

THE ESSENTIALS

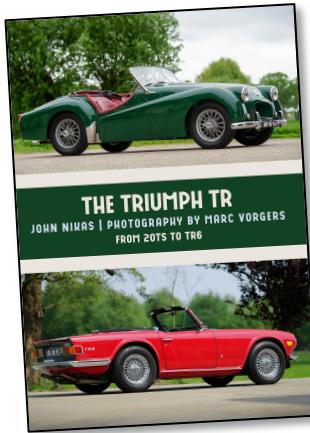
June 15-19, 2026
Madras, Oregon
Lodging reservations now open:
[The Inn at Cross Keys Station](#)
541-475-5800
& [Bunk House at Cross Keys](#)
541-475-8668
Our two host hotels share a common parking lot. The Inn at Cross Keys Station is the headquarters hotel and location of meetings and the awards banquet. Rooms are filling fast – please make your reservations today to avoid disappointment.

NIKAS THE RACE DRIVER

Also a noted race driver, John Nikas has campaigned a broad array of classic racers in a number of different series, where he has collected multiple class championships and received special recognition for his on- and off-track accomplishments. One of the nation's most respected driving instructors, he has played an instrumental role in the development of countless racers, including several talented professionals and a finalist for the prestigious Gorsline Award. Among his many successes is an overall victory in the 2011 Mille Miglia North American Tribute, which was the focus of a television special that appeared on the Bravo Channel.

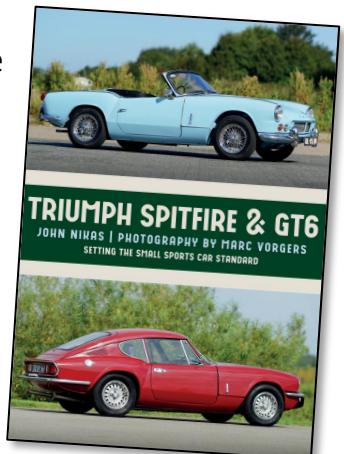
EVENT SPECIAL GUEST

We are thrilled to announce that John Nikas, author, speaker, moderator and race driver will be our guest speaker. Described as "one of the best and brightest academic minds in the automotive space," John Nikas is an automotive writer who specializes in weaving social, cultural and economic themes into his compelling narratives about automotive history.



Recipient of the International Motor Press Association's Ken W. Purdy Award for Excellence in Automotive Journalism and awarded the AACA'S Thomas McKean Memorial Cup for Book of the Year and Outstanding Contribution to Automotive Research in 2025, John has also received recognition from the Automotive Heritage Foundation (2020), WISG Outstanding Annual

Achievement (2023) and been honored with the Denise McCluggage Award (2012). Among his other plaudits, John has been a finalist or the runner-up for numerous Book of the Year awards including the Mercedes-Benz Award (2017), Montagu of Beaulieu Trophy (2017), International Historic Motoring Awards (2024) and the Royal Automobile Club (2024).



John is frequently asked to speak or make special appearances at various automotive events around the world, which have included numerous stops at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance Forum, Amelia Island, Goodwood Revival, Goodwood Festival of Speed, Hampton Court Palace, The Quail, Blackhawk Museum, Monterey Car Week, and The Simeone Foundation Museum. Known for his authoritative knowledge, quick wit and entertaining delivery, he has also been featured on television and news programs, including on ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox News, EXTRA!, L'Equipe, MotorTrend TV, Speedvision and formerly served as Executive Director of the Madison Avenue Sports Car Driving and Chowder Society in New York City.