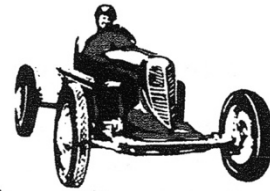


GOLDEN WHEELS

FRATERNITY
Auto Racing Pathfinders



Museum Pieces In Action

Issue #1 – 2020

President's Column: Although it's very early in the season, we start early this year with what is shaping to be one of the most exciting opportunities we've had in a long time. Here are the details:

Golden Wheels has been invited to be the center piece of the race car display for this year's Elma Auto Racing Hall of Fame. The display will be in the exhibition area of the pavilion with move in set for between 2 and 4pm and is free to the public. It is suggested that we could get in as early as noon, and I for one will take advantage of the early start. We will be joined in the display with the I-5 Quarter Midgets, and cars representing classes that will run Grays Harbor Raceway including; Northwest Focus Midgets, AMCA and NW Dwarf Cars. If you stay, you are welcome to attend the Induction Ceremony & Silent Auction which will be held in the meeting room of the pavilion starting just after 7pm. Admission to the Induction Ceremony & Silent Auction is just \$10. There will also be a live dessert auction (always a favorite with GW members), memorabilia display, and with appetizers & cake available.

I have been working night and day putting pressure on our members to attend, and at this time I have a representative group of cars lined up. They can take all we've got, so please consider supporting your club with your car, or attendance.

As I write this, the elevator at the new archival building at the Shoreline Historical Museum is getting its final approval by L&I today. This just leaves the last sign off from the city and we can move in. At last night's museum board meeting, our annual Warren Kindle / Car Inspection / Museum Show was back on the schedule after a year's absence due to the construction. Set for June 20th., this is often our biggest car show in numbers. I hope you will put it on your calendars and plan to support your club and the museum.

Many of you know that Kay and I have been going through some difficult health issues. This has kept me from having the time to plan the annual banquet. If someone wants to step up and put something together, it would be welcomed. It doesn't have to anything big, more just a chance to get together with friends. I believe last year's event was in April, so there is still plenty of time.

Here is a tentative schedule of traditional event dates I've been able to come up with so far:

June 20th. Warren Kindle/Shoreline Museum car show and inspections.

June 20th. Bothell Hope Link car show.

June 27th. Greenwood car show.

Aug. 1st. LaConner Classic Boat & Car Show.

Aug. 15th. Celebrate Shoreline (No location as yet).

Sept. 12th. Arlington Drag Strip Reunion & Car Show.

Sept. 13th. Edmonds Classic Car Show.

In closing, if you haven't taken care of those dues yet, they are due, and I don't want to have to turn George loose. Don't make me do it, it's not pretty!!!!!!!!!!

And finally, Gary Berg is looking for someone that has space, and wants to store the club car. Let Gary or myself know. *Hal*

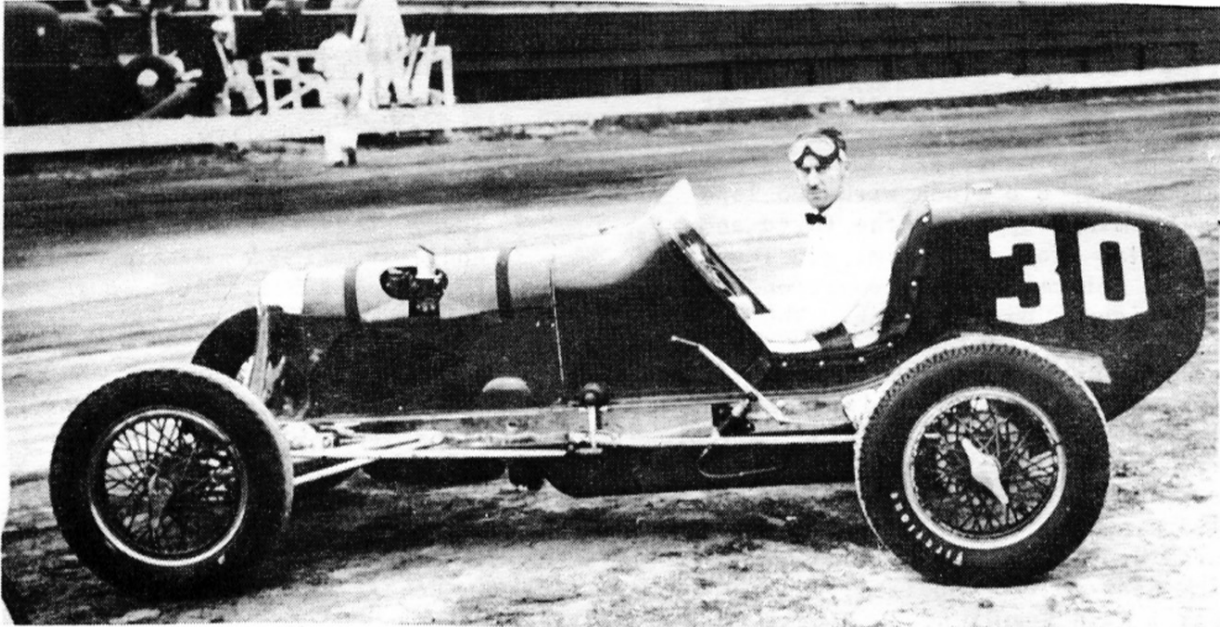
Thanks for all the updates, Hal. Glad to have some activities coming in the near future and hope we will have info on track related events soon. With the winter lull keeping activities and incoming inflow low, I decided to fill space with some pages listed as Larson Prog that I found while going through some long unseen info in the computer files. The scans are dated May 2008. Not sure if this came from Carl Larson or someone else. Wish I had more information on who put everything together for the following three pages. Hope you enjoy this bit of Northwest racing history from nearly 84 years ago.

50TH ANNIVERSARY MIDGET RACE

**MAY 12, 1936
SPEEDWAY ROYALE**

**MAY 17, 1986
SPANAWAY SPEEDWAY**

May 12, 1936 marked the initial appearance of an exciting new form of auto racing in the Northwest. Speedway Royale, a 1/5 mile former motorcycle track, hosted the first midget race in the area. Tony West was the initial winner in the midgets besting a field that included some of the top racers in the West. On May 21, Portland ran it's first event and Seattle completed the circuit with a June 1 opener. Midget racing was big news in the 1930's; most of the balance of this insert consists of articles from the three Tacoma daily papers.



TONY WEST, WINNER OF THE FIRST MIDGET EVENT, WAS AN ACCOMPLISHED BIG CAR DRIVER PRIOR TO HIS MIDGET CAREER. HE IS SHOWN IN A 1930'S SPRINT CAR.

**TACOMA TIMES, MAY 11, 1936
MIDGET AUTO DRIVERS OPEN TACOMA
SEASON TUESDAY**

RACES BILLED FOR 8:00 SHARP

Roaring, lightning fast little racing autos with a daredevil at each wheel, will burst into full explosion Tuesday night at Speedway Royale, old Athletic Park, at 8 o'clock.

Some of the most capable and limb-risking drivers in the west will compete.

Bobby Rowe, former owner of the Tacoma Tigers, retired major league ice hockey star and now a Northwest promoter of sports pagents, etc., is the guiding light of a chain of such midget auto tracks in the Northwest.

The Tacoma leader is Carl Bergstrom, a young localite with ideas and hustle.

**TACOMA NEWS TRIBUNE, MAY 12, 1936
MIDGET AUTO RACES ON PROGRAM
TINY SPEEDSTERS ARE TO MAKE DEBUT AT
SPEEDWAY ROYALE THIS EVENING**

Midget automobile racing, which has thrilled thousands of fans in Southern California, will make its Tacoma debut tonight at Speedway Royale, located on the site of Athletic Park, 14th & Sprague Ave.

Time Trials will begin at 6 o'clock and a program of races will get under way at 8 o'clock.

About 20 drivers will compete in the eight race program. One of the most prominent of the racing drivers is Dave Dippolito of Tacoma.

TACOMA SUNDAY LEDGER, MAY 10, 1936
MIDGET AUTOS TO MAKE TACOMA DEBUT

Bobby Rowe, veteran Pacific coast promoter and owner of several tracks on the coast, will be present Tuesday night at the Speedway Royale at South 14th and Sprague Streets when midget auto racing will be inaugurated in Tacoma, starting at 8:00 o'clock under the big lights.

Rhodes Post, American Legion, and Wild West Post, VFW, will furnish their bugle and drum corps for entertainment.

Dr. Norman H. Dorn will be track physician, Lynn Grylls is starter, Curley Coleman, referee; Glen Shaw, present Northwest Champion big car racer, will be judge.

The time trials will start sharply at 6 o'clock with two laps for warming up and the third and final lap for the timing. These trials determine the positions of the drivers on the track. The two

fastest in these trials enter the Helmet Dash, the opening heat, for a three-lap run. Four Heat Races will follow, each being eight laps.

Then the Class "B" Main event will be staged with 15 laps, followed by the Class "A" Main event of 30 laps which will have as drivers the fastest of all preceeding heats.

Bill Brereton, President of the Northwest Circuit and in charge of the pits, announced the drivers as follows:

#1 Kenny Eckels; 2, Sid Archer; 3, Chick Barbo; 4, Steve Langdon; 5, Lauri Mangold; 6, Bert Blomgren; 7, Bill Parfitt; 8, Herman Hanson; 9, Tony West; 10, Swede Lindskog; 11, Dave Dippolito; 12, Don Wohlfren; 14, Ralph Thompson; 15, Sam Culbertson; 16, Lynn Grylls; 17, Tommy Leggee; 18, Shorty Jones; and; 19, Tommy Martin, a Puyallup boy who has built his own racer.

Tuesday, May 12, 1936, Summary:

Time Trials - Dave Dippolito, 17.25; Swede Lindskog, 17.3; Tony West, 18.1
Two Lap Helmet Dash - Lindskog (8), Dippolito (11), West (9)
First Heat (5 Laps) - Lindskog, West, Tommy Leggee (17)
Second Heat (5) - Bill Spaulding (7), Chick Barbo (3), Leggee
Third Heat (5) - Bert Blomgren (6), Jimmy Williamson (B-1), Dave Leatherette (D-1)
Fourth Heat (5) - Ralph Thompson (14), Steve Langdon (4), Leatherette
Fifth Heat (5) - Dippolito, Johnny Campbell (5), Ken Eckles (1)
Class B Main Event (12) - Dippolito, Campbell, Langdon
Class A Main Event (25) - West, Barbo, Blomgren, Leatherette, Spaulding



BY 1942 THE TRACK WAS KNOWN AS ATHLETIC PARK. ALLEN HEATH IN HIS OWN #4.

TACOMA NEWS TRIBUNE, MAY 13, 1936
AUTO RACES MAKE DEBUT TO TACOMA

Tony West, stellar California drive, and Dave Dippolito, native Tacoman, collected a big share of the laurels Tuesday evening as midget auto racing was inaugurated at Speedway Royale.

West finished ahead of the field in the featured 25-lap Class A event, while Dippolito won the 12-lap Class B feature.

Skids and crashes, wild bursts of speed and a hundred other thrills made it an entertaining evening for the fine crowd which was on hand for the opening.

West drove car No.9, owned by Bill Brereton, while Dippolito was at the wheel of car No. 11, owned by Bob Conway. "Swede" Lindskog, driver of car No. 8, put on a grand show for the spectators and immediately installed himself as one of the most popular pilots on the track with his daring driving, but misfortunes kept him from taking away any of the honors except the two lap helmet dash in which he nosed out Dippolito.

TACOMA TIMES, MAY 13, 1936
MIDGET AUTOS IN DEBUT

Midget autos of the racing type made their debut last night at Speedway Royale.

And the many fans present left with satisfaction, thrills and no doubt a desire to go again.

The 25 lap feature event was won by Tony West driving machine No. 9. Dave Dippolito, Tacoman, driving car No. 11 ruled Class B, 12 laps.

"Swede" Lindskog, car No. 8, provided the most thrills in individual effort and he became highly popular with the crowd. The "Swede" is the sort who takes a gamble with his life and limb. He won a couple of races and was second in time trials.

TACOMA DAILY LEDGER, MAY 13, 1936
LITTLE CARS BRING FANS BIG THRILLS
BIG CROWD SEES OPENING CARD AT SPEEDWAY

The debut of midget auto racing in Tacoma was held at the Speedway Royale last night and the event was a huge success as far as speed thrills and attendance were concerned.

Tony West, driving car No. 9 owned by Bill Brereton, carried off the honors in the 25 lap Class A main event, while Dave Dippolito, Tacoma driver in car No. 11 owned by Bob Conway, had things his own way in the Class B main of 12 laps.

The large crowd was continually on edge as the little cars raced around the track at speeds which reached the mile a minute mark on the straightaways. There were a few skids and crashes but none were serious and everyone went away well pleased.

Dave Leatherette and Jimmy Williamson, driving cars imported from the south, were expected to have things their own way on the track but the Northwest drivers sprang a surprise when the best they allowed the invaders to do was finish second in one of the preliminary races.

Although he had a little trouble in the top race of the evening, probably the most popular driver on the track was "Swede" Lindskog, driving car No. 8. The "Swede" continually thrilled the spectators with his fast daring driving as well as winning two races and having the second fast time in time trials.

The two lap Helmet Dash went to Lindskog, with Dave Dippolito a close second. Dippolito had fastest time in the trials making the one lap in 17.25.

Following West in the final event came Chick Barbo in #3 and Bert Blomgren in #6 third. In the Class B event, Johnny Cambell in #15 finished second and Steve Langdon in car #4, third.

Passings – Sadly, we have to announce that since the last newsletter Golden Wheels Member #0, Gerry McLees, passed away January 20th. Both a successful race driver and the owner, with his wife Donna, of McLees Distributing, Gerry was well known in the racing community. A Celebration of life was held February 6th. Also, news that former member Robert ‘Bob’ Coutts of Portland, OR and well known Californian Norm Rapp have passed away. Our Condolences and Prayers to the families and friends of Gerry, ‘Bob’ and Norm.

BIRTHDAYS!! ---- BIRTHDAYS!! ----The month of February saw only Steve Beitler on our list of celebrants. In March it will be Marileen Moser, Claudia Laster, Richard Nelson and Ed Williams. Looking forward to April, Lynn Beckett, Michael Allan and Mike Adkins are tacking on another lap completed. **Happy Birthday to All and Best Wishes** for the coming year!

NOTES: Roster change –Mike McTaggart has a new address. Please change your roster to 17125 114th. Ave. Ct. East, Puyallup, WA 98374.

Smoke Sand & Rubber Video – We will soon have the Greg Brotherton DVD video of Mel Anthony’s book for sale through Golden Wheels. There will be a special price for Golden Wheels members.

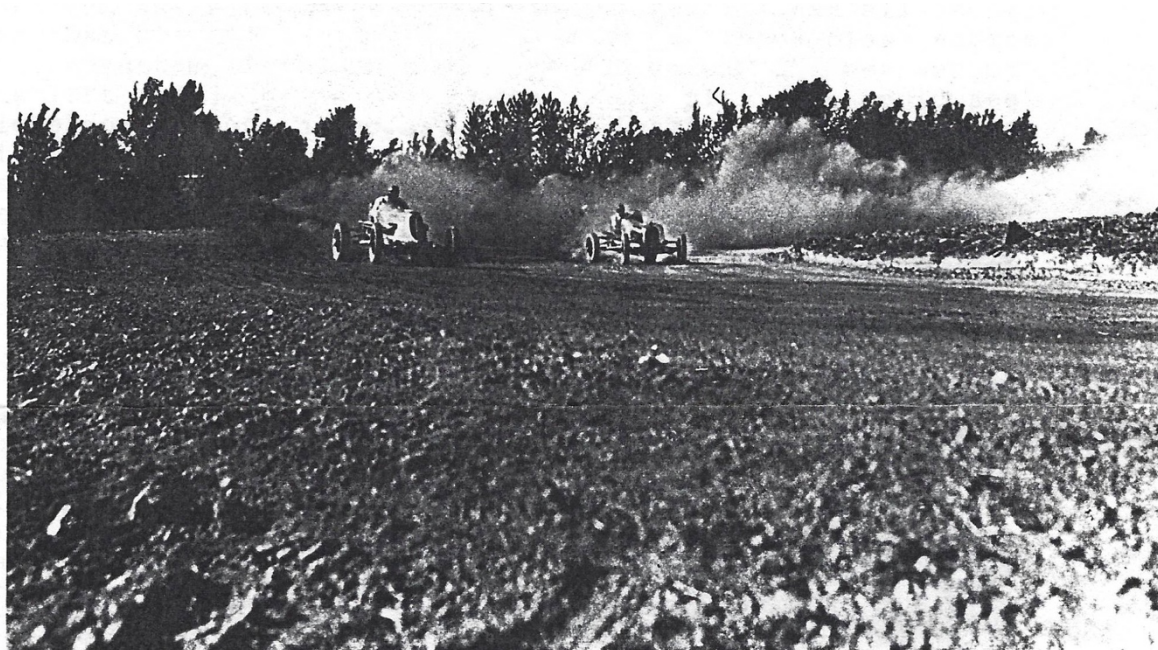
Sunday Morning Breakfasts!!! Sunday Morning Breakfasts Second Sunday of the month. Bright & Early (8:00 AM or there about) for our ‘Official Items’, Tall Tales, Big Stories & etc. gatherings. **Tuesday Dinners:** Yup, still on around 4:00PM till ??? Come and join in the fun.

DUES!!! LAST CALL!!! If you have not sent in your 2020 Membership Renewal dues, PLEASE remit them ASAP. It will make our Membership Guru Jerry Robertson and Treasurer Gary Berg happy as they can put that 2020 chore behind them. **Thank You!!**

Hal found this while looking through the May 1989 Newsletter and thought it would be an interesting to many as it pictures ‘The Chrome’. In his Editors Note, Pike comments “Don’t ask why they paved it”. Sadly, I feel his note now would be “Don’t ask why it’s no longer there”.

Picture taken
in 1936.

Rankin Field.
(now Portland
Speedway)



This is the Helmet Dash, with Frank Wearne on the outside in the Chrome. The car on the pole was a flathead, driver unknown, 3rd car is back in the dust. Editors Note: Don't ask why they paved it.

Well, you can’t go to Portland Speedway any more, but where ever you are going, like a race track perhaps, please take care and always remember it’s best to.....**Keep Your Wheels Down!!**

◆◆◆◆◆ == BUY=SELL=FIND=TRADE == ◆◆◆◆◆

Email - fristurn@comcast.net Mail - PO Box33487, Seattle, WA 98133 Ph. - 425-334-5763
ADS ARE FREE TO ALL MEMBERS – PLEASE NOTIFY EDITOR OF ANY CHANGES – ADS ARE SUBJECT TO REMOVAL AFTER THREE ISSUES IF SPACE IS NEEDED FOR NEWER ADS – THANK YOU

*** PRICE LOWERED!*** **FOR SALE:** 1935 SAMCO Ford. Model B Ford Block; 0.030 overbore in very nice block; std.bearing crankshaft fully counterweighted & drilled for pressure oil; new babbit main & rod bearings by Dave Johnson, Wilkerson, WA; Rebuilt Bendix magneto; Barns oil pump driven off front of cam; rocker arm head by Shaw & Mercill Machine, Seattle, WA one of only two remaining example. Has run two events since rebuild, runs very well. Frame & body special built; 1932 Ford heavy front axle; Model B Ford transmission; Model A Ford rear axle (Halibrand center section); Full floating rear axles w/28 spline late axles; Early Ford hydraulic brakes (rear only); 1935 Ford wheels. 4 dirt wheels & tires; 6 pavement wheels & tires; 2 unmounted wheels. One ugly but good towing trailer, with 3 new tires & Pro Tec tool box. One spare model B block; one spare crankshaft; one spare set model B rods; one stock model A head. **\$19,000** Contact: **Jim Edwards – 425-277-0481**

*******FOR SALE*******



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Contact Mike at 509-212-8149

FOR SALE: Edmonds Grill Shell – Fiberglass NOS – Never been altered. 16.5" wide x 20.5" tall Call Dan for more info. 206-878-7242

YOUR BY/SELL/FIND/TRADE AD COULD BE HERE

NOTE: Additions, Deletions, Corrections - Email – fristurn@comcast.com or PO Box33487, Seattle, WA 98133

LAST CALL FOR YOUR 2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL!! THANK YOU!!

Golden Wheels - 2020 Membership / Renewal - Golden Wheels

Please Print

Name _____ Spouse/SO Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ Birth Month(s) _____
 Email/Web Address _____
 Member-\$30 Spouse/Significant Other-\$10 Amount Enclosed _____ (US \$)
 Brief Profile (owner, driver,crew, fan, etc) or change from last year. _____

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Mid-Season Championships/
GIANT Fireworks Show
Bob's Burgers & Brew Summer Nationals
(Summer Thunder Sprint Car Series)
WORLD of OUTLAWS (2 Day)
WoO 410 Sprint Cars/NW Focus Midgets
Scrap-It Season Championships/
GIANT Fireworks Show



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WORLD of OUTLAWS
Season Championship/
Giant Fireworks Show

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*Incorporated
 October 20, 1975
 Memories of the Past
 On the Track Today
 Museum Pieces In Action*

Golden Wheels Fraternity

*Preserving The
 Golden Age of Motorsports*

2020 Officers
 Pres: Hal Schlegel
 Vice-Pres: Brian McMurtry

Board Members
 Frank Volz - Jerry Day
 Dave Craver - Warren kindle
 Gary Berg - Bob Scott
 George Hespe - (President Appointment)

PO Box 33487, Seattle, WA 98133

The Object of Golden Wheels Fraternity
 Encourage the preservation of vintage auto racing.
 Promote and advance the interest of said Fraternity.
 Honor those auto racers who are no longer with us.
 Join in fellowship and camaraderie.
 Collectively render such financial assistance as possible
 to worthy distressed auto racers, ex-racers, their widows,
 orphans and accepted humanitarian associations.

For information on Golden Wheels
 contact us at:
 Golden Wheels, P.O. Box 33487, Seattle, WA 98133
www.goldenwheelsautoracingpathfinders.com

**In Memory
 of
 Jan Opperman
 and
 Silent Members
 of Golden Wheels
 Fraternity**

anonymous