

**JUNE 5-6
Sonoma Historics**



Photo: Dennis Gray

Sonoma Historic Motorsports Festival
Infiniteon Raceway, Sears Point, Sonoma CA

The Sonoma Historic Motorsports Festival, June 5-6 at Infiniteon Raceway's 12-turn, 2.52-mile road course in Sonoma CA, builds on the popular Wine Country Classic event General Racing Ltd. has produced in Sonoma for 23 years, and on the Monterey Historics. Steve Earle of General Racing Ltd. is credited with originating the Monterey Historic Automobile Races and shaping that event into a standard for US historic racing. After over three decades in Monterey, Earle has moved the energy and focus of that event to Sonoma, and he is "gratified" by the quality and quantity of the entry applications.

The event includes two days of racing, as well as the Wine Country Pavilion where Napa and Sonoma wineries and restaurants will participate in events for the pleasure of car owners and spectators alike.

375 cars have been chosen from a pool of over 500 applicants. Entries run the gamut from a 1914 Ford to a 1991 Roush Mustang. Registration and Tech Inspection are on Thursday. Cars are divided by age and engine size into 13 individual groups. All groups practice on Friday, with seven "A" Groups taking to the course on Saturday and six "B" Groups on Sunday.

Race participants may also bring their period cars, to drive to and from the track, adding another dimension to their weekend while giving passersby the pleasure of rare vehicles on the scenic roads of Wine Country.

On Saturday evening, 30 select race cars parade from the track to Sonoma Plaza, a National Historic Landmark, for a Vintage Race Car Festival. The event, which benefits Speedway Children's Charities, combines viewing the cars with wine and food tasting.

"The cars are the stars," said Earle, a traditionalist when it comes to putting the participant experience first among priorities, "and when they aren't racing they are easily accessible in this area for the fans that come for that up close and personal experience of inspecting engines, talking with owners or otherwise learning more about the sport and the restoration and maintenance of vintage cars."

For event information, visit www.generalaracing.com or check General Racing on Facebook. For tickets, visit www.infiniteonraceway.com. ■

**JUNE 19
RM Auctions San Diego**



Photos: Darin Schnabel © 2010 courtesy of RM Auctions

Classic Muscle and Modern Performance
Town and Country Resort & Convention Center

RM Auctions will drop the hammer on an outstanding private collection of high-powered muscle cars in San Diego on June 19. The single-day Classic Muscle & Modern Performance event will sell over 30,000 horsepower, collectively, all to be offered without reserve.

The auction will present over 80 magnificent examples from one prominent Southern California collector. From GTOs to Corvettes, Chevilles and Mustangs, the offering spans a variety of iconic Detroit muscle and represents the owner's lifelong passion for high-performance vehicles.

In addition, the sale will feature a diverse range of low-mileage, as-new late-model BMWs and Mercedes-Benz automobiles from the same collection, including M-powered and AMG machines.

Headlining the line-up is a super-rare, tire-shredding 1969 Chevrolet Corvette L88, fully documented with low mileage. Powered by a 430-horsepower 427-cubic inch engine, the L88 is one of 18 different Corvettes slated for the auction block during the event.

Another star attraction for the sale is an all-powerful, superbly restored 1970 Chevelle LS6 Convertible, considered one of the most desirable of the genre. Equipped with a massive, pavement-scorching 450-horsepower 454-cubic inch V8, one of the most legendary engines in muscle car history, the Chevelle LS6 is one of only 18 in existence and believed to be the only LS6 Convertible with the attractive red / black color combination. It is one of five Chevilles from the collection consigned to the June sale.

The auction line-up also reflects the owner's enthusiasm for GTOs—a lifelong passion that can be traced back to his childhood growing up in Detroit and a superb 1965 Tiger Gold Pontiac GTO driven by his parents during his youth. On offer at the June sale are some 20 pristine examples, headlined by an unmistakable 1969 Pontiac GTO "The Judge", restored by marque specialist Scott Tiemann of Supercar Specialties.

Other notable highlights include: a 1970 Ford Mustang Boss 429, one of just 498 examples produced that year, and two 1969 Chevrolet Camaro Z28s.

Full details are at www.rmauctions.com. ■

**JUNE 25-27
Barrett-Jackson OC**



Photo: Arizona Driver Magazine

Inaugural Orange County CA Auction
Orange County Fair & Event Center, Costa Mesa

Barrett-Jackson Auction Company LLC, host of "The World's Greatest Collector Car Auctions™" in Scottsdale, Palm Beach FL and Las Vegas, has added a fourth event to their auction lineup, June 25-27 at the OC Fair & Event Center in Costa Mesa CA.

The event will cover the OC Fair & Event Center grounds and include the collector car auction, sponsor promotions and displays, vendors, exhibitors, interactive demonstrations, galas and other festivities. For enthusiasts worldwide who are unable to attend the auction, there will be live online bidding.

"The West Coast is packed with auto enthusiasts who follow Barrett-Jackson and are valuable and committed constituents of the collector car hobby," noted Craig Jackson, Chairman and CEO of Barrett-Jackson.

"We envision the Orange County event to be similar in size to our Las Vegas and Palm Beach auctions, with roughly 400 cars crossing the block," added Steve Davis, president of Barrett-Jackson. "Car collecting is alive and well and we look forward to even more growth down the road."

Through its relationship with SPEED, Barrett-Jackson auctions are the subject of highly rated television programs that are telecast to a national audience with over 70 hours of live television and hundreds of hours of replays throughout the year.

For the 12 month period ending June 2009, over 300,000 attendees came to the Barrett-Jackson auctions. During that same period, Barrett-Jackson sold 2,126 vehicles for more than \$112 million, including over \$6.5 million for various charities.

"Barrett-Jackson is the gold standard of collector car auctions," said Steve Beazley, CEO, OC Fair & Event Center. "In addition to being a signature event, we anticipate the auction having a positive impact on our local economy and tourism and great national visibility for OCFEC, Costa Mesa, and Orange County."

For more information about the auction, visit www.barrett-jackson.com or call 480-421-6694.

The OC Fair & Event Center is conveniently located off the 405 and 55 freeways at 88 Fair Drive in Costa Mesa. For more information, visit www.ocfair.com. ■

**AUGUST 11-15
Monterey Auto Week**



Photo: Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance

Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance
Russo and Steele Auction
RM Auctions
Gooding & Company Auction
Mecum Auctions
Concorso Italiano
Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion
Monterey, Pebble Beach, Salinas, Laguna Seca

We could write a book describing the events that take place this week. Suffice it to say [a] there's nothing quite like it, whether you pick and choose or do the whole smörgasbord, [b] the Monterey Peninsula is a perfect alternative to an August week in Phoenix, and [c] you would be well advised to secure lodging asap.

The elegant, VIP-laden Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance is known worldwide. New car reveals, manufacturers' displays, art shows, fashion and galas and more round out this event. At the core: a waterfront golf course concours second to none.

We catch these four auctions: Russo and Steele, the Arizona-based auction house; RM and Gooding, both of whom are here in January (and Gooding is the official auction house of the Pebble Beach Concours); and Mecum, who did their first Monterey event last year, including the famous Bob Bondurant Shelby Daytona Cobra Coupe they had brought to the track here first.

Concorso Italiano is held on another golf course between Monterey and Salinas. After a relocation two years ago, and dueling events last year, this event has prevailed. Keith Martin announces.

After more than 30 years, the Rolex Monterey Historic Races at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca are no more, per se. We have the Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion, updated with the same excitement and a bit more emphasis on amenities and attractions for the spectators, as well as the race participants.

Dates vary and overlap, and there are many spin-offs: www.pebblebeachconcours.net
www.russoandsteele.com
www.rmauctions.com
www.goodingco.com
www.mecum.com
www.concorsoitaliano.com
www.mazdaraceway.com ■

**AUGUST 21
Red Bull Flugtag**



Photo: © Jeremy Bernard/Red Bull Photofiles

Four cities including Long Beach
Rainbow Harbor, Long Beach CA, August 21

We first plugged into the fun and excitement of Red Bull events a few years ago, when an Arizona team led by John Swauger entered the Red Bull Soap Box Derby in Seattle. Swauger had also created clever craft for Tempe Town Lake festivities, from which we quickly discovered the Red Bull Flugtag, which is much along the same lines. While learning more about the Flugtag, we were exposed to the Red Bull Air Race, which we've attended and covered on its San Diego leg the last two years, as Arizona pilot Kirby Chambliss defended his multiple past World Championships. This year, the Red Bull Air Race is not in our area—the US event is in New York City (and there is an event in Windsor, Ontario, sharing its cross-border river course with Detroit).

But have no fear: this year, the Red Bull Flugtag will be nearby, at Rainbow Harbor in Long Beach, a great getaway on a hot August weekend. Fun to enter or fun to watch, you'll want to check this out in detail.

Red Bull Flugtag challenges teams of everyday people to build their cleverest or wildest homemade, human-powered flying machines and pilot them off a 30-foot-high deck in hopes of achieving flight. Or at least on that premise. Flugtag may mean "flying day" in German, but all these craft ultimately splash into the water below. They are judged not only on their flight's distance, but creativity and showmanship as well.

With tongue mostly in cheek, Red Bull sees a clear evolution of humanity to this point, outlining a path from Leonardo da Vinci's drawings in the 1480s, the first real study of flight, through George Cayley's glider designs from 1799 through the 1850s, to German engineer Otto Lilienthal, who survived 2500 early glider flights before succumbing to gravity, on through the Wright Brothers, to jet transport and moon landings... to the first Red Bull Flugtag, held in Vienna in 1991. Since then, over 35 Flugtags have been held around the world, attracting some 300,000 spectators.

The longest flight was 195 feet in 2000; the longest in the US was 155 feet at Nashville in 2007. But go to YouTube, search Red Bull Flugtag, and you'll soon see flight duration is much beside the point. Tons of fun.

For more info, visit www.redbullflugtagusa.com. ■

**SEPTEMBER 1-5
Great American Run**



Photo: Cannonball Run World Events, Ltd.

Live life to the fullest: one week, no limits
Secret route starts in the Los Angeles area

There are a number of regional and cross-country road rally events held every year. Vintage events such as Arizona's Copperstate 1000 or the Colorado Grand are one thing. But in 1971, when Brock Yates launched the first Cannonball Run (the inspiration for the *Smokey and the Bandit* films), things got a little wilder. That event lives on with Brock Yates Jr.'s One Lap of America, though the highest speeds are now taken to a series of racetracks.

On a parallel path, Cannonball Run World Events Ltd., based in the UK, runs high-panache multi-day road rallies in the US, Europe, the Middle East and beyond. This September, they bring us The Great American Run.

On September 1, entrants will take their place on the starting line at Laguna Beach CA. Approximately 1850 miles in total, the route will cover scenic but sometimes very challenging driving. The route is chosen and pre-driven by Tim Porter, also chief of UBB Mustang, and will test ability and stamina to the fullest. Broken down into checkpoint stages, the route remains a closely guarded secret and will only be revealed at the opening checkpoint each morning, though we do know that the event will start and finish around the Los Angeles area.

Also avoiding any serious clashes with Smokey, they cleverly base the rally's winner on who can come closest to an average 61 mph speed through the duration of the event. The route navigates through a series of checkpoints, with a target time set for each stage. The victorious team will take the title at the Final Night Gala Dinner on Saturday. Things wrap up with a farewell breakfast the morning of the 5th.

The Great American Run is limited to 50 entries. Entry is \$7995 for one car and two drivers, and includes luxury hotels (twin/double rooms) with a welcome drink at each, secure overnight parking, breakfasts, evening meals, VIP entrance to parties, route maps, official car decals, Final Night Gala and Awards Ceremony at a prestigious venue ... and a shot at the title.

If this event sounds great to you, you probably have a perfect car for it. However, at press time, the eventors were offering a free rental car (e.g. Camaro or others) for early entrants, perfect if flying to participate. For full event details, visit www.thegreatamericanrun.com. ■