

**DRAFT RELEASE**

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**AMELIA ISLAND CONCOURS d'ELEGANCE FOUNDER  
BILL WARNER PRESENTED RRDC BOB AKIN AWARD**

**Jacksonville, FL** - The Road Racing Drivers Club presented the 2015 Bob Akin Memorial Motorsports Award to Bill Warner, Founder and Chairman of the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance at their annual dinner on January 21, 2015 in the Daytona 500 Club, Daytona International Speedway.

The RRDC's Bob Akin award honors an exceptional RRDC sportsman who exemplifies the very best in sportsmanship and tradition in road racing – characteristics for which Bob was universally respected. It is the highest honor available to amateur and semi-professional competitors, recognizing success on the track and contributions to the sport.

Bob was a highly successful businessman, Porsche team owner and driver, vintage racer, as well as a former RRDC President. Akin co-drove to 1979 and 1986 overall wins in the famed 12-Hours of Sebring, and also raced in the 24-Hours of Le Mans six times – finishing 4th in 1986.

The Bob Akin Memorial Motorsports Award consists of a permanent Steuben glass trophy, inscribed with the name and year of award of each recipient, and permanently displayed at the International Motor Racing Research Center at Watkins Glen.

Warner's first race was in 1977. The RRDC lists Bill's most significant and enduring contributions to motorsport as the preservation of its history and significant cars. He is the 12<sup>th</sup> RRDC member to win the Bob Akin Award which was presented first to Sam Posey in 2003.

“This is a huge and humbling honor,” said Warner. “Bob and I raced as teammates, we raced against each other, we worked together on several features for *Road & Track* magazine and he was always a true gentleman, on and off the race course.”

The 2015 Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance will be held March 13-15<sup>th</sup> on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> fairways of The Golf Club of Amelia Island at The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island. The show's Foundation has donated over \$2.5 million to Community Hospice of Northeast Florida, Inc. and other charities on Florida's First Coast since its inception in 1996. In 2013 the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance won *Octane Magazine's* EFG International Historic Motoring Event of the Year award.

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**AMELIA CONCOURS FOUNDER WINS RRDC BOB AKIN AWARD . . . cont.**

*About the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance*

*Now in its second decade, the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance is among the top automotive events in the world. Always held the second full weekend in March, "Amelia" draws over 300 rare vehicles from collections around the world to The Golf Club of Amelia Island, The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island for a celebration of the automobile like no other. The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance is scheduled for March 13-15, 2015. For more information, visit [www.ameliacconcours.org](http://www.ameliacconcours.org) or call 904-636-0027*

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