



## *PIT NEWS* *October, 2023*

*Editor: Donna Gross*

**Next Meeting: November 1, 2023**

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



Greetings Fellow Yellow Shirts:

I am here sitting on the beach thinking about all we should be grateful for. We all have found the joy of living in The Villages. We have so many opportunities that people less fortunate do not have. Take time to look around you, see the beauty of nature, the health we have, and the freedom we enjoy.

With that in mind, think about bringing an unwrapped toy to share with a child this Christmas. We will be collecting toys at the November and December meetings. They will go to children in our tri-county area with the Toys for Tots program, run by the Marine Corps veterans. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for someone up to 12 years of age. No candy, clothing or realistic gun-like items, please. Thank you for caring and sharing with others.

Please join us at the November 1 meeting to hear about a real racer's career. If it is anything like our two previous meetings, it's not to be missed! Also, join us for the NASCAR championship watch party, the Michael Hinde Racing shop tour and the Christmas parade. We have a lot happening in November, and I would love to see you there.

Please mark your 2024 calendar with Tuesday, February 20 for our Hall of Fame Induction Celebration at the Rohan Recreation Center at 4:30. We are planning for a fun evening, great food, awards, music and all for \$40 per person. Please invite friends to join you for an evening of dining and dancing.

That's all for now. Happy Thanksgiving and remember to give thanks.

Sincerely,  
Gerry G  
Crew Chief/President

## Important Upcoming Dates

- Nov. 1, Wednesday    Monthly Meeting, Colony Cottage Rec Center 7 p.m.
- Nov. 5, Sunday        Watch Party, Final NASCAR Race, Colony Cottage Rec Center 2:30 p.m.
- Nov. 8, Wednesday    Michael Hinde Racing Shop Tour
- Nov. 11, Saturday     Citrus County Speedway, Sportsman Series (see details below)
- Nov. 12, Sunday       The Governor's Cup, Super Late Models, New Smyrna Speedway
- Nov. 29, Wednesday   The Villages Christmas Parade (see details below)
- Dec. 6, Wednesday    Monthly Meeting, **Moyer Rec Center 7 p.m., 3000 Moyer Loop (near Walmart Neighborhood Market)**
- Feb. 20, Tuesday       The Hall of Fame Induction Celebration, Rohan Rec Center

## Prediction Row 2023



With two races to go until our Prediction Row Champion is crowned, the competition is very close. The competition on the race track has heated up as well.

After the Homestead race, our leader board looks like this:

Brian Dillon – 2 wins, 329 points  
Tim Burk – 2 wins, 310 points  
Donna Dillon – 2 wins, 275 points  
Craig Simundza – 1 win, 321 points  
Chris Dirato – 1 win, 288 points  
Rick Almeida – 1 win, 243 points

Remember, our champion is determined by the number of playoff wins, not the number of points. Points will be used as a tie-breaker. Be sure to check our website for the latest update and come to the last race watch party on November 5 at Colony Rec Center at 2:30 PM.

Silky Meegan, Prediction Row Coordinator

## Next Meeting - Nov. 1, "Wild Bill" Stevenson



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

Our guest speaker is an all-around racer from Kankakee, Illinois, "Wild Bill" Stevenson. Bill started racing in 1972 when he was a junior in high school, driving street stock dirt cars.

Stevenson has competed in demo derbies and local drag racing. He was a top competitor in the Illinois Vintage Racing traveling series from 2006 to 2014, wheeling his beautiful 1957 Chevy. Lately he enjoys autocross racing at Autobahn Country Club, Joliet, Illinois.

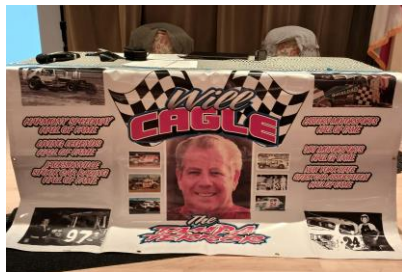
Currently Bill races a 1955 Chevy in the Top Sportsman class. He takes pride in sponsoring his seven grandsons with four half-scale dragsters in the Junior Drag Racing League. It's a true family tradition.

## September 6 Meeting - Guest Speaker Bill Watson



Bill was a great speaker especially since he was asked to fill in at a moment's notice. Our scheduled speaker, Eric Cinnamon, had a scheduling conflict due to signing with a new sponsor. Thank you, Bill!

## October 4 Meeting – Will Cagle interviewed by Richard Golardi



Richard did a great job of interviewing Will, who had a very attentive audience with many stories of his racing career.



On **Saturday, November 11** the Sportsman series will go 100 laps for \$10,000 to win at Citrus County Speedway. Come join us at the track and wear your yellow shirts if possible. Gates open at 5:30, qualifying starts at 6:30. General Admission is \$20, Seniors are \$17. CASH ONLY, NO ATMs on site.

If you are interested in going to Citrus County Speedway and want to know if anyone else is going, you can give the “Boys” a call: Jerry Conkle 352-750-1185 and John Angiolo 414-30-8094 and see if they are going and make plans to meet at the track.

## Final NASCAR Race Watch Party

On **Sunday, November 5 at the Colony Cottage Rec Center at 2:30 p.m.**, we will get together to watch the final NASCAR race on the big screen. The club will be contributing as the entrée, pulled pork and pulled chicken. We are asking for members who plan on attending, to bring a dish to enhance the entrée and add to the buffet table. There will be a signup sheet in the back of the room at the November meeting so that we can get an estimate as to the number of people that will be attending and what they are bringing. Invite your friends and neighbors to come and root for your favorite driver, but remember, they need their Villages ID or a guest ID. **THIS IS A BYOB EVENT.**



## The Villages Christmas Parade Spanish Springs Town Square Wednesday, Nov. 29



The parade begins at 3 p.m. in Spanish Springs Town Square. Club members decorate their golf carts (and maybe themselves) and drive around the square. We have been a part of this annual tradition for at least a dozen years. It is always festive and a lot of fun and a great way to socialize with other members, especially if you are a new member – a mini-party, so to speak.

At the November meeting, you will have an opportunity to sign up to participate in this event. You can also email me at [silkyssunshine@gmail.com](mailto:silkyssunshine@gmail.com) or by phone at (352) 430-6042 if any questions. We still have slots for 3 golf carts and 3 walkers to carry our banner.

Silky Meegan, Christmas Parade Organizer



*The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club  
Hall of Fame Induction Celebration*  
**Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

Doors Open: 4:30PM      Dinner: 4:45PM

**ROHAN RECREATION CENTER**  
850 KRISTINE WAY  
THE VILLAGES, FL 32163

**TIGHT GENES - Singing Siblings will be performing**



**The ticket price has NOT increased – the cost remains at \$40 per person. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for a great night. Catering by Pasta Faire. Tickets are now on sale.**



We will be collecting toys at the November and December meetings. They will go to children in our tri-county area with the Toys for Tots program, run by the Marine Corps veterans. **Bring a new, unwrapped toy for someone up to 12 years of age. No candy, clothing or gun-like items, please.** Craft items such as crayons, coloring books, stickers, doodle pads and colored pencils are also desired. Thank you for making a child's Christmas a bit brighter.



Members meet at Bob Evans Restaurant, 2199 Parr Drive (corner of CR 466 & Tall Trees Ln) every Thursday at 8 a.m. to sit and chat about all things racing. So come join the fun. Sit with fellow members and have a coffee or have breakfast.



*Let's Welcome our New Members!*

DAVE MONAHAN, NEW YORK  
JUDY MONAHAN, NEW YORK  
TRISH MULLOY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MICHAEL PETIX, FLORIDA  
GERRY WHITEHOUSE, FLORIDA

## **2024 Membership Information**

It's that time of year again. Memberships expire on December 31. You can renew your 2024 membership at the November and December meetings. Renewal cost is \$20 per person. If you won't be at the meetings, please feel free to print off a renewal form from the website and mail it to me. Send it to me at: Lois Taylor, 701 Abdella Way, The Villages, FL 32163

The Board of Directors has been working hard to get top-notch speakers and a lot of other things for next year's club meetings. See you there. Please be sure to stop at the sign-in tables and check in. We have to get an accurate count to continue to keep our meeting room at Colony Cottage Rec Center.

Lois Taylor  
Membership Coordinator

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



How does a turkey travel? BY GRAVY TRAIN.  
What do you call a turkey the day after Thanksgiving? LUCKY!!

### *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 updated information in the event we need to reach out to members.

### *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.*

### **Club Apparel Is Back**

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

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 need to order a minimum of six 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 Mike Gross at a club meeting or contact him at mikesg201@gmail.com.





### **Assistant Media Coordinators**

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, club website and Facebook. We aren't looking for one person to learn all this. 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).

### **Recording Secretary**

We need a volunteer to record minutes at our board of directors meetings. These are held at 4 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month, August - April. The minutes are then emailed to the board members. Please call or email club president Gerry Greim to talk about this opportunity, 215-630-1402 or [gerryglbi@cs.com](mailto:gerryglbi@cs.com).

## **Sponsorship Opportunity with The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club**



Our club's Sponsorship Program is "revved" 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, Gerry Greim at 215-630-1402 or [gerryglbi@cs.com](mailto:gerryglbi@cs.com).



## 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
Tony Kennea	Vice President	Car Chief	352-603-9197
Silky Meegan	Corresponding Secretary	Front Tire Carrier	352-430-6042
<b>Volunteer needed</b>	Recording Secretary	Crew Coach	
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	Rear Tire Changer	401-323-1334
John Angiolo	Sponsor Coordinator	Rear Tire Carrier	414-305-8094
Art Fehrman	Special Tours Coordinator	Front Tire Changer	708-254-5196
Jeff Ing	Car Shows Coordinator	Spotter	631-897-6263
Chris Dirato	Member At Large	Mechanic	917-921-9070
Chris Bleistein	Immediate Past President	Team Owner	954-729-3050
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



ASA  
Midwest Tour



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



Ultrex Printing  
Lady Lake, FL  
352-205-8222



Choice Awards  
Bellevue, FL  
352-245-4496



Professional  
Home  
Maintenance  
and Repair  
Services

Triline Services  
The Villages, FL  
217-433-1394



Kokomo Speedway  
Kokomo, IN  
765-459-3877



**Platinum Sponsor**  
Mike Scott Plumbing  
Wildwood, FL  
352-748-9111



Parts Geek  
Doylestown, PA  
800-541-9352



Fox Pest Control  
Orlando, FL  
407-863-3592



Illinois Stock Car Hall of Fame  
Roscoe, IL  
708-254-5196



Historic Auto Attractions  
Roscoe, IL  
815-389-7917



Village Kart Aide  
The Villages, FL  
352-409-5853



Village Airport Van  
Lady Lake, FL  
352-241-2000

## Benefactors

John Angiolo  
Pat Fehrman  
Alan Stone

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