ken Epsman
Brian Ferrin

Tom Forgione
Phil Gallant
Jim Glass
Bill Godwin
Richard Goldsmith
Jim Hague
Jim Halsey
Tony Hart
Mike Joy
Robert Kaufman

Isaac Keeler
Chris Libenberg
Tom McIntyre
Ross Myers
Jan Nelson
Bill Ockerlund
Jim Reed
Pat Ryan
Ed Wheatley

A Fan-Walk for the “Historic Trans-Am” cars was held at 1:00 on Sunday prior to the “New York Governor’s Cup Historic Trans-Am” race. The cars were gridded in pit lane and fans were able to get up-close to the cars and driv-



Historic Trans-Am Photo



Car #6 was entered by Ray Cuomo Racing Enterprises and driven by Jan Nelson in the 1970 “Watkins Glen Trans-Am” and the 1976 “Watkins Glen 6 Hour/Trans-Am”.



Car #6 as it appeared at the 1976 Glen 6 Hour/Trans-Am.