



Vintage Views

Dedicated to the Preservation of Stock Car Racing History
January/February 2008

In the beginning



Bill McGinley Photo

AREA AUTO RACING NEWS, TUESDAY JANUARY 8, 2008 ARTICLE BY EARL KRAUSE

After a few down years, car counts in its basic weekly six division- headlined by the small-block NASCAR Modifieds - were solid in 2007; and there were consistently good crowds of enthusiastic, paying spectators. Things looked real positive.

But that suddenly changed just as New Year's Day 2008 was being celebrated. It turned out not to be a great day for many at Wall, as rumors began circulating that the track's future was now uncertain. That week, Wall operations manager Jim Morton and office manager Sue Simpson- who had both worked plenty of "24-7" hours in the past 1-1/2 years to help the racers and fans and were key in the track's apparent success and future-were notified that they were being "laid-off" from the positions.

Further, in a departure from past years-going back to the time when the founding Nicol family ran the operation-the track's owners unexpectedly closed the Wall office for the winter. Then this past week, it was confirmed that Wall Township Speedway would not have a display at Motorsports 2008 at Atlantic City the weekend of Jan. 18-20. Morton and Simpson had been planning a large exhibit, even better than Wall's award winning booth at Motorsports 2007. But reluctantly, when Morton was notified of his job situation and knowing of the uncertainty at the track, he opted to cancel the Wall display.

At this past Saturday night's Race of Champions Dirt Asphalt Modified Tour awards banquet in Binghamton, N.Y., RoC administrative director Andrew Harpell informed the Tour teams that the two scheduled dates for the RoC at Wall in 2008 were now "uncertain." Ironically, the driver honored as the overall 2007 Race of Champions Modified titlist, Pete Brittain, was a Wall regular many years. He was also its 1990 divisional champion.

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GSVSCC meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the West Long Branch Firehouse, 7:30 pm, Rt. 71 (Monmouth Road) and Cedar Ave. West Long Branch, NJ. For directions call 732-840-6307 or 732-223-9388.

NOVEMBER 21 ,2007GSVSCC Club Minutes

The November meeting of the Garden State Stock Car Club was called to order at 7:45PM by President Ray Shea with 40 members in attendance. The first order of business was a moment of silence of the passing of Dan McLaughlin.

Paul Hayes reported the treasury. balance to be \$26,963.60. At this time it was made know to the membership that the owner drivers meeting will be held at the Fire house on Dec. 2nd at 1:00Pm and it is urgent that all active members attend. The Main topic to be discussed is the addition of Article XV Vintages Club Cars and related issues.

The up coming Turkey Derby, all club cars are to be in the stands for display by 8:00 am. It is requested that all participating members cooperate.

Once again it is time for preparation of our club display at Atlantic City. Ray requested help to pick up material from Parker Bohn's and deliver to John Malsbury for preparation. Members available to help see Ray Shea.

Wayne Weaver made the membership aware that the club web site is being constructed and coming along well.

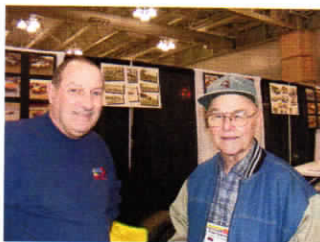
The election results for the 2008 season were announced. President (Ray Shea), V. President (Marty Van Druten) Secretary (John Malsbury) Treasure (Paul Hayes) Trustee (Earl Krause)

Driver (Butch Colosimo) Car Owner (Sonny Dornburger). Media (Chris Economaki).

Ray and the membership expressed their thanks to Earl Megill and Wayne Weaver for their work and effort put forth in scheduling our club events.

It is the effort of members like this that help to keep this organization to be successful. It was decided that there was no further business. A motion was made by Bruce Roslin for adjournment, seconded by Butch Colosimo meeting adjourned at 8:25.

John Malsbury
Secretary



December 19,2007 GSVSCC Club Minutes

The December meeting of the Garden state Vintage Stock Car Club was called to order at 4:50PM by President Ray Shea.

Our first order of business was to conduct a moment of silence for the past members.

Second order of business was the Treasurer's report as presented by Paul Hayes. As of November 20, 2007 the club total cash balance to be \$27,910.29.

At the time it was noted that Bill Erbe who was our past Vice President for the past 15 years will now active as a club trustee.

The announcement for recipients for The Hall of Fame and other awards was announced. Driver Butch Colosimo Car Owner- Sonny Dornburger. Lifetime achievement award Ronnie Buck. Pioneer award -Bill McGinley. Media Chris Economaki.

Wayne Weaver made the membership aware that the club Web-Site is a work in progress and doing well all e-mail welcome in continuing progress of the Web-Site. There was some discussion as to the continuation of the Sunday Wall Township track time.

After talking to the track officials it was thought that some Thursday evening events may take place due to conflicting track schedules. It was also made known to the membership that the Atlantic City Motorsports show is scheduled for January 18th,, 19th and 20th, club participation for preparation of the club display as well as the display for Flemington.

John Malsbury announced that he became a grandfather for the 4th time. His daughter Leslie and Jerry Old were the proud parents of a baby girl, born December 18, just in time for Christmas. Her name is Julianna Rose Old, 8 lbs 8 ozs Everyone is doing well.

It was decided that there was no further business. a motion was made by Ken Pullen and seconded by Don Bruno. Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

New Officers take over January 1, 2008

Pres.	Ray Shea
V. Pres.	Marty Van Druten
Sec.	John Malsbury
Treas.	Paul Hayes
Trustees	Earl Kraus - Bill Erbe

John Malsbury
Secretary



As of the printing of this newsletter there has been no decision on the fate of Wall Twp. Speedway. With luck someone will step in and save our "Grand Old Lady" Watch our web site for updates.



In 2002, New Jersey businessman Tim Shinn (owner of United Crane Service) had led the four person group that purchased what was then known as Wall Stadium from Tucker Nicol, son of the late track founders Tom and Jennie Nicol. In the years since, fellow New Jersey building contractors Fred Archer, brothers Fletch, Dale and Glenn Creamer; and Joe Sanzari joined Shinn to become equal partners in the endeavor.

Although 2007 had appeared to be financially successful at Wall, continuing a trend from 2006; the post-season "profit and loss" review by the owners apparently has shown otherwise.

Shinn (who fielded pavement Modifieds for several years at Wall and on the NASCAR Modified Tour) and Archer (who sponsored the Modifieds of drivers such as John Blewett III and brother Jimmy Blewett through his Archer Steel Erecting Co.) seem to want to give Wall Township Speedway every opportunity to continue as a race track. But, the fact that it has not made the money expected in recent years evidently has not met with approval from others on the ownership group who have a key say in the business they've invested in. That's the problem.

Shinn's heart is at Wall, but he is looking at reality.

"Right now, we, as equal partners, are evaluating everything relating to the track, personnel and money made and lost," said Shinn last Thursday to AARN. "We're at a crucial point. My own feeling is to go forward (with the operation of the track).

But right now, honestly, I can't say what is going to happen with Wall as a racetrack. I can't make the decision by myself. But (as of Monday) there has not been a decision to close (the track). Yes, Jim Morton and Sue Simpson are no longer in the office. It's shut down, temporarily for the winter (the office business phone of 732-681-6400 is turned off). They (Morton & Simpson) have been laid-off as employees. That doesn't mean that we're not going to open this April. If we're racing, the office will open.

Beyond the immediate thought of what would happen to the 6 Saturday night divisions there is also concern among the officials and families of the your racers who run the Garden State Quarter Midget Racing Club (their 1/20-mile paved oval is located on the grounds, adjacent to the big track's pit area) and the "Wall Sunday Series" restricted Legend Car, Bandolero and Go-kart competitors that use the third-mile ova. Those racers would be without a home.

The Garden State Vintage Stock Car Club is also based at Wall, and has it's large Hall of Fame Museum trailer on that site. The GSVSCC also has several of its meets at Wall each year, displaying restored stock cars. Also affected would be the touring ATQMRA TQ-Midgets, which have been at Wall as a strong part of their schedule for many years.

As to whether a totally new person or business - one with racing connections who would want Wall to continue as a track and not be turned into an industrial park or housing development - could become part of the deal, Shinn would welcome it. Morton has also been actively seeking possible investors himself, people who would want to keep Wall running as a speedway.

"My interest is not to shut down the racetrack," Shinn said. "If someone really wants to get involved, with a legitimate offer, to keep Wall racing, we'd look at it." But at the same time, Shinn is one of four equal entities and can only do so much. When we talked last week, he had guarded optimism in his voice as to the future of the track that he has attended for many years, going back to the 60's as a fan. Jim Morton, who started as a fan and worked on pit crews going back to the 1970's before moving into track management, feels the same way.

Shinn said that the answer as to the future of one of the country's famous short tracks will come soon - letting its dedicated racers and fans know what to expect, and how they should plan for their future in the sport.

We can only hope that Wall - with such great racing history since Frankie Schneider won its first stock car race in 1950 - will not join the list of other speedways in New Jersey such as East Windsor, Flemington, Harmony, Old Bridge, Trenton and Vineland that have waved the final checkered flag.

Bill McGinley photos 1950



Nancy Shea photo 2007

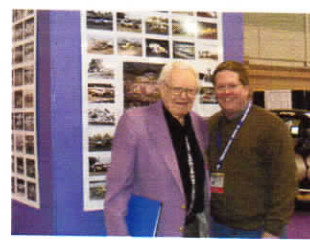


MOTORSPORTS 2008

Club booth featuring Butch Colosimo, Bob Barker and Tom Holding



Flemington Reunion coordinated by the Garden State Vintage Stock Car Club



Ray & Nancy Shea photos

**Old Iron
Trader**



Pre 1980 2X4 straight up chassis with roll cage - \$200.00.
 Pre 1980 21/2X21/2 straight up chassis with roll cage Flemke #10 pinto - \$300.00
 Pre 1980 Vega complete car built by Bill Megill 2X4 offset chassis. Car ran at Wall, N.J. as a modified, 4 speed small block Chevy (cracked block) - \$3,000.00
 Contact Bill Morsch 732-341-2988 (home)
 732-814-2969 (cell)
 E-mail morschmobile@aol.com



Welcome New Members

Pete Brittan, John Betts, John McHale, Thomas and Shari Hayes, Bruce Berger, Kevin Bacik and Henry Yeska III

Welcome back...

Nick Piscatelli, and Bill Lowden, Sr. & Tommy Partite

ARTICLES NEEDED FOR NEWSLETTER - SEND TO NANCY SHEA (SEE BELOW FOR ADDRESS).



**Up Coming
2008 - Events**

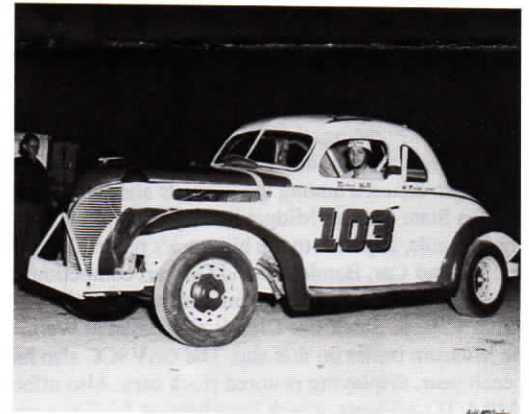
4-6 Sat.	Bridgeport Speedway	Track/Display
5-4 Sun.	New Egypt Speedway	Track/Display
6-7 Sat.	New Egypt Speedway	Track/Display
6-14 Sat.	Mountain Speedway	Track
7-16 Wed.	Grandview Speedway	Track
7-20 Sun.	New Egypt Speedway	Track/Display
8-16 Sat.	Bridgeport Speedway	Track/Display
8-24 Sun.	New Egypt Speedway	Track/Display
10-4 Sat.	New Egypt Speedway	Track/ Display
10-18 Sat.	Grandview Speedway	Track
11-9 Sun.	Bridgeport Speedway	Track/Display



Looking Back



Chick Burlew 1965 - Wall Stadium



Richie Hall - Wall Stadium
 Bill McGinley photo

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