



## *The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club*

### *Pit News*

**January, 2019**

Next Meeting Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2019 at Colony Cottage Recreation Center.

Going **GREEN** at 7:00PM

Editor: Janine Woodsford

### Prez Says



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2019. We kicked off with our Hall of Fame event on January 26<sup>th</sup> at La Hacienda.

In February we will have Rex White as our guest speaker, introduced by Art Fehrman who has graciously offered to put him up for his stay in The Villages.

Our March event will be a movie and pizza night, with the film "Winning" as our main feature starring Paul Newman. We anticipate starting the movie at about 7:15pm and serving the pizza at the beginning of the movie.

We will arrange the tables so everybody can face the screen. If you have not signed up yet please see Gerry Greim at the February meeting. The cost of the pizza will be \$5. For those who want to eat, we will stamp the back of your hand to show you have signed up for the pizza.

Our annual trip to the Gatornationals is fast approaching. If you plan on going, we will start collecting the money for the trip at the February meeting. The cost will be \$70 which includes transportation to and from The Villages, and reserved seating. We need to assess the numbers as soon as possible to reserve the right size bus to transport us. So if you have not yet signed up I would encourage you to do so as seats are limited. If you want to let us know before the meeting, please send an email to Lois Taylor, [itaylr@hotmail.com](mailto:itaylr@hotmail.com) or call 352-633-5624.

We are constantly looking for speakers to come and talk to us, so if you are able to assist us with our searches, we'd appreciate your help.

Thank you for continuing our club now going into our 13<sup>th</sup> year.

*Regards, Tony.*

## FEBRUARY'S GUEST SPEAKER

### REX WHITE



This is a great honor to have a NASCAR Hall of Famer as our Guest Speaker.

He also won the Most Popular Driver Award and the Driver of the Year Award in that same year.

### GATORNATIONALS BUS TRIP

The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club is planning its Annual bus trip to the 50th Anniversary Gatornationals on March 15, 2019. We will be leaving Sumter Landing at 9am. Cost per ticket this year is \$70, which includes transportation to and from Gainesville Raceway, reserved seating and pit passes. The bus trip is open to everyone, you do not need to be a club member. Tell your friends, neighbors and anyone you know who love the excitement of drag racing or are just interested in checking it out.

You will be able to meet and talk to drivers, get autographs and enjoy all the atmosphere of a NHRA National event. Bus transportation will be provided by The Villages Transportation from Lake Sumter Station (opposite Cody's) at 9:00am and will leave track at approximately 5pm (racing is expected to conclude at 4:30pm).

Make your reservations today with a \$20.00 per person deposit. Make checks payable to The Villages Motor Racing Fan Club or TVMRFC. Mail checks to Lois Taylor, 701 Abdella Way, The Villages, FL 32163. Please include a phone number or e-mail address with your check. If you have any questions, please contact Lois or Roger Taylor at [352-633-5624](tel:352-633-5624).

This is a first come/first served event and once the bus is full, we will have a standby list. The trip has been opened up to other car clubs in The Villages, so don't miss out.

According to NHRA National officials, this event will bring drivers from across the US.



# HISTORIC NORTH TURN LEGENDS BEACH ROAD COURSE PARADE

From: Dargan Watts January 21, 2019

PONCE INLET, Fla. – Plans for the eighth annual Historic North Turn Legends Beach/Road Course Parade are finalized and the sponsors, the Town of Ponce Inlet, Volusia County and Racing’s North Turn Restaurant are expecting to top the 2018 attendance record of 15,000 spectators.

The starting time of the parade is determined by the tide, so on Saturday, February 9, 2019, the “Drivers Start Your Engines” call will be made at 2:30 p.m. and drivers and passengers in the race cars manufactured 61 years ago will head out of the staging area at 4511 S. Atlantic Ave. and head south on what used to be A1A for two miles and then turn left in the South Turn and head north on the sand of the Atlantic Ocean for another two miles finishing up in the staging area just west of the North Turn. This is relatively the same course that was used for racing until 1959 when racing moved to the

Thus far, cars and drivers from 16 states have registered or committed to participate and several of the cars and drivers actually “ran the beach” in the 40’s and 50’s. Brownie King, Tom Pistone, Dick Passwater, Johnny Allen and Earl Lindsey actually competed in races on the beach and the Honorary Grand Marshal of the parade, Vicki Wood, who will turn 100 years of age in March, competed against the men in the “Measured Mile” competition in the ‘50’s and still holds the record of driving a full-bodied street car 150.375 mph on the beach.

Fans will have an opportunity to meet the owners and drivers of the cars who will be in the parade from 8 a.m. until the parade begins at 2:30 p.m. and for a brief time following the parade. This will take place in the staging area. Another treat is the opportunity to eat breakfast and lunch inside the restaurant and view thousands of pictures of cars and drivers who raced on the beach in the 40’s and 50’s that plaster the walls of the mini museum/restaurant. Several racing drivers, owners and V I P’s will be available for autographs inside the restaurant and interviews will be conducted from 11:45 a.m. until 1:45 p.m. by former Dale Earnhardt friend and pit crewman Danny “Chocolate Myers” and his wife Caron. Myers is co-host of a racing show heard on Sirius XM radio. Myers will also drive a vintage Ford coach race car in the parade that his father Bobby Myers drove on the beach in the 50’s.

Also, a short 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration is planned for Vicki Wood inside the restaurant.

Sirius XM radio and MRN broadcaster Dave Moody rode with the Myers’ in the parade last year and was so impressed that he made it clear he wanted to drive this year, so he will be wheeling the famous 1932 Chevy #RU21 out of Pemberville, Ohio. NASCAR Vice Chairman Mike Helton was the driver of a 1953 Dodge tribute car last year which is owned by Bill Blair Jr of High Point, N.C. The original car was the Blair family car and his father entered it in the race on the beach, capturing first place money.

Helton will drive the same car with Blair Jr riding shotgun. Helton stated, “Daytona is the only community that can stage an event so rich in heritage such as the Historic North Turn Legends Beach/Road Course Parade. It is amazing to see and be a part of something such as this with all of these classic cars being driven on the beach.”

International Speedway Corporation Executive Vice President and COO Joie Chitwood III was also a participant last year and will return on February 9 in a 1936 Pontiac, owned by W C Bell of Little River, S.C. Chitwood was delighted to learn that his car won the Bell & Bell Vintage cars modified championship in 2018 with Bell as the driver. “It is an honor to be a part of such a unique event that pays tribute to the history of racing on the beaches of Daytona”, Chitwood said with a broad smile on his face.

Race cars may be unloaded from the haulers at the Ponce Inlet Town Hall, located at 4300 South Atlantic Ave., with the staging area opening at 8 a.m. Spectator parking will be at Toronita Avenue Beach Park, 4200 Atlantic Avenue, Wilbur By The Sea, Fla. Votran Shuttle Bus service will start picking up passengers at 9:30 a.m. and will make stops at Racing’s North Turn and designated points between there and the South Turn. The buses will run continuously until 5 p.m. (except during the parade)

There is no admission charge.

## PIT CREW

| Name             | Position                      | Duties               | Phone #        |
|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Tony Kennea      | President                     | Crew Chief           | (352) 603-9197 |
|                  | Vice President                | Car Chief            |                |
| Silky Meegan     | Corresponding Secretary       | Jack Person          | (352) 430-6042 |
| Mike Anderson    | Social Media Coordinator      | Fabricator           | (217) 714-2245 |
| Lois Taylor      | Asst Social Media Coordinator | Rear Tire Carrier    | (352) 633-5624 |
| Gerry Greim      | Recording Secretary           | Crew Coach           | (215) 630-1402 |
| Roger Taylor     | Treasurer                     | Fueler               | (352) 633-5624 |
|                  | Special Events Coordinator    | Front Tire Carrier   |                |
|                  | Membership Coordinator        | Mechanic             |                |
| John Angiolo     | Hospitality Coordinator       | Mechanic             | (414) 305-8094 |
| Tom Horrmann     | Member At Large               | Crew Uniform Manager | (352) 750-9082 |
| Mike Touchette   | Member At Large               | Transporter Driver   | (352) 603-5077 |
| Wendy Touchette  | Member At Large               | Rear Tire Changer    | (352) 303-9734 |
| Janine Woodsford | Newsletter Editor             | Front Tire Changer   | (352) 430-5804 |
| Jerry Conkle     | Immediate Past President      | Team Owner           | (352) 750-1185 |
|                  |                               |                      |                |



### DID YOU KNOW

(AKA Almost Totally Useless Trivia)

1. Texas is the only state flag that is allowed to fly at the same height as the U.S. flag.
2. In the Philippine jungle, the yo-yo was first used as a weapon.
3. All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the \$5 bill.
4. Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying.