



## PRESS RELEASE

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**2024 Kastner Cup vintage race to be held in conjunction with the SVRA Sonoma SpeedTour, April 18-21, 2024. Hardy Prentice selected as Grand Marshal, and the first Triumph TR2 produced will be on display.** *Registration for racers available at <https://svra.com/events/2024-sonoma-speedtour/>*

The 22nd annual all-Triumph vintage automobile race known as the Kastner Cup will be run during the SVRA Sonoma SpeedTour event, April 18-21, 2024. The race will be held at Sonoma Raceway located at the gateway to the wine country, north of San Francisco, CA. Sonoma Raceway is one of the premier road racing circuits in the United States. Sonoma Raceway's full-scale repaving project was completed in February 2024. The 2.52-mile road course is once again ready to host some of the fastest cars and most talented racers in the world.

The Kastner Cup was named in recognition of the career accomplishment and legacy of R.W. "Kas" Kastner who passed away on April 11, 2021 at the age of 92. Kas Kastner was one of the most influential individuals responsible for the racing success of Triumph sports cars from the late 1950's through 1970 and beyond. To this day, his series of Competition Preparation Manuals are a must read for competitors in Triumph sports cars. Later in his career, Kastner directed the Nissan IMSA GTP team that won the manufacturers' championship three years in a row and the drivers' championship four years in a row; a remarkable achievement.

The Kastner Cup race is held at a different track each year to provide Triumph racers across the country a chance to compete for the Cup. Open to race prepared Triumph powered cars, the Kastner Cup is awarded to one competitor based on the following criteria:

- 50% for the competitive results on the racetrack during the event (not necessarily the winner)
- 25% for the presentation of the car
- 25% for the attitude and interest in Vintage racing

The Grand Marshal for the 2024 Kastner Cup will be Hardy Prentice. Mr. Prentice won the SCCA E Production National Championship in 1992 driving his 1956 Triumph TR3. Mr. Prentice qualified for the SCCA National Championship 25 consecutive years and participated in the Runoffs 23 years in a row. Also notable is that Mr. Prentice won the SCCA Northern Pacific Division Championship 13 times and six times in a row from 1989 through 1994. The Seattle Times newspaper called him "Persistent Prentice." Mr. Prentice is also well known in the racing community for using his E-Type Jaguar to flat row his TR3 to SCCA races across the country. As Grand Marshal, Prentice will present the Kastner Cup Performance Awards to each top-performing driver in the various models of Triumph powered race cars. He will also select the winner of the R.W. "Kas" Kastner's Trophy.

The first Triumph TR sports car ever produced, known as TS1-LO will be on display in the Kastner Cup garage during the race weekend. TS1-LO was hand-built in 1953 and served as the prototype design for Triumph TR2 and TR3 cars produced through the 1962 model year. For Triumph enthusiasts, TS1-LO represents the holy grail of Triumph sportscars as the TR series of cars were produced until the end of 1981. The Kastner Cup weekend at the SVRA Sonoma SpeedTour is a rare west coast opportunity to see this car on display and a full field of Triumph race cars on the track.

**MORE**

The **SVRA Sonoma SpeedTour** schedule will include practice on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, qualifying on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, and the Kastner Cup Race on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, and the Kastner Cup Reunion Race on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. The Kastner Cup awards will be presented following the Saturday race. Race registration is available at <https://svra.com/events/2024-sonoma-speedtour/>. Many vintage racers are already signed-up.

The SVRA weekend also includes the **Hagerty Cars and Caffeine** show on Saturday, April 20, 2024. The car show is open to all classic, vintage, exotic, and collectible cars and vintage motorcycles of interest. Car clubs are welcome. Car Show registration is \$75.00 and includes: two weekend tickets to the race events, touring laps on the Sonoma Raceway in your show car, VIP Parking, and full access to the race car paddock. Register at this link: <https://svra.com/events/2024-sonoma-speedtour/>.

The Kastner Cup is organized by members of the Friends of Triumph (FOT). FOT is a group of vintage racers dedicated to preserving the racing heritage of the Triumph marque. The 2024 Kastner Cup Race Committee Chair is Curt Johnston. For more information about the Committee, contact Curt at [curt.johnston@comcast.net](mailto:curt.johnston@comcast.net).

The Friends of Triumph would like to acknowledge the support provided by the following **2024 sponsors**:

- Gasket Works USA LLC (<http://headgasket.com/>),
- Moss Motors (<https://mossmotors.com/>),
- Good Parts, Inc. (<https://www.goodparts.com/>),
- the Vintage Triumph Register (<https://vintagetriumphregister.org/>), and
- the Triumph Wedge Owner's Association (<https://triumphwedgeowners.org/>).

**In-kind sponsors** include:

- Huffaker Motorsports (<https://www.huffakermotorsports.com/>),
- Classic Motor Films (<https://www.classicmotorfilms.com/>),
- North American Triumphs (<https://www.facebook.com/NorthAmTriumphs/>), and
- Gasket Innovations/Alexander Racing Enterprises (<https://gasketinnovations.com/>).

Please contact Curt Johnston for information regarding 2024 sponsorship opportunities.

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**About SVRA:** The Sportscar Vintage Racing Association (SVRA) is the largest and one of the oldest Vintage racing organizations in the United States. SVRA conducts Vintage events at legendary racetracks throughout the country including Road America, Sonoma Raceway, Watkins Glen International, Auto Club Speedway, and Virginia International Raceway. In its first year the Brickyard Vintage Racing Invitational at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway immediately became the largest Vintage race in the United States drawing over 700 entries. Additionally, The U.S. Vintage Racing National Championship has become a premier event in American Vintage racing drawing over 450 participants to the Circuit of the Americas track each fall seeking one of the 30 plus National Championships. At the heart of SVRA are the core values that our events will provide; Safe, Fair and Fun competition for the enjoyment of our competitors, their crews and our fans. Visit <https://svra.com/> for more information.

**About Friends of Triumph:** The Friends of Triumph (FOT) are dedicated to preserving the racing heritage of the Triumph marque. Campaigning these automobiles on the track is at the essence of our purpose. We are unified by R.W. (Kas) Kastner and his motor sports contributions and sacrifices, his challenges and accomplishments, his kindness and knowledge. We come to race with family and friends. We carry the history of Triumph and the camaraderie of competition. For more information about the race this year, visit: <https://kastnercup.com/>. For background information on Kas Kastner and the history of the Kastner Cup, visit: <http://www.kaskastner.com/kastnercup.html>.