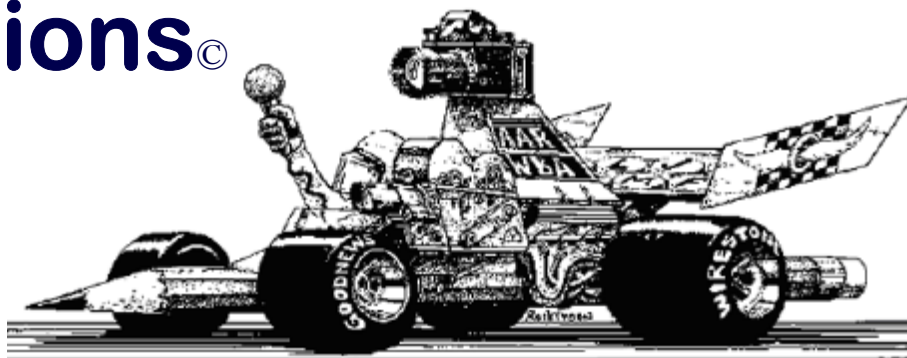


ImPRESSions©



The Official Newsletter Of The American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association

March 2008



Vol. 41 No. 3

Membership Drive Underway Now!
A New Member Application IS Attached To This Issue!

Bob Russo Founders Award Entries Due By April 10

The Bob Russo Founder's Award, which began in 2005, is presented annually by AARWBA to a member who has worked diligently to further the organization in its goals to represent the media who cover the sport of motor racing throughout the United States.



Bob Russo

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Members are reminded to visit
www.A1GP.com/press
to register for access to the Media site
of our All-America Team
presenting sponsor.

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The Bob Russo Founder's Award, which began in 2005, is presented annually by AARWBA to a member who has worked diligently to further the organization in its goals to represent the media who cover the sport of motor racing throughout the United States.

Russo was the initiator in organizing AARWBA. In 1955, he felt there was a definite need for such a group to help in its coverage of all forms of auto racing. Often at that time communication between the track promoters and the media was very limited. He brought together the founding group at Indianapolis. Russo was a journalist and later public relations director for the National Hot Rod Association, Riverside International Raceway and Ontario Motor Speedway.

In 2004 President Brandel assigned Bill Marvel, the founding Secretary, to chair a committee comprised of Deke Houlgate, Dick Mittman and Norm Froscher to establish the award, the rules governing the annual selection of the recipient, and the awarding of the honor. Also the committee was to choose a worthy recipient of the first award.

The winners to date:

2005 Michael Knight
2006 Wally Parks
2007 Chris Economaki

Nominees must meet the requirement that they:

"Have demonstrated profound interest tireless efforts and undying dedication to auto racing, as exemplified by Founder Bob Russo, throughout his lifelong career."

The following rules apply to the award:

- Only Professional Members of AARWBA, who have held membership for at least five years, may make a nomination.
- Nominees from the auto racing community must have been involved for at least five years.
- A nominee from the Professional Media Membership of AARWBA must be a member for five previous years.

- The award can be made posthumously.
- Each recipient will be added to the Award's Committee.
- No member of the committee may receive the award while serving on the Committee.
- As the original committee members leave for one reason or another, the committee will select a chairman by vote.
- The majority will rule on the final award recipient selection by the committee. In cases of ties the AARWBA President will make the deciding vote.
- Nominations must be submitted in written form of 150 words, via email or regular mail, to the Chairman of the Founder's Award Committee.
- Nominations must contain the signature and year of initial membership of the one making the nomination.

- Nominations must be received by April 10, 2008 for the current award year.

The award is an individual plaque with a likeness of Bob Russo, the AARWBA logo and the following wording thereon:

"Presented Annually by AARWBA to an individual who has demonstrated profound interest, tireless efforts and undying dedication to auto racing, as exemplified by our founder Bob Russo throughout his career."

A permanent plaque, with the same information as the individual one, with individual nameplate spaces is displayed in the Media Center at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Gary and Collene Campbell, to celebrate the lives of Mickey and Trudy Thompson, Collene's brother and sister-in-law, sponsor the award.

Send nominations to:

Chairman Bill Marvel
Email: billmarvel@vvdsci.com or
Mailing address:
4866 KY 49, Liberty, KY 42539.

This month's issue of ImpRESSIONs is sponsored by



American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association, Inc. (www.aarwba.org)
"Dedicated To Increasing Media Coverage Of Motor Sports"

News & Notes

Rob Geiger Leaves NHRA.com

We recently received this note from Rob Geiger:

Hello fellow AARWBA members, It is with mixed emotions that I inform all of you of my decision to leave my post as senior editor at NHRA.com. I've greatly enjoyed my eight years there and I'm exceptionally proud of the growth of NHRA.com during my tenure. I also want to thank my managing editor, Phil Burgess, for his incredible support and friendship over the past 11 years. Friends like Phil are few and far between.

Looking forward, I have some very exciting plans I'll be sharing with everyone very soon. Although my time with NHRA.com has ended, I won't be straying too far away.

From this point forward, please use my geigermedia@mindspring.com e-mail address.

*See you soon,
Rob Geiger*

Franck Moves TO ESPN.com

Eastern Vice-President Lewis Franck recently made a career change and he passed along this note about his new position.

"I am no longer affiliated with SI.com. Currently, I'm a regular motorsports contributor to ESPN.com with a column appearing late Tuesdays. Also, you can find me on ESPN's Racecast as a chat moderator on Sunday's races."



Photo above is (L-R) Southern VP, Mike Harris, Daytona 500 winning car owner Roger Penske, and Lewis Franck, shortly before the Daytona 500 race. The photo was taken by Dick Mittman.

A Few Photos From A Member

Paul Glessner sent us a few pics of himself with a few well known celebrities. The first two photos were taken at the time of his Vehicle Aerodynamics seminar held at the PRI event in December. The shot of him and comedian Jay Leno was taken at the taping of Leno's February 11th show.

"I had a most unforgettable 20 minute conversation with THE Don Garlits in his Ocala office December 5th, 2007, during my visit to PRI. He was a fan of my hero, Mark Donohue."



Glessner and legendary drag racer Shirley Muldowney.



Glessner visits with Don Garlits in his Ocala, Florida office.



Glessner with Jay Leno. In the background are Larry the Cable Guy and Bobby Knight

News & Notes

Race Radio & Lucas Oil Partner For 2008 Season

Race Radio Producer and host, Greg Cozzo, announced today that Lucas Oil has partnered with Race Radio for the entire 2008 Broadcast season in support of racing multiple levels.



Greg Cozzo

"What better compliment can a show be given when an organization like Lucas Oil, who supports racing at all its levels, partners with you. Race Radio is more than just stats, the show is about the people that make up racing as much as it is the components."

Bob Patison, Vice President at Lucas Oil, feels the partnership will help along the re-introduction of racing to fans in Southern California;

"At Lucas, we focus on the quality of our products and the people that make up our organization. With the tremendous history of motorsports competition in Southern California, we felt Greg and Race Radio fits into our philosophies. He focuses more on the people, and their stories, within the racing community. Our work with local tracks, regional series, NHRA, NASCAR has shown those to be quite compelling and we are excited about the chance to work together in 2008 and beyond."

Lucas Oil Products was founded by Forrest Lucas and his wife Charlotte in 1989. Prior to that, Forrest was a truck driver for over 20 years. Given their personal experience in the trucking industry, Forrest and Charlotte started Lucas Oil Products with the simple philosophy of producing only the best line of lubricants and additives available anywhere. Lucas is also one of the fastest growing additive lines in the consumer automotive industry. A premium line of oils, greases and problem solving additives has helped to firmly establish Lucas as a prominent figure in this marketplace.

Race Radio is a radio talk show celebrating auto racing and it's many levels and more importantly it's great fans and fantastic stories!

Why Members Should Always Pay Their Annual Dues!



**Don't let this happen to you!
You can pay right now on line at:
<http://aarwba.org/aarwbaap.htm>**

The members of the AARWBA wish to again thank all of our sponsors for their support!



Auto Club Chief Executive Officer Thomas McKernan is congratulated by AARWBA President Dusty Brandel on the renaming of California Speedway in Fontana to Auto Club Speedway. (photo by Bobbie Colgrove)

News & Notes

Al Krause Passes Submitted by Steve Zautke

Allan G. Krause loved auto racing, from the first race he saw in the old coliseum on the Wisconsin State Fair Park Fairgrounds in 1936 to the gathering of Milwaukee area short track legends that gathered at the old race track in Cedarburg last summer. For 71 years Al enjoyed, logged and researched auto racing. Al credited his childhood friend Otto Klumpp as the one who got him interested in racing. Even with the deafening noise and blue smoke as Al once recollected from that day in March of '36, racing was in his blood.



Tony Stewart and Al Krause

Al's professional racing career began after his service in the 1st infantry division that served in Europe during World War II. Al was one of many who, after the war, was going to college and looking for work. In 1948 on the urging of his wife Mary Ann, Al approached Tom Marchese who was the promoter of auto races at Wisconsin State Fair Park. Tom saw Al's passion for the sport and Al was initially hired as an assistant in the publicity department. However after receiving his degree in journalism from UW-Madison in 1950, Tom promoted Al to Director of Publicity.

Al continued to serve at the track in a variety of roles from statistician and eventually as historian for over fifty years. Al also served as Editor of Midwest Racing News in the mid-1960's. Midwest Racing News was one of the most respected weekly papers when Al was at the helm. Eventually Al went to work for the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. working out of their New Berlin, WI wholesale center until his retirement in 1986. Al continued to be a respected free-lance writer with his specialty of the Milwaukee Mile and auto racing's early history.

Al's work can be found in many magazines and Milwaukee Mile programs dating back to 1958. Al also contributed to a pair of books, Race Car Flashback, published by Krause Publications (no relation) in 1994 and Wooden Rails and Rooster Tails a compilation of excellent historical stories with Earl Fabritz which was published by Pit Stop books in 2003.

Al's zeal for auto racing can be traced to this quote he wrote in 1969, "Every fan has his particular thrilling race moments to remember. And every racing buff is apt to agree that the deafening silence following the race is something that one must experience to be a true racing enthusiast."

Al Krause passed away Monday, February 4th at the age of 86.

Sportscar Racer Jason Workman Critically Injured in Freak Accident

As Reported By Member Nancy Knapp Schilke
on www.Motorsport.com



On Tuesday, February 26, Jason Workman was sitting alongside the driver he was coaching when a wind storm at the Moroso Motorsports Park in Jupiter, Florida sent a water barrel hurdling their way.

Tom McDermott, the driver of the Ariel Atom 2 they were seated in, was glazed by the barrel before it hit Workman in the head. The two were transported to the hospital with Workman in grave condition with a severe head injury.

He also sustained numerous broken bones in his upper body plus injuries to the rib cage but the medical team's priority was to stabilize Workman and run the needed CAT scan in order to determine the extent of his head injury. He was placed in a medically induced coma to lessen the swelling of the brain.

Trak Motorsports, Inc., owners of the Ariel Atom confirmed that there were ten barrels used to anchor their trailer awning. Rob McDonald, spokesperson for the company said, "An extremely powerful burst of wind toppled the awning and a single barrel was launched into the air. Jason was providing one on one instruction during the day. The barrel landed on top of him while in the car preparing to go on track for another session."

McDermott was treated and released.

Workman's mother, family and friends have set-up a message center on his web site: www.jasonworkman.com

News & Notes

Larry Henry Is Keeping His Days Full

Professional Member Larry Henry sent us this note about recent changes in his life.

"A few weeks ago my 'day' job went away after 14 years with WWJ/CBS Radio in Detroit... the dreaded cut back syndrome. However, that is hopefully opening up more doors, especially in racing. I'm creating internet content, primarily podcasts for manufacturers, sponsors, teams, drivers, just about whomever wants to add to their internet presence and bring in more fans.



"Starting on March 12th - and every Wednesday after that for 36 weeks - 'This Week in Ford Racing', a program with interviews of drivers, owners, and Ford Racing personnel, will appear at WWW.FordRacing.com

"Currently, I'm also doing a weekly online interview program with NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series rookie Colin Braun. Usually there are two shows every week, one late Monday, and another Thursday morning. Those can be accessed at WWW.Con-wayRacing.com

"I've got a couple of other companies that I should also be creating content for in the very near future, and the addition of video is also in the works."

- Larry Henry

Squier Named Citizen Of The Year

Long time racing announcer Ken Squier, was recently named Citizen of the Year by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce.

It was Squier who was the first to call the Daytona 500 "The Great American Race".



Squier is the owner of the Radio Vermont Group.

C-O-Y Details can be found here:
<http://www.vtchamber.com/business/COTY.html>

AARWBA Members: This is YOUR newsletter.

Your editor, **Andy Hartwell**, would love to hear from you. Write in and let him know what you are up to in the world of motorsports. We need good news content from professionals like you that we can share with all the other professionals in the AARWBA. And this newsletter is a great vehicle for announcing your recent successes to your peers!

And you can even have your company or organization sponsor an issue!

Send your words and photos to ashartwell@att.net.

For issue sponsorship information contact:

Michael Knight
at spindocor500@aol.com

or our President, Dusty Brandel,
at dusty.brandel@gmail.com.

Dues Are Due!



If you haven't yet paid your '08 AARWBA membership dues you can do so quickly and easily on-line, using PayPal.

**Simply click the link below to go to the AARWBA site Membership Application and Renewals page and then follow the easy PayPal instructions.
Simple / Quick / Easy
Link To Renewal Page**

Member Spotlight

Bruce A. Bennett is in the Member Spotlight this issue. He has enjoyed over 30 years of part-time professional involvement in covering motorsports, going all the way back to his college days. His work has appeared in local and national publications and he still finds his interests in getting the story - and the pictures to go with it - remain strong.

"I am a professional technical journalist with a degree in engineering. I am an editor with NASA Tech Briefs magazine. All of the research that NASA does - and they do a ton of it - is funded by tax dollars. Congress mandated that any technical information that isn't directly defense or security related has to be made available to the public. We basically publish the results of all their research and development so that, hopefully, much of it can be commercialized.

"NASA was doing it on their own, but in the mid 1980's the company I work for, ABPI -Associated Business Publications International - put a bid in to do the work and they got the contract. We take all of the technical information and put it out in the form of a magazine that is mostly read by engineers, scientists and capitalists who want to invest in some of the space-age technology NASA comes up with. The magazine comes out every month.

"I mainly edit two of their supplements, one of which is Embedded Technology, which is a magazine about industrial computers. The other one is Photonics Tech Briefs, which is about optics and lasers.

"I go back about 35 years in covering racing. I started writing a racing column called 5th Gear when I was attending the Newark College of Engineering; I wrote it for the school newspaper called The Vector. The school is now called the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Back then I was the sports editor. One day in 1972 I was going to cover the US Grand Prix at Watkins Glen. At the last minute our photo editor had an emergency and couldn't make the trip."

This simple act of fate would become the catalyst that set Bennett squarely on a path to a lifetime of shooting auto races.

"The photo editor went to the cabinet and took out an old Minolta SR-1 and put a 135mm lens on it, loaded it with film, and gave me a five minute demonstration on how to use the thing. I knew so little about how to use it that when I got to the end of the roll of film I didn't know what to do. I didn't even know how to rewind the film! I took the camera with the film still in it and gave the whole thing back to him.

"It turned out there were some decent shots in there so I got hooked!

"Ever since I could read I have been collecting books on racing. My earliest memories of toys are of cars, so they have always been in my veins. I had already been collecting racing books so I started going through them and studying the photographs. I would try to figure out how the photographer did what he did. I'd try to figure out what angle he was shooting from and the lens he used and so on and I basically taught myself about photography.

"My first camera was a Minolta SRT-101 which my parents gave me for my 21st birthday. I still have it but I don't use it anymore. I have it tucked away as a memento. Now Minolta doesn't even make cameras anymore.

"After a while I figured out that, being as I was working for a legitimate college newspaper, I could get credentials for Pocono Raceway. I started shooting Indy Cars, stock cars, and whatever else ran up there. I would go as often as I could. I would also go to Lime Rock and I started building a little portfolio and tried to get someone interested in my work. It took a long time. For the 1974 Trans-Am I was published in the National Speed Sport News, with Chris Economaki. That was my first major piece published. They used my story but the photos were from another photographer.

"My real break came in 1982 with Dick Berggren and his Stock Car Racing and Open Wheel magazines. He now runs a magazine called Speedway Illustrated. He was one of the few people out there who was willing to take a chance on an unknown. I would send him stuff and he would look at it and critique it and tell me what to do better and what shots he liked and why. I just kept sending him stuff and he finally published something of mine in 1982. I have been with him ever since."

After getting his aperture settings right where they needed to be, Bennett decided to join his peers in the AARWBA.

"I cover racing part time, as I have the full time gig as an editor with NASA Tech Briefs. I joined AARWBA around 1985, or shortly after I started with Dick. Steve Snoddy told me about it when we were at the Meadowlands. He was a big player on the CART circuit back then. I got to talking with him and he recommended AARWBA as a great place to network and gain professional status."



Continued on next page

American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association, Inc. (www.aarwba.org)

"Dedicated To Increasing Media Coverage Of Motor Sports"



Member Spotlight Continued

Bennett has also enjoyed the status of professional father and husband for nearly as long as he has been covering racing.

"I've been married to Antoinette for 32 years. She was born in Italy and moved to America when she was nine. We have three children. Patrick is 25, Alessia is 23 and Kevin is 21. Kevin is a senior at William Patterson University, where Patrick graduated from. Alessia went to Seton Hall. They all went after degrees in communications, but Alessia got into banking and Patrick went into teaching - he is also an aspiring rock star - and Kevin seems determined to get into Hollywood somehow. I just want them to do whatever makes them happy."

And it was being a journalist that made Bennett happy all these years. But he would like a shot at one dream he has not yet realized.

"I feel I have achieved more in racing journalism than I ever thought I would. I am very happy. One thing I would like to do before it's all over - just once - is photograph the Grand Prix of Monaco. This coming May I will shoot my 20th Indy 500. I've done the Daytona 500. I don't know if I could stay awake for the whole 24 Hours of Le Mans thing. When you get older it just isn't that easy! But I have always wanted to shoot the Grand Prix of Monaco."

We asked Bennett if his affection for racing, and his interest in the sport as a whole, has wilted at all over the years. And how have the changes in the way journalists do their jobs affected him?

"I think I will always be in love with the sport. I'm glad I am not starting out in motorsports journalism these days. When I started shooting NASCAR at Pocono you could walk into someone's pit and take pictures and if the driver came in while you were there, a mechanic might ask you to hand them a tool or something. It was a lot less professional and stressful. Today shooting a NASCAR race is difficult, even for the pros.

"The short tracks have also gotten more professional too but I still enjoy shooting the action there, even more

than at some of the bigger races. Over the years a number of magazines that I have worked for have folded up and gone away, but Dick Berggren still uses my short track stuff and there are a few other magazines that look for photos from the smaller venues.

"Digital photography has certainly made shooting a simpler process. I can't tell you the number of nights I was up until two or three in the morning trying to make prints in my little darkroom. And then I had to get up to go to work first thing in the morning. Now I sit in front of the TV with my computer and download the stuff.

"And we used to type our stories out on a typewriter. I don't know how we did it back then. We would have eight or nine double spaced pages and if you had to correct a mistake you had to type the page all over again. I grew up in an era when boys weren't allowed to take typing classes so I am still a hunt and peck, two finger typist."

Bennett has enjoyed the support of his wife from his earliest days as a fledgling journalist and that support - if at times somewhat tempered by mild disbelief - continues today.

"A lot of people have said they could not have pursued their dreams without the support of their loved ones and that is really true in my case. When we were first married and I was working for the Navy as an engineer and not making a lot of money, and all the time trying to chase my dream of becoming a motor racing journalist, I'm not sure my wife thought I would ever make it. But it wasn't uncommon for her to slip me \$20 so I would have gas money to get out to Pocono. I don't think she ever envisioned a day when I would make it pay and actually realize a profit. But she has been there for me every step of the way.

"In college she would go with me to the races but later we made an agreement that has allowed us to stay married for 32 years. She lets me go to the races and I don't make her go to the races! And here we are still married 32 years later! And she still sort of chuckles when I come home on a Saturday night covered in dust from shooting a dirt track race. She just looks at me as if to say 'when are you ever going to grow up'?

Membership Drive! Your Support Is Needed!

We are asking every member of AARWBA to seek out at least one potential new member.

At the end of this newsletter you will find a two page document.

The first page explains the benefit of becoming a member and the second page is an application form. Please print out the pages and hand them to a peer the next time you are in a media center at a race track.

Or, even easier, send several of your peers an email with this link:

http://aarwba1.homestead.com/files/PDF/MEMBERSHIP_APPLICATION.pdf

The link will take them directly to the forms on the Internet - no printing by you required!

With your help, we can grow the organization to everyone's benefit!



Why You Should Join The American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association!

AARWBA - The Professional Organization for Motorsports Professionals!

- ✓ AARWBA is the only national voice for all motorsports journalists, editors, broadcasters and photographers. In operation for over 50 years, it is recognized by every major sanctioning body, and virtually all major sponsors of motorsports, as the premier national association for motorsports reporting professionals.
- ✓ Members are connected to one another through a free monthly newsletter that is sent out via email and is also distributed to leaders in the motorsports industry. The newsletter includes information from our members about our members, as well as information about upcoming events and more!
- ✓ Members are encouraged to submit items of interest to the newsletter editor. This is a great way to get free exposure to the movers and shakers - as well as your peers, editors and publishers - in the motorsports industry.
- ✓ An annual membership directory is made available to every member in both print form, and on-line at the AARWBA.org web site. This important tool facilitates networking with your peers and industry leaders who too belong to AARWBA.
- ✓ As an active member you will participate in the election of the members of the All-America Team each year. This prestigious award is given to the people in auto racing - by category - who have exemplified the best of racing in that year.
- ✓ You will be invited to attend an annual breakfast held at the Indianapolis Speedway in the days leading up to the Indy 500.
- ✓ You will be invited to attend the annual All-America Team dinner, also held in Indianapolis. This event is attended by many of the biggest names in motorsports and is an outstanding opportunity for you to network. And time is provided to allow for interviews with the honorees.
- ✓ In the event you have difficulties doing your job - credential hassles, access limitations, other issues - you will have the benefit of the AARWBA Ombudsman program. This member-only initiative provides you with organizational support that often leads to a swift and satisfactory resolution of the issues in dispute. And there is no cost to you for this effort on your behalf.
- ✓ Complete the attached application or apply on-line at www.aarwba.org!



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"Dedicated To Increasing Media Coverage of Motor Sports"

The AARWBA is the oldest and largest professional organization of its kind. Founded in 1955 in Indianapolis, it has grown to more than 400 members throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. Each year the AARWBA members select a 14-driver All America Team from Open Wheel, Stock Car, Sports Car, Drag Racing, Short Track, Touring Series and At Large championship categories. An annual banquet is held to honor these drivers each January. AARWBA also sponsors several contests for its members and established the "Legends in Racing" auto racing hall of fame.

AARWBA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

Name:		Date:
Company:		
Title:		
Business Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Phone:	E-mail:	FAX:

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Home address:		
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Phone:	E-Mail:	FAX:
Preferred Mailing Address: HOME OFFICE (Please note that our newsletter, "ImpRESSions", is sent via e-mail)		
Preferred E-Mail Address For Newsletter:		

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

Media Professional (\$45.00)	Affiliate Member (\$65.00)	Associate / Corporate (\$300.00)
Signature of applicant:		Date:

Active Media Member

Applicants for active media membership status must submit the following materials to the membership committee for consideration. Materials must be submitted with your check.

- ✓ A fully executed membership application. **(This information will appear in the membership directory unless you specify otherwise. Attach a note to this application if necessary.)**
- ✓ Two 1" x 1.5" head shot pictures for use in the directory and for an I.D. badge.
- ✓ Tear sheets or samples of work as follows:
 - Two published articles on the subject of auto racing in a publication of general circulation within the past year.
 - Photographs on auto racing appearing in two publications of general circulation or two separate times in one publication, within the past year.
 - One video or audio tape of any race broadcast where spectators attended and exhibited the applicant's work within the past year.
 - One book on the subject of auto racing within the past year or three books on the subject of auto racing, or one book contracted from any trade publisher for a book on auto racing



Affiliate Member

Open to public relations, team representatives, motorsports advertising personnel. Full voting rights and privileges except to hold office.

Associate/Corporate Membership

Open to any person, regardless of affiliation or professional orientation, who is interested in furthering the aims of the American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association and/or motorsports in general. Corporate membership is Limited to three (3) non-voting memberships for the \$300 fee.

Mail completed application, photos, and your check to the address shown above.

The American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association 922 North Pass Avenue Burbank, CA 91505-2703 (818) 842-7005