



The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club

Pit Report

May, 2011

In This Issue:

Pete Rosendahl on Sponsorships	1
May Preview—Billy Garcia	2
2011 Poker Run Recap	2
Welcome, New Members!	3
Visit to the Bull Ring	3
Special Events Roundup	4
Bubba Buys Ocala!	5
Local Racing Corner	5
R/C Car Racing in The Villages	6
News & Notes from Members	6
Your Pit Crew	7
Special Opportunity for Ford Fans	7
NASCAR Trivia	7
Thoughts to ponder	7
A Villager Story	7

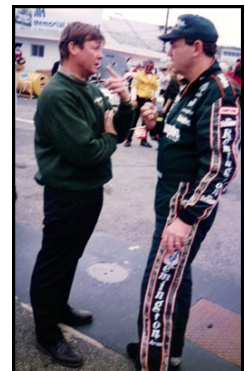
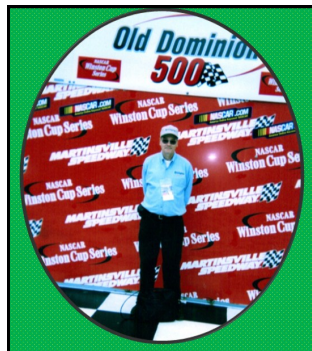
Viewpoints of a NASCAR Sponsor

April 6—Pete Rosendahl, a Villages resident and former member of the Remington Arms management team, visited with us at our April meeting and provided a sparkling account of his experiences as a NASCAR sponsor. Pete shared many of the nuances of sponsorship deals at the highest levels of racing, from how the dollars govern the placement of logos on the car, to how sponsorship deals come about, to the intricacies of merchandise marketing in



Pete Rosendahl—Sharing the Sponsor's Perspective

the "big leagues." His narrative began with Remington's first experience in NASCAR sponsorship—the June 3, 1990 Dover Cup race—with Derrick Cope driving the No. 10 Purolator Ford with Remington Arms' name and logo carried on the trunk lid. His remarks covered Remington's lengthy affiliation with NASCAR, and their relationship with Cope, Morgan Shepard, Rick Mast, Ted Musgrave, and Dale Earnhardt Jr. Some of the photo highlights of Pete's presentation are shown below, beginning with Pete in the Winner's Circle at Martinsville (left), the Remington Arms No. 75 Cup car (center), and Rick Mast sporting the Remington Arms Driver's suit. All-in-all, another great night for the club!



May 4 Meeting to Feature Veteran Racer

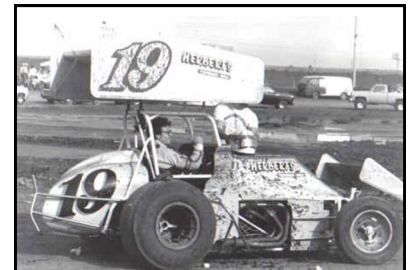
Our May 4 meeting will feature remarks from a true motorsports veteran, Billy Garcia. Over a career that spanned a 35+ year period, Garcia has competed in midgets, sprint cars, modifieds, and super modifieds, including a four-year stint in the NASCAR Super Modified ranks.

Garcia describes himself as a motorsports "privateer," explaining that his career was spent touring first locally in California, then nationally across the United States competing in selected, high-profile events. For all but the last two years of his racing career, his travel schedule precluded him from "chasing points" toward a series or track title in favor of making a name for himself nationally.

In 2004, he returned to his roots in California, and competed in the Central States Racing Association program, where he dominated the series and won the championship. He repeated this feat in 2005 to record back-to-back championships, retiring at the end of the 2005 racing sea-

Billy and his wife, Kim, moved to The Villages in 2005, after he concluded his final season behind the wheel of a race car. Unlike many professional racers, Billy retired from the sport while on top, leaving with fond memories of his racing days. With his remarks at the May meeting, he will share many of these great memories with the club, once again giving us an opportunity to hear from one who's done it!

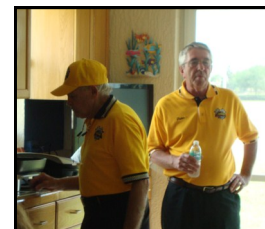
You're not going to want to miss this one...it promises to continue our string of outstanding speakers and insights to other motorsports dimensions. To whet your appetite, here are a few photos of Billy Garcia in action...



2011 Poker Run—Another Fun Event!

Wayne Nolan and his committee pulled off another great event on April 16, leading our stout group of 38 poker run participants on a 13.5 mile tour of The Villages (well, if you got lost, it probably ended up being a lot more than that!) in search of the winning five card hand. The day was bright and sunny, but unfortunately plagued with gale-force winds that forced the picnic portion of the event to a change of

venue. Matt and Shirley Patterson stepped in at this point, though, and opened their home to the group to complete the festivities. "Two rainouts and a blowout," says Wayne, referring to weather problems on the last two club events he organized. Threatening to throw in the towel, Wayne suggested he might be jinxed. It was agreed by all, though, that despite the weather, Wayne's organizational skills far offset the climate issues, and he is the best!



Chef Wayne (l), cooking burgers, while Assistant Peter surveys the crowd.



Judge Peter determining the winners.

Welcome, New Members



At our March and April we welcomed these nine new members to our group: (Clockwise from top left) Don Morse, Bill Kennedy, Carol Kennedy, Paul Barth, Jay Algire, Tom Brann, Joyce Knapp, and John and Suzy Blake. Be sure to look them up at a future meeting and engage them in a chat about racing!

Club Members Visit Ocala Micro Speedway

April 23-It was a beautiful night for racing as a group of club members made their way up to Ocala Micro Speedway to catch the Florida Slingshots in action. It was our first visit to Bill & Lori Cleary's quarter mile track, and an impressive place it is! They've done a lot of work since taking over the operation of the former ThunderBowl Speedway, and they have a lot of work yet to do, but we found the track to be a great venue for all types of racing. Subtitled the "Bull Ring," the track is great for many different types of cars, and on this trip we were treated to Gadget Sprints, Wingless Sprints, Lightning Sprints, and Micro Sprints, as well as the Slingshots. There

was even a brief showing of Street Stocks, so it's clear the track can handle bigger classes as well.

As you may recall, our main mission with this trip was to cheer for club favorite Harold Bedell campaigning the No. 24 Slingshot. Harold had a solid night, although his gear selection kept him a bit back from the lead. He finished 2nd and 3rd in his two

heats, then ran fourth in the 20-lap feature. Not bad, but not the type of show Harold likes to put on. But don't worry, he'll be back...next time with a better gear selection.

In the meantime, we had the opportunity to watch Sheldon Kinser Jr. race his No. 2 Lightning Sprint to victory in the night's main event...the Easter 500!



Harold Bedell (left) ready to hit the track as he lives his dream! In photo at right, Jerry Conkle pals it up with Sheldon Kinser Jr., main event winner.



Special Events Roundup



Most of our activities for the next few weeks and months will be local, as we await the opening of "Bubba Raceway Park" and the opportunity to see Buzzie Reutimann in action again. Also, as our club's R/C Racing program shapes up, we expect there will be some opportunities in The Villages to witness some intense competition as we cut our teeth on yet another type of racing...should be fun!

Not too much going on right now in the way of trips and special events but, don't worry, things will pick up as we get further into the racing season. Here's the current list of some club activities for the next few weeks...watch our website for changes and updates!

Wendy

Date/Event	Event Details
Saturday, May 7 Saturday, May 21 Speedway Park	Speedway Park's normal schedule for racing is the first and third Saturday of each month. Head over and watch the karts go at it, and cheer for club favorite Nic Fernandez as he races his blue number 3 go-kart. He's really on a roll, solidly leading the points race in the Junior Purple class.
Wednesday, May 4 Colony Cottage	Our regular monthly meeting, featuring Billy Garcia. This will be another great night. As Billy shares his extensive racing career in Midgits, Sprint Cars, Modifieds, and NASCAR Super Modifieds.
Friday, May 14 or Saturday, May 15 Bubba Raceway Park	The date isn't yet finalized, but Buzzie Reutimann informs us that he plans to run the opening Dirt Modified event at Bubba Raceway Park (formerly Ocala Speedway). Watch for details!!!
Wednesday, June 2 Colony Cottage	Our regular monthly meeting, featuring Lee Krauss. Lee's topics will be "Rat Rods" and his experience in building one. He will have his 1949 International Harvester Rat Rod on display. We'll also have speakers from the Ocala R/C Raceway on hand for a demo.
Saturday, June 18 Speedway Park	Save the date...we're beginning to put together the details for a club trip over to Speedway Park for a joint Nic Fernandez/Aiden Turman sponsorship deal.
Saturday, July 2 Daytona International Speedway	Coke Zero 400. We're again working through Lake Limo for this trip, with an announced package price ranging from \$91 to \$139. Call Aimee @ 742-2808 for details...this trip is open to the general public. (See flyer attached for details).
November, 2011 Zephyrhills	Annual David Reutimann Foundation Golf Tournament, Charity Auction, and Bar-B-Que. Details to follow.
Sunday, December 11 Colony Cottage	Fifth Annual Club Holiday Hall of Night and Awards Night

"Bubba The Love Sponge" Buys Ocala Speedway

The following article was posted recently on the Ocala Speedway's website:

Nationally Syndicated Radio host Bubba the Love Sponge Clem buys Ocala Speedway.

Bubba and his group of investors closed yesterday on the famed Ocala Speedway Wednesday April 13th 2011. Ocala Speedway is the oldest track in Florida, the famed Dirt oval first opened in 1952 as a clay/dirt track, functioned as dirt for 45 years, turned to asphalt for 10 years then back to its modern day surface clay in 2008. Ocala Speedway has hosted and continues to host some of the best dirt racing in American along with other specialty events, such as a Special Monster Truck show this weekend with the Famed Grave Digger.

Racing sanctioning bodies such as USAC, WOO, ASCS, and UDLMS also have visited and will continue to visit the famed dirt oval

located with in 2.5 hours of almost anywhere in the state of Florida. Bubba with his Nation wide radio reach, and relationships he has established within the racing community will market/promote the track quite aggressively.

"I obviously bought this place as an investment, but also want to give back to the racers. I myself have raced here and other tracks in Florida and outside of Florida for over ten years, and for the most part track owners are greedy scum-bags. They want to make a great living at the expense of the racers. Very few track owners want to give back, well those days are over at my track. Most tracks here in this area and even outside of Florida don't even offer very attractive end of the year point funds, that will change as well. And while we are changing things, I am announcing now the new name of the track will be Bubba Raceway Park. So if your a track owner be mad or change your ways, if your a racer, come to my track and have

fun, be treated fair, and get paid square." Bubba said.

After this weekends Monster Truck show, we will be closing down till Friday May 13th we then will be having a Re-Grand opening 5000 to win late model race Named the first annual Bubba Army Open . Look for our new websiteBubbaracewaypark.com to be up by early next week for details about Friday May 13th race. Also info regarding the new revised 2011 schedule and the 32,000 dollar end of the year points fund which will start the night of May 13th.

Hope to see you soon, Bubba the Love Sponge Clem.



Local Racing Corner

Race Track	Website & Telephone	Current Race Schedule
Citrus County Speedway, Inverness	www.citruscountyspeedway.com 352-726-9339	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 7—Reg. show, w/Super Late Mods May 14—Reg. show, w/Open Wheel Mods May 21—Reg. show, w/Super Late Mods May 28—Reg. show, w/School Bus Race
New Smyrna Speedway, Samsula	www.newsmyrnaspeedway.org 386-427-4129	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 7—Reg. show (All Mothers Free Adm) May 14—Reg. show May 21—Reg. show, w/Limited Late Mods May 28—Reg. show, w/Super Late Mods
Orlando Speedworld, Bithlo	www.OrlandoSpeedworld.org 407-568-1367	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 6—Reg. show, w/Super Late Mods May 13—Reg. show, w/Pro Trucks May 20—Reg. show, w/Limited Late Mods May 27—Reg. show, w/FUP
Speedway Park, Fruitland Park	www.originalspeedwaypark.com 352-308-7664	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 7—Regular show May 21—Regular show
Ocala Micro Speedway, Ocala	Www.ocalamicrospeedway.com 352-279-6218	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday night racing

R/C Racing is Coming!

Many of you know that, even as you read this, the "next big thing" for the club is beginning to develop. We're of course talking about the creation of a radio-controlled model car racing league within the club, and an organizational committee headed by Dean Tillman is busily assembling the details and specifications needed to launch a program for club members. Pete Rosendahl introduced the topic during his remarks at the April 6 meeting and, after an initial survey was conducted, more than two dozen members have expressed serious interest in starting a program of this type. The committee has held one start-up planning ses-

sion, and several committee members have begun to contact suppliers to determine the best way to build a set of standards to launch the program on a competitive basis. Several members have also visited a radio-controlled racing facility in Ocala to learn more about this type of racing, and we plan on having speakers from this facility on-hand at our June meeting to share their knowledge with our members.

**Camp Villages to Feature
R/C Racing**

While he was with us on April 6,

Pete Rosendahl also announced an opportunity for club members to join him and the Computer Club during week 5 of this year's "Camp Villages" to assist in running the "R/C Model Car Racing" program added to this year's events list. The date is Friday, July 15, and he needs 11 volunteers for pit crew duties and to serve as timers, judges, and track officials. We'll do a formal recruiting effort in June to build a roster but, in the meantime, anyone interested in getting on the list should call Gerry at 751-3643. This will be a great opportunity to participate in Camp Villages, and to have some real fun being part of the action.

News & Notes from Members

Club Recording Secretary Gerry Greim recently forwarded to me some photos of her grand nephew Wyatt Harrar. Wyatt is a rising star in the Quarter Midget ranks up in Pennsylvania, and at age 5 has begun to make a name for himself competing at several Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey tracks. With strong support from his dad (Luke) and his grandparents (Earl and Jayne Harrar), Wyatt has begun to build what looks like it will be a great career in racing. Maybe we can get "Aunt Gerry" to coax the family to Florida for a run on the Quarter Midget track over at New Smyrna Speedway, so he can show the locals down here how the northerners do it!

Anyway, one of the significant aspects of Wyatt's racing program is the fact that he's joined



the growing list of drivers at all levels of the sport who carry (or have carried) our club logo into competition. With Wyatt's addition, this list now numbers 16, and is beginning to read like a mini-who's who of motorsports!

So far, these notables have carried the club's logo:

Dick Anderson
Wayne Anderson
Buzzie Reutimann
David Reutimann
Jeff Choquette
Matt Bowers

Eric Jones
Steve Griffin
Nic Fernandez
Harold Bedell
Jessica Murphy
Cale Gale
Jeff Scofield
BJ McLeod
Daniel Miller

We're confident this list will continue to grow!



Wyatt Harrar behind the wheel!

Your Pit Crew

Gerry Hafer, President (751-3643)
 Mike Touchette, Vice President (430-0239)
 Silky Meegan, Corresponding Secretary (259-2029)
 Gerry Greim, Recording Secretary (215-630-1402)
 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)
 Buster Burt, Technical Consulting (751-4643)
 Dave Colbert, Technical Planning (408-3712)
 Peter Tetrault, Member at Large (205-8503)
 Glen Carter, Immediate Past President (751-6442)

Be a Part of History!

Who can forget the wild finish of this year's Daytona 500? With all those Fords stacked up in the lead pack (well, two-car packs anyway), you were probably certain the "blue oval" would



end up in the winner's circle, but I don't think too many of us watching the race could have predicted, at the start of the final lap, that Trevor Bayne would come out on top. After all, he was just one day past his 20th birthday, it was only his second Cup race, and all that. But when the dust cleared, there he was! Lost in the noise at the time was the fact that the win was Ford's 600th—a long-awaited milestone for the company. Now you have the opportunity to help commemorate this piece history by acquiring the hat shown above. Just visit www.FordShowParts.com. (Special thanks to club member **Matt Patterson** for calling this to our attention.)

Some Thoughts to Ponder

- You are stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
- Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.
- Police were called to a day care where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
- When she saw her first strands of gray hair, she thought she'd dye.

NASCAR Trivia...

- NASCAR sponsored its first road race June 13, 1954, at Linden (NJ) Airport. Al Keller won, driving a Jaguar sponsored by famed bandleader Paul Whiteman.
- Fred Lorenzen won the 1964 Rebel 300 at Darlington because his crew chief refused the car owner's direct order to bring the car into the pits for tires. Lorenzen got \$10,265 for the win; Crew Chief Herb Nab got fired.
- The last top-level NASCAR race run on dirt was at the North Carolina State Fairground in Raleigh, NC, September 20, 1970. Richard Petty won the 100 mile event.
- The length of a race track is measured along a line 15 feet inside the outer wall.

Life in The Villages

A new Villager, who recently joined us from Texas, sits down at an outdoor bar at Lake Sumter Landing and orders three mugs of Bud. He sits at the corner of the bar, drinking a sip out of each one in turn. When he finishes them, he signals the bartender and orders three more.

The bartender, concerned with the quality of her customer's drinking experience, says "You know, a mug goes flat after I draw it. It would taste better if you bought one at a time."

The Villager replies, "Well, you see, I have two brothers. One is in Arizona, the other is in Colorado. When we all left our home in Texas, we promised that we'd drink this way to remember the younger days when we drank together. So I'm drinking one beer for each of my brothers and one for myself."

The bartender admits that this is a nice custom, and leaves it there. As so often happens here, the Villager becomes a regular at the bar, and always drinks the same way. He orders three mugs and drinks them in turn.

One day, he comes to the bar and only orders two mugs. All the regulars take notice and fall silent. When he signals the bartender for the second round, the bartender says, "I don't want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your loss."

The Villager looks quite puzzled for a moment, then a light dawns in his eyes and he laughs. "Oh, no, everybody's just fine," he explains, "It's just that my wife and I joined the Baptist Church and I had to quit drinking."

"Hasn't affected my brothers though."