

STREET MACHINE



WHASSAMATRA? 70s WILD WEDGE PRO STREETER

**OLD'N'NEW-
PATINA
PERFECT
BUG LIES
ABOUT ITS AGE**



**CHERRY
PANCAKES -
RARE JAP
GETS JUICED**



**BARING UP -
OLD CHEVY,
NEW LIFE,
NO PAINT**

Leading off the June issue of Street Machine is an obscure, mid-Seventies, mid-engined French wedge that's been totally transformed into a wild Pro Streeter with a front-mounted, nitrous-huffing Chevy small-block. There's a VW Beetle with proper patina and fresh-from-the-barn style, a rare and forgotten Datsun that's been livened up with full hydraulics, and a classy, classic cab-over that's back on the road and munching up the miles. We've got reports from all the Easter shows, plus the season-opening Festival of Power at Santa Pod, and Andy hits the Sunshine State for the Gatornationals. All this, plus much more, is in June's Street Machine, out May 30th!

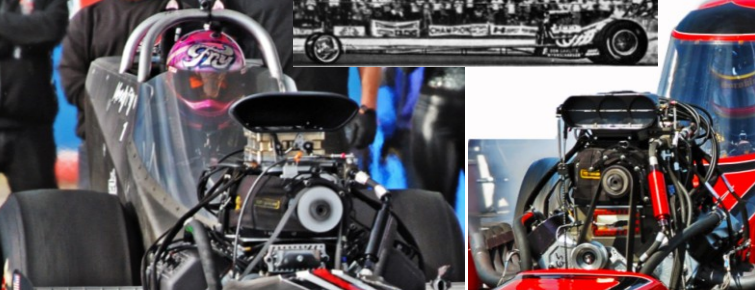
Eurodragster's Hot Gossip has a QR code - crack it with a SmartPhone to see an amazing drag racing legend - Bootsie's awesome run at the camera in a great race for a 1968 TV commercial!



Flying high en route to California for the March Meet, my ol' mind wandered, with June's Hot Gossip making its first stop at OCIR for the 2nd Manufacturers Funny Car meet in 1968, part of my first US race page for DragRod that was held up by rolling fog, something I met years later - it was a monster! That memory eased by a glass of bubbles before we touchdown at NHRA's 2010 CHRR for a unique Jungle Jim anecdote, a reunion with Linda Vaughn and a burnout introducing Fuel Coupes from its quickest ever 16car field! Page two is led by a wide-open



smile from my favourite NitroPilot Leah atop her NHRA triple crown winning Fuel Coupe. We meet a couple of legends from the early 1950s, 2010 cackle cars, a '60s slingshot, legendary Tin Man, Tom Hanna's stunning 21st century AAFD, its mind-blowing NitroFire and up-close body-popping too much NitroPower for me, almost! And also after getting too close to the Greek's "weed burners"!



Page three begins with the second part of my DragRod US page, the story of the 1968 West Coast Fuel Championship featuring the Greek, and starring Big Daddy's all-new 215inch I-o-n-g car, his Wynnscharger AAFD. Action shots of the 2019 March Meet's top Nostalgia fuelers show how things have changed! There's also a difference between 100% pure California Nostalgia Nitro and my ol' style mix with Zippo lighter fluid, it's subtle but oh-so-cool! A smoky shot of TV Tommy Ivo's Showboat funny car in action used with the OCIR AAFD story now has a 21st century shot with it so you can see its 4-engines and the work of Tin Man Tom Hanna. A tale of two caps (one from 1987), and a first meeting with the late great Mongoo\$, a happy sad tale reminding me just how much he was missed this year at the 61st annual March Meet that, thanks to John Bowser's family, continues its original outlaw heritage and has become four of the greatest, most laid back days of quarter mile NitroThunder on this planet for us fans - and who ever added that Ferris wheel deserves an ice cream, it really blew my mind with an amazing view of the track and staging lanes. The back page is full of eXplosive Fuel Coupe thunder starring a unique front end alignment taking only a millisecond! Okay, you've seen a MiniMix, now see Hot Gossip's real deal in June's eurodragster.com on sale May 30th. It's been suggested my visions of reality are kinda warped! Maybe you'll agree after seeing this take on the first Top Fuel races of 2019 that kick off these Xclusive mcPix HandCut for eurodragster.com. Either way, you'll be rescued by some AA awesome Fuel Coupe action from Famoso at the end of the section... pardon that rather obscure pun! Maja Udtian won 'em both in my mind! (TSI Timer data) Yeah I know that [Liam thundered to a great 3.90 at 309](#) in the first "Top Fuel Dragster Match Race" Saturday at this year's FartFest, but Eurod's report had a rare faux pas, saying Liam got away first. Oops! Maja spanked him on the line - it was her 0.1221 RT whooped Liam's 0.1447! First heard the great Shirley Muldowney say, "But I spanked him on the line..." after a loss in the 20th century, cool!

STREET MACHINE

The Snip's Maja at the hit, 0.0226 ahead, a "couple hun" that often wins! 2019's NitroFest had more warm sun than Famoso so we all had a ball, especially fueler fans!

Two fuel cars thundering off the line nose high was an awesome start to 2019 at my home track!



mcSnip courtesy
Mk1Kierulff.com

To have Liam lay down a set of three over 300mph gave fans what they all needed - pure NitroThunder! Ours was the best of the bunch 3.907 at 309.96. Thanks Liam, may your season grow!



Maya must've enjoyed seeing the slicks getting traction, and then Liam's numbers - thinking, "That'll be me soon!"



Maja lifts and Susanne's set to pass for a 3.37, 206mph eighth mile before clicking off...



In truth the promoted Top Fuel "match race" was never going to happen - only an idiot would run balls-to-the-wall out of the trailer! Besides we knew both Maja and Susanne were set to start with short passes, even more so as it'd been awhile since either lady had felt any Top Fuel NitroPower, but both of 'em kicked out the jams with style and a touch of NitroThunder! Talking of which, it was cool to see Bodie Smith tune Kevin Kent to new Fuel Coupe records! But it must've felt weird when Chippy Chapman's hole shot 4.45 at 282.18 won the first round of the EFCS ahead of his record setting 4.23, 286.49, making them the happiest fuel coupe pilots in town, and keeping flopper fans happy too! Talking about happy fans, here's that cool Ferris wheel with (most of), Nitro Mike's wild PT Cruiser seen struttin' its stuff.



Loved this over-the-shoulder Ferris wheel shot of a dozen fuel coupes, with more round the corner!

Old school style from Mike Boyd in the Marcellus & Borsch [AAFA Winged Express](#) - click it to enjoy my first real deal drag racing experience in 2010!



With no sun, the "race" with Maya was too flat, but Susanne Callin's solo launch is cool. Bet this dude loved it as much as me!



Maya had more than a tenth off the line - 0.1081 to 0.2480!



A blown and injected alcohol burning 448 Chrysler produced best numbers of 10.40 and 130.



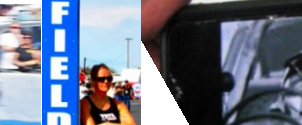
A blown and injected alcohol burning 448 Chrysler produced best numbers of 10.40 and 130.



In the rain delayed 2010 CHRR final held at Pomona, Brett Harris drove around 2010 Heritage series Champ Adam Sorokin's holeshot to a 5.748, 248.48 mph win



Evil, Wicked, Mean & Nasty - great name, good lookin' car! An all-time favourite fuel coupe was Dale Pulde's War Eagle that I saw him drive in 2010, but here it's Connie Kalitta's big show nitro funny car shoe Jeff Arend at the helm in 2012



Use your phone on the QR Code in Hot Gossip's EurodragsterMix to see our 1968 TV gig and an awesome drag race!



Nitro Thunder, another great name for a cool lookin' car



The biggest fuel funny car race outside the USA was 1980 at the Pod, including the finest cars this side of the Atlantic; Blue Max, the Snake and the Snowman who lost fire in the final, Harlan Thompson driving Knut Söderquist's Tres Kronor to victory, going on to change the face of British drag racing forever! 30years later, Erik Wallinder made the long haul to the CHRR, but sadly had problems, a troubled 6.67 at 195 failing to make the field. Harlan got to drive the car again at Mantorp Park a couple years later...

Love the paint on Cacklin' Critter, a 1970 Challenger, but have never seen injectors like that! In round two Matt Melendez ran a 5.670 at 246.93 that was eaten by Kris Krabill's 5.676, 248.80 hole shot. For more Nostalgia NitroThunder see Hot Gossip in the new [STREET MACHINE](#)