



# KALAMAZOO Speedway

## TRACK TALK

June 14, 2017



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### WE RACE TONIGHT!! WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

It's the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gary Terry "Follow Your Dreams" 125 and the Pro Stock/Street Stock Rumble! Tonight also marks race #1 of the Sweet Manufacturing Outlaw Super Late Model Series. Six marquee events at five tracks in three states comprise the series. After the final race, the Glass City 200 at the Toledo Speedway, the \$20,000 point fund gets divided and we'll learn who takes home the various contingency awards. Kalamazoo Speedway is proud to host two of the six races; the Kalamazoo Klash (sponsored by Toyota and featuring Kyle Busch) is the second.



- 11:00 Pits Open
- 1:30 Practice Begins
- 4:00 Qualifying Begins
- 5:30 Pre-Race Autograph Session Begins
- 7:00 Racing Begins

The 125 lap race for the **Outlaw Super Late Models** is a tribute to the life and passion of Gary Terry, who died in a tragic accident while providing instruction to a driver at the Richard Petty Driving Experience at Walt Disney World in Florida.

While Terry raced at other tracks, the Kalamazoo Speedway was his home track and he is uniformly described as one of the nicest guys you'd ever want to meet: a hard racer and a good man.

Veteran Monster Energy driver David Stremme returns to again pilot Terry's No. 3 car in the race. This will be the only paved track Stremme races on this season, doing so only to honor his former competitor and long-time friend. Ashley Stremme, the reigning Mrs. USA, is not just a pretty face; with roots in the racing world, she will serve as Grand Marshall.

A big thank you to **GT Products** for sponsoring the Gary Terry “Follow Your Dreams” 125. GT Products Inc. was established in January 2003 occupying a 2,000 square foot warehouse in Royalton Township, Michigan. As a CNC machine shop it focused on machining components for the automotive performance aftermarket industry. In addition to the primary focus of CNC machining, in 2008 GT Products began to work with customers to source products internationally. This has allowed GT Products to offer specialized machining, stampings, extrusions, and castings. With a focus on manufacturing, it also aids in the design and development of new products.



Customers include performance parts distributors, carburetor builders, chassis builders, precision instrument manufactures, and tool and die businesses. In addition to these, GT Products has several customers that use GT services for prototype work and short run production.

GT Products now occupies a 15,000 square foot facility located in Benton Harbor, Michigan. Along with the growth in facility size, GT Products has also experienced excellent growth in sales. Over the last four years GT Products sales have increased by double digit percentages each year.



A shout of thanks also goes out to Allstar Performance for sponsoring the Pro Stock/Street Stock Rumble. Ask **Allstar Performance** and they'll tell you the key to success in a car building project is access to high quality, reasonably priced parts that get the job done right. Each Allstar Performance part is the result of their dedication to research and development. Once a need is established, parts are designed and manufactured by talented craftsmen, many of whom are racers and hot rodders themselves. Many Allstar Performance parts are one-of-a-kind and you won't find them anywhere else. Allstar offers thousands of stocking numbers in a worldwide marketplace including a variety of quality, affordable, and practical items to make your projects easier. Customers winning their events in 2017 include Tony Stewart, Ken Schrader and Kyle Larson. Order or download the largest Allstar Performance catalog by visiting the sponsor page on the Speedway website and clicking on the Allstar Performance logo.

**Admission for June 14:** Adults \$25; 13-15 \$15; 6-12 \$5; 5 and under FREE

**Pit Passes:** \$35.00

## **GARY TERRY “FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS” 125 PRACTICE**

It was HOT but 20 Late Models and 5 Pro/Street Stocks showed up Tuesday night to tune up their cars for their respective races tonight. Officially, there were 32 Late Models and 27 Pro/Street Stocks registered by the end of the practice session. The top five fast times for each division follow.

<b>OUTLAW SUPER LATE MODELS</b>		<b>PRO STOCKS/STREET STOCKS</b>	
<b>Driver</b>	<b>Lap Speed</b>	<b>Driver</b>	<b>Lap Speed</b>
Tyler Roahrig	12.273	Buddy Head	14.717
Tom Thomas	12.313	Matt Corliss	14.762
Brian Bergakker	12.330	Johnny Foote	14.773
Harold Fair Jr.	12.390	Tyler Hufford	14.829
Andy Bozell	12.407	Bobby Oxford	15.262
<b>2016: Steve Needles (12.177)</b>		<b>2016: Lloyd Brooks (14.701 seconds)</b>	
<b>Track Record (August 13, 2014)</b>		<b>Track Record (July 6, 2013)</b>	
<b>Terry Senneker Jr (11.759)</b>		<b>Toby Montgomery (14.414)</b>	

## UPCOMING #FASTFRIDAYS (and other days!)

On **Friday, June 23** we'll be back in action when the NSTA Top Speed Modifieds and the GLOW Modifieds return to the Zoo along with the Super Stocks, Pro Stocks, Outlaw Cyber Stocks and the Flip Flop Cyber Stocks/Rent-a-Rides. It's teen night so teens (13-15) get in for \$2.



And that brings us to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. Celebrate part of your 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday with us on **Saturday, July 1**. We'll have a colossal fireworks display after a night of stunts, spills and mayhem to entertain you and your family. There will be bus rides for the kids and monster truck rides as well. The monster truck pictured (photo used with permission) is one of the trucks that will be on site to entertain you. The program starts at 7:30 sharp. Don't be caught in the long line of latecomers! Come early! Take the kids on a bus ride before the program begins. Take a ride on the monster truck decked out to take folks around the back 40! Check out all the great concession stands and the gift shop. There's plenty to do and you'll be assured of getting a seat and not missing a moment of the fun.

And less than a week after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration we return to our regular schedule on **Friday, July 7**. All divisions get back to work. It's motorcycle night so motorcycle drivers get in free. We encourage parking in the display area and taking a few turns around the track during intermission. Before the races begin we'll be hosting the (again rescheduled) scooter races for kids.

## LOOKING BACK: JUNE 9 RACES



It was a busy night even before the racing started. Plenty of fans took advantage of the autograph session to talk with the drivers, take a few photos, and score a few autographs. Kids could enter the scooter giveaway (the bed of the truck [pictured] was full of them). Scores of lucky kids took a new scooter home. The Michigan Auto Racing Fan Club was on hand and presented Pat Heritz with the MARFC uniform/helmet bag for her longstanding support of the Speedway (pictured with MARFC Board Member John Jackson and club member Doug Jakeway. Stan Towne (pictured with his family) was the MARFC member raffle prize winner for the night. During intermission it was a parade of the classics.

The **Flip Flop Cyber Stock** 15-lap feature started out with a bang for the full field of 23 cars and a complete restart. The field thinned out a bit after a few more bangs and yellow flags as track owner/promoter Gary Howe watched two of his Rent-a-Rides exit the track on the hook of a tow truck (now fodder for the monster trucks). Things got a little rambunctious early in the race and a mess was the result. The race was unequivocally over for “Dug” Hoffman when his Rent-a-Ride car flipped (he was fine; it was Howe who was feeling the pain). The race ended far better than it started with Grant Lofquist, Nick Failing and Tony LoBretto vying for the lead when out of nowhere comes Valerie Bozell making some powerful moves through turn 2 to take the lead and the flag. Bozell (fast qualifier at 17.364) had been mired toward the back of the field for most of the race but made like Secretariat or Sea Biscuit when it mattered. That’s Bozell’s second feature win of the season. Lofquist finished second followed by Failing, LoBretto and Rent-a-Ride driver Bert Brown. Lofquist and Travis Petto won the heat races. Bozell’s strong performance put her back at the top of the point standings over Nick Failing (-8), LoBretto (-12), Lofquist (-44) and Brandon Sweat (-117). Of note, one of the seven Rent-a-Ride drivers in the field was Jerry Martin, son of Buster Martin, the Assistant Flagman at Kalamazoo Speedway.



Paul Bittle, making his first points appearance of the season, made the most of his time here, capturing fast time of 15.513, starting at the tail of the field and taking the checkered flag in the **Outlaw Cyber Stocks’** 20-lap feature. He was going places and along the way he also broke the track record. In lap 8 of the feature. With 17 other cars taking up real estate on the track. Most track officials had gone on the record saying that couldn’t be done. Guess some of us just didn’t know any better. Robert Pierce followed Bittle to the finish line with Wayne “Moose” Stack, Nick Layman and Jeremy Young rounding out the top five. Stack and Nelson won the heat races. Richardson’s point lead is now 48 over Young with Layman (-65), Sean Elkins (-105), and Ryan Hufford (-108) close behind. During the opening ceremonies, Kenny Wright took a lap in his #68 to promote Autism awareness; he’ll be donating all of his winning this year to the Autism Society.

Keith Wilfong added a third **Pro Stock** feature win to his 2017 racing resume, taking the 30-lap feature over Matt Corliss (whose retirement was brief), Zack Cook (fast qualifier at 14.792), Greg Brown and Barry Jenkins. The drivers, the design of the cars, the power and the competitiveness make the Pro Stocks a great race to watch. We’re looking forward to their having their deserved moments in the spotlight tonight in the 50 lap Pro Stock/Street Stock Rumble. Heat wins went to Wilfong and Josh Roberts. Cook now leads a tight point battle over Brown (-15), Wilfong (-18), Ribble (-77) and Jenkins (-80).



The Super Stocks sported 18 cars in their feature and while records weren’t broken, fans witnessed an event that happens about as often as the solar eclipse. Buddy Head had the lead and didn’t win the race. (Head is a skilled and tough competitor so we mean that in the most flattering of ways). Nick Pressler in the #10 and Head traded leads with Eric McGlothlen in the mix. Head finally pulled ahead and it looked like a wrap about halfway in but then brother Cory Pressler took up Nick’s spot,



made a late race pass and extended his lead far enough to take the checkered flag. Head finished second ahead of McGlothlen, Nick Pressler and Adam Van Avery. AJ Foote had fast time (13.726) and Head and Rodney Smith won the heats. Head leads the standings by 53 points over Nick Pressler with Keegan Dykstra (-69), Cory Pressler (-73), Foote (-86), McGlothlen (-90), Kenny Head (-93) and VanAvery (-117) all looking to unseat the defending champion.

Todd Harrington passed three-time champion Mike “Bubba” Brooks to be the only driver this season to repeat his trip to Victory Lane by winning in the **Outlaw Super Late Models** 40 lap feature. The full field of 23 experienced more than its share of cautions along the way. Brooks held on to finish second ahead of 12-time champion Andy Bozell, fast qualifier Mark Shook and Adam Terry. Brandon Lyons and Vern Sauer won the heat races. Shook’s point lead is now 41 markers over Harrington with Thomas (-65), Terry (-116) and Senneker (-141) rounding out the top five.



You’ve probably noticed the K&N displays in most of the Victory Lane photos? It was K&N night at the track, a NASCAR sponsor, who provided a \$100 K&N gift card to one lucky driver in each of the five features. The winning driver in each division threw one of the track’s big pink dice and the face value determined the winner of the gift card; the face value corresponded to the finishing order. None of the drivers managed to throw a “1” and win the giveaway themselves.



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