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### 2008 USLMRA President's Message



Lee, Bruce, & Ari Kaufman

I filled up my car this morning, and my wallet feels lighter. I bought groceries last night, and food prices are rising. Gas and electric bills are going up. It's tough out there.

Where does that leave lawn mower racing? Where does lawn mower racing fit into the family budget? Are racers going to travel as far as they once did to compete? Are host venue budgets going to constrict? These are just some of the questions facing us this year.

Although USLMRA cannot solve these nationwide economic challenges, we can step up by continually improving our racing program and making it worthwhile to compete in USLMRA events. For example, for 2008, we have implemented:

- The JP Class, a new national racing class for kids age 10-15.
- The Performance Mowersports Expo (PME) trade show to take place during the 16th annual STA-BIL Nationals Labor Day Weekend Championships in Delaware, Ohio.
- Licensing of the BP and FX classes.
- A national race schedule where all events are two or three-day race weekends.
- Televised races on Speed TV and the Outdoor Channel.
- The USLMRA Affiliated Club Program.

Another way to meet these economic challenges is to grow lawn mower racing at the Local Level, via our new Affiliated Club Program. It is easier than ever to start a local racing group, stay close to home and have fun. I encourage you to contact me to learn more about this easy-to-get-into program.

I would like to offer my congratulations to Jayson Mikula, for repeating as BP Class Triple Crown Winner (Winner in US Points Class, STA-BIL Finals, Challenge of Champions), Mike Miller, Triple Crown Winner in FX Class, and of course, "The Rocket Man, Pat Sullivan, Triple Crown Winner in IMOW and 2007 Driver of the Year, who is featured on the 2008 USLMRA Membership Card and 2008 Cutting Edge Yearbook.

I also applaud our 2007 Most Improved Driver of the Year Becky Kuhfeldt, Rookie of the Year Tom Berkey, Dave Hertel Award Winner Jim Mikula, Charles Powell Award Winner

I also wish a fond farewell to our good friend and racing buddy, Mike Leonard, 2006 Dave Hertel Award Winner. We miss you, Gonzo.

Manny Torres and Dubba G Every Man Award Winner Tim Robison.

Bruce Kaufman USLMRA Founder & President April 15, 2008



Zoe Kaufman





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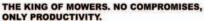
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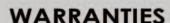
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# 2008 STA-BIL National Lawn Mower Racing Series Schedule USLMRA National Points Races

April 4, STA-BIL NASGRASS Southern Shoot Out, Labelle, FL Hendry-LaBelle Mowersports Park

April 5-6, STA-BIL 12 Minutes of Avon Park, Avon Park, FL Avon Park Mower Plex, Avon Park, FL

April 26-27, STA-BIL Kentucky Blue Grass Spring Nationals, Barbourville, KY Redbud Festival, Barbourville, KY

May 3-4, STA-BIL Hog Fest in Historic Edenton, Edenton, NC

May 24-25, STA-BIL Azalia City Mow Down Show Down, Mobile, AL

June 7-8, STA-BIL Arkansas Mow Down Show Down, Jonesboro, AR

June 20-21, STA-BIL Nostalgia Days Classic, Zion, IL

June 22, STA-BIL Land of Lincoln Nationals, Mendota, IL

July 11-12, STA-BIL Bowles Farms Turf Battle, Clements, MD

July 19-20, STA-BIL Great Lakes Summer Nationals, Sparta, MI

August 1-2, STA-BIL Midwest Nationals, Kankakee, IL

August 3, STA-BIL Midwest Nationals, Mendota, IL

August 30-31, STA-BIL Keeps Gas Fresh Finals & Challenge of Champions, Delaware, MOWhio (Taping for Outdoor Channel)

### - 2009 STA-BIL Series -

October 4-5, STA-BIL Kershaw's Cajun Village Gulf Coast Shoot Out, Lake Charles, LA

Nov. 1-2, STA-BIL North Carolina Turf Classic, Shelby, NC

Visit www.letsmow.com for details

Schedule subject to change.

### **USLMRA Special Award Winners**

### **Driver of the Year**

2002, Tim Hamilton, Alabama

2003, Janet Witt, Florida

2004, George Herrin, Tennessee

2005, Jayson Mikula, Michigan

2006, Troy Larson, Michigan

2007, Pat Sullivan, Florida

### Rookie of the Year

2002, Rich Yeager, Florida

2003, Tim Ragsdale, Tennessee

2004, Tanya Ragsdale, Tennessee

2005, Craig Pond, Michigan

2006, Kyle Ast, Florida

2007, Tom Berkey, Florida

### Most Improved Driver of the Year

2002, George Herrin, Tennessee

2003, Tim Robison, Texas

2004, Jayson Mikula, Michigan

2005, Tracy Donihue, Michigan

2006, Tom Ast, Florida

2007, Becky Kuhfeldt, Florida



Pat Sullivan 2007, Driver of the Year, Becky Kuhfeldt, 2007 Most Improved Driver of the Year and Tom Berkey, 2007 Rookie of the Year.



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### **USLMRA** Honorary Awards Program

USLMRA Honorary Awards are bestowed upon one USLMRA member, staff member, volunteer or related person who epitomizes the spirit of some of our dear, departed friends.

Nominations are by written essay and must be submitted direct to Bruce Kaufman, USLMRA President. All entries submitted by 5:00 PM on the Saturday of Labor Day Weekend (STA-BIL Nationals Weekend) will be considered.

The USLMRA President will select the Honorees. The Honoree will be announced at the Racer Banquet during STA-BIL Nationals Weekend. The Nominators and actual Honorees do not have to be present.

### **USLMRA** Honorary Award Winners

### **Dave Hertel Mowtivation Award**

2005, Art Neavill, Michigan 2006, Mike Leonard, Ohio 2007, Jim Mikula, Michigan

**Charles Powell Mr. Mowjangles Award**2007, Manny Torres, Maryland

**The Dubba G Everyman Award** 2007, Tim Robison, Texas



Jim Mikula 2007, Dave Hertel Award Winner, Manny Torres, 2007 Charles Powell Award Winner and Tim Robison, 2007 Dubba G Award Winner



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### **2007 US Points Champions**

	<i>IMOW</i>		AP		SP
1st	Pat Sullivan	1st	Pat Sullivan	1st	Richard Webb
2nd	Bob Cleveland	2nd	Janet Witt	2nd	Kenneth Williams
3rd	Bryan Wood	3rd	Dale Becker	3rd	Troy Larson
4th	Randy Winchell	4th	Pete Sullivan	4th	Keith Hiller
5th	Freddy Burt	5th	Kyle Ast	5th	Jackie Andrews
6th	Charles Bowen	6th	Joe Pearce	6th	Paul Krueger
7th	Thomas Berkey	7th	Trevor Myers	7th	Joe Pearce
8th	Dr. Art Neavill	8th	Troy Myers	8th	Bill Vinka Sr
9th	Matt Myers	9th	Bill Vinka Sr	9th	Scott Thieme
10th	David Wright	10th	Dan Mongan	10th	Jerry Clifton
	CP		BP		FX
1st	<b>CP</b> Donald Gienger	1st	<b>BP</b> Jayson Mikula	1st	<b>FX</b> Mike Miller
1st 2nd	-	1st 2nd		1st 2nd	
	Donald Gienger		Jayson Mikula		Mike Miller
2nd	Donald Gienger Roger Zimmerman	2nd	Jayson Mikula Tom Ast	2nd	Mike Miller Greg Honchell
2nd 3rd	Donald Gienger Roger Zimmerman Seth Pearce	2nd 3rd	Jayson Mikula Tom Ast James Mikula	2nd 3rd	Mike Miller Greg Honchell Pete Sullivan
2nd 3rd 4th	Donald Gienger Roger Zimmerman Seth Pearce John Vinka	2nd 3rd 4th	Jayson Mikula Tom Ast James Mikula Bob Cleveland	2nd 3rd 4th	Mike Miller Greg Honchell Pete Sullivan Kyle Ast
2nd 3rd 4th 5th	Donald Gienger Roger Zimmerman Seth Pearce John Vinka Freddy Burt	2nd 3rd 4th 5th	Jayson Mikula Tom Ast James Mikula Bob Cleveland Chuck Miller	2nd 3rd 4th 5th	Mike Miller Greg Honchell Pete Sullivan Kyle Ast Tracy Donihue
2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th	Donald Gienger Roger Zimmerman Seth Pearce John Vinka Freddy Burt Craig Pond	2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th	Jayson Mikula Tom Ast James Mikula Bob Cleveland Chuck Miller Michael McKeehan	2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th	Mike Miller Greg Honchell Pete Sullivan Kyle Ast Tracy Donihue Becky Kuhfeldt
2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th	Donald Gienger Roger Zimmerman Seth Pearce John Vinka Freddy Burt Craig Pond Mark Ames	2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th	Jayson Mikula Tom Ast James Mikula Bob Cleveland Chuck Miller Michael McKeehan Tracy Donihue	2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th	Mike Miller Greg Honchell Pete Sullivan Kyle Ast Tracy Donihue Becky Kuhfeldt Kevin Penne

See www.letsmow.com for 2007 Race Results and Season Points Totals



IMOW US Points Champions



AP US Points Champions



SP US Points Champions



CP US Points Champions



BP US Points Champions



FX US Points Champions

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### **Dave Hertel Mowtivation Award**

Named in honor of USLMRA Tech Inspector and "everybody's good friend" Dave Hertel. "Words fail to describe how I feel after having read this email. My only thought is what a wonderful honor to be

bestowed on my husband. I know without a doubt Dave would have a smile the size of Texas and, of course, be indulging in the greatest award of lawnmower racing, "BRAGGING RIGHTS."

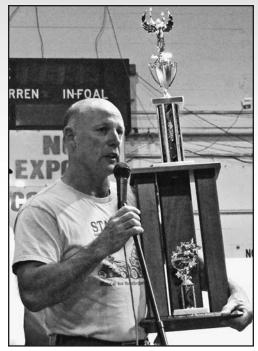
Have a safe racing season. Thank you so much for forwarding messages from the racers. It brings peace to my heart. May everyone love the sport and keep it safe, competitive and friendly."

**Yolie Hertel** 

I am deeply touched that there is an award for my father Dave Hertel. I know he would be proud, and he probably is. May his spirit and his legend live on in the lawn mower community.

Thanks to all.

Dawn Teska (Dave's daughter)



Jim Mikula Accepting 2007 Hertel Award.



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2008 STA-BIL Lawn Mower Racing Series

### 2007 STA-BIL Challenge of Champions Winners

	IMOW		SP	_	BP
1st	Pat Sullivan, FL	1st	Troy Larson	1st	Jayson Mikula
2nd	Bryan Wood	2nd	Paul Krueger	2nd	Chuck Miller
3rd	Randy Winchell	3rd	Richard Webb	3rd	James Mikula
4th	Charles Bowen	4th	Joe Pearce	4th	Tracy Donihue
5th	Bobby Cleveland	5th	Dave Smith	5th	Tom Ast
	AP		<b>CP</b>		FX
1st	Pete Sullivan	1st	John Vinka	1st	Mike Miller
2nd	Joe Pearce	2nd	Brian Gustad	2nd	Kevin Penne
3rd	Ken Jones	3rd	Tommy Hawley	3rd	Chuck Miller
4th	Troy Myers	4th	Andy Goodner	4th	<b>Christopher Macri</b>
5th	Trevor Myers	5th	Joshua Windy	5th	Kyle Ast



IMOW Challenge Winners



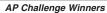


SP Challenge Winners



BP Challenge Winners







CP Challenge Winners



FX Challenge Winners

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# UNITED STATES LAWN MOWER RACING ASSOCIATION Charles Powell Mr. MOWjangles Award

Charles Powell was the driving force behind the USLMRA Local Chapter System. His support, guidance and forward-thinking are what has made the LC System so successful.

Charles was a fortunate man. The three things he loved most in the world were his family, his job and lawnmower racing. How many people can say they spend their days doing what they love, in one capacity or another?

Charles loved everything about lawnmower racing: the preparation, travel, excitement, the adrenaline rush and, most especially, the people. He also loved doing whatever he could to make the sport better. He was constantly thinking, mulling tweaking – just trying, in some small way, to make it something for everyone. No one will ever know how much of himself he gave.

This award is exciting because it means someone who is working just as diligently as Charles always did will be recognized. If the recipient is anything like Charles, he/she is pretty much behind the scenes and wants no recognition, which is all the more reason for accolades.

These are the people who make things happen and keep things running smoothly, yet no one knows unless something goes wrong. They spend countless hours arranging, meeting, editing, mediating, putting in physical labor, on the telephone, sacrificing time with family and friends and sometimes their own dollars to make the Local Chapters work. They step up when called upon and just roll up their sleeves and get to work. They are leaders, and like many good leaders, they stand back when it is time for applause.

With this award comes a small token of appreciation for all the work that goes into this crazy, wonderful sport of lawnmower racing. As long as these people are willing to continue to give of themselves it will only get better and better. Tyler & Cyrstal, Cody, Mama MOWjangles and I can think of no better way to honor him.



Manny Torres Accepting 2007 Powell Award from Cheryl Powell.

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### 2007 STA-BIL Keeps Gas Fresh Finals Winners

		IMOW		_	SP			BP
1st	006	Pat Sullivan	1st	108	Richard Webb	1st	4	Jayson Mikula
2nd	614	<b>Bobby Cleveland</b>	2nd	150	Paul Krueger	2nd	104	Chuck Miller
3rd	830	Bryan Wood	3rd	355	Kenneth Williams	3rd	14	James Mikula
4th	22	Freddy Burt	4th	033	Jackie Andrews	4th	95	Tracy Donihue
5th	B52	Randy Winchell	5th	012	Tyler Frazier	5th	06	Tom Ast
		AP			CP			FX
1st	006	Pat Sullivan	1st	12	Brian Gustad	1st	16	Mike Miller
2nd	325	Pete Sullivan	2nd	3	Don Gienger	2nd	104	Kevin Penne
3rd	39	Troy Myers	3rd	447	David Polzin	3rd	52	Greg Honchell
4th	6J	Ken Jones	4th	222	John Vinka	4th	274	Kyle Ast
5th	38	Trevor Myers	์ 5th	92	Roger Zimmerman	່ 5th	92	<b>Tracy Donihue</b>



IMOW Finals Winners



SP Finals Winners



BP Finals Winners



AP Finals Winners



CP Finals Winners



FX Finals Winners

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# UNITED STATES LAWN MOWER RACING ASSOCIATION Dubba G Everyman Award

"I was put here to make others happy. I believed in myself so others could." Dubba G

#### From Dubba G, himself:

- 1. We are looking for people with dedication, integrity and conviction to stand up for what they believe, even when unpopular.
- 2. The candidate will carry a positive disposition. Obviously, game face before the race doesn't count.
- 3. Actions on the track, including driving style, will show gentlemanly demeanor. Not necessarily always deferring to other drivers, but not creating unsafe situations. Their competitive spirit needs to be tempered with a "spirit of a sound mind." Intentionally running people off the track, running into or bumping and/or ignoring Safety Crew repeatedly will disqualify a candidate.
- 4. Candidates are willing to help others. When times of need arise, sacrifice is not uncommon, willing to volunteer, add a hand, step up to the plate.
- 5. Enthusiasm is key. They want to be here, at the race, in the paddock, at the driver's meeting. Their excitement will help the group's positive energy grow and surge just by their presence. Similar to #2, but more encompassing. People like being around the candidate or at least don't mind their presence.
- 6. General knowledge of what's going on on race day, race track, in the paddock, in general. This would imply that first month rookies may not fully qualify, but depending on their learning curve, they could be in the running. This doesn't mean they have to know everything, but a good solid understanding of how things work is the basic idea.
- 7. Most important, at least to me, is their Sense of Fair Play. We have all seen racers over the years that possess some or a few of these qualities, but when bump comes to shove, this particular attribute gets left behind or thrown out the window, depending on the situation. This applies on the track, negotiations during the rules committee, arguments about rules infractions and who gets the last beer after the race.
- 8. Comes prepared to help. Spare parts, rope to hang clothes, share knowledge, extra mower to run on race day in order to keep accumulating points for the season. Having made preparations to help others in advance, knowing someone will need something. #4 shows the willingness, #8 exhibits the forethought to add extra supplies, etc.
- 9. One of the traditions I enjoyed most was having a steak and a beer (or mower) after the race. I know most people want to run home. But there are always a few that will stick around or meet you on the way to the airport. This one is a bit hard to wrap your arms around, but I think this is part of the mix.
- 10. I always preferred plaques. Trophies can be hard to store, but there's always room for a plaque. A lot less dusting along with less space used.



2007 Dubba G Award Winner Tim Robison with wife Patty and Dubba G's Family.

### The Chase for the Golden Blade

2008 marks the third year of the Chase For The Golden Blade. The rules are simple; win a trophy at a STA-BIL National Lawn Mower Racing Series event and your designated chapter gets a point, the chapter that has accumulated the most points at the conclusion of the season wins the Golden Blade.

The Chase For The Golden Blade was created to promote a friendly rivalry between all sanctioned Local Chapters of the USLMRA. The actual award is a perpetual plaque that is passed on to the winning chapter at the conclusion of the racing season. The winning chapter has their name added to the plaque and maintains possession until it is passed on at the conclusion of the following season. Along with the plaque comes bragging rights.

The inaugural year of the Chase was won by the Michigan Lawn Mower Racing Association. The Florida Lawn Mower Racing Association was a close second. The 2007 season saw a reversal in the final trophy tally with Florida accumulating the most trophies and Michigan taking second.

Here's to friendly, safe racing...and the Chase for the Golden Blade!

Submitted by:

### Tracy Donihue

Midwest Regional Director Founder and Past President, Michigan Lawn Mower Racing Association



John Vinka

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Becky Kuhfeldt



Brian Gustad



Dale Becker (left) chasing Pat Sullivan



Keith Hiller (left) and Richard Webb, SP Class



Joey Nahas



Rodney Peeler, Bristol Motor Speedway



Tim Luell & Robert Sparbel



Art Neavill and Mike Leonard, Kentucky Mud

### UNITED STATES LAWN MOWER RACING ASSOCIATION GONZO GO TO FUND

Note: As announced at the 2007 STA-BIL Nationals Weekend, funds are being created to honor the memory of late great Mike "Gonzo" Leonard, 2006 Dave Hertel Mowtivation Award Winner, who passed away last year. Mike loved to "go to" races, so to honor Mike, Local Chapters are collecting funds to be given to racers to help them so that they may "go to" races. Here is what the Michigan Lawn Mower Racing Association (MILMRA) is doing.

The MILMRA has decided to make contributions to the Gonzo Go To Fund a Local Chapter responsibility. MILMRA has raised its Local Chapter racing fee from \$3.00 to \$5.00. \$3.00 goes towards insurance and \$2.00 into the Gonzo Fund. When racers register, they put their name into the Gonzo Jar. The Local Chapter then decides if they want to draw a name at the end of each race or let the pot grow and draw at the end of their season.

By waiting until the end of the season, the more races you attend, the better your chance of winning. Drawing a random name eliminates the question of who was chosen for the fund (it's the luck of the draw).

If we decide to make this an end-of-season drawing, we're suggesting awarding the fund before STA-BIL Nationals Weekend, so a racer can use the fund to go to Nationals. After all, that is why we came up with this fund-because mike was a racer and wanted to see everyone at the races.

### **Craig Pond President, Michigan Lawn Mower Racing Association**



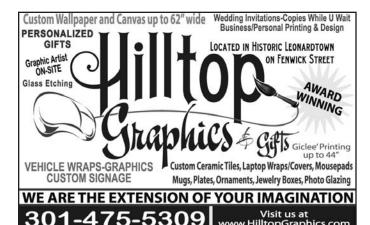
Mike Leonard



Welcome Back Art Neavill!



The Mikula family: Helen, Donna, Jim and Jayson raising money for Huntington's disease research in Sparta, Michigan.



# golden corral

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# A Tribute to a True Gentleman and Professional Jim Witt

I have been involved in this sport of Lawnmower Racing since 2002. During this time I have had the distinct pleasure of meeting and getting to know many great individuals in this great sport. However few have had an immediate impact on me as an individual and sportsman like this person, "Mr Jim Witt."

My first encounter with Jim came in 2002 while attending my first USLMRA National Points Race as a competitor. At the time he was still racing as was his lovely wife Janet and what really caught my attention was the way he carried himself not only as a individual but a serious racer.

Jim was the perfect "ambassador to the sport of lawnmower racing." A tireless and MOWtivated racer and a key leader of the USLMRA!

He could talk to anyone; treated everyone with dignity and respect, solved problems and is truly a man with all the answers. Technical Inspection and updating the annual Rulebook were his specialties. Jim answered all questions pertaining to mowers and rules both by phone and E-Mail and graciously addressed the concerns and complaints with patience and calm. This was his gift. The bottom line – this man was the perfect individual with the perfect personality to perform the volunteer duties as a staff member in the area of Technical Inspector/Director.

During 2007 my year first as Chief Steward, I had the opportunity to work closely with this man. I continuously went to him whenever I was in doubt or had a question about anything pertaining to our sport and never did I walk away without an answer. I owe him so much gratitude and appreciation for he is one of the reasons I feel I was successful and able to serve you in a successful manner as Chief Steward.

As you all know I am a retired Military man, and once a superior told me that when it's time to retire you will know. Your body, your mind, and your sense of urgency will no longer be there and these are signs that it's time for a change. Well for Jim he must have received one of these signs.

I for one respect his decision and wish him well in all his endeavors. He will be missed. The memories will always be of the highest regard, and I know he will always be only a phone call away. He has always been a Lawnmower Racer at heart and I know this will always remain the same.

Jim, my fellow American, fellow racer, and my battle buddy on the track. I wish you Good Luck and God Speed.

### Manny Torres USLMRA National Chief Steward



Jim & Janet Witt



Kerry Evans (I-r) with Tim Robison, Manny Torres & Jim Witt.

# UNITED STATES LAWN MOWER RACING ASSOCIATION Tribute to the Lawn Blonde Janet Witt

I must fess up: JANET WITT IS MY FAVORITE LAWN MOWER RACER.

And now that she is retiring, let me say it again: JANET WITT IS MY FAVORITE LAWN MOWER RACER.

Now, Janet, I know you are reading this, as is your trusty "Truck Driver" and are probably getting all steamed up at me for coming right out and telling the world that YOU ARE MY FAVORITE LAWN MOWER RACER, but once in a while I can still pull rank as USLMRA President.

Look at the word "Courage" in the dictionary: "The state or quality of mind or spirit that enables one to face danger with self-possession, confidence, and resolution, bravery, valor."

You can put Janet's picture next to the word.

Janet has beaten two types of cancer, and as many of you know, never stopped racing throughout her chemo and radiation treatments. As her weight decreased, her competitive spirit increased. As her bones became more fragile, her mind got tougher. As the "Boys of the AP Class" got faster, this girl mowed right with them. As she graciously smiled for a 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th place trophy, there was a burning desire to grab the checkers next time out. If her mower did not get off the grid quickly, her "Truck Driver" knew the ride home to Pensacola would be even longer. She was given no slack on the race track, and expected none back. Tough as nails, fragile as a humming bird.

Racing, pre-gridding, teching, Janet helped tremendously. Gracious, friendly, supportive and calm are the counter balances to Janet's on-track demeanor. A tough competitor on the track, a lady off of it.

You might think it hard to pick one favorite memory of Janet, but for me it is easy: August 30, 2003, STA-BIL Nationals Weekend, Racer Banquet. Janet decked out in her "doo rag" and "plunging neckline" smiling widely as USLMRA members voted her Driver of the Year. Smiles and cheers mixed with tears and fears.

Now as The Lawn Blonde and her Truck Driver move on, the tears and fears are gone along with cancer that never slowed her down, and the smiles and cheers remain.

Janet, we're all cheering for you, and although many of your fellow racers are reluctant to come right out and say it, I bet if you pressed the issue, a darn good many of them would join me in saying JANET WITT IS MY FAVORITE LAWN MOWER RACER!

### Bruce Kaufman USLMRA Founder & President



Janet & Jim Witt



Janet Witt - The Lawn Blonde

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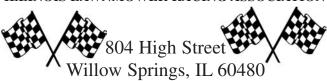
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### Delmarva

### Lawnmower Racing Association 2008

**Greetings from the Delmarva Lawnmower Racing Association** 

After a successful 2007 season we now mow on to the 2008 Delmarva Lawnmower Racing season. During the 2007 season we continued to provide the Delaware, Maryland and Virginia regions with entertaining, safe, fun and family oriented races.

The Delmarva-LMRA continues to grow, and several of our members have proven that they can venture out to any US Points Race and run with the best. A prime example with Jackie Andrews who finished in the top 5 nationally in SP and raced to a Top 5 finish in the Sta-Bil Finals in Delaware, Ohio this past Labor Day weekend.

In continuing with our tradition, our Season Championship Finale was held in beautiful Blobs Park in Jessup, Maryland. Champions were crowned in all classes and presented beautiful Championship Trophies. The Champions crowned were:

### **2007 Points Champions:**

Kids Stock: Dawn Filos IMOW: Vickie Nahas AP: Manny Torres SP: Jackie Andrews CP: John Hyatt BP: Chuck Shenk FX: Bill Aeschlimann

### **2007 Special Awards:**

Volunteer of the year: Lou Filos Rookie of the year: Vickie Nahas Most Improved driver: Joey Nahas Driver of the Year: Jackie Andrews

In support of the USLMRA Sta-Bil Points Series, Delmarva once again co-hosted along with Tommy and Tina Bowles of Bowles Farm LLC, a Double Header in July. This year racing was held on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. Weather was great and racers from throughout the country made the journey this beautiful part of Maryland to provide the crowd with two days of spectacular racing.

With the spectator area full to capacity on both days, it turned out to be an overwhelming success. The biggest surprise was the arrival of the members of the Michigan-LMRA with over 17 mowers in tow. They had raced the night before, left from the track and drove all night to support us and this event. A sincere thanks to all that attended and we look forward to retuning again this year.

The 2008 season is shaping up to be a challenging and competitive season. Once again, on July 11-12 we will co-host the Sta-Bil US National Points Double header at Bowles Farm. Racers, I will mention once again, if you haven't been there before, well, you have really missed out on a first class event. As always, I extend this invitation to all racers and hope to see you there.

We will close out the 2008 season with the Delmarva Region Championships to be held once again at Blobs Park in Jessup, Maryland in September 2008. For those who haven't had the opportunity to attend an event hosted by Mike and Mary Lou Boris, well, again you have missed out. They not only put on a terrific event with a fabulous and challenging track, but all proceeds are forwarded to many charities in their area. So if you happen to have an open date on your calendar *Mow On Down* to Delmarva Country, with your mower in tow. Stop by and join us on the track and enjoy the hospitality of Mike and Mary Lou and the Delmarva Turf Warriors. We'd be glad to have you!

Congratulations to all!

We look forward to seeing all Sod Warriors during the 2008 season!

Manny Torres
President of Delmarva-LMRA
USLMRA "Mow To Guy"
USLMRA National Chief Steward





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### UNITED STATES LAWN MOWER RACING ASSOCIATION Motivation

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times," No, that's not right. Let's try this one more time. "It was a dark and stormy night," no, wait a minute, that's not quite right either. Let's try this one more time. There I was in my Lay-Z-Boy watching TV (note how the chair and it's owner have he same attributes), after having come home from a planning meeting for the annual town celebratation, having listened to the whines and cries of the local "town fathers" saying they wanted something different other than seeing what the new paint schemes and colors were for this year's Winnebagos, and seeing their sons and grandsons move from the pee-wee float to the midget float, when I came upon this show on the Discovery Channel called "Turf Rockets, The Story of Lawnmower Racing."

I thought "this is just crazy and off-the-wall enough that something like this could fly, (not literally, but you know what I mean)." So I go over to my trusty wood-fired computer and looked up this website: www.letsmow.com.

I send off this e-mail for more information and to tell whoever was on the other end what we have going on up here in North lowa fully expecting the usual "formal type" of response. But lo and behold, the next day I received this phone call from a Mr. Bruce Kaufman. Well, to shorten this up a bit, after several calls back and forth, and what probably seemed liked hours to him from this crazy person in Iowa, he arranges for me to contact some racers from the Cedar Rapids area, I do, and we arrange for them to come up to Forest City to do an "exhibition race." Now keep in mind that I've never seen these things before, except for on this show. Having been involed in racing of one form or another most of my adult life I expected these guys to show up in race rig or trailer, but, lo and behold, when I meet them for the very first time they have two of these "rockets" plus all their race gear in the back of a litle Chevy S10 pickup. I look at this thing that's about 18" high, and about 3ft. long and ask the driver, "You go how fast on this?," and he answers nonchalantly "Oh about 70," to which I reply, "YOUR NUTS!!!!!" Then he proceeds to tell me, "Don't worry, we'll get you on it before the weekend is out," to which I reply "I DON'T THINK SO." He asked me "why?" and I say "SELF PRESERVATION, That's Why!!!!"

Well, these guys put on the exhibition to the delight of over 1,400 people!! Afterwards they finally talk me into taking one of these "lawnmowers" for a couple of laps. First lap, nice and easy to get the "feel," Second lap a little faster, then I thought to myself "OK baby, let's just see what this is all about" so coming out of turn four I crack the throttle and WOW!!!" Talk about grabbing a tiger by the tail...... I had to stop after only two more laps because I was panting so hard my face shield was fogging up in July!!

I climbed off and to quote some famous actor, "I got to get me one of these!!!" Well, they had such a good time that they came back two weeks later to race again. When they were stopped on the blacktop waiting to pull in, they heard the crowd cheering 1/4 of a mile away!! When I heard this I came to the conclusion that this might very well have some merit to it.

So, to shorten this long-winded rambling, the laLMRA was formed after some wonderful guidance and a lot of hard work from what can only be described as the BEST group of people I have ever had the pleasure to be associated with.

To that, I want to thank each and every member of the USLMRA; you are like one huge family and have something to be extremely proud to be associated with, so hold your head high and puff your chest out.

To that end I can only say THANK YOU, THANK YOU, I'm proud and humbled to be part of the BEST racing community ever formed.

Mow Sod Warriors, Mow On......

### Kurt Knapp Iowa Lawn Mower Racing Association President



Paul Krueger



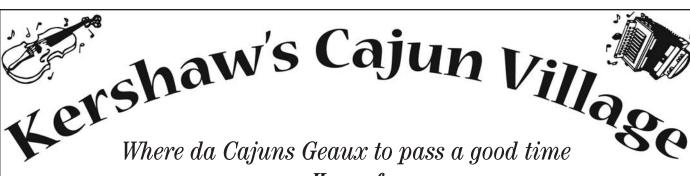




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### USLMRA MOWER DISPLAYED AT AMERICA ON WHEELS

The Championship Mower of 2007 CP Class Champion Don Gienger is now mowing down visitors to the new America On Wheels Museum in Allentown, PA.

Don's mower will be on indefinite display, along with all modes of road transport from bicycles and motorcycles to family and race cars, Class 8 heavy-duty trucks, the Zora-1 Corvette and even the Segway (R) Personal Transporter.

Gienger is owner of G-Team Racing (GTR) and founder of the North Dakota Lawn Mower Racing Association (NDLMRA).

"This is both a thrill and an honor," said Gienger. "I've been building motors and engine components my entire adult life, and have fallen in love with lawn mower racing and the people who participate in it. Being a part of America On Wheels shows the world that lawn mower racing is a legitimate motor sport and belongs with the many other icons of American transportation and racing."

On display is a custom-built GTR Don Gienger 1978 Wards MTD mower with a Briggs & Stratton opposed twin cylinder L head, over 48 CID pushing about 35 hp at 6,000 rpm's; using a Peerless 3 speed transmission. Features include: front and rear brakes by BTS, bead lock front wheels by QRC, Turf Master Tires. Reaches race day speed of 35 to 45 mph, and top speed of 60 mph.

For more information, visit America On Wheels online at www.americaonwheels.org or call (610) 432-4200.



Don Gienger, 2007 CP Champ



Don Gienger's mower at America On Wheels.

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# UNITED STATES LAWN MOWER RACING ASSOCIATION USLMRA Announces New Licensing Program

In a continuing effort to promote safety, maintain our position as the nation's best and most trusted lawn mower racing organization and recognize the continuous changes in the sport we created 15 years ago, the USLMRA is announcing a Licensing Program for the STA-BIL National Lawn Mower Racing Series US Points Races (The STA-BIL Series).

It is our aim to address the issues of Rookie Drivers in certain classes and so-called "check book racing." Therefore, we have created a set of rules to help address these issues.

We have all seen this problem at Local Chapter races as well as at STA-BIL Series events. No one wants to travel hundreds of miles to be injured or have their Mowchines damaged.

The original intent of this program is to try to eliminate Rookie Drivers from immediately jumping straight to the BP & FX Classes in their first year of racing.Many ask why?!

After listening to veteran racers and having the opportunity to work every 2007 US Points Race and attend and compete in many 2007 LC races, I witnessed on several occasions instances where Rookie Drivers were just inexperienced and created serious unsafe race conditions.

Remember, we all want to attend and take part in this sport, to have fun and be competitive, not worry about being injured by an inexperienced driver and even have our machines damaged.

So I will try to clarify the Intent of the rule:

The rule is intended for drivers who for the first time in 2008 are Rookies. By this I mean they have never, I repeat, have never raced Lawn Mowers before, at either a Local Chapter or National US Point Race.

If a driver has raced before, example: 2007, 2006, 2005 and so forth, then this rule will have exceptions (i.e. "Special Circumstances"). Unless they have demonstrated that they just can't handle the horsepower, or speed for the BP or FX class.

Another example is if a racer is new to USLMRA but raced previously with a non affiliated group and can show proof of this by some means, then they would be allowed to race in the BP or FX Class, but only if they raced in a similar class previously with the other group.

We want to ensure that all races throughout the country are Safe, Fun and Competitive. That is our number one objective! And we have to take certain measures to try to accomplish this.

As it stands now we have issues with some racers who are on the verge of being unsafe, and our intent is to deal with them this coming year. Many new racers are more concerned about winning right from the start, and are willing to spend whatever it takes to get the Checkered Flag, before they have raced their first race. They fail to realize that experience and patience are the keys to success.

We don't want to discourage anyone from moving to another class; we just want to ensure that they are ready to move up and be safe.

And finally, Local Chapter Presidents need to be directly involved in this process. By this I mean they need to be the enforcer at their LC races, making sure that the rule is being enforced and also providing feedback on drivers that are requesting to move up.

USLMRA Announces New Licensing Program, Continued

We have been receiving calls and e-mails asking about various "Special Circumstances" and scenarios, and we have anticipated many of your questions. Therefore, I encourage you to contact me personally to discuss your situation:

Cell Phone:(410) 808-5641 E-mail: <u>csm.torres@netzero.net</u>

Here's to safe and enjoyable racing,

Manny Torres
Nartional Chief Steward

For complete Licensing Rules, see Rules Section on www.letsmow.com



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In The Picture Are My Grandchildren Joe Coulby - Veteran Driver, Chris McBride - Future Driver And Kelly Coulby - First Time Driver



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# USLMRA ANNOUNCES Ist ANNUAL PERFORMANCE MOWERSPORTS EXPO

The U.S. Lawn Mower Racing Association (USLMRA) has announced the 1st Annual Performance Mowersports Expo (PME) to be held during the 16th annual STA-BIL Nationals, Labor Day Weekend, Friday-Sunday, August 29-31, 2008 at the Delaware County Fairgrounds in Delaware, Ohio.

The Performance Mowersports Expo will bring together manufacturers, suppliers, builders and related product and service providers in the rapidly expanding lawn mower racing industry.

Engines, engine components, chassis, performance products, race equipment and related services will be featured with company representatives on site to discuss, sell to and educate the lawn mower racing community and the public. Seminars, build clinics, roundtables and guest speakers are also scheduled.

"The USLMRA is pleased to take the lead in presenting the first ever lawn mower racing industry expo," noted USLMRA Founder and President Bruce Kaufman. "Having created nationwide organized lawn mower racing in 1992 and as the nation's oldest and largest national sanctioning body, the USLMRA is proud to recognize that lawn mower racing has become a growth industry.

"With 15 years of experience, we are excited about this next area of growth. Hosting the 1st Industry Expo at the 16th STA-BIL Nationals will also continue to position our annual Labor Day Weekend event as America's premier lawn mower racing destination for racers, families and fans."

Expo Chairman will be Darrin "Doc" Kuhfeldt of D&B Mowersports, USLMRA/STA-BIL Series racer, USLMRA event announcer and veteran trade show expert.

Companies scheduled to appear include:
Acme Mowersports
American Power Sports
ARC Racing
D&B Mowersports
Gold Eagle Co.
G-Team Racing



Mikula Motorsports

Manny's Mowersports Racing/Jack's Small Engine and Generator Service, LLC

PME booth and exhibit space is open to USLMRA members and non-members. Space is limited.

For a PME Registration Application and more information, send an e-mail to <a href="mailto:letsmow@aol.com">letsmow@aol.com</a>.

Performance Mower Sports Industry (PMI) Performance Mowersports Expo (PME):Copyright 2008, U.S. Lawn Mower Racing Association.

### **USLMRA Adds Junior Prepared Class to STA-BIL Series**

It is with great pleasure that USMRA announces that the Junior Prepared Class, for USLMRA Lawn Mower Racers ages 10-15, will be added to STA-BIL National Lawn Mower Racing Series US Points Races.

In keeping with the family-oriented aspect of USLMRA Lawn Mower Racing, we believe the Junior Prepared Class will be tremendously popular with our members, fans and venue hosts.

We welcome our younger racers to the STA-BIL National Lawn Mower Racing Series!

INTENT: To provide a safe opportunity to demonstrate the driver's ability when in competition with essentially identical mowers. This is a highly regulated class to insure uniformity between JP machines. As you can see, these machines are essentially Prepared Chassis' (AP, SP, CP, & BP) with IMOW drive trains. This allows young racers to gain race experience at IMOW speeds, which will approximately reach 15-20 mph (on a USLMRA US Points Track), but with a more stable platform that can easily be upgraded into the prepared classes when the driver reaches the minimum age.



Mariah Peeler, JP Class

See <u>www.letsmow.com</u> for complete JP Rules





First USLMRA Affiliate Club - NASGRASS

First Junior Prepared Class - JP

First Triple Header Event - Labelle/Avon Park

First Annual Performance Mowersports Expo



Carrie Goad, JP Class



Race Announcer Doc Kuhfeldt (left) & his partner in fun Joey Nahas (right) prepare to paint another happy head - GREEN!

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GTR also grinds their own cams for the models that they build for racing. High lift, long duration and cam lightening too. GTR grinds cams for the Lawn Mower Drag Racers, Tractor Pullers and Mower Racers. Do it yourself G Team Racing DVDs on Motor Repair, Briggs L Head motor rebuilding, Opposed Twin Motor Rebuilding and Racing Mower Chassis building too. The DVDs walk you through what it takes to build a racing motor or mower. No matter what you build or race these are useful DVDs.

G Team Racing is also a Briggs Dealer for all Gasket Kits, Coated Pistons, Motor Kits and Mowers. We can also get Tecumseh and MTD parts. If you are building a Racing Mower and need Chassis parts GTR can help. G Team Racing has teamed up with several companies for exclusive parts. QRC and BTS are



just two of them. GTR is an ARC dealer too. ARC is the leader in Billet Aluminum Parts for Racing Mowers, Billet Aluminum Flywheels and Connecting Rods, Billet Sprocket Hubs, Front and Rear Hubs, and Billet Bearing Cassettes.

Along with BTS Brake parts, QRC Wheels, ARC and Azusa Engineering Parts GTR handles Chrome-Moly Axles, Aluminum Sprockets, Douglas and Van K wheels, Air Filters, OuterwearPreFilters, Burris, Carlisle,

Kenda Tires and MCP and BTS brake kits. G Team Racing also

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If you need help in any way e mail Don at <u>donmownator@yahoo.com</u> OR call 701-400-4084 9 am to 1 pm Central time Tuesday thru Friday week days.







### **Cutting Edge Timing & Scoring with EOP Promotions**

The USLMRA is pleased to announce a partnership with EOP Promotions for full service Computerized Timing & Scoring, Race Day Registration and Communications, Track Lighting and Video.

"EOP Pro is now able to provide the full spectrum of Race Day equipment needs," said EOP Founder and President Kerry Evans. "EOP Pro will attend every STA-BIL National Lawn Mower Racing Series event and will be turn key regarding Race Day needs.We've upgraded our Transponder System to Orbits 4 and are using state-of-the-art racing software. I think this will take USLMRA/STA-BIL Racing to the next level."

The Orbits 4 system will also tie in to www.mylaps.com so that racers can chart race data on line. Www.mylaps.com now has a Lawn Mower Racing section on their home page. Drivers can add their own profile information with links and personal photos. This is a World Wide Race Site, which will also foster the legitimacy, seriousness and professionalism of USLMRA lawn mower racing.

Using Orbits 4 will also streamline our registration process, improve our competitor database, and provide new passing screen info with more data augment event processing.

**USLMRA** and EOP Promotions will:

- Now issue more information for results
- **Process event points**
- Track championships
- Post results on www.mylaps.com

Please visit: http://www.mylaps.com. On the home page, bottom right, click on "Other"or direct link: http://uslmra.mylaps.com.

Links to USLMRA STA-BIL Series Race Results will then appear and you can then click on each race to view results and data.

If you wish to search for "Isummower racing" If you search for "lawn mower racing" you'll see results from the British Lawn Mower Racing Association and the UK-based Northwest Lawn Mower Racing Association.

USLMRA is proud to be listed on MyLaps.com and enjoy the prestige that comes with being part of this international motorsports community. further demonstrating our commitment to remaining the nation's Number One Lawn Mower Racing Sanctioning Body.



Sid Whiteside. NO RAIN Dance!







Michael Formentini (I) and Kyle Bridger



Racers Read

Don Whitehead, Sr



Kerry Evans, EOP Promotions

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