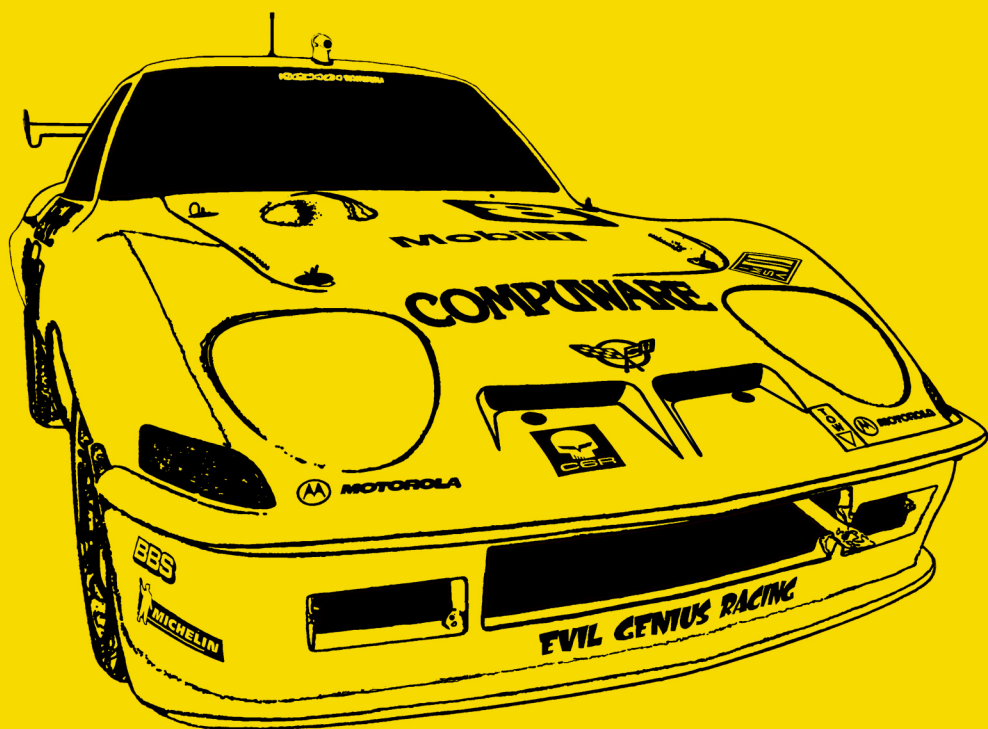


Team Tingvette

Today Lemons, Tomorrow Le Mans!



Thirty-four races on five different tracks, 18,874 miles in 6,592 laps, two events at Bonneville, one Cannonball Run, countless memories, and lifelong friends.

Mike Meier

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Preface

Ever since Alan and I started racing the Tinyvette, during the summer of 2010, I have been taking notes and writing race reports to both to keep our team members informed and also to promote the car and team. Many of the earlier reports were meant for only team consumption. These mainly concerned what we accomplished at a race and what it would take to get the car ready for the next race. Eventually these reports started taking the form of a newsletter I called the Tinyvette Times, wherein I recapped the events of the weekend, including the work involved in getting the car ready for the race, and the fun we had racing it. Later I started publishing our stories in the Opel Motorsport Club's newsletter, *The Blitz*, and that grew our fan-base quite a bit. Eventually the Tinyvette became the best known Opel GT in North America and it even has fans in Europe.

These reports, writings, and articles span 13 years, and I thought it would be a good idea to gather them all together in one place and produce a book that current and past team members could have and keep. On the off-chance the book has a broader appeal, I decided to offer the book to the general public as well. We'll see how that goes.

The work has been a labor of love. It gave me a chance to revisit those good times with friends at the race track, and to recall how much work and how much fun we had building, repairing, and racing the little car.

I'd also like to say that while the writing is mine, the story belongs to everyone who ever turned a lap in or turned a wrench on the Tinyvette. With all of the support I have gotten from team members and friends over the years I sometimes find it difficult to think of the Tinyvette as my car. There is a little bit of everyone who ever came and raced with us in this car.

Finally, I'd like to thank Jon Harlan who pre-viewed this book for me, and who encouraged me to continue. Also, a big thanks to the people who let me use their photographs: Phil Greden (24 Hours of Lemons and the Über Gallery), Joe Salas (4TheRiders), Eric Rood (24 Hours of Lemons), Kurt Bainum, Steve Ryan (Team Bimmervitch), Steve Cabana (Head-on Photos), and Ric Quinonez (racinricpix).