

JUNE 19, 2024

The June, 2024 meeting of the Garden State Vintage Stock Car Club was called to order by President Ray Shea at 7:43 p.m. Fourteen members were in attendance.

The invocation was given by Racing with Jesus Ministries Chaplain and club member Tom Simmons.

Jim Kelleher gave the Treasurer's Report.

Earl Krause announced the passing of the following individuals: Mary Anne Hayes - Mary Anne served as the club's Treasurer after her husband, Paul (also club Treasurer), passed away; longtime club member Ken Thompson - Ken was always ready to lend a hand when needed. He was also a schoolteacher and community volunteer; New Egypt Speedway car owner "Big" John Witkowski; and legendary Indy, Sprint car, and Midget racer Parnelli Jones. A moment of silence was held for these folks as well as "racing dads" everywhere who have recently passed away around Father's Day. Tom Simmons offered a brief prayer.

Ray offered get well wishes to the following friends of our sport: well-known Wall Stadium driver Don Stives, who is in hospice care; Ray Liss, who is having eye trouble; former racer Bob Boudinot's wife Sue, who broke her hip. Bob also sent a friendly note to Ray catching up. Bob built a replica of his #3 and brings it to car shows. Sue was a good Powder Puff driver at Old Bridge Speedway. Bill Brice's health condition is unknown at this time.

Ray informed the group that former racer and recent Hall of Fame Honoree Johnny Luhrs recently found himself down on his luck. His vehicle broke down and it was not able to be repaired. His funds are very limited, and he could not afford to replace his vehicle. Tom Simmons coordinated an effort to get Johnny another car. Many local racing folks contributed money towards purchasing a replacement. The initial intent was to find a car that could be donated, but one didn't turn up. However, a suitable vehicle was found and bought. It's wonderful when folks in the racing community pull together to help someone in need. The club donated \$500 towards the effort, and we were pleased to be able to help.

Atlantic Coast Old Timers (ACOT) will hold a track time day for vintage cars on August 24, 2024 at Mahoning Valley Speedway in PA.

This year's Club Picnic is scheduled for September 29, 2024. The rain date will be October 6. The picnic will be held at the home of Kevin Eyres in Colts Neck. More details will be shared as the date gets closer. We are looking forward to having a nice get-together. *Save the date!*

The Garden State Classic will be held at Wall Stadium on June 29. We will be running the 50/50 Raffle on that day. We need some volunteers to sell 50/50 tickets. Contact Ray Shea if you can help out. George Klein suggested that we have our table ready and manned when the grandstand gates open so we catch people on their way in. A short discussion was held about our ticket-selling tactics.

The 29th Annual Cruise to the Jersey Shore Car Show, organized for many years by Lee Greenwood, was held on June 16 at the Long Branch Promenade. Al Voorhees represented the club. He won the "Kroozin Productions Choice" award. Congratulations to Al.

Ray shared a newspaper article about the history of Tuckerton Speedway. Earl read the article to the group. It was very interesting.

Marty Van Druten shared a story about the vintage event at Loudon in in which he chatted with Parnelli Jones and drove his car on the track with him.

Happy belated birthday to Gil Hearne! It was announced that Gil recently celebrated his 85th birthday. A discussion was held wondering where the time has gone! Ray said he recently spoke with Gil. Ray recounted a great Pee Wee Griffin story as told to him from Gil.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.