



The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club

Pit Report - February, 2010

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FAST Getting Set for Kick-Off



Wayne Anderson - FAST Co-Founder

With less than a month remaining before the February 20 kick-off of the 2010 Sunoco Florida All Stars Tour, the series' co-founders are confident that the new 12-race, six-track program will provide a critical lifeline for the state's Late Model Stock Car scene. Dick Anderson, Wayne Anderson, and Alan Bruns visited the club at its January 27 meeting to provide an update on the formation of the exciting new racing program, and to share the objectives they have for it. In introducing the trio of FAST originators, President Gerry Hafer commented that feedback from the local racing community indicates that there is little doubt about the need for the series, as evidenced by conflicting track schedules, dwindling car counts, and an eroding fan base. Florida is fortunate, he noted, to have the elite of the state's Late Model Stock Car world willing to step to the plate and organize what promises

to be a major step forward for local stock car racing.

Speaking as the elder statesman of Florida racing, Dick Anderson credited his son Wayne with having the foresight to lay the groundwork for FAST, and Central Florida businessman and multi-track racing champion Alan Bruns for jumping onboard to help structure the series. Anderson explained that FAST represents the first time in recent history that the principal asphalt tracks in Central Florida have been willing to come together and hammer out agreements on schedules, rules, and administrative issues. Wayne Anderson likewise credited the tracks for being willing to face the problems evident in the sport, expressing confidence that the twelve FAST races will produce full-field car counts and probably the highest quality of racing seen in the state for quite awhile.

Alan Bruns also provided a recap of one of the keynote ingredients in the FAST program—a strong Rookie Program. Sponsored by Lake-land-based RaceCar Engineering, this portion of the FAST format will provide enhanced visibility for the “up-and-comers” in the sport, and will help attract new drivers to compete in the series. “These new, younger drivers are the future of the sport,” he stressed, “and we’re going to do a lot to showcase their talents.” He noted that the series will crown a “Rookie of the Year” at the end of the season—a credential that will carry some weight on a young racer’s resume.



Alan Bruns - FAST Co-Founder

Continued on page 2

FAST Getting Set for Kick-Off (continued from page 1)



The legendary Dick Anderson


Both Wayne and Dick Anderson noted that funding for the series has been provided by a group of corporate sponsors, with Sunoco Racing Fuels stepping in as title sponsor for the entire series. Other corporate sponsors include RadioHead Racing Communications, BLP Products, Bruns Inc. General Contractors, Force V Florida, RaceCar Engineering, Solar 1st Fafco and Discount Propane, Sonny's Bar-B-Q, and Dynamite Dynamometers.

Since the first race in the series will be held at Citrus County Speedway in Inverness, and since this track is relatively close to The Villages, Special Events Coordinator Wendy Touchette later in the meeting announced plans to organize a car pool caravan for the February 20 event. It is an afternoon event, with qualifying to take place at 3:30 pm and the 100-lap FAST feature scheduled to start at 5:00 pm. Discounted pricing has been provided by the track (\$7 per person for 20 or more, \$6 per person for 30 or more). Details will follow.

Gerry Hafer also observed that a website (www.floridaallstarstour.com) has been developed for the Tour, and that the full-race schedule is posted on the site. As detailed schedules for each event are developed, he reported, the information will be made available on the site. Driver information is being added as registrations are received, and a full rundown of each

event's qualifying times and race results will be posted immediately after each event. Other information available via the website includes a continually updated "Rookies" section tracking the performance of this group of competitors, a dedicated Sponsor page with links to sponsor's websites, and the tour's official rules package and format information.





LATEST NEWS!!!
[Click each line to read announcements](#)
[Payout Schedule Changes](#)
[B.Main Format - Coming Soon](#)
[Sonny's BarBQ to Cater Feb 20 Cookout](#)

Real Racin' USA Interviews Tour Co-Founders
[Click here to access the site and listen to the interview podcast](#)

REAL RACIN' USA
Live Internet Racing Radio Since 2000

Interested in joining the tour?
 Membership has its benefits...\$25 discount on race entry fee; free pit parking; discount on fuel purchases; points fund, Rookie of the Year, and contingency eligibility, and more!!!
[Click to download Driver/Owner Membership Form](#)

Use the links below to browse to specific areas of our website
[Sponsor Page](#) - [Tracks](#) - [Drivers](#) - [Race Schedule](#) - [Series Format](#) - [Rules](#) - [Rookie Program](#)
[Race Results](#) - [Series Standings](#) - [FAST Executive Committee](#) - [Contact FAST](#)

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Looking Ahead to our February 24 Meeting

Our February 24 meeting will feature an appearance from NIC Racing Team's driver Nic Fernandez, Speedway Park's Rookie of the Year for 2009. A proven veteran at age 8, this young go-kart racer led the points in his class in 2009, after completing his first official points-paying race in April of that year. During the 2009 season, Nic was a force at this local venue, with five wins, two second place finishes, and three third place finishes. But he's not just a racer...as a student at The Villages Charter

School, Nic maintains Honor Roll status in the second grade, and has a secondary passion for baseball.

Nic and his dad, George, form the nucleus of NIC Racing, and they count the rest of the family...Mom Stephanie and Sister Ali...among their biggest fans and supporters. They're looking forward to continuing their success at the local Fruitland Park track, as they build for the future.

In keeping with our club's goal of learning about local racers, we wel-

come NIC Racing Team to Colony Cottage and look forward to hearing about their family operation.



Welcome, New Members

We added a whopping 17 new members at our January 27 meeting! It's gratifying to see that our club just continues to grow, and we certainly welcome the new members pictured below. Unfortunately, we missed a few at photo time...those of you who we missed are asked to see Tom Horrmann at the next meeting so we can grab your photo!



Mike Pigott - Monroe, Michigan



Gary Gilstorf - Perrysburg, Ohio



Dean ,Anita Vetter - Dayton, Ohio



Carl Peck - Trenton, New Jersey



Ed ,Julie Schaefer - Louisville, Kentucky



Vicki Jordan - Columbus, Ohio



Dennis Sarlo - Staten Island, New York



Van Reynolds - Savannah, Georgia



James Weber - West Babylon, New York

Welcome, New Members (continued)



Allen Gagnon - Londonderry, New Hampshire



Bill Ponstein - Grand Rapids, Michigan



Blair Nelson, Pictured with Dick Anderson

Reminder...if any members have unused cell phones, please bring them to the meetings or to any club function for recycling via the "Help them Call Home" program. Call Secretary Silky Meegan if you have any questions about this extraordinary program or the club's role in it. Thanks.

The Villages Cup is Coming



At our January 27 meeting, several representatives of Speedway Park in Fruitland Park, just adjacent to The Villages and the racing venue closest to our club, joined us with a great display of go-karts. Marty Ruser and Terry Turman provided an overview of the new developments at the track, and offered club members a variety of opportunities to get involved with the operation of the track. Both Marty and Terry spoke passionately about the history of the track and its place in family activities, and invited everyone to attend the regular racing programs on the first and third Saturdays of the month.

Subsequent to the meeting, Speedway Park officials contacted the club and extended an offer for any interested club members to come to the track on a pre-arranged day and "test drive" a specially prepared golf kart on their track (no, Wendy, that doesn't mean the karts will be painted to match Tony Stewart's 2010 paint scheme). We jumped on the opportunity, sent an email to all members, and immediately compiled a list of 25 (and growing) racing enthusiasts eager to take their turn behind the wheel.

Now comes the fun part: With that many folks vying for seat time on what will probably only be a stable of 4 or 5 karts, we'll need to put some thought into formatting the event. Here's where we get creative! We're thinking about structuring the day into a series of heat races, probably multiple rounds, gradually filtering down to A-Main and B-Main (maybe even a C-Main) features followed by a two-car or three-car shootout to determine "The Villages Cup Champion." The final structure, of course, will be determined by the number of drivers signing up to participate. Stay tuned to the website for more information on the format, cost (we're expecting to set a nominal fee to cover some of the expenses), and scheduling of this highly competitive venture. In the meantime, here are a few shots from last year's racing action just to remind you of what it looks like at the Speedway. This is going to be really cool!



The 2010 Shootout...hot action, cold seats!

A hearty band of 32 club members and friends made the trek over to Daytona International Speedway on Saturday night, February 6, for the 2010 Bud Shootout. Just like last year, who would have thought Kevin Harvick would come from the pack to win the event? Although it was a long day, and although it was cold, the action on the track kept everybody wound up enough to keep from freezing in their seats (well, almost). As an added bonus, of course, our contingent was treated to Danica Patrick's stock car debut and the media circus that surrounded that! Bobby Gerhart, of course, won the ARCA race, but that ended up being somewhat of a back story. Oh, well. Here are some photo's of the trip, courtesy of Wendy...



Barb Bateman, David Gail Whalen, Marjorie Paterson



Ed Thurstman, Bob Smolen, Van Reynolds, Bob Smolen



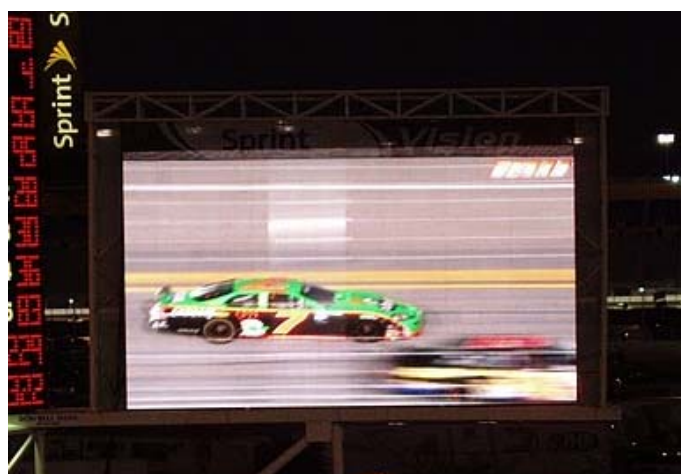
Syd Baker, Terry Myer, John Kitowicz, Bob Clark, Lance Mike



ARCA Race



Start of the Bud Shootout 2010



Who dat?

Special Events Roundup



OK...we're off and racing into another action-packed year for the club. With one major event under our belts, and two more big-time racing activities planned for the rest of the month, you can just smell the racing fuel in the air. Next up, of course is the Daytona 500 indoor picnic planned for February 14 (and what better way to celebrate St. Valentine's Day??!!), and we're looking forward to that being a great day of arm-chair strategizing as the drama that is "The Great American Race" unfolds. Come on out and join us...see details below. Right on the heels of the 500, of course is the launch of the Sunoco Florida All Stars Tour over at Citrus County Speedway in Inverness. With some great events also planned for March, you can say we're putting down some fast laps already in 2010. Here's what's in the works for the next few weeks and months:

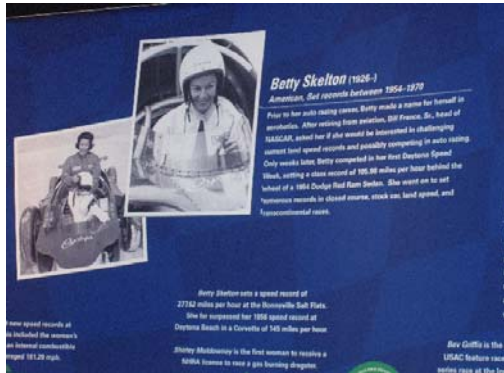
Wendy

Date/Event	Event Details	Special Information
February 14, 2010 NASCAR Daytona 500 Daytona International Speedway	Due to the high price of tickets for a package no club trip will be offered this year to the Daytona 500. But here's an alternative: We've reserved a room at Colony Cottage and will be showing the race live on the big screen. It will be an indoor picnic-type event...bring pot luck snacks to share and BYOB, and we'll watch it as a group. If you're interested in joining us, let us know via email to Wendy (mrswwt@comcast.net) or Gerry (ghafer@comcast.net) so we know how many we need to set the room for. You might also want to bring a comfortable camp-type chair...it's a long race!	
February 20, 2010 Florida All Stars Tour Kick-off Event at Citrus County Speedway	Ticket Booth opens at 12:00 noon Practice session at 2:00 (all divisions) Late Model Qualifying at 3:30 Race (100 laps) at 5:00 pm. — Grandstand admission: \$7 pp for 20 or more, \$6 for 30 or more	This will be the first in the series of 12 races that will define the true Florida Late Model Champion for 2010. Car pools will leave from Laurel Manor parking lot as follows: 1:00 if you want to join Silky (259-2029) for a lunch outing at a biker bar in Floral City; 2:00 otherwise
March 7, 2010 Second Annual Blast from the Past Reunion at Citrus County Speedway	See Flyer attached (page 9) General Admission; \$10, \$20 with Bar-B-Q included All attendees are requested to bring a canned good item to help restock the Citrus Food Bank	Club Hall of Famers Dick Anderson, Buster Burt, and Buddy Pearce will honored at this event, and Dick has committed to drive his brand new No. 92 Super Late Model in the race.
March 12, 2010 NHRA 41 st Gaternationals Deposits accepted in January 2010, \$59 per person, 2 Busses reserved	Adult Reserved Seat Tickets with Pit access @ bus transportation \$59 per person Nonrefundable Deposit of \$20 Will reserve your bus seat. First come first serve.	Accepting reservations now by mail: Wendy Touchette 1577 Blythewood Loop The Villages, FL 32162 Non-members and non-Villagers Welcome http://www.nhra.com/
Future Events...at least some of them...more to come!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 18-21-36th Annual Zephyrhills Winter Autofest April 28—Bingo at April 28 meeting (details to be presented at March meeting) July 3—Coke Zero 400 Trip (details now in development) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 11-14-Zephyrhills 26th Annual Fall Autofest November, 2010-Annual Reutimann Gold Tournament and Charity Auction December 12-2010 Holiday Hall of Fame and Awards Night

Visit our website (www.villagesracingclub.com)

Bette Skelton Erde Showcased at Daytona

As we mentioned several months ago, this year's Daytona International Speedway Speedweeks celebration included a traveling exhibition organized by the Lynn St. James Foundation titled "Women in the Winner's Circle." The exhibit, scheduled to travel around the United States on a four-year tour engaging viewers and informing them about the history of women in motor sports, was displayed in the Daytona USA facility at the Speedway. Of particular interest to our club was the inclusion of our own member, friend, and 2009 Hall of Fame inductee Bette Skelton Erde. Betty took her well-earned place in this historical display of motorsports accomplishments, making us all proud to be able to say "she's one of us!" Below are some photos of the showcase, provided by another of our own "women in the winner's circle," Wendy Touchette.



Far left—Betty's section of the display. Left—Silky Meegan, another of our own "women in the winner's circle" and complete with official club shirt, poses with the Exhibit.

Local Racing Corner

Here's a quick rundown of what's going on at the tracks close to The Villages...let's get out there and support them!

Race Track	Website & Telephone	Race Schedule
Ocala Speedway	www.ocalaspeedway.com 352-622-9400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friday, Feb. 19—Annual Banquet at Speedway Season Opener—March 5 Regular Friday night racing
Citrus County Speedway, Inverness	www.citruscountyspeedway.com 352-726-9339	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular Saturday Night programs begin 2/6/10; FAST opener 2/20/10; No racing 3/20-4/3
New Smyrna Speedway	www.newsmyrnaspeedway.org 386-427-4129	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 4-13—44th World Series of Asphalt Stock Car Racing; No March events scheduled yet
Orlando Speedworld	www.OrlandoSpeedworld.org 407-568-1367	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 8-13—Sixth Annual INEX/600 Fun & Sun Winternationals; No March events scheduled yet
Volusia Speedway Park, Barberville	www.volusiaspeedwaypark.net 386-985-4402	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 2-13—DirtCar Nationals
Auburndale Speedway	www.auburndalespeedway.com 863-551-1131	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday Nights, Regular season begins March 3
Speedway Park- Fruitland Park	www.originalspeedwaypark.com 352-308-7664	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check website for schedule; Oval track racing every first and third Saturday
Sumter Motorsports Park, Bushnell	www.sumterracing.com 863-286-9456	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 19-21— Central Florida Winternationals Oval track racing every second and fourth Saturday

Visit our website (www.villagesracingclub.com)

2010 Club Officers and Contact Data

Gerry Hafer, President (751-3643)
 Mike Touchette, Vice President (430-0239)
 Silky Meegan, Secretary (259-2029)
 Tom Horrmann, Treasurer/Official Photographer (430-0195)
 Wendy Touchette, Special Events (430-0239)
 Bob & Camille Sherman, Membership (751-1771)
 Dave Bockman, Member at Large (751-0381)
 Wayne Nolan, Member at Large (750-9082)
 Bill Wilkie, Member at Large (350-2080)
 Dave Colbert, Technical Planning (751-3851)
 Buster & Zoe Ann Burt, Senior Advisors (751-4346)
 Peter Tetrault, Member at Large (205-8503)
 Glen Carter, Immediate Past President (751-6442)

Every Race Fan Needs This!

Just in time for the “cooking-out” season (although here in the “land of the sun,” that’s pretty much the whole year!), **Richard Kepsel** discovered this handy “Hot Rod Grill” offering. Maybe the club should invest in one of these for our “Hot Dogs and Hot Rods” event later this year? Anyway, you can get yourself one of these 30,000 btu beauties by going to www.hotrodgrills.com. Picture one of these sitting in your back yard!



Some thoughts to ponder during the caution periods:

- Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- Inside every older person is a younger person wondering, 'What the heck happened?'
- When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

So you don't need to look it up...

As most of you know, from time-to-time we provide an updated list of the All-Time NASCAR Cup level winners, usually at the beginning and end of the racing season. This helps you keep track of who's moving up the list in pursuit of a higher rung on the ladder, and keeps you in the know for when a specific win becomes a big deal to the sports writers. One point to keep in mind as you look at this list, though, is that this is the “modern era” list (winners from 1972 forward). Many of us are purists, as well as long-time King Richard fans, so at some point later in the year we'll feature the “all time” list just to satisfy curiosities. Anyway, here's the top 25 from 1972 through 2009, courtesy of NASCAR.com:

RANK	DRIVER	TOTAL
1	Darrell Waltrip	84
2	Jeff Gordon	82
3	Dale Earnhardt	76
4	Cale Yarborough	69
5	Richard Petty	60
6	Rusty Wallace	55
7	Bobby Allison	55
8	Jimmie Johnson	47
9	David Pearson	45
10	Bill Elliott	44
11	Mark Martin	40
12	Tony Stewart	37
13	Dale Jarrett	32
14	Ricky Rudd	23
15	Terry Labonte	22
16	Bobby Labonte	21
17	Jeff Burton	21
18	Kurt Busch	20
19	Benny Parsons	20
20	Davey Allison	19
21	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	18
22	Geoffrey Bodine	18
23	Matt Kenseth	18
24	Harry Gant	18
25	Neil Bonnett	18

So, here are some questions to ponder:

- Will Jeff Gordon pass DW this year?
- Where will Jimmie Johnson wind up on the list at the end of the year?
- Will Mark Martin or Tony Stewart pass Awesome Bill to move into the top 10? (Martin, maybe; Stewart, unlikely; but just an editorial opinion!)
- Will Kyle Busch or Carl Edwards get into the top 25 this year (they're both sitting at 16 wins).
- How long will it take David Reutimann to get to the top 25 (editorial optimism at its best).



Special Event Announcement

*2nd. Annual Blast From The Past
Hosted By
Citrus County Speedway*

Sunday ,March 7,2010

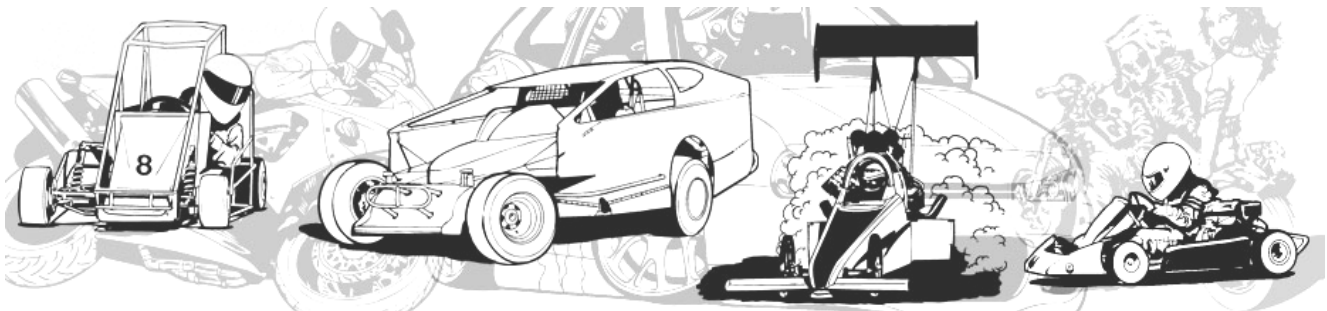
Real Racing - BBQ- Autographs - Bench Racing - Interviews

*Come See Yesterdays stars come alive
and race each other .All drivers
must be 60 years old or older to com-
pete in the racing .All others welcome
to come and Bench Race.*

Gates Open 8:00 A.M.

Pit admission :\$20.00 Includes BBQ

General Admission \$10.00



CHILDREN Under 12 are FREE

slankfordl@aol.com

Joyce Lankford

352-942-2369