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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**THE PREMIER CAR EVENT OF THE SEASON**

*The Coronado Speed Festival Offers Fun for the Whole Family*

**SAN DIEGO, June 9, 2008** – This year’s premier car event of the season is racing to the San Diego island of Coronado, a small yet unique community in Southern California. **When you are looking for somewhere fun to spend a day or weekend and a unique experience appropriate for all ages, look no further than the Coronado Speed Festival.**

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual racing and military tribute event will be held on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> as part of Fleet Week San Diego, an organization that benefits the men and women of our military. The event is set against the stunning backdrop of San Diego Bay and will feature 280 of the world’s most unique and pedigreed machines at one of the most distinctive racecar locations - Naval Air Station North Island, the birthplace of Naval Aviation.

This is also the Navy’s annual opportunity to offer an open house to the public and offer individuals and families an opportunity to experience a military base as they never have. As part of this experience, event goers will have the opportunity to explore military equipment and talk to captains and crew members. Children will be able to possibly enjoy their face being painted by marines as well as several other children oriented activities. This is an event that the whole family can enjoy.

In the past years, over 20,000 people have packed the grandstands to view a spectator-friendly 1.6-mile course that is constructed in a matter of days on the runways and taxiways of Naval Air Station North Island. Car enthusiasts will be able to step back in time to enjoy auto racing’s rich history with tours of the racecar pits and speak with the drivers of these unique machines. Please visit <http://fleetweeksandiego.org/coronadospeedfestival> for this year’s complete racing schedule.

Car enthusiasts will also be able to visit the car corral, which features over 2000 automobiles of all makes and models. In addition, a stroll through vendor village will quell any shopaholics inner need to find numerous items including car equipment, food and beverage and racing accessories. Also on display at the entrance of the event are a multitude of current Navy jets and helicopters, special boats and hovercraft, as well as vintage aircraft, with the crews eager to answer questions and allow access into the aircraft.

Advance purchase general admission tickets are available on the Fleet Week Website ([www.fleetweeksandiego.org/coronadospeedfestival](http://www.fleetweeksandiego.org/coronadospeedfestival)) - \$25 one day and \$30 for both days. Tickets will also be available at the venue (\$30 for one day and \$40 for both days). Children 12 and under are free with paid adult admission.

*The Coronado Speed Festival is produced by San Diego Fleet Week Foundation and hosted by the Naval Base Coronado and the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Program (MWR) which benefits military personnel and their families. They in turn provide positive support for the active duty military community and their families through Quality of Life Programs including single Sailor Recreation Centers, Fitness and Aquatic Facilities and the Base Theatre Free Movies. The Southern California community is given this unbelievable opportunity to thank the men and women defending our freedom in person. Visit [www.fleetweeksandiego.org/coronadospeedfestival](http://www.fleetweeksandiego.org/coronadospeedfestival) today.*

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