



# One Step Ahead

News and Notes

[www.long-island.usatf.org](http://www.long-island.usatf.org)

January 2012

## GARY WESTERFIELD WINS GIEGENGACK AWARD



Among the highlights of the USATF Annual Meeting was the presentation of the prestigious Robert Giegengack Award to USATF-Long Island's Gary Westerfield. The Giegengack Award recognizes an individual who has contributed to the high standards and excellence in the sport of track & field.

Gary is a Past President and current Treasurer of USATF-LI and has served as its Vice President and Race Walk Chair as well. He has been involved in the sport since 1968 as an athlete, coach, administrator and official. He has coached race walkers and officiated on the local level, in 40 states and in 20 countries. He is one of the only two IAAF race walk judges from the United States and has officiated at two Olympic Games, two World Cups, two World Championships, the Pan Am Games, NACAC Championships and will be an International Technical Official for the Race Walk at the 2012 London Olympics.

Gary's resume on the local level includes coaching world champions like Maria Michta, Teresa Vaill, Susan Liers, Lynn Weik, Jeff Salvage, Dan O'Connor and Tom Edwards. He is a top official in both the Nassau and Suffolk High School Officials Associations and is a Certified Course Measurer, having designed many courses presently used in Long Island road races.

We congratulate Gary Westerfield on this well deserved recognition. He will always be known as one of the great ones in our sport.

Past winners of the Giegengack Award from Long Island are Robert Hersh and Howard Schmertz.

### USATF-LONG ISLAND AWARDS BRUNCH

Sunday, February 19, 2012  
STUART THOMAS MANOR  
Boundary Avenue - Farmingdale  
10:00 a.m.  
\$25.00 per person  
(\$30.00 at the door)

Be sure to be there to honor those who have excelled in 2011 and the winners of the 2011 LDR Grand Prix Series and Cross Country Series.

For more information check our website  
[www.long-island.usatf.org](http://www.long-island.usatf.org)

## USATF-LI BIDS FAREWELL TO JOHN AND DIANE MARTIN

USATF-Long Island founding members John and Diane Martin are leaving the chilly climes of Long Island for warmer pastures in Arizona.

Both John and Diane made tremendous contributions to our association over the years. John served as Youth Chair for many years and helped construct a strong base for our youth programs including our very successful Middle School Outreach Program. He has coached many of Long Island's top Youth athletes and served as Meet Director for Association and Regional Championships.

Diane has served as Vice President and Secretary of the USATF-LI, is an active official and vocal member of the Youth Committee.

We will miss them on Long Island but we know that our loss is definitely Arizona's gain. We wish them well in their retirement and their new home.

## 2011 BRUCE MAC DONALD LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD PRESENTED TO DIANE MARTIN



USATF-LI President Alex Cuozzo presented the Bruce MacDonald Lifetime Service Award a little early this year. The recipient was Diane Martin who has served the sport of track & field for more than 30 years and is a founding member of the Long Island Association.

Diane has been an officer and committee member in USATF-LI, an active official at the high school level and the national level and has officiated at many NY State Championships and USATF National Championships. She has contributed to the sport by serving on committees in both USATF-LI and in MAC. Diane has been an ever-present figure at meets from the time her three children competed as Youth Athletes and has played a major role in all of our Long Island events. Since the Martins are leaving us for Arizona, the award was presented to her at the USATF-LI January board meeting.

**IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN - RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!!!** You can do it on line by visiting our website or by visiting the USATF website - [www.usatf.org](http://www.usatf.org) . Annual memberships must be renewed each year. If you have a multi-year membership and are not sure if you need to renew for 2012, contact Bill Ott at the USATF-LI office at (516) 349-9157 or [lifbill@aol.com](mailto:lifbill@aol.com) . Programs for youth open and masters athletes need your support.