



The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club

Pit News

October, 2016

Next Meeting Wednesday Nov 2nd at Colony Cottage Rec Center.

Going **GREEN** at 7:00PM

Editor: Janine Woodsford

Prez Says



Hi Race Fans, I'm sorry we have to start on a sad note with the loss of our club member, Ernie Battee. Details of the arrangements have been circulated to all our members.

10th Anniversary, well I hope we have all recovered from our celebration. A sincere thank you for everyone who made the evening one of the most memorable in the club's history.

We went through the remainder of our journey so far, thanks to Wendy, and Mike's statistics on the clubs donations, club's activities, etc. were very enlightening. I'd also like to thank everyone who volunteered to help get the room prepared, the balloons and table decorations and of course the cake.

This helped to make the party go with a swing.

I hope everyone has had a chance to read Larry Croom's write up in the Villages Daily Sun this week.

It was also a pleasure to see our other guests, Buddy & Beth Pearce, Larry & Gigi Croom, and of course Zoe Ann Burt.

An extended thank you and warm welcome to Barb Pappas and Renetta Thompson who have stepped up to take over the role of Membership Coordinators.

And as for the Bushnell Go Karting event, we are for now, a future event, the date will be disclosed later. Even if you don't plan to drive, hopefully you will plan to come along and cheer on the drivers



who are taking part.



October speaker,
Roger Edmondson



Continuation of 10th Anniversary Celebration



Glen Carter, Founder of
The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club
“Best damn club in The Villages”



Congratulations to the Charter Members.
Syd Baker, Glen Carter, John Cleves, Gerry Hafer, Mike
Heinke, Tom Hormann, Silky Meegan, Alan Stone, Mike
Touchette and Wendy Touchette



Ernie Battee

The Checkered Flag was flown for Ernie on October 8, 2016. Ernie was a member of our club for years and was given “A Member For Life” status after his accident that left him a quadriplegic. Although his life was changed forever, he did not lose his sense of humor nor his infectious happy mood. His passion for NASCAR racing was enlightened by his son-in-law Randy LaJoie, NASCAR racing champion and his grandsons, Corey and Casey, involved in various NASCAR venues. He will be missed, but will remain in “**pole position**” in everyone’s heart.



Our November guest speaker is **TODD MOREY**. He is going to take us on an exciting trip into the world of Monster Trucks. While he has past experience in a number of forms of motorsports, he found that his enthusiasm for this sport will take him a long way.

So, don’t miss our November 2nd meeting.

EARLY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2017

Starting at our November 2nd meeting.

Register early—\$10.00 per person.



FLORIDA GOVERNOR'S CUP NEW SMYRNA SPEEDWAY

There are a lot of big Super Late Model races in Florida, but none carry the honor and big draw that the Governor's Cup race at New Smyrna Speedway. This race has drawn top drivers and teams from throughout Florida and the United States since 1988.

This year's schedule: qualifying and practice Friday, November 11 and Saturday, November 12. Sunday, November 13, gates open at noon and pre-race ceremonies begin at 1:15. Admission on Sunday is \$30.00. Check the our club's website for car-pooling information.



NHRA 101



I am not educated about NHRA, since I am basically a NASCAR Nut, so I thought I would share the information I found with all of you. (However there are probably a lot of you that know way more than this. I would welcome your information as well.)

NHRA was founded by Wally Parks in 1951. Its primary purpose was to get hot rodders off the streets and onto legal and safe drag strips. He also wanted to provide millions of fans with up close and personal views of what goes on with their favorite drivers and cars. Thus the "open-pits" policy.

A drag race is an acceleration contest where two vehicles begin from a standing start over a measured distance. The losing racer in each contest is eliminated and the winning racer advances until one remains. Now that sounds understandable.

However, there are nine sub-classes with 96 individual classes overall. Some of the classes are Gas Dragsters, Econo Dragsters, Nostalgia Dragster, Altered, Econo Altered, Street Dragsters, Street Roadster, Trucks, and Super and Pro Modified. And each sub-class has a number of classes involved in that category.

This is where I begin to get confused. Which class do I root for?

But then I discovered, for instance at the Gatornationals in Gainesville on March 16, 2017, there are a number of classes, including motorcycles, that compete. So the best thing I could do is go to the Gatornationals and wander around the pits and find out which class interests me the most.

One thing I did learn is to be prepared, bring a hat, sunglasses, earplugs and a blanket.

About the NHRA



It's big, it's fast, and it's loud. And in addition to all that, it's one of the most fan-friendly venues in motorsports. Those characteristics are what attract legions of fans to every NHRA event, where the price of admission gives you an awesome motorsports experience and includes the opportunity to visit the pits and garages and mingle with the personalities of the sport. This latter point is one that many NHRA event participants cite as a really big deal, compared to exclusiveness of venues like NASCAR events, where it's really tough to score a "hot" pit pass.

This tradition of "fan friendliness" is likely attributable to the roots of drag racing, with back-road hotrodders launching a one-to-one competitive sport early in the 19th century. In fact, this hotrodders characteristic is memorialized in the formal name of the sport: National Hot Rod Association, founded in 1951 by drag race pioneer Wally Parks, then editor of Hot Rod Magazine and one of the creators of Southern California Timing Association, a forerunner of the NHRA.

The first official NHRA competitive event was staged at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds in Pomona, CA, but it wasn't until 1955 that the Association launched its first national-level event in Great Bend, KS. This touring series—labeled the "Nationals"—moved about the U.S. for a number of years, and in 1961 Indianapolis, IN was adopted as the site for NHRA's next major step...the establishment of the "Winternationals."

To say that NHRA is a prominent sport would be a substantial understatement. With 70,000 members and more than 40,000 licensed competitors, NHRA is second only to NASCAR in fan attendance. NHRA's 120 member tracks across North America host events in seven geographic locations, with NHRA's marquee Mello Yello Series making 24 stops in 21 cities in 10 months. NHRA features competition in over 20 categories, with Top Fuel, Funny Car, Pro Stock, and Pro Stock Motorcycle at the professional level.

"NHRA has evolved into the largest promoter of professional drag racing in the world. Today, with more than 200 dedicated employees, NHRA offers drag racing opportunities for hot rod enthusiasts of all levels, from youth ages 5 to 17 in the NHRA Summit Racing Jr. Drag Racing League all the way up to the top of the professional ranks with the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series." (Quote courtesy of www.nhra.com)

Originally posted in gimmeinfo.com

Friday, October 2, 2015

HALL OF FAME DINNER
LA HACIENDA RECREATION CENTER
RICARDO MONTALBAN ROOM

January 21, 2017 6PM—9PM

Catered By HILL'S BBQ & CATERING

Menu: Whole Pig, Baked Beans,

Caesar Salad, Pasta Salad, Dinner Rolls

Sweet and UnSweet Iced Tea and Coffee

TICKETS \$10.00

Only 100 available

TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE NEXT 3 MEETINGS

OR BY CALLING BARB PAPPAS (219) 395-4306

OR MIKE ROEMER (352) 633-0134

Attire: Business Casual (no yellow shirts please)

**DOOR PRIZES INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO
1 PAIR OF GATORNATIONAL TICKETS!!**



THIS COULD BE YOU!!

VILLAGES CUP

**Bushnell Motor-
sports Park**

Satur-



OR THIS!!

**day,
Oct 15,**

2016

Registration

Racing

\$25.00

Jerry

starts at 1:30

starts at 2:00

for 10 For more Info call

Conkle-352-750-1185 or John Angiolo-414-305-8094

POSTPONED
WATCH FOR THE FUTURE DATE

PIT CREW

Name	Position	Duties	Phone #
Tony Kennea	President	Crew Chief	(352)603-9197
Wendy Touchette	Vice President	Car Chief	(352) 303-9734
Silky Meegan	Corresponding Secretary	Jack Person	(352) 259-2029
Mike Anderson	Social Media Coordinator	Fabricator	(217) 714-2245
Gerry Greim	Recording Secretary	Crew Coach	(215) 630-1402
Tom Horrmann	Treasury/Photographer	Fueler	(352) 430-0195
Darren Ivey	Special Events Coordinator	Front Tire Carrier	(352) 552-1977
Bob & Camille Sherman	Membership Coordinators	Mechanics	(352) 751-1771
Wayne Nolan	Member At Large	Crew Uniform Manager	(352) 750-9082
John Angiolo	Member At Large	Rear Tire Carrier	(414) 305-8094
Mike Touchette	Member At Large	Transporter Driver	(352) 603-5077
Tina Ivey	Asst. Speaker Recruiter	Rear Tire Changer	(352) 552-1977
Janine Woodsford	Member At Large	Front Tire Changer	(352) 430-5804
Syd & Nancy Baker	Hospitality Coordinators	Engineers	(352) 750-2126
Jerry Conkle	Immediate Past President	Team Owner	(352) 750-1185
Gerry Hafer	Past President	Team Owner	(352) 396-9961
Glen Carter	Past President	Team Owner	(352) 874-8152

LOCAL TRACKS

Track	Location	Web URL
Auburndale Speedway	Winter Haven	auburndalespeedway.net
Bronson Speedway	Archer	bronsonspeedway.net
Bubba Raceway Park	Ocala	bubbaracewaypark.com
Citrus County Speedway	Inverness	citruscountyspeedwayandtrack.com
Desoto Speedway	Bradenton	desotospeedway.net
East Bay Raceway Park	Tampa (Gibson)ton	eastbayracewaypark.com
Marion County Speedway	Ocala	marioncountyspeedway.com
New Smyrna Speedway	Samsula	newsmyrnspeedway.org
Original Speedway Park	Fruitland Park	originalspeedwaypark.com
Orlando Speedworld	Bithlo	orlandospeedworld.org
Putnam County Speedway	Satsuma	putnamcountyspeedway.com
Showtime Speedway	Pinellas Park	showtimespeedway.us
Volusia Speedway Park	De Leon Springs	vspdirtlife.com

DID YOU KNOW

(AKA Almost Totally Useless Trivia)

A giraffe can go without water longer than a camel.

Ten percent of the Russian government's income comes from the sale of vodka.

One quarter of the bones in your body are in your feet.

The average person spends 6 months of their life sitting at red lights.