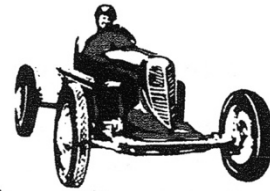


GOLDEN WHEELS

FRATERNITY
Auto Racing Pathfinders



Museum Pieces In Action

Issue #1 – 2025

President's Message: Well friends, we've completed another lap. I'm not sure how it got to be 2025, but it is. I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

You are probably staying up nights wondering why there have been very few newsletters. Let me be absolutely clear on that. We didn't do much in 2024, and without races, car shows and other events, there is nothing to report about. The year 2024, had the fewest number of events to report on in all the years I've been in the club. And with the loss of racetracks, and places to display our cars I'm not sure I can see when it is going to get any better.

I'll try to recap what we did do: In June we held the annual Shoreline Historical Museum car show. Because the museum had dedicated almost half of our historic display space to a garden we were forced to display our cars across the street at the real-estate office. This space was greatly reduced from what we had come to expect, and it drew a smaller crowd and display. I want to thank those that did bring their cars, the true stalwarts of our car shows. To Jim Edwards, Dan Blair, Dave Craver, Bob Scott, and the club car thanks for making the best of the situation. And we had a surprise as Craig Johnson towed in with his Mexican Road Race car (I think Craig and crew towed straight from Mexico). What a great addition, as I don't think any of us knew Craig had acquired this car.

That takes us up to probably July, and I got a call from Dave Craver that he was ready to start the Ranger Roadster after it's long winter overhaul. Well for reasons that I won't go into here, Dave needed a driver to start the car and make the necessary adjustments. The reason for this is that I was the only person who could fit in the full containment seat. As some of you know, I'm not large. The car was towed down to Bill Zupan's shop in South Seattle, where there is little traffic on the weekends. So, I made the trek to Bills, suit up, along with a great crew of Dan Blair, Dave Craver, Bill Zupan & Dick Lundt. We positioned the car at the top of the hill outside Bill's shop and pushed it down the hill with Dan's truck. Nothing, not even a pop. We tried again with the same results. After trying to locate the problem, it was decided to try another day. This time we decide to change course and at the top of the same hill, we point the car the other way down a back road with even less traffic. Multiple pushes down the hill and still nothing. By now, I'm sure this was all my fault. Dave takes the car home, works on the suspected electrical problems, and off to Bill's again. Guess what, it's trite to say, but the third times the charm. It ran, and we kept it running back at Bill's shop to make adjustments. Much thanks go out to the above mentioned, and especially Bill for the generous use of his shop.

Now with very little time left in the race year, on August 3rd. there's still "War of The Wings" at Evergreen speedway in Monroe. This is the biggest asphalt race in the Northwest for open wheel cars, and featured Winged Sprinters, Focus Midgets, Stinger 8's, Legends and Can-Am cars. Can-Am are the vintage sprints, and at my count there were at least 16 cars there. Dave is anxious to salvage something from the season, and the famous Ranger Roadster runs with Can-Am. Dave finds out that his driver from Spokane, won't be able to make it. But as mentioned above, I fit in the seat, and he wants to see the car on the track. Well, we had an understanding, that I would warm the car up, and take some practice laps. That we did with my very cautious driving. Then we went out for a hot lap session with the Can-Am cars, who I'm not going to run with, and one of them promptly spins in front of me at full speed and ends up near the fence in the infield. By this time, I've kind of lost my enthusiasm, but Dave just wants

me to time in, while he goes to look for a driver. On track, ready to time in, push truck pushes me off, car starts, rpms go straight up, engine dies, and our day is over. That's my story, and I'm sticking to it

Now, for a Point of Light! Several months ago, my next-door neighbor said a buddy of his was very interested in racing, and could he bring him to one of our breakfast meetings. That's when we all met Ray Townsend. It turns out Ray is the ultimate historian for the Monroe Speedway. I can't emphasize Ray's knowledge to the track's history. His knowledge amazes me. Well Ray came to several meetings and asked me to attend a meeting setting a schedule for this year's drivers' reunion night. This is a big deal at Evergreen Speedway, and drivers of all classes and years will be present. The reason I'm writing this, is because Golden Wheels has been invited to display our cars there this year. This is a huge opportunity for our club to participate at this storied track. At the meeting, I was given a copy of their current HOF list, which numbers 71. I won't take the time here to list all 71, but in the first 10, the names of Derrike Cope, Bill Elliot, Geoff Bodine, Ken Schrader appear. I think you get the point.

It's that time of the year again, and dues are due. I hope you decide to stay with us, and I'll try to do a better job of keeping you all informed. We are an aging, shrinking group, and if this trend continues, I fear for the survival of the third oldest vintage club in America. Please support us and maybe convince your retired race fans to join us too. *Hal*

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS to Golden Wheels member Frankie Volz on his induction into the Washington State Hot Rod Hall of Fame!!! Info & photos provided by our Prez Hal Schlegel.



Here's one of the highlights of the year for me. This summer, Kay and I along with Dick Nelson and Mona had the privilege of watching our own Frankie Volz inclusion into the Washington State Hot Rod Hall of Fame. A very big deal, attended by between 200 and 300 people, the show was emceed by our friend Lance Lambert (Vintage Vehicle Show). Many new inductees added, and memories of passed Golden Wheels HOF members like Warren Kindle. Congratulations Frankie, you really earned it, and you made us all very proud.



As Hal mentioned, 2024 was a year of few gatherings. We did have the annual car show, which was across the street from the Shoreline Historical Museum. Here are some photos of those that attended.



The line up seen from the museum.



The view from the Ranger's parking spot.



Bob Scott's "Sporty Car".



Warren Kindle's Beautiful Custom



The Line Up 4 in a row.



Checking out Dan's #1 Midget



Here are six more photos from the car show.



The Jim Edwards Samco and Dan Blair's #1 midget.



A side view of the Samco



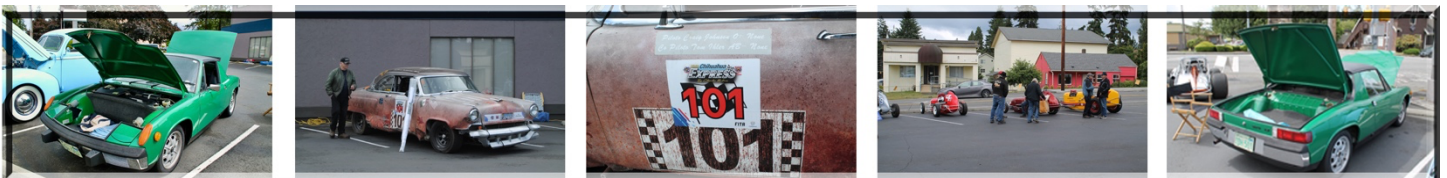
Hal in the #4U. Don't think he will get far though.



It's the "Lone Ranger"



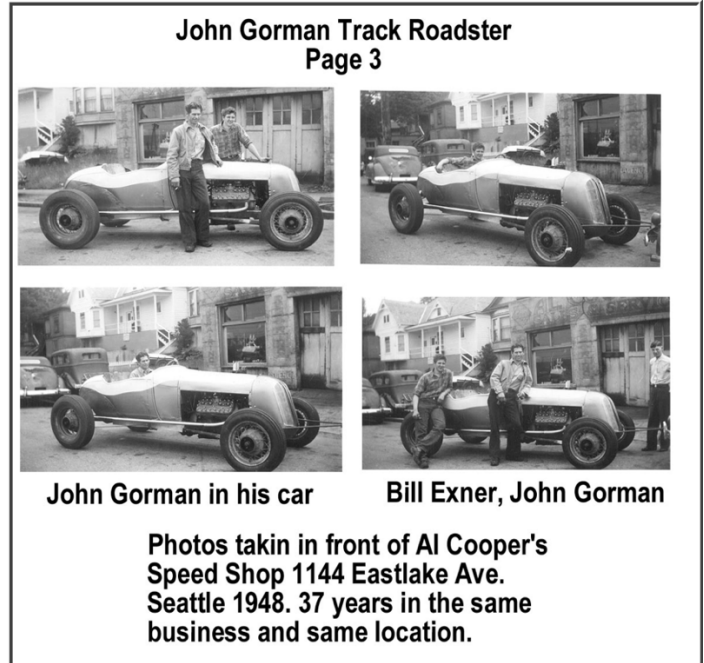
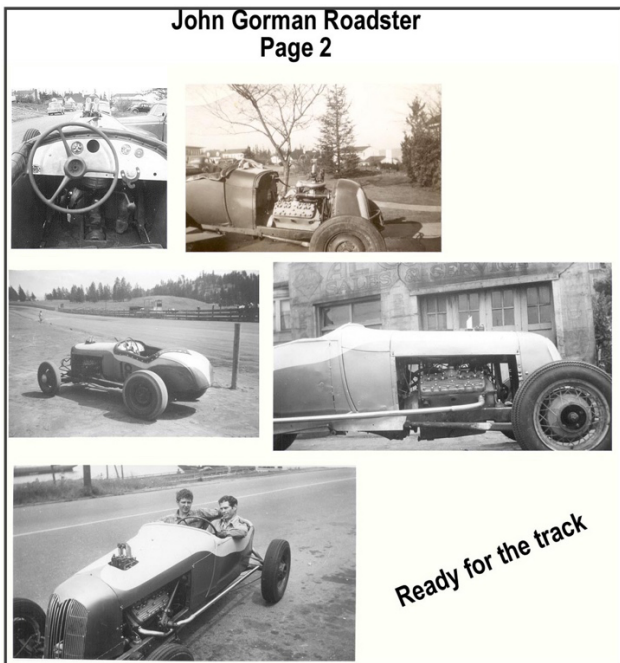
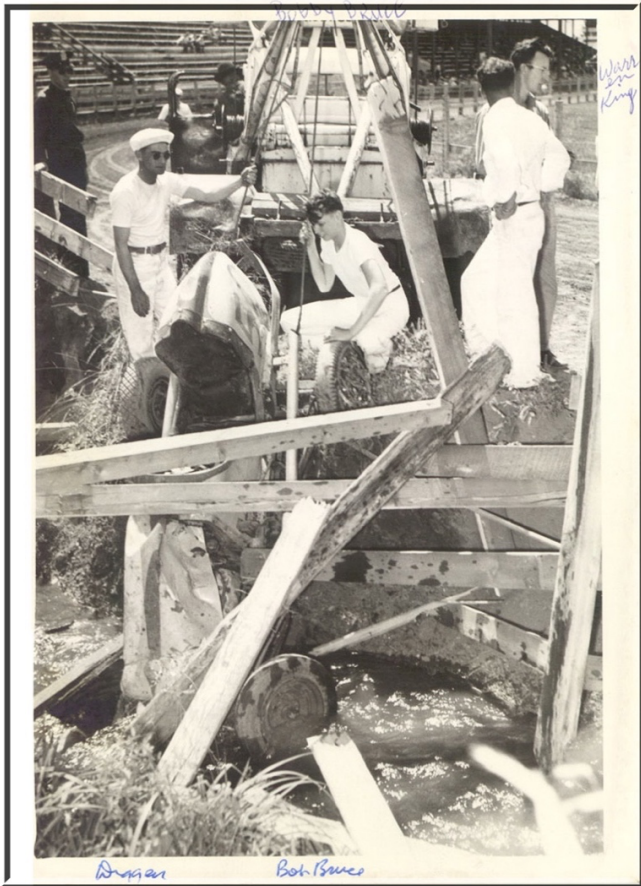
The "Fairchild Ranger" with its aircraft engine power. Craig Johnson drove in with his Mexican Road Race car.



Photos from the Golden Wheels Archive

Ellensburg wreck Digger Caldwell, Bob Bruce, Warren King

The making of a Track Roadster 1948 Seattle



BIRTHDAYS!! –Celebrating the first birthdays of the year were Kay Schlegel, David Craver and William M. Blackwell in January.. No February HBD’s. March has Donald K, Kane, Jr and Ralph Hunt blowing out candles. April has John W. Wood, Jr. the only celebrant. May’s only birthday is George Hesper with Margie Kane , Naomi Cruikshank & Ramon Cruikshank’s June birthdays filling out the first half of the year. **Happy Birthday to All and Very Best Wishes for the coming year!**

Don’t Forget Breakfast: The next **Saturday Morning Breakfast** at Shay’s in Shoreline will be March 9th. Meeting starts at 9:00 am but you can come early and stay late if you so wish. Hope to see you there.

I know I’m getting older and slower and try to be alert. Still think Racing Wheels owner Gary Sterner’s sign off on his editor’s collum is good advice when on the road. “Until next time**Keep Your Wheels Down!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**”

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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,
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