

## Georgia Racing Hall Of Fame Stands On Its Own

Dawsonville, Ga. – For the first time, the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame is standing firmly on its own two feet.

That's because on Monday night, the Dawsonville, Georgia City Council voted unanimously to give control of the Hall over to the people who have run it for many years, the volunteers.

Under the new plan, the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame will be run by a seven-person board, and is now very close to being a complete 501(c)(3) non-profit organization known as Dawsonville History Museum, Inc.

"For the first time, we have the restrictor plate off and we can finally see what we've got under the hood," said Hall of Fame board CEO Gordon Pirkle.

Established in 2002 in the city of Dawsonville, the Hall of Fame has operated under the stewardship of the city of Dawsonville for the last several years, with volunteers giving their time to operate the facility, which has been free of cost for the public to attend. The Hall of Fame operated on donations, which were used only for the Hall of Fame.



Now the Hall has the opportunity to work towards adding corporate sponsors, and can build on an already strong foundation to grow the Hall of Fame in the coming years.

"We have the chance now to make the Hall of Fame bigger and better than we've ever dreamed,"

Pirkle said. "We want to thank the city council and city workers of Dawsonville for all of their help in preserving the history of Georgia's rich racing heritage."

The first item of business for the Hall of Fame is to prepare for this year's induction ceremony on October 22.

On that day, the five latest members of the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame will be enshrined. They include motorcycle racing legend Ted Edwards of Atlanta, NASCAR Sprint Cup championship winning crew chief and engine builder Ernie Elliott of Dawsonville, open wheel and stock car racer

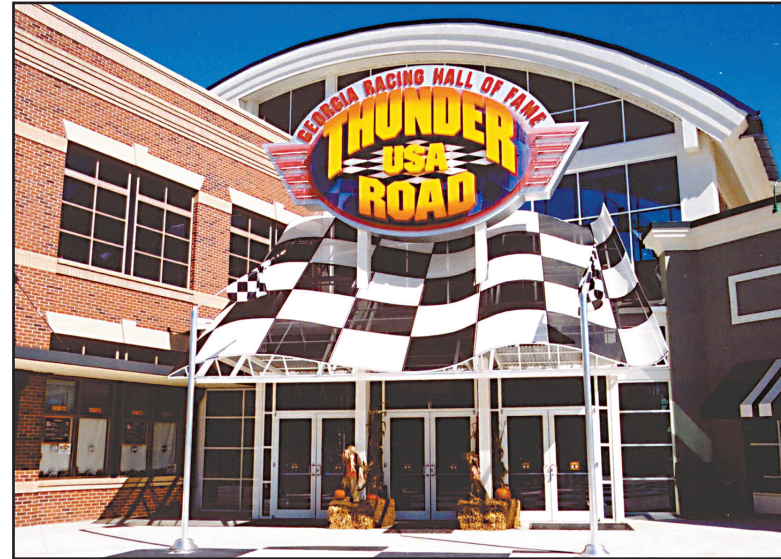


Jack Etheridge, NASCAR sportsman championship winning car owner Laverne Kendrick and pioneer stock car racer and race official Jerry Wimbish.

The event will be held at the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame the night prior to the 43rd annual Mountain Moonshine Festival. Go to [www.georgiaracinghof.com](http://www.georgiaracinghof.com) for more information.

Several members of the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame will also be on hand at Gresham Motorsports Park, the official racetrack of the Hall of Fame, on Saturday, Sept. 18, for an autograph session as part of the George Elliott Memorial 100.

George Elliott, father of Bill, Dan and Ernie Elliott, was a highly respected car owner, and was influential in getting many young racing careers off the ground. Elliott passed away in 1998. Go to [www.greshammotorsportspark.com](http://www.greshammotorsportspark.com) for more information on the event.



## GA Racing Hall of Fame Banquet On Tap

The clock is ticking down to the induction of the class of 2010 into the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame.

The inductees are motorcycle champion Ted Edwards of Atlanta, championship winning engine builder Ernie Elliott of Dawsonville, pioneer open wheel and stock car racer Jack Etheridge of Atlanta, long time NASCAR sportsman car owner Laverne Kendrick of Tifton and pioneer stock car racer Jerry Wimbish of Atlanta.

The 2010 induction ceremony will be held at the Dawsonville City Municipal Complex, which houses the Hall of Fame, on Friday, October 22 at 6 p.m.

A limited number of seats are available for the banquet. Reservations are required to attend. For more information on purchasing a ticket or on the banquet, call Dawsonville City Hall at (706) 265-3256, or go online to [www.georgiaracinghof.com](http://www.georgiaracinghof.com).

(Gordon Pirkle photo: courtesy of NASCAR, Thunder Road photo: courtesy of Pattison Sign Company.)

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## Renewing your Georgia Tag?

The Georgia Automobile Racing Hall of Fame Association's (GARHoFA,) license plate is now available at your local tag office. The proceeds of your purchase go towards the preservation of our great racing history.

Visit [www.garhofa.org](http://www.garhofa.org) for more info

