

# Class of 2018

**Jim Bramham | Johnny Campbell | Mark McMillin**  
**Robbie Pierce | Ed Robinson | Cameron Steele**



## Ed Robinson

Special Achievement - Organization

In 1975, Ed Robinson was part of a dune buggy club in northern California's Sacramento valley that had no off-road events on their calendar. That same year, he stepped forward to promote off-road races, founding Valley Off-Road Racing Association, better known as VORRA.

With the help of a local motocross promoter, Ed put together the first year of short course races at venues in Dixon and Plymouth, California. After the first year, Ed went out on his own as the sole proprietor running VORRA.

Ed continued to open new venues in northern California each year, including short course races at Marysville, Baylands Raceway Park in Fremont, Hollister Hills, Placerville Speedway and Prairie City in Sacramento. Desert racing became part of the schedule in VORRA's

second year, with the first event near the tiny town of Weeks in the neighboring state of Nevada. Ed continued to expand VORRA's desert racing program in Nevada, adding races in Yerington, Reno, Dayton, Fernley, Fallon, Lovelock, Hawthorne, and the historic Comstock in Virginia City.

VORRA helped boost the racing careers of many racers, including Sherman Balch, who went on to race with Factory Nissan; Sam Berri, a successful Best in the Desert class 1500 racer; Kevin Kroyer, of Kroyer Racing Engines; and the Moss Brothers, Don and Ken. The iconic Moss Brothers' Bronco went on to become one of the winningest vehicles in SCORE racing history, with more than 30 wins between 2002-08.

Ed founded VORRA for the working man. Race weekends were set up so that the racers could maintain their Monday through Friday jobs and not miss any days of work. The big summer 3-day weekends, Memorial Day and Labor Day, were always VORRA desert race weekends.

A working man himself, Ed ran VORRA while maintaining a 40-plus hour per week career in construction, along with raising his son Troy and daughter Trisha, with his wife Jenny.

Under Ed's direction, VORRA races were always on time and well organized. The entry fees were kept as low as possible, so the average person could afford to race. VORRA was founded on the concept of the Sportsman racer and continues to offer a Sportsman class for new drivers.



*Ed Robinson at an early VORRA Awards Ceremony*

Prior to starting VORRA in 1975, Ed hand-built dune buggies in his garage, which he used for recreation in both sand and off-road. He competed in a few events in other series, but never raced a VORRA race himself – he felt it was a conflict of interest to be both a promoter and a racer of the same series. Ed raced in the 1980 Mint 400 as a driver and co-driver of a Class 3 Jeep, finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> place.



*VORRA celebrated its 37<sup>th</sup> championship race weekend in 2012 at Prairie City. Troy Robinson Photo*



*Ed Robinson in 2018*

Ed ran VORRA for 25 years. He sold the race series in 2000. After retiring from both his work career and VORRA, Ed spent the next few years volunteering occasionally with VORRA, as well as with SCORE, Best in the Desert, and SNORE, doing recovery and operations. Slowing down the past few years due to health reasons, Ed and Jenny still attend races as their travels permit.



*VORRA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo*

In 2018, VORRA entered its 43<sup>rd</sup> year, with its 5<sup>th</sup> owner, still with the primary goal of providing the every day working man with a fun and safe environment to enjoy the thrill of off-road competition.

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