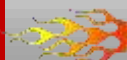




Kalamazoo Speedway TRACK TALK June 22, 2016



IN THIS ISSUE

- THIS WEEK AT THE RACES: Friday, June 24
- Looking Back: June 17th at Kalamazoo Speedway
- Next Up: July 1 Special Event (NIGHT OF DOOM)
- Sneak Preview: July 8 at the Races
- Kalamazoo Speedway Goes International!
- Now You Know: NASCAR Superstitions
- Have You Seen Me?
- Current Raffle(s)

THIS WEEK AT THE RACES Friday, June 24

-  The Outlaw Super Late Models, Super Stocks, Pro Stocks, Outlaw Cyber Stocks & the Flip Flop Cyber Stocks (including the Rent-a-Rides) all race this Friday!
-  Spectator Drag Races – \$250 to win; \$100 for 2nd. Two vehicles race (one lap) at time with the winner advancing. Bragging rights, \$250 and a trophy for the winner. June 24th is the second of four scheduled races over the course of the season. A Season Champion will be crowned on August 26 (Season Championship Night), complete with a trophy.

Admission: Adults \$12, 13-15 \$8, 6-12 \$2 and 5 and under FREE
Free parking. Bring your own cooler of food & beverage or use the reasonably priced Speedway concessions.



Rick Beebe, Flagman, lined up two of the competitors during the May Spectator Drags.

Looking Back: June 17th at Kalamazoo Speedway

Veteran Tom Thomas charged from the 12th starting spot to Victory Lane in the Outlaw Super Late Model feature. The win made Thomas the sixth different winner in as many races. 1995 Super Stock champion Billy Shannon finished a solid second ahead of 3-time defending champion Mike "Bubba" Brooks, Matt Frazier and point leader Rick Senneker. Former Plymouth Speedway Late Model champion Adam Terry led the second half of the top ten over Bill Tomlinson, former South Bend Speedway Late Model champion Brandon Zachary, Jeff Bozell and veteran Jerry Zachary. Notable finishers included Mark Shook, who set fast time but finished a disappointing 15th. Brooks and Terry won the heat races. Will there be a repeat winner this week or will a 7th new winner go to Victory Lane?



Tom Thomas becomes the 6th different winner



Cory Pressler shares his moment

The Super Stock division saw an upset winner as Cory Pressler took advantage of defending champion Buddy Head's late race mechanical problem to pick up the victory. Cory's brother, Nick Pressler, finished second ahead of David Guarino, four-time track champion Kenny Head and defending Outlaw Cyber Stock champion Keegan Dykstra. Another former Outlaw Cyber Stock champion, Jerry Jansen, Jr., in his first race of the season, finished 6th ahead of fast qualifier Buddy Head, Jordan Hunderman, Andrew Behlke and Gary Denzel. Nick Pressler won the heat race.



Greg and Ashley Brown in Victory Lane

Greg Brown started with no one in his rear view window in the ultra-competitive Pro Stock division and when the smoke cleared he was the man in Victory Lane for the second time this season. Brown held off Barry Jenkins, Keith Wilfong, Travis Hall and defending champion Matt Corliss for the victory. Danny Oxford finished sixth beating out Matt Maurer, John Russell, Josh Roberts and Duane Procter. Veteran Brent Hook was knocked out of the race when he was caught up in a late race accident. Brown set quick time with Hall and Maurer winning the heat races. In a selfless and classy act, Greg Haynes, 9th in points with one win, gave up his 81 car to Keith Wilfong to keep Wilfong's (3rd in the points) championship run alive.



Nick Layman's 1st feature win in 2016

The upsets continued when Nick Layman held off point leader and, previously unbeaten, Dan Rigoni by a scant 0.843 seconds to win the 20 lap feature. Brian Gregersen finished third ahead of Jeremy Young and Pete Doxey. Larry Richardson finished sixth beating out Doug Nelson, Mason Dykstra, Danny Rigoni and Ricky LaDuke. Dan Rigoni set fast time. Layman and last year's Flip Flop Cyber Stock champion, Brock Sweeter, won the heat races.



It was that close!

The fan favorite Flip Flop Cyber Stocks put on an entertaining and highly competitive show with Josh Nyberg emerging victorious over Travis Reniger in a photo finish. As you can see in the photo, the field ran "the wrong way" for the feature. Fast qualifier Lane Head finished third beating out Nick Failing and Tony LoBretto. The second half of the top ten was led by Joey Failing over Ken Lemmer, John Hayter, Brian Clinard and Marilyn Lambert. Reniger and Steven Hammond won the heat races. Clinard, Hammond, Hayter, Lambert and Lemmer drove Rent-a-Rides. See the Rent-a-Ride article later in the newsletter.



Jerime Damron chalks up another win

The Southwest Michigan Mini Stock Challenge Series was on hand Friday night and saw Jerime Damron collect the 25-lap feature victory. Damron held off Matt Noble, fast qualifier Andrew Brest, Marcus Carlson and Kyle Shannon to pick up the victory. Doug Gallandt led the second half of the top ten over Curtis Towne, Ryan Stutz, Noah Clark and Aaron Zimmerman. Damron and Frank Stager won the heat races.

Next Up: July 1 Special Event: NIGHT OF DOOM (7:30 PM)

- Monster Truck Rides (5:00 PM)
- Monster Trucks (2 shows)
- Water Barrel Race
- Mini Enduro/Cross Event – Anything Goes!
- Push Car Race
- Bus Rides (5:30 PM)
- Motorcycle (all new) Stunt Show
- Trailer Race
- Compact Demolition Derby
- Bus Races, and, hard to imagine, MORE!



HUGE FIREWORKS DISPLAY CAPS OFF THE EVENING!

It's another Speedway first in 2016 — the first ever “Night of Doom”. Modeled after the intensely popular “Night of Destruction” the “Night of Doom” boasts stunts, thrills and spills that you'll not want to miss! Get there early! For persons who wish to actively participate in the mayhem, view the rules and payouts through the link in the e-mail that accompanied this edition of Track Talk.

Admission: Adults \$20, 13-15 \$10, 6-12 \$5 and 5 and under FREE. (Adult tickets may be purchased for \$15 at Howe Patio in Plainwell on or before June 30 [before 4 PM] and at the track on June 24th).

Sneak Preview: July 8th at the Races

- There's a week to clean up the track after the Night of Doom, then the Outlaw Super Late Models, Super Stocks, Pro Stocks, Outlaw Cyber Stocks & the Flip Flop Cyber Stocks (including the Rent-a-Rides) all race.
- Teen Night (Youth 13-15 get in for \$2 instead of \$8)
- Jeep Night (Display in reserved area; Parade of the Jeeps during Intermission. Driver gets in free)
- The Southwest Michigan Mini Stock Challenge Series returns

Kalamazoo Speedway Goes International!



John Hayter (top) in the #8 and following his heat race.

In keeping with the Gary Terry “Follow Your Dreams” theme of June 8th, John Hayter lived his dream at Kalamazoo Speedway on June 17th and made the Speedway an international venue at the same time! Hayter, 37, from the Isle of Man had been seeking an authentic race experience for years and found us. For the curious, the Isle of Man is a self-governing Crown dependent territory of the United Kingdom situated in the center of the British Isles between Great Britain and Ireland. Last year Hayter moved one step closer to living his dream while viewing Enduro races on YouTube. One of the videos he watched was of the cool road course Kalamazoo Speedway had employed. Intrigued, he visited the Speedway website and found the brand new Rent-a-Ride program. He told us the Speedway program is the only such program he's been able to find. While he researched such venues as the Richard Petty Driving Experience, he wanted a more authentic experience. He wanted to race.

This year Hayter traveled to Michigan solely to Rent-a-Ride before heading to Kansas to visit friends and family. He finished second in his heat and would likely have won but for what he ruefully called an “amateur mistake”. A racing fan, he gave chops to Kyle Busch's racing prowess and isn't a big fan of Danica Patrick. His home track is a short, 2-lane, paved oval around an athletic field. “It's really quite slow” he added. Hayter reported his Speedway experience was everything he had hoped it would be, regretting only that his schedule hadn't permitted a longer practice and orientation. He left satisfied with his 8th place finish in the feature race. Maybe not quite satisfied as he left the venue remarking he might have to try this again to win his heat race.

18 or over? Follow YOUR dreams and take the wheel of a Rent-a-Ride (\$225). Kalamazoo Speedway provides everything but YOU!! Flyers are available at the ticket booth or contact Gary Howe at gary@kalamazospeedway.com.

NOW YOU KNOW – NASCAR Superstitions

PEANUT SHELLS

The more superstitious of NASCAR drivers avoid peanuts. Rooted in the history of the sport, prior to World War II, auto racing tended to be held at the local fairgrounds. Peanut shells were everywhere. When a car wrecked, peanut shells would be strewn throughout the carnage and actually were the cause of a number of racing accidents. While no longer the case, the superstition hasn't been swept away with all those shells.

THE COLOR GREEN

Lucky green four-leafed clover? Not in NASCAR. Many drivers shun wearing green or driving a green car. This superstition is said to date back to the 1920s, when Gaston Chevrolet, younger brother of Chevrolet founder Louis Chevrolet, crashed and lost his life while driving a green car. Some drivers (Kyle Busch and Jeff Gordon) had good luck in green cars, others not so much (Dale, Jr. and Danica Patrick).

SHAVING ON RACE DAY

This superstition transcends any number of sports, but none are quite as stringent as NASCAR drivers when it comes to leaving the face unshaven. This long held superstition seemed to stem from George MacKenzie, who was killed in a wreck on the day he decided to shave his beard. Think Jimmie Johnson. And no one can deny that Dale, Jr., has come alive since giving his razor a rest. Shaving on race day is also a no-no; it's considered bad luck.

\$50 BILLS

Are you carrying a \$50 bill? Well don't wave it around at the Speedway! This superstition's origins are disputed, but just know that handing a driver a \$50 bill before a race is a big no-no.

THE NUMBER 13

This one might go without saying, but since 13 is considered one of the most unlucky numbers, it should come as no surprise that NASCAR drivers would jump on this superstition as well. And hey, the only rainout at the Speedway in 2016 came on Friday, May 13. Drew Maxwell, Rent-a-Ride Crew Chief, considers himself pretty lucky despite being born on the 13th (a Friday). So lucky that he and his fiancé plan to marry on the 13th later in the summer.

So when Jason Seltzer, track announcer, wondered out loud if he would find peanuts in Austin Woodcox's green #13 car during the June 8th Pro Stock/Street Stock Rumble, that's what he was talking about. Now you know.

Have You Seen Me?

For now, you can call me Peter Pan, because I'm tired of being called "the drone", but don't be calling me Tinkerbell! I'm a kid at heart, not likely to grow up and I can go places you can't. I can pan over long distances and take video and stills. I haven't gotten tangled up in the wires crisscrossing the track yet (I hear you all wondering when that will happen) and I do make a quiet whirring noise if you listen when I'm close by. When all is said and done, I'm going to deliver some magnificent shots of the track and of the racing action!



Newest member of the
Speedway family

Current Raffle(s)

24' Track Champ Enclosed Trailer \$5 per ticket

Tickets will be sold all season with the drawing held during the Super Shoe Nationals in October.



THE PLACE TO BE FOR FAST, CLEAN, FAMILY FUN!