

## **2013 “Summernationals” Pinewood Derby Results**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Gualala Arts “Summernationals” Pinewood Derby saw a record breaking 70 entries in five classes, along with the traditional “Grudge Match” race between David “Sus” Susalla and Mike “Bone Daddy” Thomas. A total of 91 races across all categories were used to determine the winners in each class, along with the Best Time Overall winner.

Several of the racers built their cars with the assistance of Thomas and Mark Haveman, owner of Gualala Joinery, by participating in a Pinewood Derby Car Building class at Action Network. Some of the participants helped test the track and its timing system in the week leading up to the races.

The four lane aluminum track with an electronic timing system that displayed immediate finishing order, race times and scale miles per hour (SMPH) for each race was in use again this year and was surrounded by racers, their families and other race enthusiasts. Donations from Team Susalla, Waterman Racing, Bones Roadhouse, Coasting Home Vacation Rentals, Four-Eyed Frog Books, HogFather’s Smokehouse, Jack’s Gualala Pharmacy, Dave’s Gualala Video and Jon and Teresa Olivieri purchased the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Most Artistic trophies for each class, the Best Time Overall trophy, and participation medallions for every racer. Every racer ran a race in each lane of the track, with all racers being able to cheer for their cars for at least four races. An average taken of all four runs was used to determine the top four finalists in each class, and a finals round was run to determine to winners.

Brother and sister team of Felix and Elisabeth Weber from Cupertino returned with new cars that proved to be the fastest in their classes, 8 Years and Under for Elisabeth and 9 – 13 Years for Felix. Elisabeth also set a new track record of

2.5913 seconds at 196.0 scale MPH on her car's first race of the day. Ryan Bonanno took home the 13 – 18 Year class trophy while Diane Maxwell barely edged her son Jacob Maxwell in the 18 Years and Older class. Vintage saw returning champions Zidane Koller, Caitlin Huse and Alan Riccioli battle it out with Koller getting the trophy with the car he used to win the inaugural Summernationals Pinewood Derby in 2011. Best Time Overall was awarded to Felix Weber, with an average time of 2.6122 seconds and speed of 194.5 scale MPH.

The Grudge Match was won by Thomas for the third straight year, but the beautifully made “Dream Boat” that Jane Reichhold gave to Sus as a birthday present definitely looked the classiest going down the track, even if it didn't win the race. This was the best turnout yet, with standing room only in the Coleman Auditorium and the racers cheering each heat. “Bone Daddy,” Mark Haveman, Dave Bradbrook, Kevin McCoy and Jon Olivieri had a “garage” on site to help racers with last minute construction and adjustments. Once the races began Race Marshall Mark Hancock had Dave as the starter, Joe Koller as race stager, Laverne Hancock as timer and Patricia Zacharakis as car transporter helping out – along with all the kids who helped start the races by counting down 3, 2,1 - GO!

New this year was the Most Artistic award in each class. Judge Harmony Susalla awarded the trophies to Mason Macdonald in 8 Years and Under, Daniel Winton in 9 – 13 Years, Faye Ritchie in 13 – 18 Years, Diane Maxwell in 18 Years and Older and Alan Riccioli in Vintage.

Gualala Arts plans to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Winternationals” Pinewood Derby Race Saturday, Jan.18, 2014 and 4<sup>th</sup> Annual “Summernationals” during next year's Auto Show on Saturday July 19, 2014.

Top 3 results for each racing category are shown below.

### 8 and Under

Place	Racer	Car #	Average Time	Average Scale MPH
1	Elisabeth Weber	19	2.6145	194.3
2	Ayden Strickland	24	2.7265	186.3
3	Mason Ernisse	61	2.7574	184.2

### 9 – 13 Years

Place	Racer	Car #	Average Time	Average Scale MPH
1	Felix Weber	20	2.6122	194.5
2	Austin Tranthem	46	2.6575	191.1
3	Brandon Huse	37	2.6847	189.2

### 13 – 18 Years

Place	Racer	Car #	Average Time	Average Scale MPH
1	Ryan Bonanno	18	2.7230	186.5
2	Faye Ritchie	7	3.0515	166.5

### 18 Years and Older

Place	Racer	Car #	Average Time	Average Scale MPH
1	Diane Maxwell	42	2.6456	192
2	Jacob Maxwell	43	2.6475	191.9
3	Brad Clafin	28	2.7854	182.4

### Vintage

Place	Racer	Car #	Average Time	Average Scale MPH
1	Zidane Koller	35	2.6312	193.1
2	Alan Ricioli	41	2.6405	192.4
3	Caitlin Huse	45	2.6427	192.2

### Best Time Overall

Place	Racer	Car #	Average Time	Average Scale MPH
1	Felix Weber	20	2.6122	194.5
2	Elisabeth Weber	19	2.6145	194.3
3	Diane Maxwell	42	2.6456	192

### “Grudge Match”

Place	Racer	Car #	Average Time	Average Scale MPH
1	Bone Daddy	74	2.6776	189.7
2	Sus Susalla	73	2.7326	185.9