



# The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club

## Pit Report

### November, 2011

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#### Randy Anderson, Emerging Modified Ace



**October 5**—In introducing our October guest speaker, Wildwood's Randy Anderson, Crew Chief Hafer referred to this young driver as a "rising star" on the Florida racing circuit. Hafer cited his stellar performance last year in the Florida All Stars Tour, where he placed third in series points against Florida's premier Late Model competitors and his runner-up position in the "Rookie of the Year" competition as shining examples of his capabilities. As a 17 year old driver, with 13 years of competitive experience under his belt, Hafer expressed optimism for Randy's future in the sport.

Randy explained that his move to the Modified ranks in 2011 is driven by economics and, since the cost of running a Super Late Model car right now is prohibitive, he and his family thought it best to move him back to the E-Mod ranks to continue to gain exposure and seat time. (An E-Mod is a car that is simple in design, light-weight, high powered, and able to adapt to varying track conditions easily.) Randy reported that, in order to maximize the experience, his team is doing whatever it can to stretch equipment. As an example, he noted that while most teams hope to get two races out of a set of tires, his team has "stretched" one set over six races. Evidently, it's easier to save tires when you're running up front...in eight races this year, Randy's won three and finished 2nd five times! One of these, of course, was the October 15 event at Bronson Speedway covered on page 7 of this newsletter.

In 2012, Randy expects to continue in the Modified ranks, and also to re-enter the Super Late Modified ranks for several events.

#### A Very Special Thanks

**October 5**—Our October meeting also featured a visit from Cara Anderson, Development Associate at Camp Boggy Creek. In addition to thanking the club for its recent contribution, Cara provided an in-depth review of the Camp's mission and the way it serves its constituency. She noted that Camp Boggy Creek is a year-round camp serving seriously ill children throughout Florida, and reported that they recently reached a milestone of having served 50,000 children and their families since their founding. She particularly welcomed the contribution made by our club and others in The Villages, since the Camp receives no governmental funding to cover its expenses. (See related item on page 3 regarding Buster Burt's contribution to the Camp.)



## NASCAR Legend to Keynote December 11 Event

Mark your calendars...our 2011 Holiday Hall of Fame and Awards night will be held Sunday, December 11 at Colony Cottage. As we've mentioned over the past several months, the format for the event has been modified a bit this year and will include a Keynote Speaker...NASCAR racing veteran Marvin Panch. As many of you who follow NASCAR are aware, Marvin is a true legend in the sport, and proudly occupies

a place in "NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers" list, an honor bestowed on him to commemorate the drivers who "...define the competition of our sport. Their accomplishments are the benchmark that much of our history is identified by. Honoring them in this way, at the beginning of the NASCAR 50th Anniversary celebration, is one way of showing our true appreciation for them and the invaluable contribution they have given

over the past 50 years. These are the drivers who made and make NASCAR fans stand on their feet and cheer. These are the drivers who are NASCAR history." (Bill France's words during the 1998 Daytona 500's pre-race festivities.) Marvin is a 17-time winner in Cup-level competition, including the 1961 Daytona 500. He posted 97 top five finishes and captured 21 poles in his 15 year NASCAR Career.



### Marvin Panch Career Achievements

1958—2nd in Grand National (Cup) Driver Points  
 1959—Charter Member Pure Darlington Record Club  
 1961—First Pontiac to win Daytona 500  
 1963—SMPA Myers Brothers Memorial Award  
 1965—First driver to sweep both Atlanta races  
 1966—Unocal 600 Winner's Association Inductee  
 1976—Honored by Charlotte Motor Speedway—Marvin Panch Day  
 1986—Honorary Starter—Budweiser at the Glen

1987—National Motor Press Association Hall of Fame  
 1988—Presented with Key to Daytona Beach  
 1993—Legends of Auto Racing Inaugural Inductee  
 1995—Western Motor Sports Writers Hall of Fame  
 1998—Voted one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers

## November Meeting Preview

**FASCAR's Kim Brown and Robert Hart**, rescheduled from last month, will be joining us on November 2 for an overview of FASCAR and the happenings at the race tracks they operate (New Smyrna Speedway, Orlando Speedworld, and Columbia Speedway). Kim and Robert will also be discussing the upcoming 46th annual Florida Governor's Cup 200 event on Saturday, November 19 at New Smyrna Speedway. Our Special Events Committee is now taking reservations for this event...see Wendy for details. We've reserved a bus for the night...it will be the sixth consecutive Florida Governor's Cup event that a group from our club has attended, and it always



Left to right—The Florida Governor's Cup, Robert Hart, Kim Brown

promises to be one of the highlights of our year. At this writing, we're not sure who we will be sponsoring, but rest assured someone will be flying our club colors!

Also joining us at the November meeting will be **Carol Birchwale**, daughter of members Shirley and Arnold Birchwale. Carol is a veteran small block open wheel modified driver from Orange County (N.Y.) Speedway, and will be sharing the highlights of her on-track adventures!

## Buster's Book Sales Generate Boggy Creek Contribution



At our October 5 meeting, club Board/Pit Crew member **Arthur "Buster" Burt** presented a contribution to Camp Boggy Creek in the amount of \$200, representing proceeds from the sale of his recently-published book, "**A Genuine Racer, A Genuine Racing Career**." The book narrates Buster's life from his early days as a pioneer stock car racer in Maine, through his successful racing career on Central Florida's short tracks in the 1950s, through his affiliation with the Jack Roush racing organization as Mark Martin's show car hauler in the 1990s, and continuing through his successful run as a driver and series director in the Maine Legends Car series in the late 1990s. The book is an insightful look at one of stock car racing's true pioneers...one of the early racers who helped build a foundation for the sport.

Additional copies of the book are available through Buster...all you need to do is let him know you want one and he'll see that you get it! You can phone him at 352-751-4346.

**In Memory of Dan Wheldon  
1978-2011**

**A Great Champion**



## Prediction Row 2011 Champ to be Crowned Nov. 20



Jim Dunaway



Al Stone



Syd Baker



Jerry Conkle



Jim Carter



Gary Civiletti

If you've been following the intense competition that has characterized this year's "Prediction Row" program, you know that we're more than halfway through the Chase segment, and you know that our panel of predictors includes the top three from our first two rounds. You'll also recall that the first two segment winners were Jim Carter and Syd Baker, and you'll recall that Jim Dunaway vaulted into the Chase round on the very last race of segment two.

So far in the Chase round, it appears that Dunaway was holding back in his prediction skills in round two...he's built a commanding (but certainly not insurmountable!) four-point lead just past the midway point, using a strategy based on what he calls "basic racing knowledge." At this writing, there are only four races left to determine the winner, and one can feel the intensity revving up as we hurtle toward Homestead. Come on out to Colony on November 20 to watch this thing come down to the wire!

## Welcome, New Members



We welcomed four new members at our October 5 meeting: (top left) Herbert Shaw, from Mt. Olive, Alabama' (top right) Gene White, from Uniontown, Ohio, and (bottom row) Carol and John Angiolo, from Franklin Wisconsin. Be sure to look them up at a future meeting and engage them in a chat about racing!

## Special Events Roundup



As most of you know, two of our biggest events of the year are just around the corner: the Governor's Cup 200 on November 19 and our Holiday Hall of Fame and Awards Night on December 11. For the Governor's Cup trip, we've filled the 25-seat bus, and we're taking stand-by reservations for either a second bus or a larger bus, depending on how many we get. Call me or see me at the November meeting to get on the list if you want to go.

And how about our Hall of Fame event! Not only will we be honoring ten new inductees, but we've added a keynote speaker...one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers and Daytona 500 Winner Marvin Panch! It's gonna be another great one for the club.

*Wendy*

Date/Event	Event Details
Saturday, November 5 Citrus County Speedway	The final race of the 2011 Florida United Promoters Late Model Series at CCS in Inverness. A car pool is forming for the trip...details will be covered at the November 3 meeting.
November 10-13 March 1-4 Orlando Speedworld	The Daytona Antique Auto Racing Association (DAARA) will conduct their 2011 & 2012 U.S. Vintage Oval Track Nationals at Orlando Speedworld, Bithlo. Contact DAARA at 321-439-3813 for details.
Saturday, November 19 New Smyrna Speedway	46th Annual Florida Governor's Cup 200. Save the date...we'll be running a bus to catch the action. Our 2011 Scholarship Winner Amanda Ferguson plans to enter, and it is expected that our club car will be in the field as well.
Sunday, November 20 Colony Cottage	NASCAR Sprint Cup finale on the big screen at Colony Cottage! Come on out and join the group as we watch the season ender. BYOB and a dish to share...action starts at 2:00 pm.
Saturday, November 26 Bubba Raceway Park, Ocala	Buzzie and David Reutimann will be returning to Bubba Raceway Park (Ocala) for a repeat of the September 3 event.
Saturday, December 10 The Villages	Villages Annual Christmas Parade...Committee and participants are needed to represent the club. Call Wendy for details
December 10-11, 2011 Zephyrhills	Annual David Reutimann Foundation Golf Tournament, Charity Auction, and Bar-B-Que. Details to follow.
Sunday, December 11 Colony Cottage	Save the date...Fifth Annual Club Holiday Hall of Fame and Awards Night at Colony Cottage Rec Center. Call Wayne or Barbara Nolan for details.
February, 2012 Daytona International Speedway	Lake Limo will be running busses to the Bud Shootout (Feb. 18), the Gatorade Duel (Feb. 23), the Camping World Truck Series event (Feb. 24), and the Daytona 500 (Feb. 26). Call Lake Limo at 352-742-2808 for details. Flyers for all these events can be downloaded from our website's homepage.

## Just to Show You Anything's Possible!



OK, coffee lovers! Here's one for you. A group of innovative chaps from Great Britain have combined their love of Java with their love of motors to produce a car that actually uses coffee beans as its fuel source. From an engineering standpoint, the concept involves merging oxygen (via steam) with

coffee beans, and then running the temperature up to higher than 1292 degrees Fahrenheit. The process creates a synthetic gas consisting of fuel carbon monoxide, hydrogen, carbon dioxide, and methane, which can then be burned using a normal internal combustion engine. And off you go!



The "Coffee Car" was created by the Teesdale Conservation Volunteers of Durham, England (<http://coffeecar.org>). Earlier this year, the group set a land speed record for gasification-powered vehicles...a blistering 66.5 mph that earner them a Guinness World Record designation.

Actually, if they just take it the next step, you could drive the car to work and possibly avoid that Dunkin' Donuts coffee stop, no?

Upper left: The Coffee Car getting set for its record run. Left: The car's power plant.

## Local Racing Corner

Here are the web addresses for these local (and relatively local) tracks. Within each website, you can browse to a "Schedule" page to see what shows they have planned for the month.

**THE "ORIGINAL" SPEEDWAY PARK**

<http://originalspeedwaypark.com>



<http://www.ocalaspeedway.com>



<http://www.ocalamicrospeedway.com>



<http://www.citruscountyspeedway.com>



<http://newsmyrnaspeedway.org>



<http://orlandospeedworld.org>



<http://thevolusiaspeedway.com>



<http://auburndaleracing.com>



<http://www.eastbayracewaypark.com>



Bronson Speedway's website is currently under development. For updates on events at at the Speedway, visit [karnac.com](http://karnac.com) or [floridaflagstand.com](http://floridaflagstand.com)

## "Big Dave" Pulls Off Another Great Bingo Event



players competed for cash prizes ranging from \$20 to \$75 across eight separate games. "Big Dave" is pictured at left calling numbers during the heat of battle, being assisted by Assistant Bingo Captain Gerry Hafer.



In addition to the cash prizes, "Big Dave" also commandeered another great assortment of door prizes from these vendors:

- Outback Steakhouse
- Cody's
- Cracker Barrel
- Denny's
- Spanish Springs Barber Shop
- I-Hop
- Carrabba's
- Bob Evans
- RJ Gators
- Gator's Dockside

Make it a point to patronize these businesses...they helped make the night a success!

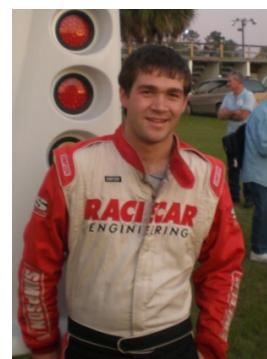
Well, the turnout wasn't quite what we anticipated, but the nearly 100 avid Bingo players who did show up for our October 14 extravaganza were once again treated to an exciting, fast-paced night of play. With our intrepid Bingo Captain "Big Dave" Bockman at the helm, our

## Another Anderson Comes Through For Us!

**October 15**—Our group once again got to experience the thrill of being in the Winner's Circle, this time up at Bronson Speedway with Randy Anderson. Randy, of course, is following in the footsteps of his famous father, Wayne, and grandfather, Dick, and is a growing threat to extend the Anderson dynasty's domination of Florida's short tracks well into the future.

On our trip to Bronson October 15, we were treated to a commanding performance by Randy, as he started third in the feature, moved to second on the first lap, and took the lead around lap 10. From that point, he set sail and built a full straightaway lead to win handily. As is our club custom, the "yellow shirts" gathered in the Winner's Circle to celebrate with Randy, who graciously thanked us in his post-race interview for our support. As an added treat, the Speedway's staff

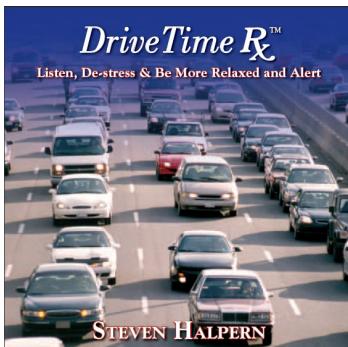
invited us to bring the bus onto the track for a post-race photo session with the results of Randy's feature win displayed on the scoring tower. Kudos to bus driver Chuck for his impressive hot lap on the Bronson high banks, and for his crowd-thrilling donuts on the back-stretch! (just kidding, of course!). Here are a few shots from the trip.



## Your Pit Crew

Gerry Hafer, President (751-3643)  
 Mike Touchette, Vice President (430-0239)  
 Silky Meegan, Corresponding Secretary (259-2029)  
 Gerry Greim, Recording Secretary (215-630-1402)  
 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)  
 Buster Burt, Technical Consulting (751-4643)  
 Bob Giles-R/C Race Director (750-5117)  
 Peter Tetrault, Member at Large (205-8503)  
 Glen Carter, Immediate Past President (751-6442)

## Christmas Gift Idea



*DriveTime Rx™*

Listen, De-stress & Be More Relaxed and Alert

STEVEN HALPERN

Last month's newsletter included an article about the perils of driving in the Washington, D.C. area...a situation many of us "northerners" are all too familiar with. The unfortunate

thing about it is that for many of us, there's really no way to avoid the "Beltway War Zones" that circle Washington and Baltimore.

So, for those of you who must navigate your way through this mess, here's something you might want to take a look at! It's an audio CD titled "DriveTime Rx" and it contains relaxing music, complete with stress-releasers and relaxing messages imbedded within the music. According to marketing literature, the material contained on the CD is designed to allow drivers to "Listen, De-Stress and Be More Relaxed and Alert."

Here's an example of the subliminal messages that your sub-conscious mind will receive: "*I check my rear view mirror frequently. I am in control of my emotional response to inconsiderate actions of other drivers.*" The CD's artist is Steven Halpern of InnerPeace Music, and you can find out more about it at this site: <http://www.innerpeacemusic.com>.

The only thing that I can think of that could beat this would be listening to a Talladega race!

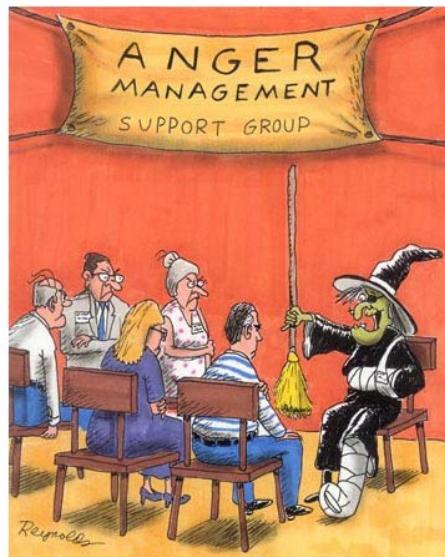
## Conkle's Corner...

Jerry just keeps rolling along with his quips, jokes, and (occasionally) useful information. Here's his mind-expanding contributions for the month of November...



- Jeff Gordon is the only driver to have won a NASCAR Championship in two different centuries
- I went to visit my aunt and uncle, and my aunt said my uncle was out back pouting. Seems they had words, I asked him what was the matter, and he said he didn't get a chance to use his!
- A Villages couple left a restaurant and headed home. After a few blocks, she said "We need to go back...I forgot my sunglasses." He said, "We're not going back for a cheap pair of sunglasses!" She said, "They're prescription sunglasses." He said, "I'll take you back...and while you're in there, pick up my hat!"
- Some race car drivers like football, some don't. Brian Vickers went to a football game once, but didn't like it and left in the seventh inning.
- I tried working in a muffler factory once, but had to quit. It was too exhausting.

## Happy Halloween



"My name is Helda, and I have a tendency to fly off the handle."