



Backgrounder

DVD Series Captures NASCAR's Golden Era

From Trailblazing Moonshiners, Rowdy Rebels and Outlaws, American Stock™ Films Pay Tribute to the Racing Pioneers of NASCAR's Gritty Past

Before Daytona, before asphalt, before NASCAR, one man would gather a ragtag group of daredevils and dare to dream. Legends were born.

In 2006, American Stock™ introduced NASCAR fans to ***The Golden Era of NASCAR***, a DVD series that traces NASCAR's humble beginnings back to the white sands of Daytona and red-dirt clay of the Southern Piedmont, where NASCAR founder "Big" Bill France and his roving band of rebels and outlaws would grip it and rip it, white-knuckled and hell-bent to that checkered flag.

American Stock™ founder John W. Warner IV blended his experience in both documentary filmmaking and professional race car driving to produce the DVD series. "Years went into the development of this series," says Warner. "These people still live very independent and sometimes reclusive lives. Finding them, gaining their confidence and capturing their spirit on film to tell these untold stories was an enormous task."

This is the only authoritative film series ever produced that takes a hard and gritty look at NASCAR's history from 1936 to 1971, the early, formative years when the "greatest generation" managed to build stock car racing, judged as a third-rate joy ride for the working class, into what it is today -- the fastest-growing spectator sport in the country.

The four-and-a-half-hour series includes four DVDs: The early years 1936

-1949; The Jet Age, 1950-1959; the Wild Wild 60's, from 1960-1971; and a bonus DVD, profiles of legends Wendell Scott and Curtis Turner. A circular companion photo book accompanies the DVD's in a "collectors edition" replica film canister.

The filming of *The Wendell Scott Story*, which aired on The History Channel in 2002, was Warner's first NASCAR documentary. This experience inspired him to pursue a complete historical series on NASCAR's golden era, in which he pays homage to and chronicles the trials and triumphs of Scott and so many other ordinary men and women who did extraordinary things to pioneer the largest and fast-growing spectator sport in America.

"It was a colorful sport. It had a lot of characters. It is what makes this sport so different and appealing to everybody today. You can't wipe out history," says NASCAR historian Greg Fielden.

The DVD series features exclusive interviews with Junior Johnson, Richard Petty and Fred Lorenzen, among more than 50 other legendary early drivers and NASCAR historians.

This DVD series is available on [YouTube](#).

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