



IMRRC

INTERNATIONAL MOTOR RACING
RESEARCH CENTER

Preserving and Sharing the History of Motorsports

From driver and racing coach Peter Argetsinger.

I've been fortunate to be part of the ongoing story of motor racing as far back as I can remember. My journey started as I grew up immersed in my mother and father's passion to bring racing to Watkins Glen, NY. It continued as I raced professionally in Great Britain, Europe and the United States. And now, through my coaching career, I am surrounded by the stories of others as I work with some of the most talented drivers in the world. To help ensure that these stories were not lost over time, I became a member of the International Motor Racing Research Center and committed to being part of its governing council.



Peter Argetsinger in the Pharmacin Ralt RT3 with members of the HART team at the 1982 Marlboro British Formula 3 Championship.
Photo: IMRRC Randy Barnett Collection.

As a fan of racing, I'm sure you'll appreciate the IMRRC's mission to preserve and share the history of motorsports. Over the past 20 years, the Center's collection has grown to tens of thousands of holdings (books, periodicals, films, photographs, recordings and ephemera) produced since the early 1900s that keep these stories and the legacy of those who lived them relevant and accessible. And now, as the Center enters its third decade, the drive to fulfill that mission has only accelerated.

It is my privilege to share with you a few of these recent efforts.

The Sports Car Club of America archives are being processed. These include thousands of drivers' files along with regional publications, programs, results and photographs. Since the project's inception in early 2017, many of the SCCA archives are already accessible and available for research. Used to trace club drivers and racecar histories, found within the files are names like Bobby Rahal, Lyn St. James and Elliot Forbes-Robinson.

The ongoing survey of the Center's other holdings continues to turn up gems and rare treasures almost daily. Research services are being used more and more. In fact, about one research project (as requested by historians, authors, the media and even feature film producers) starts each day.

The IMRRC educational outreach programs, including seminars at secondary schools and the ever-popular Center Conversations Series, are expanding.

Finally, acquisitions continue to arrive. A few of the more significant ones recently made available for sharing are from the likes of German publisher Werner Winter, sports car driver John Cooper Fitch, NASCAR announcer Al Robinson and engine builder Bertil Sollenskog.

Even with these successes, the challenge of supporting the archives continues. As the IMRRC grows, the need for funding does as well.

Please join me and renew your membership. It will help ensure that the legacy of the sport we love is preserved and available. Always.

Regards.



Peter Argetsinger
Member - IMRRC Governing Council