



**In the
Spotlight**

With

JIM ENGLISH



JIM ENGLISH is a big player in the history of the ATQMRA and ATQMRA vintage division. His dad, before him, was a big contributor to the racing club, as Robert Noll is now. English began his racing career back in 1959 racing Go Karts against Doug Craig and Larry Michaels. Grand Kart Club of America had their Nationals in Pa. Jim beat both Craig and Michaels and won the US Nationals in 1960.

He then joined SCCA and bought a Formula Jr car at the same time he bought, ran and became a Formula V dealer. It was during this time that Norm Smizer convinced English to try TQ racing. So he bought a TQ from Smizer with the understanding that 7-time ARDC Champion, Len Duncan would run the car whenever he was available, and would work with English and teach him the ABC's of TQ racing. Quite an honor and opportunity for English. From that point on, English was a very active member of the ATQMRA which had almost 100 cars. English attended every event and ran all over the east coast.



In 1964 English built a rear engine car at the same time fellow driver and member Ben Trimble started his own rear engine Triumph car. (shown on right) In 1965, English and close friend George Stockiner

(who owned Pleasantville Speedway) worked on getting TQ's to Convention Hall in Atlantic City. With the combination of local media and a local driver like Jim English, the new rear engine car made it's debut. But the Trevis 4 with Len Duncan came in second in the inaugural race.

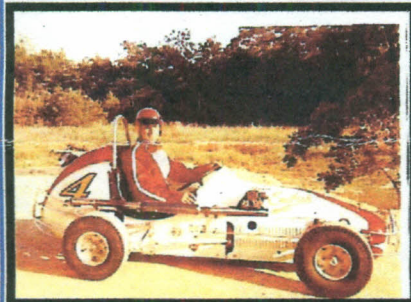
Also in 1965 English would promote the Pleasantville Speedway oval and drag races. English "out of pocket" would put a small 1/5 mile TQ track in the infield front straight of the big track.

The TQ.s had a new track. The first race was won by English, he remembers Nick Fornoro giving him the checkered flag.

Convention Hall continued in 1967 when English won his heat and semi and on the last lap of the main, Bobby Hamilton passed him. English has never forgotten that night.

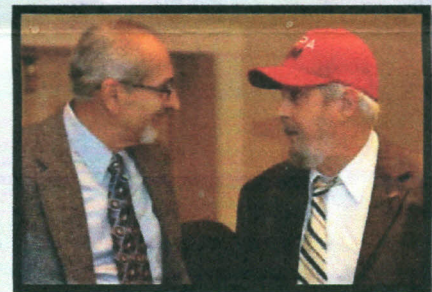
Later, Jim bought the "0" from Joe Lacey, and put the late Bob Wilke in the car. It was beautifully painted and lettered in Gold Leaf. This car would later be sold to and run by "Bud Mills" He also sold the rear engine car.

English took on the challenge of completing a Smizer roadster. During the construction of this roadster, he moved to



New England to pursue a new job in '69. He completed the car and ran 7 races in 1970, commuting from Boston. Jim's roadster sold to the Krisiloff family, then to Allen Purdy and now is owned by Robert Noll. He still resides in Massachusetts with his wife, Paulie.

He attends our banquet each year and gives one lucky member the "Jim English Award" This year that award went to Tom Arntz. Club member Bill Force, Sr is a long-time friend of English since they both have their roots from Linwood, NJ. Force remembers English's dad as being "like our Robert Noll of today". We thank Jim English for his commitments to the ATQMRA, and today in the ATQMRA Vintage Division.



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