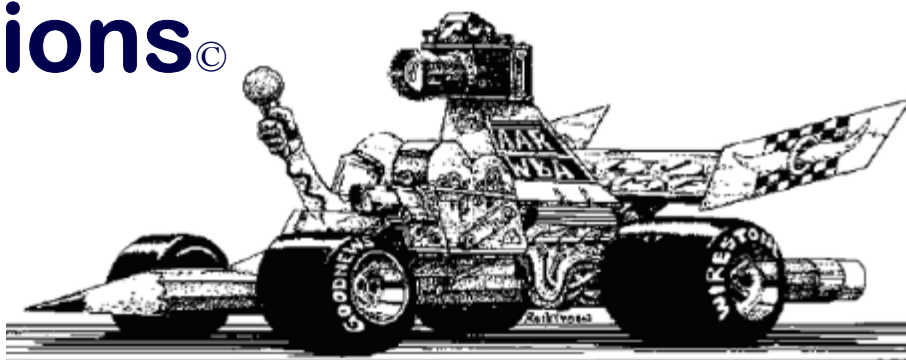


ImPRESSIONs[©]



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

May 2009

Vol. 42 No. 5



Donny Schatz Receives Horsepower Trophy

World of Outlaws' champion Donny Schatz received his All-America Team Horsepower Trophy in a front straightaway ceremony March 28 at Manzanita Speedway. Mark Armijo (right), *Arizona Republic* contributor, handed the award to Schatz, who was racing in Australia at the time of the Team dinner.

Jamie Reynolds (left) of *Racing Roundup Arizona* radio participated in the event, which was broadcast on the PA system. This was the Outlaws' last race at the legendary track, which has been sold. Racing ended April 11."

Thanks to WoO PR director Tony Veneziano for coordinating the presentation.

Photo courtesy of Terry Shaw

Why isn't your name in the Member Spotlight?

Because you didn't yet tell us you would like it to be! Come on and get with the program!

Contact Andy Hartwell and let's make it happen!

ashartwell@att.net



REMINDER!

Annual AARWBA Indy 500 Breakfast

May 23rd, the day before the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race

Breakfast begins at 8:00 AM

**Brickyard Crossing
Golf Resort & Inn - Pavilion**

Driver interviews - Jigger and Angelo Angelopolous Awards - Writing, Broadcast and Photography Contest Winners - Door prizes

Reservations required.

Members may send an email to:

dusty@aarwba.org

Tickets from Dusty in the Media Center or at the door.

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

"Dedicated To Increasing Media Coverage Of Motor Sports"

Peter Bryant Passes

Submitted by Dusty Brandel and Doug Stokes

We've lost another legend. Engineer, designer, builder, speaker, super salesman, author, and true hale fellow has died.

Peter Bryant died Tuesday March 31, just four days shy of his 72nd birthday. He died instantly, of a heart attack, after a wonderful weekend of reminiscences at the first Legends of Riverside gathering.

Peter was like a big kid at a candy store. He was totally immersed in an extraordinary atmosphere where his life-long dedication to motorsports was well-known, celebrated, and (most importantly) appreciated. He was fully in his element. He loved it.



Peter and Dan Gurney at the Riverside Legends gathering. Photo by Dusty Brandel

As told in his recent autobiography, *Can-Am Challenger*, London-born Bryant caught the racing fever early in life, took a welding course to make himself more marketable, and landed jobs with such teams as Lola and Lotus in Formula One before moving to the United States to work in Indy and Can-Am racing.

In 1969, he pulled together the backing necessary to construct his own car. Driven by Jackie Oliver, the Ti 22 "Titanium Car" proved competitive with the all-conquering McLarens, leading one race, setting one joint fastest lap and finishing a close second twice during 1970.

Bryant and Oliver then moved to Don Nichols's Shadow team, where Bryant re-engineered the original "Tiny Tire" car into another contender, especially during the 1972 season. In later years, he was a consulting engineer outside of racing, including designing the Shelby Series 1. Recently, he was helping vintage racers get the best out of their restored cars, and he and Craig Pence were collaborating on a new Ti 22 built to original drawings.

A true bon vivant of racing's most boisterous kind, Bryant was a great storyteller and hugely enjoyed gatherings such as last weekend's inaugural Legends of Riverside film festival and party at the new Riverside International Automotive Museum. He and his wife, Lois, had just returned to their home when he died.

"It's like the sun went out," Lois Bryant said. "He was such a strong personality, a 'don't tell me I can't do something' kind of guy. He lived a good life. And he has a whole new audience for his stories now."

In addition to his wife, Bryant leaves a daughter and a son from a previous marriage, as well as 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He went out way too bloody early, but he went out a real winner.

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"

Lloyd Ruby 1928 - 2009

Excerpts Of An Article Reprinted With Permission From The Times Record News - Wichita Falls Online
Article By Lee Anderson - Photo Courtesy Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Bobby Unser called him “a straight arrow — the type of person who makes people like you.” Johnny Rutherford referred to him as a “gentleman.” To Al Unser, he was “my hero.”

As news of Lloyd Ruby’s death filtered throughout the racing community, many of those connected to motorsports reflected on their association with the racing legend who was most recognized as an Indianapolis 500 favorite for almost two decades.

Ruby, a lifelong resident of Wichita Falls, died Monday night. He was 81.

“I started with Lloyd when I was very young,” said Bobby Unser, three-time Indianapolis 500 winner, from his home in Albuquerque. “He came to Albuquerque racing midget cars. He was 18, as far as I remember. He won the race that day. He was like my hero. The name Lloyd and Ruby is kind of macho. I followed him through for many years. People didn’t realize he raced all kinds of cars, the whole ball of wax. And he won in all of them.



“On the track, he was the tough one with a fast car. Besides being competitive on the track, we became very good friends. I had so much respect for him. He was so very straight American. He was the All-American boy. He represented everything good in our country. He was the slow-talking Texan. It was a trademark for him. He had lots and lots of really close friends.”

Rutherford, a fellow Texan and also a three-time Indy 500 winner, called Ruby “one of the finest men I have ever known. “He said it like it was. He was an excellent race-car driver. The title of his book sums it up (“Lloyd Ruby: The Greatest Driver Never to Win the Indy 500”). He could have been a three- or four-time winner.

“I have known Lloyd since I was a 9-year-old. My dad took me to a midget track in Tulsa and I watched him race many years. To get to compete with him when I came to Indy in 1962 was a great thrill. I hunted with him on many occasions and it was a great time. I will miss Lloyd a lot.”

“He was honest and a hard racer. He didn’t pull bad things on you. You could run wheel to wheel with him and you didn’t have to worry about Lloyd. He made the race car talk,” four-time Indy 500 winner Al Unser said.

“He was just as good as anybody. He was never secondary. Look at the record book. He should have won it (Indy) five or six times. Things just seem to happen. You wonder why people with the ability of Lloyd were not able to win. But he won everything else.”

“I remember Lloyd very well. He was a very special man, dignified, well mannered and quiet. Not shy, but quiet, and completely out of context with what one would expect a race car driver to be. A modest man. Nobody who saw him, if they didn’t know, would ever imagine he was a driver until he stepped into the cockpit. And he was very versatile on the track.” added Sir Jackie Stewart, three-time World Drivers’ Championship winner known throughout the racing world as The Flying Scot.

Parnelli Jones, also a 500 winner, said he and Ruby were “really close friends. I mean, really, really close friends. Not just racing buddies, but we’ve played golf together at the Speedway every May for years and always had our little personal tourney for bragging rights with Jim Garner and our friend Stan Bengé. Now the motel’s gone and Ruby’s gone. I won’t know what to do. He should have won the 500 two or three times.

Jim Hunter, the vice president, corporate communications for NASCAR, said “Rube was a racer’s racer. He will be missed by everyone in the motorsports community. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time.

“Rube was a great friend in good times and in bad times. I always looked to Lloyd for advice and insight. Although soft-spoken and easy going, Rube had a great sense of humor and was one of the most popular drivers in the history of Indianapolis racing. He might not have won the Indianapolis 500, but he captured the hearts and minds of millions of fans with his hard-charging style and effort. He also had the respect of his peers.”

Fellow motorsports legend Dan Gurney called Ruby “a soft-spoken Texas lead-foot with enormous natural talent. He was not a self-promoting type, he was humble. One of the old-fashioned guys who let the results speak for themselves. He was a potential winner every time he got behind the wheel.”

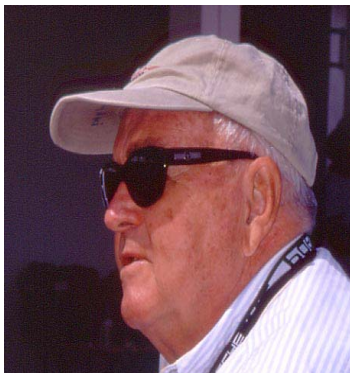
Texas Motor Speedway President Eddie Gossage also paid tribute to Ruby. “Lloyd once gave me an autographed copy of the book, ‘Lloyd Ruby: The Greatest Driver Never to Win the Indy 500,’ and it sits in my office today,” Gossage said. “It was always great to hear his racing stories and to know that he never missed a race here at Texas Motor Speedway. I knew he was ill, but I also knew he was tough as nails so I hoped he would pull through. Godspeed, Lloyd.”

Source: <http://www.timesrecordnews.com/news/2009/mar/25/racing-community-pays-tribute-to-ruby/>

News & Notes

Economaki and Schrader Honored at Rockingham Speedway

Last season, Rockingham Speedway honored three of NASCAR's greats and made them a permanent part of the historic track. The Benny Parsons Tower, the Papa Joe Hendrick Garage Area and the Ricky Rudd Grandstands were all named for three men instrumental to the speedway's legacy.



Chris Economaki

Photo by Andrew S. Hartwell

Ken Schrader

*Schrader photo courtesy of
www.theinsidegroove.com*



This year Chris Economaki and Ken Schrader were honored by the speedway with the naming of the Media Center and Turn Four grandstands, respectively.

The Chris Economaki Media Center is dedicated to the man who has covered the sport of auto racing for more than 70 years as a journalist, track announcer, radio and television announcer and has been the editor for National Speed Sport News since 1950. He was inducted into the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America in 1994 and the National Sprint Car Hall of Fame in 1993.

"When you get old, people give you things and I have become humbled by the number of things people have given me in recent years," said Economaki. "Having spent the majority of my lifetime at race tracks, I'm proud to have my name associated with a race track as rich in history as Rockingham Speedway."

"I first met Chris at a sprint car race when I was a seventeen year old driver," said Rockingham Speedway President, Andy Hillenburg. "The sport and media coverage we have today would not be the same without the foundation he helped build and I want fans to know it."

Ken Schrader is no stranger to Rockingham Speedway - he earned six top-fives at the track, including a second place finish in 1991 during his Cup career at the track. He also had 10 top-10's at the historic track, as well as one pole in 1990.

"Ken Schrader is the definition of the term 'racer.' He has been and always will be a fan favorite and a personal favorite as well," said Hillenburg.

"The first time I raced at Daytona was in his car as well as my first win there. We share the same passion for the sport and we are very proud to have his name permanently displayed at the Rockingham Speedway."

Schrader was runner-up in last year's ARCA race, the first since the track was reopened. He dominated this year's April 19 event, leading three times for 185 laps but finished seventh as Sean Caisse won.

Schrader said of his award from the speedway, "I am honored but a little bit surprised," said Schrader. "I've known Andy since before he moved down here and I've always been a big fan of his and I think it is pretty amazing what he has been able to accomplish."

"I always did like it [racing at Rockingham] just because of the way the track would work on the tires and to do well you really had to use your foot there a lot. When we got to run the ARCA race there last year it was like 'damn I knew this place was fun but I forgot how much fun it was.' I am looking forward to going back this year."



News & Notes

Mike Harris Retiring

AARWBA Southern Vice President wraps up lengthy career as a motorsports correspondent and editor.

Photos By Joe Jennings



(L-R) Les Unger, National Motorsports Manager, Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A., Mike Harris and Jim Michaelian, President & CEO Grand Prix Association of Long Beach, Inc. admire the golf club Harris received.



At the ALMS / IndyCar weekend at St. Petersburg, Florida, Mike is shown receiving the key to the city from Mayor Rick Baker and Michael Andretti.

Riverside Raceway Reunion



Olga Houlgate, her husband Deke, (the former PR director for Riverside International Raceway), President Dusty Brandel (with a few of the old media credentials), and Mr. Corvette Dick Guldstrand, enjoyed the three-day Riverside Legends reunion.

Brandel was the first woman to drive around the 2.6-mile road course on media day



President Dusty Brandel presented Les Unger, National Motorsports Manager Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., with an appreciation plaque for continued support of AARWBA. It wasn't easy catching Les for the presentation during the busy 35th running of the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach weekend.

The AARWBA Ombudsman

How to Get Help Resolving Work Concerns

Mission Statement: "To provide AARWBA members who have legitimate concerns (regarding issues such as credentials, access, and treatment by drivers, owners, officials, track and sanctioning organization personnel and other media sources), which affect their ability to perform their work assignments, an intermediary through which to address and attempt to resolve those concerns."

Process: An AARWBA member who believes he/she has a legitimate concern to bring to the AARWBA Ombudsman will follow this process:

1. The member will contact his/her appropriate regional Vice President, or a Vice President in attendance at the event.
2. The Vice President will review the situation and will have full discretion to determine if the matter falls under the Ombudsman Mission Statement. If so, the VP will attempt to quickly resolve the issue or achieve a reasonable settlement.
3. The VP will report back to the AARWBA Board. If necessary, the VP may request the President to activate the full Ombudsman Committee. The Committee will consist of three persons:
 - a) The VP who first reviewed the matter, who will lead the Committee;
 - b) A person, appointed by the President, who may have special knowledge of, or expertise in, the area of concern;
 - c) Michael Knight, who has experience on both the media and PR side of the motorsports industry, will serve as a permanent member of the Committee.
 - d) If, for any reason, it is deemed inappropriate for any Committee member to serve, the President will appoint a replacement.
4. The Committee will have complete authority from AARWBA to attempt to bring the member's concern to the best obtainable resolution.
5. The appropriate regional VP will keep the member informed of developments throughout the process. The Committee's on-going work activities will be considered "confidential" and not for the knowledge of anyone beyond the immediate parties and the AARWBA Board.
6. The Committee, upon completion of its work, will report back to the AARWBA Board. The Committee will then communicate its final report to all involved parties. The Committee will recommend to the Board what, if anything, to report to the full membership via the AARWBA newsletter. The Board will have the final decision on what information, if any, to make public.

AARWBA Ombudsman Contacts:

President: Dusty Brandel, dusty.brandel@gmail.com
National Vice President: Susan Wade, susanw7754@aol.com
Eastern Vice President: Lewis Franck, lfranck@ix.netcom.com
Southern Vice President: Mike Harris, msharris@ap.org
Midwest Vice President: Ron Lemasters, rlemasters14@comcast.net
Western Vice President: Anne Proffitt, anne.proffitt@gmail.com
Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. George Peters, BarJean@prodigy.net
Ombudsman Committee Member: Michael Knight, SpinDoctor500@aol.com



**AARWBA Once Again Thanks
Valvoline for Renewing Its
Founding Sponsorship
Of the
Ombudsman Program**

From The Archives



(L-R) Jigger Sirois, Arie Luyendyk Jr. And Dick Mittman, in June 2005.

Luyendyk was presented with the Jigger Sirois Award which is given each year to the Indy 500 qualifier with bad luck (missing the race). The award is presented at the AARWBA breakfast the morning before the 500.

Do you have a favorite old photo of you, at work, covering motorsports?

If so, please send it to the editor - with a short caption - and we will run it in a future issue of **ImPRESSions.**

Artists! Express Yourself!

Are you an artist? Do you like to draw, sketch, or paint illustrations of cars and the people who race them? Then why not showcase some of your work in this newsletter?

All artists are invited to submit an example of your work that you are proud of. Your name and contact information will appear with the drawing.

Are you proud of what you can do with a pen or pencil or brush? Prove it by letting us share your work with the other members of AARWBA.

Submit scans of your work to the editor at:
ashartwell@att.net

News & Notes



Jamie Talks With Corinne

A couple of AARWBA members chatted it up for race fans recently, when National Speed Sport News president/publisher Corinne Economaki (right) was host Jamie Reynolds' guest on Racing Roundup Arizona. The 12-year-old weekly show has a new station, KFNN 1510 in Phoenix.

Photo courtesy of Michael Knight



The AARWBA Member Forum Is On-Line!

<http://aarwba.org/smf/index.php>

Why not sign in and chat with your fellow members? Go ahead and swap war stories - or make a few up!

The Member Forum is only open to AARWBA members. You can use this forum to present your views, or ask questions and get useful answers from your peers in the motorsports media.



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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