

Checkpoints

VIRGINIA MOTOR SPORT CLUB

VOLUME 24 No.12

DECEMBER 1978

SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 9

EGGNOG PARTY HOSTED BY CHRIS & LIL YOUNG AT THEIR PLACE: 1915 BELT BOULEVARD. BYOL IF YOU CAN'T WAIT FOR THE EGGNOG TO BE MADE. STARTS AT 8:00 PM. RSVP BY PHONE: 233-6132. THIS IS PLANNED AS AN ANNUAL HOLIDAY EVENT.

DECEMBER 10

VMSC RALLY, "THE I-864 RALLY," OD'ED BY SCOTT POWELL. STARTS AT THE BANK OF GOOCHLAND ON ROUTE 250 AT 10:00 AM. INFORMATION:

DECEMBER 16

CANCELLED. 2ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY HOSTED BY GARY & BARBARA STOUT. WITH REGRETS.



DECEMBER 17

TSCC AUTOCROSS, "JOY FUND 6." MILITARY CIRCLE IN TIDEWATER. REGISTRATION 10:00 AM; FCO 11:00 AM. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE VIRGINIA PILOT/LEDGER STAR JOY FUND. INFORMATION: 461-5700. (EDITOR'S NOTE" WHY DOESN'T VMSC DO A SIMILAR EVENT TO BENEFIT THE WRVA SHOE FUND? IT SHOULD WARRANT SOME NEEDED RADIO PR.)

DECEMBER 21

VMSC MONTHLY MEETING, GATEWAY APARTMENTS CLUB-HOUSE, 8:00 PM. SEE MAP IN THIS ISSUE.

JANUARY 13

VMSC 28TH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET. WESTWOOD RACQUET CLUB, RICHMOND; 6:00 PM-12:15 AM. GUESTS WELCOME. SEE FLYER IN THIS ISSUE.

JANUARY 28

VMSC RALLY, OD'ED BY SHIRLEY ZONNER. MORE DETAILS NEXT MONTH.

Editor's Page

VMSC'S COMPETITIVE, SOCIAL, FISCAL, AND CALENDAR YEAR IS COMING TO A CLOSE. BUT THERE ARE STILL A FEW IMPORTANT ITEMS TO BE HANDLED.

FIRST, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE MEMBERS WHO SO WILLINGLY HAVE DELIVERED COPIES OF CHECKPOINTS TO DEALERS FOR ME. WE ALL HAVE SEEN THAT THE NEWSLETTER IS CIRCULATED THROUGH OUR ADVERTISERS. AND YOUR HELP HAS BEEN GREATLY APPRECIATED.

ALSO MY APPRECIATION TO THOSE WHO FOUND THE TIME TO WRITE THE EDITOR, TO PROVIDE RALLY REPORTS, TO SUB-MIT SKETCHES, CARTOONS, AND ADS. AND APPRECIATION AS WELL TO MY FELLOW COLLATERS, STAMPERS, AD-DRESSERS, AND MAILERS. YOU ALL HELPED THIS FINAL ISSUE COME SOONER THAN I EVER COULD HAVE IMAGINED.

DECEMBER TRADITIONALLY IS THE MONTH OF THE CLUB'S ANNUAL MEETING. IT IS THE TIME FOR ELECTIONS AND ANNUAL REPORTS. SINCE THIS YEAR'S SLATE IS RUNNING UNCONTESTED, ONLY A MASSIVE WRITE-IN CAMPAIGN CAN PROVE THESE CONGRATULATIONS PREMATURE. CONGRATULATIONS. AND GOOD LUCK.

AND NOW BACK TO THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLICATION: COMPETITION. THE FIRST FEW MONTHS OF EVERY YEAR BRING A COUPLE OF GOOD RALLY OPPORTUNITIES. THE WRC WINTER CERIES IS AN ANNUAL RUN OF FOUR NOVICE EVENTS PRECEDED BY A RALLY SCHOOL. THEY'RE ALWAYS WELL DONE, FUN, AND A GOOD LEARNING EXPERIENCE. WATCH THE STOPWATCHER (OR CALL ONE OF ITS SUBSCRIBERS) FOR DETAILS. THEY'RE IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY.

FEBRUARY ALSO BRINGS THE ST. VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE, A MARVELOUS OPPORTUNITY TO TEAR YOUR HAIR OUT, BREAK PENCILS, AND ARGUE WITH YOUR NAVIGATOR IN THE COMFORT AND PRIVACY OF YOUR VERY OWN LIVINGROOM. A PRELIMINARY FLYER FOR THIS ANNUAL EVENT IS INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE. BOTH SERIES ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

AS FOR SOCIAL EVENTS, WE'RE SORRY TO HEAR OF BARBARA STOUT'S RECENT OPERATION ON HER LEG. APPARENTLY BARBARA'S RECENT ILL FORTUNE HAS CAUSED HER AND GARY TO CANCEL THEIR CHRISTMAS PARTY. WE'RE SORRY ABOUT THAT, TOO, AND CERTAINLY HOPE BARBARA RECOVERS IN TIME FOR THE 1979 COMPETITIVE YEAR. BUT THERE IS A PARTY THIS MONTH AFTER ALL. PLEASE NOTE THAT CHRIS AND LIL YOUNG ARE HAVING AN EGGNOG AND WHATEVER-ELSE-YOU-WANT-TO-BRING PARTY IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

"Thanks, Santa!

A. ?&!

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NOVEMBER 11"-12"

THE OLD DOMINION RALLY

TROPHIES - Dick Jones 0.D.s - Bookie Westbrook, Kitty Westbrook, Wilt Greenwood, Barbara Greenwood

OFFICIAL PRECHECK - Lewis Parsley, Bill Britton

UNOFFICIAL - Fred & Marian DeBardeleben, Jack East, Eleanor East

CONTROL WORKERS - Bill Britton, Jack East, Gerry Eberhardt, Dave Erhardt, Tracy Greenwood, Charlotte Hoelzel, John Jenkins, Kay Jenkins, Alice Jones, Kathi McCall, Lewis Parsley, Barbara Stout, Jenny White, Bill Whitehead, Annie, Libby & Lindsay Wilson, Shirley Zonner

THE OLD DOMINION CHRONICLES

by Gary Stout

DEDICATION

To Dick's Honda, for absorbing all the abuse and degradation involved in compiling this report. A staunch and reliable ally at all times- though it may never be the same car, ever again.

PREFACE

"Dick, I've never run a two day rally. I mean, you've been in the club eight years, how do you approach it? Does it hurt? Tell me, wise one, pearls of wisdom from years of experience."

"This'll be my first two day rally."

".0h."

Thus drawing upon our vast and extensive background, we set about making preparations for the 20th Old Dominion Rally.

Everything ready two days in advance: box installed, map box ready, windex and towels (they said there would be a lot of dirt), wake-up calls arranged (early start), rides for wives and luggage lined up. After all, the Greenwoods and Westbrooks wouldn't be caught dead putting on a slapdash event, so why shouldn't our preparation be of the same caliber?

Satiating our mutual fetish for early arrivals, we're the first car at the start- a fine thing too, Bookie looked so lonely sitting there all by himself. Henrico's finest continually drive past, casting dour looks upon our assemblage- perhaps expecting us to storm the laundramat, or pillage the bank and rape the tellers. To their great disappointment, it was just a group of pseudo-masochists about to embark into that neverneever land where there is no scenery, just route signs and speed changes. The Old Dominion was about to begin.

CHAPTER I The Greenwoods vs. Us

Saturday's run pitted the rallyists against Wilt and Barbara Greenwood, long reknowned slight-of-hand, read-between-the-lines, what-they-don't-say-is-more-important-than-what-they-do-say artists. The first trap occurred at the ODO check and involved a long winded discourse on what to do at the intersection where the ODO check ended. Conspicuous only by its absence was the magic abbreviation NRC, so change route- and shake the cobwebs off early.

And so the traps began to unfold: a level of priority trap; an NVN trap; a trap based on the fact that an official mileage was any mileage given to the hundredth of a mile, not just a marginal mileage, and thus had the highest priority; a crossroads trap- a crossroads being defined as the crossing of two- and



only two-roads; an instrution which told you to "subtract one from the number of your current Rt.", which had absolutely no effect on the rest of the instruction and its execution; an instruction that said 'L at T.....this instruction must be executed at a real "T".' - simple, right? So simple that only six cars did it correctly.

The remainder of the Saturday legs were a melange of drivers/confidence legs run over some of the nastiest roads (i.e. logging trails with route numbers) in the east coast. The scenery, if you could grab a chance to look at it, must have been magnificent. Personally I was to busy keeping the car pointed between the cliffs and the edge of the world.

CHAPTER II The Westbrooks vs. Us (or know and understand your Rallymasters)

Bookie and Kitty Westbrook were leg OD's for Sunday's segment Bookie and Kitty, especially Bookie, approach a rally in a different manner than do the Greenwoods. This became abundantly clear to us in last years December rally when we finished about a half-inch from last. Their traps have been termed outdated and archaic, but they are nonetheless enjoyable- and effective. They are there for the taking and gave us a refreshing change from the pummelling we all took on Saturday.

They chose to use the same official mileage trap as used on Saturday. It didn't catch as many the second time around but catch a few it did. If you weren't watching your mileage, you probably turned at the wrong intersection- outdated? it still gets people a max. Another leg featured the most complex Special Instruction seen in a long,long time- nothing hard, just complicated.

At lunch it occurred to us that we hadn't seen a "BOOKIESIGN" all day. It was fall so bronze on brown would seem appropriate (in the spring he leans toward olive on green). He would never use an "at" sign so it must be one of the "after" signs- only three, "Breezy Hill", "Episcopal Church", "Jonesboro". We proceeded to mark all those signs with our biggest magic marker. "Breezy Hill" was easy and quick, but "Episcopal Church" was another matter. Dick and I dammed near herniated ourselves looking for that sign. After what seemed like four hours, we finally saw it, but we were sure it wasn't the right one. Bookie had to have found a small church, a half-mile from the road, buried in a grove of trees- wrong, so it was on to 'R after "Jonesboro". And "Jonesboro" it was, check the intersection, turn left, read the first two words of the rather verbose Special that followed-and you would have missed the sign- your classic quickie.

One of the highlights (emphasis on high) of the day was a climb up the Shenandoah (or was it Blue Ridge) Mountains with a checkpoint at the bottom to catch the unwary who decided to get an early start.

It was a totally different rally than the day before, one which restored a sense of confidence in the minds of the people who ran the event.

CHAPTER III Us vs. Us

No self-respecting rally report would be complete without a discussion of the insipid and banal mistakes perpetrated by the author and his partner. Not being one to break with tradition I will offer the following account.

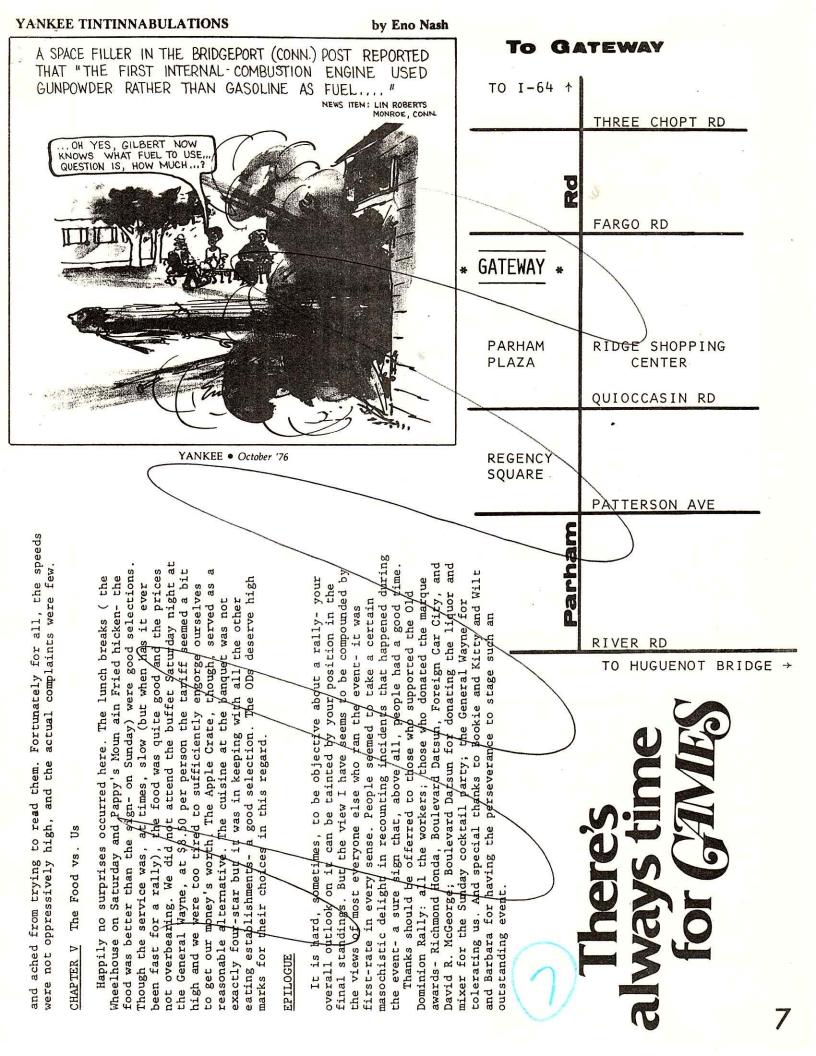
Observing our rally techniques on Saturday was more like watching a time bomb without a clockface- you didn't know when it would explode, only that it, in fact, would. We were to leave the ODO check at 9:30 plus our car number in minutes. We ran out the free zone, Dick calculated the time we were to leave, and we were off. A lesson to novices in how to easily and quickly add points to your score-- don't add your car number to your out time!

Later in the day, Dick (probably after being jostled about for five hours) looked at 10.90 miles on his Stevens and saw 10.09- that was good for another hundred noints

Not wanting to be upstaged by Dick, I felt obliged to reciprocate. Of course I freely admit that Dick has more creativity in his little finger than I have in my whole body, but then I have a surefire way to pick up a max, and when something works, you stick with it. I took my time and finally got my chance- Dick had his head buried in calculations- "R onto 522"- no, I think I'll go left. Scenic tour of greater downtown Goochland, ten miles off course- oops, that did say R, didn't it? While we endeavored to make up all the lost time, we decided that perhaps hypnosis might cure dyslexia. It sure wouldn't make matters any worse. As if to magnify the point on the return leg on Sunday, instead of turning right onto 340, I went left. Dick and I would still be knocking around in West Virginia if Dick hadn't observed that we appeared to be travelling on the wrong side of the road if we were to be headed toward Waynesboro.

CHAPTER IV The Roads vs. Us

I have previously made mention of the nastiness of some of the roads. Well, Dick's digital clock was knocked out of its socket, and you can't imagine the sensation, as you're driving down the road, of being pelted by debris and discovering that it's cigarette butts being knocked out of the ashtray. But our problems were minimal compared to others: reports of broken boxes, cracked wheels, flat tires, and mufflers and exhaust manifolds being strewn willy-nilly about the countryside. This didn't characterize all of the roads, only a small portionit's just that these were the roads everyone remembered. The drivers felt like they had been working jackhammers for a week and a half. The navigators eyes hurt from writing the calculations,



Announcing

The 28th Anniversary Awards Banquet
of the Virginia Motor Sport Club

January 13, 1979
at the Westwood Racquet Club
at a cost of \$15.00 per person
6:00 P.M. - Cocktail hour
7:00 P.M. - Dinner
8:00 P.M. - Awards presentation
9:15 - 12:15 - Dancing
All past and present members
and friends of the Club
are cordially invited to attend.

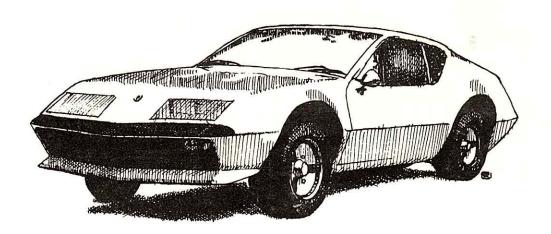
Cost includes set ups, dinner, awards presentation followed by dancing to the "Accelerations". B.Y.O.L. (No beer or wine.) Reservations by prepayment only. Send checks made payable to V.M.S.C. to:

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OTHER GUY YOURSELF)

New Scientist 13 July 1978

Intelligence comes to motor racing

High technology is entering Grand Prix racing. Microprocessor consultants Scicon have selected Jackie Oliver's Formula One racing car as a "hostile environment" test bed for a computer controlled vehicle performance measuring system. Eventually the project could lead to the "intelligent" racing car—a goal that at least one other research team is pursuing.

The racing car appears so obviously a piece of advanced mechanical engineering that few people suspect how little scientific methods are actually used under the cloak of secrecy with which car builders surround their work. Attempts to monitor what actually happens inside a car when it is racing have so far been limited to a few largely irrelevant wind tunnel experiments and some pioneering work on suspensions derived from Goodyear tyre design experiments.

Now Jackie Oliver's Arrows racing team has decided to boost the science and technology content of its cars. Scicon, a BP offshoot, is its sponsor. Oliver hopes Scicon will provide his mechanics with a precise way of optimising a car to each particular racing track.

Scicon's method is to mount a microprocessor in the bodywork, couple it to a number of sensors, and monitor the required parameters. At the pits, after a practice lap of the circuit, a terminal is connected to the computer memory, and relevant details are retrieved and analysed to show what happens.

Astonishingly, most racing designers have a less than rudimentary idea of what does happen—even to the point of how fast the car might be going at any point. The normal practice, according to Oliver's car designer Tony Southgate, is to try to calculate speed from a mass of largely unreliable data.

The Arrows' approach contrasts with that adopted by scientist Karl Kempf, of the Tyrrell racing organisation. Kempf uses sophisticated cassette tape recording instruments on the car—in the same way as Goodyear does (since Kempf pioneered Goodyear's work for it).

The Arrows' equipment (so far untested) is designed to produce instant read-outs showing how well the suspension and other factors are adjusted to suit a particular road. This contrasts to Kempf's more rigorous and detailed approach. This involves using a desk top computer at the workshops to calculate the interaction between driver, vehicle, suspension, tyres and road—all aiming to radically change the car's design. Not suprisingly, this has found little approval from the spanner-wielding mechanics.

Nonetheless, both the Tyrrell and Oliver teams are working towards the "intelligent racing car". In this an onboard computer would adjust the car itself, as it is running—for instance hydraulically altering spring tension, suspension height and so on to match different corners or straights. Kempf plans to put a microprocessor in the car as soon as he can solve the extreme problems of electrical noise and vibration.



Ballots for rally of the year will be distributed at the December club meeting. Members who have participated in at least allies will be allowed to rate the rallies in which they participated.

The following highlights of each rally are being presented to help refresh your memory before the voting process.

January

"Hanover Fits" Dave McCall

The trap that captured an ODO sign located at a marked intersection. There was, however, an ODO sign most contestants was after the lunch break when contestants were required to "rezero at 'ODO' NRC." Proper execution of this instruction was to rezero at This event was a moderately difficult TSD trap rally. trap) which was not at an intersection of marked roads.

February 0.0.1

Gary Stout and Bill Armstrong "No Name"

A straight forward TSD event in Chesterfield and Powhatan counties, this event is most likely to be remembered for an Amelia county sign (trap) placed well within Chesterfield county.

0.D.'s March

"Close Instructions of The Third Kind" Len Wells and Tom Blot

county school. Contestants were given a map and required to return to the control A unique rally in that all controls were at the same location, a Chesterfield location using the shortest route not previously used,

April 0.0.'s

Peter Wilson and Judy McGowan "The Heart of Dinwiddie"

Pause 0.50 minutes." The competitive portion of this rally was run in Dinwiddie county, new rally territory for VMSC. Instruction #57 was "Right onto a Route whose route number Higher referred to placement on the sign post rather than numerical value, thus is higher than the route number of your current Route. CAS 30. causing many contestants to take the wrong road.

Dave and Vickie Armentrout "Between the Lines"

confusing intersection which appeared to have different configurations depending on "Between the Lines" started at Hanover Motor Lodge and was this years only stick map rally. This was a low difficulty event probably best noted for a the direction from which it was approached.

0.0.

"Live From Goochland It's Saturday Afternoon" Barbara Stout and Pete Winters This event was the annual picnic rally. SI#I required "R onto a route whose digits are divisible by 2." The trap was that all digits are divisible by two and we are accustomed to looking for routes evenly divisible by two. The event ended with a pool party at Camp Hilbert.

Mike Castleberry and Baxter Phillips "The Unadvertised Special"

This event was this years only night rally. The event was run on the evening of the July club meeting and the rally route was through local subdivision. All legs were self-timed with all but the last control being in the Pointers gas station on Forest Ave.

August 0.D.'s

Dick Jones and Rob Debardeleben "Edge 3"

#31, "Right at a sign which contains the digit 6. NCR. CAS 45. Cancel SI#4." A digit was defined as one of the integers 0-9 used in route numbers. The six on a Union 76 sign at which many contestants turned did not apply since it was The most successful trap was instruction This was a difficult TSD event. not used in a route number.

September 0.0.'s

-ewis Parsley and Bill Britton "The M.D. Rally II"

This event was characterized by brisk speeds, many dirt roads and simple se following. It provided VMSC with its annual trip over Route 600 in course following. Albemarle County.

October 0

Marian and Fred Debardeleben "Chinaman's Chance"

This was a TSD rally using a grid. It was characterized by brisk speed, very little dirt and almost no speed changes

November

Bookie and Kitty Westbrook Wilt and Barbara Greenwood "The Old Dominion"

The Rally overnighted and ended in Maynesboro. Recent enough that if you ran This was a two day event run through Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. it, you remember it.

December

'The I-864 Rally" Scott Powell This is a 150 mile event running towards Charlottesville. It is characterized by simple course following and brisk speeds.

HOW CAN YOU TELL IF IT'S GOOD?

Last year, in the land of Mercedes, BMW, Audi and Porsche, 23,000 Germans bought Alfa Romeos.

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The 1978 **SPRINT VELOCE** gives you four advanced engineering features as standard equipment that you can't get even as options in the Porsche 924 and BMW 320i even though they cost up to \$2600 more than Alfa Romeo.

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- **Double overhead camshafts,** for ample power in passing or emergency situation.
- Five-speed gearbox, fully sychronized, smooth shifting and a miser on fuel in overdrive.
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The new Alfa Romeo GT costs only \$8,695*. So for the price of a good car you can own a great one. Call us for a test drive. Driving may never feel this good again.

Alfa Romeo 13

For people who consider driving an art.

Richmond Honda Co.

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THE 1979 ST. VALENTINES DAY MASSAGRE

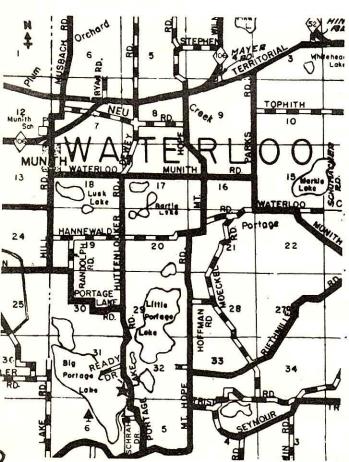
WHAT IS A MASSACRE?

The MASSACRE is totally unlike anything you've ever tried before. It's a continuous road course that you're challenged to follow from the Statue of Liberty through over 30 states and provinces to the Golden Gate Bridge, all laid out in the giant Rand McNally Road Atlas.

The MASSACRE is all-out fun from start to finish. It calls for ingenuity, alertness, and common sense. Our instructions get you from beginning to end in a straightforward and (heh, heh) sometimes devious way. Best of all, you can make this tour without leaving your kitchen table.

GOT THE IDEA?
TRY THIS

Here's a brief sample to give you the flavor. Use the instructions and answer the questions between the instructions along the way. Between instructions, go as straight as possible on the roads.



INSTRUCTIONS & QUESTIONS

- Begin near the upper right (northeast) corner of the map by traveling to the left on Territorial from its junction with Route 52.
- 2. Turn left at Musbach Rd.
 - a. Do you pass Munith Sch.?
- 3. Turn onto Hannewald Rd.
- 4. Turn right onto Mt. Hope Rd.
 - b. Do you pass Little Portage Lake on your left?
- 5. Turn at Portage Lake Rd.
 - c. Do you travel on Randolph Rd.?
- Turn right at road whose name begins with the letter H, then stop at Waterloo Munith Rd.
 - d. What road are you on when you stop?

12

ISCCA NATIONAL CHAMPION 8 YEARS IN A ROW

With responsive rack and pinion steering, four-wheel independent suspension, a sparkling 1500 cc. four-cylinder engine, and cornering power in the same league as sports cars costing twice as much, no wonder our Spitfire has won a Sports Car Club of America National Championship 8 years running.



TRIUMPH SPITFIRE 1500



621 W. Main Street Richmond, Va. 23219 (804) 648-7255





Yes; the rule is to go straight between instructions, so don't veer left at Ryan Rd.

No; use that straight rule to go straight onto Huttenlocker Rd., not turning left

Mt. Hope Rd.; after turning onto Hannewald Rd., go straight onto Mt. Hope Rd.

where Hannewald Rd. leaves it.

Filout this coupon

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IY NAME ND TEA <mark>M M</mark> E	EMBER			Т	EAM NAME (optional)
RD TEAM ME	MBER NAME CI	TY/STATE	DESK # (if known)	\$10	PAYMENT FOR TEAM MUST ACCOMPANY THIS TEAM ENTRY FORM
NAME PLACE	E LAST NAME HERE	INITIAL INITIAL CH	HECK ONE F	I'M A NEWCO	OMER. BEFORE BUT DIDN'T FINISH.
	PEEL ADDRESS LABEL FROM OPPOSITE SIDE	ATLAS PAYMENT DENCLOSED	NONE	<u> </u>	
STREET -	AND PLACE IT WITHIN THIS SPACE PLACE NUMBER AND STREET HERE	CHECK	\$3 \$5	ND ENTRY	
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