



PIT NEWS *September, 2025*

Editor: Donna Gross

Next Meeting: October 1, 2025

A Few Words from the President's Desk



Hello Crew Members,

Welcome to Fall Everyone! I am in Pennsylvania at the moment and the leaves are starting to show their colors of yellow, red and orange. Upon my return to Florida this afternoon, I know it will still be 89 and summer. Some of our snowbirds are heading back South, and we hope to see you October 1 for our next interesting meeting and speaker. 7:00 at Colony Cottage Recreation Center is the time and place. I look forward to seeing everyone again.

Please consider speaking to me or any board member (see page 11) about things you would like us to do, or people you would like us to ask to speak at our meetings. It helps us plan our year and come up with new and different special events for everyone's enjoyment.

Thank you for being a wonderful bunch of folks. You make my job easy!

Sincerely,
Gerry G.
Your Prez and Crew Chief



Important Upcoming Dates

Oct. 1, Wednesday Monthly Meeting, Colony Cottage Recreation Center, 7PM

Nov. 5, Wednesday Monthly Meeting, Colony Cottage Recreation Center, 7PM

Pictures from September 3 Meeting



Guest Speaker Alan Sheppard and Club President Gerry Greim



Alan and Lori Sheppard with several club members

Next Meeting – October 1



Our next meeting is on Wednesday, October 1, at Colony Cottage Recreation Center, going green at 7 p.m.

Our guest speaker comes straight out of Miami's historic racing scene, Bill Taylor. After high school Bill went to work at a Ford dealership and during that time he went to many tracks, built a couple race cars (and their engines) and met a lot of people.

In 1985 after 11 years at the dealership, he opened his own engine shop and built power plants that were engineered for South Florida's stock car racing. Bill's engines tore up the short tracks in the '80s and '90s, powering cars to victory lane and titles, including the 1991 Street Stock Champion and the 1992 Thunder Car Champion at Hialeah Speedway.

Around 1990 it was obvious to Bill that short track racing in South Florida was changing – many tracks were closing. Bill went back to working a “real job” while continuing to operate his engine shop until 1995 – working two jobs and long hours. Bill was later recognized for his accomplishments when he was inducted into the Hialeah Speedway Hall of Fame as an engine builder.

Bill will take us into his shop, giving us a look at the high-precision machines that brought his horsepower to life – crankshaft balancers, rod honing machines, rod ovens, and more. And yes, he's bringing pictures!

Don't miss this chance to hear first-hand stories from one of South Florida's short track legends. If you love Florida racing history and horsepower, this is a meeting you won't want to miss!

Pictures from August 21 Consumer Cellular Event



John Songer (L), winner of Daytona tickets, with Jeff Ing.



September 13 - Tailgate Party at Citrus County Speedway

There were about 14 people who attended along with Chef Jeff and Sous Chef Chris at the grill.



Everyone had a blast sharing great food, plenty of laughs, and the thrill of racing.



Prediction Row 2025



Results after the Fourth Playoff Race:

Bill McCormick - 1 win, 149 points
Craig Simundza - 1 win, 144 points
Richard Adkins - 0 wins, 124 points
Rick Kegel - 0 wins, 120 points
Steve Poplarski - 0 wins, 109 points
Gerry Hafer - 0 wins, 84 points

The NASCAR Cup field has now been cut down from 16 to 12 drivers competing for the Championship. There are two more races before the next cut down to 8 competitors. Get all the latest information on our website.

Silky Meegan, Prediction Row Coordinator



EVERY THURSDAY Club members and guests meet at Bob Evans Restaurant, 2199 Parr Drive, corner of CR 466 & Tall Trees Lane.

EVERY FRIDAY Club members and guests meet at Toasted Yolk Cafe, 657 Kristine Way, Lake Deaton Plaza.

We order at 8 a.m. Come join the fun. Sit with fellow members and have a coffee or have breakfast and chat about all things racing.

Pictures from 3rd Villages Motor Racing Fan Club Car Show Sept. 15 - Brownwood Paddock Square



Denis Fortin - Best Appearing '55 Chevy



Tim Schumacker-Travelled Farthest - Georgia



Jason Reynolds - Best Appearing Race Car



More Car Show Pictures



Another great job by Jeff Ing, Vice President and Car Shows Coordinator!
Thanks to all the members and spectators who came out to enjoy the night.

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 or calling her at (352) 633-5624. It is important that we have your updated information in the event we need to reach out to members.



New Members

Michael Johnstone - Illinois

Timothy Hendrick - Indiana

Alan Gross - Pennsylvania

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



An older couple were lying in bed when the wife said, "When we were courting, you used to hold my hand." The husband rolls over and holds her hand. She then said, "You used to kiss me goodnight." He rolls over and kisses her on her cheek. Then she says, "You used to bite me on my neck." He went to get out of bed and she said, "Where are you going?" His response, "TO GET MY TEETH."

Club Apparel



Get ready to rock your club pride with our exclusive “crew uniform” apparel, featuring the iconic club logo! From shirts to caps to totes, show the world you are part of the action. Check out the full collection now at VillagesRacingClub.com!

These top-quality items are available for viewing at every club meeting, and some items – without your personalized embroidery – are “cash and carry” for your convenience. Need your name embroidered? No problem! Orders for personalized gear are taken at every meeting, but we do require a minimum of six items per order (total from all members). Remember, cash or check is needed at the time of purchase.

Got questions or ready to place your order? Catch Mike Gross at a club meeting or reach out via email at mikesg201@gmail.com. Let’s gear up and represent the club in style!

Get Well and Thinking of You

We would like to send well wishes to all of 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
Gerry Greim	President	Crew Chief	215-630-1402
Jeff Ing	Vice President and Car Shows Coordinator	Car Chief	631-897-6263
Silky Meegan	Corresponding Secretary and Prediction Row Coordinator	Front Tire Carrier	352-430-6042
Craig Simundza	Recording Secretary	Crew Coach	708-744-7292
Roger Taylor	Treasurer	Fueler	352-633-5624
Lois Taylor	Membership Coordinator	Mechanic	352-633-5624
Mike Anderson	Media Coordinator	Fabricator	217-714-2245
Mike Gross	Crew Uniform Coordinator	Logo Mart	401-323-1313
Donna Gross	Newsletter Editor	Spotter	401-323-1334
John Angiolo	Sponsors Coordinator	Rear Tire Carrier	414-305-8094
Art Fehrman	Special Tours Coordinator	Front Tire Changer	708-254-5196
Chris Bleistein	Immediate Past President	Team Owner	954-729-3050
Tony Kenna	Past President	Team Owner	352-603-9197
Jerry Conkle	Past President	Team Owner	352-630-9234

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.



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The Villages, FL
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