

Official Newsletter of The New York State Stock Car Association

April, 2009

N.Y.S.S.C.A.

President - John Keegan
Vice Pres. - Brian Bedell
Secretary—Bonnie Mortensen
Treasurer—JoAnn Flanigan
Sgt. At Arms - Dan Wood

NYSSCA Newsletter Editor:
Bonnie Mortensen, Secretary

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Next Meeting:

May 12, 2009 @ 7:00 P.M.

Snyder's Restaurant

Route 9, Clifton Park

This will be our last meeting until the fall meetings start again!

NYSSCA YEARBOOK

If you would like to purchase a NYSSCA yearbook, please send your payment of \$5.00 plus \$3.00 shipping/handling to:

Bonnie Mortensen, Secretary
809 Sacandaga Road
Scotia, NY 12302

The yearbook will be mailed out to you once your payment is received.

NYSSCA MEMBERSHIP

Don't forget to purchase your 2009 membership. At \$25 it is still quite a bargain for the peace of mind you receive in knowing that it is taken care of before the racing season starts. You can find the NYSSCA membership application on the back page of the newsletter or see your track rep to sign up! Track reps are as follows:

Albany Saratoga Speedway

Bonnie Mortensen & Brian Bedell

Devil's Bowl Speedway

Bob James & Brian Bedell

Fonda Speedway

Bonnie Mortensen & Chris Krosky

Glen Ridge Speedway

Chris Krosky & Dan Ody

Lebanon Valley Speedway

Ed & Betty Biittig, Brian Bedell & Bobby Chalmers

Utica Rome Speedway

John Keegan, Shari Pierson & Jay Johnson

NYSSCA SAFETY AWARD NIGHTS

(also known as NYSSCA night) :

Fonda Speedway: 6/13/09

Utica Rome Speedway: 6/21/09

Albany Saratoga Speedway: 6/26/09

Devils Bowl: 7/5/09

Lebanon Valley : 7/25/09

358 modifieds will be 7/26/09

Glen Ridge: TBA

The first NYSSCA member crossing the finish line will receive \$75, a NYSSCA hat and a Yearbook; the second NYSSCA member crossing the finish line will receive \$25, a NYSSCA hat and a Yearbook.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are almost mid year into our ambitious year including our Golf Tournament which is coming up soon (see page 2). If you have just a little time to spare, please consider volunteering to help YOUR NYSSCA.

CHECKERS OUT SPEEDWAY FUNDRAISER EVENT

(AKA NYSSCA Nationals)

See Page 3 for the full story.

by Ron Szczerba

On Saturday February 28, 2009 at the Checkers Out Speedway in Johnstown, NY the New York State Stock Car Association (NYSSCA) held their first annual NYSSCA Nationals event to benefit the NYSSCA injured driver's fund. Former racer and current NYSSCA member Clem DaBiere planned the event along with Checkers Out Speedway owner Don Greco.

A total of 70 drivers raced Sprint cars around the indoor Checkers Out Speedway and when it was all said and done 14-year-old Bobby Hackel was the winner of the six car "A" feature event. Drivers from local tracks such as Fonda, Glen Ridge, Albany Saratoga, and Lebanon Valley took part in the event along with other drivers representing Thunder Mountain, Skyline, Penn Can, Five Mile Point, Can Am, Utica Rome, and other speedways as well including World of Outlaw Late Model driver Sean Beardsley.

Five cars took to the track at a time to try to qualify for the main event with the quickest five times gaining a starting position in the "A" feature event. The five fastest times of the day were turned by Fonda Speedway competitors Ivan Joslin (9.21 sec) and 2008 Fonda Speedway IMCA Track Champion Jeremy Cramer (9.32 sec), with Charles Carpenter (9.40 sec), Alan Fink (9.42 sec), and Mike Rumkill (9.43 sec) completing the top five. Bobby Hackel gained a starting spot in the 50-lap "A" feature event by winning the "B" main putting him sixth on the starting grid for the "A" feature.

Joslin took the lead at the drop of the green flag from his pole position start with Cramer in tow. Hackel worked his way to the front as the laps clicked off and by lap 15 he was pressuring Joslin for the lead. At the finish line to complete lap 16, Hackel was the new race leader with Fink the new second place car by lap 38. That was the way the event ended with Hackel taking the victory followed by Fink, Joslin, Rumkill, Cramer, and Carpenter.

A Powder Puff event was also held for the ladies with Megan Waddle taking the win followed by Shari Pierson, Brittini Crouse, and Sherry Johnson.

Kenny Martin Jr. was the winner of the consolation event for non-qualified drivers.

HACKEL COMES FROM A RACING FAMILY

"A" feature event winner Bobby Hackel is the fourth generation of the Hackel racing family that includes his great grandfather, his grandfather, and his father, all with the same first and last names but different middle initials.

Bobby's great grandfather raced at the Burden Lake Speedway during his racing career while his grandfather was best known for his success in the mini-stock division during his racing career, was the winner of the Lifetime Contribution to Racing Award in Memory of Ken Shoemaker at this years NYSSCA banquet back in January, and was inducted into the NYSSCA Hall of Fame back in 2001. Bobby's father has five feature wins in the Sportsman division at Fonda but retired back in 2004 when his son Bobby became a very successful Go-Kart racer.

At age 5 ½, Bobby started racing Go-Karts at Dodge City and two years later switched to race Go-Karts at Caroga Creek. In 2006 Bobby raced a Go-Kart a total of 65 times winning 42 times in the process. After a total of 140 wins in the Go-Kart ranks along with three Track Championships at Caroga Creek and two WKA Northeast Dirt Division Titles, Bobby decided that it was time to move up to the next level.

In 2008, Bobby moved up to the Slingshot cars winning a total of nine features including the season ending event at Albany Saratoga. At seasons end Hackel was second in points at Caroga Creek but won the Caroga Creek Tour between Mountain View, Dodge City, and Caroga Creek.

Out of 1500 Slingshots registered in the eastern part of the country, Hackel ranked fourth overall in 2008. For 2009, Hackel will again race Slingshots at Caroga Creek, Lebanon Valley, the Caroga Creek Tour, and the Tobias tour before moving up to a Budget Sportsman towards the end of the season and then to Budget Sportsman full time in 2010.

CHECKERS OUT SPEEDWAY OWNER A BIG RACE FAN

Checkers out Speedway owner Don Greco has had the indoor racing

facility open for a year and two months. He has been attending races at the local speedways for over 40 years and always wanted a track to call his own.

"I wanted to find a business that was unique and different," Greco said. "There are many indoor tracks in England and Sweden because they have similar weather to what we have here but their tracks are mostly figure 8's. I choose to build an oval track because it was more like the tracks in our area."

Greco runs leagues at the Checkers Out Speedway along with fundraisers and Birthday parties and he hopes to expand in the future.

"This track is good for the community and I would like to expand in the future to include two outdoor race tracks.

Bill Wimble

**to present \$100 to the first NYSSCA
member crossing the finish line**

Wednesday, July 22nd, 2009

Night of Legends

Utica Rome Speedway

On Wednesday, July 22nd, 2009 Bill Wimble will present \$100 (donated by New York State Stock Car Association) to the first NYSSCA member who crosses the finish line in the modified feature.

Bill won his first race in 1955. His first point championship came in 1958. He won the first NASCAR National Sportsman Championship and the first NASCAR New York State Championship in 1960 and ran at Fonda Speedway for years, 1958-1967, winning the track championship 5 times. On a circuit of Utica-Rome, Albany-Saratoga and Fonda in 1967, he won the point championship at all three tracks. He won the Most Popular Driver Award 10 times in the 1960's. He was the first driver chosen for Kodak's "All Time Great Award" in 1972 and was the second driver chosen for the Race of Champions Hall of Fame in 1979. He was inducted into the New York State Stock Car Association Hall of Fame in 1988, the Fonda Speedway Hall of Fame in 1990 and the DIRT Hall of Fame in 1992. He was inducted into the Living Legends of Auto Racing in 1993, the East Motorsports Press Association Hall of Fame in 2001 and the New England Auto Racers Hall of Fame in 2002. *Information taken from "Legends of NASCAR.com" - The Bill Wimble Story written by Scott Pacich.*

MEETING CALENDAR

May 12th 7pm, Snyder's Rest. Regular Meeting
Sept. 22nd 7pm, Snyder's Rest. Regular Meeting

We'd love to see some new faces at our meetings.
We are always looking for volunteers. Everyone is welcome to attend.

250 Club Winners: April—Joel Cummings \$100
March—Brian Burger \$100
February—Emily Bonesteel \$100

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

If you didn't write your email address on your application and would like us to have it, email Dan Wood at nyssca@gmail.com. This is a great way for us to communicate with our members more efficiently and effectively as well as saving the association money.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Contact Dan Wood, nyssca@gmail.com
If you have something to sell. We will place it in our next newsletter.

- 1) Hans Device—Gel Pads—brand new—purchased at Syracuse Car show; in error, still in the bag \$100; call 518-882-7011

Bobco Video - Bobco Video is your source for all the action from Albany Saratoga, Devil's Bowl, Fonda, and Glen Ridge Speedways.

A new face at the gate at the Fonda Speedway & Albany Saratoga Speedway: Who is it?? Bonnie Mortensen will be selling videos for BOBCO! One stop will do it all for you as you can also renew your NYSSCA membership with her at that time!

Call (518) 399-0937

Application for Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ E-Mail _____

Website _____

Car Owner (if other than driver) _____

Division _____ Car No. _____

Tracks where you race _____

Status: Driver ___ Owner ___ Crew ___ Sponsor ___ Press ___ Official ___ Fan ___

Membership Application accepted only with payment of \$25.00

Signature _____ Date _____

16 & under (consent of parent or guardian)

**Mail to: New York State Stock Car Association
P.O. Box 1136
Clifton Park, NY 12065**