

Boyd Raceway; Armed Forces Night

May 15, 2009

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Boyd Raceway held a special night to honor the American Armed Forces at the track Friday night! The US Air Force Color Guard from the Naval Air Station in Ft Worth, led by Master Sergeant Ross Wood, was on hand to present the colors during the opening ceremonies! Track Promoter Davey Plato had the drivers line up along the wall on the front straightaway during the ceremonies. That was quite an impressive sight to see, all of the drivers in full race attire lined up for the fans to see!

Then the Color Guard marched onto the track and presented the Colors for the invocation by Track Chaplain Tony Edwards and the singing of the National Anthem! The fans, track personnel, race crews and drivers alike stood in silent reverence as the Colors that represent this Great Nation were displayed! Hardly a family could be found that didn't have a connection in some way with the personal sacrifices the men and women of the American Military make in order to preserve the Freedom and Liberty that we as Americans hold so dear! I think I speak for them all in saying "Thank You for What You Do!"

The cars of Zip Tie Racing proclaim the honor the team holds for some of our American Heroes. On the trunk lids of the 33S Hobby Stock of William Wright and the 34 Hobby Stock of Tracy Haynes, the names of those heroes will be found! SSG Dean Hill Ret. US Army, Cpl Adam Olson and Capt Steve Whitesell are held in high regard with this team! Both of their cars were adorned with flags; one was the POW-MIA flag flown to remember those who are, or were, Prisoners of War or Missing in Action! The other flag held the insignias of the separate branches of the Military and the words, We Support Our Troops! To say the least, it was an impressive sight!

US Navy Recruiter Brandon Byerly provided an impressive looking 1 ton truck covered in a wrap depicting the US Navy that led the pace laps for the Feature Races! It was quite a sight to see that wrap on that AWESOME looking truck leading those Dirt Track Warriors around for the Parade Laps! But, he wasted no time getting off the track when the green was ready to fly!

The US Marines had representatives on hand during the evening as well!

Mini Stock Driver Austin Gregg is leaving in September for his tour of duty in the US Air Force! Mini Stock Driver Ronnie Evans is a recent retiree from the US Army. Toby Hubbard pays tribute to the "1st Battalion 9th Marines from 1969". They were called "The Walking Dead" and included the names Hubbard and Broaddus. I am sure there are a host of other drivers who have special connections with the Armed Forces, these are just a sampling of them!

Be sure to give a veteran your thanks and a new recruit like Austin your prayers as they cross your path! America depends on them!

I'll see you at the races!

Neal