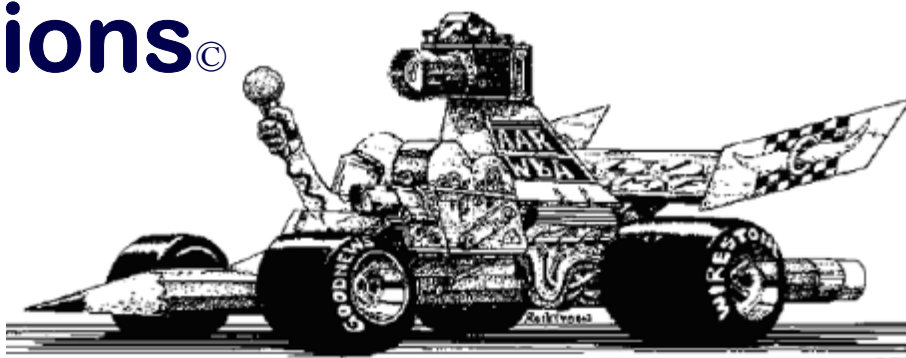


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The Official Newsletter Of The American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association

December 2007

Vol. 40 No. 10

2007 Auto Racing All-America Team Announced! Details on page 4



LEGENDARY 'EMMO' WILL BE FEATURED SPEAKER: Emerson Fittipaldi, one of only two drivers to win the Indy 500 plus the Formula One and CART championships, will be the featured speaker at the Jan. 12 All-America Team dinner, presented by A1GP World Cup of Motorsport. Fittipaldi is an ambassador for the A1GP series and seat holder for A1 Team Brazil.

Those interested in interviewing Emerson are encouraged to pre-schedule with A1GP Head of Media Fiona McLachlan. E-mail: Fionam@A1GP.com

As of Friday, Dec. 14, the following All-America Team drivers have confirmed they will attend the dinner: Tony Schumacher, Tony Pedregon, Alex Lloyd, Mika Salo.



**A1GP New All-America Team
Dinner Presenting Sponsor**

Hyatt Room Deadline: Dec. 20

Due to the possibility of an Indianapolis Colts' playoff game the weekend of the AARWBA dinner, the Hyatt cannot guarantee rooms will be available if not reserved by Thursday, Dec. 20.

If you need a room, **MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW!**

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All-America Dinner News & Notes

All A1GP Photos In This Issue Courtesy of www.A1GP.com

A1GP Series New Dinner Presenting Sponsor

A1GP World Cup of Motorsport will be the presenting sponsor of the next three All-America Team ceremonies. The first event under this new agreement will be the 38th AAT dinner, Saturday, January 12, at the downtown Indianapolis Hyatt.

Launched in March 2004, the groundbreaking A1GP World Cup of Motorsport concept matches driver vs. driver, country vs. country. A1GP brings together 22 nations to compete as equals, without financial or technological advantage.



World Cup of Motorsport™

The 2007-08 season features 10 races. The open-wheel series already has visited the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Malaysia and China. Racing resumes Jan. 20 in New Zealand, then moves on to Australia (Feb. 3), South Africa (Feb. 24), Mexico City (March 16), China (April 13) and Great Britain (May 4). Races are televised on SPEED Channel.

Buddy Rice, the 2004 Indy 500 winner, and **Jonathan Summerton**, 19, of Kissimmee, Fla., have competed for A1 Team USA. The team is fielded by former IndyCar owner **Rick Weidinger**. A1 Team Canada features drivers **James Hinchcliffe** and **Robert Wickens**. **Wade Cherwayko** is the seat holder.

"A1GP is delighted to be the presenting partner for AARWBA's 38th annual Auto Racing All-America Team Banquet in Indianapolis next month," said Chief Commercial Officer **Scott Hollingsworth**. "We're thrilled to be associated with an organization that is dedicated to increasing media coverage of motor sport and we view our involvement with the banquet as an exceptional platform to further promote A1GP."



Scott Hollingsworth

"There is a solid flavor of the Americas in A1GP's line up with the USA, Canada, Mexico and Brazil all represented on our 22-nation grid and it's our goal to continue to raise awareness of both the series and the competing nations. AARWBA has a distinguished membership and a solid history of accomplishments and influence within motorsport. As a result of this A1GP is pleased to partner with AARWBA and looks forward to a productive relationship with its members starting with January's banquet."



President **Dusty Brandel** said, "AARWBA welcomes A1GP as presenting sponsor of the All-America Team ceremony. Working with AARWBA is a great way for A1GP to increase awareness of the series within the U.S. motorsports media community and build important relationships with our members."

"I want to thank Scott and everyone in the A1GP organization, as well as Michael Knight, for working so hard to establish this new and exciting sponsorship."

A1GP recently announced a partnership with Ferrari. Beginning with the 2008-09 season, Ferrari will manufacture and supply all engines for the next six years. Ferrari also will design and consult on the manufacture of the chassis.

THINK Greener Racing is the series' environmental initiative. This includes switching to biofuel E30 (30 percent ethanol), carbon-offsetting, and promoting environmental awareness to its global audience.

A1GP will have a table at the dinner. Planning to attend are Hollingsworth, London-based Head of Media **Fiona McLachlan**, and Team Canada PR contact **Stuart Morrison**.



AARWBA members are encouraged to visit www.a1gp.com/press to learn more and register for full media access.

All-America Dinner News & Notes



Other Honors

In addition to the Jerry Titus Memorial Trophy and Team driver honors, several other important awards will be presented. These include:

- * Pioneer In Racing, recognizing longtime dedication and achievement that have made a difference in the sport. The winner is Carl A. Haas, who is confirmed to attend;
- * Jim Chapman Award, for excellence in motor-sports public relations. Recipient to be revealed at the dinner;
- * Dusty Brandel President's Award, for outstanding contributions to AARWBA. Winner to be announced at the dinner.

Schedule of Events

Remember, we've made significant changes to the evening schedule. We'll start and end earlier! Please make a note of the following schedule:

All AARWBA activities will take place on the second level of the Hyatt. For those who need to pick up their tickets, a registration table will be at the top of the escalator. Coat check will be available.

5:30 p.m. -- Shav Glick Newsmakers Forum. Location: Regency E & F. A series of brief news announcements from various teams, sponsors, tracks, series and others within the industry. This is a new event, designed to make the evening a news, as well as a social, occasion. Please come early and attend the Forum and bring your notebook, recorder and/or camera! This room will remain open until 7 p.m. for your convenience for one-on-one or small group interviews.

6 p.m. -- Reception. Location: Outside the main ballroom. Co-hosted by ESPN, MAZDASPEED, Budweiser and Edelman Motorsports. Complimentary Anheuser-Busch products available at two self-serve bars.

7 p.m. -- Dinner served. Location: Main ballroom.

7:45 p.m. -- 38th All-America Team awards, presented by A1GP. Master of ceremonies, Bob Jenkins. A special tribute will be offered in memory of Bill France Jr., Wally Parks and Shav Glick.



New Look at Hyatt

Dinner guests will immediately notice the renovated Hyatt lobby, which was completed last month. There's new stone flooring, carpeting and lounge seating. The front desk has been redesigned and check-in kiosks have been added.

Level One is the name of the new bar area. One South is the Hyatt's new Italian/American restaurant and is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Both are located on the lobby level.

Please note: Due to the renovation, it is not possible to fit the 1963 Lotus-Ford inside the lobby. Therefore, AARWBA has canceled the previously announced display of this historic car. We thank the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame Museum for the offer to help AARWBA.



2007 Auto Racing All-America Team

Results Provided by Rocky Enriken

With voting completed for the 2007 All-America Auto Racing Team, five drivers emerge as contenders for the Jerry Titus Award -- two from the world of NASCAR and three open-wheel champions although one of them runs more than 100 mph faster than the other two if only for a quarter-mile at a time.

That would be Tony Schumacher, the 2006 Titus winner bidding to be only the third driver ever to win the award in consecutive years, after Mario Andretti in 1977-78 and John Force in 1999-2000. For the second consecutive year Schumacher won the NHRA Top Fuel championship on the final run of the season, claiming his fifth career championship and his fourth in a row.

The Titus, given in remembrance of the late racer/journalist, signifies the top vote-getter on the All-America team regardless of category, and is not announced until the American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association's banquet Jan. 12 at the Hyatt Regency in Indianapolis, which is open to the public.

Challenging Schumacher, are the champions of both major open-wheel series, four-time Champ Car World Series titlist Sébastien Bourdais and Indianapolis 500 winner/Indy Racing League champion Dario Franchitti. Also in the hunt are Jimmie Johnson, the 2006 and 2007 NASCAR Nextel Cup champion, and Ron Hornaday Jr., who won his third NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series championship.

Two drivers from each of seven categories are elected to the First Team, two more to the Second Team, and all drivers receiving at least five percent of the vote earn honorable mention. In road racing endurance series, teammates with identical scores are voted as one entity, with the result that 16 drivers are named to both the First Team and Second team this year. In two categories only one vote made the difference between a driver making first team or not.

Bourdais and Franchitti led the vote in the Open Wheel category, far outdistancing Scott Dixon and Tony Kanaan, who placed second and third in the IRL standings.

Nextel Cup champion Johnson easily led the Stock Car category, with his teammate and Cup runner-up Jeff Gordon easily taking the other First

Team slot. NASCAR Busch Series champion Carl Edwards was joined by Clint Bowyer on the second team.



Who will be selected as the winner of the Jerry Titus award for 2007?

Drag Racing was similarly a runaway for the top two, with Funny Car champ Tony Pedregon joining Schumacher on the first team. NHRA's top two Pro Stock drivers, champ Jeg Coughlin and runner-up Greg Anderson took the Second Team slots. IHRA's champions in Top Fuel and Funny Car, Bruce Litton and Dale Creasy Jr., earned Honorable Mention.

In Touring Series it was NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series champion Hornaday and nine-time ARCA champion Frank Kimmel who dominated the category. Young phenom Joey Logano, who won the NASCAR Busch East title at age 17, was joined on the Second Team by USAR Hooters Pro Cup champion Bobby Gill. Taking Honorable Mention were NASCAR West champ Mike David, NASCAR Whelen Modified champ Donny Lia, and ARCA runner-up Michael McDowell who became only the 12th driver to earn All-America status from write-in votes in the team's 38-year history.

Not so dominating were the First Team winners in the Road Racing, Short Track and At Large categories, where much closer contests marked the vote.

2007 Auto Racing All-America Team

Jon Fogarty and Alex Gurney, co-driving the championship-winning Daytona Prototype entry in the Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car Series easily took one First Team slot. The other went to DP runner-up Scott Pruett who tallied just one vote more than the American Le Mans Series' P1 champions Rinaldo Capello/Allan McNish, relegated to Second Team. That pair only had two votes more than the ALMS P2 champions Timo Bernhard/Romain Dumas, who rounded out the Second Team. Honorable Mention went to ALMS GT1 champions Olivier Beretta/Oliver Gavin, and Grand-Am DP racer Max Angelelli.

USAC Midget champion Jerry Coons Jr. and World of Outlaws champ Donny Schatz prevailed in Short Track over Second-Teamers Levi Jones, winner of the USAC Sprint Car Series, and WoO runner-up Joey Saldana. Steve Francis, champion of the World of outlaws Late Model series, earned Honorable Mention.

In the At Large category, IRL Indy Pro Series champ Alex Lloyd had a comfortable margin over the rest of the field. Only one vote made the difference between ALMS GT2 champions Jaime Melo/Mika Salo making First Team and SCCA World Challenge GT champ Randy Pobst landing on the Second Team. Joining Pobst was Frank Manzo, who won his 11th NHRA national Alcohol Funny Car title. So close was the At Large category that Honorable Mentions Carl Renezeder, who won 19 off-road races and two championships, and Raphael Matos, the Champ Car Atlantic titlist, were only a dozen votes out of First Team.

Information on the All-America Banquet is available from AARWBA at 818-842-7005 or aarwba@compuserve.com.

--Rocky Entriken

The 2007 Auto Racing All-America Team

FIRST TEAM

OPEN WHEEL:	Sébastien Bourdais, Dario Franchitti
STOCK CAR:	Jeff Gordon, Jimmie Johnson
ROAD RACING:	Jon Fogarty/Alex Gurney, Scott Pruett
DRAG RACING:	Tony Pedregon, Tony Schumacher
SHORT TRACK:	Jerry Coons Jr., Donny Schatz
TOURING SERIES:	Ron Hornaday Jr., Frank Kimmel
AT LARGE:	Alex Lloyd, Jaime Melo/Mika Salo



SECOND TEAM

OPEN WHEEL:	Scott Dixon, Tony Kanaan
STOCK CAR:	Clint Bowyer, Carl Edwards
ROAD RACING:	Timo Bernhard/Romain Dumas, Rinaldo Capello/Allan McNish
DRAG RACING:	Greg Anderson, Jeg Coughlin
SHORT TRACK:	Levi Jones, Joey Saldana
TOURING SERIES:	Joey Logano, Bobby Gill
AT LARGE:	Frank Manzo, Randy Pobst

HONORABLE MENTION (At least 5% of the vote)

OPEN WHEEL:	none
STOCK CAR:	none
ROAD RACING:	Max Angelelli, Olivier Beretta/Oliver Gavin
DRAG RACING:	Bruce Litton, Dale Creasy Jr.
SHORT TRACK:	Steve Francis
TOURING SERIES:	Mike David, Donny Lia, Michael McDowell
AT LARGE:	Raphael Matos, Carl Renezeder

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

"Dedicated To Increasing Media Coverage Of Motor Sports"

Member Spotlight

David Bishop

This month David Bishop, a veteran writer, photographer, business man and former racing promoter, is in our Member Spotlight. David has been involved in drag racing on the east coast of the United States for over 42 years, having started out as a racer and then moving into the realm of entrepreneurial photographer and writer, bringing images and stories of the people in the sport into print. He recently sold his retail photo store he owned and operated for 30 years, and yet, at age 60 he is still an active member of the drag racing community, publishing his own magazine about the sport, East Coast Drag News.

We are going to let him tell his story in his own words.

"In 1964 I went to my first drag race. In 1965, at the age of 17, I ran in my first race. In some shape or form I have been associated with drag racing ever since then. Most of the time I wasn't actually doing the driving, I was often an owner or team manager or a photographer and writer, or all of the above at the same time. I learned at an early age that lots of people could take race photos but not many people could write to go along with it

"In 1966 I became the track photographer at what was called, at the time, Delmar Dragway in Delaware. The track owner, **Bill Cathell**, used to hand out a little pamphlet to all the fans as they came into the track. It had the results of the previous week's races but it didn't have any pictures. It was all names and numbers. I said it would be nice if they could add pictures. They told me to do something to show them how it could look, and bring it to them the following week. I jumped at the chance. That first effort was primitive by today's standards, but it showed pictures of the winners of the four eliminator. The people were much more interested in the pamphlets once they had pictures. People were more interested in seeing the photos than they were in reading a bunch of numbers.

"That's how I got started. I did that for two years while I was in Wesley College in Dover, Delaware. When I graduated I moved on to High Point University in High Point, North Carolina. At that time there were two major drag racing magazines being published on the east coast. The first was called Eastern Drag News and then it was superseded by one called Drag Times. They covered races from Carolina to Canada.

"These magazines were oriented more towards the people and photographs than towards just listing race results. I did work for them and for National Dragster, the official publication of the NHRA. I still do work for them, 40 years later.

"I had a minor in journalism in college and covering races for the magazines gave me the opportunity to do what I wanted to do, take pictures, and stay involved in racing. I started my business, Competition Photos, in

1970 when I graduated from High Point. Like many others trying to make a living with a camera, I did weddings, anniversaries, reunions, nursery schools, commercial photography, etc...

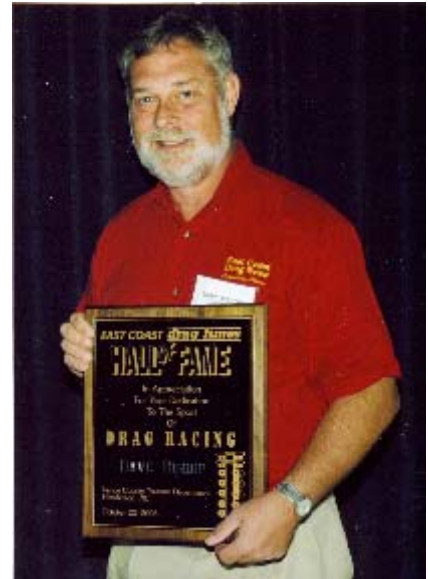
"In 1976 I moved from North Carolina, back to Easton, Maryland, where I grew up. At that time I went to work in our family business which was a retail photography store with a custom processing lab. We did just about anything you could do photographically. I owned and ran that business from 1976 until 2006. This was in Easton which is about 50 miles east of Baltimore.

"All the time I was running that business I stayed involved in the drag racing scene. I sold my photos to manufacturers, magazines and racers. We made up handout cards, and trading cards, and we designed ads and so on. All of this was in addition to running my photo lab.

"Over time I also became known for writing feature stories. I held the position of Feature Editor of Drag Review, the official publication for the IHRA. I did that for about 10 years. Overall, I think I have had my photos and written work published in at least 25 other publications. Not all of them were racing related. I had a dream that at some point I would have my own publication and it would be about the average guy in racing. I like to feature the racer who spends his own money, and a lot of time, and gets almost no notoriety. They do it just for the love of the sport.

"When I shot photos for Drag Times, they too were interested in the people who ran on a regional basis than the big factory backed racers. When I started my publication, I wanted to get across that it was about the same thing. I couldn't take the name Eastern Drag News so I called it East Coast Drag News.

"I started the magazine from scratch. I have some great reporters and photographers and a great editor Phil Hutchison. I do most of the production, the selling of the ads, and I work with a graphic artist to do all the layouts. We started in 2003 and our most recent issue was just printed recently. It was our 30th issue! We publish eight



Continued on next page

David Bishop In The Spotlight

times a year. It is mostly full color. This issue is 56 pages with 48 in color. We have a small subscriber base of 800 and we give many copies away at the races. The ads support the publication and giving them away puts the ads before that many more readers. We print between three and five thousand copies per issue. We also have an internet magazine ecdnonline.com

"Looking back, I have owned nine drag cars and I actually competed in four of them. 1976 to 1990 is when I was most active in competition. I have run the whole gamut. I ran in the **SuperComp** class and they only ran that class at certain tracks. I decided to promote the class by setting up a series of races and so I went out and got sponsors. I paid the points, promoted the races, and I worked at everything from tech inspections to taking photos. That experience gave me a better perspective of racing and that is one more reason I gear my magazine towards the people in racing.

"Today, the fastest growing segment of Drag Racing is Nostalgia Racing. In sportscar racing it is known as vintage racing. Some of the cars are the actual race cars but most are recreations. The original cars just weren't safe. Our publication is somewhat of a kingpin for nostalgia racing. Last year we covered 19 Nostalgia races so that gives you an idea just how big it has become.

"I've been married for 29 years. My wife's name is Louise and my stepchildren are Bryan, 38 and Angie, 36. When they were young I used to drag them to the tracks so they have been all over.

"Last year I was inducted into the East Coast Drag Times Hall of Fame, which is in Henderson, North Carolina. When they called to tell me that I was really flattered, but then it reminded me that I have been around a very long time!"

Have You Booked Your Room Yet?



Member News & Notes



President Dusty Brandel congratulates AARWBA member Louise Ann Noeth who won one of MPG's 2007 'Best of the Year' awards recently.

Photography Category: **Louise Ann Noeth**, "Salton Sea Roadster" June 2007 Goodguys Gazette

Falcon Wins Valentine

Member Bob Falcon was recently honored by the Southern California Chapter of The Society of Auto Historians.



They presented their annual Valentine Memorial Award to Falcon in the Periodicals category for 2007. This award covered published works that appeared in 2006.

The piece that was published in the racing nostalgia, pocket magazine, *The Alternate*, covered the establishment of events that led to the

popularity of Midget Auto Racing in the country.. Contrary to the rumor based, popular opinion, it covered the vision and organization skills practiced by Dominic and "Pee Wee" Distarce in Los Angeles starting in 1933.

They began the practice of weekly scheduled Midget Auto Races on small neighborhood racetracks. This practice proved to be very popular in the depression era search for family entertainment.



American Auto Racing Writers, Broadcasters Association
922 N. Pass Ave. Burbank, CA 91505-2703
818/ 842-7005 and Fax: 818/ 842-7020

Annual Dinner Tribute Souvenir Program
January 12, 2008
Hyatt Regency - Indianapolis

To order your advertising space for the 2008 Dinner Tribute Souvenir Program, please fill out the form below and send your check to AARWBA at the address above.

*** All Advertising Materials should be sent to Doug Caruso of Speedway Press.

<u>NHRA</u>	Back Cover, 4-color	\$3,000	* Includes table of ten (10) with logo sign
<u>IRL</u>	Inside Front Cover, 4 color	\$2,700	* Includes table of ten (10) with logo sign
<u>CCWS</u>	Inside Back Cover, 4 color	\$2,700	* Includes table of ten (10) with logo sign
_____	Center two-page spread, 4 color	\$4,950	* Includes table of ten (10) with logo sign
_____	Full Page 4 color (inside)	\$2,500	* Includes table of ten (10) with logo sign
_____	Full Page, black/white	\$2,000	* Includes table of ten (10) with logo sign
_____	Full Page, black/white	\$1,700	* No table

(All ads above VERTICAL format only)

_____ Half Page, black/white \$950 * No table
(Horizontal Format Only)

Table of 10 without advertisement with signage \$850

*** Speedway Press is handling the printing: contact Doug Caruso 315/ 342-1363

His email is: rspeedw1@twcny.rr.com Deadline is December 14, 2007

Company _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Agency Name _____ Phone _____
(no agency commission)

Date: _____ Signature _____