

**MUSTANG**



**CLUB OF TAMPA**

**MCT's  
PONY EXPRESS**

***E-News – April 2026 Edition***

## **Spring has Sprung!**

Dear Club Members – Spring has arrived, by the time you read this Easter has just passed, and that can only mean one thing – our Annual Roundup is just around the corner! Everything is falling into place, trophies are being built, Judging Clinic has been conducted – we're just about ready. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the show so far! We are running well ahead of last year's record number of registrations so, if you have not signed up already, now is the time to lock in your spot!

April will also mark our return to Bill Currie Ford for a Pizza and Presentation event, and May is already booked solid with Derby Day at Ford's Garage Westchase, our annual Rally, and a special Bill Currie Ford Service Saturday with coffee and donuts! Something for everyone. Check out all our upcoming events, including a show at a new restaurant/pub in New Port Richey called the R2 Pub. Most importantly – On May 26 th we will have our elections for our Board of Directors. If you are interested in participating in the future of this club, please let me know – nominations are now open! We are always looking for fresh ideas to keep our club evolving with the hobby. We are currently in our 46 th year, we'd love to keep it going for at least another 46!

Take care and I look forward to seeing you all at our Roundup.

- Bob Turner, President, MCT

# Upcoming Events

## Mustang Club of Tampa – April and May Event Highlights

For more details and updates, follow us: [Facebook](#), [Instagram \(@mctprez\)](#) or on our Events Tab at <https://mustangcluboftampa.com/events/>

For additional events not listed here please visit [Florida Car Shows Website](#)

## Upcoming Events and Info

### April

| Date     | Event                                      | Details                                                                                                                                    |
|----------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 4  | Tim's Car Show                             | Held in Davenport, FL. A great event and a very nice collection of Fords you typically don't see around here. Plan for this for next year! |
| April 18 | <a href="#">45th Annual Roundup</a>        | 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Northpointe Village. Visit our website for details.                                                                |
| April 28 | Pizza and Presentation at Bill Currie Ford | 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Come meet the new staff at BCF and get details on our current discounts and benefits. Pizza will be served!         |

### May

| Date            | Event                                             | Details                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| May 2           | Derby Day at Ford's Garage Westchase              | Details to follow.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| May 9           | 3rd Annual Road Rally                             | Details to follow.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| May 16          | Bill Currie Ford Service Saturday                 | 50% discount on all Works packages, 9:00 a.m. to noon. The club will provide coffee and donuts. Come in and get your Ford serviced, or just come on by and enjoy some free coffee and donuts! |
| May 26          | Monthly Club Cruise-In at Ford's Garage Westchase | Elections for the Board.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| May 31 (Sunday) | <a href="#">R2 Pub Custom Car Show</a>            | 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                       |

# *Member Spotlight*

## In the Driver's Seat with Fred and Marge Flesche

by Doc Hostetler, Editor and Reporter

### A Life Built Around Cars and Community

One of the greatest joys in writing these Spotlights is discovering how cars shape the lives of our fellow enthusiasts. Meeting Fred Flesche, it's clear that his story is a testament to a lifelong passion for all things automotive—a journey that began when he was just a kid mesmerized by anything with wheels and an engine.

Fred's love for cars never faded. After earning an associate's degree, he naturally gravitated toward the automotive industry, and by age 25, he'd landed a job at a local Ford dealership. On his very first weekend, he managed to sell five cars—a sign of things to come. But despite his early success, Fred wanted to keep cars as a beloved hobby rather than a full-time profession.

This led him down the path of industrial engineering. He spent time at the New Jersey Institute of Technology and later at the University of South Florida, but quickly realized that hands-on work suited him best. His career took off as he began building industrial valves, his problem-solving skills eventually sending him around the world—most notably to China, where he built two factories for a North Carolina firm.

During these years, Fred's roots spread across continents. In Tampa, his wife Marge's career was blossoming as well; she managed Shooting Sports, Inc., on North Dale Mabry Highway. When the business came up for sale in 2003, the couple purchased it together, balancing the demands of entrepreneurship with Fred's ongoing travel back and forth to China. When his company decided to sell one of their Chinese factories, Fred, trusting his experience and instincts, chose to step away before the transition.

Fred and Marge then devoted themselves to running Shooting Sports as a team. Eventually, Marge retired to focus on other pursuits, while Fred continued to steer the business. But when he turned 80 (born in 1944), Fred felt it was finally time for a new chapter and sold the business, ready for fresh adventures.

The couple settled into their dream property—a couple of acres with a separate garage and wood shop, the perfect headquarters for a true car aficionado. Fred’s collection today is the envy of many, boasting at least nine vehicles and six trailers. Here’s a look at his impressive lineup:

- 1923 Model T Ford Depot Delivery – restored with refinished oak
- 1930 Model A 2-door – features a classic rumble seat
- 1941 Packard Touring Sedan – sleek design with a straight-eight engine
- 1948 Chevy pickup – scheduled for clear coating to preserve patina
- 1957 Chevy Belair – four-door with a powerful 350 cubic inch engine
- 1957 Ford Skyline – fully operational and road-ready
- 2024 Ford Bronco – modern utility
- Dodge Ram 3500 diesel with dually wheels – perfect for towing trailers
- 40th Anniversary Mustang – purchased in September, with updated upholstery

Every vehicle in Fred’s collection is kept in working condition—no garage queens here. His hands-on approach and dedication to restoration and maintenance make



him a standout among enthusiasts. Together with



Marge, Fred’s story is one of hard work, adventure, and unwavering love for cars—a passion that continues to drive him forward, mile after mile.



# *Pony Prep...The Stable Secrets*

## The Concours Edge

By Nannette Parra

As we pull the car covers back for the **45th Annual Mustang, Shelby & Ford Roundup** on April 18th, the difference between a "clean car" and a "trophy-winning car" often comes down to the three pillars of judging: **Cleanliness, Workmanship, and Condition.**

For our veteran members who have "been there, done that," here are the advanced secrets to securing those final few points at Northpointe Village:

### 1. The "Open Every Door" Philosophy (Cleanliness)

- **The Jambes & Hinges:** Don't just wipe the door jambes; use a soft-bristled brush to remove old, yellowed grease from the hinges and latches, then re-apply a *tiny* amount of clear lithium grease.
- **The Fuel Pocket:** Open the fuel door. Is there dust on the cap or residue in the overflow drain? It's a common 1-point deduction that's easily avoided.
- **The Glass Lip:** Roll your windows down two inches. If there is a line of film at the top edge of the glass, the judge will see it.

### 2. The Symmetry of Mods (Workmanship)

- **Hardware Alignment:** Look at your hose clamps and bolt heads. Are they oriented randomly? Aim for uniformity. Having all worm-gear clamps facing the same direction shows a level of intentionality that screams "Master Builder."
- **Looming & Leads:** If you've added a tuner or lighting, ensure the wiring isn't just "tucked"—it should be wrapped in Tesa tape or braided loom that matches the OEM harness. If it looks like it came from the factory that way, you've won the round.

### 3. Preserving the "Newness" (Condition)

- **The Pedal Box:** We spend hours on the paint, but when was the last time you scrubbed your brake and clutch pedal pads? A stiff nylon brush and a bit of APC (All-Purpose Cleaner) can make 50,000-mile pedals look brand new.
- **The "Wax Shadow":** Take a toothpick or a soft horsehair brush to the edges of your emblems and weatherstripping. Removing that tiny white line of dried wax residue is the hallmark of a true detailer.

**Pro Tip for the Roundup:** Arrive at Lutz early. Heat is the enemy of a final wipe-down.

Under the Florida sun, a hot hood can turn quick detailed into streaks – allow the metal first for a show-ready shine.

Let's make this a great show for everyone and fill the field with outstanding cars. We'll see you on the show field!

# *Snapshots from the Stable*

Mustang Memories: We want to see the herd in action! Share your favorite pictures from recent shows and club cruises with the MCT team.

"Nothing beats a sunny day at Jarrett-Gordon Ford! 🌞 Huge thank you to Tim M. and the whole dealership team for hosting another incredible show in Davenport. The Ford lineup on the field this year was absolutely top-tier! 📸👍 #FordCarShow #MustangDriver #DavenportFL"



## "📸 Mustang Club of Tampa Photo Reminder! 📸"

Don't forget to send in your best shots from your recent Cruise-in's, car shows or club gatherings for next month's newsletter! Please include your name, car model, and a quick note about the event. Send them to the newsletter editor or reach out via the MCT website." [Nannette C Parra, DVM](#)

# Membership Benefits:



MCT is pleased to have the sponsorship of **Bill Currie Ford**. In addition to supporting our annual car show, and hosting our General Meeting location, Bill Currie Ford also offers a **15% discount** to members on:

- Parts
- Service & aftermarket installation
- Body Shop

Their Referral Program is another way they help you and the club:

- **\$500 to the club when a member purchases a vehicle – we'll split it with you! (see next page)**

Use the next page to lock in your savings.

**Questions? Email**

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

**For your Bill Currie Ford Service needs, make sure you ask for PJ or Leo as your Service Writer, and Ryan in Parts for aftermarket discounts.**



Join the MCA to get even more benefits:

- Ford X-Plan Pricing (BCF will still beat this deal!)

Discounts at:

- Car Covers Direct
- CJ Pony Parts
- Hagerty Insurance
- Plus 17 other vendors

Go to [www.mustang.org](http://www.mustang.org) for details

## Our Other Partners:

**Streetside Classics Tampa** – Chris

Mauro– Call (813-501-1630) or email

[Christopher.Mauro@streetsideclassics.com](mailto:Christopher.Mauro@streetsideclassics.com) Chris to either buy or sell you classic or modern muscle car.

**Hagerty Insurance** – Email Matt Judge (mjjudge@hagerty.com) to get you custom quote.

**Insty Tune & Lube** – Let owner Andreh Alito know you are with MCT – 14783 N Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL 33618. PH – 813-960-3908.

**GT1 Detail Products** – Let Gene know you are with MCT...might not get you a discount, but he will gladly give you a tutorial on how to best use his products!

**Ford's Garage** – Ask for Mark at Westchase or Kelly at Wesley Chapel – they will make sure you feel right at home...and get you a 10% discount!

**NPD – National Parts Depot** – No discount yet, but if you mention you are with MCT, eventually maybe we'll earn one!

\*\*\*Print and bring this form to Bill Currie  
Ford, make sure it's in your deal package.\*\*\*



Purchaser's Name:

Purchaser's Address:

Vehicle VIN:

Date of Sale:

Deal #:

Referred by:

Remit ~~\$500~~ <sup>\$1000</sup> Referral Bonus to:

Mustang Club of Tampa  
c/o Rusty Gillis, Treasurer  
6330 Pine Hill Rd. #7  
Port Richey, FL 34668

\*\*\*Print and bring this form to Bill Currie  
Ford, make sure it's in your deal package.\*\*\*

# *MCT Swag*

We have an arrangement with Cigar City Promotions to produce polo shirts and hats with two logos to choose from. Thanks to Lucy Carroll for getting this arrangement set up for us, and thank you to the membership for helping us design and decide on the updated logo. If you want a hat or shirt:

**EMAIL** Cigar City at: [SALES@cigarcitypromos.com](mailto:SALES@cigarcitypromos.com) state NAME and a member of MCT. Our contact is Susan.

**POLO SHIRT:** Request men Golf or women's V-neck shirt, size and color, or provide your own shirt.

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Cost of Shirt is | \$29.95  |
| Name added       | \$ 6.00  |
| tax              | \$ 2.70  |
| TOTAL            | \$38.68. |

**HAT:** Request New Era Mesh Back Cap Idex (NE 1090), size (S/M, M/L, L/EL) and color, or provide your own hat.

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Cost of Hat is | \$21.98 |
| tax            | \$ 1.54 |
| TOTAL          | \$23.52 |

They will email you an invoice, you pay online, and they will notify you when your shirt is ready to pick up.

***Multiple Colors Available – Match your Car!***

