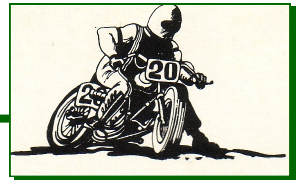


STURGIS, SOUTH DAKOTA

# White Plate Flat Trackers



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JUNE, 2006

## News from Sturgis

In Sturgis, with the Rally 6-7 weeks away, it seems the relevant news is mostly about the many "new" rally-related developments. A large \$8 million camping resort between Sturgis & Spearfish at the I-90 Intersection of the road into Deadwood, was already booked full for the Rally only three days after their early official opening some weeks ago. Complete with cabins, tent and camper sites, a swimming pool, golf course, tennis court etc....It is well done. Closer to town, Jay Allen bought 600 acres just 2-3 miles North of Bear Butte and is building his new Broken Spoke resort there....despite the 400 Native Americans who arrived with drums, feathers, and lawyers to protest commercial development so "close" to Bear Butte State Park where they claim it will interfere with their religious ceremonies. A beer (and later a liquor license) was issued by the County as was a liquor license transfer to Gary Lipphold for his new \$3 million+ Amphitheater between his Glencoe Campground and the Butte -

where his hill climb was before he modified it for his project—with parking for 10,000. Big time concerts are scheduled.....not MY thing but....Then Mike Ballard of the Full Throttle built 100 cabins at his location just East of Ft. Meade. With his lounge, enclosed stage, vendors, etc his place has become to Sturgis what Disneyland is to Florida...a mandated stopover for Rally visitors. This year he also has a Poker Run that will be led by Peter Fonda and some other celebs to Devils Tower via Deadwood where 5 casinos are the pickup points for the Poker hand. Then to Devils Tower for included food and an autograph session. An auction of cycle stuff is also scheduled...all this is to benefit the Memorial to Dad and Mom project. Also in Sturgis a large 3 level RV Park is being built on the Sturgis Hill South of town...at the lower end of Junction Ave. and off to the West. I hear a large campground is also being built in one of the small towns East of Sturgis on Hwy 70. It would seem that all these projects would in competition help lower prices in the future. That would be nice!

**BREAKFAST MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2006  
THURSDAY**

Places such as the (moved) Wrigley Field, now under the new name of Jambonz, at the north end of Junction, like One Eyed Jacks...like Philtown/Best Western.. And others who increase their prices to the bikers should start to feel the pressure. There are almost 30 campgrounds in Meade County and camping is FREE in the Black Hills (except in developed campgrounds) subject to a 7 or 10 day limitation at a campsite. Note: All campfires may be prohibited if the Fire Danger is high. There are nice level sites within a mile of my place off the new Vanocker Canyon Road that would be fine for White Platers...tent, campers, motor homes, etc. It look like another big year....we will look forward to seeing old friends in August.

Jack Hoel

## BREAKFAST MEETING:

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2006 9AM  
JACKPINE GYPSIES CLUBHOUSE**

**CHANGE**

### Minutes August 12, 2005

The WPFT met Friday morning at the Jackpine Gypsies Club house. All present signed the roll call book. 26 signatures were recorded.

The meeting was called to order by President Davy Durell. The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurers report was read and placed on file. Old Busi-

ness-George reported he didn't think the monument looked good. He thought it needed a sign painter to make corrections. Neil will check on it. Bobby James son Ken, had set up a web site, but wants to quit doing it. Kari Kannenberg will call Ken and see if she can take it over. Davy reported he is married now, and expecting a baby in the spring.

\* Note ( Baby Dillon has arrived) Jack reported that Al Nelson has shingles, and says "Hello". Bobby James talked to Bill Felton, and says "Hello" Also reports that Al Burke is in a lot of back pain, Bill Tuman is not feeling well, and Neil Keene is getting around pretty well. Jack also reported on the memorial statues for Pearl and Pappy. Davy Durell, Jack Hoel, and Helen Miller were ap-

pointed to look for new T-shirt designs for the club. Bobby James donated \$10.00 for lights at the monument. Meeting adjourned. Breakfast was served by Ann Kniffen, assisted by Ramona Hultman. Free will donations for the breakfast were accepted.

Respectfully,  
Helen E. Miller, Secretary



National Speed Sport had an interesting article about Sturgis being well known for motorcycle racing, once hosted auto races. In part below.....

## ▶ A LESSON IN HISTORY

*A look back at the formative years of racing*

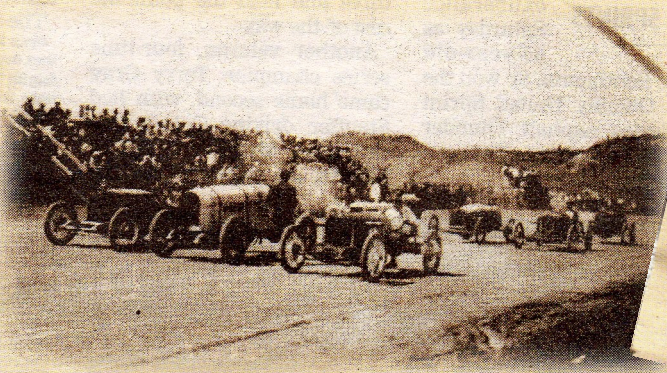


PHOTO COURTESY OF DON RADBRUCH

**NOT ALWAYS BIKES:** The field prepares for the start off a 1923 auto race at Sturgis, S.D.

## Well Known For Motorcycles, Sturgis Once Hosted Auto Races

By DON RADBRUCH

The South Dakota city of Sturgis is famous for motorcycles, as thousands of bikers gather each year for the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Classic. In the early 1920s, it wasn't cycles but race cars that made Sturgis somewhat famous.

Not quite the Knoxville Nationals of today, but some of the best "sprint-car" drivers of the era raced at what was then a very remote location.

Sturgis had a bit of racing in 1914, as some local hot rodders raced their Model-T Fords in a series of mostly-for-fun events. One of the drivers was Burt Ackerman, who later competed in races in the surrounding area and became well known locally. In 1920, Ackerman went to North Platte, Neb., to race and was apparently treated poorly. He was denied entry in the main event.

White Plate Flat Trackers  
18101 Johnson Memorial Drive  
Jordan, Mn. 55352

### We lose Art Heck #31 January 5, 2005



Phyllis Heck let us know of Art's passing the checkered flag January 5, 2005. Much of his racing memorabilia is at the Miracle of America Museum in Polson, Montana. She would also like others in that

area that the Museum is in need of pictures, and other racing items to finish up the room.

### Nick Pultorak Flat Tracker in the 1940's

We received a note from Linda Pultorak, daughter of Nick Pultorak who rode Flat Track in the 1940's. She is purchasing a membership for her dad Nick. He is 88 years old and lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

She also is asking if any of you have information concerning Art Hafer and Johnny Spiegelhoff. (who both have passed away) When where, etc. Linda is still the proud owner of her fathers 1942 Indian (with a Art Hafer motor). Nick Pultorak rode that bike at Daytona.

## Gathering Information

George Holter (60K) has been drafted by those attending the WPFT breakfast as our field reporter, news and information center. If you know of someone who is a member, and isn't getting the newsletter please let George know. If you have a story to put in the newsletter, let George know. If you know someone who should be a WPFT member, let George know. His email address is [gmanpv66@aol.com](mailto:gmanpv66@aol.com).