



PIT NEWS *December 2020*

Editor: Donna Gross

Next Meeting: January 6, 2021

A Few Words from the President's Desk



I am elated that we will be having a meeting on January 6, 2021. The meeting will be held, as always, at Colony Cottage Rec Center at 7 PM. All CDC guidelines, as well as guidelines set by the Villages Recreation Department, will be followed. Masks must be worn when entering and leaving the room. While in the room, we will be social distancing. **Seats will be six feet apart and cannot be moved.** Masks will not be mandatory while in the room.

Our guest speaker will be renowned photojournalist Bill Watson. Bill has photographed over 65 Indy 500 races. Please see more about Bill in this newsletter. Also, at our meeting we will be giving out our most prestigious award, which is the Glen Carter Crew Chief Award. We will also be presenting the trophy to the champion of our Prediction Row.

Our annual dues (Jan-Dec 2021) of \$20 will be due in January. In an effort to avoid close contact the night of the meeting, we highly suggest mailing the check payable to TVMRFC in the amount of \$20 directly to Lois Taylor, 701 Abdella Way, The Villages, FL 32163 prior to the meeting. Dues may also be paid the night of the meeting. Kindly print the membership form, found on our website under the Join Us tab, and include it with your check.

Our club is holding a motor racing show at Brownwood Paddock Square on Feb. 1, 2021 and plans are coming along very well. We have more than 29 cars and motorcycles signed up to display. Cars vary from funny cars, dragsters, legend cars, monster cars, modifieds, motorcycles, sprint cars, plus many more. Thank you, Art Fehrman, for taking on this challenging job.

I am also pleased to inform our members that the club has acquired numerous sponsors. These sponsors will help us acquire additional guest speakers. Please support our sponsors whenever possible and mention our club. A complete list of sponsors appears in this newsletter.

Don't forget to join us every Thursday morning at 8:30 AM for a fun breakfast get-together at Bob Evans on 466 across from the Shell Station. We meet in the back room.

I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a happy and healthy New Year.

Regards, Chris Bleistein

Future Meetings and Events

January 6, 2021	Monthly Club Meeting (Masks must be worn whenever outside of our meeting room)
February 1, 2021	1 st Annual Villages Motor Racing Show at Brownwood Paddock Square

Next Meeting – January 6



We are pleased to announce that we will resume our schedule of monthly meetings on Jan. 6 at Colony Cottage Recreation Center, going green at 7 p.m.

Our guest speaker is the renowned motorsports photographer, Bill Watson.

We first met Bill in January 2020 when he introduced the keynote speaker, Harlan Hunter, at our Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

Bill was on the Indianapolis 500 Motor Speedway Photography Staff from 1964 to 2012/2013 and has photographed over 65 Indy 500 races. He is a 50+ year member of the Indianapolis 500 Oldtimers Club. From 1964 to 2012/2013, Bill has photographed all the Indy 500, NASCAR Brickyard 400, Formula 1 Grand Prix, and Moto GP Motorcycle events held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. He also has covered numerous Daytona 500, Daytona 400, and Rolex 24 Hour races, plus NASCAR races at Talladega and Atlanta.

Bill's images have been published worldwide in books, magazines, street banners, displays in the Lucas Fieldhouse, Naval Museums, and limited issue posters, as well as multiple websites and Facebook pages.

Prediction Row 2020



Our 2020 champion is Gerry Hafer. A past president and former webmaster/newsletter publisher of the club, Gerry finally won after participating in four of the 13 years our club has been involved in Prediction Row.

How did we get from the Daytona 500 to that last race in Phoenix during this crazy pandemic year? The Spring Segment (first 13 races) took a crazy turn in March when predictors Larry Hanna, Jackie Putman, Art Staus, Carol Wagner, Jim West and Woody White were faced with multiple races during a weekend, as well as multiple races during the week. Larry Hanna, Art Staus and Jim West successfully picked the most winners and moved on to compete in the Playoffs Segment.

During the Summer Segment's 13 races, again with crazy schedules, John Goodyear, Donna Gross, Gerry Hafer, Paul O'Connor, Steve Poplarski and defending champion, Bob Woodsford, competed. Moving on to the Playoffs Segment were John Goodyear, Gerry Hafer, and Steve Poplarski.

The Prediction Row championship was very competitive, even after the last race at Phoenix. Gerry Hafer and John Goodyear both had three wins, so the winner was decided by points. The final wins/points are as follows: Gerry Hafer, 3 wins with 418 points; John Goodyear, 3 wins with 406 points; Larry Hanna, 2 wins and 398 points; Steve Poplarski, 2 wins and 371 points; Jim West, 2 wins and 335 points; Art Staus, 1 win and 394 points.



2020 Prediction Row Champion Gerry Hafer

What will the 2021 season have in store? Certainly, a more varied schedule with more road courses, ovals and a dirt race at Bristol. If you would like to compete or have questions about the process, please contact Silky Meegan at silkyssunshine@gmail.com.

Grady Wade



Club Hall of Fame member Grady Wade delighted fans and impressed car owners for four decades. He pushed supermodifieds and sprint cars to the limits.

The September 2020 edition of Sprint Car & Midget Magazine featured Wade's accomplishments in great detail. You can download the full magazine article from the club website.

Jerry Conkle's Trivia Continues.....

1. Which active NASCAR Cup driver has led the most career laps at Martinsville Speedway?
A) Denny Hamlin B) Kyle Busch C) Jimmie Johnson D) Kevin Harvick
2. What year was the first NASCAR Cup Series race at Martinsville Speedway run?
A) 1949 B) 1952 C) 1956 D) 1961
3. How many four-wheel drive cars have won at the Indianapolis 500??
A) Zero B) One C) Two D) More
4. What year was the first NASCAR Cup Series race at Darlington Raceway?
A) 1946 B) 1950 C) 1951 D) 1955

GOOD LUCK. ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 6 NO PEEKING

Jerry's Joke

When a man opens the door for his wife, it is either a new car or a new wife.

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



-When does Christmas come before Thanksgiving? (In the dictionary)

-What do you call a snowman in the summer? (A puddle)

-In what year did Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall in the same year?
(Every year)

My husband, Mike, and I, along with the Board of Directors, would like to wish you and your family Happy Holidays and a Healthy and Happy New Year!

The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club Announces a New Sponsorship Opportunity



The club's sponsorship program is "revving" up. Here is the information that is given to a sponsor that shows 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 about becoming a sponsor, please contact club president, Chris Bleistein, 954-729-3050 or cbfla13@bellsouth.net.



Let's Welcome our New Members!!

**Phil Boulanger from New Hampshire
John Costabile from New York**

Let's welcome back members who left and are now back!!

Doug Baker from Minnesota

Club Apparel

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 and are available for pick up at the next meeting. Cash or check is required at the time of order.

If you have any questions or would like to place an order, please see Crew Uniform Manager Mike Gross at a club meeting or contact him at mikesg201@gmail.com.

Here are the Trivia Answers

1. C) Jimmie Johnson
2. A) 1949
3. A) Zero
4. B) 1950



PIT CREW

**Need to get in touch with a member of the Pit Crew?
Please see the information below!**

Name	Position	Duties	Phone
Chris Bleistein	President	Crew Chief	954-729-3050
Tony Kennea	Vice President	Car Chief	352-603-9197
Silky Meegan	Corresponding Secretary	Front Tire Carrier	352-430-6042
Gerry Greim	Recording Secretary	Crew Coach	215-630-1402
Roger Taylor	Treasurer	Fueler	352-633-5624
Mike Gross	Special Events Coordinator	Jack Man	401-323-1313
Lois Taylor	Membership Coordinator	Mechanic	352-633-5624
John Angiolo	Hospitality Coordinator	Rear Tire Carrier	414-305-8094
Mike Anderson	Social Media Coordinator	Fabricator	217-714-2245
Mike Gross	Crew Uniform Manager	Logo Mart	401-323-1313
Donna Gross	Newsletter Editor	Rear Tire Changer	401-323-1334
Art Fehrman	Member At Large	Front Tire Changer	708-254-5196
Tom Horrmann	Member At large	Mechanic	352-430-0195
Janine Woodsford	Member At Large	Mechanic	352-430-5804
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



ARCA Midwest Tour



Parts Geek
Doylestown, PA
800-541-9352



Ultrix Printing
Lady Lake, FL
352-205-8222



Lefthander Chassis
Roscoe, IL
815-389-9999



Triline Services
The Villages, FL
217-433-1394



Kokomo Speedway
Kokomo, IN



Mike Scott Plumbing
Wildwood, FL
352-748-9511

Benefactor

Pat Fehrman
The Villages, FL

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