

# Track ready street stangs

By Joe Sage

Shelby American and Ford Performance have been barnstorming America with a Track Tour to promote the Shelby GT350 and Shelby GT350R. We had an invitation to attend last fall at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, near Monterey, but had a schedule conflict—one that, in fact, flew us directly over the track, just as the event was gathering. Fate might suggest we were destined to connect with the event again at some point, or perhaps that we weren't. And fate took a turn when the event came to Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park, near Chandler, this spring.

A consumer event, the tour is designed to inform and entice likely prospects for the car, such as local Mustang car club members.

The half-day program included compre-

hensive presentations covering GT350 parts and technology, Ford Performance operations, and an in-depth vehicle walk-around.

Each session also included right-seat hot laps with a pro driver from Ford Performance Racing School in Utah, as well as ground school and safety instruction, with information on seating, visibility and the fundamentals of cornering techniques.

Ultimately, attendees had a chance to take their own lap in either a GT350 or GT350R.

The Shelby GT350 and GT350R are conversions, built from your donor 2015-16 Ford Mustang GT, adding Shelby visuals and engineering, a big dose of Ford Performance parts and engineering, and third-party components, all highlighted at right. Get your car to Shelby American in Las Vegas, they do the work, and you'll have a very memorable drive home.

For 2017, there will be some upgrades and changes in options and inclusions. A Track Package will become standard on the GT350, including aluminum tower-to-tower brace, high-downforce decklid spoiler, oil, transmission and differential coolers, and a magnetic ride damping system.

For paint, Deep Impact Blue and Competition Orange are out, while deep Ruby Red Metallic, Lightning Blue and Grabber Blue (a Boss Mustang classic color) are in.

An optional Electronics Package will bring

## SHELBY GT350/GT350R

**ENGINE** .....5.2L flat-plane crankshaft V8

**TRANSMISSION** .....Tremec TR-3160 6-spd manual

**POWER/TORQUE** .....526 hp / 429 lb-ft at 4750 rpm

**EXTERIOR:** Carbon fiber front splitter, hood, rocker panels, rear spoiler, rear diffuser, Shelby badging and stripes; special upper and lower grilles.

**INTERIOR:** Shelby GT dash plaque, Shelby GT engine plaque; Shelby embroidered headrests, Shelby floor mats and Shelby sill plates.

**EXTERIOR:** 20" WELD Racing wheels, Michelin tires; Ford Performance handling pack, short throw shifter, exhaust with Shelby tips, cold air intake.

**BASE CONVERSION PRICE** .....\$23,995

*NOTE: This is the conversion price, does not include your donor Mustang GT, plus Shelby retains parts removed from the original during the process.*

**OPTIONS/EXTERIOR:** Carbon fiber hood extension, mirror caps, taillight panel, painted carbon fiber components; convertible light bar.

**OPTIONS/INTERIOR:** Katzkin interior; roll cage, race seats and 5-point harness; 3-gauge dash pod for boost, fuel and oil pressure; Shelby engine cap.

**OPTIONS/PERFORMANCE:** Ford Performance 670-hp supercharger; Ford Performance half shafts; differential and transmission cooling; Wildwood brakes 6-piston front and 4-piston rear; brake duct kit; camber/caster plates; adjustable rear control arm; 3.73 rear end.

welcome SYNC 3, voice-activated navigation and nine-speaker audio, while a Convenience Package includes all the same, but replaces Recaro manual seats with leather-trimmed power sport seats. The GT350R can also upgrade to nine-speaker audio through a R-Electronics Package option.

2017 version production starts in June. ■

