



RING FREE GOES RACING – AGAIN



2011 Kohler International Challenge

Road America, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin

The Historic Trans-Am Group made its Summer Tour 2011 to St. Jovite and Road America. Time and expense was to limit our participation to only one event, Road America. Our first trip to Road America had everything we were used to: problems, good friends, fun and racing!

We still had a problem with the engine breaking up at 6800 rpm however, a more serious problem was to come. On the last lap, of the fourth and last session of the day, the transmission siezed in 4th gear at the end of the front straight. Since we had the transmission rebuilt with “new” gears in 2008, this was the second time the transmission siezed in 4th gear. Before the “rebuild” the transmission had never failed in all our years of racing. We were to learn that the quality of the gears available today are not of the quality of the Ford gears of the 1960’s and 70’s.



Fortunately, Chris Liebenberg, of Ross Meyers 3 Dog Garage, had a spare Toploader transmission for their 1968 car and offered to loan it to us for the event. Working late into the night we were ready for Friday practice and the trip into the town of Elkhart Lake Friday evening.

The first session of Thursdays Practice Day was uneventful with Jan learning the course. Not so after 2 laps of the second session. Jan came in with noise in the rear end, which we just had rebuilt with a new True-Trac locker. We installed a 4:11 Detroit Locker, which in fact turned out to be a better ratio for the course.



It was very reminiscent of Watkins Glen. The cars of The Historic Trans-Am Group led the race cars into town.





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Chris Liebenberg behind the wheel of the George Follmer 1970 Bud Moore Boss 302 Mustang owned by Ross Meyers.



We were parked between the 1970 George Follmer Boss 302 and the 1968 Smokey Yunick Camaro on the grounds of the Osthoff Lake Resort.



Jan and Michael Martin, driver of the #78 Boss 302.



Jan and Christie Edelbrock, driver of the #13 Smokey Yunick Camaro.



Jan and I made our way back to the Paddock Club for some nourishment and refreshments.





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On the false grid for Saturday mornings practice session, a spectator noticed an oil leak under our car. Jan brought the car back to the pits where we found the oil ring between the oil filter adaptor and the block was leaking. It was replaced with an oil ring from a spare filter Jan had for the motorhome as it required an oil ring from a stock oil filter and not a racing filter.



We were ready for the afternoons Qualifying Race. A car in the previous group dropped oil from Turn 6 to Turn 13. The race was delayed and the cars and drivers were on the false grid for almost an hour while the trackworkers cleaned up the oil slick in the near 100 degree temperature.



They say a picture is worth a thousand words, it can also be very misleading. No, we did not qualify on the front row!



Jan's Godson Scott, who lives in Green Bay, joined the crew on Saturday.



Saturday evenings Historic Trans-Am Group Dinner was held at Siebkens Resort in Elkhart Lake.



Tom McIntyre addressed the group and announced an interest from 2 tracks in Australia and 2 tracks in New Zeland to have the group bring their cars down under.



After dinner, we made our way back to The Paddock Club and had a very enjoyable evening with Jim Hague, Michael Martin and Ken Epsman.



Jim Hague, Michael Martin & Jan Nelson



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ROAD AMERICA *Road Racing at its Best™*

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Historic Trans-Am Photo

Tom McIntyre addresses the drivers during Sundays Drivers Meeting in the shade of the Edelbrock awning.

Sundays race began with the temperature over 100 degrees. After lap one, the field broke down into 5 packs for much of the remainder of the race. The competition was close despite the length of Road America. The field consisted only briefly of cars running alone once the pace of the packs was established.



Historic Trans-Am Photo

Positions were continuously traded within the packs and it was not until the last lap that the field began to spread out to about 8 packs.



Historic Trans-Am Photo



Historic Trans-Am Photo

The Historic Trans-Am group provided a win-win situation for both the spectators and the owner/drivers of these original O/2L 1966 to 1972 Trans-Am cars. Just as the original Trans-Am Series had done over 40 years ago.



Historic Trans-Am Photo

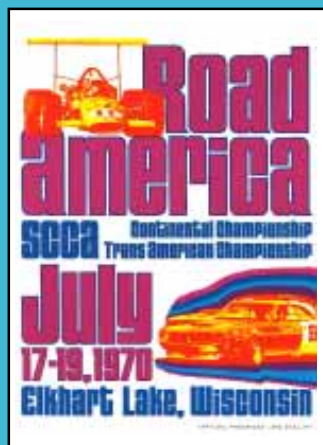
Visit the Historic Trans-Am Website at:
www.historictransam.com



Ken Epsman, driving the Sam Posey 1970 Dodge Challenger, won the event. Sam Posey finished this car in 3rd Place in the first Trans-Am race at Road America in 1970.

Jim Hague, driving the 1972 AMC Javelin, finished in 2nd Place and Bill Ockerlund brought his 1968 Shelby Notchback Mustang home in 3rd.

2011 KOHLER INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE ROAD AMERICA



H I S T O R I C



T R A N S - A M

**Celebrates the
41st Anniversary
of the
First Trans-Am Race
at Road America**



KIC Historic Trans-Am Race			Original Trans-Am Series		1970 Road America
Car #	Driver	Car	Car #	Driver	Finishing Position
1	Jimmy Castle	1970 Chev. Camaro	1	Jim Hall	4th
2	William Ockerlund	1968 Ford Mustang		Allan Moffat, Horst Kwech & George Follmer	
02	Phil Gallant	1968 Boss 302 Mustang	2	Dan Gurney	
5	Michael Eisenberg	1963 Ford Falcon		James Taylor	
6	Patrick Hogan	1969 Chev. Camaro Z28	9	Milt Minter	6th
7	Tony Hart	1967 Chev. Camaro Z28	7	Mark Donohue, Gary Cove Skip Scott, Max Dudley	
12	Chris Liebenberg	1968 Ford Mustang	1	Horst Kwech	
13	Christi Edelbrock	1968 Chev. Camaro		Al Unser and Lloyd Ruby	
16	Vic Edelbrock	1969 Boss 302 Mustang	16	George Follmer	
18	Gary Underwood	Dodge Dart	18	Ron Grable & Jim Hensel	
21	Jimmy Hague	1972 AMC Javelin		Mark Donohue, Roy Woods George Follmer & Vic Elford	
26	Bill Bryan	1968 Pontiac Firebird	26	Jerry Titus	
30	Jim Reed	1967 Chev. Camaro			
33	Terry Underwood	1967 Shelby Ford Mustang	33	John McComb, Jerry Titus, Chuck Cantwell & Dave Dooley	
42	John McKenna	1969 Chev. Camaro		Brock Yates	
43	Drew Alcazar	1969 Boss 302 Mustang	70	Warren Tope & Dick Roe	12th
45	Ken Adams	1969 Boss 302 Mustang	45	Reventlow & Paul Petty	
48	Lance Smith	1970 Chev. Camaro		Jerry Petersen	
57	Forrest Straight	1970 Boss 302 Mustang	57	Danny Moore	
61	Jim Halsey	1970 Boss 302 Mustang	61	Dan Furey	19th
71	Jeffrey Stout	1970 Chev. Camaro	71	Robert Clemens	
72	Jan Nelson	1966 Shelby Ford Mustang	14	Jan Nelson & Ray Cuomo	
78	Michael Martin	1970 Boss 302 Mustang	78	Gary Matthews	
161	Don Lee	1968 Chev. Camaro Z28	6	Mark Donohue	
167	Ross Meyers	1970 Boss 302 Mustang	16	George Follmer	Pole 2:31.0 DNF
211	Ken Epsman	1970 Dodge Challenger	77	Sam Posey	3rd
611	Tom McIntyre	1968 Chev. Camaro	6	Mark Donohue	