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CONTACT: Mitzi VanVoorhis

DAA Northwest

(509) 435-0191

mvanvoorhis@daanorthwest.com

**World Auto Auctioneer Champion
Named at DAA Northwest**

Spokane, WA – Top auto auctioneers and ring people from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom came together in Spokane, Washington June 6th and 7th to compete in the 20th Annual World Auto Auctioneers Championship. This year’s event took place at DAA Northwest.

A special dedication took place during the opening ceremonies, with honors bestowed upon Bob McConkey, Sr. and Ed Lane for their years of service to the auto auction industry. McConkey, the father of DAA Northwest’s president Bob McConkey, Jr., started the first wholesale auto auction in the state of Washington in the early 1950s. Ed Lane – a former shoe salesman - was his lead auctioneer for more than 40 years. Following the introduction of judges, 2007 Champion Craig Meier auctioned-off a Northwest gift basket that brought \$5,000 for the Union Gospel Mission of Spokane.



Grand Champion Danny Schorno of Yelm, WA

Auctioneers, ring people and teams competed in two of DAA’s eight lanes during Friday’s preliminary round. The auction moved its Thursday sale to Friday and Saturday in order to accommodate the contestant’s schedules.



Phil Gee Took Top Honors in the Ring Person Championship

“We had some concern about filling the barn during days that our customers traditionally spend on their lots,” said Greg Mahugh, DAA Northwest’s senior vice president and general manager. “Our dealers came through, though. We had a lot of energy in the lanes and a lot of activity online.”

Paul C. Behr of the National Auto Auctioneers Association announced the winners following

Saturday's semi-final and final rounds of competition. Phil Gee of Shelby, North Carolina took top honors in the ring person competition. Team selling champions were Casey Enlow of Sapula, Oklahoma and Tim "Bandy" Assiter of Red Oak, Texas. Third generation auto auctioneer Charles Adcock, who earned the title of reserve champion, made the trip to Spokane from Newton, Pennsylvania.

Danny Schorno of Yelm, Washington took home this year's championship trophy and a check for \$15,000. Schorno, who works a number of sales, including DAA Northwest, placed second in last year's competition.



2007 Champion Craig Meyer (center) presents this year's award to the 2008 Team Selling Champions: Tim "Bandy" Assiter (left) and Casey Enlow (right)

“Winning the championship was a dream come true,” said Schorno. “And, it was really special to have it happen here in Spokane with my family and closest friends around me.”

“We really appreciated this chance to host the professionals who get the job done for us every week,” said Bob McConkey, DAA's president and the incoming president of the National Auto Auction Association. “It was really amazing to look around and see so much talent under one roof.”

DAA Northwest is independently owned and operated, and is a member of the ServNet auction group.

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