



## **BAJA COMPETITORS!**

It is now just a few days before the gates open for Baja SAE Alabama 2009. The organizers are tired, but happy about what we will be able to present for you. A few last minute notes:

## **SCHEDULE**

There is a revised schedule up on the website. Not many changes, just shifting a few details, but still, look at it.

## **ARRIVAL**

Again, don't try to get to NCAT from the south. The creek-sucking sinkhole got that road as well. Note that Lee County Road 151 is a detour for one of the sinkholed roads – Lee 148. But the detour signs for 148 are bigger than the 151 signs. Whatever it's called, turn on 151. Your marker to turn south off of Lee 391 is the Union Grove Church. Once on 151, look out for the dangerous curve. It is over the hill, out of sight, off camber, and descending radius. Take it easy. We don't want to have to come and pry your rig out of the trees. Watch on your right as you come in. Cars 51-100 will turn off first (North Gate), and cars 1-50 and 101 will take the second (main) entrance into NCAT. Drive on in, and we'll put you in a paddock. All non-haulers take the third (South Gate) entrance. Come and register (sign the waiver and get banded) as soon as you park.

## **FOOD**

Thanks to the sponsorship of Schlumberger, lunch on Friday will be provided for you. BBQ, of course. Honda continues their long term commitment to a deli lunch on Saturday. You will get lunch tickets on registration, and no meal will be given except in exchange for a ticket (take care of them!).

Toomer's Coffee, a local outfit, will be on site Friday and Saturday. They sell, well, coffee - and some food (perhaps breakfast stuff, maybe some lunch for the spectators – we're not sure).

Moe's will sell dinner on Friday and Saturday.

Chappy's Deli will sell breakfast on Saturday.

Marble Slab will sell ice cream on Saturday and Sunday.

Clinton's Country Restaurant will set up on Sunday to sell breakfast and lunch.

## **COURSE CONDITION**

We're so mad about this that the irony is completely lost on us. Very quietly, about the first of the year, our creeks started running – just out of the clear blue. I'll let you draw your own inferences about which quarry, in the midst of legal action, might have stopped pumping groundwater. And our Spring was below normal rainfall (normal is a lot) instead of severely below normal. So, OK, we have water. Lots of it. No, you don't need to bring your float. We kind of let you off on that one. But you do need to be ready to keep your air filters and CVT's from getting wringing wet. Spots on the Endurance course were a foot deep at the last work weekend (on the tail of two cold fronts).

## **AWARDS BANQUET**

Note that the Awards Banquet will be on the Auburn University campus, in the Student Activities Center. We will have a map to that location from the NCAT site posted on the competition website very soon. Parking should be no problem, since it is Sunday night, but since there is a lot of construction in that area, it's hard to say exactly where to park. Essentially, go hunting for a spot, and I assure you that you'll find one.

## **LATER!**

Well, not much later. Take care, drive safely, and we'll see you soon.

Peter Jones  
Baja SAE Alabama 2009 Chief Organizer