



The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club Pit Report-November, 2008

November 1, 2008

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Pit Notes from the Crew Chief



Well, the 2008 NASCAR season might be winding down, but we're not! November promises to be another great month for the club, with the wrap-up of our 2008 Chase Pool, the 43rd Annual Florida Governor's Cup event at New Smyrna Speedway, and build-up to our December 2 Holiday Hall of Fame Induction and

Awards Ceremony at Colony Cottage Recreation Center. Our November meeting will be another highlight, with a guest speaker from National Parts Depot and following that, a field trip to a spectacular showcase of classic automobiles up in Ocala.

We'll share the details of this trip with you at the November meeting, but I can tell you in advance that this will be a great trip for anyone who loves cars!

Dick Anderson will also be with us on November 5, along with the hood that will fly on "our car" during the November 22 Governor's Cup event. We're hopeful that Dick's new driver—Matt Bowers—will join us so that you all can meet him.

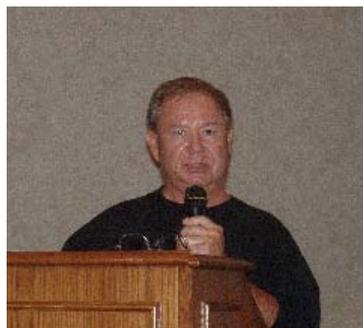
He's a talented 17-year old driver from Mt. Dora who is making a name for himself in this sport. See his website (www.mattbowersracing.com) for a background story on his move to Dick Anderson's team.

That's about it for now, except for one more plug about local racing. As I mentioned in my email of July 23, I encourage all of you to get out there and take in a night of racing at our local tracks (Ocala, Inverness, New Smyrna Beach, Orlando, etc.). It's critical that we support these venues, and it's also one of the most affordable forms of entertainment in the region.

See you all November 5!

Glen

Hearing from One of Our Own!



Club member Dave Colbert made our October 1 meeting another smashing success,

sharing the experiences he accumulated during his roughly 30 years of competition in drag racing. Using several multi-media aids, Dave covered his personal history competing in NHRA's Stock and Superstock classes, as well as a good bit of the history behind the origin and growth of NHRA as a major racing body. He explained that, with over 35,000 licensed competitors,

140 sanctioned tracks, and 5,000 events annually, drag racing is positioned as one of the premier sporting venues in the world. Dave's presentation included a Q&A segment, during which he fielded a number of questions about drag racing and drag racing events. He also discussed many of the steps being taken by NHRA to improve driver safety,

(Continued on Page 2)...

Hearing From One of Our Own!

(Continued from page 1)



Above—Dave in Competition

Below—Dave and his new fan club



Our “New Driver” Scheduled to Appear at Nov. 5 Meeting

As Crew Chief Carter reported in his remarks on page 1, we are anticipating a visit from Matt Bowers, Dick Anderson’s new protégé from nearby Mr. Dora, at our upcoming meeting. The Florida racing scene is buzzing over Bowers’ move to Anderson’s New Dixie Racing team, and it looks like Dick and Mary have once again found a solid driver for the awesome No. 92 that flies our club logo. Yeah, Matt is a “young gun” at age 17, but don’t forget that he’s been racing competitively (quarter midgets, Bandoleros, Junior Sprints at Indianapolis, FASCAR Pro-Trucks, and more) for eleven years. This guy is no newcomer! In fact, he’s recorded over 100 wins and a string of major championships (the first at age 7) in his young career.

Matt has learned from the best, including NASCAR’s Mark Martin, and has shown the potential to excel at higher levels. He’s studied locally with Wayne Anderson, and has succeeded at



virtually every form of racing he’s entered. Dick and Mary are confident not only about Matt’s ability behind the wheel, but in his ability to represent New Dixie Racing admirably in the racing world. Having learned from one of racing’s best crew chiefs—Dave Pletcher—he’s skilled from the ground up, and has compiled some impressive experience in chassis repair, fabrication, and competition set-up. In fact, Matt spent the summer of 2007 working for Mark Martin Performance as a full-time apprentice.

So, with that background, and with an already-established track record, The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club is eagerly awaiting a return trip to the

Governor’s Cup Winner’s Circle on November 22. In fact, as a tune-up for that event, Dick has entered Matt and the No. 92 in the November 15 Marion Edwards Memorial/Orlando Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep/Noritz/Tempaco Sunbelt Series event as one more warm-up for the big event. This event, a 50-lap feature over at New Smyrna Speedway, will give Dick and Matt a chance to feel the car out one more time before taking to the track for the 200-lap Governor’s Cup event. Several of us from the club are planning to take in the Nov. 15 event...See Glen or Gerry if you’d like to tag along!



Special Events Roundup for 2008



The remainder of 2008 will feature more exciting events for club members, including a poker run, another major sponsorship deal, and exciting speakers at our monthly meetings. Also, as noted below, we're moving right along with plans for our 2008 Hall of Fame event. Here are the highlights for the coming months:

- **November 22**—43rd annual FL Governor's Cup event at New Smyrna Speedway. The first bus is full...we've started a list for a possible second bus.
- **Tuesday, December 2**—Holiday Hall of Fame Induction and Awards Ceremony at Colony Cottage Rec Center. This evening event will feature a dinner and lively

conversation with our new inductees. See the article on page 5 for more details.

- **Thursday, November 6**—Field trip to National Parts Depot Classic Car Museum in Ocala
- **Saturday, December 13**—The Villages Christmas Parade at the Polo Grounds. Decorate your cart and participate in this fun event!

See **Wendy Touchette** or any Pit Crew member for details on any of these events. Also, we are beginning to explore NASCAR packages for early 2009, potentially including a trip to the Bud Shootout and a one-day trip to the Daytona 500...more info will be presented.

We still have a few tickets left for our Richard Petty Driving Experience Raffle. As we've said in the past, you don't want to pass up this chance!

Local Racing Corner

Here are the operating schedules and the contact info for our neighboring tracks:

Ocala Speedway—Friday nights, gates open at 6:00 pm.

9050 NW Gainesville Rd
Ocala, FL 34482
(352) 622-9400
(www.ocalaspeedway.com)



Citrus County Speedway— Saturday nights; Gates open at 4:00 pm, first event runs at 5:30 pm.

U.S. Highway 41 Two miles south of
Inverness at the Citrus County Fairgrounds.
(352) 726-9339
(www.citruscountyspeedway.com)



New Smyrna Speedway— Saturday nights; Gates open at 5:00 pm.

Corner of State Route 44 and 415.
P.O. Box 1500
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32170
(386) 427-4129
(www.newsmyrnaspeedway.org)



Orlando Speedworld- Friday nights at 8:00 pm, Saturday nights at 7:30 pm.

19164 East Colonial Drive (Highway 50 just west of 520 Cocoa cut-off)
Orlando, FL 32833
407-568-1367
(www.OrlandoSpeedworld.org)



Speedway Park—Fruitland Park (Micro Race Track Road and Rt. 466A near The Villages)

Florida's oldest 1/8th mile clay oval Go-Kart track; less than a mile from The Villages! See website for schedule
(www.speedwaypark.net)

SPEEDWAY PARK

Visit our website: www.villagesracingclub.com

The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club—Officers

Glen Carter, President (751-6442)
 Gerry Hafer, Vice Pres./Newsletter (751-3643)
 Ted Cahalane, Treasurer (751-2638)
 Silky Meegan, Secretary (259-2029)
 Wendy Touchette, Special Events (430-0239)
 Bob & Camille Sherman, Membership (751-1771)
 Linda Carter, Historian (751-6442)
 Mike Touchette, Member at Large (430-0239)
 Dave Bockman, Member at Large (751-0381)
 Wayne Nolan, Member at Large (750-9082)
 Bill Wilkie, Member at Large (350-2080)
 Dave Colbert, Technical Planning (751-3851)
 Buster & Zoe Ann Burt, Senior Advisors (751-4346)

November Meeting Preview

We've got an exciting meeting lined up for you on November 5. In addition to Matt Bowers and Dick Anderson being on our agenda, we've made arrangements with representatives of National Parts Depot in Ocala to join us to talk about their business. Derek Putnam of NPD will be on hand to share some thought on their role in classic auto restoration. But wait...there's more! On Thursday, November 6, NDP has invited our club to visit their Ocala facility to tour their classic car museum. Crew Chief Carter and Buster Burt conducted a preview trip to this facility, and were blown away by the cars on display. We'll discuss this more at the November 5 meeting, along with arrangements for car pooling from Laurel Manor on November 6. Here's an excerpt from their website (www.npdlink.com) that will give you some additional background...

Our Business

National Parts Depot is unique in the automotive parts mail-order industry because we ship from 4 strategically - located, fully - stocked warehouses. This enables us to deliver parts to most of the continental United States in just 1 to 3 business days - much faster than any of our competitors and at a lower cost. That's why we're the premier supplier of concours-correct parts and accessories for the Thunderbird, Mustang, Camaro, Chevelle, Firebird, Trans Am, El Camino and Ford Truck.



So you don't need to look it up...

Determining NASCAR's "Rookie of the Year"

Have you ever wondered just how NASCAR calculates the "Raybestos Rookie of the Year" Award? I have, and it turns out to be a not-so-simple process. Once again, I turned to "Jayski's Silly Season Site" for the answer, and here it is...

- A 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 point system is used for scoring finishing positions by the rookies. The highest-finishing rookie in each race earns 10 points, the second-highest, nine points, etc. Of the 36 races, only the top 17 are counted in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series rookie race.
- In order to be eligible for the Rookie of the Year award, a driver must attempt to qualify in at least eight events out of the first 20 events.
- Attempting to qualify for a race earns the rookies one bonus point, which is a bonus that is available for all 36 events.
- Bonus points are awarded for a finish in the top 10. A rookie who wins a race is awarded 10 points, second place gets nine and so on down the line with a 10th-place effort earning one point.
- Following the final race of the season, the highest-ranking rookie in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series championship receives 10 bonus points. The second-highest rookie earns nine points, third receives eight, etc.
- During the final weekend of the season, a Raybestos Rookie of the Year panel meets and rewards favorable conduct in the following categories: Conduct with NASCAR officials in the garage and pit areas; conduct and awareness on track; personal appearance and relationship with the media. The panel rates each driver, with scoring ranging from a maximum of 10 to a minimum of 1. Total points will be averaged from each panel member's ballot. The points derived from the panel will be added to the entry, competition, and bonus points after the final race of the season to determine the overall Raybestos Rookie of the Year winner.

Rookie Stripes: rookies will be noted on the car they drive by a yellow stripe on the rear bumper of the car. Sometimes a driver not up for the award may have yellow stripes on tracks they have not competed on before.

So, now you know!

JAYSKI'S
 SILLY SEASON SITE

***Details Finalized for Our
Holiday Hall of Fame Induction and Awards Ceremony
Tuesday, December 2, 2008***

A Status report from Barbara Nolan, Project Chair:

Hope everyone is looking forward to the Hall of Fame Night and also to the new idea of having a formal sit down dinner along with the recognition of the wonderful speakers we've had this year.

Since the presentation part is an annual affair and almost everyone has attended before, Glen thought it would be a good idea if we would have a sit down dinner with the tables decorated in the holiday spirit, an event to be enjoyed by our members as a wonderful social evening to start off the Christmas holidays.

The caterer is Vic's Embers, a very well known dinner club, who has offered us a dinner menu we feel everyone will enjoy. Colony Cottage is the location and the event is scheduled to start at 7:00 PM.

The cost is \$20.00 per person. Glen wants this to be a special night for the Club and the Board has done much to see that his request will be met.

The menu is listed below and we hope it will work up your salivary glands enough to persuade you to come out and join everyone for a great fun filled evening.

VIC'S HOUSE SALAD
(served at your table)
CARVED ROAST BEEF
ROASTED NEW POTATOES
ITALIAN GREEN BEANS WITH TOMATOES
ROLLS AND BUTTER
PEACH COBBLER
COFFEE, TEA, SODA

If you are vegetarian or require a special diet Vic will certainly try to accommodate you.

Reservation deadline is November 26th so don't delay in getting your reservations in to Wendy by that date. If you can't reach Wendy you can call Wayne Nolan, 352-750-9082, as December 2nd will be here before you know it. (Christmas is less than two months away! Awesome!!!)

If you desire something to drink other than those listed above you are welcome to bring your own refreshments. Ice and glasses will be available for your use.

Rev up those engines and race on out to Colony Cottage and get a jump start on the Christmas Holidays!! Remember the race starts at 7:00 PM so be on the track ready to burn rubber.

HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE!!



“Help Them Call Home” Project Reaches a Major Milestone

The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club was well-represented at the first anniversary of the Lady Lake **Help Them Call Home** program on Wednesday, October 29, 2008. The event was hosted by Lady Lake’s American Legion Post 347, and featured Lady Lake Police Chief Ed Nathanson as Master of Ceremonies. In addition to welcoming remarks from Lady Lake Mayor Jim Richards and State Representative Hugh Gibson, participants heard from the founder of the National Help Them Call Home program, Jodie Butler, who delivered a stirring keynote address. Nathanson reported that, in its first year of operation, the Lady Lake program has contributed over 5,400 cell phones, resulting in 1,350,000 minutes of prepaid telephone calling card time for active soldiers. Our club played a major role in this successful year, collecting over 350 phones. For its participation, the club received special recognition during the ceremony, as did **Silky Meegan, Dave Bockman, and Ted and Diana Cahalane**. Silky and Ted and Diana also received American flags that had been flown both over the Capitol in Washington and in Iraq. Here are some highlights...



Glen, Ted, Jodie Butler, Diana, & Silky



Ted and Diana receiving their flag



Silky and her flag



Silky on the motorcycle ride-in



Just like in The Villages, there was food!



Help Them Call Home

Attention: Bill Elliott Fans!

Club Member Visits Awesome Bill's Hometown

Club member Tom Horrmann and his wife took a side trip to Dawsonville, GA in October to visit what some of us die-hard Bill Elliott fans would consider the “true world center of racing.” In addition to touring Ernie Elliott’s engine shop and Gordon Pirkle’s famous Pool Room (and Elliott shrine), Tom paid a visit to the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame (also an Elliott shrine). Perhaps Tom will share some additional thoughts on his trip at a future meeting?



A Club Member in the News!

blingbuggy

'37 Ford CLUB CABRIOLET

ELIZABETH AND STEVE HAUMANN



RESIDENCE: Village of Sable Chase
COLOR: True Blue Pearl
MOTOR: 14-horsepower Kawasaki
MAKE: Street Rod Productions
MODEL: 1937 Ford Club Cabriolet
SEATING: Two

DETAILED ACCESSORIES: Tilt Wheel, Blaupunkt stereo, neon lights, digital speedometer, Electronic trunk.

USUAL DESTINATIONS: Lake-Summer Landing, cruise-ins.

FUNNY STUFF: The cart is modeled after Steve's prized 1937 Ford, which is rare primarily because of the teardrop headlights. You'll notice the cart also has teardrop headlights. Most times Steve and Elizabeth will take their pet rabbit, Magic, riding with them. The two (or three, including Magic!) have had the cart for a little over a year.

PHOTOS BY ANTHONY RAO

“There have been a bunch of people who wanted to buy it from me.”

30 V Magazine

Many of you may have seen this article in “V Magazine” but, in case you didn’t, here’s a reprint. It’s always good to see club members achieve some publicity for their efforts. Those of you who have seen this car/cart combination in person can attest to how beautiful it really is. Congratulations, Elizabeth and Steve!

October 24 Poker Run Goes Off without a Hitch!

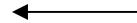
Once again, our Poker Run Committee, headed by Susie Gamertsfelder and Linda Turecek coordinated a tremendous event for the club. Over 60 members and guests participated, even though it was a bit on the cool side. Here are some photo highlights of the day...



Wayne “Emeril” Nolan working the grill



Crew Chief Carter explaining what happened



Announcing the winners



Exactly where are we supposed to go?

