

Bobby Keller

Bobby Keller was exposed to a few different venues of racing in his eighteen year career.

In 1961 he raced his motorcycle at Vineland Speedway on the 1/8th mile drag strip and he also had a 55 Chevy dragster that he ran.

In 1962 he got involved in go kart racing and was a regular at the Aramingo Ave. go cart track in Philadelphia where he ran against Bob Ciccone who eventually went

into three-quarter midget and super-modified auto racing.

Bob did pretty well in go carts, chalking up quite a few wins in the seven year span.



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Off and on within that period he also did scramble racing on dirt tracks with his motorcycle, and ran a few races at Bridgeport with his cycle just so he wouldn't get too bored with life.

At that time he wanted to do something different and Bob liked a challenge, so he started coming to P'ville Speedway as a spectator and

liked what he saw and started building a car. Bob always took pride in his work and had good looking and good running cars even though like most of us he was on a limited budget.

When he first ran P'ville he had a '38 Chevy coupe #61 and later on he decided to build a Vega and kept the same number but things weren't going as well as expected, so he changed the number to



the 15 X which was his number when he ran go carts.

Now you can call it coincidence, superstition or good luck, but things started to turn around and things got better.



Now when I interviewed Bob for this article, neither of us were really sure the first year he started at P'ville, but in 1976 he got the Rookie of the Year award and he pulled down about two feature wins and won some heat races along the way up until 1979, when he was forced to get out of racing due to the rising costs of competitive racing.

At the time of this interview Bob said to me "You know, we used complain about a lotta' things about P'ville, the lighting was poor, the purse wasn't big enough and the track surface was a cheese grater on tires, but when that track closed it really made you think about the old saying, you really don't know what you got 'till it's gone". Ain't that the truth?

After 43 years Bob still has his transmission shop in Vineland and is currently involved with classic cars.

by raycer 27
