



**MOTOR RACING RESEARCH CENTER**  
**HOST/SPEAKER: TOM WEIDEMAN**

**Meeting Date: February 23, 2017** – The International Motor Racing Research Center boasts one of the world's largest archival collections of materials representing the history of motor sports. Although visitors often think the IMRRC is affiliated with Watkins Glen International, it is not. But, it was in June 1996 that WGI officials and others in the community started making plans to commemorate in 1998 the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of racing in Watkins Glen. The president of WGI at that time, John Saunders (who is now president of International Speedway Corporation), proposed an addition to be built to Watkins Glen Public Library to allow for growth of the collection on books on racing history across the globe. The late Jean Argetsinger was the president of the WG Library at the time. Her husband, Cameron, had sponsored the first road race after World War 2 in 1942 – a huge success.

In 1999, the IMRRC restructured to operate independent of the Library. All race history collections were transferred to the IMRRC. The IMRCC is a 5,000 sq. ft. facility with an enormous collection that includes: personal papers of drivers, journalists, and authors; rare books; reference books; historical records; newsletters of clubs and racing teams; photographs; oral histories; and memorabilia. The Center also displays a significant race car in the spotlight space for a few months at a time before rotating to a new car. In addition to the center, IMRCC has storage space in Montour Falls. The Center has become very selective about the materials it accepts, but still it has outgrown its spaces and is in project development to expand for archival and processing space.

As the new executive director of IMRRC, Tom is focusing on the "international" aspect of the center, serving as a hub or starting point for researchers. The center's staff works with archives, museums, and historians around the world and can assist with references and connection to other archives.

**NEXT MEETING: MARCH 9**

PROGRAM: Seneca Lake Wine Trail

SPEAKER: Paul Thomas

HOST: Meredith Williams

GREETER: Holly Baker



The Center welcomes 8,000 – 10,000 visitors a year, including authors and journalists. IMRRC is a 501c3 charity and does not receive public funding on the local, state, or federal level. The center depends on donations of financial support. The Center also has a memory brick and block program (\$200/brick and \$1,000 for a granite block). There are currently 400 bricks and 40 blocks leading to the entrance way of the Center. Memorial gifts, matching gifts, an Endowment Fund, and Planned Giving options are other ways to help sustain the center. Additionally, IMRRC holds an annual car raffle as a major fundraiser and sells items through its gift shop.

For more information about IMRRC, visit [www.racingarchives.org](http://www.racingarchives.org).

**CONGRATULATIONS SOTM**  
**ALYSSA CROUT**

Odessa-Montour High School senior Alyssa Crout was recognized as Watkins-Montour Rotary Club as its O-M Student of the Month for February. Alyssa was introduced by teacher/coach Greg Gavich. "She is tough as nails and a very good student who takes her studies seriously," Greg said. He said she is involved in numerous service organizations "and is president of virtually all of them," and is a member of Student Council and Interact, and vice-president of the Senior Class. She is a three-sport athlete -- volleyball, basketball and softball -- and an Honor Roll student. She plans to attend Corning Community College and enter the field of Nursing. *Picture above, courtesy of The Odessa File.*

# FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> CLUB NEWS

**GUESTS:** Student of the Month, Alyssa Crout, her father Steven Crout, and mother, Alaina Cummings; teacher, Greg Gavich, and John Nguyen

**WHO WON THE RAFFLE?** Terri Orbin

**MONTHLY AUCTION: MARCH:** Mike Learn, Nancy Loughlin, Stewart McDivitt

## EVENTS:

**NCAA Auction** will be held March 14<sup>th</sup>. Please check the list for food donations – the buffet is a huge draw for this event!

**ANTIQUÉ SHOW** will be March 19<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up for a shift to help out. Don Stocum is in need of someone to take over the show for next year. This is a great fundraiser for the Club and would hate to see it go away.

**ELMIRA ROTARY CLUB** is hosting its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner on March 7 at Elmira College and WM Rotarians are invited to attend. Tickets are \$50 each.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**RESIGNATION:** Jennifer Sweet has regretfully submitted her letter of resignation.

**THANK YOU:** A Thank You letter from Rotary group in southern Louisiana thanking the club for its \$200 donation to assist after flooding in the area. About \$28,000 was raised among Rotary clubs to help with the effort.

**INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF SERVICE:** Week of March 25 – 31. Rotary clubs are encouraged to partner with another service organization for a service project. Ideas welcome.

**DISTRICT ASSEMBLY:** Nominations for Club Achievement Awards to be presented the District Assembly are due. Event chairs are asked to submit nomination forms.

**FOUNDATION BRUNCH:** Bruch is on 3/26. We need one more person to attend to fill a square on our Bingo game. Please remember to make your donation of \$21.50 to Terri for the Foundation.

**THOSE WE MISSED:** JC Argetsinger, Jim Bacalles, Michelle Benjamin, Carl Blowers, Rebekah Carroll, Dominick Franzese, Jim Guild, Doug Hagin, Matt Hayden, Dean Hillyard, Brian Kenney, Mike Learn, Gary Mead, Dennis Morris, Kevin Murphy, Jim Preston, Michel Ray, Nancy Ruda, Jeff Schultz, Kristine Somerville, Bridgette Stewart, Meredith Williams, Ken Bell, Jim Chedzoy, Tom Clifford, Ginny Eaton, Dave Ryan, Dave Sidle

## THANKS FOR THE MAKEUPS:

Nancy Loughlin, Doug Hagin and Moose Breakfast Workers: Holly Baker, Don Stocum, Chris Burns, Fred Hall, Stan Beaver, Nancy Loughlin, Tom Gifford, Tom Weidemann, Judy Phillips, Terri Orbin, John King, Michel Ray, Glenda Gephart, Bill Phoenix, Bruce Boughton, Rich Greenberger

## CELEBRATIONS & CONFESSIONS:

**Chris Burns:** Congratulations Student of the Month

**Judy Cherry:** Had to leave early

**Glenda Gephart:** SOTM, Syracuse Basketball

**Charlie Cole:** Celebrated a birthday, missed meetings

**Judy Phillips:** Missed meeting

**John Nguyen:** SOTM

**Stewart McDivitt:** SOTM, Welcome back Bill and thanks to Rich for doing a great job while Bill was away

**Ken Wilson:** Was in FL, visited Bill and Carol Peters; Mike Learn took a fall, broke several ribs – is recovering.

**Bruce Boughton:** Celebrated anniversary, SOTM

**Rich Greenberger:** SOTM, for Jim Howell wearing a handsome outfit

**Tony Fraboni:** SOTM, Missed meeting, NCAA Auction

**Tom Weidemann:** SOTM

**Nancy Loughlin:** SOTM

**Nancy Peters:** SOTM

**Holly Baker:** Record year for The Arc's Spaghetti Dinner. Thanks to all who came out and big thanks to Don Stocum for chairing the event!

**Don Stocum:** SOTM, Thanks for supporting The Arc's Spaghetti Dinner, leaving early.

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

### OWARI, FIRST UGANDAN TO HEAD RI

Samuel "Sam" Owori of Kampala, Uganda was today confirmed president-nominee of Rotary International - a humanitarian service organization that unites leaders committed to improving lives and bringing positive, lasting change to communities around the world.

As a member of the Rotary Club Kampala, Uganda for 38 years, Owori says, "Rotary has become a way of life for me – with the intrinsic value and core belief in mutual responsibility and concern for one another as a cornerstone. I feel immense satisfaction knowing that through Rotary, I've helped someone live better."

During his one-year term as Rotary's 108th president beginning on 1 July 2018, Owori will focus on building membership worldwide and increasing visibility and understanding of Rotary. He's played an instrumental role in growing the number of clubs in Uganda from nine to 89 over the course of 29 years. **ROTARY.ORG**

