

## "TEAM AMELIA" SWEEPS LIME ROCK VINTAGE FESTIVAL LAUNCHES NATIONWIDE SPONSOR SEARCH



Photo courtesy of Casey Keil

"Team Amelia", the unofficial and un-funded vintage/historic racing team that shares garage space with the Amelia Concours d'Elegance's headquarters in un-suburban Jacksonville, FL scored another unexpected victory in Lime Rock Park's 33rd edition of its traditional Labor Day vintage car races and concours weekend on September 7th.

Amelia Island Concours founder and Chairman Bill Warner drove his ex-Bob Tullius/Paul Newman Group 44 Triumph TR-6 to victory in the four-day weekend's fall vintage racing festival that attracts significant racing, sports and classic cars from across the USA.

Starting from the second row in "Team Amelia's" TR-6, wearing the famous white and green racing livery of Group 44, Warner managed to foil the team motto -- "BEAT WARNER TO THE CORNER". -- of the twin Triumph Spitfires of Kent Bain and David Gussack.

"Torque," Said Warner, "Is our secret weapon!" He credited his doomsday Mark Hedrick-built engine engineered by the brilliant Steve Boyle with his victory. "But continued victories and further doses of big road racing fun will require a somewhat more aggressive sponsorship search program."

Currently "Team Amelia" is funded by monthly Social Security payments and the sale (at March's R&M Amelia Auction) of Bill's 1970 Maserati Ghibli Spyder. "I really liked that car a lot," sighed a slightly grumpy Warner, who was forced (by the unanimous voice vote of his competitors) to surrender his AARP membership after Lime Rock's post-race victory rituals. "This is just another sad example of age discrimination," claimed Warner, who quit celebrating his birthday with the traditional birthday cake ceremony during the Ford administration after an angry letter from the local fire marshal.

"To continue historic sports car competition at this level," said Warner, "We have commenced a region-wide sponsor search through our marketing partners (Feeble, Lame & Halt, LLC) to secure precisely targeted sponsorship that speaks

directly to the upscale vintage and historic racing demographic.

"Ideally," said Warner, "Or at least according to FL&H, we'd like to align our vintage TR-6 racing program with a manufacturer of adult incontinence garments with a strongly Anglophile customer base, a power recliner chair manufacturer, a sunbelt-based golf cart builder or the AARP . . . but since my AARP membership was revoked after Lime Rock they won't take my calls!"



Photo courtesy of Casey Keil

## AMELIA CONCOURS RECEIVES THIRD INTERNATIONAL HISTORIC MOTORING AWARD NOMINATION



For the third time in three years, the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance has been nominated as Octane Magazine's EFG "Historic Motoring Event of the Year" by the members of the International Historic Motoring Awards committee.

In 2013, on its first nomination, Amelia won the prestigious "International Historic Motoring Event of the Year" award. The IHMA trophy is on permanent display in the lobby of Amelia Island Concours Foundation's headquarters in Jacksonville, FL.

Founded in 2011 the International Historic Motoring Awards are the most coveted honors in the classic car hobby and industry, showcasing excellence, rewarding innovation and providing the benchmark by which the world of historic motoring events judge themselves.



For the third consecutive year the Amelia Island Concours has been nominated for the classic car industry's top honor. The Amelia is one of only two American nominees (with the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance) for the esteemed International Motoring Event of the Year award in 2015.

"When we won the IHMA's Best Motoring Event trophy in 2013, we agreed we could not rest on our laurels," said Bill Warner, founder and Chairman of the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance "Our people took that to heart. That's why I always think of our 700-plus volunteers when we get a huge accolade like this. Our people make Amelia what it is. We seem to have struck just the right chord with our entrants, our sponsors, the atmosphere and especially with the folks who come in the front gate. If we have a secret formula for an award-winning concours at Amelia, it's really very simple; great people, great cars and springtime on Florida's First Coast."

The 2015 International Historic Motoring Awards will be presented on November 19, 2015 at a formal banquet the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel, London.



## About The Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance

Now in its third decade, the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance is among the top automotive events in the world. Always held the second full weekend in March, "The Amelia" draws over 250 rare vehicles from collections around the world to The Golf Club of Amelia Island and The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island for a celebration of the automobile like no other. Since 1996, the show's Foundation has donated over \$2.75 million to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida, Inc., Spina Bifida of Jacksonville, The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, Shop with Cops, and other deserving charities. The 21st annual Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance is scheduled for March 11-13, 2016. For more information, visit [www.ameliaconcours.org](http://www.ameliaconcours.org).



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