



PRESS RELEASE

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(Photos Attached)

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LEGENDS OF LE MANS ON COURSE FOR CHINO HILLS

Chino Hills, CA, May 24, 2011 – Seven days before the official start of this year's 24 Hours of Le Mans in France, living legends of the historic race will gather in Chino Hills, California to celebrate the one person most responsible for driving the event into America's consciousness during the 1970's . . . Steve McQueen.

Headlining the list of former Le Mans drivers coming to Chino Hills for the fourth annual Friends of Steve McQueen Car Show on June 4 is **Vic Elford**. One of the fastest drivers spanning two decades of international competition, Vic Elford set lap records throughout the 60s and 70s at Targa Florio, Nürburgring, Daytona, Sebring, Norisring, Monza, Buenos Aires, Road Atlanta, Laguna Seca, and Riverside Raceway. At Le Mans in 1970, driving a Porsche 917 long-tail, Elford was the first driver to lap the circuit in less than 3 minutes and 20 seconds, clocking a qualifying time of 3.19.8 for an average speed of 150.804 mph. Subsequently, he was one of the drivers asked by Steve McQueen to do the high speed racing sequences in the movie McQueen insisted use Le Mans competition cars and drivers.

Three-time Monza Lottery winner **Jonathan Williams** will also be among the honored guests in attendance. Invited by Enzo Ferrari to race Formula 2 for the Ferrari Team in 1967, Williams later found himself behind the wheel of McQueen's Porsche 908 equipped with cameras to film actual racing footage during the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1970.



Hal Hamilton was working as an actor in Europe when he landed work as a Ferrari driver in McQueen's *Le Mans*. Like McQueen, Hamilton raced in his free time while concentrating on his career as an actor. A 1957 scholarship to London's Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts put an end to his racing in the California SCCA, but put him in the right spot to land a role in the film for which drivers throughout Europe were being courted.

SCCA, IMSA and three-time Le Mans competitor **Michael Keyser** heads up the activities on the night before the Show. *An Evening Behind the Scenes of Le Mans with Michael Keyser* begins with a sale and silent auction featuring a collection of many never before seen photographs taken by Nigel Snowdon, as well as a selection of photographs featured in the book "A French Kiss With Death" by Michael Keyser with Jonathan Williams. "This is the first year we have featured a dinner in conjunction with the event, and we sold out a month in advance of the Show" commented event chairs Ron Harris and Chad McQueen. Following the dinner and Keyser's talk, a screening of the 18 minute featurette entitled *Le Mans: The Race, The Movie* will be introduced by the film's Emmy Award-winning writer/producer **John Klawitter** -- yet *another* one of the distinguished guests in attendance along with **Matt Stone**, senior editor at *Motor Trend* and editor of *Motor Trend Classic*, who will serve as Friday evening's Master of Ceremonies.

On Saturday, attendees will have an opportunity to meet Chad McQueen and these legends of Le Mans during an autograph signing session with Matt Stone, author of "McQueen's Machines" and Marshall Terrill, author of "Tribute to the King of Cool" and "Steve McQueen: The Life and Legend of a Hollywood Icon." Stone and Terrill's books will be available for sale and signing along with "A French Kiss With Death" by Michael Keyser and Jonathan Williams.



The Friends of Steve McQueen Car Show is on track to become one of Southern California's finest automotive gatherings. Steve McQueen remains a major influence in America's car culture, and his fans and friends from the world of racing now have an annual event where his cars, bikes and memory can be celebrated -- at the school McQueen attended during his youth, and is credited for transforming the lives of thousands of young people over its more than one hundred year history.

The Boys Republic is located at 1907 Boys Republic Drive in Chino Hills, California. Gates open to the public at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, June 4, 2011. Live music, slot car racing, vendors, and cars representative of the historic race during McQueen's era will be set in an atmosphere reminiscent of the French countryside of Le Mans. The Planes of Fame Air Museum in nearby Chino will conduct a flyover of a North American B-25 Mitchell Bomber between 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., with the presentation of awards immediately following. General admission is \$10; children 12 and under are free. Vehicles of all makes and models can register online or at the gate beginning at 7:00 a.m., Saturday, June 4. All proceeds benefit the Boys Republic, a private, non-profit community serving at-risk teens in Southern California. Sponsors include Hiawatha Evergreens, Roscoe's Famous Deli, Rock Wall Wine Company, TAG/Heuer, Dunkel Brothers Machinery Moving, Autosports Marketing Associates, Lowe's and Vellano Country Club. For vendor space availability and additional information call (909) 627-0017, or visit: www.FriendsOfSteveMcQueen.com. Interviews with Le Mans drivers and guided tours of the school campus can be scheduled in advance by calling 760-213-6826.

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Vic Elford in the #25 Porsche Salzburg long-tail 917LH at Le Mans 1970.



Jonathan Williams passes the Le Mans grandstands in the Porsche 908 used by Solar Productions for the making of the 1971 film.

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