



MISSION STATEMENT

A) To discover, identify, gather, preserve, and display documents, records, items, etc. pertaining to eastern auto racing facilities, competitors, personalities or events.

B) To assist writers to publish and/or research articles regarding historical eastern auto racing topics.

Our organization collects & displays articles dealing with any eastern auto racing facilities for any racing enthusiast to enjoy. Please consider either joining our organization or contributing to our projects.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____

AREA OF INTEREST: _____

_____ \$25 SUPPORTER
Non-voting supporter of the mission statement of the EARHS. Admission to showroom by appointment.

_____ \$40 INTERNATIONAL
Non-voting international supporter with basic benefits.

_____ \$250 CORPORATE SUPPORTER
Corporate supporters are non-voting supporters whose contribution to the EARHS will be permanently noted in the EARHS showroom. Contributions will be used to develop additional displays, catalog information collected, and to defray expenses in pursuit of the mission statement.

PLEASE MAIL TO:

EARHS, P.O. BOX 333, OREFIELD, PA 18069
Make checks payable to EARHS.

For additional information
call 610 395-5303 or 610 398-2188

**EARHS is recognized as a federally tax exempt charity by the IRS under section 510c(3).

www.earhs.org

EARHS
P.O. Box 333
Orefield, PA 18069



Eastern Auto Racing
Historical Society

Newsletter

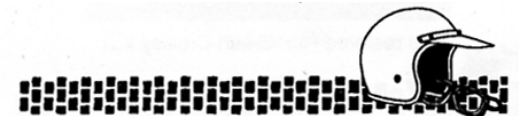
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One of the highlights of membership in an auto racing historical society is the opportunity to meet some of the veterans of the sport and to have the opportunity to interact with them to experience the auto racing world as they knew it. At EARHS we are fortunate to have in our membership ranks some true pioneers of both local and national racing. We were saddened to learn of the passing on August 25, 2010 of EARHS member and pioneer drag racer, Ed Kowalski, of Reading, PA.

Although Ed was first attracted to the stock cars at Sanatoga Speedway in Pottstown, PA in the early 1950s, he became a competitor at many local drag racing venues in the mid-1950s, including his home track at Maple Grove Raceway in Mohnnton, PA. He was the owner / operator of the Ed Kowalski Speed Shops in Reading, PA from 1958 to 1965 with three locations at 9th & Union Streets, on River Road, and another on Rt. 422.



Ed Kowalski built one of the first slingshot dragsters in the area in his Reading, PA speed shop.





Ed Kowalski with his injected Hemi A / Fuel Modified Roadster, featuring an aluminum body by Hiram Hillegass

As Ed Kowalski's prowess on the dragstrips progressed, he moved from his chopped and channeled Model A Chevy powered Ford coupe to full race slingshot dragsters, beginning in the A / Fuel Dragster class and eventually moving on to AA / Fuel Dragster competition with many of the nationally-known stars of the day, including long-time friend and competitor, Don 'Big Daddy' Garlits. Ed's quickest run in AA/FD competition was 7.59 seconds, 202 mph, set in 1965.

After the U.S. Nationals at Indy in 1965, Ed retired from the top level of the sport of drag racing when costs to campaign a competitive fuel dragster grew well beyond amounts which could be undertaken by the individual enthusiast and vaulted into the 'corporate sponsorship level'. Even after Ed's speed shop closed in 1965, the Kowalski name remained linked to the local racing community.



Ed gets E.J. up to starting speed for his world land speed record run on the Bonneville, UT salt flats.

As his son, E.J., picked up the family banner with his Kowalski Kustoms shop, Ed returned to the world of custom cars, chopped coupes, and straight-line racing in the form of land speed record attempts on the salt flats at Bonneville, UT.

On August 10, 2010, Ed and E.J. capped twenty-two years of competition at Bonneville when E.J. set a world land speed record over the measured mile of 163.553 mph for an unblown flat-head Ford powered roadster.



Ed and Linda Vaughn celebrate Ed's induction into the Maple Grove Walk of Fame in 2008. They'd been meeting like this for fifty years.

Ed Kowalski died of natural causes on August 25th, just three days after his final appearance in victory lane at Manassas, VA, where he was presented a plaque to commemorate his 'Top Eliminator' win on July 28, 1957 and less than a month after his son, E.J., put the Kowalski name into the record books at Bonneville. Ed's enthusiasm for the sport he loved will be missed.

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Your monetary support in any denomination or donations of historically significant items, photos, documents, etc. toward projects undertaken by the EARHS are welcomed and encouraged. EARHS is recognized as a federally tax exempt charity by the IRS under Section 501c(3).

EARHS "wants and needs"

Wanted: Racing photo collections – share and preserve programs. If you have vintage racing photos, EARHS would like to be able to scan and copy these items. All items will be returned intact and we can provide you with a computer disc of those items from significant collections.

We are especially interested in Dorney Park items from the 1940's, 1950's, and 1960's and all Allentown Fair items, including indoor racing events, but all items are welcome.

Wanted: Showcases and display cases. Often cases of unusual configuration can be used for displays of trophies and memorabilia.

Group tours of the EARHS showroom are available for civic and auto related groups, car clubs, etc.

Call 610 398-2188 or 610 395-5303

We continue to fill our showroom—all members are invited to visit and check our progress.

Please call Pete Trumbauer (610 398-2188) or Paul Weisel (610 395-5303) to arrange a time to visit.

