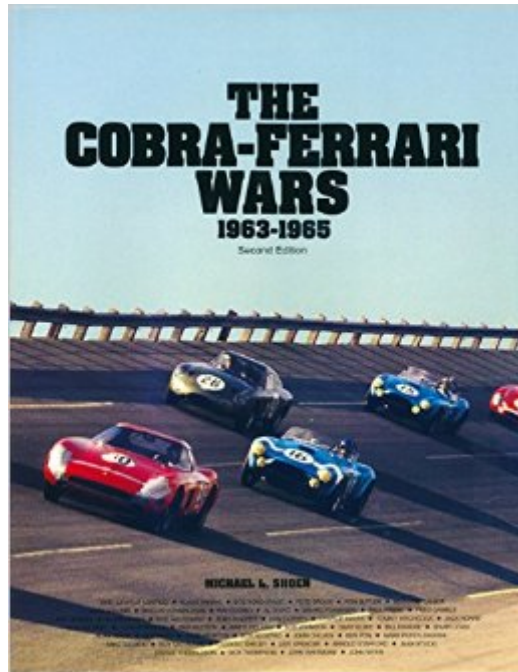


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# Cobra-Ferrari Wars 1963-1965



## Synopsis

Featured are the 289 and 427 Cobra roadsters and coupes, Ferrari GTOs, LM, and GTB, Aston 214, Corvette Grand Sport, Jaguar Lightweight E-Type, Porsche 904 and Abarth Simca 2000 -- in 27 1963-1965 FIA world championship races, from Sebring, Florida to Le Mans, France. Personal recollections range from Shelby's greenest mechanic to Ferraris chief engineer, from forgotten privateers to world-class drivers. Acclaimed by Ferrari and Cobra enthusiasts alike, this is the definitive history of the epic struggle that changed sports car racing forever. The work is based on interviews of 53 of the original participants, conducted over 18 years. Over 530 archival photos, drawings, blueprints and documents, including 57 large-format color prints.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (15 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I have been looking for "The Cobra Ferrari Wars" for many years. I am thankful for libraries and interlibrary loans. Only about 4 libraries in the country have this book. The story of Carroll Shelby's quest for the World Championship is one of the best in U.S. racing history. The information about the GT cars of that era, such as the Ferrari 250, Aston Martin, and Cobra is outstanding. The stories of the development of the Cobra and Daytona Cobra, gave me a new insight into the creation of these great racing machines. These stories are told from the point of view of the people who were there. This is one of the many strengths of this book. Another great feature is the race-by-race summary of every race the cobras competed in from 1963 until the final race of the championship season of 1965. Each race is told in the words of the mechanics, drivers and team members who were there and played a vital role in the winning of the championship. The Cobra Ferrari Wars took

place during a time when the U.S. had some of the best racing cars and drivers in the world. These cars and drivers won the biggest and best races in all of the major racing series. They won in F1, Sports Cars, and Indianapolis. We don't seem to produce drivers that can win F1, Le Mans or even the Indianapolis 500 any more. What happened! I hope that the producers of this great book will come out with a second edition. I don't need to have a signed first edition. If this book was put back in print, more people could have the opportunity to read about Carroll Shelby's 1965 GT Championship. I can afford to pay \$...for this book but not \$...or more. This new printing would give more racing fans a chance to own this book.

This is one of the best historical works about motor sports published during the last twenty years. With over fifteen years of research put into this work Michael Schoen has created something we will long refer to as a classic. In an era where automotive racing was almost completely dominated by European sports cars Carroll Shelby managed to not only build a competitive sports car but also upset the seemingly invincible position held by Ferrari. The Cobra-Ferrari Wars 1963-1965 accounts, on a race by race basis, the amazing story of the Cobra's climb to the top during those glorious three years. Not only is this book extremely well written and thorough but the accompanying photographs and diagrams bring this infamous battle to life. Few other motor sports books have been able to accomplish this. I wouldn't recommend this book to the average Cobra or Ferrari enthusiast, however for the serious die-hard this is definitely a must have!

I have about every book extant on vintage motor racing--COBRA-FERRARI WARS is the best by far. The quality of the research is staggering, the photos superb--it puts you into the pits as American motorsports came of age.

AUTHOR MICHAEL SCHOEN was there when the Cobras were rewriting the record books, a fact clearly reflected in his landmark work, "The Cobra-Ferrari Wars" (CFW). Escorting the reader into the thick of the story from the very first page, Schoen eloquently describes the rare brew of ambition, focus and raw talent that propelled Carroll Shelby's youthful and capable team to the 1965 FIA World Manufacturer's Championship. At the same time, the author recounts the fortunes of other opposing teams, details the politics rendered behind the scenes by both Shelby and Ferrari and, perhaps most importantly, provides ample first-person narratives by almost everyone who was involved in the Cobra effort, including an impressive line-up of the great drivers of the day. Complemented by a wealth of evocative period photographs, "The Cobra-Ferrari Wars" stands head

and shoulders above anything else in the motorsports history genre, and belongs in every enthusiast's library.

The Cobra-Ferrari Wars 1963-1965 by Michael L. Shoen is a book highly recommended for both Ferrari Fans and Cobra fans and Ford/FoMoCo fans, specifically the blue-oval crowd. Personally I am not a huge fan of Shelby and his "Creation" not a creation but a idea which already had been done before by Allard before and others. He was just at the right place at the right time, I also don't like the author's jab at Penske as if making money was wrong, Shelby made a lot of money. The story has been told many times before and if The Corvette Grand Sport had not been stopped by clueless higher-ups we would be talking about The Lightweight "Lightweight" Corvette GS and not a race car that was based off a old british Car with a Ford engine in it. I really like the introduction with the verse to Ecclesiastes, the book has great photography, period black and white and color. It has no index, the binding is great, The book is highly biased towards the Ford side although nonetheless worth owning and reading, the pictures and stories by the drivers themselves as well as the rivalry itself is what interested me, I prefer Ferrari over Ford, but I do like That America (Sort of, British design, same with Ford GT-Lola GT) Went toe to toe with the ever-cheating and conniving sneaky Enzo and beat him at his own game despite his behind the scenes chicanery to have Monza canceled. This book is way better than the "Go Like" by AJ Baime, and compliments the Cobra-Ferrari Wars DVD (Now called the Snake And the stallion which I own as well.) Now how about a Corvette Versus Cobra Book? Seeing as Owens Corning Fiberglas Corvette Racing team was unstoppable and whooped the Cobra much like it was whopped back at Nassau by the Grand Sports. OCF Corvettes brought the championship back to Corvette, and Corvette would continue to rule in racing thereafter.

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