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PIT PASS

Newsletter of the IMCA Old Timers Volume 19, No. 3, Spring 2008

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IMCA Oldtimers: Incorporated under the laws of The State of Minnesota - April 7th, 1986

Club Store Items - Call Skip Pollack 952-953-4215

Club Website - www.imcaoldtimers.com

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612-925-3492

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651-351-9597

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507-645-7590

Race Director
Keith Parchem
763-682-1745

Flagman
Rick Stine
952-881-9467

Robert Clair "Bob" Ryan: 1931 - 2008

It saddens me to announce the death of our member, Bob Ryan. Bob suffered from brain cancer for a number of years, finally giving in to the disease on May 24, 2008. The last time he was out with his two midjets, was at Raceway Park last summer. Bob always had the finest equipment to run, which the midjets and his sprint car exemplified. His cars were #1 as was his enthusiasm for the sport of racing. Bob's involvement with cars goes back 50 years, as a car dealer in Minnesota, South Dakota, and Texas.

He restored and collected cars for many years, and raced dirt track. He won the Minnesota State Fair in the 50's with his #3020, a 32 Ford 5 window coupe running a flathead. In those days he was known as Rosie Ryan, and he carried that smile throughout his life. His racing career was shortened when he was called into action in the Korean War. Bob was a decorated veteran of the Korean War, earning the Korean Service Medal with 3 Bronze Stars and Meritorious Unit Commendation.

I remember when he brought out a restored version of the 32 Ford, #3020 to Arlington Raceway back about 10 years ago. His co-builder was Slim Dale, who although in poor health at the time, came to the track to see the new old car run. Bob made many laps, exhibiting how the old car would go, making me go over and tell him that we do exhibition racing and to take it easy. That was the last time that he raced that car to my recollection, and put it in his collection of cars for others to enjoy.

Back in the days when he was involved in racing, a kid by the name of Gary Stein hung around the garage, and like most kids, showed an interest in what was going on. It wasn't until our first run at the Hastings, Little Log House event that Bob and Gary saw each other again. As Gary tells it, Bob recognized him and asked if he was the kid who used to hang out at the garage. He even remembered him by name. They had a chance to reminisce a bit, but for sure, we knew that we had a legend in the form of Bob Ryan. We will always miss his smile and friendliness at the track. He has taken his final checker flag and will be remembered for all that he did for all of us.

Bob is survived by his wife of 56 years, Ellen, 7 children, 22 Grandchildren, and 2 Great-Grandchildren. Bob's son, Bob Ryan II, who accompanied Bob Sr. to the many events and drove a lot of the cars, hopefully will continue to bring the cars to our events. He is a chip off the old block, always enthusiastic, and smiling with a desire to promote our sport. May God be with you Bob and the rest of your family. We will see you at the next great event, the speedway in heaven, where we can all do one more lap and all get the ultimate Checker Flag.

Remembered by Don Belkengren, President and friend of Bob Ryan



Pres Big Don Sez

5033 Vincent Ave. So.
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612-925-3492

Did you ever think that spring was never going to come? I have talked to a lot of tracks in the past couple of months and they are all wondering when they will get their season kicked off. Rain, snow and cold weather have pushed back many openings two or more weeks. One of these tracks is Rock County Speedway in Luverne, MN.

I was contacted by the promoter at Rock County Speedway, Tim Grave back in December. He wanted to have our club, IMCA Old Timers, sponsor a show there this summer. We set a date to work with his schedule and came up with August 8th, 9th and 10th. The first thing I asked for was getting a show for three days that we could run all our cars, caged and uncaged. He agreed that it would be a complete club event. Besides our club, he is inviting vintage clubs from North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska to participate in the event but will run with our rules.

At the last club meeting, it was decided that I should go down there and find out more about Tim and the track. I was pleasantly surprised with the results. First off, I thought it would be a long 4.5-5 hour trip. Well, Ron Olson and I took off at 7:30am and arrived in Luverne around 10:30. We got there 2 hours before Tim was to meet us at 12:30 so, we proceeded to start looking for amenities for the club, eating joints, motels, campgrounds etc. Not to worry, there are places to eat from cheap to steak houses. There are motels from Comfort Inn and Super 8 to Mom and Pop operations. We only identified one problem, this is the Sturgis Rally

weekend and rooms will be hard to get the longer we wait. I would recommend that if you plan on staying there you make your reservation now and not wait. A list of the places will be found in the newsletter.

On another note, there has been, what I would say, poor attendance at last years events and at club meetings. I know people are busier than usual, and the family needs to have some time, but to function as a viable club, we need participation from everyone.

It has come down to just a few, doing a lot to keep things going. I want to thank those who get in there and help accomplish what needs to be done, but some of you, and you know who you are, wait for everything to be done for you and then complain when it is not going your way or done the way you would have done it. I and the rest of the Board are always open for your suggestions, but we need your ideas also with some resolutions. I want more than the Board to get involved so we can have a better season this year.

Some of the other things the Board are working on is a day at Raceway Park, Sunday, July 6th. A static vintage race car show at the Hopkins Raspberry Festival in Hopkins, MN. July 9th and a two day event at Golden Spike Speedway in Sank Rapids near St. Cloud. We are also looking into an event in September at Arlington. See you all at one or more of these events.

Big Don

A Note From Our Board

Board Member Paul Rempfer sends us all a wake-up note.
IMCA Old Timers "Future"

As I'm sitting here thinking of the coming season, I can't help but reflect on my last 20 years spent with the club. The many people I've met and enjoyed from all over the Midwest and beyond-we've had great meets, lots of cars and most important great time with our fellow members-and tons of great stories.

Unfortunately, times change, we've lost a number of our friends to the Great Oval in the Sky, our car counts have downsized through aging and health conditions of our members, etc.

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Back when our club was formed, it became the Big Show in the Midwest and with the popularity of vintage Exhibition Racing, many new clubs have formed to compete for car counts and entertainment dollars.

Today, I see a need to regroup as a club and be a supportive membership—"Times are Achanging"—each of us needs to do the most we can to support the dates that have been scheduled to insure our clubs future.

We need to get our Track Promoters excited about working with IMCA Oldtimers—leave a very good impression with the Promoter and have him want us back.

This is our first shot at Rock County Speedway in Luverne, MN. I've heard good things about this track from several members who have been there in the past.

We need a BIG TURNOUT-of all classes to show Tim Grave, RCS' promoter that we are serious about supporting his efforts in giving us three days to run our cars. This is what you members have been asking for "3 day events". Now is the time to show your support for your club and Tim Grave, and show up to have a good time and run our cars safely.

I'm a big believer in Quality dates, not lots of dates. Let's all pull together and support out major event for 2008 August 8-10-Rock County Speedway.

Please feel free to give me a call with any questions —651-351-9597 H/B and by all means SAFETY FIRST.

There is no limit on having fun!
Past President/Racing Director
Current Board Member
Paul M. Rempfer

What's Going On?

I have been lucky to be involved with our club since 1988. I have seen many changes along the way, however for the most part our Board and Officers have done a great job to make sure we had a place to put on a show. Here's the problem I want to talk to all of you about: **WHY AREN'T YOU SUPPORTING OUR CLUB?**

We schedule events but we have few or low cars show up, which seems like you are saying "Who cares?" This also includes putting cars on display at various events - some of you say you will be there and don't call to say you're not coming.

Many events were scheduled last year only to see our clubs officer's and president, a few or none show up.

At meetings people make promises and comments that have no resolve - we need to know what's going on and why no interest. There is absolutely no way for us to go

forward unless we are sure that we can count on all of you. I am very disappointed in the lack of interest, so let's see what we can do to get back on track.

Gary Stein
Past President
Current Board Member

Dates to mark on your calendars:

June 29 - General meeting at Savage Legion
July 6 - Raceway Park, Shakopee
Aug. 8, 9, 10 - Rock Co. Speedway

Any interest in a post-season banquet (dinner, dancing, etc)?



May 12th , 2008

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter is your invitation to join us for the 1st Annual Rock County Speedway, IMCA Oldtimers and Heartland Racing Old Time Division Open Vintage Reunion.

On Friday we will have a full show for all vintage race cars. Saturday is a day Full of Several Events such as a Car Show, Tour and Shopping for the ladies and racing along with the regular races and Sunday is a day loaded of racing. On the Second Page is a Schedule of events.

A \$20.00 Pre Registration Fee is **Mandatory**. Bring along this Letter to the race and Receive 3 Pit Passes Free including driver and receive \$15.00 back in return as well.

For all Pre Registered Cars You will receive a Dash Plaque!!

Register the Weekend of and it cost \$20.00 Non Refundable.

This is Exhibition Racing Only!!!!

It would be my privilege and honor that you except this invitation to be a part of Rock County History. Help us kickoff our Inaugural Season .

Thank you and I am looking forward to seeing you on this special weekend.

Sincerely,

Timothy Grave
Promoter

**For more information Contact Timothy Grave at (605) 400-1070,
email: rockcountyspeedway@yahoo.com or check us out on the internet
at www.rockcountyracing.com**

Rules on www.imcaoldtimers.com **All Rules will be enforced!!!!**

Track Dimensions 3/8 Mile Dirt Oval on Outside and ¼ mile on inside
Front stretch - 65 Feet Wide
Backstretch - 65 Feet Wide
Turns - 65 Feet Wide

The Plan of Events

August 8th Registration at the Racetrack begins at 12 noon

Dinner begins at 4:00pm

Pit Meeting 6:00pm

Hot Laps to start at 6:30 pm Heats and Features to follow

August 9th Registration at the Racetrack from 7-12

Breakfast at 8am

Driver's Can Show off Car's Beginning at 10am

Woman go on Tour and Shopping in and around Luverne MN

Lunch on Own

Dinner Begins at 4:00pm

Pit Meeting 6:00pm Hot Laps Followed

Heats and Features to follow along with Regular racing Program

August 10th Breakfast beginning at 9:00am

Church Service for those wishing to attend at 10:30am

Lunch on Own

Pit Meeting at 12:00pm

Hot Laps beginning at 12:30

Heats and Features to follow

Hotel and Campground Information

Blue Mound State Park

RR1

Luverne MN 56156

507-283-1307

Pipestone RV Campground

919 N Hiawatha

Pipestone MN 56164

507-825-2455

Comfort Inn

801 S Kniss Ave

Luverne MN 56156

507-283-9488

Cozy Rest Motel

116 S Kniss Ave

Luverne MN 56156

507-283-4461

Super 8 Motel

Hwy I-90 & US 75

Luverne MN 56156

507-283-9541

Arrow Hotel

620 8th Ave NE

Pipestone MN 56164

507-825-3331

Sunrise Hotel

Country Side RD 4

Luverne MN 56156

1-877-641-2345

Brimark Inn

3200 W Russell St

Sioux Falls SD 57105

1-800-658-4508

Hillcrest Motel

North Highway 75

Luverne MN 56156

1-800-588-3763

www.hillcrestmotel.com

Email:crest98@iw.net

Camping Overnight camping with no facilities at track/Other Locations are available on the previous page with hookups

Call for Rates!!!!

Book Motel Rooms Early this is Sturgis Rally Weekend and things will Fill Up FAST!!!

Rock County Speedway, IMCA Oldtimers and Heartland Racing Old Time
Division Open Invitational

August 8,9,10th 2008

Each Car needs a separate registration. You have the permission to copy the form if needed.

Car # _____

Class of Car(sprint, midget, uncaged, caged, coupe, super modified, full body. Sedans ,TQ) _____

Driver's Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number(_____) _____ DOB ___/___/___

Car Year _____ Car Color _____ Motor Size & Type _____

Present Car Owner _____ Car Builder _____

Former/Original Owner _____

Former/Original Driver _____

Club(s) Affiliation _____

Car History(Tracks Raced Feature Wins & ETC) _____

Sponsors: _____

(use back if necessary)

Please check below which days you plan to attend

Friday _____

Saturday _____

Sunday _____

Crossed up N' Slidin'

Last Lap

With extreme sadness we note the passing of member Bob Ryan. My memories of Bob are a guy that seemed to be always smiling and was ready to help or lend you tools whenever you needed. His cars were always immaculate and he really seemed to have a ball running with Us.

Lousy winter weather sure hung on. Didn't take off long underwear till mid April. So much for "Global Warming". Did manage go west and south thru the worst of winter. Donner Pass had 25 feet of snow! Passed a lot of tracks that were racing but didn't feel like going.

My old sprinter sits in my shop with a tarp over it. Check it once in a while. Can't find anybody younger interested enough to help or even go to races. What's this world coming to?

Board Member Jim Heiland sent a package of interesting stuff to share; the 2nd annual IMCA Old Timers Swap Meet was held April 12 at Raceway Park. Jim says the crowd was down in numbers (wonder why?) but not in spirit but stuff changed hands. Special thanks to Jim Boman that kept the coffee and hot dogs hot. Also Rick Stine and Keith Parchem for watching the gate and collecting money. Thanks again to Mike and John for the use of their facility

Raceway was open for test and tune for a \$25.00 fee the 12th along with the swap meet. Jim didn't say how many cars actually got on the track since spring definitely hadn't come. Raceway is open for test and tune every Thursday from 10 AM till dark and Saturdays from 9AM to 3 PM for the \$25.00 fee

Jim also had Racer Preview day at Liberty Station in Arlington. Jim blocks the street by his business (which is also the entry to Arlington track), works with Bob Allen the Arlington Promoter and other race-related businesses in the area. Local racers and car nuts bring their cars for display and lots of bench racing and the public votes for "Peoples Choice" with trophies and dash plaques for all entrants. Jim was helped by B&B Racing Chassis, Cabin Bar, Green Isle Auto Salvage, Coop Racing Engines, Arlington NAPA & Sunoco Racing Fuel. S&S Machine, Arlington Raceway and Liberty Station. Jim is in the final stages of restoring the Bob Jusola Camaro he was lucky enough to find. He says it will be on the track this summer. Here's a pic. Looks like a first class job!



Jim also noted The July 6th intermission show at Raceway Park, Luverne August 8,9 and 10, Webster City Sept. 5th and 6th and a possible September event at Arlington



IMCA OLDTIMERS
c/o Gary Stein
10823 Farrell Way
Northfield, MN 55057

The Parts Counter

For Sale- Christenson- Dollansky #14 supermod/sprint car. Built 1965 by Orville Christenson in Monticello, MN. Raced by Orville 1965 & 66 at Princeton, MN. Stillwater, MN. And Cedar Lake WI. Sold 1967 to Bill Dollansky Craig's Dad . Raced 1967-71 as a supermod at Princeton, Stillwater, Golden Spike Speedway, St. Cloud; North Star Speedway, New Brighton and the Minnesota State Fair in 1971. Converted to sprint car for 1972 season. Champion many times. Complete provenance , lots of pictures. 3 seasons old .030 over 350 Chevy motor with Vertex mag, solid lifters, roller rockers, Murgic head job on 305 heads for 10:75 compression. Newly rebuilt Winters quick change. Full sets of dirt and asphalt tires, lots of spare parts and 2 wheel open trailer. Pics on request. Just needs TLC to go racin. \$10,000 /offer Daryl Johnson 651-257-3314

No new ads;

Send or call your free Parts Counter ads to Daryl Johnson, 651-257-3314
11385 - 335th St., Lindstrom, MN 55045
Ads are free and will run 3 times or until items are sold