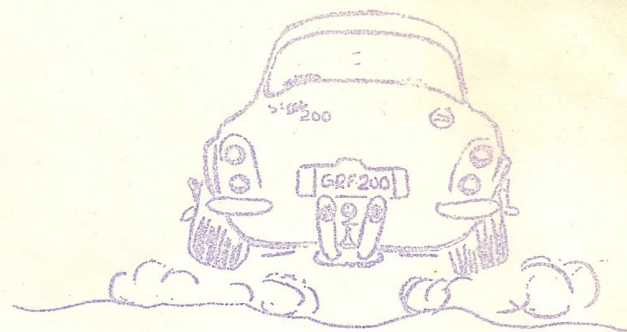


## Griffith Club Members:



The first Annual Griffith Club of America Meet was held at Lime Rock Raceway September 3rd. This was the largest gathering of Griffith Owners ever---and the most Griffith Cars ever assembled at one time (excluding the factory). Assembled were 200's early and late 200's, 400's and even the 600 Italian bodied Griffith---WO!---what a display!

The meet started Sunday with Dean Pallas and girl arriving first and shortly after my wife, Judy, and myself, Mike Delisa and Friends; George DeStafano drove in with Mike Shore 200. Bob and Doug Rapisola met Foster Crippens at Bradley Field Airport and somehow a party started! Ted Reid and his friend drove in in his Griffith 200 from Erie, Penna., his car is unbeaten in autocross or gymkana. Ted and friend joined in after being greeted by other Griffith owners.

The next morning everyone headed to a super plush restaurant to comfort our sickly stomachs with breakfast, and after some major waitress problem, we headed back to the track to greet the already arrived Griffith owners, and to meet Mr. Griffith himself, already cornered by the eager army of Griffith owners to ask questions, to see what Mr. Griffith looked like, and to see if all they wondered was true, is he friendly, informative and interested. There was no doubt in anybody's mind that he was friendly, informative and interested.

Mr. Griffith was also interested in looking at the gleaming Griffith Display put on by the members of the Club. Members had a chance to have pictures taken with Mr. Griffith and their car.

Members worked for weeks getting their cars ready for the meet and trip, and they all looked good. Jack Anderson's fine 400 still looks like new and had 90,000 miles too! Jack is a regular at Watkins Glen Can-Am and U.S. Gran Prix, and if you are looking for him at the Glen, he will be right in the center green of the track. I still haven't figured how he gets all the goodies in that little Griffith! Not too far from Jack will be Al Zimmer with another 400 like new and with dealer-installed mini-lite wheels.

Midday we assembled with Mr. & Mrs. Griffith, guests of honor, to hand out awards. There were three awards given. The first to Foster Crippen for the "Longest Distance Award". Foster hails from Roseland, Fla. Dean Pallas was awarded the "Best Modified Griffith Award" with his beautiful green Griffith 200 which turns the low 11's and is spotless, and Al Zimmer winning a close one for the "Best Original Griffith Award" with his super-nice 400 series which he drove from Rochester, N.Y. Mr. Griffith was presented with a desk pen set from the Griffith Club of America by me, and also a key case made by George DeStafano which had a Griffith insignia sewed in by hand. Mr. Griffith presented me with a card of pins which I will be sending to Griffiths owners who are members of the Club. We decided that the pins would only go to Griffith owners and not to associated members, but they are entitled to enjoy all Club activities.

While assembled we had a seminar on body restoration tips; we talked about reproducing parts that we can't buy.

Club member qualification. We decided that the Griffith Club would be for Griffith Owners and associated members. Associated members need only have an interest in Griffith Cars.

We decided we would continue with the \$5.00 annual dues.

After the assembly, most went to enjoy the race activities at the track. When the race was over, we started cooking hamburgers and hot dogs and drank soda and beer.



It was a great meet and there will be more like that one. I am now working on a meet in early Spring in New Jersey, possibly at the "Great Gorge" Playboy Club resort, and one ski trip this winter.

We have talked to shops about kits for interiors, but have to know How Many kits (and this pertains to headers as well) we want. The bigger the order, the lower the cost.

There are still a few forms not answered and sent back.

We all have to see George DeStapano's new Griffith 200 formally owned by Skip Baker, now living in Indiana. The car has found another good home.

I have a little surprise that should be done soon---The Ideal Griffith Accessory!

Keep it under control.....

*Bob Mariani*

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