



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

May /June 2006



Vol. 39 No. 4

Chris Economaki Honored At Indy



Chris Economaki and Tony George

The media press conference room at Indy has been named the Chris Economaki Press Conference Room in honor of our past president Chris Economaki. The announcement was made at the AARWBA Breakfast on Saturday...and the media center was ready immediately after the breakfast.

Photos by: (Left) Kathy Seymour and (Right) Bill Yoder

Inside this issue:

- Complete list of the 2005 AARWBA Contest Winners!
- Member News & Notes
- AARWBA Ombudsman program outline
- Meet your AARWBA Board of Directors

2005 AARWBA CONTEST WINNERS

(presented at AARWBA awards breakfast, May 27, 2006, Indianapolis, Ind.)

MOTORSPORTS BOOK

1. Robert Edelstein, "Full Throttle," Overlook Press
 2. Gary Doyle, "Ralph de Palma, Gentleman Champion," Golden Age Books
 3. George Peters, "The Iron Duke," Bar Jean Enterprises
- Honorable Mention: Buzz Rose, "The Eastern Bull Rings," Rose Racing Publications

NEWSPAPER NEWS WRITING

1. Keith Lair, "Gitten Slides His Way to Win," San Gabriel Valley Tribune
 2. Bill Sessa, "Lasoski Wins Second Round of Harvest Classic," Napa Register
 3. Scott Walsh, "Carl Edwards Wins in First Attempt at Pocono," Scranton Times-Tribune
- Honorable Mention: Susan Wade, "Force Flirts with Another Title," National Speed Sport News

NEWSPAPER FEATURE WRITING

1. Ron Hedger, "Was Racing Better in the Good Ol' Days?," National Speed Sport News
 2. Jerry Miller, "Familiar Sponsor Returns to the 500," Indianapolis Star/South
 3. Keith Lair, "Fisher Leaves Indy for NASCAR," San Gabriel Valley Tribune
- Honorable Mention: Curt Cavin, "Chitwood," Indianapolis Star

NEWSPAPER COLUMN WRITING

1. Susan Wade, "Drag Racing Has Diversity Covered," National Speed Sport News
2. Ron Hedger, "Differing Views on Lapped Cars," National Speed Sport News
3. Shav Glick, "NASCAR Has One Issue to Flag Down," Los Angeles Times

NEWSPAPER TECHNICAL WRITING

1. Shav Glick, "It's a New Day for Formula Drift Competition," Los Angeles Times
2. Scott Walsh, "Yellow Fever," Scranton Times-Tribune
3. Norm Froscher, "Drivers Ponder Cost of Travel," Gainesville Sun

MAGAZINE EVENT REPORTING

1. Jeff Olson, "Indy 500 Report," Autosport
 2. Earl Ma, "Hawaii 2-0," Sprint Car & Midget
 3. Jim Pettengill, "Eat or Be Eaten," Grassroots Motorsports
- Honorable Mention: Larry Mason, "2005 Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach," SoPac News

Continues on next three pages.

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MAGAZINE FEATURE WRITING

1. L. Spencer Riggs, "Fresno Flash: Remembering Bill Vukovich," Automobile Quarterly
2. Jeff Olson, "IRL Goes Road Racing," RACER
3. Susan Wade, "Straight from the Heart," Drag Racing Action

MAGAZINE COLUMN WRITING

1. Dick Berggren, "James Ince's Journey," Speedway Illustrated
 2. Bob Mays, "2005 Mays Hall of Fame," FlatOut
 3. Bruce Bennett, "Pay to Play," FlatOut
- Honorable Mention: Louise Noeth, "They Died with Their Boots On," Goodguys Gazette

MAGAZINE TECHNICAL WRITING

1. Doug Gore, "NASCAR's Big-League Safety Advances," Speedway Illustrated
2. Dick Berggren, "It's About Winning," Speedway Illustrated
3. Ron Hedger, "No Skidding," Speedway Illustrated

ONLINE NEWS WRITING

1. Dick Mittman, "Patrick Makes Statement with Historic Performance," Indianapolismotorspeedway.com
 2. Patrick Jennings, "Leitzinger Snatches Win at Mid-Ohio," Motorsport.com
 3. Jeff Olson, "Indy 500," Speedtv.com
- Honorable Mention: Nancy Knapp Schilke, "Weaver, Leitzinger Take Mosport Win," Motorsport.com

ONLINE FEATURE WRITING

1. Joe Jennings, "Buddy Lazier, a Proven Indy Car Winner," Motorsport.com
 2. Norm Froscher, "Rich Pratt is Headed North," Stockcarracing.com
 3. Teague Froscher, "Big Daddy Speaks," Competitionplus.com
- Honorable Mention: Jeff Olson, "Indy," Speedtv.com

ONLINE COLUMN WRITING

1. Jeff Olson, "The Other 32," Speedtv.com
 2. Michael Knight, "You've Come a Long Way, Baby?," Valvoline.com
 3. Susan Wade, "Look What They've Done to My Whit," Competitionplus.com
- Honorable Mention: Tony Johns, "Second-Tier Superstars," RacingPress.com

ONLINE TECHNICAL WRITING

1. Kay Presto, "Computers – Reading Race Car Performance," Carsandcompetition.com
2. Susan Wade, "Millican to Ride Mono-Rail," Competitionplus.com
3. Teague Froscher, "Shaping Up for Success," Competitionplus.com



PROFESSIONAL RACING WEB SITE

1. Motorsport.com, Nancy Knapp Schilke, Editor
 2. RacingPress.com, Tony Johns, Publisher
 3. Motorsportsforum.com, Michael Hollander, Editor
- Honorable Mention: Carsandcompetition.com, Kay Presto, Publisher

RADIO FEATURE PROGRAM

1. Bob Roberts, "Indy 500 – 2005," WBBM, Chicago, Ill.
2. Dick Sisich, "Tony and the Bat," KCCL, Sacramento, Calif.
3. No award

TELEVISION FEATURE PROGRAM

No awards

PHOTOGRAPHY — B&W ACTION

1. John Mahoney, "Last Lap! Last Turn!," Sprint Car & Midget
2. Jan Wagner, "Drifting Demo," East County Californian
3. Bob Mays, "Gary Wright Keeps Walkin' the Walk," FlatOut

PHOTOGRAPHY – B&W PEOPLE

1. Harold Hoch, "We're Being Watched," Berk-Mont Newspapers
2. Phil Rider, "Beach Continues Hot Streak," Midwest Racing News
3. Mike Campbell, "A Winning Family," MARC Times Racing News

PHOTOGRAPHY – COLOR ACTION

1. Phil Rider, "Fire Escape," Sports Illustrated
 2. Don Figler, "All Alone," National Speed Sport News
 3. Alan Munger, "The End of the Day," National Speed Sport News
- Honorable Mention: Bruce Bennett, "Close Call," Speedway Illustrated

PHOTOGRAPHY – COLOR PEOPLE

1. Jeffrey Arns, "Hines Celebrates in Tulsa," The Dirt
2. Dawn Mazi-Hovsepian, "First Win," Goodguys Gazette
3. Phil Rider, "Double the Pleasure," National Speed Sport News

PHOTOGRAPHY – ONLINE ACTION

1. Michael Johnson, "A Burning Celebration," Motorsport.com
2. Jeffrey Arns, "Weisensel Hits the Wall," Motorsportsforum.com
3. Linda Rydell, "Chris Dyson Testing Damage," Motorsport.com

PHOTOGRAPHY - ONLINE PEOPLE

1. Linda Rydell, "Milka Duno Contemplates Qualifying," Motorsport.com
2. Michael Johnson, "In Awe of the Moment," Motorsport.com
3. Kenneth Plotkin, "Eddie Cheever," Motorsport.com

Honorable Mention: Earl Ma, "Andy Wallace Looks Aghast," Motorsport.com

BLOYS BRITT AWARD

Jeff Olson, "The Other 32," Speedtv.com, June 2, 2005

(JUDGES)

Newspaper Feature Writing, Online Feature Writing – Ken de la Bastide, Kokomo (Ind.) Tribune, Ball State University

Magazine Feature Writing – Brian Smith, Senior Editor, Indy Men's Magazine

Photography (all) – Prof. Emeritus Susan Fleck, Pulliam School of Journalism, Franklin (Ind.) College

Broadcast (all) – Prof. Joel Cramer, Pulliam School of Journalism, Franklin (Ind.) College

Newspaper News Writing, Newspaper Column Writing, Magazine Event Reporting, Magazine Column Writing,

Online News Writing, Online Column, Online Technical Writing, Professional Racing Web Site, Bloys Britt

Award – Jerry Miller, Journalism Professor Emeritus, Franklin (Ind.) College, & AARWBA Contest Chairman

Magazine Technical Writing, Newspaper Technical Writing – Ron Lemasters (Sr.), AARWBA Midwest Vice President

Motorsports Book — Jerry Miller, AARWBA Contest Chairman; Ron Lemasters (Sr.), AARWBA Midwest Vice President

(All judging was essentially "blind," except, of course, in the Book, Radio, and Television divisions.)

A Thank You From A Contest Winner

"I wish to take this opportunity to thank the AARWBA for awarding me second place for Photography-Color Action at this year's AARWBA awards breakfast. I was truly surprised and I must say I'm quite humbled to be included on such an impressive list of winners. And of course a thank you goes out to National Speed Sport News for publishing the photo in their June 22nd issue. The photo was from the USGP, I didn't have credentials so the photo was taken as I sat comfortably in my seat. Have a great racing season!"

- Don Figler:

News & Notes

50th Anniversary Chairman Michael Knight on "Racing Round-up Arizona"

Michael Knight was interviewed on "The Business of Racing," the Indy 500 and the potential IRL-Champ Car merger May 22, on "Racing Roundup Arizona" on KXAM Radio in Phoenix (1310 AM.; heard on the Internet at KXAM.com). The show airs weekly from 7-9 p.m. (Pacific Daylight Time).

Also, Knight is one of a select group to be invited to contribute to the special edition of Chris Economaki's new autobiography, "Let 'Em All Go!", written with Dave Argabright. The contributors to this special edition include Jeff Gordon, Dan Gurney, Bill France Jr., Mario Andretti, Kenny Bernstein, A.J. Foyt and Richard Petty.

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More News & Notes



The "Straight Shooters" Award is given in memory of photographers Art Flores and Ron Hussey.

Tom Anderson (Left) of Fernandez Racing presents Ron McQueeney (Right) Director of Photo Operations at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, with the Straight Shooter Award during the AARWBA breakfast.

Tom was joined by Anne Proffit (front).

A Thank You From Ron McQueeney

Dear Dusty and AARWBA:

Thank you so much for voting me the recipient of the Straight Shooter Award. It is a great honor and I deeply appreciate it. Through my career here at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, The Indy Racing League and all of the events I have presided over as Photo Director, I have made an effort to watch out for the access of all photographers and their needs. While a few of my decisions have not been popular with a few of the photographers, I hope they realize that the decisions I make are to their benefit and it is always with safety and legal issues in mind.

The award, honoring Ron Hussey and Art Flores is greatly appreciated by myself and I know Dan Boyd, last year's recipient is proud of his recognition, too. Having worked side by side with Ron and Art, around the country and the world, it is indeed an honor to receive it. Thank you AARWBA and Fernandez Racing for sponsoring the award. I am looking forward to receiving my plaque which I will proudly display in my IMS office.

Sincerely,
Ron McQueeney
Director/Photo Operations
Indianapolis Motor Speedway
Indy Racing League



Economaki

"Let's 'Em All Go"

AARWBA Past President Chris Economaki, (right) signs his book "Let 'Em All Go!", chronicled by member Dave Argabright (left) at member Marie (center) Hall's Speedway Store at 16th and Lynhurst.

Over 100 racing fans and friends attended the book signing.

Marie's store features lots of items in black and white and is filled with many, many collectible items.

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More News & Notes



Dick Mittman presents the Angelo Angelopolus "Sportsman Award" to member Tim Sullivan of IMS Media Center and Kay Totton of IMS staff at the annual AARWBA Breakfast.



KAY PRESTO RECEIVES TOASTMASTER AWARD

Distinguished Toastmaster and former Western Vice-President of AARWBA Kay Presto received the esteemed Penny Cole Award at the recent Toastmasters International District 12 Spring Conference in California. Presto is the owner of Presto Productions in Ontario, California, and is a television and radio broadcaster, professional speaker, and public relations expert.

This trophy is awarded to the Toastmaster who was judged to have contributed the most in the past year to District 12 and also to the community. It is named in tribute to Penny Cole, who was considered the role model in Toastmasters and community involvement before she passed away. "I'm extremely honored to win this award named for such an outstanding woman as Penny Cole," said Presto, "and it inspires me to continue my work with Toastmasters and the community with more dedication than ever."

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A "Snapshot" Of Our Thanks!

The photos that appear on the pages of the AARWBA ImpRESSions newsletter are often times provided by members and we want to thank a few of the great folks who take the great pics that we all love to see! Our thanks go out to Dusty Brandel, Kay Nichols, Kathy Seymour, Bill Yoder, and Randall Harbaugh.



The **Bob Russo Founders Award** is on the Wall in the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Media Center on the 4th floor. The first recipient was Michael Knight. Wally Parks will be added, as Parks was named an award winner at the Annual AARWBA Breakfast.

Shav Glick Recovering

Our recently retired (after more than half a century at Times Mirror newspapers) colleague Shav Glick is recovering from triple-bypass open-heart surgery. He is at home recovering and is not happy that it is taking so long. He is anxious to get back to the golf course.

If you would like to contact Shav, his e-mail address is shavglick@sbcglobal.net. For cards, the mailing address is: **Shav Glick, 501 Mercury Lane, Pasadena, CA 91107**

Arnie de Brier

Longtime AARWBA member Arnie de Brier passed away May 25th after a long illness, he was 75. Arnie had been the official photographer for A.R.D.C. covering sprint and midget racing. He and wife Deanna went to their first Indianapolis 500 in 1961.

He loved racing at the Speedway, and made plans to move to Indy. They did sell their home in New Jersey and moved to Indianapolis a few years later. He caught Pneumonia in January, and a staff infection in February, and went downhill from there, said Deanna. Arnie was a lifetime member of the Indianapolis Old Timers Club, and had just received his Gold Cap.

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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, aarwba@compuserve.com

National Vice President: Mike Hollander, racing@motorsportsforum.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: Susan Wade, susanw7754@aol.com

Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. George Peters, BarJean@prodigy.net

Ombudsman Committee Member: Michael Knight, SpinDoctor500@aol.com



***AARWBA thanks Valvoline,
the Founding Underwriter of the Ombudsman Fund***

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Meet your AARWBA Board Of Directors:



Front row: (Left to Right) Eastern Vice President Lewis Franck,, Southern Vice President Mike Harris, and National Vice President Mike Hollander.
Back Row: (Left to Right) President Dusty Brandel, Midwest Vice President Ron Lemasters, Sect'y/Treasurer, Dr. George Peters, and Western Vice President Susan Wade.

This month's issue of ImPRESSIONs is sponsored by



PORSCHE



The Romain Dumas/Timo Bernhard Penske Porsche RS Spyder won its first ALMS event overall recently at Mid-Ohio, with the team RS Spyder of Lucas Luhr/Sascha Maassen finishing second. The cars are contesting the LMP2 class for the season (www.porscheusa.com/motorsport).

For those who are interested in the latest biographies of the drivers, point standings, photos, and team profiles (and product information as well), you can access the Porsche press site at www.press.porsche.com (user name and password is "carrera").

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