



The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club

Pit News

December, 2016

Next Meeting Wednesday Jan 4, 2017 at Colony Cottage Rec Center.

Going **GREEN** at 7:00PM

Editor: Janine Woodsford

Prez Says



As we complete another year of the Villages Motor Racing Fan Club, it is time to reflect on some of the highlights.

As you know this year was a milestone in our club's history, celebrating our 10th anniversary in October. Mike Anderson took us through the highlights of each year at our monthly meetings. Gerry Hafer continued to supply us with a host of exciting speakers, with a lot of diverse motor sports including monster truck racing, jet skiing, drag racing, and even power boat racing. The reopening of the Citrus County race track has given us access to local short track racing again. The opening night saw a crowd of over 5,000 attending this event. We enjoyed our annual trip to Gainesville to watch, and listen to a variety of drag racing machines including top fuel, street stock, and motorcycles burning up the quarter mile. Ear plugs are always a necessity for this day out.

Our membership has grown this year to over 150 members, and still growing.

We have seen many changes in our pit crew. We welcomed Janine Woodsford as our Newsletter Editor, Mike Touchette as our Hospitality Chair and Barb Pappas and Renetta Thompson are our Membership Chair and Graphic Designer. Bob and Camille Sherman retired as our Membership Committee after many years of service to our club, Syd and Nancy Baker retired as our Hospitality Coordinators after their dedicated service. Lastly a change of the guard with Jerry Conkle our President passing the baton(or wrench) to yours truly in the middle of the year.

I'd like to offer my thanks to all the pit crew this year for your support to the club, and of course to all our members whose dedication makes it the club we are.

Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Regards, Tony



Thanks to our
December
Presenters



Dick Anderson & Josh Todd



Bruce Allen Griffin

WELCOME Our New Members



Phyllis & Alan Hooper
Redlands, CA



Ed Chatterton
Commack, NY



Mark Chatterton
Commack, NY



Lonny Abramsky
Selden, NY

**MEMBERSHIP DUE
JANUARY, 2017**



THIS COULD BE YOU!!

VILLAGES CUP

Bushnell Motorsports Park

Sunday Jan 22, 2017

Registration starts at 1:30

Racing starts at 2:00

\$25.00 for 10 minutes of Racing

Helmets provided or bring your own

MUST wear closed toe shoes

Trophy for First Place, Medals for Second and Third

Bring a Pot Luck Dish to share and BYOB

to enjoy after the Racing is over.

For more Info call

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



OR THIS!!



Our January guest speaker is going to be Paul Bova, Vintage Sports Car Racer. He has been racing vintage sports cars since 1998 and has held a Sports Car Club of America competition license as well as a Vintage Racer Group competition license. He retired from racing in 2015 and is currently the Chief Driving Instructor for the Vintage Racer Group.

Paul should provide us with some interesting stories.



Hi Gerry,

I want to Thank you and the Villages Motor Racing Fan Club for all of your support this season!

I was able to bring home 2 big wins over the weekend at North Florida Speedway at the 40 lap main events. The Turkey Trot is a big race and I was able to sweep the weekend with a last lap, final corner pass to win the 1st night. The 2nd night I started 10th and patiently went through traffic and slowly reeled in the leader and passed him with 7 laps remaining.

This locked up the 750cc Florida Outlaw Championship for me and finished out the season with 7 wins! I also finished 3rd place in the Florida Mini Sprint Action Series points. My Dad was able to bring home the 600cc Florida Outlaw Championship as well!

On behalf of the Brewers, we greatly appreciate all of your support and wear your name proudly on our cars!

Sincerely,
Kenny Brewer



49th Annual Snowball Derby Goes to 15-Year Old Christian Eckes

Posted Tuesday, December 6, 2016 by [Gerry Hafer](#)



After a two-day delay, the 49th Snowball Derby finally went green at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, December 6. The field of Super Late Model drivers fired up for 300 laps on Pensacola, Florida's super fast half mile asphalt speedway with 36 of the best short track drivers in the country chomping at the bit after two straight days of rain delays.

Going green at 5:13 pm, Wisconsin's Ty Majeski, recent winner of the Florida Governor's Cup race at New Smyrna Speedway, jumped out to an early lead over Kyle Busch Motorsports driver and pole winner William Byron, holding the lead for the first 42 laps before surrendering the top spot to Georgia driver Casey Roderick. Roderick was involved in a wreck midway through the race, and finished deep in the field. Majeski regained the lead just prior to midway, losing it to Chad Finley a few laps later. Corey LaJoie took over the lead after the midrace point, with Finley regaining it a few laps later. For the next 50 laps or so, it was Finley and Majeski putting on a show running 1-2, with Majeski slipping to 5th with 35 to go.

Tempers flared late in the race when, on a restart, Florida's Steve Nasse and NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Rookie of the Year William Byron wrecked with 30 laps to go. On the restart, Finley and Majeski resumed their duel, but it was 2014 Derby Champion John Hunter Nemechek who fought to the front to take the lead from Majeski on lap 286, bringing Middletown, New York's Christian Eckes to the front with him. Eckes and Nemechek duked it out to the final lap, with Eckes grabbing the checkers by a few feet. In the words of Speed51 broadcasters, it was "one of the most thrilling Snowball Derby finishes in history!" Eckes turned 15 on November 10.



One of the notable side stories in this year's Snowball Derby was Orlando, Florida driver David Rogers qualifying for the Derby field for the 31st time. Only one other driver has exceed that total—Alabama legend Charles "Red" Farmer with 32 starts. Rogers has vowed to return after this year in pursuit of the top spot, a mark that is likely to stand for a long, long time. Rogers is 61 years old, but remains highly competitive on the Southeast's short tracks. In his 31 Derby starts, Rogers has recorded eight top 10 finished and an average finishing position of 21st.

The Snowball Derby is recognized nationwide as one of the premier short track events, attracting the best of the best from around the country and including competitors from Canada. This year, 24 states and one Canadian Province are represented in the field. Through the years, the Derby crown has been captured by such motorsports notables as Pete Hamilton, Donnie Allison, Darrell Waltrip, Rick Crawford, Rich Bickel Jr., Kyle Busch, Erik Jones, and Chase Elliott, to name just a few. This year, the overall Derby event consisted of Modified, Super Stock, and Pro Truck events, in addition to Saturday night's Snowflake 100, all leading up to the main event, the 300 lap Derby

LAST CHANCE
Limited tickets!!
Get them now!!

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

TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE JAN MEETING
OR BY CALLING BARB PAPPAS (219) 395-4306
OR MIKE ROEMER (352) 633-0134
OR JANINE WOODSFORD (352) 430-5804

Attire: Business Casual (no yellow shirts please)

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

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 Horrman	Treasury/Photographer	Fueler	(352) 430-0195
Darren Ivey	Special Events Coordinator	Front Tire Carrier	(352) 552-1977
Barbara Pappas	Membership Coordinator	Mechanic	(219)395-4306
Renetta Thompson	Graphic Designer	Mechanic	(352)753-6144
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 Hospitality Coordinator	Transporter Driver	(352) 603-5077
Tina Ivey	Asst Speaker Recruiter	Rear Tire Changer	(352) 552-1977
Janine Woodsford	Newsletter Editor/HOF Chair	Front Tire Changer	(352) 430-5804
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

DID YOU KNOW

(AKA Almost Totally Useless Trivia)

More people are killed annually by donkeys than airplane crashes.

Nearly 80% of all animals on earth have 6 legs.

In medieval France, unfaithful wives were made to chase a chicken through town naked.

The only 15-letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter is

UNCOPYRIGHTABLE.

LOCAL TRACKS

Track	Location	Phone #	Address	Zip
Auburndale Speedway	Winter Haven	(863)551-1131	5640 E County Rd 542	33880
Bronson Speedway	Archer	(352)486-4998	9950 FL-24	32618
Bubba Raceway Park	Ocala	(352)622-9400	9050 NW Gainesville Rd	34482
Citrus County Speedway	Inverness	(352)634-5953	3600 S Florida Ave	34450
Desoto Speedway	Bradenton	(914)748-3171	21050 State Rd 64 E	34212
East Bay Raceway Park	Tampa (Gibsonton)	(813)677-7223	6311 Burts Rd	33619
Marion County Speedway	Ocala	(352)812-3922	7197 NW Gainesville Rd	34475
New Smyrna Speedway	Samsula	(386)427-4129	3939 Florida 44	32168
Original Speedway Park	Fruitland Park	(352)787-4968	35400 Micro Racetrack Rd	34731
Orlando Speedworld	Bithlo	(407)568-1367	19164 E Colonial Dr	32820
Putnam County Speedway	Satsuma	(386)649-6969	1009 US 17	32189
Showtime Speedway	Pinellas Park	(727)561-9646	4550 Ulmerton Rd	33762
Volusia Speedway Park	De Leon Springs	(386)985-4402	1500 E State Rd 40	32130

UPCOMING LOCAL RACES

Jan 8, 2017 Auburndale Speedway Super Late Models

Jan 14, 2017 Citrus County Speedway Wingless Sprints