



## *PIT NEWS* *August, 2021*

*Editor: Donna Gross*

**Next Meeting: September 1, 2021**

### *A Few Words from the President's Desk*



I would like to welcome back all of our members after our summer break. Our first meeting will be Wednesday, September 1 at 7:00 PM at Colony Cottage Recreation Center. I hope everyone had a very enjoyable and relaxing summer break.

The Board of Directors has been busy working on booking interesting guest speakers for future meetings. We are also considering different events our club members could attend for a fun day out.

A big thank you to Bob and Janine Woodsford for organizing the Camp Villages R/C Racing at La Hacienda Rec Center with the kids. It was a huge success. Many thanks to the numerous club members who volunteered to help on that day. This event would not have been successful without all of the volunteers who lent a helping hand.

Carl Eckert will be our guest speaker for our first meeting back. He has also agreed to bring his race car to be put on display. This is something you will not want to miss.

I strongly encourage everyone to read the entire newsletter, which is always filled with lots of information. Donna Gross puts a great deal of effort into making it interesting for all of our members.

Don't forget that everyone is welcome to join us every Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. for a fun breakfast get-together at Bob Evans on 466 to discuss racing and whatever else comes to mind. We meet in the back room, so just ask for the racing club.

If anyone has a suggestion for a guest speaker or anything else they would like to see the club do in the future, please let me know. My e-mail is [cbfla13@bellsouth.net](mailto:cbfla13@bellsouth.net).

I am looking forward to seeing our members once again and having a fun and interesting year.

Regards, Chris Bleistein

## ***Our Guest Speaker for September 1 Meeting Carl Eckert***



Our guest speaker is one of our own, club member Carl Eckert.

Carl will tell us about Eckert Racing, which began after WWII with his dad piloting sprint cars in the Northeast and Carl providing help.

Carl began his time on the track in vintage midgets and sprints in 1987. In the mid-1990s, Legend Cars became his passion.

In 2012, Carl focused his attention on the Thunder Roadster, another race car in the U.S. Legend Cars racing series. He carries on the tradition of Eckert Racing to this day in his beautiful No. 24 Thunder Roadster.



## Prediction Row 2021



Perhaps the most interesting race since the last newsletter was the Indy Road Course as AJ Allmendinger scored his second spoiler win of the season. "The Dinger" is not eligible for the Playoffs because he is running for points in Xfinity. With four laps remaining there was a nearly 20-minute red flag.

A piece of curbing came up in turns 5 and 6, causing several cars to catch it and spin out. During the first of two overtime attempts, another accident occurred in the same place, wrecking seven cars and forcing another red flag. On the final restart, Allmendinger took the lead coming to the white flag and scored the victory.

### **Prediction Row Standings with one race remaining:**

Steve Poplarski - 4 wins, 556 points

Jim Dropp - 3 wins, 467 points

Alan Sneider - 1 win, 415 points

Donna Gross - 1 win, 393 points

Gerry Hafer - 1 win, 388 points

Gerry Greim - 1 win, 368 points

Steve and Jim obviously have secured their spots in the Playoffs. Any of the remaining four predictors can clinch a spot with a winning selection or the one with the most point's moves on. The three summer segment winners will join Art Staus, Melanie Scott and Doug Baker for the Playoff Segment.

For the latest weekly predictions, follow Prediction Row in the Daily Sun on NASCAR Cup race day and look for the most recent updates on our website.

**Silky Meegan, Prediction Row Coordinator**

## Important Upcoming Dates

September 1-Wednesday    Monthly Meeting-Colony Cottage Rec Center 7pm

October 6-Wednesday    Monthly Meeting-Colony Cottage Rec Center 7pm

January 30, 2022-Sunday    Awards Celebration (Details will be forthcoming)

## CAMP VILLAGES R/C CAR RACING WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!



Bob and Janine Woodsford did a great job of organizing this event with a dedicated group of club members who transformed the La Hacienda Recreation Center into a tough oval race course for the annual Camp Villages R/C car racing extravaganza on Thursday, July 22. A great time was had by all and we look forward to doing again next year.

*Thank you Bob and Janine and all club volunteers!*





YOUR HELP IS NEEDED, READ BELOW

## BREAKING NEWS: RPM ACT REINTRODUCED FOR 2021 ACT NOW!

**Our voices have been heard!** After receiving more than one million letters from enthusiasts like you, the Recognizing the Protection of Motorsports Act (RPM Act) has been reintroduced in the U.S. House of Representatives in the 2021-2022 session of Congress!

The RPM Act must be enacted into law to guarantee your right to modify street cars, trucks, and motorcycles into dedicated race vehicles, and ensure that industry can offer parts that enable racers to compete.

Now is not the time to take our feet off the gas. Even if you've previously contacted your lawmakers about the RPM Act, we need your voice once again now that the bill has officially returned for consideration in 2021! Tell your U.S. Representative to do their part to finally save racing from government threat by supporting and passing the RPM Act into law this year.

The website is [www.semasan.com](http://www.semasan.com) where you can select to contact the lawmakers.

## GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN...

The past 18 months have continued to be a challenge for all of us. The hardest of all is saying goodbye to close friends. We lost the following member. May he Rest in Peace.



**Elwood "Woody" White  
1941-2021**

### ***Looking to Purchase Club Apparel...***

**We now have to order a minimum of 6 embroidered items at a time.** We are hoping to place an order after the September 1 meeting, so if you have been thinking you may want to order something, please let Mike or Donna Gross know either at the meeting or by email at [donnaracing27@gmail.com](mailto:donnaracing27@gmail.com). Just a reminder payment needs to be made at the time of the order.

### ***PLEASE KEEP US POSTED!***

Did you move, change your phone number or e-mail address? We need to know. Please let membership coordinator Lois Taylor know by either checking in with her at a meeting or emailing her at [ltaylr@hotmail.com](mailto:ltaylr@hotmail.com) or calling her at 352-633-5624. It is important that we have updated information in the event we need to reach out to you.

## Editor's Corner of useful (and sometimes) useless funny tidbits....



- 1) What is the rarest M&M color?  
a) Green b) Red c) Brown d) Yellow
- 2) Is it illegal in the state of FL to sing in public in your swimsuit?  
a) Yes b) No c) Not sure
- 3) What was the first toy to be advertised on television?  
a) The Slinky b) Barbie Doll c) GI Joe d) Mr. Potato Head
- 4) What is the loudest animal on earth?  
a) Lion b) Sperm Whale c) Elephant d) Tiger

See the answers to Trivia question on page 9

### *OK, Now Donna's Joke.....*

A man is driving down the road with 20 penguins in the back seat. The police stop him and say that he can't drive around with the penguins in the car and that he should take them to the zoo. The man agrees and drives off.

The next day, the same man is driving down the road with 20 penguins in the back seat again. He is stopped by the same police officer who says, "Hey! I thought I told you to take those to the zoo."

The man replies, "I did. Today, I am taking them to the movies."

*DON'T WORRY, JERRY WILL RETURN SOON!*

**SAVE THE DATE – NOVEMBER 25-28, 2021  
AND GET OUT YOUR STURDY WALKING SHOES**



Thursday-Saturday \$15.00 per day gates open 8am-4pm  
Sunday \$10.00 gates open 8am-2pm

Scooter Rentals are available for \$75.00 per day if needed.

Go to <https://turkeyrun.com> for more details and also to inquire about scooter rentals and handicap parking and other FAQ's.



*Let's Welcome our New Members!*

No new members this month



## The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club Announces a New Sponsorship Opportunity



The Club's Sponsorship Program is "revving" up. Here is the information that is given to a sponsor to show them what the club will provide in return for their sponsorship.

We are pleased to announce your sponsorship will be showcased on our website Sponsor Page. It will also be promoted at our monthly meetings and at every racing booth throughout the year. We will provide handouts and advertise your business at our racing events.

Sponsorships will go a long way toward making our goals a reality. We are striving to bring informative and diverse racing-related events to The Villages. For more information to become a sponsor, please contact club president, Chris Bleistein, 954-729-3050 or [cbfla13@bellsouth.net](mailto:cbfla13@bellsouth.net).

### Club Apparel

Show off your club pride with "crew uniform" apparel items featuring the club logo. To view the complete line of apparel, please go to the club's website, [VillagesRacingClub.com](http://VillagesRacingClub.com)

These high-quality items may be seen at every club meeting. Some items without your embroidered name are "cash and carry." Orders for embroidered items are taken at each meeting but we now need to order a minimum of 6 items at a time. Cash or check is required at the time of order.

If you have any questions or would like to place an order, please see Crew Uniform Manager Mike Gross at a club meeting or contact him at [mikesg201@gmail.com](mailto:mikesg201@gmail.com).

#### TRIVIA ANSWERS:

1. C
2. A
3. D
4. B



We are searching for helpers to assist media coordinator Mike Anderson with activities that he handles. They are quite varied: email blasts, print member badges, PowerPoint at meetings, Word, club website, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

We aren't looking for one person to learn all this. This is about sustainability and continuity. About half of these things are done online, each requiring a user name and password at a specific website. If Mike were to become unavailable, the club could experience immense difficulty.

If you would like to talk about this opportunity, please call or email Mike, 217-714-2245 or [mike.mag70@gmail.com](mailto:mike.mag70@gmail.com). If you have experience in any of these areas, great – he wants to talk to you! If you are interested in learning how to handle any of these areas, he is a willing and patient teacher.

## *Get Well and Thinking of You*

*We would like to send well wishes and positive healing thoughts to our members and their families who may be recovering from or are in the midst of dealing with a medical illness.*



# PIT CREW

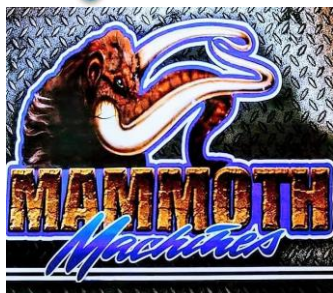
**Need to get in touch with a member of the Pit Crew?  
Please see the information below!**

Name	Position	Duties	Phone
Chris Bleistein	President	Crew Chief	954-729-3050
Tony Kennea	Vice President	Car Chief	352-603-9197
Silky Meegan	Corresponding Secretary	Front Tire Carrier	352-430-6042
Gerry Greim	Recording Secretary	Crew Coach	215-630-1402
Roger Taylor	Treasurer	Fueler	352-633-5624
Mike Gross	Special Events Coordinator	Jack Man	401-323-1313
Lois Taylor	Membership Coordinator	Mechanic	352-633-5624
John Angiolo	Hospitality Coordinator	Rear Tire Carrier	414-305-8094
Mike Anderson	Media Coordinator	Fabricator	217-714-2245
Mike Gross	Crew Uniform Manager	Logo Mart	401-323-1313
Donna Gross	Newsletter Editor	Rear Tire Changer	401-323-1334
Art Fehrman	Member At Large	Front Tire Changer	708-254-5196
Tom Horrmann	Member At large	Mechanic	352-430-0195
Janine Woodsford	Member At Large	Mechanic	352-430-5804
Jerry Conkle	Past President	Team Owner	352-750-1185

**Don't forget to visit our website for more club information.**

# Thank You

We would like to thank our sponsors for their support. We ask that you please support these businesses so that they can continue to be a vital part of The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club.



Mammoth Machines  
Leesburg, FL  
407-235-5282



Parts Geek  
Doylestown, PA  
800-541-9352



Lefthander Chassis  
Roscoe, IL  
815-389-9999



Kokomo Speedway  
Kokomo, IN



Bob Woodsford, Realtor  
The Villages, FL  
352-430-5249



ARCA Midwest Tour



Ultrix Printing  
Lady Lake, FL  
352-205-8222



Triline Services  
The Villages, FL  
217-433-1394



Mike Scott Plumbing  
Wildwood, FL  
352-748-9111

## Benefactor

Pat Fehrman  
The Villages, FL

Benefactors do not have a business to promote but they donate money to help support us.