



July, 2024

Greetings all,

As we are now in the midst of the 2024 racing season, I hope that everyone is being kept busy with their respective responsibilities of bringing motorsports coverage to all of our respective audiences and doing so as proud members of EMPA.

As always, when sending out these newsletters we enjoy hearing from everyone on what is happening in their world. So, let's get right to it!

### Member News



#### From Buffy Swanson

One of the summer's "Must-see" events is right around the corner, the 32nd annual Hall of Fame induction ceremonies at the Northeast Dirt Modified Museum & Hall of Fame in Weedsport, NY.

Long-time EMPA member Buffy Swanson works tirelessly each year along with a very dedicated staff to put this event together.

This event is FREE and open to the public. As outlined in the attached flyer, there will be a "Happy Hour" reception hosted by Weedsport Speedway prior to the 7pm ceremonies and an "After Party" at the track's Portside Pub. Snacks, beer and wine will be available for purchase.

And, we would like to congratulate EMPA member **Mandee Pauch Mahaney** on receiving the "Outstanding Woman in Racing Award."

Anyone who would like additional info please contact Buffy Swanson, Chair Northeast Dirt Modified Hall of Fame Selection Committee at 609-213-7722.

***Great job as always Buffy with the HoF. This is a great affair and remains an important aspect to our sport while continuing to get better and better each year.***

**From Bobby Chalmers**

Bobby sends along info on his business development efforts with racingjunk.com. The Internet Brands Auto Classifieds group is pleased to announce the promotion of Robert “Bobby” Chalmers to Partnerships & Marketing Manager. You can read up on the news at this link.

<https://www.racingjunk.com/news/race-industry-leader-expands-role-at-internet-brands-automotive/>

***Bobby does great work no matter if it's with pen and paper, camera, or marketing as you can see.***

**From Steve Barrick**

Cheers to Steve Barrick and wife Pam who recently celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary on Wednesday, June 19.

***We all know that Steve is one very talented writer who's been at this game a long time and all the while by his side has been his wife, Pam. Congrats on 48 years of bliss!!***

**From Sandie Herensperger**

My son is expecting his third child in October! This new one will have both an older brother and sister.

***Congratulations on the good news!***

**From Rich Corbett**

I am continuing to travel around the country working every national ARCA Menards Series race as a marketing photographer and I have added some duties as a tech official. I recently worked my seventh Indy 500 as a credentialed photographer.

***Rich works very hard at his craft and it shows with each photo he takes. Keep up the amazing work!***

**From Brooke Johnpier**

I am pleased to say that along with the EMPA, I am now a member of the **NMPA** as well! I am officially done with my freshman year of college and am still working part-time for **Speedway Illustrated**, as well as staying with the same internship.

Through my internship, I will be officially covering a race for the first time ever at **Weedsport Speedway** on July 28th for the **World of Outlaws Empire State Challenge**.

So excited!

***Brooke, we've said it before that it is very refreshing to have such young and dedicated talent with us. You're doing fantastic work and keep it going!***

**From Jim Donnelly**

I had two stories in **Tazio** magazine that were sold at the circuit during the 24 Hours of Le Mans under an agreement that the magazine has with the race organizers. The stories are about NASCAR's effort at Le Mans in 1976, and about the difficult creation of the Ford GT40, 60 years after it first raced competitively.

***Jim you continue to put out some amazing articles which we all enjoy reading. Thanks for the input.***

**From Carol Houssock**

I'm proud to say that 2024 is my 30<sup>th</sup> year of announcing! I started with a motorsports radio show in 1989 and joined EMPA in 1990, but it wasn't until the 1995 season that I started calling races at Evergreen Raceway. Over the years I've announced primarily at paved tracks (earning the nickname 'The Asphalt Chick') but I was the voice on dirt at Clinton County Raceway and The Hill Speedway for a few years as well. I started at Chemung Speedrome in 2001 and I'm still the 'Voice of the Speedrome'.

***Carol, we are just as proud of you and congrats on three outstanding decades of calling all the action. On a personal note, I've known you for just about that entire time and it is a pleasure and honor to have had the opportunities, although not often enough, to have worked with you. And may I add, your work behind the scenes with the organization goes above and beyond.***

**From Ed Lamberton**

Ed has long running internet radio show, **Wheel People with Ed Lamberton**

<https://www.facebook.com/wheelpeopleED>

Covering much of Central New York, with dirt track racing news and more, Ed always has a great guest line-up on his program.

***Ed, outstanding show you have and we try to listen in as much as can. Thanks for all you do up there in CNY!***

***As many of you may know through social media and personal calls, Jason and Katrina Beck have been going through a tough time with their son Ben who was born premature.***

***Jason sent along this note:***

I appreciate the prayers already sent and we ask you all to continue to pray. Our son, Ben, arrived at 23 weeks and he has a long road ahead of him. Katrina and I thank you for reaching out in prayer on our behalf as the three of us face new challenges every day.

***Katrina, Jason and Ben,***

***Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers and we will continue to do so.***

**From Daniel Hastings (Holiday Inn Wilkes-Barre)**

We offering for your travelers if they are attending the races at **Pocono Raceway's NASCAR weekend, July 12-14**, and want to stay Sunday to Monday after it's over. We will offer rooms at \$149.00 this includes breakfast for two Monday morning. The Holiday Inn Wilkes-Barre - East Mountain, 600 Wildflower Drive, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 Office: 570-970-1152 Email: [dhastings@regalhospitalityinc.com](mailto:dhastings@regalhospitalityinc.com)  
Thanks!

***Daniel and EMPA have really bonded nicely and he continues to take care of us and our members any way possible. Thanks Daniel.***

Speaking of the **Holiday-Inn in Wilkes-Barre**, just an FYI that the 2025 convention dates will be **January 10-12, 2025**.

#### **More from Daniel Hastings (Holiday Inn Wilkes-Barre)**

The Room Block is active. Phone code is EMS and on Line is <https://tinyurl.com/EMPABlock>  
***Daniel and his team take really good care of us! Act now, and take advantage of our group rate! Thanks again, Daniel!***

We're already working on things for the convention weekend, so stay tuned!

#### **From Dino Oberto**

So what happens when you get an Irish couple and an Italian couple together? You meet up for dinner at Miller's Ale House of course. On their way home from their Florida hibernation, Lynn and Ron Hedger, while cruising up I-81 back to New York, just happen to be passing through Hazleton and got together with Justine and I. And a fun time was had by all!

And then there were more New Yorkers wondering through NEPA. Stopping by to spend a rainy Sunday afternoon over some Hazleton pizza, stromboli and sausage rolls were Stephanie and Duane Canfield.



#### **And finally –**

In closing I would like to say please remember that as card-carrying members of EMPA it is important to uphold your responsibility of professionalism when attending racing events. As advocates of the sport it is our duty to be fair and unbiased in our coverage, be it in print, photography, videography, and TV/radio/podcasting.

Through the dedicated efforts of each and every one with EMPA we continue to grow as a viable motorsports media organization committed to providing the very best work from the very best group doing so.

Until next time,  
Peace, out  
Dino