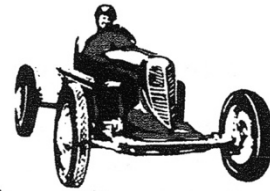


GOLDEN WHEELS

FRATERNITY
Auto Racing Pathfinders



Museum Pieces In Action

Issue #1 – 2022

President's Message: To my dear friends in Golden Wheels, whether we see each other often or have never met. I have been in Golden Wheels for many years, not from the beginning like many of you, I have been a member for about one half of our existence. In addition, I have been the Golden Wheels president for many years. This is all to say that this column is the toughest I've ever had to write, and I pray that I will never have to write one like this ever again.

Since the first of this year, our club has been decimated. I know it's a factor of our aging membership, but that doesn't make it right. I am going to try to keep this in chronological order. Working with George Hespe, we hope to find newsletter space to include whatever information we have in the way of Obits to honor their memory.

On Jan. 18th. we lost long time member Art Waller. Two-time Man of the Year, track official, restorer of the club's signature midget, and most recently the creator of the recreation of his track roadster that he campaigned at Aurora Speedway. A more perfect recreation could not be found. We are including an extensive Obituary for Art, thanks to his long time Partner Vicki Westberg. With apologies to Vicki, space dictated that we edit it down a bit. But George and I encourage you to read it in its entirety in the Seattle Times.

If the loss of Art Waller wasn't enough, also on Jan.18 we lost long time member Dave Tatom. Dave hadn't been active in the club in recent years, but a noted engine builder, especially V8/60s. He had a long and storied career, with records set at Bonneville. While visiting Dave in his shop many years ago, he was telling me about his history and showed me a picture of he and Carrol Shelby working side by side at Ford. Dave had a midget, and that has passed to new hands, and will survive, and hopefully someday join us.

On Jan. 26th., we lost Claudia Laster, wife of Dave Laster. Dave and Claudia had been members for several years, always attending our annual banquets, and they joined us every year with their beautiful hotrod at the annual LaConner Classic Boat and Car Show. A really nice lady, Claudia will be greatly missed.

On Jan. 29th. we lost Jack Corley. Much can be said about Jack. Owner of "Jack's Specialty Parts" in Gresham, OR, Jack could supply you with almost anything in the way of vintage race car parts. I didn't look it up, but I bet Jack was a charter member of Golden Wheels. My enduring memory of Jack is in his always blue mechanics smock at his miles long tables of vintage parts for sale at all of the Northwest car swap meets. Jack had an extensive midget racing career during the golden Years of the 50's and '60's. If you ever find a copy of Rodin' & Racin' July of 2018, there is a great story about Jack's career, and the museum he created of all his vintage merchandise.

On Feb.10th. Golden Wheels lost an icon of our club. Warren Kindle lost his long battle with cancer. Owner of "Sandblasters Inc." it would be hard to find a better friend to our club. Golden Wheels Man of the Year, Warren had a deep love for racing, sponsoring many race teams over the years, hosting the Warren Kindle Golden Wheels annual race car and inspections show. When the show had to move to the Shoreline Historical Museum site, it became known as the "Warren Kindle Memorial Shoreline Historical Museum show". Warren's '39 Ford Deluxe was one of the most iconic classics in the Northwest, winning top prizes everywhere it was shown. And if anyone from Golden Wheels needed sandblasting, there was always a very special price. Warren is survived by his beautiful wife Angie who cared for him right up to the end. This loss hit me especially hard, as on Feb. 7th., Kay and I were visiting Warren and Angie. Their oven had quit working and we decided to give them an extra air fryer oven that we had. After our visit, I started to carry the oven into the house, missed a step and took a nasty fall breaking the femur in my right leg. I have been in the hospital, and a rehab center for almost a

month and now finally home and am recovering. Warren passed away three days after my fall and visit, and I didn't get to see him again.

It didn't let up here, as I found out that Bill Bowers' wife Joyce passed away on Feb 12th. I am truly sorry that I never got to meet Joyce, but I know Bill, which tells me all I know to know about Joyce. Bill is a special man, and I finally got to catch up with him after I got out of the hospital, and he told me all about Joyce.

And if this wasn't enough pain for a two-month period, on Tuesday, March 8th. at 11:40 am we lost our beautiful Nita Volz. Wife of Golden Wheels Hall of Fame member Frankie Volz, who, with an over 50-year career in racing anything with wheels, Nita was by his side throughout. Words can't tell what Nita meant to Golden Wheels, but I'll try to cover a bit of it. In many ways she was our conscience. Her many years of being around the racetrack taught her what was right on the track, and she never shied away from holding us to a higher level. For several years she wrote our race recaps, and none did it better. With Golden Wheels history of fraternity at the track she was always there to help provide meals, many times to pretty large groups. So much more I could say about Nita, but you all knew her and loved her.

To all of the husbands, wives, children and extended families of all of these great Golden Wheels members, Kay and I send our heartfelt condolences. With tears streaming down my face, I'm moved to repeat the final chapter of the poem written by our founder Pike Green at the last rites for Del Fanning which started our club so many years ago.

In solemn file we pass our friend,
Who now the hand of God protects,
His race through life has reached the end,
And as we pay our last respects,
.....I wonder who of us be next.

Hal



Arthur H. Waller - Aug. 11, 1932 - Jan. 18, 2022

Arthur H. Waller died of multiple causes on Jan. 18, 2022. He is survived by former wife Sally, his two sons, Colin and Gavin, daughter-in-law Sonja Groset, granddaughter Alexa Glore, three great grandchildren, and his significant other of 25 years Vicki Westberg. He was 89.

Arthur was an only child born Aug. 11, 1932 in Boise, Idaho, to Arthur C. Waller and Ida Fern Williams. In 1938 the family relocated to Seattle. Car racing was a passion throughout his lifetime. At age 14 he spent 5 months one summer lying on the living room couch recovering from rheumatic fever, the remedy in those days. He could hear sounds of the Aurora Speedway through the open window and, as soon as he was able, his best neighborhood friend began taking him to see the races on Friday nights. Just watching was not enough so he became a track sweeper and later a member of the pit crew for one of the cars. His parents didn't approve of the direction his life was taking, they had plans for him to go to Harvard, but at age 17 they finally relented and signed papers that allowed him to work at the Speedway and drive a race car. At age 18 being a brash high school

senior he wasn't afraid to tell a car owner twice his age that his car was badly constructed and was subsequently asked to leave the team, which he did. Being a 6 foot tall skinny kid he couldn't fit into the midgets so he built a sprint car and drove it on the track with appreciable success.

He believed in being an active member of any group he belonged to and accepted the job of referee and later secretary of the Roadster Racing Assn. of Washington. That organization only lasted nine years, but it was the beginning of life long friendships.

He graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1951 and later attended the University of Washington with the intention of becoming an art teacher. He discovered, however, in his junior year that drafting was much more to his liking, so he quit and signed up for the Boeing course in draftsmanship. He left Boeing when they started expecting overtime and he wanted to build a car. To that end he joined the RRAW and was a

member from 1949 to 1955. His dream was again interrupted when he gave two years to active duty in the United States Navy as the Korean War was winding down.

Returning to Seattle, he became a draftsman in earnest. During the course of his career he worked for the following firms: Boeing Airplane Co., Renton; Marshall, Barr & Pacquer; Worthington, Skilling, Helle & Jackson (who provided the structural engineers for the World Trade Center); Victor O. Gray & Co.; McGrath Corporation; and Jack Woodman & Associates. He worked on the World Trade Center plans and could have followed the project to New York, but he didn't want to relocate. At one point he worked with Turner Exhibits on a display at the Museum of Flight at Boeing Field.

Another of his passions was buffaloes. When computers came into use and replaced hand drawn drafting, Art decided to start his own consulting service which he called The Buffalo Works. This eventually grew into home repair which made use of all his skills, and referrals from happy customers meant he never had to advertise. After he retired, he turned one room in his home into a mini museum of "Buffalobelia" collected over a lifetime.

He and his second wife, Sally, married in 1965 and raised two sons. Ten years after their divorce, he met Vicki Westberg who became his SO. She did her best to be his partner and keep up with his racing activity with admittedly a steep learning curve. Their relationship lasted 25 years by being together on weekends and in their respective homes during the week.

He joined Golden Wheels, a vintage racing fraternity in 2003 when he learned that the Shoreline Historical Museum was having a vintage car show in their parking lot. This, as it turned out, was the connection with racing that he had been looking for. Within a couple of years, he had assumed the role of Project Coordinator for a rebuild of a midget, no longer deemed safe to drive on the track and to be used for display only. As such he replaced the engine with a wooden mockup which allowed the club to sell the real engine and made the car much lighter. He absorbed a lot of kidding about the "wooden wonder", but when most all parts had been replaced with look-alikes from unexpected sources or made from molded plastic, it fooled even the experts. The car made it to all shows after that which helped the "car count" and added interest for the public. About 20 members contributed in some way on this project.



He became Golden Wheels Pit Steward for one year at racing events they traveled to and was awarded Man of the Year twice before deciding to build his dream car, a 1950's exact roadster replica with partner Warren Kindle, owner of Sandblasters, Inc., supplying materials. Perfectionist that he was, he documented with copious photographs and specs, every part and phase of the work. When either of his cars was on display he dressed the part and talked to people with signage boards and three-ring binders. Documented were the people who contributed work and parts to the project and the importance of the Roadster Era.

He had an eclectic taste in music from classical to early jazz and a sense of humor which included Monty Python, cartoonist Callahan, and anyone with a good joke to tell. Colleagues valued him for his work ethic, knowledge and dedication. Lastly, he felt there should be an award reserved on the Golden Wheels Hall of Fame membership roster for the "Markers" or "Also Rans" who had no chance of winning but kept coming and competing anyway and without whom there would be no race.

He strongly supported The Seattle Times and the free press. Although he became blind in his last years, he continued to subscribe, and Vicki would read it to him from her own copy over the phone, a routine she looked forward to each morning. He will be missed by many.

No memorial service is planned at this time at his request. Donations in his name may be made to a charity of your choice. This obituary will also appear in the Seattle Times Sunday. For more photos and to add comments, go to the Co-op Funeral Home of People's Memorial website, obituaries.

<https://obituaries.seattletimes.com/obituary/arthur-waller-1084577567>



Jack Lee Corley - Aug. 29, 1931 - Jan. 29, 2022

Jack Lee Corley was born Aug. 29, 1931, in Boring, Ore. After High School Jack enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served active and reserve until 1958. Jack was involved in the NW hot rodding scene. In 1955 Jack bought his first racecar and raced Midgets, Super Modifieds and sprint cars up until 1971. Jack worked for George Lawrence and CE Niehoff across the Northwest managing the first territory to have sales in excess of a million dollars. Later in life the small garage business grew into a 5000 Sq Ft shop. Jack bought and sold Antique Auto Parts at swap meets across the Pacific Northwest and California. News articles about "Corley's Collection" and "You don't know Jack" were published. He was a regular at the old timers breakfasts with all of the great drivers of the 50's, 60's and 70's. Many tales of racing across the world were swapped and Jack was at his best being with the fellow drivers. Jack is survived by his son, Jerry Corley; his brother, Bill; granddaughter, Hope; and a great-grandson, Gabriel. May he forever race in heaven. Services

to be at 1 p.m., Friday, March 11, 2022, at Willamette National Cemetery.

<https://obits.oregonlive.com/us/obituaries/oregon/name/jack-corley-obituary?id=33102189>



Claudia Jean Laster - March 8, 1941 - January 26, 2022

Bellingham, Washington - Claudia Laster died peacefully at home on January 26, 2022 at age 80 from cancer. Born in Anacortes on March 8, 1941 to Ed and Sally (Geier) Baker, Claudia taught high school math and physics in Bellevue, Hailey (Idaho), Lynden, and for 25 years with the military dependent schools in Vicenza (Italy) and Bamberg, Nirenberg, and Bonn in Germany. She is survived by her husband, Dave; her daughter, Molly; and two grandchildren; August and Martin Sorenson. Teacher, hiker, skier, gourmet cook, quilter, world traveler and wonderful companion. Thanks Claudia. A Celebration of Life will be scheduled for warmer weather.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/bellinghamherald/name/claudia-laster-obituary?id=32696717>

Nita Volz – June 27, 1947 - March 8, 2022



Memorial celebration at later date.

Joyce Bower - Feb. 11, 1949 - Feb 12, 2022

Warren Kindle - Feb.10, 2022



No memorial celebration scheduled.

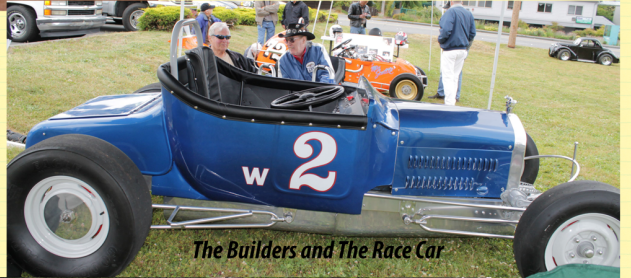
Dave Tatom - Jan. 18, 2022



Jack Corley's #16 at Salem, OR



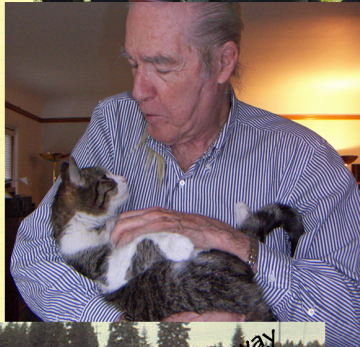
Memories



The Builders and The Race Car



of the



FUN



Jack Corley #61 at Spanaway



TIMES

NOTES: There is no Buy Sell Find Trade page this issue because of the additional space needed to provided information on the Golden Wheels members we have lost. I will return in the next issue.

BIRTHDAYS!! –Starting the year with January Birthdays were; Laura Churchill, Hal Schlegel, Dave Craver, Don (Pete) Samuelson, William Blackwell and Tim Robertson. In February, Steve Beitler had the month to himself. March celebrants are; Marileen Moser, Ed Williams, Donald Kane, Jr., Ralph Hunt and Richard Nelson.

Happy Birthday to All and Very Best Wishes for the coming year!

Shows & Exhibitions: It looks like 2022 may be nice to Golden Wheels on the issue of being able to get our cars out for the public to enjoy at shows and events. I am happy to announce that 55 Promotions, the new owners at Skagit Speedway, want Golden Wheels to participate in any Fan Fest events 2022. In the past this has been the Dirt Cup and World of Outlaw events. Mike Adkins is working with Grays Harbor Raceway to have Golden Wheels be a part of their Timber Cup on Memorial Day weekend. Also, there will be the Shoreline Historical Museum and Celebrate Shoreline shows. Have not heard any word yet on the La Conner Classic Boat & Car Show which we have attended in the past.. According to the info I have, believe event dates will be: Timber Cup – May 29, Shoreline Museum – June 18, Dirt Cup – June 25, Celebrate Shoreline – Aug, 30, La Conner Classic Boat & Car Show Aug. 6, World of Outlaws – Sept. 3.

Don't Forget Breakfast: Our “Saturday Morning Breakfast Meeting” would love to include YOU. Hope to see you at Shay’s on April 9th. Meeting starts at 9:00 am.

Our Sincere apologies for the long delay getting this year’s first newsletter out to the membership. Hal’s unfortunate mishap, along with our loss of several members, created some problems in getting our information collected and coordinated. Because of this, we are sending the newsletter to all 2021 members even if we have not received a membership renewal for 2022. We understand that for some of us, including me, our not receiving a memory bank reminder jog the first of the year we forget that it is Golden Wheels renewal time. So, we ask you now to –

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR 2022 GOLDEN WHEELS MEMBERSHIP DUES – THANK YOU

Golden Wheels - 2022 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. _____

Mail to: Golden Wheels, P.O. Box 33832, Seattle, WA 98133

Spring is coming and it’s time to get out & about. Let’s enjoy life and enjoy those fun events.. Take Care, Be Safe and remember, The best way to get there is always to.....**Keep Your Wheels Down!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Please Patronize Those That Support Golden Wheels



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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*

2022 Officers
Pres: Hal Schlegel
Vice-Pres: Brian McMurtry

Board Members
Frank Volz - Jerry Day
Dave Craver - Bob Scott
George Hesse - (President Appointment)

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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.

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

anonymous