



RING FREE GOES RACING – AGAIN



Restoration Debut – SAAC-31

It was an appropriate restoration debut, SAAC-31, the Shelby American Automobile Club National Convention at Virginia International Raceway.

This was the first time the car as well as ourselves were at VIR. A fantastic facility for both the spectator and participant. A big improvement from some of the tracks we ran over 26 years ago. The weather was sunny with temperatures in the mid to upper 90s for the entire event.



Off the lift, into the trailer, off the trailer, onto the track, the first practice session went smoothly until Jan brought the car down pit lane at the end of the session. The lower radiator hose came loose and the car disappeared in a cloud



of steam. It was a simple and quick fix. The next session was my turn at the wheel with no problems. Jans 2nd session also went smoothly however when he brought the car into the paddock we noticed the water pump heater plug was leaking slightly so we changed that. In my next session, about half way around the course, blue smoke started coming up from under the dash. Made it around into pit lane with the engine and ignition dead however the electric fuel pump was still running - thank goodness for cut off switches. We developed a short under the dash which fried the wiring harness

from the firewall connection to the alternator. I went to try and find someone with the wiring harness we needed, meanwhile, Jan along with 2 Long Island fans we met proceeded to rewire the existing harness. Good thing as I was unable to find anyone with a harness. This was to be the last major problem for the entire event. We did have to change starters as they were very close to the headers and subjected to tremendous heat. We did go into the event with the tach and oil temp gauges not working.



Jan had a good race in his third session with a Daytona Coupe. Jan got by going into the first turn and was able to hold him off for the rest of the session.



We started the Vintage Race 31st and finished 17th. Down over 150 hp from the leaders Jans fastest lap during the race was a 1:57 compared to the leaders running in the 1:40s. Three laps were run under the yellow in the 15 lap event.



**1966
SHELBY GROUP II MUSTANG
CAR #6**



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Virginia
International Raceway

**RESTORATION DEBUT
JUNE 30, 2006**