



The Symposium is named in honor of my brother, Michael R. Argetsinger (1944-2015), an award-winning motorsports author and longtime member of the IMRRC's Governing Council. Under his leadership the IMRRC, a world class facility rich in archival material covering all forms of motorsports from around the world, organized meetings, lectures and conferences that brought – and continue to bring - a wide range of experts and motorsports enthusiasts to the research center. Michael's efforts to establish the Symposium and its' success were vastly enhanced by the participation of Dr. H. Donald Capps, past President of the Society of Automotive History, and the support of Michael's wife Dr. Lee Green.

A prominent figure in the motor racing world, Michael was the author of several definitive books on the sport. His first book, *Walt Hansgen: His Life and the History of Post-War American Road Racing* (2006) received a Gold Medal for biography and was named Best of Books for 2006 at the International Automotive Media Awards (IAMA). His biography *Mark Donohue: Technical Excellence at Speed* (2009) was also named Best of Books by IAMA. Other books followed, including *Formula One at Watkins Glen: 20 Years of the United States Grand Prix* (2011), a finalist for the 2011 Dean Batchelor Award presented by the Motor Press Guild and a posthumously published biography, *An American Racer: Bobby Marshman and the Indianapolis 500* (2019).

Michael was not only a vivid chronicler of the sport, but was a competitive driver for nearly 45 years, competing in more than 400 races at 54 different circuits in seven countries. Michael grew up in a motorsports family; our parents Jean and Cameron Argetsinger were founders of the Watkins Glen races, brought international Formula One racing to America, and were leaders in the founding of the IMRRC. Michael's legacy is well served by the Symposium, providing inspiration to the many motor racing historians and aficionados he cultivated and nurtured in his lifetime, as well as for the motorsports world of today and the racing chroniclers of the future.

Duke Argetsinger, 2020