

## **Press Release**

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### **Sunday! Sunday! Sunday! Detroit Dragway Reunion**

**By Sue Christophersen**

Sunday, May 23, at Milan Dragway. Don't miss it! The long awaited Detroit Dragway Reunion, presented by Outlaw Photo. What better way to spend a weekend, just like in the good o'l days.

There will be plenty of action on the track, with exhibition runs from several notable Detroit Dragway's racers, two Detroit Dragway Trophy classes, and many local racers who come out for the regular Sunday program at Milan Dragway. There will be four nostalgia funny cars, 12 – 15 gassers, along with several local car clubs bringing out their best rides for a spectacular Show-n- Shine car show.

Among the notable race cars that will be on hand is the Hollish Brothers competition coupe, which runnered-up in the 1959 NHRA Nationals, the year Detroit Dragway opened. Al Bergler will be there with his famous Motown Shaker Funny Car, along with Denny Hummel's Booth & Arons sponsored Top Alcohol Dragster. Both cars will make exhibition passes.

Mike Burkhart's '69 Camaro, the Doran Chevrolet, driven by Steve Timoszyk and Detroit Thunder, a '55 Thunderbird, driven by second-generation racer, Bill Hallett are also part of the show. Combine this with other local standouts like Kenny Langlois, Bill Rowe, and John Powers for an action packed day at the races.

Wander the pits, take pictures, collect autographs, pick up a Detroit Dragway T-shirt and other memorabilia, while you listen to the playback of some of those legendary radio commercials that made the dragstrip famous across the country.

Gates open at 8:00 am, cars start running at 9:00 am, Eliminations at 1:00 pm, with exhibition runs throughout the day. Tickets are just \$10, which includes parking, full access to the pits and car show. Kids 12 and under are free.

Milan Dragway is located at 10860 Plank Rd., Milan, Michigan, 4 miles east off US 23, Exit 25 (Plank Rd). For more information, go to [milandragway.com](http://milandragway.com).

**Detroit Dragway “ The Dirty D”**, operated from 1959 until 1998. During the early years the strip hosted Michigan’s first NHRA Nationals (1959 & 1960), was a test bed for Detroit’s Big 3 muscle cars, and hosted some of the biggest names in drag racing.

Funny cars and top fuel dragsters entertained huge crowds with fiery burnouts and thundering horsepower. Locals such as Della Woods in the “Funny Honey” and Roger Lindamood in his “Color Me Gone” were regular attractions. Some of the biggest names in drag racing were hometown hero’s – like Connie “ The Bounty Hunter” Kalitta and Shirley “ Cha Cha” Muldowney.

Detroit Dragway was home to so many Motor City racers and thousands of spectators, who were thrilled by the sights, sounds, and smells of the drags.

**Outlaw Photo** is Mike Grosso. He started hanging out at Detroit Dragway as a young kid. “I watched as they push-started a fuel dragster, and I was hooked,” said Grosso. He started taking pictures back in 1967 and it has been his passion ever since. Outlaw Photo was the official photographer during the last 7 years that Detroit Dragway was in operation. He later worked for NHRA and was the Division 3 photographer for a time. Thanks to Mike for organizing this Reunion. See you there.