

Vintage American Race Cars Traveling Museum



President – Jim McDermott 440-552-8149
jbmcflyboy@yahoo.com
Vice-President – John Morton 517-404-5524
jmorton3323@gmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer – Dori Ordos 423-836-0730
dorio7177@gmail.com
Marketing Director - Bill Layton 517-861-7308
jwlaytonathome@aol.com
Newsletter - Melinda Ahleman 517-673-5607
vintageracingcars@hotmail.com

July, 2018

Notes from our President Jim McDermott



This year has been going very well for our group as we have had success in getting most of the events in that were scheduled. We only lost out to the weather after half the program at Lorain County Speedway but at least we got out once that night. The first few shows were threatened by the weather, but we were lucky, and the rain missed us. There were a few exceptional turn outs and I think the members deserve special thanks for the effort they put into making the shows. Attica was a good one and Angola was good two-day effort. Oakshade was great as we had over 25 cars on hand and we were able to split up the cars by type. Wayne County was a good turnout despite the hot weather. All in all, this has been a rewarding season. We still have members that have not made it out. It would be nice if some of these members would find the time to join us. It would be an enjoyable time for them as well as a plus for the rest of the membership. We need members to help out in moving cars to and from the track.

We never seem to have enough 4-wheeler drivers. If you don't have a car ready to display or run, we can always use your help around the

pits. It can get very hectic around our races as we usually need to come from the display area on to the track. If you are not sure about driving a 4-wheeler to push cars we will gladly teach you. We can usually find a car that needs an assistant and assign you with that car. After our races you will get the chance to watch the regular racing shows which have been very good this year. It seems like the regular racing has gotten much faster and closer each year. These guys really fly around the tracks and are exciting to watch. If you know of any teenagers that have an interest in racing this is an excellent way to get involved.

We have had a few members step up to the task at different tracks. Dori Ordos, Melinda Ahleman, Mike Ahleman, Jerry Bennett, Gene Steele, John Morton, Mike White, plus a lot of others. That is one thing about the V.A.R.C. membership that is exceptional. You can always count on help when you need it.

We have some new members that joined recently and I would like to welcome them to the organization. Robert Robinson, David Limberger, Bernie Morton, Chuck Noonan, Carl Robinson, Seth Smith, Art Horn, Noah Barker, Walt Campbell have joined with us. I hope I didn't forget anyone. It is really a pleasure to see more people with an interest in the Vintage Racing Cars. The cars that the new members have restored are truly classic examples of the history of oval track racing.

If you have accepted my challenge to make to least 5 shows this season and have not been able to, we still have a lot of shows left on the schedule so start making your plans. Some of the upcoming shows are very popular with the members but remember all the promoters that have invited us to participate deserve a good turnout. Let's see if we can show them our dedication to this organization and Vintage Car Racing.

We need to make more use of our web site and Facebook Page. Don't be shy about posting your comment and thoughts. It is one way that I have of hearing about your likes and dislikes of the workings of the organization. I hope it is mostly likes but if you are having a problem don't just grumble too yourself, talk to me. I often talk with members at the track, but it gets hectic. I am known to forget things, I do have an excuse, it come with maturity. The web and Facebook are excellent ways to communicate so I would encourage you to use it to our advantage. If you are having trouble logging into our web page use

www.vintageamericanracecars.com We are also interested in your stories or photos to publish on our site. We would also like any videos that you might want to share. This is what makes our site more interesting to people.

I want to thank Ron Verash for all the work he does in helping to promote our group as well as auto racing in general. The photos and video are super and the interviews with the drivers are great.

I have been working with the promoter of the Rebel Run Car Show, Max McClure, which is in its 39th year. He has offered us an opportunity to run at the show on Sept 21st and 22nd. They are looking for vintage cars for display and on track racing for both days. They are willing to make a cash donation to VARC. We will have the track on both days and will put on our vintage only racing program. This show is at the Allen County Fairgrounds in Lima, Ohio. We have the chance to run whatever program we want. Depending on the number and type of cars that we get for the show, we will be able to run races with the cars separated into groups by car types. I need to know who will be

planning on attending this show, so we can work out our program. If you will commit to this show, please contact me. I need at least 15 cars to make this program work.

Well it is time for me to get to work on one of my many projects, so I can have time for the race car. I think you all know how that goes. It seems that the house or car always need something that eats up the time. Hope to see you at the track so get busy and get the race car ready for action. Jim McDermott

Notes from our Vice-President John Morton



Can you believe the season is almost half over? Been great so far. We have missed a few regulars so far this season so be sure to encourage them to come and participate. The racing has been fun but most of all the camaraderie around the trailers between times has been very good. Special thanks to all who have gone above and beyond to help promote the club. Some of the track promoters have been fabulous and a special thanks to them.

Side note: if you have items laying in the garage in your way and you are tired of tripping over them, we have a classified section on our website that you can use. Maybe your extra is someone else's need. (your junk, my treasure)

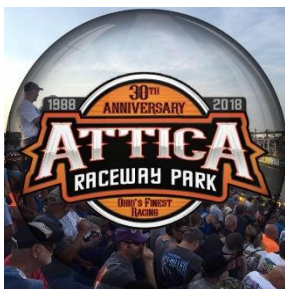
Special thanks to Jim McDermott, he goes above and beyond to do his job. He takes it serious and I know he works hard at it. Pat him on the back and tell him thanks for the hours he devotes to the club.

Signing off for now and looking forward to a great second half of the season!

Shiny side up
John

May 11

Attica Raceway



The weekend opening events are now behind us as the weather held off and we got to run our shows. It was on the cool side but we missed the rain which is always a good thing after many members towed great distance to participate. EVEN THE WEATHER RESPECTS OUR 40TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY SEASON.

The Friday show at Attica was well represented by Vintage Racers. We had about 25 cars on hand which made an interesting display of vintage car types. The threatening weather held us to one track session but we put on a good show when we got on the track. The track drew a large car count for the Late Model show and that racing was fast and furious. The 305 Sprints are fun to watch as the competition is always close. I want to thank the North Coast Vintage Oval track racers for inviting us to the event. The fans seemed to have an interest in the vintage cars with many asking question about the types and about vintage car racing. A few of us stayed the night and in the morning had our coffee and breakfast before heading to the Saturday night show at Waynesfield Raceway.



Mike Linder – Feature Winner

May 12

Waynesfield Raceway Park



On the way down to Waynesfield, Bob Shelhorn spotted one of our trailer tires looking low so he pulled into a rest area and while filling the tire with air we found a bad valve stem. Well as all good racers know it is good to be prepared, we had a new valve stem in the trailer. So with the help of Bob and Gene Steele we pulled the tire and replaced the valve stem and got back on the road. Gene found a good spot to eat so we stopped there on the way. All this time we were watching the weather reports on the cell phones and talking to other members about the chance of getting the show in. Well it held off and we got on the track three times although the last time out for our feature was a little confusing. We hope the fans and track management enjoyed the effort we made in putting on our Traveling Museum of Vintage Racing cars. They had a great turn out for the UMP modified division cars and those drivers are to be complemented on the "flat out" style of racing. They really run hard. The Mod class has really evolved over the years into quality racing machines. You can't call them E'mods anymore. The vintage car count at Waynesfield was not as good as we would have liked due to the weather forecast but we still had 12 cars. I want to thank all the members that made the effort in spite of the threatening weather forecast. With so many members needing to travel long distances to participate the weather sure plays into that decision.



May 26 & 27

Angola
Motorsports
Speedway



The weekend at Angola was once again a great time for our vintage car enthusiast. The weather was good but hot for both days. We got a lot of track time and split the cars up with the coupes running a heat race and then the open wheel cars running together. This makes a good show with similar types running together. We would like to thank the management staff at Angola Speedway. They really go out of their way to accommodate our members and help us with our mission of providing fans with a look at the history of oval track racing.

On Saturday Hank Lower took the checkered flag in our feature event and on Sunday John Lawhorn was awarded the checkered flag for the feature event. The weather was a little hot but it didn't slow down the activities. The track's regular program was fast and furious for all the divisions. If you haven't been to a race at Angola Speedway put it on your list of events for this summer. This is a great facility and one you will enjoy. Remember we will be back here on Labor Day weekend. This will be a combined event with the Michiana Vintage Oval Track Racer. We would like to thank everyone in that group for inviting VARC to participate with them. This is truly a great time with all the members of the two groups and we have as much fun as we can. It should almost be forbidden to have that much fun. If you have not been here mark your calendar for Labor Day.

June 2

Fremont
Speedway



June 9

Lorain Co.
Speedway



The show at Lorain County Speedway was hampered by the weather. Those that braved the forecast were rewarded by track time on a great track as we were able to get out for a good hot lap session and our heat race which was a good display of VARC cars and drivers. Just after we pulled in, as the Parade of Stars Late Models were lining up on the track, the rains came and ruined the rest of the program. The bad forecast kept a lot of people away and that was really a shame as this is truly a great racing facility.

We want to thank the Parade of Stars Late Model group for inviting us to this event. We had 10 VARC cars that made the effort and that is rewarding considering the weather outlook.



John Lawhorn



Hank Lower



Larry Smith



Brandon Bebout

June 15

*Moler
Raceway
Park*



The show at Moler Raceway was a truly great time for our vintage cars. The track management deserves a THANKS for their hospitality. The show they put on is top quality and well organized. We had a good time with our cars on display as the fans were very interested in the history of the organization and the cars. Many of the younger fans were especially excited about sitting in the cars and getting pictures taken. This was the track's fan appreciation night with all the cars parked on the main straightaway and drivers giving out autographs and souvenirs. The vintage cars were invited to participate and it was a fun time for everyone.

We started off with heat races and we got to run on a well prepared track that was a blast to race on. Our running was close and fast with the win going to John Lawhorn with the top four cars in hot pursuit. We had a good turnout of vintage cars with new member Walt Campbell showing off his great midget racer along with Larry Clark and Clark Moore. The feature went to Butch Evans as he slid by Scott Shelhorn, John Lawhorn, Jim McDermott and Terry Wells. This track is truly a great place to watch dirt track racing. Put it on your list of things to do. You won't be disappointed.

June 16

*Atomic
Speedway*



Atomic Raceway was indeed in top condition on Saturday night and we had a wonderful time putting on our vintage car show. We would like to thank the management team for their hospitality and getting our cars into the program. We think the fans were impressed with the vintage cars from some of the comments that we heard. Some fans remarked that they were surprised that we would take such classics old racing cars and actually put them on the track. That was rewarding to hear.

Our heat race was fast and furious with Bob Shelhorn out running the rest of the field with his full bodied Camaro. The secret is that he has almost 500 cubic inches in that beast. The feature was an upset victory by John Lawhorn when he pulled his ever famous sneaky move to slip into the lead. He waits for lapped traffic to block you in and away he goes. It was all good fun on a super well prepared track.

This is why Atomic is considered one of the top tracks in the Midwest. The racing there is very entertaining. The competition is fast and the racing was close. This is another place to put on your list of things to do this summer. Race fans are lucky to have so many great tracks in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. Get the word out to friends and family that might never have been to short track America. Come on out you won't be disappointed.



Butch Evans
Feature
Winner



John Lawhorn Feature Winner

June 16

Thunder Returns 10

Portsmouth

Thunder Returns 10 Cruise Inn was at the West Portsmouth High School this year and drew a large crowd of top notch street rods and classics. There were many great muscle cars from the past as well as custom rods. It was worth the trip just to look at the beautiful paint jobs on some of the cars.

Our Vintage cars were not up to the number we expected and this was a sad note to the event. However the cars that did brave the warm weather made up a nice display with one new member bringing a super looking Trevis sprinter. Carl Robinson has it just about finished and plans to get it on the track very soon. His trailer is just as intriguing as the car. He has one of the very few trailers built by A.J. Watson and it has a front dolly wheel arrangement. Wait until you see it.

The announcer for this event was quite knowledgeable and fun to talk with. I also spent time with the veteran drivers from the past. Several had large scrap books filled with picture from days of the old Portsmouth Speedway as well as other track from the past. It was interesting talking with these fellows. What history they lived and raced. The talk was of how they built their own cars and the way they tried something different all the time. Some things worked and you went faster and some broke and put you into the wall. These were real tough customers but they all have fond memories of the guys they raced with. Just listening to their stories was a treat by itself. Missing this event was your loss.

On a positive note the promoter said that as a result of the turnout they are going to plan an event for next year. If you missed this show you might be in luck so plan on making it for next year.



June 30

Shadybowl Speedway

Shadybowl-what a fun place-all on its own-if you haven't been there with the group then you sure are missing a great time. Weather was hot and so was the racing. 10 cars made it on the track. Had an 8 lap heat race and a 15 lap feature. John Lawhorn, Dick Slagle and Bob Shelhorn set a fast pace with Big Block. Bob coming out on top in the heat and the feature. I think John got caught up in traffic (me) and had to give up the lead.

Great time by all and the fans were loving it. Thanks to the pushers-could not do the show without them.



Bob Shelhorn Feature Winner



This VRC car was driven by Bob Kossman. It is made of wood. It is a 1924 Model T Speedster

Bob Fordenwalt

July 7
Oakshade
Raceway



The event at Oakshade Speedway was once again a great effort by our members. We had 27 cars on display and 25 on the track in three separate heats and two feature events. We owe a great deal of thanks to the track management for their support. We can always expect this kind of support from the people at Oakshade, they are the best. They truly appreciate the mission of VARC. The fans really liked the on-track display. It makes for an even better show when we can separate the cars into heat races based on their type. We had midget cars in the first heat. Modified coupes and late models in the second heat, and open wheel sprint type cars in the third.

On Sunday they graciously give us the track to test and tune or what we call a play day. It gives everyone the opportunity to do some tuning and chassis adjustments as well as try out driving a different car. We keep the cars on the track to a minimum to avoid any trouble. It is a great time watching everyone with the hoods open, different faces behind the wheel, and even some interesting lines through the corners. If you missed this opportunity, make plans on it for next season, it is fun to be there.



Feature
Winner

Seth Smith

Feature
Winner

Hank Lauer



July 14
250
Speedway



We didn't have as many cars on hand, but we put on a good show at an underrated racing facility. The track at 250 Speedway is unique with the moisture working up through the track as the night wears on. The water level is aided by Tappan Lake that was very close by. Once again, the track management looks forward to us bringing our cars to his place. When our cars are on display the people come down to look at them with a great deal of interest.

Once on the track Jim McDermott was able to outlast Butch Evans in the feature to get to the checked flag first, but not without some close wheel to wheel action. Butch's midget is much quicker in the turns, but Jim's big block Chevy had the edge on the straightaways. It was great fun and a good show for our "Travelling Museum".

If you haven't been to this track you owe it to yourself to make a trip. The racing is fast and fun to watch.



Jim McDermott
Feature Winner



July 14

Wayne
County
Speedway



July 21

35
Raceway
Park



After camping out overnight at 250 Speedway we headed to Wayne County Speedway. This is a really great racing facility. Once again, the pits were filled, which caused a little shuffling by some of our members. I can only say I am sorry for the confusion. The good thing was it didn't interfere with our show. We had a good display behind the grandstand and many fans were interested in the cars and our drivers.

We got on the track for an 8-lap heat race and a 15-lap feature. A great deal of thanks goes to the track officials as they were extremely helpful in getting us on the track and keeping us informed of the sequence of events, so we could be ready to run. The feature event was a 15-lap struggle between several cars. Bob Shelhorn was pushing hard until overheating took him out. Terry Wells had his yellow sprinter flying but could not quite figure out how to get by John Lawhorn who got another Checkered flag to his credit.



John Lawhorn Feature Winner

Rained Out

License Plates	\$12.00
T-Shirts	\$14.00
Hats	\$10.00
Decals	\$3.00 & \$8.00

39th Annual

The Rebel Run

September 21 & 22, 2018
Allen County Fairgrounds Lima, Ohio

People's Choice Awards
Entertainment

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OUT and FLAME THROWING
FRIDAY NIGHT @ 7:00 pm

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