

Daytona 500 Indoor Picnic – Sunday, February 14, 2010

This year's Daytona 500 turned out to be a marathon event, complete with extreme cold weather, but about 40 club members were able to enjoy it from the comfort of Colony Cottage. Thanks to Mike Touchette's coordination efforts, we had the benefit of watching the event live on the big screen, as well as the added benefit of an incredible snack buffet provided by the attendees. Despite the red flag delays, it's safe to say that the event was a success, and that everybody had a great time debating specific drivers' strategies and skill sets, and it's probably even safer to say nobody saw Jamie McMurray coming on the last lap!

One of the highlights of the day was a visit from NHRA racer Eric Jones, who brought with him the dragster he plans to enter in the Gaternationals next month. As you might expect, Wendy found a way to not only get in the car, but to take four "hot laps" around the Colony Cottage parking lot. It drew quite a bit of attention from passersby, so our club's reputation within The Villages has taken yet another giant leap forward! Eric has promised to drop in at our February 24 meeting to give anyone who was not at the picnic a chance to see the car.

Here are some action shots from this event:



Part of the group!



Paying close attention



The Daily Sun paid us a visit



Richard and Mary Kepsel



Plenty of snacks...a good thing for the red flags!



Wendy, with Eric Jones



Wendy behind the wheel...lap 3 of 4!



Our club colors will fly at Gainesville!



During a break in the action



Mike in action for the 50-50