

# SAAC-26 CHARLOTTE

## JULY 6-7-8, 2001

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WE'RE PUMPED! Charlotte is coming up fast and based on three previous conventions there (SAAC-12 in 1987, SAAC-16 in 1991 and SAAC-23 in 1998) we know that everybody likes Charlotte. So we're expecting that it's going to be a big one. As big as SAAC-25? Why not. That convention proved that if you show up, and you bring your car, you're guaranteeing a memorable convention.

There are plenty of reasons why Charlotte is so popular. The track itself (now called Lowe's Motor Speedway) is one of the jewels in NASCAR's crown. When you drive through the tunnel and are suddenly on the inside you look up at that 360° banked ribbon of asphalt you get the feeling that you have just entered a cathedral of speed. It's not your imagination - you really do hear those Winston Cup cars blasting past just like you see on ESPN - *WHAH! WHAH! WHAH! WHAH! WHAH!* If it's your first time, you have to pinch yourself. "This is Charlotte. You're really here!" If you're an old hand, you're still impressed.

The track is only 5 minutes from a cluster of hotels, all first class. The convention headquarters hotel, the Charlotte Hilton is the biggest. And restaurants and a shopping center are all within sight.

Within an hour's drive of the track, in just about every direction, is something for a race fan to do either before or after the convention. We suggest you do some homework. There's the Joe Weatherly Museum at Darlington, the North Carolina Auto Racing Hall of Fame in Mooresville, the Richard Petty Museum in Randleman and the Hendrick Motorsports Museum & Gift Shop in Harrisburg. That's just for starters. You can also visit any of the major race shops: Penske Racing, Roush Racing, Dale Earnhart, Richard Childress Racing, Joe Gibbs Racing - you name the team and chances are they have a pristine facility

close to the track. Some have a glass wall along one side so visitors can walk through and observe what's going on. And just about all of them have gift shops - which is why you *really* stopped. Admit it.

Charlotte is also the home of Holman-Moody and if you haven't heard of them you're reading the wrong newsletter. Put it down and pick up a copy of *Knitting and Quilting Quarterly*. They're still out by the airport and Lee Holman is building a series of continuation Ford GT MK IIs as well as providing all kinds of race prep and restoration services.

After seeing how popular SAAC-25's vintage races were we've decided to include them as part of every convention. So you can expect some wheel-to-wheel racing with three separate race groups: Cobras and GT40s, GT350s and Trans-Am sedans (1965 through 1995). And since we're at Charlotte, we're going to invite as many Ford powered vintage Grand National and Winston Cup cars as we can find for a special race of their own.

Starting with SAAC-26, we'll be setting aside a parking area near the paddock for all special cars - Shelys, Cobras, Mustangs, etc - which will be roped off and maintained for the entire convention. Look for the signs.

The usual convention activities will consume the daylight hours out at the track: parts swap, judged concourse popular vote car show, open track and kids' rides each day. On Friday night, back at the Hilton, we'll be holding seminars, a Shelby Art & Literature Show and model car contest. On Saturday night we'll have a buffet dinner and evening program with guest speakers whose names you will instantly recognize. SAAC-26 is going to be another good one.

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**FAST TRACK.** Want to drive the legendary Charlotte banked oval in a Winston Cup race car? Here's your chance. Fast Track is one of the premiere NASCAR schools and we've used them at past conventions at Charlotte. They do an excellent job. Four separate Thunder Sessions are available: 8 am, 10 am, 1 pm or 3 pm. Each can accommodate 23 drivers and spots will be filled on a first come/first served basis. The Sessions include a classroom chalk talk, in-car orientation and then 10 laps at speed. What's it like out there? You'll know. Helmets and driver's suits are provided. If you don't want to drive but you want the ultimate E-ticket ride, instructors will give 3-lap rides all day. No pre-registration is necessary - just show up. Talk your better half into the passenger seat and she will never again complain about your being glued to a 500 mile NASCAR race again!

**SAAC-26 VINTAGE RACE.** Cars must appear period correct and pass a safety inspection (5-point harness, fuel cell, external cut-off switch, full Nomex, etc (specifics will be sent with confirmation). Please include a photo of your car (it will be returned) with your entry form and a photocopy of your competition license (SCCA, SVRA, HSR, VARA, etc).

**WINSTON CUP GARAGES.** Each garage holds one car. Only 50 are available and we guarantee they will be snapped up quickly, so if you want one, fax or mail the form TODAY! If you want a garage next to someone let us know and we will do our best to accommodate you. All garages have electricity.

**PADDOCK OPEN CANOPY.** There are 30 of these and you may be able to squeeze two cars underneath. Tin roof with no sides, work bench in the center. If you want to be adjacent to someone let us know and we'll try to make it work.

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NAME _____	PHONE _____ FAX _____
ADDRESS _____	E-MAIL _____
CITY-STATE-ZIP _____	
<b>FAST TRACK SCHOOL - THURSDAY JULY 5TH</b>	<b>FAST TRACK SCHOOL - THUNDER SESSIONS</b>
10- Lap Thunder \$335.00 -- \$35 deposit/balance payable at track.....\$35 X ___ = \$ _____	Session 1 - 8 am 1st Choice _____
3 lap Rides \$85.00 -- \$10 deposit/balance payable at track.....\$10 X ___ = \$ _____	Session 2 - 10 am 2nd Choice _____
	Session 3 - 1 pm 3rd Choice _____
	Session 4 - 3 pm 4th Choice _____
<b>VINTAGE RACE ENTRY</b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS NAMES</b> _____
\$250 per car -- \$50 deposit /balance payable at Tech Inspection.....\$50 X ___ = \$ _____	<b>FOR FAST TRACK</b> _____
<b>WINSTON CUP GARAGE</b>	
Friday through Sunday, 1 car per garage.....\$195 X ___ = \$ _____	
<b>PADDOCK OPEN CANOPY</b>	
Friday through Sunday.....\$75 X ___ = \$ _____	
<b>TOTAL</b> ..... \$ _____	<b>FAST TRACK SCHOOL - 3-LAP RIDES</b>
<b>THIS FORM CAN BE FAXED TO US: 860-364-0769</b>	Available all day - no reservations necessary.
<b>OR... RETURN THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:</b>	<input type="radio"/> CHECK ENCLOSED (please make payable to 'SAAC')
<b>SAAC-26</b>	<input type="radio"/> VISA EXPIRATION <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
<b>PO BOX 788</b>	<input type="radio"/> MASTERCARD <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
<b>SHARON, CT 06069</b>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
	NAME ON CARD _____
	SIGNATURE _____

## SAAC-26 CHARLOTTE PRE-REGISTRATION

**REGISTRATION FEES ARE PER PERSON/PER DAY.** Everyone 16 years or older must pay the registration fee - either in advance or when you arrive. There is no charge for children 15 and under.

**PRE-REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION.** After we receive your pre-registration we will send you an acknowledgement by mail. It will include a confirmation letter, event schedule, map to the hotel and track and car show information. Also included will be open track information, in the event that you later decide you would like to participate.

**LOWE'S MOTOR SPEEDWAY OPEN TRACK** spots will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis to pre-registrants who are **SAAC national members**, driving **Ford-powered cars only** (exception: Shelby Series I cars). If you would like to run your car but are not a member of the national club you will have to join. No exceptions. Open track cost is \$100 per car for each half day (morning or afternoon sessions). Two drivers may share a car (entry fee is based on the car - not the number drivers; additional drivers need not be SAAC members). All drivers must attend the 8:00 a.m. Drivers Meeting prior to going out on the track and all cars must pass SAAC's safety inspection. The open track is NOT a competitive event. Please understand that. If you are undecided about running there may be slots available on the morning of the event, and if so they will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis after the driver's meeting. However, we cannot guarantee that spots will be available by that time so we strongly recommend pre-registration. By pre-registering, you will also receive advanced information which will help you to understand how the event will be run and exactly what will be expected of you when you arrive with your car at tech inspection. You may run your car as hard (or as easy) as you feel comfortable doing. We will run rain or shine; there will be no refunds in the event of less than perfect weather. We will be using a combination of the NASCAR banked oval and the infield road course - 2.25 miles total. Race gas will be available at the track all three days.

**VINTAGE RACES** will be held on Sunday afternoon, with race practice on Saturday afternoon. There will be separate classes for Cobras and GT40s, GT350s and Trans-Am cars, with the possibility of an additional race for Ford powered vintage Grand National and/or Winston Cup stock cars. Registration and entry for this event is separate from the open track. There will be two practice sessions on Saturday afternoon, a warm-up and a 15-minute race on Sunday afternoon. Drivers must have current competition licenses issued by recognized sanctioning bodies and cars must appear period correct and pass safety inspection.

**POPULAR VOTE CAR SHOW** will be held on Sunday morning. There is no separate registration fee or paperwork required. All you have to do is show up and park in the correct class. The car show area will be in the track's infield. The number of trophies per class (maximum of 3) will be determined by the number of cars in each class. If there are not enough cars to form a class, those cars will be folded into the Special Interest Class. All trophies will be engraved with the winners' names and mailed to them after the convention.

**JUDGED CONCOURS** will be held on Saturday morning. Entry into the Concours Car Show is by pre-registration only, open to SAAC National members only. The entry fee is \$25 per car and spaces are limited to 8 cars per class (due to the time it takes judges to evaluate each car). You cannot register for and enter the concours after you arrive. There will be concours classes for the following cars: Cobras (CSX2000 and CSX3000 cars only), Shelybs (all years), Bosses, Tigers and Competition Cars. There are 3 levels: Division I (stock/original cars); Division II (non-NOS cars); Division III (original/unrestored "Survivor"). All other cars are eligible for the Popular Vote Car Show. The same car cannot be entered in both concours and popular vote shows. Concours entry is on a first-come/first-served basis. Judging guidelines will be sent to all entrants. All trophies will be engraved with the winners' names and mailed after the convention.



## **SAAC-26 HEADQUARTERS HOTEL**

Everyone always wishes they'd made reservations at the headquarters hotel but it tends to fill up quickly. The Charlotte Hilton, about five minutes from the track, has had a major addition since the last time we were there and they now have additional rooms as well as a ballroom large enough to accommodate our group for Saturday night's dinner. We've filled about half the Hilton's rooms so far. When they're filled we'll include details on the secondary hotels. All are close to the hHilton.

### **Headquarters Hotel: Charlotte Hilton 704-547-7444**

SAAC Convention rate is \$109 per night. One night's deposit is required. Please identify yourself as a member of the Shelby Club when making reservations.

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This document was scanned from the original December, 2000 (#83) SAAC newsletter. A reasonable effort has been made to see that it is complete and accurate as presented. However, it may vary. Be sure to verify the items that are important to you.