

## **Fastest Lap of the Weekend by Paul Kaiser and John George at BeaveRun – done in same session and identical!**

The best 2 out of 3 races at BeaveRun made for some interesting sessions and time to fix things, miss a race and still rack up great points, and it attracted 8 Challenge Series cars. This 1.53 mile fast and twisty course made for some interesting session where “pucker factor” came into play.

The first Qualifying session saw Paul Kaiser set the tone for the weekend at 1:05.546. John had all kinds of problems with his brakes (which caused him to miss the 1<sup>st</sup> of three races). Jim Schenck was right behind Paul with a 1:06.077, Carl next with 1:07.572, then Brian Sanders at 1:07.876. Gregory Wellinghoff had a 1:09, Wayne Patterson a 1:11, and Gregg Wellinghoff a 1:09 but with a DQ for some technicality.

The first race of the weekend had a standing start with the FFR cars in their own group – sweet. It was a race to the first corner and Paul and Jim pulled away from the rest of the group. Carl ended up in “no man’s land” trying to keep Paul and Jim in site. Jim Schenck was bitten by the “intermittent gas delivery bug that has plagued him from time to time” and retired after 9 laps. Gregory ran into problems too and retired after 7 laps. At the end of the 24 laps it was Paul first with a best lap of 1:05.831, then Carl with a 1:07.538, Greg was 3<sup>rd</sup> with a 1:09.271, Wayne 4<sup>th</sup> with a 1:11 and Brian 5<sup>th</sup> with a best of 1:08. So, the first day was over – at least for the racing. John George had the front section of his new body off and was swapping and replacing parts until it got dark.

Sunday dawned with a bright sunny day and the promise of some “hot” temperatures and competition. The finish for the race on Saturday determined the line-up up for qualifying. The 10 lap session saw John and Paul lay down the identical “weekend fast lap” of 1:05.524. Obviously John got his braking problem fixed. Jim was able to turn a 1:06.506 but still had fuel delivery problems. Carl was next with a 1:07.233, then Brian with a 1:08, Gregory with a 1:09, Wayne and Greg in the 1:10s.

As everyone was getting ready for the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 races for the day, Paul realized that both of his front rotors had a “huge” crack in them. There wasn’t enough time for all to fix them, so Paul said “I’ll do it while you guys go race”, knowing that he would be back for the last race.

Both races on Sunday had rolling starts, once again with all the FFR cars together. At the start of the 1<sup>st</sup> race, it was a mad dash for the first corner with John and Jim closely pursued by Carl and Brian. John and Jim pulled away, but Jim came in and topped off with gas – almost to overflowing – to solve the problem. It didn’t work and he retired after 10 laps. Carl was unable to catch John, and Brian was unable to catch Carl. So, the race ended with John 1<sup>st</sup> with a best time and new Great Lakes track record of 1:05.760, Carl at 1:06.590, Brian, Gregg, and Gregory in the 1:08.2s, then Wayne.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 races for the weekend saw Paul & Jim starting at the rear of the grid – but that didn’t hold them back. Paul came flying through the gang in hot pursuit of John. Then it was Jim trying to do the same. Carl held him off for awhile and diced until he spun in the last corner getting passed by everyone. He worked his way back passing the gang, but there was not enough time to see about catching Jim. So, at the end, it was Paul on top with a best time of 1:05.784, John 2<sup>nd</sup> with a 1:06.234, Jim with a best time

of 1:05.972 (he fixed a crimped fuel line and was back in full action), Carl 4<sup>th</sup> with a 1:06.740, Brian 5<sup>th</sup>, then Gregg, and Wayne.

It was a great weekend of competition. Unfortunately Gregg Jr. was sprayed in the eyes with some brake fluid while trying to get his rear brakes fixed, and was rushed to the hospital – the reason he missed race 3. He is now fine, with no damage to his eyes, but says he is glad he has to keep his contacts out for about 30 days.

The grill was turning out great treats for the whole weekend and everyone seemed to have fun sharing the experience of BeaveRun.

-- Carl Thompson