VINTAGE RACER GROUP
VRG
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WINTER WARM-UP
GRAND PRIX NY, MT KISCO
SATURDAY, FEB. 8, 2014 (1PM)

NEWSLETTER

VRG RACE SCHEDULE 2014

✓ FEBRUARY 8, 2014	WINTER WARM-UP - GRAND PRIX NEW YORK, MT. KISCO, NY Event Chairman: Darry Bova, Tel: 203-329-9710 Email: darry@vrgonline.org
MARCH TBA	PITTSBURGH AREA VINTAGE RACER'S WINTER DINNER Event Chairman: Keith Lawrence, Tel: 412-995-7101 or Email: keith@vrgonline.org
APRIL 11-13, 2014	VDCA WILD HARE RUN, VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY, ALTON, VA Event Chairman: Mike Jackson, Tel: 561-622-7554 Email: vdca@vintagedrive.com
MAY 15-18, 2014	"JEFFERSON 500" AT SUMMIT POINT, WEST VIRGINIA (May 16-18) with FREE Open Practice Day May 15 - VRG Drivers School (May 14-15) 45th ANNIVERSARY OF FORMULA FORD in the USA for all Monoposto Legal FF (1968-81) VRG/Royale FF Challenge Series (First leg of three race meetings) IMSA RS/SCCA 2.5L Sedan Series **John Morton - Grand Marshall** Co-Event Chairmen: Cal Trumbo and Jim Karamanis, Tel: 304-449-7050 Email: j500@vrgonline.org
JUNE 27-29, 2014	THE VINTAGE MOTORSPORTS FESTIVAL AT THOMPSON SPEEDWAY MOTORSPORTS PARK - THOMPSON, CT OLDEST ROAD COURSE IN U.S., CO-SANCTIONED WITH THE VSCCA Event Chairman: Paul Bova and Assistant Paul King, Tel: 203-329-9710 Email: paul@vrgonline.org
JULY 11-13, 2014	PVGP HISTORIC RACES, PIRC, (Pitt Race) WAMPUM, PA VRG/Royale FF Challenge Series (Second leg of three race meetings) Event Chairman: Keith Lawrence, Tel: 724-941-5330 Email: keith@vrgonline.org
AUG. 1-2, 2014	24th VINTAGE CELEBRATION - NEW HAMPSHIRE MOTOR SPEEDWAY Event Chairman: David Fromer, Tel: 802-253-8854 Email: oddjob@stowe.nu
SEPT. 19-21, 2014	NEW JERSEY HISTORIC RACES, NJMP MILLVILLE, NJ VRG/Royale FF Challenge Series (Third leg of three race meetings) Event Chairman: Butch O'Connor, Tel: 973-769-7707 Email: fiveoaks@ptd.net
OCT. 10-12, 2014	VRG AT THE GLEN, WATKINS GLEN, NY Event Chairman: Mike Lawton, 978-274-5935 Email: lawton@vrgonline.org
NOV. 28 - 30, 2014	TURKEY BOWL XIII, SUMMIT POINT, WESTVIRGINIA Event Chairman: Michael Oritt, Tel: 305-420-4929 Email: Michael@vrgonline.org

Visit the VRG website at www.vrgonline.org for changes and updates to the schedule.

Tucking your Race Car to Bed for the Winter

Some of us will be putting our race cars away for the winter in trailers, some under tarps, many in garages or storage areas. Most of these are likely to be unheated spaces. Each of us has a system for doing this and here's a collection of tips you can use for both your track and street vintage cars. If you have suggestions to add to this, please pass them on.

Let's start with the obvious…there's no time better than right now to start taking care of any major work you might want to do to your car. Need to rebuild the motor… add to the roll cage…redo the wiring (Tom, I'm talking to you!)…now's the time to get it done. We've all learned over the years that no matter what it is you want to do: it's going to take longer and cost you more money - so don't put it off to the spring… get on it now.

This is a good time to go over the car before you put it away for the winter. Don't store your cars dirty. Dirt attracts and holds moisture and you know how damaging that can be. Go over the car, clean it up. Put a coat of wax on the paint and polish the chrome. Clean and vacuum the interior and while you're in there. If you can remove the seat cover, do so and wash it. Check your belts and window netting, both have expiration dates. If yours is close to going out of date, now's a good time to order a new set of belts, or at least make a note to order them during the winter.

Most experts recommend changing out the oil and filter. If you've been running all season without anti-freeze, now's the time to flush the system and fill it up again using antifreeze, especially if the car will be kept in an unheated or outdoor storage. I also find this is a good time to check, flush, top off the brake fluid too. While you're at it, why not check the hoses, belts, brake lines, brake lights and repair, replace…or note items that need to be taken care of when you break the car out for the next season.

In race cars, most of us tend to drain the fuel out of the fuel cell if they won't be used for some time. In street cars this is also an option though many folks will simply add fuel stabilizer and top off the tank. Understand however, if you use pump gas that ethanol does slowly separate and combine with water over time. This is particularly bad stuff to pump into a race engine.

Batteries are best removed from your race car/vintage street car when they won't be used for long periods. Batteries, when weak or discharged have been known to crack in freezing weather. Best procedure is to take battery out of the car. Clean the terminals and spray with WD40. While you're at it, this is also a good time to check the condition of your ground connection, battery box and battery hold down too. Then, clean the battery, the casing and terminals, bring it inside and hook it up to a battery charger that also can maintain it. If you have a standard wet cell battery, check the cells for fluid and top off before charging and putting away. Gel Mat and sealed batteries can skip that step. If you've gone high tech with a lithium battery

Tucking your Race Car to Bed for the Winter, cont.

you can probably charge the battery and store it in a warm, dry location and check it for charge each month. Lithium batteries are documented to lose no more than about 10% of their charge when let disconnected for an extended period.

Do you put your car up on stands for the winter or are you like most of us and leave the car standing on all four wheels? I have a spare set of wheels with older tires, which I use when storing the car. Even then, I overfill the tires by 5 lbs psi to avoid flat spotting. This is particularly important with vintage street cars. By the way, if you do put the car up on stands, many people believe it's best to put the stands under the suspension rather than the chassis, so as to keep the suspension under load.

No matter where you store your race car, critters seem to find them. Almost everyone has a tale of finding mouse nests and damage in a stored car. I leave a tray of mothballs in the cockpit and cover the exhaust and any other openings. Some people use fabric softener sheets in the cockpit and boot and also stuff them into any opening. No matter what you do, it won't hurt to check on the car midway through the winter if you can.

I use a Tyvec cover for my car as it "breathes." Don't use plastic sheets or tarps, which moisture condenses on and seals moisture in. It could cause some nasty rusting and mean a lot more work getting ready in the spring.

Lastly, if you don't already have it, consider getting insurance. The cost of insuring a race car anytime it's not on the race track is surprisingly inexpensive. The stories of cars that have been stolen or vandalized, lost in fires or damaged by rain, melting snow…you name it and it's happened. You will sleep better knowing your investment is covered should the unexpected happen. I have insurance for both my race car and trailer.

As you go through the car, make a list of all the things you see that need to be taken care of by the spring. Make a shopping list of parts that have to be ordered. If you want to be really efficient take a spare calendar (we all get them) and write down on each month all the things you like to knock off that To Do list.

By the time that first race rolls around you'll be ready to go and looking forward to tech…right Tom?

Storm Field

Bill Stoler photos for VRG

VRG photography by Bill Stoler

Bowl
Rides
Heroes
SUMMIT POINT

352

18

98

View more @ billstoler.com

View from the Tower

2013 Turkey Bowl

As the 2013 Turkey Bowl approached, I was filled with anxiety! The weather looked marginal and there was a new management team. As the event opened, the weather cleared and the EC and his team had things in hand.

So the event started, and with my trusty partners in crime, Tracy Hyatt and Dave Parker, the event was on track less than 5 minutes late. The 3 days ran smoothly except for a few delays. From on high, the drivers did a great job following directions and watching for flags. Not a single missed Yellow or Black flag. Great job!!!

Special thanks to WDCR's EV crew, the Kearney gang that has flagged for us the last few years, the Railside for great breakfast, and the Summit Point maintenance and Chez Summit staff. Without them the event would have not been as good.

At the end of the weekend all went home looking to 2014.

The Turkey Bowl has had a long standing tradition of giving out "Worker's Choice " award for each of the race groups.

2013 awards went to the Michael Clifford stable for 3 of the 5 groups and a local driver.

Group 1	Vintage Small Bore	Michael Clifford, Jr	1965 Lotus Cortina
Group 2	Open wheel & S2000	Henvey Parke	1965 Elva 200
Group 3	Vintage Big Bore	Tom Grudovich	1966 Genetta G4
Group 4	Modern	Robert Korzeen	2013 Mustang boss 302s
Group 5	Legends	Damien Payton	1934 Legends

Not always the fastest, the quickest but the ones that sound the best drove the best or overcame some adversity. Great drive from all the workers!!!!!!!!!

The Stewards started a new tradition of Bill the Bass, which will be given to a driver, worker or other person associated with Turkey Bowl that in the Stewards Mind (yes I know you did not know Stewards had brains) deserves to be recognized. This year it was given to a driver who was a fish out of water. He had not driven an open wheel car in 40yrs. By the end of the week-end, he was challenging the VRG open wheel elite. Great work and nice driving to Tivvy Shenton.

See you in the spring.

Steve Hyatt

OLD TOWN WINCHESTER

Summit Point
Raceway
WINNER'S Circle

91

RDZ
MOTORSPORTS

76

17

11
11

Racequip
DiVecchio
203-261-1111

Formula Ford Frenzy

Formula Ford Frenzy will kick off at VRG's JEFFERSON 500, May 15-18, 2014 at Summit Point Raceway, Summit Point, West Virginia.

Following a blockbuster 2013 event at Summit Point with 260 entries, including 75 MG's, VRG, with 53 members owning Monoposto Legal Formula and/or Club Fords is creating a special race series in 2014 exclusively for Formula Fords constructed up through 1981 and running on treaded tires. Chris Shoemaker will be taking the point on this celebration of the 45th anniversary of Monoposto legal Formula Fords, which will kick off at Summit Point at the Jefferson 500. From there, the racing will move to Pittsburgh in July and culminate in a third event in September at NJMP.

While most of racers in the Northeast have raced at Summit Point, if you haven't here's an example of the Formula Ford action from this year's 2013 race, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_xG9_r1kLs.

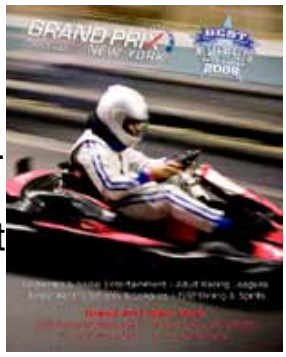
The Jefferson 500 is a joint event between VRG and Summit Point Raceway that not only includes 3 days of great racing, but also a free test day on the Thursday preceding the event for those who register early.

Online registration will be available after the first of the year at vrgonline.org. For more information, contact Chris Shoemaker at cshoem286@yahoo.com, Bill Hollingsworth at bill@vrgonline.org or event chairman, Jim Karamanis at jim@vrgonline.org.

Winter Warm-Up
Saturday, February 8, 2014
Mt Kisco, New York

Join your VRG friends for some winter fun

GRAND PRIX NEW YORK



An afternoon at GPNY, an indoor karting facility in Mt Kisco, NY. A chance to hone your driving skills in the off season on one of two quarter mile tracks at this state of the art facility. This event is open to VRG members, non-members and friends.

Event Details

Place:	Grand Prix New York, 333 N. Bedford Road, Mt Kisco, NY 10549	
	Phone: (914) 241-3131	*Check out their website at www.gpny.com*
Time:	1:00 pm	Arrival Time
	1:15 pm	Safety Briefing
	1:45 pm	Racing, Downtown Track
	2:45 pm	Late Lunch, includes Non-Alcoholic Bar
Cost:	$120 includes driving and lunch	
	$35 lunch only	
	Cash Bar for Alcoholic Drinks	

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, ST, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

e-Mail: _____

Driving & Lunch: _____ # @ $120 per person

Lunch Only: _____ # @ $35 per person

On-line registration at www.motorsportreg.com
or
Mail this form and a check by February 1, 2014 to
Darry Bova, 35 Chatham Road, Stamford, CT 06903
make checks payable to **VRG**

VINTAGE RACER GROUP

VRG

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WWW.VRGONLINE.ORG

For the driver who enjoys racing with others who value driver attitude, skill and car preparation.

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Hope to see you at Grand Prix New York for a fun Saturday afternoon February 8th, 1pm