

DRIFTING

DES MOINES VALLEY REGION
of the Sports Car Club of America

FEBRUARY 2022



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Nathan Bickel tlbickel10@gmail.com 515-556-8437

Assistant Regional Executive:

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Solo Events:

Boonie boonie@factorfabrication.com

Solo Rules:

Chris Riester chris.m.riester@gmail.com 712-592-0176

Racing Competition:

Harlan Donaldson hdonald234@hotmail.com 515-263-4922

Time Trials Director:

Robbie Vierhout vierhoutrobbie@gmail.com

Race Officials:

Drifting Editor:

John Haluska hjc9292@gmail.com 515-689-3963

Website Manager:

Mikael Gustafson mtgustaf@gmail.com

Don't forget your wrist-band!



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When arriving at the event, please remember to sign the waiver!

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2022 Time Trials Schedule

May 21-22 Heartland Motorsports Park, Topeka, KS
June 4-5 . . Ozark International Raceway, Gravois Mills, MO
July 2-3 Brainerd International Raceway, Brainerd, MN
(TENTATIVE)
July 23-24 . . World Wide Technology Raceway, Madison, IL
Aug 13 Motorsports Park Hastings, Hastings, NE
Oct 15 . Raceway Park of the Midlands, Pacific Junction, IA

Tentative Solo schedule for 2022

April 3rd Adventureland
April 23rd - 24th Adventureland
June 12th. Eddyville
October 1 - 2. Adventureland

DMVR is hoping to add Dates as we acquire more sites. Our Solo Team is currently in negotiations with new locations! Dates and Sites will be announced as they become available!

**Blast
From
the
Past**



FUNDAY SIT-DOWN

with John Haluska

I sit down with 4 year DMVR member (has it only been 4?) and "Master-of-the-Grid" Boonie to discuss Prototype-Luv, the French Connection and everything in between!



So young man, how did you get interested in the The Des Moines Valley Region?

B

Well, Josh Jones took me to an autocross to which my wife thought it was just a car show. And I co-drove his fiesta in 2017 and was immediately hooked. A month later, I was buying a '99 Z3 clown shoe. And now here we are going into next season doing wheel to wheel with World Racing League.

JH

And in a prototype.

B

In a prototype, an NP01.

JH

That's awesome!

B

It is awesome! It is a blast to drive. Never thought I'd fit into a slot car, but I did. And man, yeah, it's unlike anything I've ever driven.

JH

Tell me about how and why did you pick that car?

B

Well, at my first HPDE out at Iowa Speedway a few years ago I saw Steve Myers' car and I was like, Wow, that's pretty insane, pretty extreme car. I started doing more research

on it, started thinking to myself, this looks like a pretty viable track weapon. You know, a nice platform that would do well in wheel to wheel. And that probably came to my mind a couple of years ago. And then this past season in WRL, watching the Stratus team campaign their car and absolutely dominate. I think they they were on pole, all but one race, all season. And it was enough to where a lot of the rest of the class in GTO, the guys in the Caymans, the BMW M3s were complaining that it was too dominant of a car.

The NP01



JH

It's a purpose built race car.

B

Yeah, exactly that. A purpose built race car is going to be better than taking a production car and trying to build it into a race car. My hunch, my theory was correct and I'm anxious to get the team out there and see what WE can do.

JH

It's interesting. I've only owned one purpose built race car and it was a sprint car. But! It's amazing how much more durable and reliable they are compared to a production based race car.

B

And in the running cost of this is relatively low, as well. So I mean, when you're just looking at a stock Mazda MZR motor, if you happen to shell one, then a new one will be pretty easy to come by.

JH

Tell me about the team. I find the team aspect interesting. When I was young, that would have really been fun. Now that I'm older, I just want to do it by myself, you know what I mean?

B

This is part of the fun of doing it. It's going out with some of your buddies and people you know you can work with and you get along

WRL Teammates!



with and you don't mind spending many, many hours together. So when you're able to split the cost of the car and the logistics and just do it as a team. Even though your goals are bigger, you've got more people there to lend a hand and help out. The camaraderie goes a long ways too.



JH

Cool. So tell me a little bit about your business. How did you get interested as a fab man?

B

Oh, I don't know, just the way people fall into stuff. After I was done with college and a journalism degree wasn't very marketable, you know, so I had a friend that was working at a shop here in town and I was like, I'll give this a give this a shot for a little bit. I had intentions of moving out to Colorado, where my fiancée was living, and she ended up moving back here. But I was like, well, I'll just get into it and learn something new and kind of never got out of it and then went out and did it on my own. And now it's got more work than we know what to do with, it's incredible.

JH

What's your favorite part of your job?

B

Just knowing that people appreciate it and I really like

seeing their joy and gratitude.

JH

Yeah! You know, my my son in law built my trailer, and he made everything but the axles and the fenders and and I love that trailer. I painted it and helped him a little bit. He made it right. And I've had that trailer for 20 years. My wife says, why don't you sell that dang trailer? I'm like, Are you kidding? I'll always have that trailer! I don't care if I don't have anything to haul on it, right? It's just so cool, you know, and it's just this dang trailer.

B

Especially the the the price of trailers. If you can even get a hold of one!

JH

No kidding! So, I usually ask people what their favorite car movie is.

B

Boy, I don't know. I liked Ford vs. Ferrari, but it was it was a Hollywood film. Growing up, I can't even tell you how many times I watched Hollywood Nights or American Graffiti.

JH

Oh yeah.

B

Those are definitely car movies for me. Yeah. Gumball rally. The first part of Italian racing is, you know, "what's behind you does not really matter", then rips off the rearview mirror. I remember watching that over 30 years ago and that's the only part of the movie that really stuck with me. Then I think for a lot of people, it's just like, wow, the symbolism of life and racing and everything. And just in that one scene!

JH

And in a Ferrari Daytona no less! So, before Josh let you drive his car, did you follow racing at all or drive a sports car?

B

I've never driven anything.

JH

Did you follow racing at all?

B

I guess, NASCAR and IndyCar growing up in the 80s and 90s. I remember watching Fittipaldi and the Indy 500. Rick Mears and Bobby Rahal. The 90s NASCAR era, that was pretty good. But lately, I mean, you couldn't pay me to watch a super speedway NASCAR race now.

JH

I met Rick Mears, he signed an old racing helmet of mine.

B

Nice!

JH

I saw Bobby Rahal race Formula Atlantic. I was like this close to him, when I was racing Formula Fords in Canada. And Gille Villeneuve was there, that was so cool! Villeneuve, was treated like a god when he was only a Formula Atlantic racer and people just loved him!

B

Oh yeah, he is pretty cool. I mean, as far as like Canada's Racing Elite.

JH

Anyway, that's enough about me. So WRL, huh? How did you guys get into that league?

B

Well, the BMW Z3 that we were campaigning used to be Randy's and after he had his incident and assessing the damage, we thought maybe this would be a good endurance car. And it turned out it was! You know, we had a lot of fun and had some success with it. I'm forever grateful that they asked me to be a part of that team and get my

feet into that. I didn't realize it would be as all consuming as it is! In every way!

JH

After a race, it's all I think about it until the next one. Even as old as I am!

B

It's one of the few times when I get that mental clarity, that the rest of the world goes away. And where you can just have that singularity of focus. And nothing else exists. If you could live in that moment forever, that's true bliss.

JH

Yes! People think I'm an adrenaline junkie. Maybe I am, I don't know. But it's not necessarily about adrenaline. It can be peaceful. It's relaxing. And when things go wrong, you just deal with it and then you move on. Plus, I like the competition.

B

Yeah, I agree. I mean, there are times of adversity that you have to overcome. But for me, it's just feeling that nothing else exists. Because it's in this day and age, you just can't. I mean, I guess we're buying it with our racing, and it's very expensive, but yeah, to me, it's priceless.

JH

Yes, priceless. It's addicting in a way that nothing else is. And I don't even know if addicting is the right term, but it's very, I don't know. It fills a lot of holes.

B

A lot of holes!

JH

So are you still going to autocross?

B

Yes. I'm still going to autocross my Z3. Josh and I have talked about maybe someday building a D Mod or

something like that and co drive. Just build something extreme! Because I still do, I still love autocross!

JH

Once you kind of get the hang of it and start being competitive, there's nothing like it.

B

Yeah, autocross is more of an adrenaline rush. More about adrenaline than a clarity thing for me. And there's there's wheel to wheel racers that can't do it. It's just beyond them, you know, if they can't study a track map and they can't figure out, find and pinpoint every apex. And study it ahead of time. Autocross, you just show up. You're not going to know until you walk the course a few times.

JH

It's very seat of the pants.

B

Yes, seat of the pants. It's spontaneous. I think that helps when you do go to a circuit because you know, the tracks, at least in an eight hour Enduro, the track is continually changing. And in a 24 hour race, you're going to see that circuit change numerous times over the course of an entire day.

JH

I never thought about that.

B

From the hot to the cold and everything getting rubbered in and it rains. You never know.

JH

Interesting. Very cool, I never thought about that aspect. I like my races about 30 minutes. That's all I can handle! But you know what autocross does for my racing, when the green flag drops, I'm ready to go. There's no getting warmed up, you're just ready as soon as you hit the gas, you know what I mean?

So! What's your favorite road car?

B

My favorite road car? See, that's the thing now. I don't care. Road cars, they don't matter to me. I don't care. You know, seeing these guys in these Chargers or Challengers or Mustangs that are six, seven hundred horse go down the street. It's like, what are you going to do with it?

JH

Those are ego cars.

B

It's ego, and it's status. Not that I ever really had that itch to scratch. But it means zero to me. But I still, you know, I guess, if I could, a BMW for a road car.

JH

Oh yeah, you're a BMW guy.

B

Yeah, I've always loved BMW. I'll always remember one of my first times over in Switzerland, I was over there with an exchange student my folks had. And he had a friend that had an E30. And I remember getting in the back of that and we were driving up into the Alps, going to a chalet, listening to the Jackie Brown soundtrack. And I'll never forget that moment. And being in that E30, that was great. That's a great memory.

JH

Let's talk a little bit about your forays to Le Mans.

B

Le Mans? Man, there is definitely an aura with that circuit. I don't know what it is, it's just having to be there to witness it.

JH

It's Mecca.

B

It is!

JH

Even more than Indianapolis to me. A few circuits that are like that, maybe Monte Carlo would be a close second, I think.

B

But I mean, as far as like pure racing, I think it has to be la Sarthe. Monaco has great heritage. It's cool for the opulence and the spectacle of it. But as far as racing anymore, especially with Formula One.

JH

Oh yeah, that's true.

B

It's terrible racing.

JH

True, true. You know, that's why I like Spa.

B

Yes! Well, it's dangerous. At least they took out that chalet. There's far too many accidents even this year, even after Anthoine Hubert. He crashed a couple of years ago. But they're fixing that because Formula One cars, even LMP2s, watching them go down through eau rouge and they get loaded up and then they come up over the hill, they lighten up. This is bad news. Especially in inclement conditions.

JH

You know, in '77, Brian Redman flipped his Can-Am car at le Circuit Mont-Tremblant, which I raced at. So you come around this really fast double apex turn and then the track just drops off, and so he whips around there in that thing and got air and flipped over backwards at something like 160 mph. Way up into the air, upside down. And then he just like slid on his top, all the way down that hill, on his head! The roll bar ate away and his helmet, his helmet wore away! That was a huge shot for him and I think that pretty

much ended his career. But in 1975 I saw him race at a Road America Formula 5000 race with Mario Andretti. So, who's your favorite race car driver? Besides me, of course.

B

Of all time? Oh man, it's either Niki or Senna. I mean, just historically, watching them. I wasn't into it at the time, but yeah, just watching the races and especially Niki's story. Yeah, it's hard to beat those two, for me.

JH

I got to see Niki race at Detroit with John Watson.

B

I remember you telling me that one time, pretty awesome.

JH

So who's your current favorite?

B

I'm a Lewis fan. I like to see that the GOAT is a person of color. I mean, especially his drive in Brazil this year. They keep trying to pick away at him, with technical stuff. The guy is untouchable. And to do the drives like only he can pull off! There's a reason he's the greatest.

JH

Yeah. He finds a way to win.

B

He does. And this is why he has the fastest car. The fastest drivers, the best drivers always get in the fastest cars. It's the way it's always been. From every generation.

I was making this argument the other day with someone. You look at Fangio. He won five championships with four different marks. Yeah, he found the fastest car. It's it's been that way from the onset.

JH

Yeah, even Jackie Stewart. He went from Mantra, and Ken Tyrrell was the team principal. And when the Mantra was

becoming uncompetitive, they built their own car. The “Wee Scot”, lol. Tell me a little bit about when you go to France. So had you ever been there before, since you’ve been to Europe?

B

I’d never been to France. I’d been to Europe many times, but never to France. But I’ll tell you what, it could not have been any easier to fly into the airport, take the metro, get on a train and be in Le Mans in under an hour upon leaving Paris and then get out of the station, get on the tram and within 10 minutes, you’re at your apartment. And I just, oh, God...

JH

I can see the look of bliss on your face, just thinking about it.

Piloting the Famous “Lorry”

My mindset and my heart is really over in Europe. Just the



day to day life and the way they go about things. I should be living over here. But...

JH

We're stuck.

B

Here. (laughter)

JH

Well, listen, this was so much fun!

B

Yeah, thanks, Johnny. I appreciate it!

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DMVR

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cams	1	Korte, Gabe	64
camt	1	Mattis, Scott	72
cs	1	Dewey, Spencer	75
cs	2	Doyle, Dan	60
ds	1	Price, David	75
es	1	Eggert, Dave	75
es	2	Hueholt, Mike	66
hs	1	Schaffer, Steve	75
hs	2	Siembieda, Jordan	61
pro	1	Haluska, John	59
sm	1	Ballard, Darin	72
sth	1	Fanchier, William	75
str	1	Bickel, Nathan	72
sts	1	Sandusky, Patrick	72
stu	1	Bell, Alison	72
stx	1	Riester, Chris	75
stx	2	Oneill, Steve	64
Ten Tenths	1	Dewey, Spencer	72
Ten Tenths	2	Riester, Chris	53
Ten Tenths	3	Bickel, Nathan	50
Ten Tenths	4	Bell, Alison	42
xp	1	Gustafson, Mikael	69
xp	2	Watters, William	66

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Realtor®



165 S. Jordan Creek Pkwy #155
West Des Moines, IA 50266
(515) 689-3963 Cell
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