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SHAV GLICK NAMED RECIPIENT OF AARWBA

2009 BOB RUSSO FOUNDERS AWARD

Award winning writer and past AARWBA board member, Shav Glick who passed away on 2007, has been named the recipient of the 2009 Bob Russo Founders Award presented by the American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters (AARWBA). The award was presented at the Annual Breakfast at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

The award, sponsored by Colleen and Gary Campbell, is presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated profound interest, tireless efforts and undying dedication to auto racing, as exemplified by Bob Russo throughout his lifelong career in motorsports.

“Shav Glick was an award winning writer for the Los Angeles Times from 1954 to 2007. Shav Glick was inducted into the Novi Hall of Fame and the West Coast Stock Car Hall of Fame. Shav chose his words carefully and through the years won several thousand dollars in the AARWBA Media Contest,” said AARWBA President Dusty Brandel. “The National Hot Rod Association named the Pomona drag strip press box in his honor. The quote from his memorial was that when asked, “My favorite race is the one I’m covering and my favorite driver is the writing about now,” added Brandel.

“Shav’s integrity in our sport is unquestioned,” says Bill Marvel, a co-founder and former executive secretary of AARWBA who serves as chairman of the Founders Award Committee. “His consistency and has earned the respect of our entire fraternity. He is the most deserving recipient and we salute his dedication and commitment or excellence.”

Bob Russo, for whom the award is named, was one of the foremost historians the sport has ever known. He earned a niche in the sport as a reporter for Speed Age magazine in the 1950’s and was instrumental in the early formation of the United States Auto Club (USAC). In 1955 he founded AARWBA and his expertise soon became a valuable asset to racing facilities and teams. As a public relations director in the 1970’s he served Ontario Motor Speedway in California, then in 1985 he orchestrated publicity for Danny Sullivan, who won that year’s Indianapolis 500. He also served stints as publicist for the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) and Mickey Thompson Enterprises. He died in 1999.

Glick follows Michael Knight (2005), Wally Parks (2006) Chris Economaki (2007) and Jenkins as the fifth recipient of the AARWBA Founders Award.