

GOLDEN WHEELS

FRATERNITY
Auto Racing Pathfinders



Issue #3 – 2010

Welcome to SUMMER. Time to be OUTSIDE and ENJOYING regardless of what the task at hand is, be it pleasure or not. Lots of important info from Hal so will get right into it with the

President's Column

Well, it's June, and in a few hours, I'll be heading for "Mule Days" in Reardon, Washington. If you don't know about "Mule Days", or just don't get it, I don't have the time now to explain it. What's Mule Days? And where's Reardon, Washington? Ya just gotta be there!

Now that June has arrived, that means the first two on track events of the year are history. Starting at Stateline, Id., we had a good turn out of cars, and if memory serves, we had some 9 or 10 sprinters, and 11 midgets. That's right, I said 11 midgets. When was the last time we were able to get 11 midgets together at one time? This was the result of a lot of hard work by several new car owners this winter bringing out cars for the first time. Unfortunately, attrition reared its ugly head in the midget ranks again, as only about 6 cars were able to make the main. I'm sure that by next weekend's event at Ephrata, all these problems will be fixed.

The Stateline weekend had both the highest highlights, and the lowest of lowlights. For me, the highlight of the weekend was watching the pure joy on the faces of Mel and Dennis Anthony, as they debuted their new Kurtis Offy. Perfectly prepared by Dennis, and driven flawlessly by Mel, who hasn't lost one bit of driving skill since the last time he was in a midget----54 years ago!!! Mel went on to win the main. The sprinters were putting on a good show in their main, when the heavens opened up, ending the evening's show.

On the other hand, since my car was not ready to go, Jerry Day asked me to pit for him at Stateline, as it was the initial time out for the car Jerry's been restoring, the RAM 76-1. This was the car that Jerry and Jan Opperman designed together--Jerry's first space frame car in 1976. As pretty a car as you will ever see, Jerry had just installed a brand new Myron Gemmer engine, and we were very excited to see the car in action. We unloaded shortly after arriving on Friday afternoon, and prepared have Jerry warm up the car so we could do the usual adjustments needed by a new car; barrel valve, timing etc. After about three warm-up laps, it appeared Jerry was ready to return to the pits when something went horribly wrong and the car jumped the track at the end of turn one, and headed for a 10 foot berm at full throttle. Launching off the berm, the car did a couple end over ends, and landed up against the catch fence on its wheels. Needless to say, Jerry was severely injured, with multiple broken bones, and was rushed to the hospital in Coeur d'Alene. At this writing, Jerry's condition has progressed to the point that he has moved from the I.C.U to the rehab part of the hospital. Daily reports from Frankie and Nita Volz tell me that he is improving slowly, now being able to move around on his own with a walker or wheelchair,

but tires easily. It is not known just when he will be able to come home. Phone calls or visits are discouraged, and there probably will not be time to get a card off to Jerry at the Kootenai Medical Center when you receive this newsletter, send to his home address: 17449 SE 196th Dr., Renton, WA 98058.

Following our annual visit to Stateline, the next event was at Meridian Speedway, Boise, ID., on May 21st and 22nd. This event was for caged sprints only (us midgets types were not invited), and reports are that it was rained out.

Our next event is at Ephrata, WA on June 11th and 12th. Always one of the best attended events of the year, it is scheduled for Ephrata's annual "Sage 'N Sun" festival, where for several years we've towed our midgets in the parade to help promote the Saturday night races.

On Saturday, June 19th., we have our annual static show at the Shoreline Historical Museum. You all know that the Museum is Golden Wheels full partner, maintaining the history of racing in this area. Many of you know, that I sit on the board of the museum, and the museum is in the fight of it's life to survive a battle with the local school district. So you can understand that this event is of supreme importance to me, and Golden Wheels. Folks, this just may be the last Museum show we have due to the reasons I've stated. If it is, this is my plea to make it one of the best ever. There will be the usual great music by Joie that we can all relate to, Phil will provide the lunches, the profits of which all go to charity, and a very special bonus will be a full showing of the Earl Heroux film collection, which is the most incredible historical record of post war racing in this area, all in color!! So please bring your race car, your project car, your classic, your hot rod, your mule---sorry, I didn't mean your mule, your motorcycle, your hydroplane or whatever you have to make this a great show.

In closing, I know that many of you hearing of Jerry's situation for the first time will want to keep him in your prayers, for a full and speedy recovery. While your at it, a word about my shop partner Gary Berg, and his wife Shelley. Shelley has been given a very difficult diagnosis recently and if it is your habit, I would ask you to keep Shelley in your prayers also. I know she and Gary would really appreciate it. *Hal*

Birthday Celebrations for May & June!!!

After dodging April showers, May Best Wishes went to; Jeanne Norman, Joyce Turner, Lee Elwell, Don Hancock, Jack Choate, Clark Geffe, Gary West, Dennis Anthony, Bob McLees, Carl Alleman, Les Randall, Harry Whitman, Loren Day, Gordon Rivenburg, Al Book and George Hespe as they enjoyed, I hope, ice cream cake and the May flowers.

Our June Honorees, who are graduating up to another year are: Margie Kane, Anita Volz, Geri Lieder, William Cammarano, Dick Fredell, Jerry Robertson, Don Dalgarno, Michael Allen, Marion Shaw, Frank Volz. Russell Duffield, Carl Larson and E. Jarvis Erickson.

Best Wishes to ALL for many, many more. Happy Birthday!!

New Member – We have another new member joining Golden Wheels, Fred Honeycutt of Arlington, WA. Fred has a late 70's Sprint/Super Modified and we look forward to seeing him this summer at our outings. Welcome, Fred!

If you go to the Golden Wheels web site you'll our June dates are: Jun 11-12, Ephrata Raceway Park Ephrata, WA, ¼ Mile Pavement - Jun 19, Shoreline Historical Museum, Shoreline, WA, Static Display - Jun 25-26, Cottage Grove Speedway, Cottage Grove, OR, ¼ Mile Dirt. Check it out for a complete Schedule. That's at www.goldenwheels.org.

Last month's Pike Green Yesterday's Wheels column brought a very nice phone call from the current owner of the "Yakima Chief", Carl Alleman. Carl followed up his call with information and photos. His letter reads as follows.....

George,

I bought this car about 20 years ago from one of your members, but at this time I can't remember his name. However, it is much changed from the original and we have a picture of it when Lew McMurtry drove it. My son Smokey Alleman now has the car and is trying to restore it to its original shape.

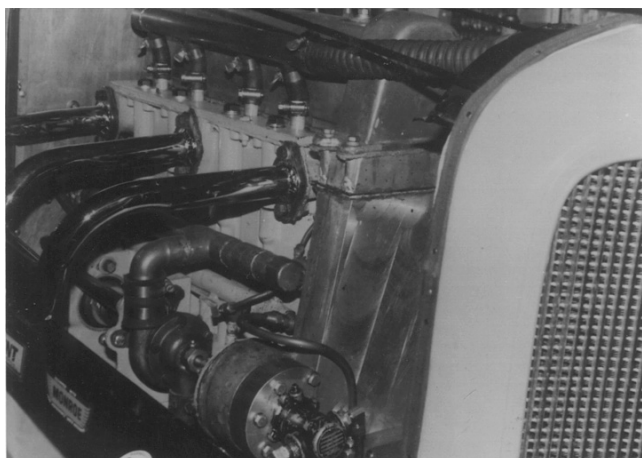
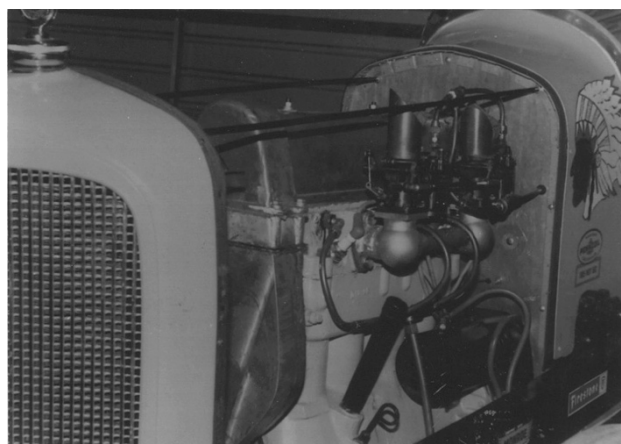
There were two of these engines built and I located the person who had the other one. He told me that while he had it a rod went through the block. He then told me he had sold it to Bill Smith back east and Bill had restored it and has it on display at his shop along with his many other old engines that he has restored and put on display. I called Bill Smith and he confirmed he has the engine.

If I can help further call me. *Carl Alleman*

Also included was a copy of the following information.

Frame is '28 Chev copy (boxed) steel. Body originally Grey with Orange number and wheels. When pan is off, stamped on flange is "Bad Guys of Everett April 1929". 5 to 6 qts. 40 weight none detergent oil. Block and rods are full pressure. No marks on any engine parts as to 1,2,3,4 cylinder. Use 76 premium gasoline. Block is 1923 Chev with 1923 Oldsmobile head. 1923 block has stronger webs than later blocks. Crank is Model "A", pistons are Jahns pistons. Rods unknown. Use 12 volt battery to start but use intermittently as starter is 6 volt. Originally driven by Lew McMurtry. Original owner Wayne Gaffney.

The car is yellow with Yakima Chief in red and black. Use your vivid imagination on the photos below.



Thanks again to Carl for this update and tie in to the Yakima Chief and Pike's article.

Our 2010 Inspection/Car Show had a great turn out and the weather cooperated with sunshine and pleasant temperatures. As you can see, there was a good variety of cars for racers and the public.



Some beautiful Jerry Day RAM cars



From Midgets to Boats



Loren Day's beautifully restored Modified



"Methanol Mel" Anthony. Racer, Book Seller



These Midgets had their own Guard Dog



Bob Scott joins Hal and Kay Schlegel in the sun

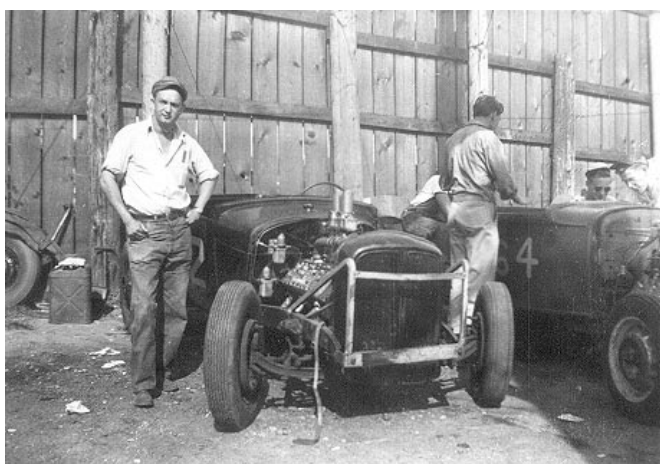


And a bit of the variety in other vehicles on display. A great day in the sun! Thanks Warren!!!!

While our Sunday breakfast meetings are on hold until October, the Tuesday evening dinners are still going on at Shay's. Come and join in, as one never knows who will show up or what, or who, the topic of the evening will be about.

Methanol Mel Anthony reports he had a great time at Stateline Speedway and even has some in car video to prove it. Australian Brian Darby has a great vintage web site and Mel's run is posted on it. If you are interested in taking a look, go to <http://www.vintagespeedway.com>, scroll down slightly and click on Video Clips. Mel is Clip #1 and to see the action all you have to do is click on the Red #12. Video is courtesy of Dennis & Mel Anthony. Music provided by Offenhauser. Enjoy!!!

Among the many photos in the Golden Wheels collection are several with little or no information provided. Here are three roadsters and a big car in that group. On the #77 roadster is written Pink lady? As a roadster? The rest have nothing noted. If by chance you recognize or have information on any of the photos, please let me or any of the officers know. If not, enjoy the nice shots of a small piece of the past.



Don't forget the *Shoreline Historical Museum* show on *Saturday, June 19th!!!* Bring your race car custom car, model car, speed boat, motorcycle, in process project or..... you get the idea. Let's fill up the parking lot. And don't forget they will be showing those special films from the Earl Heroux collection. Worth the price of admission alone, but it's FREE!!! Located on 175th, 1 block west of Aurora Ave. North in Shoreline. On the way there, and always, remember to

.....*Keep Your Wheels Down!!!*

Overheard at a dirt sprint car race.....Little boy - Mom, why do they have to push all the cars?
Mom - That's how they start the cars.....Little boy - Why don't they just give them the keys?

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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. **Also:** Midget Race Car - 1930's vintage. Looks like a Solar. Lots of LA Calif. history. No Engine or gear box. Contact: **Jack Corley** 360 NE 20th Dr., Gresham, OR 97030 Phone: 503-667-1725

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.

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.

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

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

Available Again - Harry Stryker Offy Engine Rebuild Manual. Price is \$85.00 Shipping included! - **Again Available** Mike Stryker, 15574 Space Murals Lane, Las Cruces, NM 88011 575-571-1390 Email - mstryker58@gmail.com.

For Sale? Wanted? Trade? Need Info? --- Put your ad here.
It worked for Eric Lieder, Jim Edwards and Dick Fredell! -- It could work for you!
Try it. You might Like it.

2010 Banquet Reservation

Golden Wheels - 2010 Annual Banquet - Golden Wheels

Saturday, October 16, 2010
125th St. Grill - 12255 Aurora Ave. No. (Hwy.99) Seattle, WA

Prime Rib of Beef or Grilled Alaska Halibut
Classic Caesar Salad - Seasonal Fruit pie with Vanilla ice cream
Price of each meal is \$31.00
18% gratuity included.

Name (Please Print) _____
Grilled Halibut ()
Prime Rib ()
x\$31 = \$ _____

Please complete and return to Golden Wheels as soon as possible so that we may inform the 125th Street Grill of the expected attendance in a timely manner.
Thank you.

Mail to: Golden Wheels, P.O. Box 33487, Seattle, WA 98133