

# Historic Hill Climber

PHA Archives

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APRIL 2009

## Is it or isn't it...the Del Lee Allard?

On the second case that came "across my desk" I was contacted by a gentleman out of Florida. He was the owner of an Allard that reportedly was once owned by Del Lee. While doing his research he had found out that Del had hill climbed an Allard. Hence the contact with me.

Now for those that might not know Del's story...Dellevan Lee, a resident of Michigan, was the first FTD winner of the "modern day" Giant's Despair in 1951. When the SCCA made Giant's part of the National Series, drivers would travel from great distances to compete there. He was also the first two time FTD winner at Giant's with a return run in 1953. His '51 time of 1:07.5 was certainly the fastest ever but was eclipsed by Phil Walters in 1952, he ran a 1:02.3.

Now since this Giant's event and Del's era was pre PHA...I had no records of the car's information. I had very limited info actually...but the one thing I did know it was a Cadillac powered Allard. I also had quite a few photos of the car in action.



Del Lee GD's first FTD

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I prepared all the information I could muster and sent it to Florida. It became quite unclear if in fact the car was the hill climbing Allard of Lee's. It is believed that Lee had owned several Allards and without serial numbers or anything truly concrete...we could not say it is or is not the same car.



Dell at Giant's Despair



Lee's Allard in the Elbow

### KEN LEWIS REMEMBERED

Some sad news to report; hill climb veteran Ken Lewis passed away in late December. Ken started running a TR3 around 1966 - 1969, He later ran a Celica and co drove the Superoo (Subaru GL) in the mid 80's and later drove a Honda CRX si in the 90's.



### 2009 PHA Schedule

**Spring Jefferson Time Trial:**  
May 23 - 24

**Spring Weatherly Hillclimb:**  
June 13 - 14

**Pagoda Hillclimb:** June 27 - 28

**Giant's Despair Hillclimb:**

July 11 - 12

**Rose Valley Hillclimb:**

July 25 - 26

**Polish Mountain Hillclimb:**

August 8 - 9

**Duryea Hillclimb:** August 22 - 23

**Fall Jefferson Time Trial:**

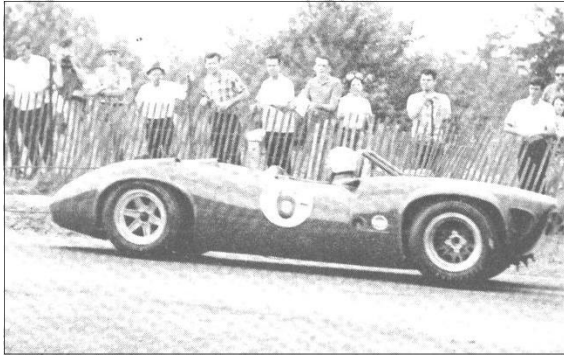
September 5 - 6

**Fall Weatherly Hillclimb:**

September 19 - 20

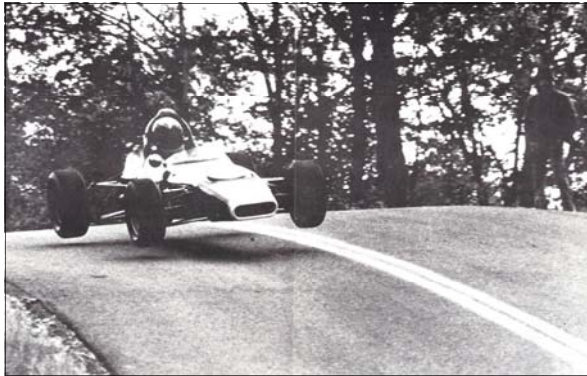
### PHOTO ID SOLVED!!

From one Giant's FTD winner to another...we tracked down the driver of this car: With several tips on the type of car, a Lola T70, I searched the database for all Lola's and came up with one running #6. Turns out, and it all makes sense now, that the photograph is of John Van Meyer or just John Meyer. John was a multiple FTD winner at Giant's and would make perfect sense for him to be a program cover car! In fact...once we figured out who it was...I actually found another shot of the car!! John was FTD in 1968 with this car



**PHOTO ID'S NEEDED:** Here is another batch that I need help with...see if you can assist.

1



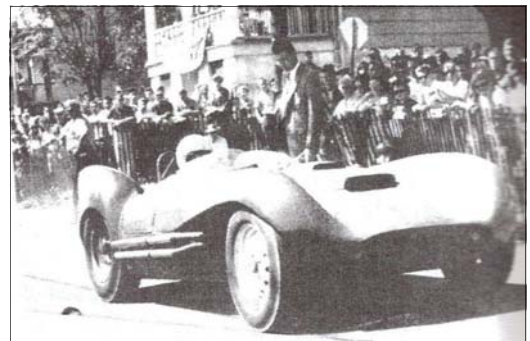
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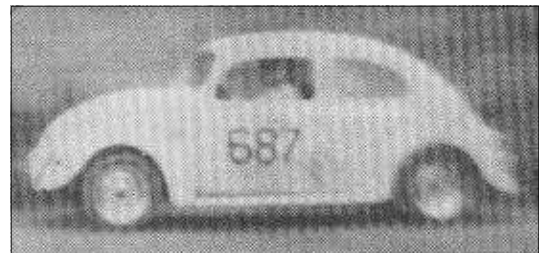
3



4



5



## Who is that!?

I was asked to come up with a game or puzzle for the 2008 year end PHA banquet. Using the driver files I came up with some classic photos of some PHA drivers. As you may or may not know, the PHA stopped issuing licenses in the early 80's. There are quite a few folks still running hills from the era that required them to submit a photo for the PHA files. The winning team at the banquet was made up some pretty seasoned folks. I'll post a few here and there in upcoming issues...see how well you do.



## Recent Acquisitions



Above left is an early Giant's Despair license plate topper. The pewter steins were all won by Duncan Black and represent class wins at Giant's Despair from the mid to late 50's.

## WHERE IS IT NOW!?

As many of you know, hill climb cars can sometimes go through quite a few hands. As someone moves onto to something else, the car often ends up back on the hills with another driver. One of these cars is the Sabel. The car was built and raced by John Sabel and his wife Pat in 1964. It ran the Spring Hershey that year and placed 3rd in G Mod with a time of 88.6150. Pat ran a 91.5267. The car was later in the hands of Hap Gardner and co driven by Gilbert Morrissey. Other owners included Al Knepper, Ron Seibel, Dan Job and Joel Lipperini. It was typically powered by Corvair engines but also was loaded with a Mazda rotary and was last seen for sale on the internet with a Porsche engine.



The Sabel's at Hershey



Hap Gardner



As it looked with Al



Gil at Camp Shand



Joel at Duryea



Last seen for sale on internet