

Dennis THALMAN

MODENA CENTO ORE CLASSIC 2003
(or Invading Ferrari/Maserati land in an underpowered Porsche)

www.ferrariworld.co



Avec les années qui passent Dennis est le seul pilote VEC de la Meute à encore courir vraiment. Après une dizaine de participations au maintenant très huppé Tour de France Automobile, il avait envie d'effectuer un "retour aux sources" et de retrouver une épreuve enthousiasmante... Il semble avoir réussi et nous livre ses impressions dans sa langue maternelle :

What could be nicer than spending 4 days in the Emilia Romagna region of Italy ? RACING for 4 days through this lovely area in my Porsche 356A GT against 100 great classic race cars from all over Europe and the USA, that's what!

This year's event, based out of Modena, Italy, was even better than 2002 as we had 4 races instead of two (Mugello, Misano, and 2 at Imola), plus a total of 11 special stages, including one at the Ferrari test track at Fiorano. In fact, our route passed the Ferrari and Maserati factory several times.

Just joking as the hospitality was superb, including fantastic meals and wines, and wonderful Italian back roads.

We had a good battle for our class, mostly with other Porsche 356s. Even

though we had less power, we were faster on all the special stages and challenging on all the circuits.

A recurring electrical problem caused us to lose enough time to finish second in class GT6, and 32nd overall in the Historic FIA group. I had some great races, though, and we were much more competitive than the final results tell.

The winners were Chris Chiles in his Tour Auto-winning, ex-Filipinetti Ford GT 40, and Frank Syntner in a Lola T70 in the Period GHI. In Period H, the first 3 places were won by Porsche 911 RSRs from Switzerland. The quality of cars was very impressive, and the racing was very competitive.

A great event, well organised, and of course it was in Italy !! We will be back there next year.