

BILL LATHROP

TRACK OFFICIAL / CREW MEMBER

Bill Lathrop is one of Wiscasset Speedway's originals, its first pit steward. He is one of the people that track builder Wilford Cronk entrusted with helping to get his vision off the ground in its early days. But Bill Lathrop had already been involved in racing well before coming to Wiscasset. He started going to the races at Unity Raceway as a young kid and eventually found himself working on the crew for hall of famer Dave Darveau. Bill tried his hand at racing for a season or two on the dirt of Unity but decided his path in racing would continue to be working on race teams tuning race cars. But in the late 60's when Wilford Cronk and friends broke ground on what would be Wiscasset Speedway, Bill Lathrop was there to lend a hand. From there, when the track opened its gates for competitive racing in 1969 Bill took on the challenging job as Wiscasset's first Pit Steward – the one whose job it is to run the pits, organizing and directing all the eager racers ready to do battle. There may not have been many divisions in the early days, but in the Hobby Class there were as many as 60+ cars to organize into heats and consi's and features. Following that job, he moved on to become the track's Tech Chairman for a few years, another challenging and sometime thankless job in the racing business. The great work of Bill Lathrop, his wife Diana and others made Wiscasset Speedway the exciting new place to be for drivers and fans. We are all thankful for his contribution to laying the foundation of Maine's fastest track. Congratulations to Bill on his induction into the Wiscasset Speedway Hall of Fame.

