

2007 Annual Meetings

TOC conducted annual meetings in both Northern and Southern California – at Del Mar in August and Bay Meadows in September.

At Del Mar, 248 members attended the 8th annual membership meeting, held in the Seaside Tropical Cabana on Saturday, Aug. 18th. Members enjoyed a Mexican fiesta-style buffet lunch during the general business meeting, after which the Chairman's Award and Owner of the Year honors were presented. This year's agenda included a special memorial tribute to TOC founder Ed Friendly, which was given by Joseph Harper, president and general manager of Del Mar Thoroughbred Club.

A popular new addition to this year's event at Del Mar was the TOC/TVG members-only handicapping tournament. More than 90 members competed in the inaugural event, with the top three finishers earning a sponsored entry in the 2008 NTRA National Championship in Las Vegas.

At Bay Meadows, more than 50 members attended TOC's second annual Northern California annual meeting, including a buffet luncheon in the Owner/Trainer Lounge. Plans are progressing to offer a similar handicapping contest in the North next year, so keep watching for your chance to claim handicapping bragging rights among thoroughbred owners there.

Annual Owner Awards

STD Racing Stable and Wood, best known for campaigning Lava Man, received the most votes from TOC members to win the prestigious Owner of the Year award. At Del Mar, TOC Director Pablo Suarez made the presentation to Steve and Dave Kenley and Jason Wood – a specially-commissioned painting displaying their racing colors by artist Erica Nordean.

Statistical leaders recognized at the Southern California annual meeting were Robert Bone for Most California Races Won; Gary Tanaka for Most California Stakes Races Won; and STD Racing Stable and Wood for Most California Purse Money Won. Northern California Owners of the Year, Hollendorfer & Todaro, were honored with a photo display at the Sept. 29 meeting, along with runner up Northern California statistical leaders. By a vote of the TOC membership, Maggie Moss was named Rookie of the Year.

Ed Friendly Industry Service Award to Ron Charles

At the Southern California event, TOC Chair Marsha Naify presented the Ed Friendly Industry Service Award to Ron Charles. A racing industry activist for more than 30 years, Charles was a founding member of TOC and Chairman of the Board before retiring in 2004 to accept a position as Executive Director of MEC California Operations. He played a primary role in securing legislative changes to gain licensing relief for the industry, as well as the landmark California workers' compensation bill. Charles was on hand to accept the award, a Nordean painting representing his silks.



TOC Chair Marsha Naify presents the Ed Friendly Industry Service Award to Ron Charles.



TOC Vice-Chair Northern California, Tom Bachman, presents the award for Most Races Won to Bob Bone – a personalized watercolor by artist Tony Haigh, depicting a jockey wearing the owner's silks.



TOC Director Madeline Auerbach presents the award for Most Purse Money Won to Steve and Dave Kenley and Jason Wood, who were joined by family members.



TOC members Jane Conway, Anna Lenau, Tom Ellis, Kent Ochs, Ken Smole, Burnie Lenau, Joe Pierce, and TOC's Wayne Atwell at the Northern California annual meeting.