



FORD MEDIA CENTER

Ford, Vaughn Gittin Jr. Salute American WWII Pilots Who Defended Britain with Eagle Squadron Mustang GT Ahead of Charity Auction

DEARBORN, Mich., June 15, 2018 – Ford and world champion drifter Vaughn Gittin Jr. are paying tribute to American fighter pilots who served in the Royal Air Force during World War II, inviting Gittin to pilot the one-off Eagle Squadron Mustang GT at this year's Goodwood Festival of Speed in the UK on July 12.

Co-created by Ford Performance and Gittin's RTR Vehicles, the camouflaged, fighter aircraft-inspired Mustang GT fastback debuts at Goodwood before heading back to the U.S. for the Experimental Aircraft Association's largest fundraiser, The Gathering, held on July 26 during the EAA AirVenture Oshkosh fly-in in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The event draws more than 1,000 aviation enthusiasts annually.

The Eagle Squadron Mustang GT will be auctioned off at The Gathering to support the EAA's youth education programs.

"Supporting young pilots through the EAA charity auction reflects Ford's aviation history, tracing back to the company's early days and the Arsenal of Democracy during WWII," said Darrell Behmer, Ford Mustang design chief. "The Eagle Squadron Mustang GT build with Vaughn and the Ford design team is a great way to honor our heroes and keep the spirit of aviation alive for the next generation of American pilots."

2018 marks the 20th year Ford has supported The Gathering during EAA AirVenture. All proceeds will be donated to EAA's youth education programs to encourage and support the next generation of pilots. In all, Ford has donated 11 custom-designed vehicles and helped raise more than \$3 million.

The one-of-a-kind Eagle Squadron Mustang GT features a 700-horsepower 5.0-liter V8 with a Ford Performance supercharger, RTR carbon fiber wide-body kit and Tactical Performance suspension package.

Powerful and menacing-looking, this one-of-a-kind beast takes its inspiration from World War II Royal Air Force Eagle squadrons that flew over the fields of Goodwood nearly 80 years ago. The three Eagle Squadrons included a diverse group of American volunteer pilots who risked their lives fighting in the skies over northern Europe, including the British coast and France prior to the U.S. entering the war.

The car's highest bidder also receives an all-inclusive package for two to attend the 2018 Ford Woodward Dream Cruise in Detroit in August to take delivery of the car along with a plaque autographed by Gittin and members of the Ford design team.

gathering@EAA.org.

About Ford Motor Company

Ford Motor Company is a global company based in Dearborn, Michigan. The company designs, manufactures, markets and services a full line of Ford cars, trucks, SUVs, electrified vehicles and Lincoln luxury vehicles, provides financial services through Ford Motor Credit Company and is pursuing leadership positions in electrification, autonomous vehicles and mobility solutions. Ford employs approximately 202,000 people worldwide. For more information regarding Ford, its products and Ford Motor Credit Company, please visit www.corporate.ford.com.

About EAA

The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), based in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, embodies The Spirit of Aviation through the world's most engaged community of aviation enthusiasts. EAA's 210,000 members and 900 local chapters enjoy the fun and camaraderie of sharing their passion for flying, building and restoring recreational aircraft. For more information on EAA and its programs, call 800-JOIN-EAA (800-564-6322) or go to www.eaa.org.