

GOLDEN WHEELS

FRATERNITY
Auto Racing Pathfinders



Issue #1 - 2009

Greetings. As we delve into the new year, our president and board are looking forward to making 2009 a great year for Golden Wheels. It is appropriate then, I believe, to start the years first newsletter with the

Presidents Column

As the incoming Golden Wheels president, I plan to introduce a new feature to our newsletters, a regular "Presidents Column". And the first message I want pass along is to wish all Golden Wheels members a very happy and prosperous New Year.

I also want to take this opportunity to speak for myself and the membership in thanking Lenora McMurtry for her years of service to the club. Her leadership, during some very difficult times, has set this organization on a great path, and makes the transition to my new position very easy indeed.

I want to remind you, that it is membership renewal time. Gary Berg tells me that renewals are coming in very strong, and I want to thank each and every new or renewing member for the support you are showing during these difficult economic times. Remember that your dues are the lifeblood of this club, and allow us to carry out our mission statement to provide comradeship, charity, educational static display of the race cars of yesterday, and on track exhibition events, and yes, this newsletter.

Since I have not fully formulated what a "Presidents Column" should consist of, this first effort will just consist of some random thoughts.

On November 7th, 8th, and 9th. I attended the first annual MotorSports 2008 high performance show held in the Tacoma Dome. I was invited to show my 1946 HAL powered Solar, along with member Bill Cammarano and his beautiful early Offy midget, built by Kuzma with great Northwest history. The invitation came from Glen Seidelman and The Washington Midget Racing Association (WMRA), who provided two of their modern midgets. Bill Cammarano also displayed his very rare and beautiful Miller Indy car, and member Daryl Headman had both his #2 Bardahl champ car and the Boness Bros. hardtop on display. This show consisted of every category of race car you could imagine, along with over 200 hundred vintage motorcycles, land speed record cars, formula 1, and the largest display of vintage hydroplanes and race boats ever outside of the Hydroplane Museum. The quality of customs and street rods at the show rivaled any show I've attended. Kasey Kane's #9 show car was there, along with his merchandise trailer, and many historic Northwest racing figures like Derrick Cope and Chip Hanouer were there to sign autographs and talk racing history. Of course I was able to spend the three days promoting Golden Wheels, and talked to literally 100's of people about our sport and our cars. Mel Anthony also joined us to sell and promote his book "Smoke, Sand and Rubber". While many Golden Wheels members stopped by to say hello during the show, it's amazing how many friends and acquaintances Mel's appearances produce, as he was kept busy every minute of the 14 hour days he devoted. It is my hope that this first effort was financially successful enough to display any and all Golden Wheels cars that want to participate in future events. Early indications are that it was.

Later in the month, on Nov. 22, our race promoter Frankie Volz and I attended the annual WARPA promoters meeting, along with Marv Price, President of West Coast Vintage Racers. This was the largest WARPA meeting I have attended based on turnout, and I had the strong sense that the reality of the difficult economic times had brought the promoters and traveling series together as never before. Frankie and Marv found the promoters very easy to work with, and our strong car counts last year made us much

demand. As a result, we have the following schedule, which will soon be in printed form when all the static show dates are firmed up:

April 24 & 25 th .	Stateline, Idaho
May 7 th , 8 th . & 9 th .	Meridian, Idaho
May 21 st , 22 nd . & 23 rd .	Shasta, CA
June 12 th . & 13 th .	Ephrata, WA
June 26 th . & 27 th .	Banks, OR
July 3 rd . & 4 th .	Port Angeles, WA
July 16 th . 17 th . & 18 th .	Roseburg, OR
Aug. 7 th . & 8 th .	Yakima, WA
Aug. 21 st . & 22 nd .	Cottage Grove, OR
Sept. 4 th . & 5 th .	Ephrata, WA
Sept. 18 th . & 19 th .	Tenino, WA (Tent)

In closing, I'm looking forward to a great season of both static display, and on track exhibition. While the sprint car portion of our shows has been our strength the last few years, there are exciting things happening in our midget ranks, and my prediction is that "The Midgets Will Be Back!!!!". Stay tuned!
Hal Schlegel

Thank you, Mr. President. Since receiving the President's Column, I have received the following Static Events Schedule to go with our On Track Events. Our thanks to Gary Berg for the time he puts in coordinating our static shows, and to all the folks involved in making these shows a succes. Our 2009 Static Schedule as of this time is:

April 26th - Sandblasters at the Plant Farm, Arlington, WA
May 16-17th - Monroe Swap Meet, Monroe, WA
June 6th - Mule Days, Reardan, WA
June 20 - Shoreline Historical Museum, Shoreline, WA
August 15 - City of Shoreline Car Show, Shoreline, WA
September 12 - PGVAC - Arlington Drag Strip Reunion & Car Show, Arlington, WA
September 12 - Hot Autumn Nights Car Show, Edmonds, WA (tentative)

Our first static show, our annual car inspection hosted by Warren Kindle's "Sandblasters" has had to move once again. After scheduling and location problems with the city of Marysville, the show has been moved to a private location north of the city next to I-5. A directions map will be in the next newsletter.

We also are starting a "**What's New At Golden Wheels**" section in the newsletter. A place for announcements such as new members, bought or sold cars, big events in member's lives and such. Please feel free to share.

"People & Cars". A new section to provide members with information on cars in the club and their owners and drivers. Mel and Dennis Anthony will have the honor of making the first lap. The following report on the Anthony Clan's new venture was provided by Hal Schlegel.

Big news in Golden Wheels this month was the purchase of the beautiful red #12 Shilala Offy midget by Mel and Dennis Anthony. This was one of the four cars that Jerry Day and Daryl Headman managed to spirit out of the Northeast.

While casual discussions were going on between the parties, I had the occasion to have coffee with Mel one morning, during which I handed him pictures of the car right after having the honor of the initial ride in the car. I told Mel what an incredible ride the car was, and I'd hate to see it go away. Soon a sale was consummated, and Mel has told me he'll never have coffee with me again.

You all know Mel from his lengthy career in Midgets. Long writing about his experiences, he is our resident story teller, and humorist. Most recently, Mel has become our author in residence, with the publication of his very successful book "Smoke, Sand and Rubber" which has sold all over the world.

Joining Mel as partner in the Shilala is son Dennis Anthony. We're thrilled to have Dennis and wife Debra back as members after a long absence due to the responsibilities of work. Dennis is a former sprint car owner and driver, having competed in WRA and CAMRA during the 1970's. Dennis has retirement in sight, and will soon be able to join in our fun full time. Currently, Dennis and Mel have the Shilala torn down, and are double checking all systems.



Thanks, Hal. It's going to be great having the Anthony clan back on track. And it is a great looking car they will be driving. And how will the 'Driver of the Day' decision be made I wonder?

Our second **People & Cars** lap this month introduces new members Don & Dee Delgarno of Vancouver, WA. They said "In looking over the schedule, we will probably get to about 6 or 8 events. Regarding the static shows--can we tow the Midget with the Corvette and show both? That's what we've done with the local car shows."

Welcome to Golden Wheels Don and Dee. I am sure that showing the Midget with the Corvette tow car would be a 'Value Added Entry' at any show.

Don & Dee wrote up a little history and provided a picture of their beautiful car, a 1960's era TQ $\frac{3}{4}$ Midget, the Turner Motors #8.

"This car was built and owned by Elmer Turner of Waterloo Iowa and raced very successfully at tracks in the Midwest. We do not know exactly how the car came to the West Coast, but when I purchased it in 1993 it was in very bad condition--no motor, many missing and damaged parts. However, photos stored with the car enabled me to contact the original driver and family of the owner. I have attempted to restore it as nearly as possible to the original, except for the engine. It had a Norton motorcycle motor. I have used a Crosley engine. Restoration began in 2003, completed 2008.

I have been retired since 2001. Over the years, I have been involved in boat racing, modified car racing and midget racing, generally as mechanic and builder. In the 1990s my son and I both raced Go-Karts

with Portland Karting Association. My wife and I now enjoy fishing (salmon/sturgeon), and trips around the country where we visit many car museums and take in a couple of NASCAR races each year.”



Thanks to Don & Dee for the info and photo. They plan to attend our next breakfast meeting, March 8th, so there is yet one more reason to join the fun, to meet our new members.

"What's New At Golden Wheels" ??? – Members. And, returning members. Along with Don and Dee Delgado, please welcome New Members Joseph Davitt of Spokane, WA and Richard Norton of Graham WA.

Rick Norton has been around racing since 1951. He was on the Aurora Speedway track crew in the 50's, has been a member of several racing associations and took a stint behind the wheel from '65-'72.

Joe Davitt owns the beautiful '32 Ford that towed the then Volz Solar around the circuit a couple years ago. Living in Spokane, Joe is close to completing building an Edmunds/Chevy II midget. He hopes to have it out for our Stateline show in April. It will look great behind his '32 Ford.

It's good to see Ralph Zbarsky of Vancouver, BC returning to Golden Wheels. Ralph raced vintage sports cars for 15 years and owns the restored 'MG Liquid Suspension Special' that ran at Indy. He also was involved in the writing of the Rolla Vollstedt book.

As mentioned by Hal earlier, Dennis Anthony of Camano Island, WA has returned also.

A hearty Welcome to all! We hope the ride is fast, fun and lasts for a million laps.

Birthdays – Celebrating heading into another new year of life in January were: Joyce Turner, Betty Hancock, Delores Randall, Gerry McLees, James Read, Ron Kunstal, Butch Duren, Sam Rodriguez, Richard Norton and Dan Robinson.

February celebrants were: Howard Welch, Dave Craver, Warren Kindle, David Orr, Gary Berg, Don Samuelson, Rayford Hiatt, John Mosekian, Allen Follett, Bill Blackwell, Larry Martin, Harold Braff and Hal Schlegel. **Happy Birthday All!!! May there be many, many more!**

Passings – Sadly, I have to report that Don Nelson passed away February 19th. Don was a long-time Portland, OR resident and was a member of Golden Wheels Fraternity and West Coast Vintage Racers. His lifetime passion was driving racecars and he was inducted into PIR Hall of Fame in 1989. Don was preceded in death by his wife, Lila; and is survived by his son, Brad; daughters, Dowanna and Valo-Rae; grandchildren, Melissa, Dawn and Christian; three sisters; and many friends.

Our sympathy and condolences to Don’s family and friends.

Jack Corley passes on that Frank White passed on December 24, 2008. Frank was a long time driver racing Jalopies, Midgets and Sprints. His father was well known Northwest driver Bill Gahler. Our condolences to his family.

Business Advertisers - After the transfer of duties of the secretary a while back, it was discovered that the list containing the payment due date for our business advertisers had been misplaced and lost. It was decided to let all advertisers run through the year and start billing anew at the start of the year. If you would like to continue your Business Advertisement please remit your payment of \$25 US We will continue to use the current ad unless you send in a new one with your remittance. If we do not receive anything by April 1st, the ad will be dropped from the next newsletter. Funds received for these ads goes into our fund to help others. Remember, there is no cost for personal ads in the buy, sell, trade section.

Contribution - Last year, just before Christmas, Stan and Carol Blaine, groundskeepers at Yakima Speedway, lost everything they had when a fire consumed the trailer they lived in at the track. In keeping with the purpose of Golden Wheels, at the last breakfast it was learned they are still having problems and the decision was made to donate \$500 to the fund that was established to help them with this tragedy.

2009 DUES – Thanks to the great majority of members that have sent in their 2009 membership dues. You should have your new membership card in hand, or will soon. If you don’t have a 2009 card it may have just slipped your mind. Please use the form on the Want Ads page and return as soon as possible. We must receive it by March 16th to guarantee being in the 2009 Roster.

Anyone have info on this photo from the Golden Wheels collection?? We’d like to know if you do. Give it some thought as you are..... **Keeping Your Wheels Down!!**



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For Sale - Midget Race Car - 1930's vintage. Looks like a Solar.
Lots of LA Calif. history. No Engine or gear box.

Jack Corley, 1790 SE Regner Rd., Gresham, OR 97080 Phone: 503-667-1725

For Sale: '74 Edmunds-Kane Midget. 6 sets gears, 12 wheels, Chevy II, Halibrand & spare parts.
\$16,000 w / open trailer or \$20,000 w / 2008 14' enclosed trailer Call: 360-387-4696

For Sale: 1971 Bob Trostle midget. Very rare as only three (3) were built. Has new Chevy II engine, new tail & nose and chrome plating. Torsion rear, leaf spring front suspension.
Car was in process of restoration. Death in family forces sale. \$11,000.
Contact: Sam at 480-830-8883.

For Sale: Midget offset Bennett quick change housing w / side plate & rear covers. 4.44 to 1 Ford ring & pinion. Used Franklin 10 spline gear sets #7-8-9-23 special-35-41. Contact: Jack Corley: 1790 SE Regner Rd., Gresham, OR 97080 Phone: 503-667-1725

Wanted: Information on D.O. Hal engine recently purchased in Portland, OR area.

We are told the engine came from up north 30 years ago. (Possibly Bremerton or Bellingham, WA) It originally came with a rocker arm Crager. Both on 'B' blocks and painted silver. The HAL is gold under the silver. A & W BRG 10/3/61 is stamped on the pan rail. Any information is appreciated. Contact: Gordy 360-694-7853 or Mark 360-798-2166.

Smoke, Sand and Rubber - 'Methanol' Mel Anthony, Golden Wheels' in house story teller's long awaited Midget & Big Car History in the Northwest. Soft Cover, 288 pages, 7"x10", 250 B&W Photos. ISBN:0-9787721-0-5. Priced @ \$29.95 + \$4.00 domestic shipping. \$8.00 foreign. Order from: Sylvester Publishing #133, 18405 Aurora Ave. N. Suite H, Shoreline, WA 98133-4412

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PHONE (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ BIRTHDAY (Month) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED (\$ 2 5 Member \$ 1 0 Spouse/Significant Other US Funds) _____

DID YOU(), OR DO YOU NOW() OWN A VINTAGE CAR? _____

BRIEF PROFILE/CHANGES FROM 08 _____

PLEASE MAIL TO: GOLDEN WHEELS, P.O. Box 33487, SEATTLE, WA 98133

