

The Life Land Life Land

A quarterly publication of the **Eastern Museum of Motor Racing**Located at 100 Baltimore Road, York Springs, PA **2020 Issue No. 2** • published in mid-May **2020**

May and June EMMR Events Canceled!

All events in May and June at both the museum and the fairgrounds have been *canceled or post-poned*. The museum is slated to reopen to the public the first weekend of June (June 1–3) barring any unforeseen circumstances. Unfortunately when the museum reopens in June we will not be able to accommodate any large groups or tours.

The museum volunteers will be complying with all guidelines and recommendations put in place and will have our visitors' health and safety as a top priority.

Please continue to check our website (emmr.org) and Facebook pages for updates. If you do not have access to the internet, we will be updating the phone message at the museum as often as possible so please call 717-528-8279 to check the status of the museum.

FROM Lynn Paxton CURATOR

I want to thank all of our volunteers that came out for our Thursday night work parties during the winter. We did get a lot accomplished. The museum is ready to go for another year—whenever we get open!

It's been a challenging past few months for everyone with the Coronavirus issue and we want to get open as soon as we are allowed (hopefully June).



Lynn Paxtor Curator

We will have to abide by the guidelines from Pennsylvania as far as the number of people in the museum. For that reason, we will not be able to schedule large tour groups till further notice. So, the *museum will be closed for May*. Our *events for May and June have been canceled or postponed.*

EMMR's last events that we did get in, before this all started, were our roundtables. The Shark Racing (Allen), Drag Racing Party, and the Motorcycle Racing with Bob Sholly and the Markey Family. They were well-attended.

On a sad note, we lost a great member of EMMR, **Jim Etter**. Jim donated items for auctions and helped at our events. He was our "Movie Man" at EMMR's Lobitz's Movie Parties since day one!

Bobby Adamson passed away earlier this month. Steve Bubb, EMMR Librarian, has posted a great article about Bobby on our website: <u>www. emmr.org</u>. Please take a look at it.

Billy Gettle, a long-time engine builder, car owner, and machinist, passed away recently.

Happy Trails to you...until we meet again.

—Lynn Paxton c 717-321-3484 or h 717-432-5522

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, the museum is sparkling clean, new cars are in place, and new changes to library—all ready for 2020! But wait, a little thing called a *virus* has crept into our lives, so things are canceled or on hold as of mid-May.

Large crowds are not allowed so we have had to **cancel all events during**May and June, but we hope to open for tours beginning June 6. Guests will be provided a mask and hand sanitizer, plus we will practice social distancing in the Museum.



Nancy Miller President, EMMR

As you know we are in a tug-of-war with the township about our rec area. We are on hold for now but if you have questions you can call Judy at 717-580-6083 or Nancy at 717-766-0837 or 717-418-2102. If you still have "your lot" we are asking that you help to maintain it through the year. You can keep in touch with us by our new website, by Facebook, or by just calling us.

Remember: don't close the door when bad things happen to you. Just turn the page and start a new chapter.

—Nancy Miller hipgrandma@aol.com

EMMR/WGOT Convention Car Cruise News

We are changing our registration fee for the Car Cruise on Saturday August 29 from \$10.00 to a "**Donation**" this year due to the hit on our economy. EMMR understands that incomes have been compromised due to the Coronavirus. Please pass the word along. Mark the date for the convention – **August 29th and 30th.** Hopefully we will be able to get together by then. —**Carol Weaver** 717-465-2191.

This man needs help...

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Latimore Valley Fairgrounds is going to be in need of volunteers to help keep it looking good. We do have a number of people volunteering to mow, but we have a lot of trimming to do. If anyone is interested in helping in any way, please contact Barry Murphy at 717-512-1919.



Barry Murphy Volunteer Groundskeeper



Hello all you drag racing fans—it seems like forever since I have seen all of you.

Mid-Winter Drag Racing Party held

The last drag racing event was the Mid-Winter Drag Racing Party and the Valve Cover Racing Annual Winter Nationals on February 15, 2020. The valve cover entries increased to 31 this year. The "top dog" was Eugene Gosthnian with his 1953 Studebaker and runner-



Drag Racing Coordinator

up was Brad Polhemus with his 351 Ford valve cover. This year we added a special "Competitors Pick Award" which was won by Mary Anne Reside.

Car Clubs, both past and present, were featured—their car club jackets were displayed on the curtain behind the stage. There were seven clubs represented: the Piston Riders, the Vagabonds, Hanover Rod and Custom, Motor Menders, Keystone Garage Club, the Hooligans, and the Pacers. They had some interesting stories about their origins, events, and fundraising for charities.

The crowd was also treated by Larry "Doggie" Swigart's Car Club plague collection. His impressive collection of plaques, including his restored plaques, filled a display case.

I want to personally thank the museum volunteers and my buddies that helped with the Mid-Winter Party and also the roundtable speakers, plus Frankie Burke as the emcee and "Mashie" for taking pictures.

Changes in the Drag Racing display

The Drag Racing section made some alterations: expanded Jungle Jim display, and changes to the Jere Stahl and Bill Jenkins displays. Bruce Larson's Camaro is displayed courtesy of Greg Swenson. Owned by the Bilbow family, Pat Bilbow's Lyndwood dragster is on display. A new item is the original door and grill for Ronnie "Sox's 1964 Mercury Comet thanks to Jim Amos' donation.

Many Events Canceled

Everyone was anxiously awaiting for the EMMR's Spring Open House on April 4 and 5 but sadly the Coronavirus pandemic caused a required shutdown. As of this newsletter deadline, many events are canceled, but we hope to have events in July. Watch EMMR's Facebook page or website www.EMMR.org for updates, or call Jeff Golden 717-873-5091.

—Jeff Golden, Drag Racing Coord., 717-873-5091

Latimore Valley Fair Canceled

The 36th annual Latimore Valley Fair has been canceled for this year. The 2020 fair was originally scheduled for June 26 to 28, 2020.

Given the high risk of prolonged effects of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic we will not be moving forward this year.

The health and safety of our attendees, volunteers, vendors, bands, and the residents of the surrounding areas, is foremost on our minds.

Even if Governor Wolfe opens Pennsylvania before the date, we have not been able to secure sponsors. advertise, or collect Chinese raffle prizes.

Please keep in mind the museum counts on income from the events that have been canceled: please donate if at all possible.

If you would like to be involved in our 2021 fair, please get in touch. We will be planning an awesome fair for June 25-27, 2021!

> —Amy Kelly, Fair Chairperson 717-630-0776 akelly537@gmail.com



During the Drag Racing Party, a large crowd gathered to watch the 31 different valve cover racers compete for the coveted trophies.

PHOTOS OF THE MID-WINTER DRAG RACING PARTY ARE COURTESY OF "MASHIE"



"Doggie" Swigart's Car Club plaque collection filled a display case during the Mid-Winter Drag Racing Party.



2020 EVENTS



South-central Pennsylvania, north of York Springs

717-528-8279 www.**EMMR**.org

Schedule as of 05/05/2020. See www.EMMR.org or call 717-528-8279.

- May 22 Possibly CANCELED. WILLIAMS GROVE SPEEDWAY, Mechanicsburg, PA. Davey Brown Tribute Race. EMMR Display. Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- May 29 Possibly CANCELED. WILLIAMS GROVE SPEEDWAY, Mechanicsburg, PA. 410s and 358 sprints. EMMR Track Time & Display. Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- June 5 Possibly CANCELED. WILLIAMS GROVE SPEEDWAY, Mechanicsburg, PA. "School's Out Night" and EMMR Display. Nancy Miller 717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- June 12 Possibly CANCELED. WILLIAMS GROVE SPEEDWAY, Mechanicsburg, PA. Silver Crown, 410 Sprint Cars, and EMMR Display. Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- June 13 CANCELED! ANTIQUE CAR SHOW at EMMR/LVFG by Gettysburg Region Antique
 Automobile Club of America. Terry Mitchell 717-258-0459 for registration. Bob Schultz 717-7660457 bobshop120@gmail.com
- June 13 Possibly CANCELED. PORT ROYAL SPEEDWAY, Port Royal, PA. EMMR Track Time & Display. Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- June 21 CANCELED! 3rd SUNDAY ROUNDTABLE at EMMR: 1-3pm. Topic: Keith and Kathy Kauffman. Dave Hare, M.C. Lynn Paxton h:717-432-8188 c:717-321-3484
- June 26-28 CANCELED! 36th LATIMORE VALLEY FAIR, A Country Festival. Arts, Crafts, Flea Market, Live Entertainment all weekend. Vintage Race Car Track Time on Sat. Car Show Sunday. Old Tractors, Engines Tractor Pulls (Sat. & Sun.). Fair Contact: Amy Kelly 410-259-3652. Tractors: Don Bowersox 717-215-7519
- NOTICE: scheduled events might continue to be canceled based on the COVID-19 status prior to the date of the event. Check with the location or contacts prior to planning to attend any events.
- July 2 HAGERSTOWN SPEEDWAY, Hagerstown, MD. Thurs. night of Speed Week. EMMR Track Time & Display. Nancy M. h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- July 4 BAPS MOTOR SPEEDWAY, (formerly Susquehanna Speedway), York Haven, PA. EMMR Track Time & Display. Nancy h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- July 10 WILLIAMS GROVE SPEEDWAY, Mechanicsburg, PA. 410 Sprint Cars & URC. EMMR Photo Op and Display. Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- July 10-11 7th Annual COMMUNITY YARD SALE at EMMR. \$5 per space. Judy Freels 717-580-6083 freelsjudy@yahoo.com
- July 11-12 DRAG RACERS REUNION WEEKEND. Saturday at EMMR: Gathering of Legends and their Cars, Nitro Engine fire-ups, Valve Cover Racing, Vendors, Displays. Cruise-in Car Show, \$10 donation, Door Prizes. Sunday at South Mountain Raceway, Boiling Springs: Nostalgia Race Cars on the track, Match Races, plus too much to list! Jeff Golden c:717-873-5091
- July 19 3rd SUNDAY ROUNDTABLE at EMMR: 1-3pm. Topic: "Reading Fairgrounds" by Galen Kohler. Lynn Paxton h:717-432-8188 c:717-321-3484
- July 25 1st Annual PA POSSE PICNIC & SPRINT CAR RACING APPRECIATION DAY at EMMR & LVFG. Plus Expansion Fundraiser for EMMR. 10am-3pm. Tom Mulcahy, tommy8191@yahoo.com
- July 25 BUD GARVEY'S REUNION, Osceola Mills, PA. Car Show, Music, Food. Please support this non-EMMR event. Nancy M. h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- July 29-Aug. 1: MECUM Collector Car Auction, 1200 vehicles at Pa. Farm Show complex, Harrisburg PA. EMMR Display all 4 days. Barry Melchi c:717-669-2711
- Aug. 7-9 BLOOMSBURG NATIONALS AUTO SHOW, Bloomsburg Fairgrounds. EMMR Display with Track Time Sunday. Enter car on Thurs. for display Aug. 7-9.
 Or for Track Time only on Sunday Aug. 9. Tom Quick 570-336-7230
- Aug. 14 BEDFORD SPEEDWAY, Bedford, PA. EMMR Track Time & Display. Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- Aug. 16 3rd SUNDAY ROUNDTABLE at EMMR: 1-3pm. Topic: Trevis Race Car Reunion. Marlin Heller 717-818-3961
- Aug. 29-30 46th Annual EMMR/WGOT CONVENTION at EMMR & LVFG. Honoring Perry Trimmer. "Grand Marshall" is Reading Fairgrounds. Fri Night: Museum open till 6 pm. Sat & Sun: daytime events at EMMR; afternoon track time at Latimore Valley. Sat: Car Show 10am-3pm, Reg. Fee \$10; Rain Date is Sunday; Carol Weaver 717-465-2191. Sat: Inliners International, noon at pavilion below Museum; Steve 215-547-0866. Track Time: Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102. Convention: Emily Winslow e.winslow10@qmail.com 717-440-1424.
- Sept. 4 WILLIAMS GROVE SPEEDWAY, Mechanicsburg, PA. Bob Stewart Tribute Race. EMMR Display. Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- Sept. 12 LINCOLN SPEEDWAY, Abbottstown, PA. EMMR Track Time & Display. Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- Sept. 19 Sept. 19-20 PICNIC/WORK PARTY at EMMR/LVFG. Sunday 4:30 pm: Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, bring covered dish. Lynn Paxton 717-432-8188
- Sept. 26-27 FALL FESTIVAL, TRACTOR PULL, TRACTOR SHOW, CRAFT SHOW at Latimore Valley Fairgrounds. Central PA Blood Bank blood drive. Info: Andy Thomas 717-462-9590. Craft Show and Vendors: Carol Weaver 717-465-2191
- Sept. 27 GLORY DAYS at South Mountain Speedway, Boiling Springs, PA. EMMR Display. FREE Admission for EMMR members! Nancy h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102

- Oct. 3 EMMR & National Sprint Car Hall of Fame AUCTION at 10am. Auction held at the back pit gate entrance, WILLIAMS GROVE SPEEDWAY during National Open. EMMR/NSCHOF info call Don Robinson 717-378-9047. Just minutes from Williams Grove, EMMR will be open all day for visitors who are attending the National Open sanctioned by World of Outlaws Sprint Cars.
- Oct. 4 EMMR's 9th Annual SWAP MEET & FLEA MARKET at EMMR. John Marks 717-645-0440 <u>jtm64@comcast.net</u> or Junior Kelly 717-630-0776 <u>jalopyjunior@comcast.net</u> VINTAGE RACE CAR PARTS AUCTION in afternoon. Marlin Heller 717-818-3961
- Oct. 8 MUSEUM OPEN Thurs. 6-9pm for Hershey AACA Eastern Fall Meet visitors.
 Refreshments. Nancy Miller c:717-418-2102. Larry Stoner 717-258-4695
- Oct. 18 3rd SUNDAY ROUNDTABLE at EMMR: 1-3pm. Topic: Racing Photography. Nancy Miller h:717-766-0837 c:717-418-2102
- Nov. 1 LOBITZ PARTY & EMMR AUCTION at EMMR. 9am-5pm. Movies, Refreshments, Auction and Roundtable. Lynn Paxton 717-432-8188
- Nov. 15 3rd SUNDAY ROUNDTABLE at EMMR: 1-3pm. Topic: Late Model Racing. John Marks 717-645-0440
- Dec. 5-6 HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE at EMMR, 10-4pm. Sat. & Sun.: Auction, Refreshments, etc. <u>Sat.</u> features Drag Racing, topic: Performance Engine Building; Jeff Golden c:717-873-5091. <u>Sun.</u> Dirt Track day featuring Dick Vermeil, former NFL Eagles coach; discussing his father's racing history and Dick's experiences with racing. Central PA Blood Bank blood drive. Lynn Paxton h:717-432-8188 c:717-321-3484
- MUSEUM CLOSES on WEEKENDS for winter of 2020-2021 following the Holiday Open House, however museum is open EVERY FRIDAY weather permitting.



The Eastern Museum of Motor Racing (EMMR) is also the home of the Gettysburg Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America. For info: Bob Shultz 717-766-0457 hobshon13@verizon.net

Flemington Speedway Historical Society's home and display is at EMMR on the second floor since 2017. FlemingtonSpeedwayHistoricalSociety.com

- MUSEUM OPEN: Every Fri., Sat. & Sun. April 4 Dec. 6; 10 am to 4 pm.
- Open EVERY FRIDAY in winter, weather permitting, from early December to April.
- EMMR Monthly Board Mtgs: all welcome, 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at EMMR.

Eastern Museum of Motor Racing (EMMR)

Museum Address: 100 Baltimore Road, York Springs, PA 17372

Mailing Address: PO Box 688, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0688

MEMBERSHIPS: \$20 Annual or \$200 Life. Please mail to PO box above.

Address of Latimore Valley Fairgrounds: 314 Latimore Valley Road, York Springs, PA 17372

EMMR Monthly Board Mtgs: all welcome, 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at EMMR.
 Schedule as of 05/05/2020 —Watch www.EMMR.org or call 717-528-8279 for updates.

APRIL MAY JUNE

Seems like LIFE has been CANCELED for everyone. For members and friends of EMMR, surviving the long cold winter means looking forward to the warmer days when the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing opens for the season in the beginning of April. Many happy memories are usually made during the special events of April, May, and June. Sadly this year all these events have been canceled:

Spring Open House, Spring Work Party, Tommy Hinnershitz Classic at Williams Grove Speedway, EJ Kowalski Eliminator and EMMR display at South Mountain Raceway, Gary Wolford Memorial Fish Fry and Silver Spring Reunion, Track Time at Circle M Raceway, Latimore Fishing Derby, Billy Kimmel #47 Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament, Jalopy Showdown at Lincoln Speedway, May Roundtable: Bonneville Salt Flats racing, Davy Brown Tribute Race at Williams Grove Speedway, EMMR displays several times at Williams Grove Speedway, AACA Antique Car show at Latimore, EMMR display at Port Royal Speedway, June Roundtable: Keith and Kathy Kauffman, Latimore Valley Fair.

Wow, that's a lot of events that didn't happen in 2020. In addition to all the fun that happens at these events, EMMR has the opportunity to do **fund-raising** for the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing. The board of EMMR has estimated that \$50,000 would normally be donated at the events that were canceled this year!

\$50,000 lost because of canceled opportunities to fund-raise!

PLEASE... if you have memories of learning more about racing, friends made, lots of laughter, seeing old friends, dirt flying when cars are on the track... consider making a donation to help with expenses at EMMR. Send check to:

EMMR treasurer, PO Box 688, Mechanicsburg PA 17055-0688



MUSEUM ADDRESS:

100 Baltimore Road, York Springs, Penna.

0.5 miles east of Route 15, 14 miles south of Pa. Turnpike

717-**528-8279** • www.**EMMR**.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NOTICE

This newsletter is only 4 pages instead of the normal 16 pages. The reduced issue is due to the cancellation of many events in April, May, and June.

Join EMMR Today! Membership Annual is \$20. Lifetime is \$200.	
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I prefer to receive the EMMR newsletter via: □ by email as a PDF which is in full-color and fastest delivery. □ by U.S. Postal Service, prints in all black ink, slower delivery. □ I have a vintage or antique race vehicle, contact me. □ I might be interested in volunteering, contact me. □ I might have something to donate, contact me.	
Please make checks payable to "EMMR" an EMMR. Attn: Membership	ρ

PO Box 688, Mechanicsburg PA 17055-0688

VINTAGE RACE CAR

Proceeds

Benefit PRRTS RUCTION

Sunday October 4, 2020

Consignments or **Donations Wanted**

EMMR is in need of items for our Vintage Race Car Parts Auction on October 4. Have you been cleaning out your garage with all of this extra time on your hands?

Please contact Marlin Heller at 717-818-3961 or Lynn Paxton at h:717-432-8188 or c:717-321-3484 if you have any questions or if you have items you would like to consign or donate.