

The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club

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March, 2007



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Message from the Crew Chief/President



If you were able to be with us at our February 7 meeting, you witnessed an awesome performance by Dave Bockman in the role of auctioneer. While the items we auctioned were very nice, quality items, it was incredible to see Dave's prowess make this such an entertaining event. Some of the funds will be sent to the "Victory Junction Gang Camp" founded by Kyle and Pattie Petty, while part will be earmarked for tornado recovery efforts here in our area. Take a look at the "News" page of our website for a recap of the auction event.

As you know, we have a number of exciting events lined up for the months ahead. Our Special Events Committee has been actively engaged in creating a slate of activities that we believe will delight all of you. Also, many of you have probably noticed the coverage we've been receiving in The Villages' media, both VNN and the Daily Sun. It seems our momentum is being noticed, thanks to all of you. Keep up the excellent work, and we'll look forward to seeing all of you at Lake Miona Recreation Center on March 10!

Glen

February's meeting ... "The Dave Bockman Story"



Our February 7 meeting speaker served a dual purpose: (1) a sharing of racing memories, and (2) an auction of racing memorabilia to raise funds for charity. Dave Bockman filled both of these purposes in grand style, beginning with a nostalgic tour of many of his personal racing souvenirs and treasures. After explaining the history on a variety of fascinating items, Dave reported that he is constructing a "souvenir" room addition on this house, and offered to have Club members drop by when it's finished and take a closer look at his collection.

Dave then conducted a high-energy auction of donated racing memorabilia, resulting in over \$600 raised in the name of several charities. Under Dave's spirited leadership, Club members were treated to a fast-paced sale of a wide variety of items, from die cast cars to DVDs, from souvenir track programs to souvenir track flags, and from hats, shirts, and slippers to actual race car body parts. By all accounts, the auction was a tremendous success. "We're not just about speed" quipped Club President Glen Carter after the event, "the club has always felt strongly that part of its mission needed to be charitable outreach, and the recent tornado devastation only made that need stronger."

Our sincere thanks to Dave for leading this exciting event!

Special Events Committee Report

Tickets are now on sale for the “Villages Raffle to Race”. For a \$10 investment, you will have the chance to win one of three incredible prizes:

- Grand Prize - gift certificate valued at \$550 to Daytona High Bank 8
- 2nd Prize - Richard Petty Ride along Experience at any track listed, value \$150
- 3rd Prize - A Ride Along at the Richard Petty experience at Walt Disney World, value \$100

Only 150 tickets will be sold for this raffle, so your odds are 1 in 50. That’s quite a bit better than the odds any lottery offers! Tickets will be on sale at the March 10 event (see below), or call any of the club officers listed on page 4 of this newsletter.

Club hats and polo shirts are on sale now:

- Shirt prices are \$24 for sizes s-xl, \$26 for 2xl. Your name under the club logo is free. The shirts are three button, 100% cotton- preshrunk, Gildan Activewear, Ultra Cotton.
- Hats will be red/ racing decoration and logo, priced at \$13.00.

Contact any of the club officers to place an order.

March Meeting – “Racing in The Villages”



As mentioned at the January meeting, our March regular meeting will be held in conjunction with our “Racing in The Villages” event at the Lake Miona Picnic Pavilion on March 10. This is a rain or shine event, just bring your chair, a pot luck side dish, and your liquid refreshments. **The Club will provide hot dogs and hamburgers.** Visitors are welcome, but subject to a \$1.00 entrance fee. Anyone planning to

attend should contact Wendy Touchette by March 6th with number attending and pot luck dish they will be bringing

As you recall, the main feature at this event will be the racing of the cars judged at our February 7 meeting. A few of them are pictured here. Come out and cheer your favorites on...this is going to be a memorable event, and will include a display of race cars provided by Matt Vaughn and Dick Anderson.



The Special Events Committee is looking for volunteers to help in various capacities at the event, including set-up, check-in, clean-up, and race coordination. If you’re willing to pitch in, give Wendy Touchette a call. The pay isn’t great, but you’ll get a pit pass.

Meet Your Fellow Club Members – Silky Meegan

We hope all of you had a chance to read the profile in last month’s newsletter, and that you took advantage of the opportunity to get an autograph in *Tony Stewart orange*. This month, we will introduce you to our club secretary, Silky Meegan. Silky is another talented member of our Pit Crew/Steering Committee, and I’m sure she’ll be willing to give you an autograph also, although it will have to be in *Dale Earnhart Junior red*. Silky’s profile is attached as page 5 in this newsletter.

Local Racing Corner

Local short track racing is back! Our two closest local tracks are going green in March for the season. Here are just a few of the upcoming events you might be interested in:

- **Ocala Speedway**

- **Friday, March 2, 2007**

Opening Night of the 2007 Points Season, Regular Divisions (4 Cylinder Stock, V-8 Thunder Stock, V-8 Pure Stock, Street Stock, Sportsman, Late Model & Modifieds) Plus – School Bus Figure “8” & Compact Car Demo Derby.

- **Friday, March 9, 2007**

Regular Divisions: (4 Cylinder Stock, V-8 Thunder Stock, V-8 Pure Stock, Street Stock, Sportsman & Late Models) PLUS - Figure 8 cars.

- **Friday, March 16, 2007 ***SPECIAL*****

Regular Divisions: (4 Cylinder Stock, V-8 Thunder Stock, V-8 Pure Stock, Street Stock & Modifieds) PLUS – TBARA Outlaw Winged Sprints

- **Friday, March 23, 2007**

Regular Divisions: (4 Cylinder Stock, V-8 Thunder Stock, V-8 Pure Stock, Street Stock, Sportsman & Late Models) PLUS - Figure 8 cars & Street Car Challenge

- **Friday, March 30, 2007 (Wacky Friday)**

Regular Divisions: (4 Cylinder Stock, V-8 Thunder Stock, V-8 Pure Stock, Street Stock, & Modifieds) PLUS – Kids Bike Races. (Hoods UP race)

- **Citrus County Speedway (Inverness)**



The regular season in Inverness kicked off Saturday, February 3, with Open Wheel Modified, Sportsman, Mini Stock, Street Stock, Pure Stock, V8 Thunder Stock, 4 Cylinder Bomb, Figure 8 racing scheduled to start at 5:30 pm

On February 10th, TBARA Sprints, Sportsman, Mini Stock, Pure Stock, V8 Thunder Stock, 4 Cylinder Bombers will take the track.

- **USA Speedway, Lakeland**

- Saturday, March 10 – USAR Hooters Pro Cup 200
 - Saturday, March 24 – ARCA ReMax 250

- **New Smyrna Speedway**

- **Saturday, March 17** - Season Opener **GOODYEAR CHALLENGE LATE MODEL 100**, Pro-Trucks, Modified, Sportsman, Super Stock, Mini Stock, Strictly Stock
 - **Saturday, March 24** - **TOMMY PATTERSON MEMORIAL MODIFIED 50**, Late Model, Pro-Trucks, Sportsman, Super Stock, Strictly Stock
 - **Saturday, March 31** - **FASCAR PRO-TRUCK 50**, Late Model, Sportsman, Super Stock, Mini Stock, Strictly Stock

So You Don't Need to Look it up!

There has been quite a bit of conjecture about the "Race for the Cup" format adopted by NASCAR a few years ago, and from time-to-time many of you may have wondered how the final standings would have been under the "old" system. Here, courtesy of USA Today, is a recap of the 2006 season's official final standings contrasted to what the final standings would have been under the pre-2004 points system. Note, for example, that Tony Stewart's performance over the final ten events would have put him fourth under the "old" method, while he missed "The Chase" under the new format. Oh, well.

Current "Chase" Format

| Pts Rank | Nextel Cup Driver | Points | Pts Behind | Avg Fin |
|----------|--------------------|--------|------------|---------|
| 1 | Jimmie Johnson | 6475 | Leader | 9.7 |
| 2 | Matt Kenseth | 6419 | -56 | 9.8 |
| 3 | Denny Hamlin | 6407 | -68 | 12.5 |
| 4 | Kevin Harvick | 6397 | -78 | 12.2 |
| 5 | Dale Earnhardt Jr. | 6328 | -147 | 13.5 |
| 6 | Jeff Gordon | 6256 | -219 | 14.9 |
| 7 | Jeff Burton | 6228 | -247 | 14.2 |
| 8 | Kasey Kahne | 6183 | -292 | 15.5 |
| 9 | Mark Martin | 6168 | -307 | 14.2 |
| 10 | Kyle Busch | 6027 | -448 | 15.5 |

Pre "Chase" Format

| Pts Rank | Nextel Cup Driver | Points | Pts Behind | Avg Fin |
|----------|--------------------|--------|------------|---------|
| 1 | Jimmie Johnson | 5158 | Leader | 9.7 |
| 2 | Matt Kenseth | 5154 | -4 | 9.8 |
| 3 | Kevin Harvick | 4838 | -320 | 12.2 |
| 4 | Tony Stewart | 4727 | -431 | 13.8 |
| 5 | Denny Hamlin | 4725 | -433 | 12.5 |
| 6 | Dale Earnhardt Jr. | 4641 | -517 | 13.5 |
| 7 | Jeff Gordon | 4567 | -591 | 14.9 |
| 8 | Jeff Burton | 4535 | -623 | 14.2 |
| 9 | Kasey Kahne | 4497 | -661 | 15.5 |
| 10 | Mark Martin | 4484 | -674 | 14.2 |

Here's another interesting item, excerpted from **USA Today**. Have you ever wondered which NASCAR Nextel Cup driver gets in the most wrecks? The top 10 "crashers" are shown below:

| DRIVER | ROOKIE | 2006 | | |
|-----------------|--------|---------|-------|-------|
| | | CRASHES | RACES | RATE |
| J.J. Yeley | 2006 | 17 | 36 | 47.2% |
| Joe Nemechek | - | 16 | 36 | 44.4% |
| Ryan Newman | - | 15 | 36 | 41.7% |
| Casey Mears | - | 15 | 36 | 41.7% |
| Robby Gordon | - | 15 | 36 | 41.7% |
| Sterling Marlin | - | 14 | 36 | 38.9% |
| Reed Sorenson | 2006 | 12 | 36 | 33.3% |
| Kyle Busch | 2005 | 12 | 36 | 33.3% |
| Elliott Sadler | - | 12 | 36 | 33.3% |
| Kurt Busch | - | 11 | 36 | 30.6% |

Club Contact Information:

| | | |
|--|----------|-----------------------------|
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| Dave Bockman, Member at large | 751-0381 | dmbockman@aol.com |
| Bill Wilkie, Member at large | 123-4567 | wilkbilmar@earthlink.net |

New Feature – Meet your fellow Club members This Month – Silky Meegan



Silky Meegan, our Club Secretary, was born in the heartland of stock car racing—Concord, North Carolina. In fact, her grandfather’s farm bordered what is now Lowe’s Motor Speedway. With that as a framework for growing up, it’s absolutely no wonder that she became a dyed-in-the-wool racing fan. Her first motorsports love, though, was Indycars, and she didn’t actually come around to stock car racing until one of her daughters introduced her to the sport at first Lowe’s Motor Speedway, and then North Carolina Motor Speedway at Rockingham. She was hooked at that point, and quickly exchanged her preference from the whine of Indycars to the roar of stock cars. What really roped her all the way in, though, was a ”ride along” experience at Lowe’s, which included an introduction to Richard Petty and Kyle Petty. There was no going back after that.

Silky’s career experiences were varied. She was recruited out of college by the CIA (she would give me the details, but then she’d have to kill me, so I didn’t ask anything else about that part of her background). After ten years with the CIA, she returned to college and earned her CPA and a path to more ordinary, laid back career pursuits. Above all that, though, Silky readily acknowledges that her most favorite profession was that of being Mom to daughters Cathryn and Rebecca. Cathryn is in the final phases of her PhD in archeology from Arizona State University, and previously worked as a CPA. Rebecca has degrees in Land Management and Wildlife Management, and works for the Coastal Plains Institute as a field biologist.

Silky’s daughter Rebecca first introduced her to The Villages. It was love at first sight, and she has lived in the Carlton Villas, in the village of Sabal Chase, since June 2006. As a very active “Villager” Silky serves as vice president of the Georgia Club, is an active member of the Carolinas Club, a member of the “On the Go Girls”, Block Captain of the Carlton Villas, a Ladies Luncheon Leader of the Villas, and a rollerblader, just to name a few of her pursuits. Her most rewarding experience, though, is her training to be a Stephens Minister through the New Covenant United Methodist Church.

Along the way through life, Silky also took middle eastern dance and tap and jazz lessons and was, at different times, a member of professional performing troupes. She was part of a group of tap dancers who broke a world record in New York City...she’s in the Guinness Book of World Records. In addition to all her activities, she was active in politics and the local women’s club, edited and produced several cookbooks, and headed various committees and organizations in her church. In summary, Silky is a “doer”, so you can see why Glen recruited her to handle the secretarial duties for our Club!

Incidentally, in case you were wondering about the origin of her name, she is nicknamed for the racehorse "Silky Sullivan"...she was showing horses at the time, and her Dad thought it would be a cute “handle” for her.

Be sure to drop by at the March 10 event and get Silky’s autograph...she will be signing in **“Dale Earnhart Jr. Red”**.