

# FLORIDA TRAIL RIDERS

*February 2011*



**FTR**  
*Florida Trail Riders*

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# Team Hedin

## SPOTLIGHT

by Clarissa Zabarac

**Y**ou may not recognize the name, but I would bet that if you're on a Hare Scrambles property on Saturday afternoon when the last row of quads take off, you know the sound! That would be Keith Hedin on his monster Can-Am 800 quad in his trademark racing bib-overalls, popping a wheelie down the starting grid.

Keith is the patriarch of Team Hedin (which when pronounced correctly- rhymes), a family full of fast, fun, four-wheeled racers. Keeping this group in line is "Quad Mom" Jennifer, who is probably one of the busiest ladies at a Hare Scrambles on Saturday. In addition to her husband Keith's racing, their six-year-old Kalob is tearing up the PeeWee track in the morning along with his five year old sister, Karlee, while three-year-old Karson is out with Mom cheering everyone on.

Even though this is only their second competition year in FTR, racing for this family is nothing new. Throughout the years, Keith has raced karts, both dirt and enduro, open wheel dirt cars and

late model stock cars, but one key point he made about his racing career was that it always involved family. From the days of building and racing cars with his dad and brother, Keith has kept those family values alive and racing in his own family.

"That's why we compete in FTR," Keith said. He could travel and race different venues and series, but what brings the Hedin family to the FTR events is having the whole family participating.

When you go to watch the PeeWee quad races, that #75 blasting around the track would be Kalob Hedin. In just his second year of racing, you usually find Kalob battling for the top spot in his class. With a second place finish overall in points last year, he is well on his way to making a run at the top spot for this season.

While she may not be making her rounds as fast as her big brother, #76 Karlee Hedin is certainly making her rounds in style! From her pretty pink quad to her matching pink pom-pom ponytails, this girl is going places. At five-years-old, she is competing with the big boys and holding her own.

Even though you don't see him on the track during the races, #78 Karson Hedin's quad is sitting in the family's camp, ready to go. This spirited three-year-old is ready to race, but for now, you can usually find him pedaling away



on his bike thru the camp, or in one of the best seats in the house - those custom mounted kart seats on the back of his Mom's quad.

Occasionally, we get a rare sighting on the #74 quad of Jennifer Hedin. Keeping Team Hedin running smoothly is a full time job, but sometimes with the help from family who comes to watch the kids, Jennifer goes out for her hour and a half of "me" time. As I talked with her about the family and racing, she was all smiles. You will most often see her camera in hand snapping shots of the racing action and preserving the memories her young family is making at the events.

The highlight of Quad Row #8 is the #79 of Keith Hedin. He usually puts on a "wheelie clinic" on the starts, much to the delight of his children and the rest of the spectators. Keith began on two wheels in motocross and eventually three-wheels if you remember those. Interestingly enough, he raced three-wheeler motocross at Gatorback back in the day.



Although he cut his teeth on two wheels and said he loves motocross, after eight knee surgeries and one knee replacement, he has been persuaded to continue on four wheels. When he's not racing, you can find Keith running his businesses - Keith's Oil Can has two locations and Keith's Mini Storage.

Check out [keithsoilcan.com](http://keithsoilcan.com) and the racing page.

*Jennifer and Keith Hedin live in Vero Beach, Fla.*

*Front row left to right, Kalob #75, Karlee #76 and Karson #78*

