

# The Pony Express

MUSTANG CLUB OF TAMPA OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

## Mustang of the Month: John Esposito's 2016 Mustang Fastback



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(Article by Melinda Morales)

This month we are pleased to spotlight John Esposito and his 2016 Mustang Fastback. Ever since John had a 1989 Mustang 5.0 and a 2010 Mustang convertible, he has had a desire for a sporty American Mustang. This newest Mustang to his stable is civilized and packaged with modern technology, but still holds on to all the trademark swagger, style and performance that has defined it for fifty years.

John saw this Mustang Fastback on-line and knew it was for him. He test drove it, and was sold. He loves the speed, handling, and looks, and named his Mustang "Blu-bye-you." "Blue" for the stripes ... and "bye" for when he passes "you".

(Continued on page 14)

*This is the beginning of anything you want ... you name it: A 1965 Mustang Convertible, a 2018 Shelby, go ahead and dream big ... we dare you ...*

# Up Front

## The Pony Express

Melinda Morales, Editor

(Email: newsletter@mustangcluboftampa.com)

### Newsletter Staff:

Lupe Minute..... Lifestyle Reporter  
 Rumer Mills..... Investigative Reporter  
 Sally Ride..... Traveling Reporter  
 Paige Turner..... Reporter At Large  
 Rusty Sparks..... Staff Mechanic  
 Ada Sage..... Staff Philosopher

### Thanks to our contributors this month:

Frank Morales, Harry DePeppe, Rusty Gillis,  
John Esposito

## A Note from your Editor...

Happy New Year everyone, well, another year begins. I hope you all had a great holiday season, and I hope Santa was very, very good to you ... even if you were a bit naughty last year! This month we feature John Esposito's Mustang and we want to thank John for the contribution. We also reflect back on the MCT Christmas Party. It was held at Bahama Breeze, which proved to be a great venue. Great food, great location, and oh so much fun! I want to thank Lou McCarty for helping me with the event. I also want to thank Lucy Carroll for taking care of getting the donated toys to children in need.

This month I have an article about a very special Mustang that happens to be going through the upcoming Barrett-Jackson Auction in Scottsdale, AZ. If you haven't been, you definitely should plan to attend sometime. Our President, Frank Morales, gets to go each year because the MCA National Directors hold their first meeting of the year to coincide with this event, giving me the thought that, "it's nice work if you can get it!" Anyway, I hope you enjoy this month's edition. Until next time, happy reading! - Melinda

## Thanks to our Club Leaders!

### Officers...

PP = Past President

President ..... Frank Morales  
 Executive VP ..... Frank Cossota (PP)  
 Treasurer ..... Kevin Riley (PP)  
 Secretary ..... Mary Lou McCarty  
 Membership ..... Harry DePeppe  
 Newsletter ..... Melinda Morales

### Board Members...

Lucy Carroll	Bob Perry
Jim Carroll	Brandon Pacifica (Facebook)
Phil Collie	Robbie Polo (Cruise Director)
Rusty Gillis	Paul Strausbaugh (Facebook)
Mark Morley (PP)	
Chris Meyer (PP)	

Facebook Friends of the MCT is now up to:  
**2,466!**  
 Make sure you check us out on Facebook! Many thanks to Paul Strausbaugh and Brandon Pacifica for keeping the club's Facebook page up to date and interesting.



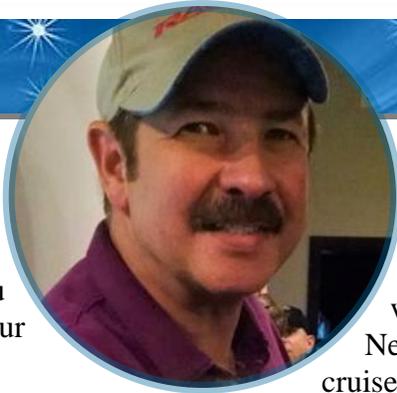
Not a member? Thinking of applying for membership? Ownership of a Mustang is not required, just an enthusiasm for the model.

Go to <http://www.mustangcluboftampa.com/membership/>  
 Or e-mail the Membership Director  
[membership@mustangcluboftampa.com](mailto:membership@mustangcluboftampa.com)

## President's...

## ...Message

Happy New Year to all Mustang Club of Tampa members and friends. Since this is the first Newsletter of the year I want to wish you all a happy New Year and I hope that all of you had a great holiday season with your friends and family.



One of my favorite moments over the holidays was the MCT Annual Christmas Party that was held on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at Bahama Breeze. Bahama Breeze is one of my favorite restaurants in Florida because of the setting and atmosphere, not to mention the food. This was a special evening of fun, entertainment, charity, and recognition. Bahama Breeze provides an elegant atmosphere with great food and service. For me, this was a special evening. This year, it was easy for Melinda to come up with the Elf Workshop theme because Elves work all year to make gifts for Santa to give away. Clubs like ours also work year-round to be able to provide gifts for special causes (Black Dagger, Toys for Tots, and Ponies for Puerto Rico). So what better way to celebrate our efforts, then to join in as honorary Elves. I want to thank Lucy Carroll for collecting the toys at the Christmas Party and delivering them to our charity. In addition to a delicious dinner and fun, we had an award presentation. The Mustang Club of Tampa has had a successful year, and this is due to the hard work, time, dedication, and commitment of the Board Members. Without them our Club would not be the success that it is today, and we acknowledged them at the meeting. I also presented an "Excellence in Action" award. This award is given to a person who, in their own unique way, contribute to the success of the Club. This year's recipient of the "Excellence in Action" award was Harry DePeppe. Congratulations Harry and thanks for your support and excellent job in managing our membership. Also, for your willingness to pitch in where ever help is needed. I would also like to thank our Christmas Party Chairman, Melinda Morales, for organizing such an elegant and memorable event. Thank you,

Melinda for doing an outstanding job.

Now that the holiday season is over, we need to move on to the new year ahead of us. Our 2018 Board of Directors are working and planning our activities for the New Year. We will be scheduling car shows, cruises, a poker run, club picnic and a Christmas Party. Also, this year Robbie Polo is planning a couple of cruises that will be announced at a later date. I hope that most of you can support us by attending these events and if you have any suggestions please let the MCT Board, or me, know as soon as possible. We welcome new ideas from our members.

As we welcome the new year, it brings with it the hope and promise of accomplishing and making MCT even better. Everyone knows that change of any kind is never easy, and it may take some doing in order to achieve the targets we have established, but it is not impossible and with a little help and motivation we can welcome 2018 with enthusiasm and excitement at the new things it has to offer. Now as I look forward to 2018, I hope the New Year brings fresh beginnings, exciting new experiences, and a lot of fun for everyone. In closing, I want to thank you for the support that you have given me and for allowing me to be your president. I have met some wonderful people through our Club and made some life time friendships that will remain with me forever. I am looking forward to another exciting and successful year for MCT. Finally, a very special thanks to Bill Currie Ford, Jennifer Currie, and Rob Henry for their support of MCT and helping to make 2017 a successful year for us. We are lucky to have such an awesome club sponsor. Also, let us be thankful for the blessing of the past and the promise of the future. I wish all MCT Members a Happy New Year.

Best regards,  
Frank Morales, MCT President  
[president@mustangcluboftampa.com](mailto:president@mustangcluboftampa.com)

*New Years resolutions are a bit like babies: They are fun to make but extremely difficult to maintain. — Ada Sage, Staff Philosopher*

## Welcome to Our Newest MCT Members...

Our total membership is 162 families, 274 total members!

Mario Ocasio	'01 Mustang Coupe
Jayne Alford & Conrado Ramos	'15 Mustang Coupe
Kristen Martin	'17 Mustang Conv.
Eric & Candi Quirk	'15 Mustang Fastback
Frank & Betty Torrens	'67 Mustang Coupe
Vince & Linda Caruso	'13 Shelby GT500
Michael Bellomo	'15 Mustang GT
Tucker Thiede	'06 Mustang

John Wilber	'14 Shelby GT500
Ann Shaw	'68 Mustang Conv.
Rick & Shelley Nolan	'17 Mustang Coupe
James & Darcy DeRusha	'06 Mustang GT
John McLaughlin	'17 Shelby R
Ken & Robin Bidwell	'15 Mustang Fastback
Drew Anklin & June Dawley	'67 Coupe and '17 Fastback
Andreah Alito	'65 & '16 Fastbacks
Chris & Lee Reynolds	'66 Fastback



Welcome to our newest club members! We look forward to having you join us at our next club meeting or event!

## Have you Heard?

By Rumer Mills, Investigative Reporter

(Note: Full names of MCT members are withheld to protect privacy.) Sometimes light bulb moments just happen. I had one at the MCT Christmas Party. You see, you learn a lot about people when you understand their secret names. Elf names, that is. Here at MCT we have a very special group of guys known as the Badboys of MCT. So imagine my surprise to see names like Buttercup (for Frank M.), Diddlymuffins (for Phil B.), and Speedy McPee (for Robbie P.). It might just be me, but suddenly the Badboys have taken on a whole new character and dimension. One we will never, *no not ever*, forget ...

## The Mustang Ladies Corner

By Lupe Minute, Lifestyle Reporter

Well, the holidays are behind us and a new year has begun. Already the stress of maintaining marital harmony has occurred with New Year's Day, and the annual conflict of which is more important: the football match on television, or the family celebration lunch itself.

But my Mustang Man and I have been long married, and know how to maintain harmony. Hoping to keep the peace my Mustang Man ate his lunch with the rest of the family, and even lingered for some pleasant after-lunch chat before retiring to the family room to turn on the television. Such a good husband.

And I love to reciprocate, so after a little while I looked in to see how he was and graciously even brought him a cold beer. As I smiled, and kissed him on the cheek I asked what the score was (how I like to make him think I care). My Mustang Man told me it was half time and that the score was still 0-0.

'See?' I happily said, 'You didn't miss a thing.' And all was right with our world ... 'cause I'm a good wife, too.

## For MCT Members ... Buy, Sell, and Trade

**For Sale**— 4 factory wheel covers for a 1966 Mustang. These are the factory wheel covers with accessory spinners. These are good driver quality. They are not the wire style covers. \$125.00 for all 4. Call Kevin Riley at 727-430-9545 if interested.

**For Sale**— For sale are 2 "lighted" pictures featuring early Ford Mustangs. One is from noted automotive artist Dave Snyder. This one measures approx 34 x 24. It is framed and matted. The other one measures approx 36 x 24. Both light as designed, as you can see in the pictures. Perfect for your den or garage. \$100.00 takes both. Call Kevin Riley at 727-430-9545 if interested.



**For Sale**— MCT member Christopher Sloan has an AEM cold air intake for a 2015-2017 Mustang EcoBoost for sale. He is asking \$150 o.b.o. These sell for \$275 brand



new. This setup was on his car for just under a year with approximately 8k miles on the item. All pieces still appear brand new and are still in the original box with the installation instructions. A picture of the intake on his car is shown here. Contact the Editor if you are interested.

**For Sale**— For Sale - Tail lights off my 2011 Mustang (left and right). I have replaced my lights with Raxiom units; it is time to say farewell to the 2011 units. Exact replacements for 2010-2011- and 2012. \$150.00 for the pair. If interested contact

Jon Eshleman at: phone 616-540-6210 or e-mail at [jon.eshleman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jon.eshleman@sbcglobal.net). Can deliver within 50 miles of Spring Hill.



*MCT members looking to Buy, Sell, or Trade can post items here. Our newsletter reaches all our members, sponsors and several other Mustang Clubs. E-mail your photo & info to:*

*[newsletter@mustangcluboftampa.com](mailto:newsletter@mustangcluboftampa.com)*

*To all Mustang Enthusiasts, I wish you peace, love and happiness. Blah, blah, blah ... I wish you a new Mustang in your stable. That will ensure the happiness!*

*— Ada Sage, Staff Philosopher*

# Highlights

## MCT's Annual Christmas Party



On December 10th, 2017 MCT held its Annual Christmas Party at Bahama Breeze. As everyone arrived they entered the “Elf Workshop” and became honorary Elves for the evening, starting with Elf name badges. MCT Elves work hard all year to support good causes, even remembering to bring toys to the party to give to children in need. Mrs. Claus stopped by. Keeping with her tradition of giving homemade cookies to Santa’s Elves to show her thanks, everyone received a gift bag with something from her and from the other Elves who spend their year in Santa’s Village.



We had a great dinner, a special presentation by our President, Frank Morales, and then the Red Mustang Gift Exchange began .... and do you know what Elves like more than making gifts? Getting them! Stealing them, and going home with them! Yes, for those that participated in our Red Mustang Game it was a fun way to get into the Christmas Spirit.



Thanks to everyone who came out. It was a great MCT event, and a great way to end 2017.—by *Melinda Morales*



# Highlights

## MCT's Annual Christmas Party (continued)



(left) Santa, otherwise known as our President, Frank Morales, checks on some of our MCT Elves...



(above) Here we have Elves Spanky Toes, Flirty, Spark Plug, and Speedy McPee ... and, no, they are never going to live those names down ...

(right) Our MCT Elves remembered toys for children in need this Christmas!



(above and right) Here are the wrapped gifts for the Red Mustang Gift Exchange. That time of the evening when MCT elves turn very naughty as they open gifts, hide them, steal them, and eventually get to go home with a gift to the remembered sounds of much rambunctious laughter, had by all!



(above) Here Sugarplum shows us one of the Elf Shoes left on the table, and turned into centerpieces. Thanks to Lou McCarthy for sewing these shoes for us!

(right) On a serious note, there was a special moment when President Frank Morales awarded his "Excellence in Action" award to Harry DePeppe ...

"...An Outstanding Club Member whose Special Efforts have contributed to the Success of the Mustang Club of Tampa."



Congratulations Harry!

## Shelby G.T. 350 #1 To Cross the Block in Scottsdale

*(from the Internet)* In the automotive auction universe, likely the most pomp and circumstance revolves around the annual Barrett-Jackson auction in Scottsdale, Arizona. January 13-21, 2018 will be the 47th annual Scottsdale auction at WestWorld of Scottsdale and many of the most desirable Ford collectibles representing Ford's performance heritage on both the street and track will be up for sale, including a 1966 Shelby GT 350 Prototype #001 (Lot #1406).



Virtually any Ford provides a historical narrative. Few, however, supply the storyline of the Shelby G.T. 350 Prototype #001 (Lot #1406). It represents the first step in what would quickly become Ford's dragon slayer, forging a competition history that forever set the Mustang apart from the pony cars that would come after.

Here's what Barrett-Jackson has to say about the prototype Shelby: "Chassis #SFM6S001 is a historic pre-production prototype. The very first 1966 Shelby G.T. 350 built, it is documented in the SAAC Shelby American World Registry. It's powered by a matching-numbers high-performance 289ci V8 engine and 4-speed T10 manual transmission. Conceived and built to homologate Ford's wildly successful Mustang for SCCA competition, Carroll Shelby's original G.T. 350 exemplified Ford's "total performance" mantra and conferred an unbeatable image on the trendsetting new Pony car. While all surviving G.T. 350s are indeed special, SFM6S001, the car offered here, is particularly important as the pre-production prototype and very first Shelby G.T. 350 built for 1966. A primary Shelby American test car used for most of the driving tests for the 1966 G.T. 350 development program, it was also used to evaluate a vinyl roof treatment, which was ultimately not released for sale. This G.T. 350 was also shown by Shelby American and depicted in Shelby American brochures and marketing for 1966.

Unlike the regular production G.T. 350s, SFM6S001 was not a "delete" car from Ford that was later upgraded to G.T. 350 spec by Shelby American. Rather, it began life as a factory-standard, Wimbledon White K-code high-performance 1965 Ford Mustang Fastback, with all factory-standard features remaining with this car. Among them were the welded export brace brackets, and all the welded/filled holes in the body panels for the standard Mustang emblems and body moldings that were removed during the Mustang's conversion into the first '66 G.T. 350. In addition, SFM6S001 is the only Shelby G.T. 350 to have been originally equipped with the upscale, factory-optional Pony upholstery available with regular Mustangs. Other fascinating features of SFM6S001 include aluminum inside rear-quarter window trim and the fittings for the rear-brake cooling ductwork. Late in its Shelby American days—during the last two or three weeks there—SFM6S001 was sent to ACME Auto Headlining in Long Beach, CA, and fitted with a Medium Blue vinyl top, which was briefly considered as a potential factory-available option for 1966.

According to the Shelby American World Registry, SFM6S001 was shipped to California's Hayward Motors for use as a demonstrator on May 17, 1966. Circa 1968, it was purchased by its first owner, a resident of the San Jose, CA, area. In 1971, Oakland, California's Jack Schroll purchased the Shelby, still sporting the blue vinyl top, and he would go on to retain the car until early 2004. During Mr. Schroll's tenure, the car was displayed as a painted rolling chassis at the 1976 SAAC-1 meeting in Oakland, CA, and he kept it in storage until 1998. In 2011, a complete restoration was commissioned to as-new, original delivery condition, including a Medium Blue vinyl top as it received prior to the first owner taking ownership of the car from Shelby.

Of particular note, SAAC 1966 Shelby Judge John Brown of Piedmont, Oklahoma, played an instrumental role in ensuring the correctness and authenticity of this historic G.T. 350's restoration. In confirmation of the enduring excellence of the restoration work, SFM6S001 has received the Gold Award in Division II judging at the Mid-America Ford and Shelby Nationals and was invited for display at the 2015 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, where it formed part of the first showing of Shelby Mustangs on the lawn. Driven only sparingly since it was completed, SFM6S001 participated in the annual Pebble Beach Tour—a 60-mile excursion for all concours entries—and performed outstandingly. Correctly restored, and simply fascinating, it is an exemplary one-off example with tremendous historical significance. There is no other Shelby quite like the important and distinctive SFM6S001."



# Features



## The Rusty Report

Gillis Restorations builds every car as if it were Rusty's own. They are a one stop restoration shop. From rust repairs to turn key restorations, no job is too big or too small. Let's see what Rusty is up to this month ...

I built this 1969 Mustang to race NHRA Super Stock in July 1971. It was powered by a 428 CJ with a C6 transmission with a 5.14 gear. I set the SS/GA MPH record 121.39 in 1971 and the ET record 11.27 in 1974. I was also the SS/GA class winner at the Winternationals in 1972. It was a very competitive car when I raced it 1971-1974. The clear

cracked and it was a sad day when I used a razor blade and scraped what was once a beautiful paint job and primed it gray. This photo was taken in Gainesville in 1971. (See Picture #1)

We moved from Bradenton to Ocala in 1983 and Lake Mary (outside Orlando in 1986) and I always brought the Mustang body with me. I decided to race it in NHRA Stock around 1992 and painted it white in our garage. I raced it in C/SA and also bracket raced it a little.

This was taken at the Fun Ford weekend in Bradenton. The first run on a new set of Hoosier slicks it went into a wheelstand that was a lot higher then the photo all I saw was blue sky. The engine blew up because all the oil went to the back of the oil pan and the bearings ran out of oil. (See Picture #2)

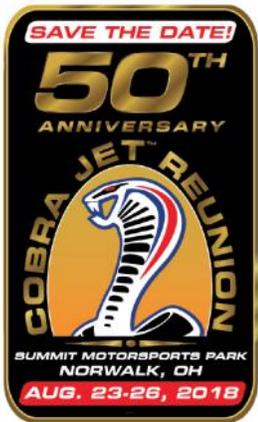
I installed my spare 428 CJ engine. (See Picture #3)

I painted it close to the way it was painted in 1971 to take to car shows and promote the shop. I also raced it a little. (See Picture #4)

I figured it has been apart a long time and it was time to put it back together. I have installed new race seats and removed the Mach 1 door panels, dash and clock and installed standard interior because it is lighter. I want to take it to car shows and race in B/SA in 2018 once I get the rebuilt 428 CJ back from the machine shop. (See Picture #5)

I have been asked to be one of about 30 Ambassadors at the 50th Anniversary Cobra Jet Reunion in Norwalk Ohio. This includes racers who raced the original 428 CJ's along with 2008 and newer CJ's as well as other important individuals involved with the Cobra Jets past and present. I'm hoping to have my car there.

*(Rusty's story continues next month...)*



[www.gillisrestorations.com](http://www.gillisrestorations.com)  
727-847-7973  
Email: [rusty@gillisrestorations.com](mailto:rusty@gillisrestorations.com)

# Features

## Area Cruise-Ins

√ Every 1st Monday - Mustang Mondays, Biff Burger & Buffy's BBQ, 6 to 9:30pm. 3939 49th St N. St Petersburg. Info: 727-522-0088. Free event. December meet is Toy Drive, bring a toy! More info on MCT facebook page.

√ Every Tuesday Evening - WOW! 5:30-8:30pm. 10902 N. Dale Mabry, free, open-to-all, trophies, 50/50, music, Info: Jerry 813-780-1215.

√ Every Friday - Citrus Park DQ Grill & Chill 6-9pm 8410 Citrus Park Dr. Music, door prizes & 50/50. Free cone for the first 20 registered. Space limited to 45 cars. Info: Paul Figoni 813468-027

√ Every Friday - Pep Boys Speed Shop, 5-8pm 10124 N. Florida Ave, open-to-all, drivers receive a hot dog & soda, door prizes, 10% discount on

*Events are subject to change so always check with organizers.*

store purchases, DJ Ed Cullins. Info: Joe 813-933-2424.

√ 1st Saturday - Dairy Queen, Lutz, 6-8:30pm. 23671 FL-54, Lutz. All makes and models welcome. Food, ice cream, DJ music, raffles and face painting. Fun for whole family. Info: 813-949-8900, or email Dawn.c@inspiringservice.com.

√ 2nd Saturday - NorthPointe Village, 5-8pm. 16506 Pointe Village Dr, Lutz. Door prizes, oldies, music and 50/50. Info: Paul Figoni 813-468-0277

√ 2nd Saturday - Breakfast & Coffee at Insty Tune. 7am to 9am. 14783 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL 33618.

√ Last Saturday - Cars & Coffee at Streetside Classics. 9am-12. 4610 Pet Lane, Lutz, FL. 150+ classic cars on

## Member Businesses and Services



Phil Collie  
*Internet Consultant*  
Lazydays, The RV Authority  
Cell: 800-626-7800  
[pcollie@lazydays.com](mailto:pcollie@lazydays.com)

John Underwood  
*Custom Cabinetry*  
U.S. Design & Mill, Inc.  
Cell: 813-854-2321  
[USDM11@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:USDM11@tampabay.rr.com)

Jeremy & Jessica Cianfrocca  
*Auto Detailing*  
Tampa Wax Slingers  
Ph: 813-409-2630  
[jcianfrocca@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jcianfrocca@tampabay.rr.com)

Fred Flesche  
*Indoor Gun Range/Sales*  
Shooting Sports Inc.  
Ph: 813-933-3000  
[ffnc@aim.com](mailto:ffnc@aim.com)

Rusty Gillis  
*Automotive Restoration*  
Gillis Performance Restorations  
Ph: 727-847-7973  
[rusty@gillisrestorations.com](mailto:rusty@gillisrestorations.com)

Glenn Bornemann  
*Auto Detailing Products*  
Garage One  
Ph: 813-380-3773  
[mustang62401@gmail.com](mailto:mustang62401@gmail.com)

Jose Chinchilla  
*Autobody & Collision*  
Full Metal Garage  
Ph: 813-217-5364  
[fullmetalgarage.com](http://fullmetalgarage.com)

*Members who would like to add your business or service, which may be of interest to other members, email your info to:*  
[newsletter@mustangcluboftampa.com](mailto:newsletter@mustangcluboftampa.com)

## Mustang Club of America

Another great perk for Mustang Club of Tampa members, who also join the National Club

### *Mustang Club of America*



MCA members can take advantage of  
***The Ford X-Plan***

Purchase a Mustang with a deep pricing discount, the process is both simple & rewarding.

Don't forget to make the dealer aware of your MCT membership for a \$150 loyalty bonus to the Mustang Club of Tampa. See below for details.

<http://www.mustang.org/content.php/274-X-Plan-Pricing-for-MCA-Members>

# Features

## Car Shows & Other Events

*Events are subject to change.  
Always check with organizers.*

*\* = Car Shows with Mustang classes.*

### Car Shows -

√ January 13 — Boggy Bottom Auto Show 2018. 10am to 2pm. 8407 Lupton Place, Plant City, FL 33567. \$25 / \$30. Open to all years, makes and models. This show is located in a beautiful country setting just south of Plant City. Over 20 vendors, 50/50 and more space for show vehicles. Breakfast served from 8-10:30am and a BBQ lunch buffet is served from 11:30am-2pm. Show car registration closes at 11am, then the professional judging starts. Registration includes 1 BBQ buffet wristbands and additional wristbands can be purchased the day of the show as well as ala carte grill items. Pre-registration is \$25 before December 31, day of show is \$30. Email: j c i a n - frocca@tampabay.rr.com.

√ January 13 — Winter Wonder Car Show sponsored by Central Florida Street Rod Association. 8am—2:30pm. Located at Sun'n Fun, 4175 Medulla Road, Lakeland, FL. Open Car, Truck & Jeep Show. Music, Trophies, Games and Dash Plaques. For more information visit CFLSRA.com.

√ January 13 — The 24th and Final Ford & Mustang Roundup presented by National Parts Depot. This will be the last year for this event. Pre-registration must be in by January 7th. This

show is located at Silver Springs State Park, 5656 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Silver Springs, FL 34488. For more information contact Derek Putnam at 352-861-8701 (ext. 4227).

√ January 14 — The Shops at Wiregrass 2018 Series Car & Truck Show. Entry Fee: \$20/\$25. Registration is 10am to Noon. Staging starts at 8am in the parking garage area. This show provides club participation winnings. For more information go to [www.premiumcarshows.com](http://www.premiumcarshows.com).

√ January 27 — Elks Lodge #2731 of Zephyrhills hosts a Benefit Car & Truck Show. Located at the Elks Lodge, 6851 Wire Road, Zephyrhills, FL. Entry Fee \$15/\$20. Registration is 9am to noon. Awards presented at 3pm. This is a open show to all years, makes and models. For information call 727-321-1211.

√ February 10 — 2nd Annual St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Sweetheart Car and Craft Show. Over 100 show cars and 22 vendors at last years show. 50/50, food, trophies, door prizes. For info call 813-986-3485.

√ February 11 — 30th Annual Car Show Festival, presented by the Venice Reginal Chapter of the Antique Automobile Club of America. To be held at Centennial Park in Historic Downtown Venice, FL. Pre-registration is \$20. Day of show is \$25. Pre-registration closes Feb 2nd. For information

contact Keith Lewis, Car Show Chairman at [lewis133p@hotmail.com](mailto:lewis133p@hotmail.com) or 305-345-0031.

### Other Noteworthy Activities -

√ Jan 23 — MCT General Meeting. Our next General meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:45pm, in the room over the Bill Curie Ford showroom.

√ Feb 13 — MCT Board Meeting. Our next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:45pm, in the room over the Bill Curie Ford showroom.

*(See MCT Website for fliers.)*

## The Rust Bucket...

*by Rusty Sparks,  
Staff Mechanic*



# BILL CURRIE PERFORMANCE CENTER

---

YOUR ONE STOP SHOP  
FOR ALL THINGS MUSTANG



**BillCurrieFord.com**  
813-872-5555

5815 N. DALE MABRY HWY.,  
TAMPA, FL 33614  
(1 Mile North of the Stadium!)

**SALES HOURS**  
Monday–Saturday  
9:00am–8:00pm  
Sunday  
11:00am–5:00pm

**PARTS + SERVICE**  
Monday–Friday  
7:00am–6:00pm  
Saturday  
7:00am–5:00pm  
Closed Sunday

# Features

## Bill Currie Ford Referral Program

\$\$\$\$ Benefits to Members of  
Mustang Club of Tampa provided  
by Bill Currie Ford!

Club members, and the club, have special Loyalty Privileges at Bill Currie Ford. Earn \$\$\$, receive discounts, and work with a dedicated team to assist you. Here is what we get in return:

\*\* \$150 – Paid to the Club when a club member purchases a vehicle

\*\* \$150 – Paid to any Member who refers a friend to purchase a vehicle

\*\* 10% -- Discount for Parts and Service

A dedicated Mustang enthusiast at Bill Currie is assigned to assist you.

Dealership Contact for MCT Members:

Jim Carson, 813-872-5555, Ext. 1335

To receive these benefits always introduce yourself as a member of Mustang Club of Tampa and present your membership card. If there are any questions contact the club President, Frank Morales, at <mailto:president@mustangcluboftampa.com> or Jim Carson at the phone number listed above. Please give Bill Currie a try, and refer your friends. Let us know if you make a purchase.

If purchasing a vehicle - present the voucher below  
with your membership card at the time of sale!

## Mustang Club of Tampa Referral Program

In recognition of the partnership with Bill Currie Ford, Mustang Club members who purchase a vehicle from Bill Currie Ford will get \$150 donated back to the Mustang Club **This Voucher MUST be shown at time of Sale along with Membership Card**

**Sales Team and Finance Team. - Please add this voucher to the deal packet**

**Accounts Payable,- Please make checks payable to the Mustang Club of Tampa. (please reference Club member/purchaser name for records)**

Thank you !



# Snapshots

*(Continued from Page 1)*

John and Darlene Esposito live in Lutz, Florida. John has three sons and two grandchildren, Ava and Braydon. John is a retired Police Officer, having served 18 years. John and Darlene enjoy car shows, cooking, photography, dogs and cats. If you know John and Darlene you know they are very active in helping various charitable groups with fundraisers such as CS4C, the Humane Society, and recently Ponies 4 Puerto Rico.

John heard about MCT through the internet back in 2014. He attended a MCT Car Show, joined the club, and has been a member ever since. John says he always has an enjoyable time at all the various Mustang events and enjoys time with his Mustang family.



*(Pictures above) Blue-bye-you before the blue stripes, and after. As you can see, Blue-bye-you loves to pose with trophies!*

*Life is like a book. Some chapters are sad, some happy and some exciting. But if you never turn the page, you will never know what the next chapter holds. Wishing you the best chapter yet ... — Ada Sage, Staff Philosopher*

**And coming Next Month ...** Isn't it strange that we tend to greet each new year like a sigh of relief, and a breath of fresh air? I do, at least. I look forward to the coming months, spring, flowers, and it all begins with the month for Sweethearts. Rusty Sparks is already running around the newsroom with a little bow and arrow pretending to be Cupid. You and I know it's just an excuse to shoot at his fellow reporters, but I'm playing along because I just can't help laughing as I watch the rest of the staff run for cover and holler in surprise when they are caught by Cupid's arrow (not to worry, it's only a toy arrow). Somehow I like seeing the staff start the year on their toes.

Anyway, speaking of our upcoming newsletters, I'd like to line up some MCT members for our "Mustang of the Month" feature article, so if you have a new pony you want to introduce, or if you have a pony that hasn't been introduced yet, please contact me. And if you are interested in being featured for the February Sweetheart edition of the Newsletter, it might be nice to have a picture of your Mustang with some kind of romantic gesture going on. If you don't know what I mean, take a look at the February 2017 edition, then give me a call with your ideas! Till next time ... - Melinda, Editor