

The NWOQMRA Toledo, Ohio club has some great news with regards to the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Willie Magrell Memorial Race that is scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> at the famed high bank oval.

James Spink – Director Developmental Series at USAC understands the importance of these memorial-benefit races and fully supports the efforts of the Toledo Ohio club. NWOQMRA and USAC have worked together to allow ALL quarter midget racers to race at this event in 2009. We will be allowing any non-USAC member a “free” pass for this weekend’s races. What this means is that you don’t have to be a USAC member to be allowed to race but you will have to pay your entry fee for each car.

Eric Rankine – President of NWOQMRA would like to thank USAC for their support and looks forward to everyone coming out and supporting this event in 2009. The race format is located on the home page at [www.nwoqmra.org](http://www.nwoqmra.org).

## **WILLIE MAGRELL MEMORIAL RACE**

Every year since 2001, the Northwest Ohio Quarter Midget Racing Club (NWOQMRA), located at the Lucas County Recreation Center in Maumee, Ohio, has run what was the “Poor Man’s Grands”, a race for those who chose not to attend any of the large National races due to money or time concerns, but still wanted to spend a weekend racing and having fun. In 2005, it became the Willie Magrell Memorial race, in honor of a young man whose life was cut short at age 17 by a tragic auto accident, while on the way to visit his sister to celebrate her engagement.

Willie was a racer and member of NWOQMRA, and ran the number 88 on his cars. If his cars started in the 8<sup>th</sup> position in a race, he would turn the 8 upside down for luck. Willie raced at the club until he was old enough to graduate to USAC Midwest Ford Focus Midgets. He was a great young man who loved Twinkies so much that when he heard they might discontinue making them, hoarded boxes under his bed. Willie made his parents Bill and Tracy extremely proud, both on and off the track.

Now, the race is held for Willie’s memory, and to donate all proceeds to the Victory Junction Gang, an organization run by Kyle and Patti Petty in honor of their son, Adam, who also lost his life too soon. Victory Junction is a free-of-charge, year-round camp held for children with severe or chronic medical conditions and their families; a place to go where they can be kids and free of worries ([victoryjunction.org](http://victoryjunction.org)). Kyle Petty was a NASCAR driver whose son Adam was following in his and his grandfather Richard Petty’s footsteps.

If you would be interested in sponsoring or donating for this race and this good cause, please do not hesitate to contact me. All weekend long during the race we’ll be holding raffles for prizes which are donated. Or you may choose to sponsor a race class trophy. Your business name will be prominently displayed during the event. Thank you so much for any help you can give.

Thank You

Eric Rankine President

