

Wine Country Classic Historic Car Races Return to Infineon Raceway, May 31 - June 1

Monday, May 26, 2008

What:

Nearly 300 historic cars, some dating as far back as 1915, will grace Infineon Raceway for a weekend of racing at the 22nd annual Wine Country Classic Historic Car Races.

Where:

Infineon Raceway, Highways 37 & 121, Sonoma (800-870-RACE).

When:

May 31-June 1

Featured:

Formula 5000 cars will be the featured machine during the race weekend. These historic racecars celebrate their 40th anniversary in 2008, and will roar around the 12-turn road course. Sports-car legend Elliott Forbes-Robinson will be among the drivers hitting the track. The series ran in the United States from 1968-1976, featuring manufacturers like McLaren, Lola, Lotus and Chevron.

Schedule:

Saturday, May 31: Practice (all groups), 8:10 a.m.-11:50 a.m.; Qualifying (all groups), 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday, June 1: Warm-up (all groups), 8:30 a.m.-11:55 a.m.; Main events (all groups), 12:40 p.m.-5 p.m.

Circuit:

12-turn, 2.52-mile road course.

Race Length:

All main events will span 10 laps.

Entries:

Nearly 300 race and sports cars, ranging from the early 1900s to the mid 1980s, will compete in 10 race groups.

Local drivers:

Jeff Abramson (1954 Ferrari 500MD, **Danville**); Tom Byrnes (1962 Cooper T-62 F-1, **Ross**); Fred Cziska (1974 Shadow DN4, **Petaluma**); Robert Davis (1953 Siata 208S, **San Francisco**); Brian Ferrin (1970 Boss 302 Mustang, **Sonoma**); Peter Giddings (1931 Alfa Romeo Mille Miglia, **Alamo**); Terry Grimm (1963 BMC Mk6 F-Jr., **Sonoma**); David Hankin (1968 Ford Torino, **Redding**); Joe Jensen (1952 Jaguar XK-120, **Berkeley**); Bruce John (1960 Huffaker F-Jr., **Oakland**); David Love (1958 Ferrari 250 TR, **San Rafael**); Mike McNally (1931 Riley 4 Portford, **Sacramento**); Ashley Mozart (1964 Alfa-Romeo GTA, **Palo Alto**); Ferdinand Schoch (1953 MG-TD, **Santa Rosa**); Doug Schultz (1969 Ford Talladega, **Vacaville**); John Shirley (1954 Austin-Healey, **Sonoma**); Peter Stoneberg (1963 Lotus 23B, **Belvedere**); Daryl Verkerk (1959 MGA Twin-Cam, **Lodi**)

2007 Winners:

Group 1: Jon Shirley (1934 Alfa Romeo, Medina, Wash.); **Group 2:** Robert Manson (1952 The Schaghticoke, Carmel); **Group 3:** Michael Malone (1959 Lotus, Seattle); **Group 4:** Art Redford (1957 Corvette, Gig Harbor, Wash.); **Group 5:** Scott Rubin (1971 Javelin, Santa Clara); **Group 6:** Peter Stoneberg (1963 Lotus, Belvedere); **Group 7:** Fred Galloway (1963 Cobra, San Diego); **Group 8:** Randall Smith (1971 Chevron, Petaluma); **Group 9:** Brian Blain (1969 Lola, Visalia); **Group 10:** Linda Mountanos (1966 Chevelle, Ukiah).

2006 Race Recap:

Marin County's Peter Stoneberg claimed his first-ever win at Infineon Raceway when he took the checkered flag at the 2006 Wine Country Classic. Stoneberg, a Belvedere resident, sat on the pole for Sunday's 10-lap feature and swapped the lead several times with second-place finisher John Morton of El Segundo before taking the win. Stoneberg piloted his 1963 Lotus to the win in Group 6 (1961-1965 Sports Racing Cars), followed by Morton (1964 Lotus) and Huntington Beach's Al Nowocinski (1965 LeGrand).... Other California-based winners in 2006 included: Carmel's Robert Hanson in Group 2 (1952 The Schaghticoke); and Sonoma's Scott Rubin in Group 5 (1970 Javelin);

In addition:

The weekend will also be highlighted by the Cork Pops Wine Country Pavilion, which will feature gourmet wine and foods from area purveyors. There will be food samples from a variety of food merchants and tastings from local wineries, as well as Wine Country goodies. Entry to the pavilion is included with the price of admission for the Wine Country Classic and you will receive a limited number of free wine and food tastings at the Cork Pops Wine Country Pavilion, as well as a free souvenir event program.

Historic Race Car Festival:

Following Saturday's on-track action, a collection of 30 historic race cars will drive in parade format from Infineon Raceway to the downtown Sonoma Plaza under a California Highway Patrol escort at approximately 5 p.m. The evening will offer an opportunity to view beautiful cars on display while sampling food and wine from Sonoma Valley's finest proprietors. Tickets are available for \$30 in advance (800-870-RACE). All proceeds benefit Speedway Children's Charities. For more information, call 800-870-RACE.

Admission:

Advance: \$40 - Saturday; \$40 - Sunday; \$60 - weekend pass. Children 12-and-under are FREE. Parking is FREE. Call 800-870-RACE or [CLICK HERE](#) for more information. Your price of admission also includes a souvenir program and admission into the Cork Pops Wine Country Pavilion.