

# Mostly about People

By Wally Tralrig



## How To 'VAARRUUMM' Race Driver

Laguna Seca Raceway, Ft. Ord—Interviewing anyone in an auto race course pits, with 20 high-powered cars being tuned in their stalls, 18 more roaring by the track, blaring loudspeakers announcing times, is a "RUUUUUMMMM" of a way to make a living.

I talked to "VROOOMMMM" 1963 Indianapolis 500-mile winner shortly after he finished a 135-mph qualifying run Friday. The Monterey Grand Prix climaxes today with the big races.

Rufus Parnelli Jones must be ranked with Ste—"PROOO-ARRRRR" Moss. He has been hired to drive a Shelby-American (they make Cobras) Cooper-Ford here.

Sir, how does the big 500 compare with Laguna Seca?

"The 500 is much more "RUUUUMMMOOOWWW". We start planning 30 days before the race and every single "UUUUMMMM-OORRRRR" has to count."

What's the fastest you've ever driven?

"I'd 'RROURRRRROWWWW' UMMMM' 190 plus."

Parnelli is a very neat guy—31, balding, with a crew cut, five feet, 10 inches, 170 pounds; doesn't booze or chase women (said a friend), and probably most fascinating of all, he 'ZOO-OOOOMMMMMM'.

How many 500s have you raced?

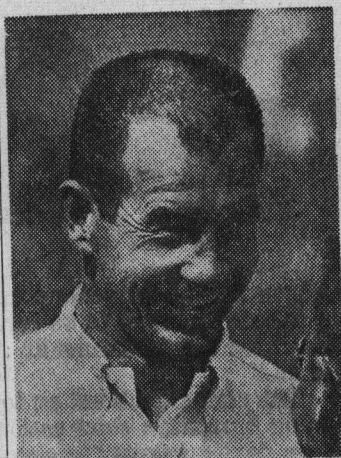
"Four. My car caught fire last year; the year before that I won; the previous year I finished 12th on two cylinders and before that I drove the last 300 miles without brakes and finished seventh."

Are you ever frightened when you drive?

"Well, 'VAROOOOOMMMMM' 'PUT PUT PUT PUT PUT PUT' 'HERE ARE SOME MORE QUALIFYING TIMES' "

Does driving at these speeds tire you?

"Not 'GROWWWWILLLROO-



Rufus Parnelli Jones

OMMMMM', but it does emotionally."

"Why are you a champion?"

"I suppose 'ROOOOARRRRR-UMMMMM' 'RUMM' will to win. I came from a 'VARROOUMM' family and had to build my own cars, and when I started winning, other people started asking me to drive for them. If you're rich you can own your own car and drive it, but if not you have to be good enough to be asked to drive."

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At such high speeds the margin for steering error is tweentyweeny, and another driver, explaining why Parnelli is a champion, put it this way: "There may be others with his same basic skills, but he has the edge on nerve to keep the throttle down just a trifle longer when approaching a curve or in other touchy situations."

What does your wife and mother think of your racing?

"They 'ROOUMMMOOORRR' are often at the tracks watching me."

Who in your opinion is the greatest driver today?

"It's 'RUUUUMMMM' hands down. A. J. Foyt, I said."

At the 500, how many hours were you in the car?

"Oh, three and a half 'OOORRR' RRRMMMMMM' "

That big controversy about your car leaking oil in the 1963 500; do you still get guff about that? He beat a Lotus-Ford. Some drivers claimed they spun out on the oil.

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"That was a joke. All out of 'EEEEUUUUNGGG' The Fords were the underdogs of the race and everybody wanted them to make something out of it."

Are racing cars reaching their maximum speed limit?

"'VARROOUMMM', 'ROOO RRUMMM' 'ZINNNNNGGGG'—no, there'll never be a limit!"

Have you picked up many speeding tickets in your own car?

"Well, I used ZOOOUMMM' but I can't afford to now. Oh, once in a while I 'VAAARRR OOOOMMMM' "

How much does it cost to put a racing team together?

"Well, with a crew chief, an engine man, a body man, truck driver, and race drivers—about \$170,000 for the season—25-30 races—not counting the cost of each car which runs \$18-\$20,000 each."

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The name "Cooper" comes from the English company which makes the chassis; Ford builds the engine and transmission and Shelby-American builds the car and design. It can probably do 185 on a straight-away.

What do you think about while driving?

"VARROOOOMMMM."

I see.



Melio J. Stagnaro, President  
By Estrella Stagnaro

Center of Municipal Wharf  
Santa Cruz Beach

THOSE WHO SPECIALIZE IN "SEAFOOD-O-RAMAS" find at C. Stagnaro's market and other markets in Santa Cruz, everything from cioppino, lobster thermador, bouillabaise, broiled lobsters, prawns, large and small abalone steaks, clams oysters.

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JOE AND ROBERT "BIG BOY" STAGNARO, C. Stagnaro Seafood Dept. Managers, states, fresh clams are now in season, as well as fresh lobsters. Fresh crabs will be in season about Nov. 15th. The news we all have been waiting for!

—oOo—

THE WORLD SERIES GAMES creating much excitement daily, as they were being viewed by many persons via television at C. Stagnaro's on the wharf! . . . And radio too!

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GLORIOUSLY GREAT are the daily sport deep sea fishing trips and the C. Stagnaro's Santa Cruz New Year's Island (Ano

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