



THE PONY EXPRESS

Newsletter of MCT

Nov/Dec 2020



From the President

As we emerge from the season of thanks, into the season of giving, I am hopeful many of you in the club can breathe a little easier and enjoy the year end in a somewhat normal fashion. My family gatherings are smaller, but we are managing to maintain some long-standing traditions.

Club activities have a similar theme – we are gathering with safety in mind. When we resumed club meetings, we met in a park. Once indoors was deemed OK, we met at our normal location (Bill Currie Ford) but kept socially distant. Unfortunately, our boat cruise became a casualty of the pandemic (the buffet gave many folks the willies...can't blame them), but we adapted and still managed to hold a fun event at Tampa Joe's. While many folks were leery about attending a car show, our 39th Annual Roundup was very well attended by participants and spectators.

Some people say, "adapt and overcome"; others say, "making lemonade out of lemons". Any way you slice it, the club will keep looking for ways to keep coming together, safely, for a common purpose: enjoyment of the car and the people. We are putting together a slate of meeting topics and activities for 2021 that hopefully will get us deeper into the car – tech sessions, judging training, driving events. These types of interactions go a long way in building a community, and if we can keep it diverse enough, a highly engaged community. Mark Morley said it best – "You join for the cars, you stay for the people".

One of the lessons of the pandemic for me was not to take the simple things for granted: meeting someone for coffee; grabbing lunch with a few friends; spending time with family; and most importantly - buying toilet paper at Publix...what's up with that?? Same thing for the club – with all the big picture planning we will do, don't forget the simple pleasures – enjoy the topic, enjoy the time spent together, leave knowing something or someone new.

Have a great holiday season, Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and Happy New Year. May the season and new year bring you and your family great tidings, many blessings, and good health. Help others where you can, stay safe and I am looking forward to seeing you at our next event!

Bob Turner, President, MCT



JUST POSTED—See coverage of our show at www.performance.Ford.com

Next Meeting: Bill Currie Ford Conference Room, January 26, 2021

Leadfoot City Mustang Shows

By Bob Turner

Many in the club have had the opportunity to visit Leadfoot City, home of Monster Transmissions, on Old Ayers Rd., in Brooksville. Owner, Achilles Thomas, and his team have been working hard to acquire the land, move the manufacturing facility, and plan a venue for all things automotive. Currently they host a Sunday Swap Meet every third Sunday of each month. In addition to the swap meet there is live music, food trucks, a cruise-in car show, and demos in their recently expanded Burn-out/Drift Pad. Future expansion plans include an 1/8 mile drag strip, auto-cross area, music amphitheater, and banquet hall. They were recently granted a zoning change that now allows them to go full throttle with engineering plans and designs for these future attractions. Several club members are on the planning task force, we'll keep you updated on progress.

In the meantime, we are working with Leadfoot City and area Mustang Clubs to build interest in the venue. This January 17th they will be hosting a Mustang and Ford show within their swap meet cruise-in, with the clubs handling the judging and parking logistics. Planning is underway as of this writing, so stay tuned to developments.

The January show is an icebreaker of sorts, a lead-in perhaps, to something bigger – an April 17th 2021 Pony Party, a stand-alone Mustang and Ford Show, which will be part car show, part birthday party. Hosted by Leadfoot City, and supported by the area clubs, this event is going to be geared toward celebrating the Mustang marque. Details are currently being developed so hold the date for now.

But wait, there's more: The other goal is to ultimately replace the old Silver Springs Show held by NPD. That was a great way to start the year, and with it gone, there is a hole in the calendar. Hopefully we all can duplicate its success up at Leadfoot City. Who knows, if it all works out, maybe there is an MCA National Show in our future.

Keep your eyes peeled for updates, we have submitted some recommendations to Leadfoot City and the area clubs, hopefully in the next two weeks we can settle on January show details. Go check out www.leadfootcity.com for more info on the venue.

L – R: Achilles Thomas of LFC, and MCT's Jerry May, Harry DePeppe, Chris Meyer, Harold Champion, Rusty Gillis, Bob Turner



MCT Adds New Officer Position by Mark Morley

With COVID this year we were not meeting at the time of our usual elections. Now that we are meeting it seems we are trying to catch up and our agendas exceed our time.

Our Officers have specific title and consistent responsibilities. Our BOD positions generally do not, but there are some tasks, generally smaller or infrequent that BOD members have graciously taken on. For some time I have thought about our MCA Regional Director. In many MCA clubs this is an officer. However, at MCT a member of our board handled this responsibility. As the MCA has evolved into an organization that offers much more for it's members and regional clubs the Regional Director has become a busier. Our club has also made this role more challenging by assigning the task of gathering data and information for our annual application for the MCA Presidents Award which only a small number of regional clubs receive.

For a number of years, board member Harold Champion has filled the role of MCA Regional Director. The work of this position is extremely important to the club and Harold has handled the work extremely well. At our recent BOD meeting it was recommended that the MCA Regional Director for MCT should be an officer of the club and the BOD agreed unanimously.

Thank you Harold for what you do for the club.



Kissimmee

January 7–16

The largest collector car auction in the country is coming again. This is a great show, with over 3000 cars and most of it is outside in open air tents. Best of all if you are an MCA member you can go free as a registered bidder. Just go to Mecum.com and set up a sign-on. Go thru the register to bid process and enter discount code MCA CLUB20. You will have credentials in your name and one for a guest with access onto the bidding floor. A \$200 value.

COVID and MCT Activities

Out of respect and wishes for the good health of all our members please wear a proper mask over the nose and mouth at our activities. Our health is more important than anything, even a Mustang. While many clubs have shut down, MCT wants to continue activities and we will only continue if those events remain safe and all cooperate.

MCT Fall Shows Report

Fall is the busiest time of the year for MCT as we do our own annual show and the show for Christmas Wish. This year was typical with the shows on the first and second weekend of November, so just one week apart. With COVID we had some concerns but fortunately had good venues and a lot of great help from club members. The weather was beautiful and both shows had our largest crowds and most money raised in several years. As the show chairman I sweat the details and our members come through to manage those details and our events function quite well. As a club we should be very proud of how efficiently we conduct our events. While non are perfect, we do them better than most.

Thank you to all the MCT members who came out and helped. You make a difference.

MCT 39th Annual Mustang, Shelby and Ford Roundup

Our show took place on November 7th at Tampa Joe's. What an exciting day. The weather was amazing and we had our largest crowd in several years with 162 cars. Preregistration was very strong and we moved the show to the larger lot at the rear of Tampa Joe's where we had much more space and some additional shade. The show allowed us to make some very generous charitable donations this year. Thanks to Bill Currie Ford for donating the TV we raffled.



MCT 39th Annual Mustang, Shelby and Ford Show (Continued)





MCT Again Hosts the Best of the Best

I am not absolutely sure but I believe this was our 13th or 14th year to host this event. Over the years the show has been at the former Brighthouse Field parking lot, Tech Data Systems, Steinbrenner Field and now the Shops at Wiregrass for the past 3 years. Wiregrass is a bit spread out and brings some challenges, but it 's a beautiful venue.

With COVID there is more need than ever for the Christmas Wish Fund, and we made a difference. We took in at least \$5000 in registration. The 50/50 sold well and there are always some nice additional cash donations during the day making it very successful.

We had 181 cars registered, about double last year. We had cars of all makes, models and years We filled the streets from one end to the other and received a very grateful thanks from Mason and the Shops were very complimentary on how smooth the show ran.



Best of the Best Car Show (Continued)



MCT Holiday Party

Our Dinner Cruise was cancelled over COVID concerns, but with short notice Bob Turner and Lucy Carroll put together a wonderful luncheon at Tampa Joes on December 5th. We had about 35 people attend. The covered patio outside at the restaurant was perfect. The weather was beautiful and temperatures very comfortable. Members were encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy for donation and some brought a White Elephant Gift for exchange.



The White Elephant gift exchange had it's usual interesting gifts. My favorite was a White Corvette accompanied by a bottle of Pepto Bismol.



Above, club members pose outside Tampa Joe's with Santa Clause.

To the right is a nice row of Mustangs members drove to the luncheon.



MCT Holiday Party (continued)

The event was also a great opportunity for us to make presentations of our charitable donations.

We donated \$1000 to Honor Flight that takes military veterans to Washington DC to visit the various memorials. Steve Katz from Honor Flight spoke more about what they do and he accepted our check.



We made a \$2500 donation to St. Joseph's Children's Hospital and we made a \$500 donation to Mason Dixon's Christmas



Tampa Joes has worked closely with us this year to support our show and some other gatherings. In this picture GM Cabot has received a plaque from MCT as a Thank you. They are also by the Toys for Tots box that we filled. Tampa Joes is a collection site.

From the Editor:

What a year 2020! China gave us COVID, and then Ford Motor Company gave us a four door Mustang! What more could you ask for? Maybe the “Jelly of the Month Club”?

Things looked bleak early on. Then Bob Turner stepped up to fill our President position. What an injection of adrenaline for MCT. He’s led us back to safe activities. We finished the year with both of our two routine shows when most others have been cancelled. We had bigger attendance and money raised than we have done in several years.

After you thank Bob for his work, thank the officers and board members that have worked so hard in this challenging year to keep things together. Also, know they are planning more than ever for the next year of MCT!!!!!!

Mark Morley



We have all seen California Specials, High Country Specials and other special additions of early Mustangs ordered by their respective DSO of Ford for limited sales in their region. But have you seen the Klaus Special from the North Pole DSO?



North1000.com

MCT Leadership

OFFICERS

Bob Turner, President	Harold Champion, MCA	Frank Cossota PP, Exec VP
Harry DePeppe, Membership	Scott Englert, Webmaster	Rusty Gillis, Treasurer
Mark Morley PP, Newsletter	Bob Perry, Secretary	

DIRECTORS

Jim Carroll	Lucy Carroll	Tom Jankowski
Chris Meyer PP	Reggie Osenton	Steve Osborne
Brandon Pacifica	PP Denotes Past President	

MCT Member Business Services

Members, If you believe your business may be of interest to other members email the brief information to me at mytang66@yahoo.com

Tom Jankowski Jr., Automotive Equipment Consultant, AutoShopDepot.com, T&L Enterprises, office 727 845-4899, cell 727 992-4428

Fred Flesche, *Indoor Gun Range/Sales*, Shooting Sports Inc., Ph: 813-933-3000, fjnc@aim.com

Rusty Gillis, *Automotive Restoration*, Gillis Performance Restorations, Ph: 727-847-7973,

Don't forget we are looking for your stories about your car or cars. Work you have done on your car, or any great shows you have attended.

Email Newsletter Editor,

Mark Morley at: mytang66@yahoo.com