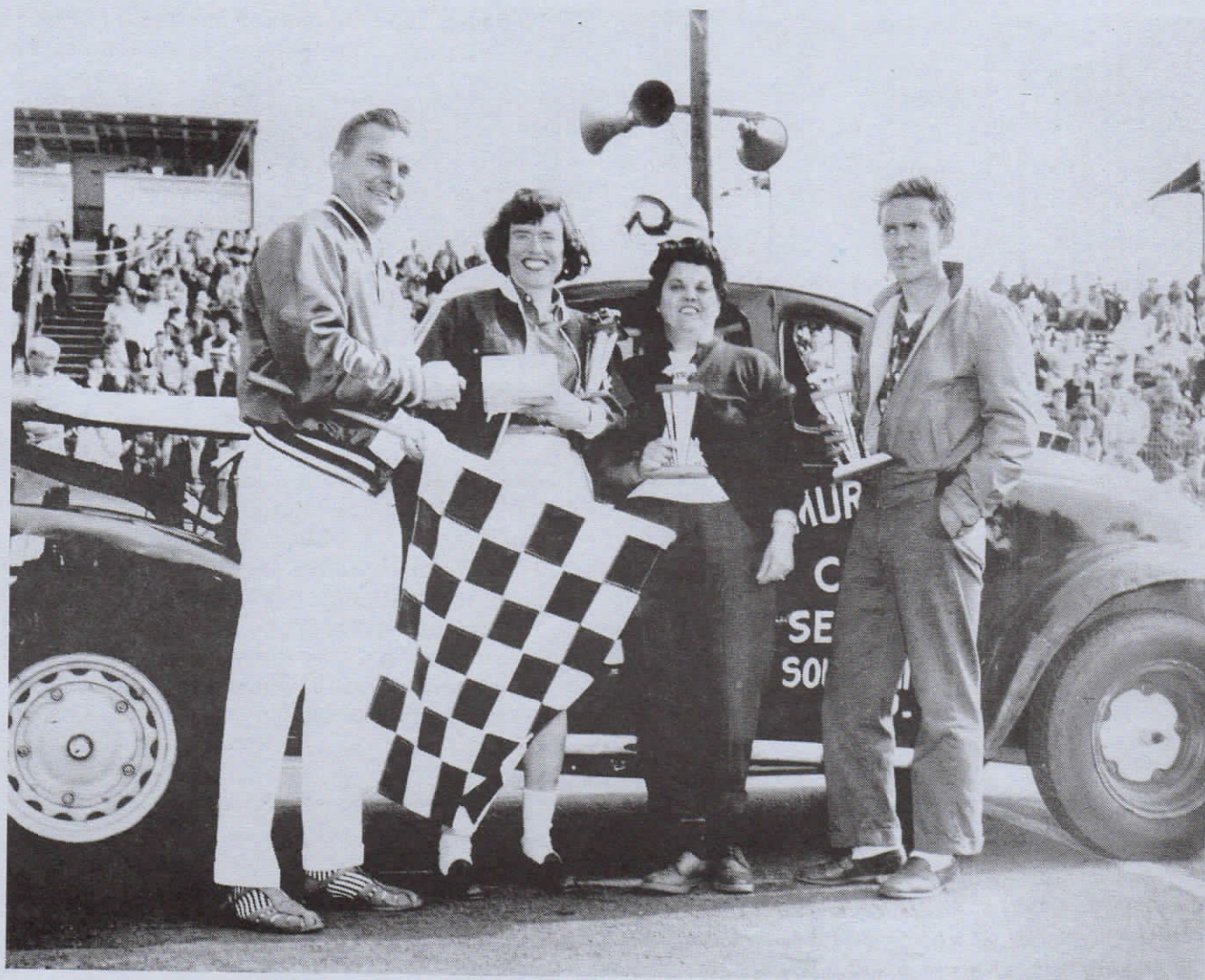


# Vintage Views

*The Official Newsletter of the  
Garden State Vintage Stock Car Club*

SEPTEMBER 1995

Vol. 4, No. 11



POWDER PUFF DERBY, Old Bridge Speedway, May 7, 1959, First place winner, Sue Boudnot, Second place, Ethel Sigle. The car in the background was driven by Ethel Sigle.

September Meeting: Wednesday, September 20, 7:30pm, West Long Branch Firehouse, Rt. 71 and Cedar Ave, West Long Branch, NJ.

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**DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF STOCK CAR RACING HISTORY**





by Eleanor Hagerman

There was no secretary's report for there August meeting.

Highlights of the meeting include: Ray Shea noted that this was the 4th anniversary of the first gathering which would lead to the formation of the club. He also reminded everyone of the up coming bus trips. Tickets are still available for the World of OUTlaws trip on Sept. 30.

## CLUB NOTES:

This months's newsletter contains the NOMINATION FORM for officers Hall of Fame awards for 1996. please take the time to fill it out and return it as indicated on the form. YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

World of Outlaw trip tickets are still available. Call Bill Erbe at 908-223-9388.

Miller Motor Sports will soon be here again. The plans for this year's display are already being made. Any car owners wishing to enter their car for selection to represent the club at the Miller Motor Sports display should contact Ray Shea at 908-840-6307 by September 30.

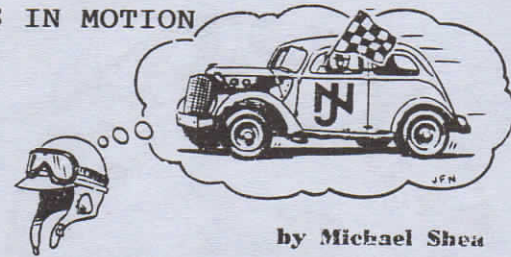
## TRIVIA CORNER

### August question:

Q - Name the five New Jersey tracks where NASCAR GN's have been held.  
A - NASCAR GN's were held at Morris-town, Linden, Wall Stadium, Old Bridge and Trento.

### This month's question:

Better known for his stock car success, can you name the driver who won the NASCAR midget title at the Polo Grounds in 1958?



by Michael Shea

Picnics, a time for fun, a time for friendships, a time to remember when. The 2nd annual GSVSCC picnic's display for welcoming its members was as warm as the sun as those in attendance gathered to laugh and smile about the memories of races gone past. This years long haul award goes to Dan McLaughlin who now lives in the Keys of Florida. Traveling was not uncommon chore to this driver as he once traveled to race tracks from Maine to Florida.

Danny, while living in St. Petersburg, Fla. was a weekly visitor at the local tracks near his home. With close friend Jerry Allen the two met a farmer sitting next to them in the stands at one of the tracks. The three discussed racing and their ambitions and soon the farmer invited the boys to his farm to build a race car. By 1951 at age 16 their first car, a '36 chevy coupe was finished. Eventually Danny and Jerry would bring this car north to N.J. to compete at Wall, Old Bridge, Hightstown, Manahawkin, and Fort Dix.

The friendships that Dan developed through the years would greatly influence his racing career for years to come. While hangin' around the pits at the tracks at age 17 Dan had met engine builder Carl Gardella. Carl would run his car at Old Bridge on Sundays. Danny would have to jump in the back of the pickup, cover himself with a tarp and put tires over himself so he could get in without being 18. One afternoon Carl came to Danny and told him that he found him a



Dan McLaughlin in victory lane in the # 261 of Don Peak.



ride. Excited as he was he had not brought his helmet. Danny ran over to Dick Barney and asked, "Mr. Barney could I borrow your helmet? I've got a ride." "Sure son" he replied. When Danny put on the helmet it was so big it touched his shoulders. This was the first real good ride he ever had.

While working on Carl's car he met fellow helper Don Peak. Dan would help Don build his first car. Danny would drive for Don in the famed #261 for about 3 yrs which he would consider one of his best rides. After leaving Don's novice car he made the step up into the sportsman division driving the Remick family's #38 which was numbered for the age of Don's sister. The #38 would continue to carry the McLaughlin name, even to this day as son Danny jr runs in the small block modified division at Wall and New



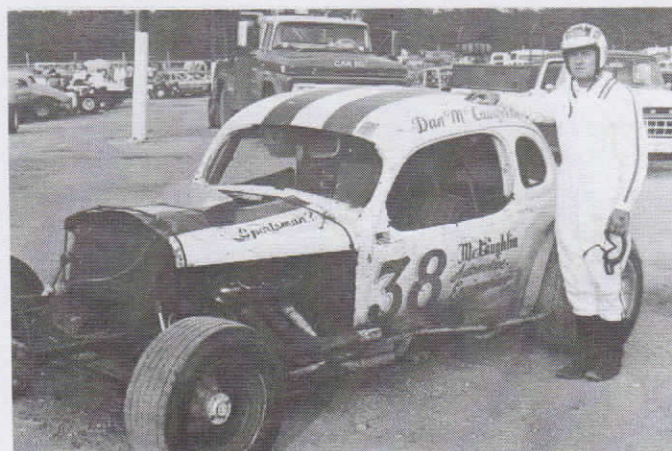
The first of many #38 cars driven by Dan MaLauglin, at Wall Stadium in the late '06s. (Dave Innes photo)

Egypt. After running in the sportsman division for about 5yrs, Dan moved up into the modifieds. Always a steady competitor wherever he ran, even though he never had the big money to put into the motors. While running modified his biggest career win came when he won the Trenton qualifier at New Egypt in 1967.

Dan always continued to make friends in racing and experienced the greatest diversity as a driver while being asked to represent Wall Stadium along with Gil Hearne, Bob Finger, Don Stives and Tommy Elliott in the All-Star league. This league was set up by the promoter of Islip to give guys added nights of racing throughout the northeast while competing against some of the best that other tracks had to offer. The memories with these other men he raced with and traveled together with will never be forgotten even the one's maybe that they would like to forget. Those representing Wall were

traveling one day to a race in Oswego, N.Y. After many hours of driving they arrived at the track only to find no one there. Since they were early they waited until they finally saw someone to approach. The man explained to them that there were no races scheduled that day. The group replied, "what do you mean there are no races planned in Oswego today?" "Oswego?" the man replied "this track is Oswego you are quite away from that track." The group raced off to the right track and after many more hours of driving, finally made it just in time to make the races.

When looking back people will always remember Dan being the partyman. One party that still lives on is the Wall Stadium Banquet. Dan along with Joyce Peak, Betty McCurdy and Barbara Bohn started that festive occasion at the King's Grant Inn back in 1967 and the Nicols continue that tradition to honor the car owners and drivers some 28yrs later. Dan's unselfish willingness to be a true friend to the sport by helping out anyway he knew how is a trait that he should be proud of. His speed shop for years was a place where he didn't even have to lock the doors. When guys would come by while Dan was away racing most would just leave a note letting him know they came by to get some parts. That type of trust among competitors is rare, it just goes to show what type of respect these men had for a man they can now call Capt. Dan. Dan now enjoys living in the Keys with his charter boat. To this day his friendly attitude pours out to those who pass by his part of the country. So don't even think about going to the Keys without giving a yell to ole Capt. Dan. Dan, your friendly attitude toward our sport is truly inspirational. Although racing has changed may its people find the courage to stand for what is right treating others as though they would want to be treated. Thanks for the memories.



Ready to race for the All-Star league at Wall Stadium in the #38 is Dan McLaughlin.



# Checkered Past



by Dan Rhein

Ethel Sigle and her husband, Frank, loved stock car racing. They could not wait for the weekend to come so they could go to the races. Their favorite drivers were Charlie Birdsall, Parker Bohn and Bill Chevalier, but, being true race fans, there was no driver that they disliked. Ethel and Frank had a special way of saying thank you to the season champions by presenting them with special gifts at the annual banquet. Ethel would make a special western shirt and jacket and Frank would present the driver with a helmet and engineer's boots.



Ethel Sigle presents a shirt to Bill Chevalier at Wall Stadium, Oct. 18, 1952. (Bill McGinley photo)

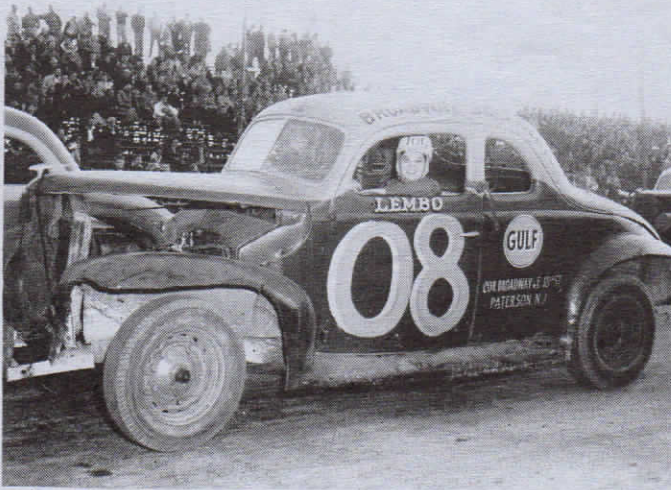


Taking a checkered flag at Old Bridge Speedway on July 9, 1961 to win the Powder Puff Race is Ethel Sigle. (Ace Lane photo)



Hightstown Speedway, Sept. 12, 1959 the first and second place finishers are presented with trophies by the scorer, Ethel sigle.





First place finisher at Old Bridge Speedway Powder Puff derby, Ethel Sigle, 1959.



Don Stumpf is the recipient of a shirt made by Ethel Sigle at the NASCAR banquet in 1958.



Ethel Sigle stands next to the car she drove during the first Powder Puff race of the 1958 season, at Old Bridge Speedway.



July 9, 1961, Old Bridge Speedway Powder Puff finishers, 1st, Ethel sigle, 2nd, Loretta De Rosa, 3rd, Kay Secord. (Ace Lane Photo)

The Sigle's favorite race tracks were Old Bridge, Wall Stadium and the old 1/4 mile Hightstown track.

In addition to being a dedicated race fan, Ethel was also the Captain and organizer of the powder puff derby races at Old Bridge Speedway. Not only was she a good organizer, but Ethel has won more than her share of races in some well known race cars!

Ethel's love of racing also led her to becoming an official serving as a scorer for many years.

