

# VKA FIRS

The Official Vintage Karting Association Magazine

October 2020

Rolf Hill, Editor

*The oldest and largest vintage karting association in America*



[www.VKAkarting.com](http://www.VKAkarting.com)  
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## VKA MEMBER

(YOUR PICTURE HERE)

### In this issue:

- 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary **MEMBERS**
- IKF Glory Days Part 3
- Quincy SUMMARY
- Springfield SUMMARY
- Chestertown SUMMARY
- Camden SUMMARY
- George Kugler MEMORIAL STONE
- ... and more

**VKA FIRSTTURN® IS GOING  
ELECTRONIC (p.16)**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TOPIC	SOURCE	p.
<b>2020 VKA Event Schedule</b>	Ginter/Charest/Copeland	2
COVID 19 vs. VKA	Rolf Hill	3
20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary – <b>MEMBERS</b>	Rolf Hill	3
Quincy SUMMARY	Jim Kammueler	4
Springfield SUMMARY	Ken Wooldridge	6
Chestertown SUMMARY	Kurt Bogerman	10
Camden SUMMARY	Jeff & Sherri Brown	13
NOTICES	VKA Board	16
Glory Days of IKF Part III	Bill McCornack	17
George Kugler MEMORIAL STONE	Randy Kugler	21
Resources	Members	22
Upcoming Events/Membership	Editor	24

## 2020 SCHEDULE BY K. GINTER , D. CHAREST, J. COPELAND

<b>VKA 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY</b> <b>2020 EVENT SCHEDULE-REVISED</b>	
<i>12/28-30/19 Daytona</i> <b>1/30-2/1 Riverside, CA</b> <b>2/13-15 Bushnell, FL</b> <i>3/6-8 Roebing Rd.</i> <b>5/7-9 Fremont, OH</b> <i>5/8-10 Gateway MP</i> <i>5/29-31 Summit Point</i> <b>6/18-20 New Castle, IN</b> <i>6/19-21 Mid-Ohio</i> <b>5/28-30 LaFayette, NY</b> <i>7/3 – 5 Charlotte</i> <b>7/9-11 Brodhead, WI</b> <i>7/10-12 Grattan</i> <b>7/23-25 Avon, NY</b>	<b>7/30-8/1 Quincy, IL</b> <i>8/14-16HeartlandPark, KS</i> <b>8/13-15 Springfield, IL</b> <b>8/21 &amp; 22 Chestertown,MD</b> <b>8/27-29 Camden, OH</b> <del><b>9/3-5 Saltillo</b></del> CANCELLED <b>9/11 &amp; 12 Oreville, PA</b> <b>9/17-19 Delmar, IA</b> <i>9/25-27 Pittsburgh Intrnl.</i> <b>10/1-3 Whiteland, IN</b> 🌸 <b>10/8-10 Bakersfield, CA*</b> <b>10/10-11 Street, MD</b> <b>11/5-7 Barnesville, GA</b> <i>Oct 17&amp;18 Roebing Road</i> <i>11/TBD MCMMP*</i>
VKA Sprint in <b>BOLD</b> * Indicates <b>tentative</b> Enduro in <i>italics</i>	

2021 SCHEDULE ... COMING SOON!

**“Houston, we have a problem.”<sup>1</sup> But we also have a solution ...**

The commitment for the **VKA FIRSTURN®** to go electronic may be none-too-soon.

Several events were cancelled and rescheduled to later in the year. In order for this issue to cover all of them since Avon, this issue would contain **EIGHT** event summaries. Allowing the usual 3 or 4 pages for each event including summary, results and pictures, this issue could be **FORTY** pages (including my BS) ... and that just ain't happenin'.

As [retiring] VKA Editor, I made a Command Decision (with the support of Len Emanuelson, the **NEW** Editor). These four events: Quincy, Springfield, Chestertown and Camden, happened in August; in a double month issue you wouldn't see them until they were 2½ months old. The rest of 2020 will be single month issues. Problem solved.

This is a prime example of how the new, improved **e-VKA FIRSTURN®** will bring you current, up-to-date coverage of VKA events. (We are still working on a paper-solution for those who don't have a computer.) The **e-VKA FIRSTURN®** will also allow for more complete coverage ... more detailed articles with more pictures.

One more plug for the **e-VKA FIRSTURN®**. One reason we have a Table of Contents in the paper version is to make finding articles (which have been laid-out based on available space) easier. With the **e-VKA FIRSTURN®** the electronic issues will be organized by topic ... tech articles, editorials, events, Member Memories, *etc.* A click on the link will take you directly there. I think you are going to like it.

## **20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY – MEMBERS BY ROLF HILL**

This year, the **VKA FIRSTURN®** has celebrated our “Founding Fathers,” Past Presidents, Companies, Hall of Famers/Lifetime Members and Promoters/Track Owners. But I would be negligent if I did not recognize and THANK the largest group of people who have helped make VKA what

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<sup>1</sup> Jim Lovel, Apollo 13, 4/12/70. The actual quote was, “Houston, we’ve had a problem.”

it is today ... **YOU** ... the Members. Currently, we are 500+ strong, but over the 20 years, members have come and gone. The total number of members in the past 20 years is likely to approach 1000 ... living, dead, retired, driver, wrencher, pit crew, spectator, picker, manufacturer, fabricator... all of you have played a role in VKA's success. **THANK YOU.**

Early events may have been just a couple of die-hard vintage karters, but that excitement exploded into events of over 100 entries! Who was that?

**YOU.**

Kart Shows, too, have shown the world what can be done to restore the fabulous relics that paved the way for modern karting. Some have truly been "historic" (rust and all), while others, albeit "trailer-queens," have shown the true potential and skills of our members to bring these classics back to life. Who did that?

**YOU.**

Let's hope those who are around 20 years from now will look back and recognize **YOUR** contribution.

### QUINCY SUMMARY BY JIM KAMMUELLER

The Thursday morning rains moved through the area and we had great weather for the VKA 2020 "Rumble by The River - Round 5" races at TNT Kartways. Considering the year this has been, and a competing karting activity at the "Brickyard", there were 42 entries and a great time was had by all with good driving and clean racing fun. We even had some "fireworks" for entertainment when Nick KammueLLer's MC-91b1 engine "grenaded" on the front straight during practice. → → → →



Thursday was a practice day as was Friday morning. Heat 1, the Kart Show and awards followed by the pizza party were held Friday afternoon. The event concluded on Saturday morning with the Heats 2 and 3 and awards.

The kart show was judged by Gary Wlodarsky with help from some enthusiastic young track workers.

*Jim KammueLLer*

QUINCY DEMONSTRATION EVENT RESULTS			
Class	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
3. Sportsman Rear	Jim Kammuel		
7 Dual Engine	Shawn Welte		
8. 6.1/8.2 SW	Matt Morgeson	Josh Fisher	Darin Birge
9. 8.2 SW	Hal Orndorff		
12. Sportsman S/W	Jim Kammuel	Steve Mox	
13.1Yam PistonPort	Reg Rowsey	Jim Kammuel	
13.hYam PistonPort	Rodney Fish	J.T. Noble	Steve Curts
14. Yam Ltd.	Amy Scoggins	Marty Westen	Josh Fisher
15. SASW	Steve Welte	Gene Lang	
16. Over-60 SW	Marty Weston	Jim Rowe	J. Wisenbeger
18. 8.2 West Bend	Randy Duncaff	Kirk Gustafson	
20. Classic 150cc	Ken Wooldridge		

QUINCY SHOW RESULTS BY JIM KAMMUELLER	
<b>JUDGES:</b> G.Wlodarsy and track staff	
<b>HISTORIC</b>	
Restored	'62 Bug Fly; MC-91b1; Jim Kammuel
Past Champion	'63 Alley Kat
<b>REAR</b>	
Modified	'63 Alley Kat; MC-91; Shawn Welte
Past Champion	'63 Alley Kat; Dual WB 820s; Shawn Welte
<b>SIDEWINDER</b>	
Unrestored	'75 Invader; MC-93; Jim Kammuel
Restored	'74 Meyers Lancer; K-88; Dale Fisher
Modified	'76 Hartman; Yamaha; Pat Hammond
Past Champion	'84 Margay; SB-16; Aaron Kruger
<b>MINI BIKE</b>	
Best in Show	'61 Grand Prix; Predator; Aaron Kurger
<b>PEOPLES' CHOICE</b>	
Best in Show	'76 Hartman; Yamaha; Pat Hammond



## SPRINGFIELD SUMMARY BY KEN WOOLDRIDGE

The Springfield VKA event (8/13-15/2020) was outstanding! We had 48 entries and given the current circumstances that was good. We had a great turnout Thursday for practice day. Three new VKA members signed up for the event.

Friday was practice in the morning with two Heats starting at 2:30 PM. We had pizza delivered for the party Friday evening and all had a great time visiting and meeting new friends.

Saturday, we had the kart show at 9:30AM with a short practice afterwards and the 3rd Heat following. There were some

outstanding Heats on track with some great competitors. The trophy presentation and great door prizes were passed out and we were done by 1:30PM.

The weather cooperated all weekend and we had an outstanding event with great people!

Thanks to Jon Clem Midstate kart club president and his superb staff for all that you do to make this event great. *Ken Wooldridge*

SPRINGFIELD DEMONSTRATION EVENT RESULTS			
Class	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
3. Sportsman Rear	J. Kammueler	*****	*****
6. Rear 8.2	Scott Klingler	Terry Walters	*****
7C Dual Rear	Scott Klingler	Don Renton	*****
8. 6.1/8.2 SW	Matt Morgeson	Marty Westen	John Ritchie
9. 8.2 SW	Hal Orndorff	*****	*****
10.Over-60 Rear	Paul Corcoran	*****	*****
12. Sportsman S/W	Bruce Samuel	Jesse James	Don Renton
13LPistonPort Lite	Amy Scoggins	J. Kammueler	Michael Day
13H PistonPort Hvy	Dave Drewes	Scott Nagel	Rodney Fish
West Bend SW	Kirk Gustafson	Randy Duncalf	Cal Stafford
16. Over-60 SW	Marty Westen	Guy Roberts	David Drewes
17. Dual Yam.	Scott Nagel	Rodney Fish	Bill Hamilton
4-Cycle	Nate Hamilton	Aaron Kruger	*****





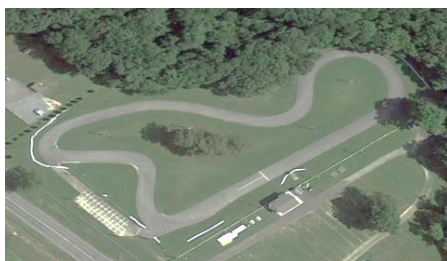
<b>SPRINGFIELD SHOW RESULTS BY KEN WOOLDRIDGE</b>	
<b>JUDGES: Gil Birge, Danny Birge, Ken Wooldridge</b>	
<b>REAR</b>	
Past Champion	James Kammueler
<b>SIDEWINDER</b>	
Unrestored	James Kammueler
Restored	Nick Kammueler
Modified	Kirk Gustafson
Past Champion	Nathan Hamilton
<b>MINI BIKE</b>	
Best in Show	Jesse James
<b>PEOPLES' CHOICE</b>	
Best in Show	Bill Hamilton







The VKA meet at Nicholson Speedway, Chestertown, MD on August 20-22 was a blast. As can often be the case, our collective eyes were trying not to peek at the weather predictions, but we all knew there was a chance of rain.



Luckily, the weather was very cooperative, with only an inconsequential shower in the wee hours of Saturday morning. Overall, the skies were clear, and the sun was hot, but the breeze was pleasant.

Thursday was reasonably well attended with a distinct bias towards rear-engine models. There was plenty of track time during open practice throughout the afternoon, as the early arrivers engaged in ample testing, tuning, and driving for pleasure. In the evening, many of us gathered for dinner together at the Harbor Shack restaurant on Chesapeake bayfront. During these confusing times, it is nice to be able to dine outdoors and feel the fresh air moving by while eating good food and enjoying good company. It was at this time that Joe Weissner shared with us his exciting plan to do a cross-country trip to Chicago and along RT-66 that will commemorate first responders who were lost during his time as a firefighter. Look him up on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/mako.joe.77](https://www.facebook.com/mako.joe.77).

Friday brought more practice followed by Heat 1. The afternoon featured the Kart Show. This time, our judges were John Wolkiewicz, Jr., Rodrigo DeFrancisco, and Doug Jorgensen. Some sidewinders were on display, but rear engine karts once again dominated the Kart Show, as we've come to expect in the Northeast Region. After the winners were recognized, we once again headed towards the waterfront for dinner, this time at Waterman's Crab House. Again, good food, lively conversation, fresh cool air, and beautiful maritime scenery (including the silhouette of the Bay Bridge) were all very relaxing after a loud day in the sun.

Saturday brought a few new arrivals for Heats 2 & 3. All of the demonstrations were fun and exciting, especially with close battles throughout the mixed Yamaha class and tight competition in Historic. By the time the points were tallied, and the trophies were awarded, everyone had enjoyed another great weekend of friendship, competition, and celebration of their fine vintage racing machines.

*Kurt Bogerman*

CHESTERTOWN DEMONSTRATION EVENT RESULTS				
Class		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Historic	John Wolkeiwicz, Sr., Doug Jorgensen, Kurt Bogerman, Merrill Carr, Brice Ristow, Paul Hunter, Wm. Salvesen			
Junior Rear		Sebastian DeFrancisco		
Sportsman Rear		R.DeFrancisco	John Wolkiewicz	Jim Walter
Rear 8.2		Jim Walter	Jon Fairoaks	Bruce Ristow
Sportsman S/W		Skip Owens	Kent Windham	Tom Dandes
Yamaha Limited		Skip Owens	Randy Davis	R.DeFrancisco
Over-60 SW		Jon Fairoaks	Gordie Beidler	



**JOIN THE FUN !**



<b>CHESTERTOWN SHOW RESULTS BY KURT BOGERMAN</b>	
<b>JUDGES:</b> Rodrigo DeFrancisco, Doug Jorgensen, John Wolkiewicz	
<b>HISTORIC</b>	
Unrestored	'64 Fox; MC-45; Doug Jorgensen
Restored	'64 Rupp A-Bone; WB-829; Scott Kreiser
Modified	'64 Fox; MC-10; Ton Dandes
<b>REAR</b>	
Unrestored	'65 Rupp Grand A; MC-93; Sal Palatucci
Restored	'68 Bug Sprint; MC-91; Paul Hunter
Modified	'61 Rupp Grand Prix; MC-92; S. DeFrancisco
<b>SIDEWINDER</b>	
Unrestored	'85 Trick Prototype; MC-101; Doug Mac
Restored	DAP Greyhound; MC-101; Karl Ginter
Modified	'73 Margay Cheetah; MC-92; Tom Dandes
<b>PEOPLES' CHOICE</b>	
Best in Show	'61 Rupp Grand Prix; MC-92; S. DeFrancisco



*WHERE IT'S STARTING ... ALL OVER AGAIN!*



## CAMDEN SUMMARY BY JEFF & SHERRI BROWN

The event went off well and on schedule. One shower on Friday passed by quickly with a minor delay. The total entry count was 66 which was down from last year's 106 due to factors affecting our country. Thursday open practice was held with weather that was sunny and breezy. Friday, Heat 1 and the Kart Show were completed. A special ceremony was held to show where WKA was formed (see p.21). Randy Kugler (son of founder George Kugler) displayed it; he and Gary Gregg the owner of the track explained how WKA was formed.

Gary Wlodarsky and Jim Donovan cooked the dinner after the kart show which included brats, burgers and roasted corn. Saturday Heats 2 and 3 were run and awards given under sunny skies, and good-byes were said.

Many thanks to the OVKA kart club, Gary Gregg, the cooks, Rolf Hill photographer, the participants, and many others. Hope to see everyone at an event in the future

*Jeff and Sherri*

CAMDEN DEMONSTRATION EVENT RESULTS			
Class	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Historic	Dean Scarbrough & Roy Fenwick		
Junior Rear	Sebastian DeFrancisco	Kamran Jobe	
Sportsman Rear	Morgan Healey	R.DeFrancisco	R. Llamas
Rear 6.1	Morgan Healey		
Rear 8.2	Autumn Nagel	Mike Grigsby	Curt Gruber
C Open	Pete Vetter	Marc Nagel	Al Hasenfratz
B Open	Autumn Nagel		
Dual SW – A	Gary Combs		
Dual SW – B	Mike Giessen	R. DeFrancisco	Stuart Keller
S/W 6.1/8.2 Amer	J.Blankenship		
Classic Div. 100cc	Mike Campbell		
150 Max SW	Rick Gilmore	Larry Pike	Craig Bennett
6.1 Foreign SW	Bill Arrandale	Jim Rowe	Chris Gruber
Straight Axle SW	John Mascari	Joann Hertzig	
Yamaha Piston Port	Pete Vetter	Kirk Jobe	Mike Grigsby
Yamaha Limited	Kyle Sauder	Dean Sauder	Mike Dobie
Over-60 SW Ltd.	Dave Drews	B. Stockdale	Dan Bucher
Over-60 SW	B. Stocksdales		
Sportsman SW	Mike Giessen	Al Hasenfratz	Steve Mox





<b>CAMDEN SHOW RESULTS BY ROMERO LLAMAS</b>	
<b>JUDGES:</b> Romero Llamas, Robert Cain, Morgan Healey	
<b>REAR</b>	
Unrestored	'69 Rupp K-Series; MC91; Romero Llamas
Restored	Rupp Grande Prix; MC-92; Sebastian DeFrancisco
Modified	Chaparral; Dual MC-101s; Bill Stockdale
Past Champion	Fox; MC-92; Rodrigo DeFrancisco
<b>SIDEWINDER</b>	
Unrestored	'82 Coyote Free Rider; Yamaha; Bob Stockdale
Restored	Invader; "real" MC-101; Al Hasenfratz
Modified	'85 Proline; Yamaha Rotary; Bill Arrandale
Past Champion	'87 CKI Magnum; KT100; George May
<b>ENDURO</b>	
Best in Show	'72 Bug SW; MC-91b/K-89 Komet; Don Moyez
<b>MINI BIKE</b>	
Best in Show	'68 Ruttman; 3HP Briggs; Robert Cain
<b>PEOPLES' CHOICE</b>	
Best in Show	'87 CKI Magnum; KT100; George May



***THIS IS VINTAGE KARING !***

**\* \* NOTICES \* \***

**\* HELMET CERTIFICATION NOTICE \***

**2015 or later Snell Certified helmets will be **REQUIRED** in 2021.**

**\* ACCEPTABLE TIRE NOTICE \***

**Hoosier R60-series tires are acceptable until 12/31/2020.**

**\* MANDATORY MEMBERSHIP NOTICE \***

**VKA Membership is required for any on-track activities/returning**

**\* WHITELAND EVENT DATE CHANGE \***

**WAS: 10/8-10**

**IS: 10/1 - 3**

**\* VKA FIRSTTURN® IS GOING ELECTRONIC! \***

If you still want/require a paper copy, you **MUST** send a written request to **Vintage Karting Assoc.** by **11/1:**

**P.O. Box 52, Mt. Holly Springs, PA 17065.**

The e-VKA **FIRSTTURN®** is not restricted in length, number of pictures and can include links to related articles and videos. The money we save can be used to improve VKA. We are growing. Professional help is needed in accounting, mailing and other areas.

The e-VKA **FIRSTTURN®** will be posted on **VKAkarting.com** and other social media for the world to see.

**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER:** 12 mo. Full Mmbr = \$35; Assoc. Mmbr\* = \$10 Foreign Mmbr = \$45; Expanded/36 mo. U.S. Membership = \$95 & Assoc. Mmbr = \$30. New VKA Memberships are issued for a 12 or 36 month period. Only Full Members receive **VKA FIRSTTURN®**. Applications are on the VKA website ([www.VKAkarting.com](http://www.VKAkarting.com)) or from [BillBloodworth@gmail.com](mailto:BillBloodworth@gmail.com). Completed forms should be sent to:

**Bill Bloodworth, 4621 Wooded Acres Dr., Arlington, TX 76016.**

**\* Assoc.Member must be family member living in same home. \***

**PayPal is now accepted through VKAkarting.com.**

Part three of this series focuses on the years 1967 - 1969.

1967 Riverside, California

1968 Batavia, New York

1969 Camden, Ohio

## **The 1967 Grand Nationals**

1967 would be the second time in three years that the Grand Nationals were held at Adams Kart Track in Riverside, California. This time Riverside had approximately 290 entries competing in eleven classes. The major players this year were Butch Stewart, Bob Allman, Walt Meyers, Ken Yagi and Rick Gifford.



Foreign engines like the Komet were starting to show up in the top five finishing places. And as of 1967, the sidewinder kart had not yet been invented by kart manufacturers.

Karting World's photos show many groups of top competitors enjoying each other's company in all regions – the way vintage karters still do today.



*Joe Vera (white helmet) with his Komet, tangles with Rick Gifford in A stock Light*



*Butch Stewart leads Ken Burden  
in C-Open action*

## **The 1968 Grand Nationals**



In 1968 Kelly's Speedway in Batavia, New York hosted 421 entries competing in 12 classes.

The major players at this event were Dave Knapp (Junior classes) Chuck Piornack, Joe Vera, Jim Walter and Pearl Gamble.



Kelly's Speedway, a hilly ¾-mile track had the greatest number of entries ever to date for the Nationals. After a few lean years karting was on the upswing again.

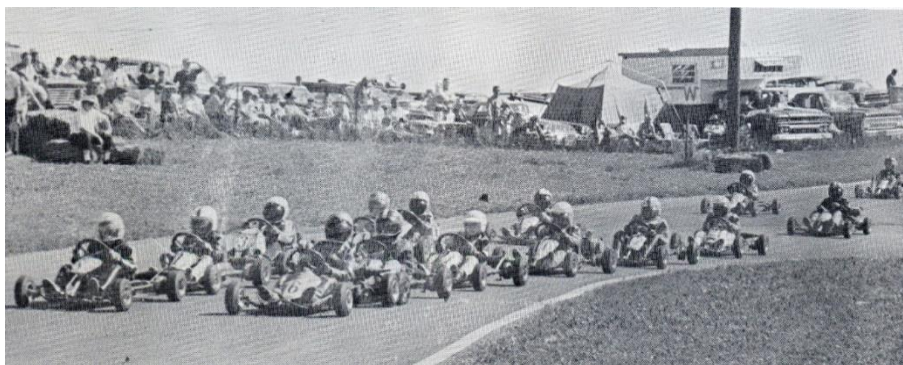
Although the top 10 finishers in "Stock Junior" had Komet engines, C-Open's top ten were six West Bends and four McCullochs driven by Leiber, Burden, Berlt, Emmick, Whitehead, Neal, West, Mann, Stewart and Codello.

A new McCulloch class was offered - "American Reed" - and for the next fifteen years this would be karting's top draw.

*The First Lady of Vintage Karting,  
Faye Pierson is looking sharp in her "Bug" pants.*



*Rookie Junior lining up for the green flag*



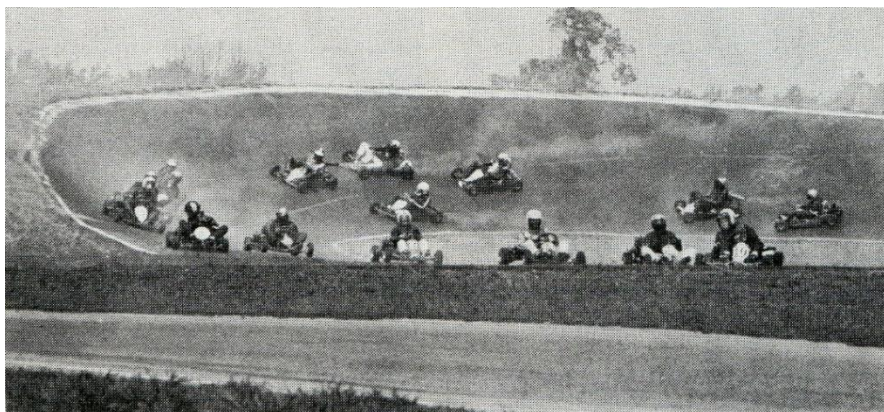
## The 1969 Grand Nationals



G & J Kartways in Camden Ohio hosted the Grand Nationals with a whopping 564 entries in 12 classes! Major players at this event were Linda

Emmick, Tony and Kyle Atkins, Pete Michel, Frank Harbin and Jack Nelson. Californians were the dominant group touting very fast equipment.

A high banked Monza turn (35 degrees) was the new and novel thing and it was a big hit!



The “sidewinder” model kart took the market by storm. K-P Manufacturing (Bug) and Margay Pro had winners with Tony Atkins and Linda Emmick.



*In the old days, pit spots were very small*

Part Four: Quincy, IL (1970) and Camden, OH (1971)

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** See related article by Randy Kugler about Camden’s history and tie to WKA on p. 21.



My Dad, George, passed away in 1994. A few months after his passing his good friends at Charlotte Motor Speedway Humpy Wheeler and Harvey Walters planted a tree in his honor and placed this awesome memorial stone at the base of the tree. It was an honor for me and my family to have this stone at the Charlotte Motor Speedway for 25 years. Thanks to the



Speedway and WKA, I was able to bring the stone back with me in June from Charlotte. Today it found its new home at **G & J Kartway** where **WKA** began in Camden, Ohio. Thank you, Charlotte Motor Speedway, for honoring my Dad for so many years. And thank you Gary Gregg, the Gregg Family and **OVKA** for giving this stone a new resting place. This is not just about George Kugler. Having this stone at Camden honors Ron Withrow, Carma Withrow, Bob Sellers, Doug Sellers, Bill Hall, the entire Gregg family: Shelley Powers, Elaine Gregg, Travis Gregg, Jean Stafford and so many more from this track and the OVKA for playing such an important part in the birth of the [World Karting Association](#). And I would be remiss if I didn't mention that through the journey of WKA, my Dad was supported by my Mom, Ann Kugler, until she passed in 1982. My mom was very strong and loved her friends in karting. My Dad remarried a few years later to my step-Mom Mary. Mary provided support and companionship through his later years until he passed in 1994. As the saying goes, behind every man is a good woman. I can attest that my Dad had the support of two wonderful ladies through his entire journey.

Thanks to all that helped along the way. This memorial is for all of you.

*Randy Kugler*

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[www.lynnhaddock.com](http://www.lynnhaddock.com)      E-Mail: [lynnhaddock@epbf.com](mailto:lynnhaddock@epbf.com)

**Ken Head** – KRH Engineering – Restore/sale of Sprint/Enduro Vintage Karts. Tel.: 714-612-4102 Email: [1HeadRacing@gmail.com](mailto:1HeadRacing@gmail.com)

**Rolf Hill** – Time to start thinking about the **2021** calendar. *Will be taking orders next month.* [KartNumber4@yahoo.com](mailto:KartNumber4@yahoo.com).

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