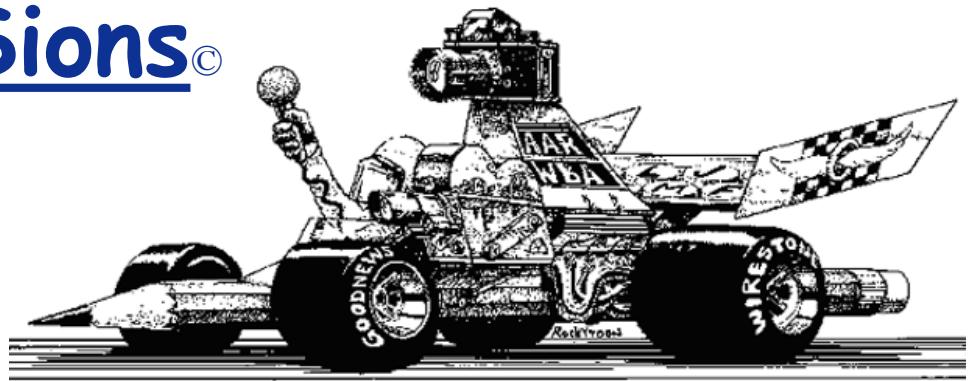


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50th
Anniversary



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

November 2004



Vol. 37 No. 9

AARWBA Thanks Our Official 50th Anniversary Sponsors:



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NHRA, Honda, Budweiser, Fernandez, BMW AARWBA 50th Anniversary Sponsors

Kenny Bernstein to Receive 'Pioneer' Award At All-America Team Dinner in Pomona January 15

The National Hot Rod Association, American Honda, the Budweiser brand of Anheuser-Busch, Fernandez Racing (three-time IRL race winner in '04 with owner-driver **Adrian Fernandez**) and BMW have become official sponsors of the AARWBA 50th Anniversary Celebration in 2005, it was announced Nov. 13 at Pomona Raceway.

It also was announced that NHRA legend **Kenny Bernstein** will receive AARWBA's "Pioneer in Racing" award at the organization's 35th annual All-America Team dinner, Saturday, Jan. 15, 2005, at the Sheraton Hotel in Pomona. Bernstein captured six championships during his career and is the only driver to earn titles in both the Top Fuel and Funny Car classes. He became the first driver to make a 300 mph pass in 1992. Although he retired at the end of the 2002 season, Kenny returned in '03, following injury to son Brandon. Bernstein-owned teams also won in the NASCAR Cup and CART open-wheel series.



AARWBA 50th anniversary Chairman Michael Knight (left), Kenny Bernstein, President Dusty Brandel and NHRA Vice President-PR Jerry Archangeault at Pomona announcement.

AARWBA presents the "Pioneer" award to recognize life-long contributions to the sport. Among the previous recipients are **Parnelli Jones, Dan Gurney, Andy Granatelli, Hershel McGriff** and the **Agajanian family**.

Fourteen drivers, elected by AARWBA members from seven categories – stock car, open wheel, road racing, drag racing, short track, touring series and at-large – will be honored at the All-America Team dinner. The top vote-getter earns AARWBA's **Jerry Titus Memorial Award**. Information on tickets for media, companies and the general public, is available at AARWBA.org.

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NHRA, Honda, Budweiser, Fernandez, BMW are AARWBA 50th Anniversary Sponsors Kenny Bernstein to Receive 'Pioneer' Award At All-America Team Dinner

...continued from page 2

Popular broadcaster **Bob Jenkins** will be Master of Ceremonies for the All-America Team dinner. Another highlight of the evening will be the announcement of the 12 nominees for AARWBA's Newsmaker of the Half-Century award, the headline event of the 50th Anniversary Celebration. The AARWBA Board of Directors will select the nominees from an initial list of 50 of the greatest names from American motorsports. The dozen nominees will then be presented to the full AARWBA membership for a final vote, and the Newsmaker of the Half-Century will be announced at a public ceremony next May at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, in the days leading up to the 89th Indy 500.

"Kenny Bernstein is a natural choice for the 'Pioneer' award," said AARWBA President **Dusty Brandel**. "Not only is his name found throughout the NHRA record book, he has been one of the sport's greatest personalities and ambassadors, and has always been very cooperative with AARWBA members and all the news media."

Porsche Cars North America, NASCAR, Toyota Motorsports, Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Indy Racing League, Valvoline and the Champ Car World Series were previously announced as official AARWBA 50th anniversary sponsors.

AARWBA 50th Anniversary Celebration Chairman **Michael Knight** said, "We welcome NHRA, American Honda, Budweiser, Fernandez Racing and BMW to our growing list of prestigious companies who recognize the importance and value of participating in AARWBA's golden anniversary. I know all of our members appreciate this support. Our primary goals for the 50th anniversary are to increase the benefits AARWBA offers to current and prospective members, and to expand awareness of AARWBA within the motorsports industry, and this news is another important step in achieving those objectives."

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway will provide \$10,000 in prize money for AARWBA's annual journalism contest, which includes writing, broadcasting and photo categories. The contest is open to all AARWBA members and entries are independently judged.

What They're Saying About AARWBA

Bob Carlson, manager, Automotive Media, Porsche Cars North America: "For the past 50 years, AARWBA's members have provided their readers, listeners, and viewers with exceptional motor sports journalism. Porsche Cars North America applauds these efforts and sincerely appreciates the professionalism and enthusiasm displayed by AARWBA and its members toward a sport we all cherish and respect."

Les Unger, National Motorsports Manager, Toyota: "Toyota is proud to be a 50th anniversary sponsor of such a prestigious organization as AARWBA. No one has done more to advance motorsports over the last half-century than the members of the writers and broadcasters association."

Tony George, president, Indianapolis Motor Speedway and founder of the Indy Racing League: "We are pleased to make this commitment to the future of AARWBA. During the last half-century, IMS and AARWBA share much in motorsports history. We are pleased to play a role in recognizing the best work of the men and women who cover our sport."

Jim Rocco, senior vice president and designated NASCAR team owner, Valvoline: "Congratulations to AARWBA and all its members on this milestone anniversary and its long-time advocacy for the working press. Valvoline was synonymous with racing when AARWBA was formed 50 years ago and we will continue to be a ground breaking sponsor and technical innovator when your 100th anniversary rolls around."

Continued on next page

What They're Saying About AARWBA ...continued



Dick Eidswick, president, Champ Car World Series: “The many prestigious members of the AARWBA have played a key role in the success of Champ Car for many, many years. The AARWBA has helped turn many of our past stars into racing legends and keeps our series in the forefront of the motorsports world still today. We could not be happier to help the AARWBA celebrate its 50th anniversary and want to extend our wishes for another successful and influential 50 seasons for all of its members.”

Kurt Antonius, senior manager of public relations, American Honda: “The entire American Honda family would like to congratulate AARWBA on its 50th anniversary. The hard work of AARWBA and its members has played an incalculable role in the growth of American motorsport over the past half-century, and we at Honda are proud to recognize this by serving as a sponsor of AARWBA’s 50th anniversary celebration.”

Tom Anderson, co-owner and managing director, Fernandez Racing: “We are very happy to be a part of AARWBA’s 50th Anniversary Celebration. It is a small way for us to say ‘thank you’ to the many writers, photographers and broadcasters that have helped to promote our sport over the years and build the images of our drivers. We are pleased to call many of AARWBA’s members ‘friends’. We congratulate AARWBA on its 50th anniversary mark, and thank its members for their passion and support of auto racing.”

Tony Ponturo, Vice President, Global Media & Sports Marketing, Anheuser-Busch, Inc.: “Anheuser-Busch is proud to be a part of the American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association’s 50th anniversary in 2005. The organization’s hundreds of influential media professionals cover all forms of motorsports, and over the years they’ve written about many of the racing circuits that we support through our Budweiser, Bud Light and BUSCH brands. We salute the AARWBA and its participating members on 50 great years.”

Tom Compton, president, NHRA: “NHRA is certainly proud to be an official sponsor of the American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association’s celebration of its 50th anniversary in 2005. Throughout the years AARWBA has certainly given great recognition to the sport of NHRA Drag Racing by honoring our drivers’ accomplishments on the quarter-mile. We applaud the excellent work done in both electronic and print mediums by the membership of this outstanding media organization.”

Rob Mitchell, manager, corporate communications, BMW: “Competition-proven success has been at the very foundation of BMW from its beginnings in 1916 to present-day. The popularity of the very first BMW automobile, the 1929 Dixi 3/15, was a direct result of winning the grueling five-day Alpine Rally, only weeks after the car’s launch. Motorsports is in the DNA of every BMW and the story of BMW motorsports is the story of the brand. BMW of North America, LLC is proud to support the AARWBA’s legacy of commitment to motorsports in the U.S.”

Kenny Bernstein: “It is a great honor to be the recipient of the AARWBA ‘Pioneer in Racing’ award and to be among the 50 candidates being considered for the Newsmaker of the Half-Century award. We are very indebted to the AARWBA members for all they do and have done through the years to generate publicity for not only our team but all of motorsports in general. We have been fortunate to have been a member of the All-America team six times and are happy to say we have forged life-long friendships with many AARWBA members across the country. We want to thank all the AARWBA members for this fantastic honor.”



Membership Has Its Rewards: The Sequel

“What’s in it for me?”

That’s the question I’ve often been asked when I recommend AARWBA to non-members or those who haven’t renewed. Our 50th Anniversary Celebration has enabled us to respond with a very strong and positive answer: AARWBA membership DOES have its rewards!

Writers, broadcasters and photographers will compete for a share of the \$10,000 in prize money, provided by the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, for the annual journalism contest. That, alone, makes an AARWBA membership card valuable. But, there is more. The support of our official 50th anniversary sponsors allows us to give all members a gift. You’ll receive — *FREE!* — a very high quality, Starbucks-style, double-wall stainless steel travel coffee mug featuring the 50th anniversary logo. It has an anti-spill design which should keep your hot (or cold) drink in the mug and off your shirt. I hope it will be used proudly in media centers throughout the country. Those who attend the All-America Team dinner, January 15 in Pomona, will notice upgrades and specific details are coming soon. Don’t forget the 12 nominees for our Newsmaker of the Half-Century award will be announced at the dinner and Kenny Bernstein will be recognized with our “Pioneer In Racing” award.

I’m delighted to welcome six more official sponsors: IRL champion American Honda (thanks Kurt Antonius and T.E. McHale), Champ Car World Series (thanks President Dick Eidswick and Eric Mauk), Fernandez Racing, a three-time IRL race winner in ’04 with owner-driver Adrian Fernandez (thanks Adrian, co-owner Tom Anderson and Tamy Valkosky), Budweiser (thanks Rick Oleshak and Karen Holschlag), NHRA (thanks President Tom Compton and Anthony Vestal) and BMW (thanks Roy Oliemuller).

I also want to extend AARWBA’s appreciation to Dennis Bickmeier and California Speedway plus Anthony Vestal and NHRA and Pomona Raceway for their assistance with our recent announcements at those two tracks. Thanks, too, to Susan Bradshaw Crowther for arranging Marlboro Team Penske’s salute to AARWBA in this newsletter.

So, what does AARWBA membership offer you? A lot . . . and there’s more to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Knight".

Michael A. Knight

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Stirling Moss - The Racing Writer?

by Dick Mittman, www.usgpindy.com



Eighty years ago, Alfred E. Moss drove a Barber-Warnock Fronty Ford to 16th-place finish in the 1924 Indianapolis 500. Five years later, his son, Stirling, was born in London.

The younger Moss, now Sir Stirling, celebrated his 75th birthday Sept. 17. After World War II, he became the strongest challenger to Juan Manuel Fangio's domination of the early Formula One years and since has been known as the greatest driver never to win the World Championship, finishing second four consecutive years from 1955-58.

In England, he is revered as one of the nation's greatest sportsmen. But unlike his father, Alberto Ascari, Jim Clark, Graham Hill and other stars from Europe, he never came to Indy to race. Yet 40 years ago, Stirling Moss was listed as a \$5 dues-paying member of the 10-year-old American Automobile Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association (AARWBA). The group is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2005, and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway is one of the anniversary celebration sponsors.

He was the only non-American member. His address was listed as 46 Shepherd St., London.

Bill Marvel was the secretary of the organization at that time. Now 74, retired from the United States Auto Club and living in Kentucky, he said he has no recollection of how this racing superstar became a member. Most other officers at that time are deceased.

So, does Sir Stirling have an answer himself?

"If the records show me as paid up in 1963-64, someone must have paid for me, because I was never a writer," he responded via e-mail from his London home, still at 46 Shepherd St.

No? Then someone has helped Moss write the 16 books he has authored.

Age has not slowed down this man of speed. Moss is on constant call for appearances. Just last week, he was in Japan for a Honda function as part of the Formula One Japanese Grand Prix.

During his storied career, Moss drove in the grueling endurance races like Le Mans, the Targa Florio and Tourist Trophy. He won the Mille Miglia down the length of Italy for Mercedes-Benz in 1955.

He kicked off his career in 1947, won the Tourist Trophy in 1950 driving a private Jaguar and continued to drive British-built cars until 1954 when he finally purchased a Maserati 250F. This led to a ride as the second driver to Fangio with Mercedes-Benz after making his F1 debut May 27, 1951, at Switzerland. Fangio won that race and he placed eighth.

Moss' first Grand Prix win came in the 1955 British Grand Prix at Aintree. He won 15 more Grand Prix races, including the USGP at Riverside, Calif., in '60, and his final win came in the German Grand Prix at Nurburgring on Aug. 6, 1961. His F1 career ended with 16 victories and 16 pole positions in 66 starts.

His last Grand Prix start was the USGP on Oct. 6, 1961, at Watkins Glen, N.Y. He was leading when he fell out with mechanical problems on Lap 59 of 100. The race was won by Innes Ireland driving a similar Lotus-Climax. Among the starters in that race were Roger Penske, Dan Gurney, Lloyd Ruby and Jim Hall.

Continued on next page

Stirling Moss - The Racing Writer?

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During his career, Moss drove in 84 different types of cars. He won in everything, including hill climbs.

An example of his talent came early when the first F1 non-championship race took place in 1954 at Oulton Park, England. His car didn't arrive from Italy until the morning of the race, and he started last. He was seventh at the end of the first lap and won easily. In 1961, he won the last F1 race at Oulton Park, which also was last F1 race won by a front-engine car.

Oulton Park celebrated its 50th anniversary Aug. 29-30 of this year, and Sir Stirling was there giving demonstration runs in a Maserati 250F similar to the '54 winning car.

During the 1950s when he was at the top of his game, Moss chose not to attempt a run in the Indianapolis 500 although it paid championship points. In his e-mail, he explained why.

"Yes, I did receive a few offers to drive at Indy and would have loved to have done so, but it was not feasible at the time," he wrote. "Remember, I was racing every weekend and had a good chance of winning. To take part in your great event would have meant that I would have to miss at least four races, and they were races I knew all about.

"Today, it is quite different, because the difference between racing an Indy car and a GP vehicle is not too great. In those days, it was enormous and would have meant a big learning curve for me."

Moss drove in 57 races in 1961 and was highest-paid driver in the world, winning 32,700 pounds. He said today he earns more just signing limited editions of his books.

On the Easter weekend of 1962, Moss' illustrious career came to an end. He was involved in an inexplicable accident at Goodwood that left him with serious head injuries and in a coma. It was nearly a month before he regained full consciousness and six months before he was fully mobile again. A year later, he took a car out once more at Goodwood, and at the close of the day announced his retirement.

He was 33.

Moss' popularity never has waned. He's in just as much demand today as he was when he was considered the top driver in the world. He graciously gives out autographs and chats with fans wherever he goes.

He has watched Michael Schumacher develop into the winningest F1 driver of all time with 83 victories. Oh, only if Moss was 30 again so he could give him a challenge.

"I would have loved to race against Michael, because he is in a class of his own at the moment," he wrote, "and that is what racing is all about.

"At my time, we had the greatest of all time – Juan Fangio."

35th Anniversary Auto Racing All-America Team Banquet January 15, 2005

The 35th Anniversary Auto Racing All-America Banquet will be held on January 15, 2005 at the [Wally Parks NHRA Motorsports Museum](#) in Pomona, California and the [Sheraton Fairplex Suites](#). Members of the racing news media meet to honor the drivers cited for their efforts during the 2004 racing season. It's one of the few banquets in the racing industry that's open to the public. Tickets are sold only in advance and it's a night that racing enthusiasts won't want to miss.

To order tickets, AARWBA members must send \$50.00 in check or money order made out to AARWBA for each desired ticket to the address below. The ticket price includes an event program with stories on each of the drivers.

For more information on the banquet or AARWBA,
American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association
922 North Pass Avenue, Burbank, CA 91505 U.S.A.
Telephone (818) 842-7005 Facsimile (818) 842-7020

News Notes

From AARWBA Members

We think AARWBA members would enjoy hearing about the events and activities their peers are involved with. That is why we are encouraging every member to always feel free to send a "News Note" to AARWBA President, **Dusty Brandel** so we can share your news with your peers. Below, AARWBA member **Don Figler** gives us an update on his rewarding year as an active member.

"2004 has been a stellar year for me. In January I was awarded the Dale Mueller Memorial Award from the St. Louis Auto Racing Fan Club, at their annual Banquet of Champions award dinner. Dale Mueller was the founder of the club, which will be celebrating it's 50th anniversary in 2005. Dale lost his life while photographing a Silver Crown race at Springfield, Ill., in 1966.

"Also in 2004 I was inducted into the Indianapolis Oldtimers' Club. I continue to cover races with camera in hand for National Speed Sport News, my 28th year. I'm involved with some other people in producing a book that will chronicle the first 100 years of racing in the St. Louis area. This is turning out to be a huge project." - Don Figler



Official 50th Anniversary Web Page Posted Now At
www.aarwba.org
Check often for updates!



AARWBA - Where The Professionals Are (But not all of them!)

Talk up the AARWBA with your peers, who should be AARWBA members but aren't - yet.

"Subscribe A Scribe" / "Bring In A Broadcaster"

Let your peers know they should become a member of the only national organization that speaks for the working press.

PR Rep? Local reporter covering a local track event?

Photographer working for a magazine?

Writer or editor posting stories and photos to a racing web site?

They all should be part of the AARWBA membership roster!

Next time you are at a race event, ask your peers to visit the AARWBA web site.

Tell them about the organization. Help us grow!

We Need Your Email Address!

Please send an email to Dusty Brandel. She will add your address to our distribution list for future issues of this newsletter. We save on printing and postage costs and you get a full-color newsletter delivered right to your inbox! Send your email address to:

AARWBA@compuserve.com

Writing, Broadcasting, Photography & Online Media Contest Sponsored by the Indianapolis Motor Speedway

\$10,000 In Prizes To Be Awarded!



Complete details and an entry form are available on the AARWBA website:
www.aarwba.org

(Or cut and paste this url into your browser: <http://beta.motorsportsforum.com/ris01/acontest.htm>)



Chairman Michael Knight (second from left) is interviewed about AARWBA's 50th Anniversary Celebration plans by "Racing Roundup Arizona" host Jamie Reynolds (left) and co-hosts Chris Hines and Rick Carlson Oct. 25. The show airs every Monday from 7-9 p.m. on KXAM Radio (1310 AM) in Phoenix.

Talking Horsepower

Michael Knight, chairman of the AARWBA 50th Anniversary Celebration, has been invited to be a panelist at horse racing's Turf Publicists of America annual workshop, Dec. 8, in Tucson, Ariz. About 200 publicists and industry executives are expected to attend the workshop, which is part of the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program's 31st annual Symposium on Racing. Knight will share experiences from his 25 years in full-time motorsports PR and communications management.

List of 50 AARWBA “Newsmakers of the Half-Century”

As a reminder, we are reprinting the list of 50 American racing legends eligible for AARWBA’s Newsmaker of the Half-Century award. The 12 nominees, as selected by the AARWBA Board of Directors, will be announced January 15 at the All-America Team dinner. Those 12 names will then be presented to the full membership for a final vote. The winner will be announced next May at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Bobby Allison	Jim Hurtubise
Mario Andretti	Ned Jarrett
Michael Andretti	Junior Johnson (driver; NASCAR championship team owner)
Kenny Bernstein	Ted Johnson (World of Outlaws founder)
George Bignotti (Indy 500 winning chief mechanic; car builder)	Parnelli Jones
Craig Breedlove	Steve Kinser
Richard Childress (NASCAR championship team owner)	Rick Mears
Mark Donohue	Shirley Muldowney
Dale Earnhardt	Wally Parks (NHRA founder)
Bill Elliott	David Pearson
John Force	Roger Penske (driver; winningest Indy 500 team owner; track owner; executive)
A.J. Foyt	Richard Petty
The France family (NASCAR and International Speedway Corp.)	Don Prudhomme
Don Garlits	Fireball Roberts
Jeff Gordon	Johnny Rutherford
Andy Granatelli (car owner; builder; promoter; sponsor)	Carroll Shelby (driver; sports car championship team owner; builder)
Dan Gurney	Danny Sullivan
Carl Haas (CART/SCCA championship team owner; sanctioning body executive; importer)	Mickey Thompson (driver; builder; promoter)
Jim Hall (driver; CART/SCCA championship team owner; builder; innovator)	Al Unser
Hurley Haywood	Al Unser Jr.
Rick Hendrick (NASCAR championship team owner)	Bobby Unser
Phil Hill	Darrell Waltrip
Al Holbert	Rodger Ward
The Hulman-George family (Indianapolis Motor Speedway)	The Wood Brothers (NASCAR team owners)
	Cale Yarborough
	Smokey Yunick (Chief mechanic; designer; builder)

This month’s newsletter is presented in honor of
AARWBA’s 50th Anniversary Celebration by:

Marlboro
TEAM PENSKE

Congratulations to Roger Penske and Rick Mears:
AARWBA Newsmaker of the Half-Century Award candidates