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# Motorsport america

**ON THE SPOT NOW AVAILABLE  
AS A FREE DOWNLOAD**

Veteran motorsports media member and retired NASCAR race day spotter John Close today announced the publishing of his third book – *On The Spot – Life In The Fast Lane As A NASCAR Spotter*.

The volume – which is Close's first electronic book – is now available as a FREE download at [www.closefinishes.com](http://www.closefinishes.com).

"On The Spot will allow race fans to get an inside look at what happens up on the spotters stand during a professional motorsports event," stated Close, who spotted more than 150 NASCAR Cup, Nationwide and Truck events as well as dozens of short-track races from 1995-2008. "Spotting is one of the least publicized and most misunderstood aspects of auto racing. Considering the importance of spotters in today's high-pressure world of stock car racing, I think fans will find it an enlightening and interesting read."

In *On The Spot*, Close takes you up on the spotter's stand where he relates some of his most memorable race events and personal experiences. Additional chapters in the book cover the history of NASCAR race spotting and how the practice and equipment have evolved over the years since first implemented in the early 1950s.

*On The Spot* also includes an introduction by NASCAR Sprint Cup star and Wisconsin native Matt Kenseth. A host of current NASCAR spotters – and others such as NASCAR driving legend Buddy Baker – contributed to the book which also features more than 100 photos taken by Close and top motorsports photographers such as Nigel Kinrade, Brian Czobak and Russ Lake.

"This book was really a pleasure to write," Close stated. "So many great friends and racers were kind enough to lend their time and experiences to *On The Spot*. Without their assistance, this book would never have become a reality."

In addition to *On The Spot*, Close has authored two other books - *Tony Stewart - From Indy Phenom To NASCAR Superstar*, and *NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series - From Desert Dust To Superspeedways*.

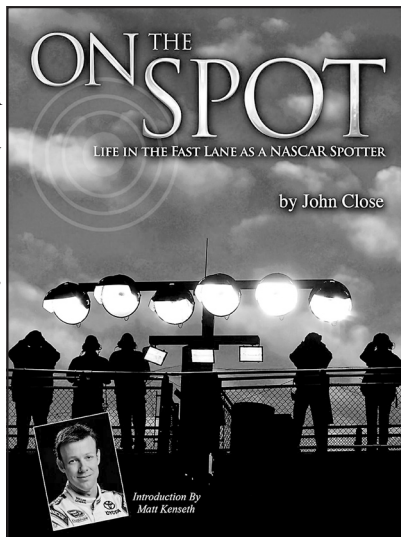
#### About John Close

John Close began his motorsports journalism career in the early 1980's as free-lance writer. The Wisconsin native covered his first NASCAR race in 1986 at Bristol and since then has written countless articles/stories for numerous motorsports trade publications and Internet sites.

His 'Close Calls' column appears on [www.CloseFinishes.com](http://www.CloseFinishes.com), [www.MotorsportAmerica.com](http://www.MotorsportAmerica.com) and [www.racingnation.com](http://www.racingnation.com) each week.

Close is currently the general manager of Gresham Motorsports Park, a state-of-the-art quarter- and half-mile oval motorsports and event facility located in Jefferson, GA. Close, along with his wife Gail and son Sam, call Charlotte, NC home.

You can follow John Close on Facebook at John Close.



## Race Talk

### Captain Herb Emory's Pit Row Report

Daytona testing unofficially kicks off the 2014 NASCAR season and Georgia fans will see the return of some familiar names and watch the launch of the Nationwide Series career of Bill Elliott's son.

Chase hits the track in Daytona behind the wheel of the No. 9 Chevrolet owned by Dale Earnhardt Jr. Georgia-based NAPA Auto Parts will be the sponsor. Dad Bill is helping Dale Jr. too, filling the seat of Earnhardt's Nationwide car during Daytona testing.

Unadilla's David Ragan is back in the No. 34 Ford Sprint Cup machine for the year and he'll also run his 100th career Nationwide race. Ragan will drive the No. 98 Curb Records Ford in the Daytona Nationwide event.

Reed Sorenson, from Peachtree City, was testing the NACAR Sprint Cup No. 32 in Daytona, but former champion Terry Labonte is still listed as driving the car in the Daytona 500.

Ryan Sieg, from Tucker, was the only driver signed up for testing in the Camping World Truck Series at press deadline.

#### UPCOMING EVENT:

Jack Jackson and Susan Morgan have announced the 2014 Peach Bowl Speedway Reunion is SUNDAY, Jan. 26 at 2PM. The event will be held American Legion, 3914 Ewing Road, Austell, Ga.

Reservations are required, whether paying in advance (\$17.50), or (\$22.50) at the door.

Checks should be made payable to Susan Morgan and mailed to Jack Jackson, 2665 Honey Creek Road, Conyers, Ga 30094. For more information call 770-922-1472.

Non-perishable food donations are being accepted at the event to help A Gift of Love ([www.agiftofloveservices.org](http://www.agiftofloveservices.org)) with their important work.

Thanks to everyone who donated toys, time and money to our annual Newstalk WSB/Marine's Toys for Tots Festival. Fred Harris turned over a truckload of toys and a check for \$21,000 to the Marines that was raised during the event.

*Captain Herb Emory is the NASCAR/Traffic Reporter for Newstalk WSB Radio 95.5FM/750AM. More racing and traffic info at [www.captainherb.net](http://www.captainherb.net).*

