

- - - **ARCF Announcement for Members and Guests** - - -

ACO/ARCF Sebring BBQ Social

The Automobile Racing Club of Florida (ARCF) is excited to host a BBQ Social for visiting members of the Automobile Club de l'Ouest (ACO) on Friday evening, March 14, at Sebring International Raceway.

The Automobile Club de l'Ouest, often abbreviated as ACO, is the largest automobile club in France, with affiliated membership divisions worldwide. Established in 1906 by automobile racing enthusiasts, it is best known for organizing the prestigious 24 Hours of Le Mans race. A contingent of 25 to 30 ACO members from both the U.S. and Europe will be attending this year's 12 Hours of Sebring.

The ARCF, which hosted the 12 Hours of Sebring from 1957 until 1972, has been revived after being dormant for over 50 years. It now serves as the membership division of the Sebring Hall of Fame, Inc., a non-profit organization based in Sebring, Florida.

ARCF Chairman Ford Heacock III views the BBQ Social as a cultural exchange, allowing both organizations to celebrate their rich histories by sharing photos and stories of international sports car racing from both sides of the Atlantic. In 1950, when Sebring race founder Alec Ulmann waved the green flag to start the first Sebring race, his stated goal was to unite European and American auto racing. David Lowe, the U.S. Administrator for ACO, agrees that the joint event between ACO and ARCF will strengthen the relationship between both clubs and the international racing community.

The ACO/ARCF Sebring BBQ Social will take place at the ARCF compound located in the Hendricks Field section of the Sebring race paddock, starting at 5:30 PM on Friday, March

14. Members are kindly asked to RSVP in advance via email to Ford3@ARCF.net. Food and adult beverages will be served, and members are encouraged to make a cash donation of \$20 to help defray expenses.

