

Wild West Modified's make stop at Speedway

CG Speedway hosts two days of early-week races last week

By BEN DEATHERAGE
 COTTAGE GROVE SPEEDWAY

Street Stocks played the role as the support class on Monday, June 24th, as the Wild West Modified Shootout was in town. Six Street Stocks made the journey to Cottage Grove Speedway for the rare weekday meeting.

Creswell's Garrett Barth paced the field early. He held on to the lead for the first seven laps before Kelly McDonald made the pass to capture first place on the eighth circuit. The two battled back and forth until McDonald, of Cottage Grove and racing for Tom and Joan Langan, secured the position on lap 12. However, McDonald lost the lead on lap 14 after a restart due to a flat tire.

David Schmidt, now residing in Roseburg, was the one making the lap 14 pass and held on the rest of the way to earn his second Street Stock win at CGS in 2019. McDonald rallied to a second place finish over Barth, in third. Eugene's Adam Applebee was fourth while crossing the wire in fifth was Wayne Clink from Eugene.

Earlier in the program McDonald set fast time, won the heat race, and was victorious in the Dot's Trophy Shop Trophy Dash.

After a thrilling night of racing on Monday the Wild West Modified Shootout remained at Cottage Grove Speedway for the second straight evening on Tuesday, June 25th. It marked the fifth race of 2019 schedule for the tour and boasted a car count of 45 entries. Teams from the states of Oregon, Washington, California, Nevada and North Dakota were represented as well as the Canadian province of British Columbia.

In the feature CGS veteran Gus Cooper motored his way to the front of the field in the opening laps. Cooper, of Creswell, held on to the top spot until getting passed on lap four by Jake Mayden. Mayden, from Springfield, showed the way for several circuits himself.

The lone stoppage of the race was a caution on lap nine bunching the field right up. Shortly after the restart Corbett's Collen Winebarger maneuvered around Mayden take over the role as the trailblazer for the field. Winebarger set a torrid pace in open racetrack but once again faced some thick lapped traffic.

In almost a carbon copy of the night previous while Winebarger dealt with the tail end of the field eventually allowing Kellen Chadwick to bear down some pressure on the leader. But

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Wings and wheels flock to CG



Cottage Grove's John Barrong with his custom biplane, 1929 Ford Speedster and his 1990 Harley Davidson at last Saturday's Wings & Wheels event. PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

Planes, cars and motorcycles showcased in annual event

By ZACH SILVA
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Each step down the Oregon Aviation Historical Society's (OAHS) runway was a step back in time last Saturday. There was a journey to 1928 to a Chrysler model 65 roadster, a trip to 1941 via an Interstate Cadet aircraft and a multitude of other stops throughout the 20th century along the way.

Over 50 vintage planes, cars and motorcycles were showcased for nearly 200 visitors in Cottage Grove last weekend at the sixth annual Wings & Wheels.

"I'm just thrilled. It worked exactly perfectly today," said new OAHS executive director Janice Scanlon. "I call it an orchestra: you rehearse, rehearse, rehearse, you prepare, you read the notes and now I just feel like a deep breath, it's a sigh. I look for smiling faces, happy people. I look for things running smoothly. It all worked."

The annual event brings together planes, motorcycles, cars and the enthusiasts who make them run to swap stories as these vehicles are on display to the public. For Cottage Grove native John Barrong, the day represents celebrating Oregon's aviation past, enjoying the present

with those in attendance and hoping to inspire future generations.

Barrong's history with these vintage items began with his grandfather who had the second pilot license in the state of Oregon and the first plane in Cottage Grove. This love for all things with an engine was passed down to Barrong who, at the age of 10, took up welding to keep up with his love of go-karts.

"So my one uncle was a welder and so he said, 'You need to learn to weld something, stuff doesn't fall apart.' So then I bought a welder and I started welding go-karts so it doesn't fall apart. You can go faster and not worry about things coming off," said Barrong. "I would have damaged myself if I didn't learn to weld. So that's how that all started. And it never stopped."

Now Barrong has a hunger for the hobby and a hangar full of engines (including a diesel engine from the 1920s), motorcycles (he just traded for a 1932 Harley), cars (too many to count) and some planes for good measure. On Saturday, he displayed his 1929 Ford Speedster, 1997 one-of-a-kind Adams Arrow plane and 1990 FLSTC Harley Davidson.

"So I'm 41 years old now so in 25 years I've collected this mass of antique cars, planes, motorcycles, hit and miss engines, steam engines, traction engines, everything under the sun. And just because it inter-

ests me. Figuring out how to fix things and how it works has always been what I've done," said Barrong. "It's kind of key to preserve that history, I think. And show the youth that you can do this. You can build and fly your own dang airplane if you want to."

Down the runway from Barrong sat Mathew Northway with his 1941 Interstate Cadet. The plane that served as a trainer during World War II wound up as Northway's after it was initially owned by a dentist in Southern California during the war and sat stagnant on a runway in Wyoming for decades. With no wings, engine or interior, the plane ended up resting in a

hangar before Northway purchased it in 2014.

"I put a lot of money into this but what people don't realize is pre-war and post-war, from about 1940 to about 1955 they made a lot of little planes. Just like this that if you're interested in flying, you can buy one of those for about the price of a good used Toyota," said Northway. "People think they need to be millionaires to fly a plane but in fact, if you're willing to fly an older, fabric-covered plane, you can do it for between 15 and 20 thousand dollars. And you're in."

After the plane was put back together by Tim Talen near Creswell,

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George Lamond's 1951 Chevrolet Bel Air was on display on Saturday. PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

Area celebrations planned for the Fourth



The Yoncalla Rodeo was on display during the town's annual parade last year.

Local celebrations set to celebrate the holiday

By ZACH SILVA
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With the sun back in the forecast, grills ready to be fired up and firework tents on every block, it's time for Fourth of July celebrations.

Across the area local groups have prepped and planned for Thursday's holiday. Here is a look at what's happening in the area:

In Yoncalla the day kicks off with the a parade at 10:30 a.m. The Yoncalla ro-

deo also begins on Thursday and has events for kids that start at noon before the rodeo is officially underway at 1 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m. there will be a free ice cream social at the community center in addition to "pioneer games" and food vendors at the high school. The high school will play host to the band Haywire at 7 p.m. and fireworks around 10 p.m.

In Cottage Grove the Cottage Grove Speedway will be celebrating the holiday with the Freedom Cup which will include races

in limited sprints, IMCA Modifieds and IMCA SportMods with fireworks to follow.

Down the road in Creswell, the day begins with a pancake breakfast at 7:00 a.m. and is followed by the annual parade at 11 a.m. The Firecracker Car Show runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Emerald Valley Golf Resort.

In the evening there will be food vendors in downtown Creswell with a firework display at the high school in the evening.

Athletes of the Week



This week's athletes of the week are the members of the South Valley Little All-Star softball team. The team of nine, 10 and 11-year-olds will be playing next week at the state tournament in Portland. Look at next week's paper for an article on the team.



The 9-10-11 All-Stars were at work preparing for state last week. PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL