Motoring Gazette

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Sports Car Preservation LTD

& Bellefontaine Hill Climb Revival

In August 2019 the Revival of the Bellefontaine Hill Climb became a reality as 45 years of dormancy came to a roaring halt and sports cars were once again climbing the walls of the Mad River Valley in a timed competition. On August 22, the Eighth edition of the Bellefontaine Hill Climb Revival celebrated Ohio Sports Car History by driving the original course as it was used from 1953 to 1974, one of the few historic public road courses still 100% intact and the only one still hosting competitions, a place to touch the roots of history.

Such a multifarious group of characters and cars is seldom found, add a bucolic setting and you have the ingredients for a bit of fun. Veteran competitors and volunteers pair with new and uninitiated enthusiasts starting their adventure into motorsports to create a fabulous experience. The cars are the draw with a slate of traditional sports cars that mimic the grid of the original Hill Climb; MG, Triumph, Morgan, Porsche, Alfa, Renault, Austin Healey, Mustang, Corvette, Packard, add a dose of modernity provided by Miatas, Civics, 911s, Blackwings, & AMGs and you have an unsurpassed Parade of Performance.

Bellefontaine Hill Climb Revival 8! Is in the record book, the lap times archived, now if we could attach all the stories, laughs, loves, likes, wins the whole program would be laid bare for our amusement. We thank everyone profusely for your undying support and enthusiasm for this unique grassroots motorsports experience, motorsports on any level will not survive without the efforts of the volunteer officials managing each function for best results. We topped 120 participants this year with 40 stand alone volunteers, drivers, and guests.

Our hosts around Logan County are always welcoming and add immeasurably to the personality of the event; The Logan County Transportation Museum, The Goshen Friends Church and the Holland Theatre; with special thanks to Pastor Wayne, the happiest

man in Logan County, and all the ladies from the Church for the hospitality. The Logan County Sherriff, the Logan County Engineer's Office, the City of Bellefontaine and the Tri-Valley EMS Fire & Rescue all support the Hill Climb tremendously, we could not conduct the event without their assistance. We appreciate the efforts.

Our safety record is unparalleled, again this year NO INCIDENTS or off course excursions for our crew to report, an approximate total of 415 laps were run throughout the day without any one of us getting stupid and driving off the road unintentionally. BRAVO! No other event I can think of has a track record for the safety we exhibit; and we do this without an onerous rule book but rather through personal responsibility on the part of everyone, especially the drivers-this is truly a remarkable event, populated by remarkable people. Of course, the specter of an incident or accident on a public road would signal the end of the event for the final time. Thanks for your attention on this point, it keeps the event driving forward.

Part of the foundation of the Hill Climb Revival is the support from Car Clubs to staff the various specialties within the event; The Ohio Valley Austin Healey Club, Ferrari Club of America-Ohio Chapter, OVR PCA, BCCGC and Peak Motorsports keep the events rolling along. Peak Motorsports has stepped in as the Course Marshals to direct traffic on the Tour d'Township return roads and along the grid reducing the harum-scarum with the public, adding to the fun were the Slone Sisters offering a lift to your spirits with encouragement and directions! https://www.facebook.com/reel/4491055197801698. The Austin Healey club brings some very interesting cars along with Timing Equipment and the expertise to perform the safety inspection of each car and give Skip Jackson's approval to race. The Ohio Chapter of the Ferrari Club operates the grid and start box, bringing very cool cars and cooler people to help us celebrate Ohio's Sports Car history. Mille Grazie to Rajeev, Aric, Beverly and Matt for keeping the drivers hydrated and the grid moving. Volunteers from the Porsche Club staff Timing and Scoring, Safety is a combination of SCCA, WERA, & LEC on the radios and along Corkscrew Hill, we are all in good hands.

The Sponsors are generous and enthusiastic, we are very fortunate to count Brewfontaine, Solomon's Garage, and LeVans Body Shop amongst our new sponsors joining Six Hundred Downtown, Zakira's Garage, Swervin Automotive, Sports Car Preservation, Euroclassics and Mahaffies Pies.

Classic Motoring Society members fuel this event, Jimmy Clark designs the course, Michael Kelly does a bunch of stuff, including taking VIPs up Corkscrew Hill, Harvey Camins is the Paddock Marshall, Bob Weiler has his place at the Very top of the Hill, Mike Tewell has joined Bob a the Very Top of the Hill, Karl Munson can be found driving a Golf Cart when not driving the Datsun, Tom Volpe did some last minute repairs to the TD to

make the grid, E.B. drove the ’62 Buick Convertible, Rich Rosenburg was the fastest 2 liter car with his Birkin. Moving into Radio Network “Control” Heidi kept tabs on the course with Bob Cowie and several others.

America’s Packard Museum paced the event, literally, using the 1951 Pinanfarina designed Packard as a Pace Car and offering rides in it along with the 1953 Packard 200 Carrera PanAmericana racecar to interested patrons. America’s Packard Museum is such an incredible asset to the region as a hub for classic and collector car activities; the museum is a dynamic display of history. Not only can you view the exhibits but YOU can ride in them! The Museum offers the opportunity to cruise through Dayton in a convertible Packard, and now in Zanesfield Ohio on a selected Saturday in August. America’s Packard Museum presented the first “Goddess of Speed” award for the fastest car built before 1958 to Rob Mason and his MGA, a highlight of the night. We thank Rob, Stu and all the fun folks behind America’s Packard Museum for adding immeasurably to the history and the fun on the event.

Time to Climb 2027 is August 21. Mark your calendar now!

Scenes from the Hill Climb

HOLLAND
HOLLAND THEATRE

Goshen Friends Church
EVANGELICAL EASTERN REGION
WELCOME
BELLEFONTAINE HILL CLIMB
REVIVAL 8
PARTICIPANTS!
Everyone Welcome
5527 Co. Rd. 153
Zanesfield, OH.

HOLLAND THEATRE
171

SINCE 1953
28
BELLEFONTAINE HILL CLIMB REVIVAL

4150

AVAILABLE
AVAILABLE
S MAIN ST
68

Sched Marks

Sep. 3; CMS Gearhead Gathering at Ferrari's Little Italy 1 pm.

Sep. 13; Aubrey Rose British Car Day, Fairfield Ohio.

Sep. 16-20; DSG 356 Porsche Holiday, Lexington KY.

Sep. 20; Dayton Concours d'Elegance, Carillon Park Dayton Ohio.

Sep. 27; VW Porsche Family Reunion, Germania Park

Sep. 27; Concours Devou, Covington Ky.

October 10; Fall Classic Driving Tour

October 10-11; OVRPCA West Virginia driving adventure

Oct. 17; Liberty Center Coffee & Cars with TSMFC

Oct. 17; Prasco Park Motor Classic, Mason Ohio

Oct.18; Kentucky Railway Museum Car/Truck show, New Haven

Online Registration Links

Fall Classic Driving Tour

msreg.com/FallClassic26

ZAKIRA'S

EC EURO CLASSICS

<u>Please RSVP or register for events online today!</u>

CMS Gearhead Gathering, September 3,

Ferrari's Little Italy, 1 pm. RSVP NOW!

The journey is the destination, drive your classic!

See you on the road,

Kurt