



# The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club

## Pit Report

### December, 2010



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#### November Meeting Recap

**November 3**—It was another night of exploring new motorsports venues for our group, with Villages Resident Joe Eytalis providing a lively look-see into several previously uncharted waters. Using a series of video segments assembled by his son Ben, affiliated with NBC's Tampa Channel 8, Joe took us on a tour of several fascinating subjects, including:



- Billetproof—a traveling hot rod show featuring a recent visit to Big Daddy Don Garlits' Belleview museum, along with some shots of Garlits' Swamp Rat VIII rail dragster.
- Drag Racing—A segment filmed at Lakeland Speedway's dragstrip, with Joe himself behind the wheel!
- Autocross—A segment from PCA Autocross at Zephyrhills, with Joe behind the wheel. The clip featured in-car camera footage to help you get the feel for driving the course.
- Pocketbikes—or minimotos, or whatever else you'd want to call them! Imagine, racing something at speeds up to 50 mph, 16" to 18" off of the ground.
- Wagon Rods—Proving you can turn just about anything into a racing machine, one of Ben's tv segments featured traditional Red Flyer wagons converted to real racing machines!
- Ford GT Drive—A wild, birds' eye view of what it's like to drive a Ford GT on a road course.

The entertaining discussing led off with a short feature on the correct way to adjust rearview mirrors for maximum safety...another segment prepared by Ben for his Channel 8 show "Auto Focus."



## The Big Night is Almost Here

2010 Holiday Hall of Fame and Awards Night = Sunday, December 12

As most of you are aware, the 2010 edition of our annual Holiday Hall of Fame Induction and Awards Ceremony will be held **Sunday, December 12** at Colony Cottage Recreation Center. This marks the fourth induction ceremony we've held, and once again includes a stellar list of motorsports celebrities and talented local folks who shared their time and expertise with us during the year. The Class of 2010 includes a NASCAR veteran, a reigning track champion, rising stars in the local racing world, an NHRA competitor, track operators, Autocross veterans, and a few of our own members with great stories to tell.

Like prior events, this will be a sort-of-formal affair (meaning only that this is one of the few occasions where we don't wear our yellow club shirts!), and will include an excellent catered dinner.

Barbara Nolan is once again serving as coordinator for this event, and she and her committee have again put in a lot of planning and organizing time in order to make this another grand affair. All reservations should be phoned in to Barbara at 750-9082, or mailed to her at:

1772 Millwood Way  
The Villages, FL 32162

The cost is \$22.50 per person/\$45 per couple, and the reservation cut-off is December 9, 2010. Additional details are presented on the flyer included with this newsletter (*see page 8*).

Let's all come out and make this a great celebration while we thank our great guests from 2010!

## The 2010 Governor's Cup

Oh, well...we'll get 'em next year!

Our club car was arguably the best looking Super Late Model on the track for the November 19 running of the 45th Annual Florida Governor's Cup 200 at New Smyrna Speedway. With a hearty contingent of 40 club members on hand to provide fan support for Dick Anderson's New Dixie Racing team and driver Jeff Scofield, the night held great promise. It was not to be, however, as the recently reconstructed No. 92 encountered pre-race problems and, after taking the green, was forced to pit under caution for adjustments. Running deep in the field, Scofield fell victim to a race-ending wreck on lap 42.

Things didn't fare much better for the rest of the Wildwood contingent, with heavily favored Wayne Anderson succumbing to mechanical problems on lap 169, after running in the top 5 most of the race. Randy Anderson likewise experienced mechanical issues, and was unable to take the green, pulling into the infield during the parade laps.

We'll have an update on Dick's plans for the No. 92 in next month's newsletter...stay tuned!



## Another Assault on The Guinness Book of Records

November 14—Once again, our club showed up big time at a motorized event in The Villages—this time it was The Villages repeat assault on the Guinness Book of Records to set the mark for the most golf carts in a continuous parade. Many of you, I'm sure, were part of the 2005 initial effort to set the record, when a reported 3,391 golf carts lined up for the marathon event. We're still waiting to hear the final verdict on this latest attempt to raise the bar, but all accounts are that it likely was successful. In any event, it was a successful fundraiser for the Hope for the Warriors program. In photo at right, Syd Baker is seen leading the club's contingent in his No. 48 Jimmie Johnson look-alike cart.



## The Long View

### An Editorial by Ron Hedger

November 3—National Speed Sports News (NSSN) columnist Ron Hedger (right) is a frequent visitor to our club meetings, and will soon become a resident of The Villages (and a member of our club). He joined us at our November meeting and took advantage of the opportunity to spend a few moments with Dick Anderson...always a source of good material for any racing-related publication! Here's a draft copy of Ron's NSSN column recapping his conversation with the legendary Anderson, used with permission of the author.



One tenet that's served us well over the years is never passing up the opportunity to listen to a legend in the sport. With that in mind, we recently attended the monthly meeting of The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club to hear Dick Anderson tell members about his plans for the upcoming Governor's Cup at New Smyrna. His recitation of changes in the race's format was interesting, as was his description of rebuilding his severely wrecked #92 for former winner Jeff Schofield to run in the Governor's Cup, but the stories we drew out in the one-on-one that followed gave us a much better understanding of the man.

Anderson, who'll turn 62 the week of the Governor's Cup, told us he hadn't been behind the wheel for a long while until a friend approached him about a comeback a few months ago. "I told him I'd need two things – sponsorship and losing about 40 pounds – before I'd consider it," recalled the Wildwood resident. "The next morning he called and said he had the money and had also convinced a local weight clinic to work with me. Pretty soon I was down 35 pounds and back racing. I got wrecked the first night back taking the lead, then won the next four races at Speed World in Orlando. Then he called and told me his business was down and he couldn't afford the sponsorship anymore and the deal fell apart. "Now I'm back to putting guys who pay in my car to keep us going but for a while, I felt like I'd never been gone." While he's quick to say that Schofield is very talented, Anderson also laments the way racing has changed. "It used to be that if you had talent, you didn't need money to race. Now it's the exact opposite for most guys."

A question about how many features he's won over the years brings a big laugh from Anderson, at the same time triggering some interesting comments on racing history. "I'd won over 1000 races when I retired. But when I got to 1000, Dick Trickle raised his total to 1100, even though he hadn't been racing. But he's a great guy who won a lot more big races than I did. He'd take me around for two or three weeks when I went to Wisconsin, telling me about the different tracks where he raced, and I'd take him around when he came down here. "One thing for sure is that he won the most parties. Nobody, including Richie Evans, could keep up with Dick. We'd be swallowing sugar packs and needing toothpicks to keep our eyes open and he'd go out and lead 200 or 300 laps like it was nothing. That was his life!

"I really miss racing and carrying on with Richie. Most years he'd win the modified title in February at New Smyrna and I'd win the Late Models." The mention of the perennial NASCAR modified champion brings to mind one of Evan's few complaints, that in the battle for NASCAR's national short track championship, southern drivers like Mike Alexander generally started on the pole after turning fast time while he always started in the rear due to the northeast's handicapped starts. "When I was racing, we mostly had handicapped starts by points," offered Anderson. "I passed a lot of cars to get most of those wins but Richie was right that many tracks didn't use a handicap. On the one hand it's unfair to penalize a guy for having a fast car by making him start in the rear but putting the fast guys up front does give the fans a poor show most nights. They're using a system down here now where they invert from six to ten cars by a draw, which makes the race more interesting and still gives the fast guy a chance to pick number one."

Continued page 4



## Welcome, New Members!

We added two new members (although we could only grab one of them for a photo) at our November 3 meeting, bringing our total membership to a healthy 201! Take a moment at the next club meeting or event to seek this new member out and extend your own welcome!



Nancy Bryant—Cook, Minnesota



## The Long View (Continued from page 3)

With that, a fan club member interceded to say he'd seen Anderson race at New York's Orange County Speedway years ago and remembered it well. "Yeah, I ran there and at Nazareth back in the 70's," explained Anderson. "I was up there with Will Cagle and Buzzie Reutimann and all the other guys from down here. Cagle was hell on wheels up north. I still see him in Tampa and go to the dog races with him. Will loves the dog races. And Buzzie and I have lunch together every so often. He's still having as much fun racing as he ever did."

With that, Anderson heads back to his shop to get ready for the Governor's Cup. "Come over to Wildwood sometime and see my photos on the wall," he suggests as he leaves. "I've got shots of those guys and my cars over the years and you'll really enjoy it. And my son's shop is right down the road. He's had a great career too and my grandson, who's 16, is running good in the Super Late Models."

It looks like Dick Anderson will be in racing for a long time yet, which is good. That's where legends belong!

Ron Hedger, National Speedsport News

Ed. Note: Dick Anderson, considered by many of us to be the "Godfather" of our club, was inducted into the Hialeah Speedway Hall of Fame on Saturday, November 27. Dick joined Gary Balough, Billy Barnwell, Bobby Brack, Bobby Coyle, Bill Flingos, Buddy Griffin, Robert Hamke, Marty Handshaw, Larry Rogero, Herb Tillman and Marty Little as the first-ever inductee class at this Miami-area speedway that operated from 1954-2005. Next time you see Dick, be sure to congratulate him on this achievement and, while you're at it, ask him to tell you a few stories about it!

## Special Events Roundup



Hard to believe, but here we are just about at the end of another wild year of racing. With only one more event on the calendar (the 75 lap modified event December 11 at Citrus County Speedway), it's time to take a breather and look ahead to 2011. Like NASCAR, it's a short "off season," since racing kicks off again January 8 with the "Red Eye 100" at New Smyrna and a 100-lap Super Late Model Event at Citrus County Speedway on January 22. Then comes "Speedweeks," both New Smyrna and Daytona style. Like we say every year, that's just one of the great benefits of living here in the land of warm weather!

Here's a quick look at what's ahead for next few weeks. As always, we appreciate your input, thoughts, and suggestions for trips and/or activities. Just give us a call!

*Wendy*

| Date/Event  | Event Details   |
|---|---|
| December 3-4, 2010<br>David Reutimann Charity Event                     | The Sixth Annual David Reutimann Charity Bar-B-Q and Auction will be held at the Silverado Golf and Country Club in Zephyrhills Friday, December 3. Buzzie & David racing at East Bay Saturday night. We're hopeful of organizing a group to attend this event...details to follow.                   |
| Saturday, December 11<br>Christmas Parade                               | Joan Rybacki and Zoe Ann and Buster Burt have signed on as coordinators for the club's participation in this event. Our group has been selected to participate, so <b>call Zoe Ann (751-4346) or Joan (753-3738) for details and to sign up.</b>  |
| Saturday, December 11<br>Eddie Brann Memorial                           | This 75-lap event at Citrus County Speedway will feature an incredible field of Open Wheel Modifieds (along with a regular show), starting at 5:30 pm. The club is sponsoring a lap in the event. No bus is planned...car pool only. Watch for email with details.                                    |
| Sunday, December 12<br>4th Annual Holiday Hall of Fame and Awards Night | The Class of 2010 includes 14 new inductees to our Hall of Fame. See details on page 8 regarding the event; contact Barbara or Wayne Nolan (750-9082) to reserve your spot at the event.  |
| Saturday, January 8<br>Annual Speedway Park Awards Banquet              | We've been invited to join the fine Speedway Park folks at their 2010 Awards banquet. The event will be held at La Hacienda in The Villages, and club members will be participating in the program for the evening. Further details will be announced later in the year.                              |
| Saturday, January 8<br>Red Eye 100                                      | This will be New Smyrna Speedway's kick-off event for 2011, servings as a prelude to its "World Series of Asphalt Stock Car Racing" set for early February. Check their website ( <a href="http://www.newsmyrnaspeedway.org">www.newsmyrnaspeedway.org</a> ) for details.                             |
| Wednesday, January 26<br>Charity Bingo                                  | Our annual fund-raiser will be held at Colony Cottage Recreation Center, with proceeds to benefit the charities our club supports. Pricing and details to be announced.   |
| <b>February, 2011</b>   | <b>Daytona trips—Check website for details (<a href="http://www.villagesracingclub.com">www.villagesracingclub.com</a>)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>February 12—Bud Shootout</b></li> <li>• <b>February 17—Gatorade Duel</b></li> <li>• <b>February 20—Daytona 500</b></li> </ul> |
| Future 2011 Events  | Hot Rods & Hot Dogs Auto Show—Date TBD (need committee to organize)<br>Poker Run/Picnic—Date TBD (need committee to organize)<br>Food Drive Collection—(need Volunteer to coordinate)   |

## A Couple of Updates on Club Favorites

**Buzzie Reutimann**—Buzzie is winding down his 2010 racing season, but not before he takes on son David in the “David Reutimann Foundation 50” Open Wheel Modified event Saturday December 4 at East Bay Raceway Park. This event, of course, continues the father-son rivalry that always produces some fascinating (and stressful, at least for David) competition. If any of you can make it down there, trust me—it’s always a great night of racing!

By the way...by the time you read this, Buzzie will have returned from a trip to Japan. He accompanied David and a contingent of Toyota representatives on a PR-type trip, during which they would do a little bit of exhibition racing. Buzzie should have some good stories to share with us next time we see him, both about Japan and his beat-down on David at the December 4 East Bay event!



Buzzie taking the checkered flag **Nic** in a heat race at Ocala 10/22

**Fernandez**—Nic wrapped up a great year over at Speedway Park, finishing third in points in the Junior Purple Division. His season ended on a high note, when he logged a second-place finish in his final feature event. This performance closely followed his capturing of a heat-race win at that same event. During the year, Nic was a frequent visitor to the top three, earning himself several affectionate nicknames in the pits at Speedway Park (“Quick

Nic” and “Mr. Smooth,” for example.)

Nic and his race team are looking forward to a great year in 2011 when the season opens. In the meantime, here’s a link to a video of one of Nic’s great 2010 moments... <http://www.youtube.com/jfernandez73>. We’ll look forward to seeing him in action February 19 at Speedway Park.



### Local Racing Corner

| Race Track                         | Website & Telephone  | November Race Schedule  |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Ocala Speedway, Zuber              | <a href="http://www.ocalaspeedway.com">www.ocalaspeedway.com</a><br>352-622-9400               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closed for the season</li> <li>• 2011 schedule not posted yet</li> </ul>                                       |
| Citrus County Speedway, Inverness  | <a href="http://www.citruscountyspeedway.com">www.citruscountyspeedway.com</a><br>352-726-9339 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eddie Brann memorial 12/11/2010</li> <li>• Super Late Models 1/22/2011</li> </ul>                              |
| New Smyrna Speedway, Samsula       | <a href="http://www.newsmyrnaspeedway.org">www.newsmyrnaspeedway.org</a><br>386-427-4129       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red Eye 100 for Super Late Models 1/8/2011</li> <li>• 2011 schedule not posted yet</li> </ul>                  |
| Orlando Speedworld, Bithlo         | <a href="http://www.OrlandoSpeedworld.org">www.OrlandoSpeedworld.org</a><br>407-568-1367       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closed for the season</li> <li>• 2011 schedule not posted yet</li> </ul>                                       |
| Volusia Speedway Park, Barberville | <a href="http://www.volusiaspeedwaypark.net">www.volusiaspeedwaypark.net</a><br>386-985-4402   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/8—2/9/2011 40th Annual Dirt Car Nationals</li> <li>• 2011 schedule not posted yet</li> </ul>                 |
| Speedway Park- Fruitland Park      | <a href="http://www.originalspeedwaypark.com">www.originalspeedwaypark.com</a><br>352-308-7664 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/19/2011 Marty Ruser Tribute Event</li> <li>• Racing first &amp; third Saturdays, starting in Feb.</li> </ul> |

## Your Pit Crew

Gerry Hafer, President (751-3643)  
 Mike Touchette, Vice President (430-0239)  
 Silky Meegan, Secretary (259-2029)  
 Tom Horrmann, Treasurer/Official Photographer (430-0195)  
 Wendy Touchette, Special Events (430-0239)  
 Bob & Camille Sherman, Membership (751-1771)  
 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 (408-3712)  
 Peter Tetrault, Member at Large (205-8503)  
 Glen Carter, Immediate Past President (751-6442)  
 Buster & Zoe Ann Burt, Honorary Members (751-4346)

## Crazy Car of the Month

Last month's strange car was the "driverless car" being developed by Google and its partners. This month, we take a look at a custom-built wooden car created by an auto enthusiast in Hickory, North Carolina. It sits on a 1986 Toyota truck frame and is powered by a Chrysler 318 engine with an automatic transmission. The whole body is made of cedar and its interior is just as over-the-top as the exterior. Those of you who love to ride in such unique beauties could have purchased it on eBay this summer. I don't know what the final sale price was, but the latest bid I could locate was \$8000 (that was August 13...the deadline to bid was August 16). Unless there was a late ramp-up in the bidding, this thing could have gone for less than a lot of golf carts we see flying around The Villages!



(Thanks to Jim Boyd and Zoe Ann Burt for calling this one to our attention!)

## Thoughts to Ponder

- ◆ Remember: half the people you know are below average.
- ◆ A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory
- ◆ What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

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

Well, we made it through another NASCAR year, and I think most would agree that this year's Chase was one of the more exciting editions. What also helped to make this year exciting was David Reutimann's win at Chicago, and the resulting removal of the cloud that has followed him since his win in 2009 at Charlotte. We're looking forward to seeing him (and of course Buzzie) in the winner's circle more in 2010.

As we look ahead to 2011, we thought it would be good to give you an update on the all-time winner list in NASCAR so you can see whose moving up (or down, as the case may be). So, here's the top 30 (32 since there's a tie at the end). The list shows the number of wins, number of championships, and the years these titles were earned. I guess the only real question is exactly how high on the list will Jimmie Johnson go??!!

| No. | Rank | Driver           | Wins | Championships | Championship Years                 |
|-----|------|------------------|------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| 1   | 1    | Petty, Richard   | 200  | 7             | 1964,1967,1971,1972,1974,1975,1979 |
| 2   | 2    | Pearson, David   | 105  | 3             | 1966,1968,1969                     |
| 3   | 3    | Allison, Bobby   | 84   | 1             | 1983                               |
| 4   |      | Waltrip, Darrell | 84   | 3             | 1981,1982,1985                     |
| 5   | 4    | Yarborough, Cale | 83   | 3             | 1976,1977,1978                     |
| 6   | 5    | Gordon, Jeff     | 82   | 4             | 1995,1997,1998,2001                |
| 7   | 6    | Earnhardt, Dale  | 76   | 7             | 1980,1986,1987,1990,1991,1993,1994 |
| 8   | 7    | Wallace, Rusty   | 55   | 1             | 1989                               |
| 9   | 8    | Petty, Lee       | 54   | 3             | 1954,1958,1959                     |
| 10  | 9    | Johnson, Jimmie  | 53   | 5             | 2006,2007,2008,2009,2010           |
| 11  | 10   | Jarrett, Ned     | 50   | 2             | 1961,1965                          |
| 12  |      | Johnson, Junior  | 50   |               |                                    |
| 13  | 11   | Thomas, Herb     | 48   | 2             | 1951,1953                          |
| 14  | 12   | Baker, Buck      | 46   | 2             | 1956,1957                          |
| 15  | 13   | Elliott, Bill    | 44   | 1             | 1988                               |
| 16  | 14   | Flock, Tim       | 40   | 2             | 1952,1955                          |
| 17  |      | Martin, Mark     | 40   |               |                                    |
| 18  | 15   | Stewart, Tony    | 39   | 2             | 2002, 2005                         |
| 19  | 16   | Isaac, Bobby     | 37   | 1             | 1970                               |
| 20  | 17   | Fireball Roberts | 33   |               |                                    |
| 21  | 18   | Jarrett, Dale    | 32   | 1             | 1999                               |
| 22  | 19   | White, Rex       | 28   | 1             | 1960                               |
| 23  | 20   | Lorenzen, Fred   | 26   |               |                                    |
| 24  | 21   | Paschal, Jim     | 25   |               |                                    |
| 25  |      | Weatherly, Joe   | 25   | 2             | 1962,1963                          |
| 26  | 22   | Rudd, Ricky      | 23   |               |                                    |
| 27  | 23   | Busch, Kurt      | 22   | 1             | 2004                               |
| 28  |      | Labonte, Terry   | 22   | 2             | 1984,1996                          |
| 29  | 24   | Burton, Jeff     | 21   |               |                                    |
| 30  |      | Labonte, Bobby   | 21   | 1             | 2000                               |
| 31  |      | Parsons, Benny   | 21   | 1             | 1973                               |
| 32  |      | Smith, Jack      | 21   |               |                                    |

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 SILLY SEASON SITE

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**2010 HOLIDAY HALL OF FAME INDUCTION AND AWARDS NIGHT  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2010  
COLONY COTTAGE RECREATION CENTER  
7:00 P.M.**

**MENU  
(CATERED BY VIC'S EMBERS)**

**DINNER SALAD (SERVED AT TABLE)**

**BUFFET  
ROASTED PORK TENDERLOIN  
MASHED POTATOES AND GRAVY  
VEGETABLE MEDLEY**

**DESSERT  
CHOCOLATE MOOSE  
COFFEE, TEA**

**ROLLS AND BUTTER**

The cost is \$22.50 per person/\$45.00 a couple. Guests can bring their beverage of choice. Ice and plastic glasses will be on the table for their use.

Anyone who is on a restricted diet or is vegetarian can be accommodated

Reservation cut off is December 9, 2010  
Cancellations will be accepted up to December 9, 2010

**To make a reservation call Barbara Nolan at 750-9082. You may mail your check to Barbara at 1772 Millwood Way, The Villages, FL 32162**

**OR**

**Barbara will be available to take your reservation and money at the November 3, 2010 meeting. Look for her at the back of the room.**