

Don't miss the 2008 AERA E-85 Power Shootout

On the show floor of the Hotrod Show in Indianapolis

BY JOHN GOODMAN, AERA PRESIDENT

AERA would like to encourage all members to attend the 2008 Hotrod & Restoration Show in Indianapolis, Indiana, Feb. 29 – Mar. 1, to watch the E-85 Power Shootout, held on the show floor.



New rules for the 2008 Shootout are more closely aligned with street performance engines, so the Hotrod Show seemed a natural fit. The emphasis on street performance makes sense because most AERA shops do this kind of work now.

Those who attended the 2006 RPM show witnessed a dyno competition mainly for race-bred engines. Not every shop does race engines, so this year's competition will reflect a more real-world approach. These will be engines capable of driving daily on the street without issues. This is not to say these engines are weak. Quite the contrary; with over an expected 500HP output, these engines will have the performance of a racer but deliver drivability and reliability normally found in production cars.

Since we will not have much time for tear down and inspection, rules for engine size and components will be fairly broad. To hold costs down, rules will restrict exotic materials and "one-off" hand made components will not be allowed. Essentially, most components found in parts catalogs qualify.

Unlike the 2006 three-day show, this year we only have two days to complete the competition. This means a great deal of action and drama condensed in a short period of time. The Hotrod Show attracts many engine enthusiasts, the kind that buys engines, components and services. Debbie Lewis, owner of the Hotrod Show, is busy promoting our presence at the show and has already experienced an influx of new interest because of AERA.

So, please come see what new profitable shop opportunities can be found in building engines that use E-85. Shootout competitors are eager to talk about how they approached the build and what new knowledge was necessary to do one correctly. New ethanol fuel pumps are springing up all the time so this may very well represent a ground level chance to get ahead of the curve.

www.aera.org/e85shootout

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