



The Galloping Gazette
The Official Newsletter Of The
Central Virginia Mustang Club
April 2025 / 461 Issue



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Note from the President

Past Events

Mar 8, 11:30 am	Lunch Get Together, Marty's Grill, 9357 Atlee Rd, Mechanicsville, ~ 16 members attended, great food, great service!
Mar 15, 9:30 am	Shannon Air Museum and Lunch Cruise, ~20 members participated, those in attendance really enjoyed this event, go here for pics
Mar 22, 11:30 am	Lunch Get Together, Joe's Inn, 2616 Buford Rd, Bon Air, 14 members in attendance, great food, great service, large portions! 6 members traveled to Ben Bruno's garage to see his fabulous slot car and train tracks and collections. Thanks for having us over, Ben!

Upcoming Events – See club calendar or Facebook page for details.

Apr 2, 7 pm	Monthly Meeting, J.R. Tucker High School
Apr 12, 8:30 am	National Mustang Day Cruise Meet Up Time: 8:45 AM Meet Up Location: Exxon, 10504 Patterson Ave, Richmond, VA Departure Time: 9:00 AM Route: Route 29 north, Rt6 west, Rt 151 south Destination: Bold Rock Nellysford Cidery, 1020 Rockfish Valley Hwy, Nellysford, VA 22958 Back to Richmond via Rt 9 for anyone interested in returning as a group Here is the signup if you plan to attend, https://cvmc-mustang-day-cruise.cheddarup.com .
Apr 17, 2:00-3:00 pm	Manorhouse Assisted Living – Mustang Day Cruise-In, refreshments will be provided
Apr 22, 6:30 pm	CVMC Officers and Board of Directors Meeting
Apr 26, 8am-2pm	18th Annual Spring Car Show, J.R.Tucker High School
May 10, 9:00 am	Bon Air Victorian Day Parade
May 10, 10 am	Breakthrough Car Show, Pamplin Park Petersburg

CVMC Show Registrations and Sponsorship Sign-Ups Are Now Available!

18th Annual CVMC & 40th CVMC Anniversary Show – Apr 26, 2025

As of Mar 26, 14 vehicles registered, registration \$20 until April 19, [save \\$5. \\$25 after April 19 including day of show!](#)

Website

- <http://www.centralvamustang.com/show/spring/index.html>

Sponsors - <https://cvmc-annual-central-virginia-show-sponsorships.cheddarup.com/>

40th Annual Mustang and Ford Show – Sep 20, 2025

As of Mar 26, 6 vehicles registered, registration \$30 until Sep 13, [save \\$5. \\$35 after Sep 13 display only. not judged including day of show!](#)

Website

- <http://www.centralvamustang.com/show/fall/index.html>

Sponsors - <https://cvmc-mustang-and-ford-show-sponsorships.cheddarup.com>

Proceeds from these shows will go to the following charities: 1) [United Way, Southwest Virginia Regional Rapid Disaster Response Fund](#) – this fund helps Southwest Virginia residents from the flooding disaster in 2024, 2) [Sawyer's Warriors](#) - a local 501c3 Nonprofit

Organization, providing support and assistance to bereaved families affected by childhood cancer. .

Ford Nationals – June 6-8, 2025

CVMC plans to share a tent with the National Capital Region Mustang Club again this year. When registering for the Ford Nationals, please be sure to choose NCRMC to ensure we get the numbers needed to keep the tent and a great location!

As we are aware of events, we'll post them on the Google online [calendar](#), our [Facebook](#) page, the newsletter, and a one page events list at www.centralvamustang.com/events.pdf. The events list is great to spread the word about the club and plan your weekends! Print off a few and hand them out to potential members. CVMC is an active club! I hope you take advantage of a few of the events, fun is guaranteed! If you have suggestions for 2025 events or other ideas your club, I'm listening! Contact me at cvmcpresident@gmail.com.

Be sure to let Dave Dickey, our Mustang Club of America Director at 67sprint@comcast.net know when participating in MCA shows. The 2025/26 schedule can be found at <https://mustang.org/events/>.

Membership - to renew, complete the [online-renewal application](#) to ensure we capture changes to your address, phone numbers, email address, and exquisite Mustangs. Congratulations to the lifetime CVMC members with 20 consecutive membership years!

Happy Birthday to the members born in April!

Regarding members facing illness or hospitalization, please contact Michelle Jordan, CVMC Secretary. She will take care of informing the club members.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, 4/2/2025, 7:00 PM - in person and using Zoom video conferencing.

In Person Location

Tucker High School, 2910 N Parham Rd,
Henrico, VA 23294

Zoom Video

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74470170897?pwd=LzVaWU13c0ZQY3p4S2k5b3hvQk9mUT09>

Meeting ID: 744 7017 0897

Passcode: 7NHYiR

Please, before the meeting, go to zoom.com and download the app. I am available if you want to test your audio and video capabilities. Several join and just listen in with no video, don't be discouraged by the technology, listening only is OK!

Merchandise

CVMC logo t-shirts-please send Kathy an email (cvmcpresident@gmail.com) on sleeve length, size and

color, if you would like a shirt **BEFORE** the monthly meeting or club event. All other merchandise (hats, drink cups, stickers, etc.) will be available for sale at the meeting! To see the current inventory, cost, pictures, ability to pre-pay with a credit card, go to <https://cvmc-merchandise.cheddarup.com/>. With Cheddar Up, we can handle cash, check, credit card, and Apple Pay.

CVMC MARCH MEETING MINUTES **March 5, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Kathy McWilliams, President, with 2 attending on Zoom and 24 in person.

- I. New Members: Jim joined us with a 2014 convertible.
 - II. Old Member News: Kathy and JC bought a boat. Graham's daughter got her driver's license. Ben's cars are featured in this month's Mustang Times. Tony is selling his 06 GT.
 - III. Member Updates: Carolyn Vivas' mother passed away.
 - IV. Treasurer's Report: Cathy presented the treasurer's report for February.
 - V. Membership Report: Due to unforeseen circumstances, Sandy will be extending the deadline to renew your existing membership and retain your membership number and standing.
 - VI. MCA Report: Please see Dave's complete report in the newsletter including all MCA shows for 2025-2027. Registration for the Fredericksburg Grand National is now open and will close some time in July.
 - VII. Past Events: 2/8, lunch at Rico's with 24 attending. 2/22, dinner at Tanglewood Ordinary with 18 attending.
 - VIII. Parades: We are registered for the Sandston Memorial Day parade. The Bon Air parade is TBD. Kathy will sign us up for the DC Memorial Day parade.
 - IX. Upcoming Events: 3/8-lunch at Marty's Grill. 3/15-Shannon Air Museum and lunch cruise. 3/22-lunch at Joe's Inn. March 24-29-Ponies in the Smokies. 4/12-National Mustang Day cruise to Bold Rock. 4/22-CVMC BOD meeting. 4/26-18th Annual Spring Car Show, Tucker HS
 - X. Other Upcoming Events: see the club calendar for a full list
 - XI. Website/Facebook Updates: Check both for the most up to date information
 - XII. CVMC Merchandise: No update
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

Mustang Times Article “Four for the Road” on cover, page 3 and pages 18-24 of March 2025 issue

As most of you know, I am an avid Ford fan, specifically with Mustangs and Cobras.

Taking advantage of the beautiful fall weather and colors of the trees on my property, I paid Casey Cole, a professional photographer to take over 400 pictures of the cars over a two-hour period on a Sunday morning in October 2024. Once I had the digital photographs in early December 2024, I contacted Donald Farr, editor of *Mustang Times* magazine.

Donald stated, “Perfect timing. It has been a while that we focused on a car collection. It should make the March 2025 issue.”

As a long-time member of The Mustang Club of America (MCA) and subscriber to the *Mustang Times* and *Mustang Monthly* magazines since the 1980s, I knew how to draft an article worthy of printing. I submitted the text of the article, a link to the 400 digital photographs of the cars, and several additional historical pictures with my brothers to Donald. He and his team worked their magic in its final form. The magazine was released today in both print and digital form.

I offer the attached digital copy of the magazine for your enjoyment. As I have said since day one of owning the 1967 and 1971 cars, I will NEVER, EVER sell them. I have too many memories of their construction with my late brother Charles. I know he is smiling up above. Charles was undoubtedly the smartest person I have ever known. I have always thought God blessed me with a great memory. However, Charles was nearly photographic in that he could remember anything. In fact, he remembered so many details of the cars that he worked on it shocked the owners.

Charles was a well-educated engineer with a BS in Aeronautical Engineering from The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1974 and a MS in Civil & Structural Engineering from The University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1976.

Charles created two businesses: Bruno Engineering providing Civil and Structural consulting and Charlie’s Mustangs for high performance improvements primarily in the “Fox Body” and older Mustangs.

Charles’s first Mustang projects were my brother Cyril’s 1967 Coupe and my 1971 Mach 1. We learned a lot working together on these cars as we experimented with so many improvements in the entire car, not just the engine. The article contained a picture of us dropping a balanced and blueprinted motor into Cyril’s 1967 Coupe. As Charles used to say, “Let’s pull some wrenches and improve this beast.” I offer the picture below of Charles

working on his 1974 Ford Van that he received new as a graduation gift from our parents. He removed the original 302 V8 and replaced it with a 351 Windsor.



Prior to Charles purchasing a new Ford Ranger pickup and a new Ford F350 pickup, we created a parts car using Cyril’s junker of a 1978 Dodge Colt that we affectionally called “The Jolt.” As Charles would often say, “It is your destiny.” Using a cutting torch, crowbar, hammer, and other tools we proceeded to cut off the roof and convert the two-door coupe into a pickup truck. We boxed in the rear using $\frac{3}{4}$ plywood and structural braces. I offer the picture of me posing with the car prior to the transformation. We had the most fun with that “1917 Pace Car” chasing parts all over the SF Bay Area. We also removed the front fenders to give the car a meaner look.



On what turned out to be the last day of the car’s life, I purchased over \$8,000 worth of parts in 1984 for the convertible. After I unloaded the parts into Charles’s shop, I called my mother that I was ready to leave for the one-hour drive home. I never made. A prospective buyer was test driving a Chevrolet Monte Carlo with the salesman in the passenger seat. He ran a red light while attempting to make an oncoming left turn and hit me head-on. My head cracked the windshield and knocked me unconscious. After being transported via ambulance, I awakened in a hospital 6 hours later just before midnight. Although the car was totaled, I just wanted the new Sears Diehard battery. However, the wrecking yard crushed the vehicle which yielded me full Kelly Blue Book for the car!

The article included the timeframe of 39 weekends in a 65-week period that Charles and I built the Mach 1. We were excited to finally start the car. The 351 Cleveland

engine ran a bit rough at 2,000 RPM so we called Tim Morgan who balanced, and blue printed the engine. He reminded us that the engine would be "tight" given its 11 to 1 compression ratio and internal clearances. We decided to drive it 50 miles and see if it would improve. It didn't. We returned to the shop and pulled the oil pan to find metal shavings in the oil. We pulled the valve covers to find the source of the metal shavings. We used Ford Boss 351 push rod guide plates that must have not been heat treated. Once the engine reached operating temperature, the guide plates degraded from a perfect circle surrounding the push rod to an oblong shape. The engine had to be removed and once again be balanced and blue printed to repair the damage from the metal shavings flowing in the oil. We were so unhappy we burned our overalls. We reduced the compression ration to 9 to 1 and modified the valves to burn unleaded fuel as it was difficult to find leaded, premium fuel and I was tired of adding octane booster to my gas tank at each fill-up.

Finally, after another month of delay, the engine was rejuvenated. We dropped it in and took it to the streets once again. This time however, the car had so much torque that it cracked the rear-end housing. Cyril took the car to a high-performance shop in Pomona, CA for a new Ford 9-inch nodular case with a Detroit Locker, positraction and 3.50 gears.

As for the convertible, Charles improved the stiffness of the chassis by welding in "sub-frame connectors" that ran front to back. His welds were strong and beautiful as we used to say. While at a car show, a person showed interest in the car as he said to me, "Wow, you have sub-frame connectors on your convertible. Let me look underneath." We both got on our backs to view them in detail. While on the ground we both noticed the car moved. Why? What caused it to move? He got up quicker than me to find his girlfriend sitting on my front fender wearing only a bikini, high heels, sunglasses and hat. He yelled out, "Get you fat ass off his car." She yelled back, "No one is looking at me!" The man turned to me to apologize when I said, "Technically, it's not that fat." He replied, "I like you man – and your car too!"

As these stories tell, working on cars can be "fun" as we used to say. One final story was the time I had drained the oil from the engine. I carried the 8-quarts of used oil down the ramp of Charlie's shop to dump in the recycling bin. The ramp was wet and slippery from the pigeon droppings, and I slipped. The entire pan of 8 quarts of oil poured on me from the chest down. Yuck. All I could do was laugh and tell Charles I would return the next week with my shotgun and shoot those damn pigeons. I did. We shared shooting about 20 of the birds before they finally flew away from under the roof. They never returned.

Honestly, Cyril was and is the best driver. I witnessed several times his ability to smoke any car that attempted to "race" him on the street. The best was a Porsche 911 on a two-lane freeway onramp from a standing start. The driver had on racing gloves. We had Cyril's car fully

loaded with Christmas gifts and he still smoked the guy. (I did the same thing with a 1970 Chevelle SS 396 on the freeway when I had the wife's approval to do so. That's another story.)

I hope you enjoyed my reminiscing of the good ole' days of turning wrenches with my brothers!

Ben

Here's the link to the article in Mustang Times.

<http://www.centralvamustang.com/newsletters/2025/MustangTimesMar2025.pdf>

CLUB HAPPENINGS

On March 15, 20 of our club members headed North to Shannon Airport in Fredericksburg. Robert shared that he had done some work at the airport many years ago. This is Robert with the present owner of the airport, Luke Curtas.



It was July 1974 when we first did film work, a TV commercial promoting Sidney Shannon's Sheraton Inn & Golf Course. That progressed into a 15 minute promotional on that property that included special rates for people flying into his airport for a weekend of golf...."Fly, Stay, & Play".

Everything expanded after that into films on Mr. Shannon's antique aircraft, air shows, fly-in's, and museum. The last project was a 40 minute documentary on Capt Dick Merrill, the museum figurehead and a true pioneer of aviation. The film was broadcast by PBS a few times.

Robert

After the Shannon Airport, we all headed over to the Classic Car Center.

Thanks, Andy, for putting this day together for the gang!

Kathy has included a link to more pictures from the day in her column.



Mustang Club of America report:

Our annual Regional Club update material was received at Headquarters, however, there were 2 problems that were not accepted by the committee which needed to be corrected, and notification was sent to resolve the problems. I will notify the committee when the problems are corrected for the committee to finish the review for acceptance of CVMC updated material.

As of the MCA January 2025 Board of Directors meeting in Florida, the Helene Relief Challenge to MCA chartered clubs had *DONATED* over \$42,000.00. The National Board voted to make a \$5,000.00 donation to Samaritan's Purse which raised it to \$47,000.00 with donations still coming in. Collectively the MCA chartered clubs have passed \$50,000.00 to help the communities in the flooded areas. CVMC's \$2,665.00 contribution went to the United Way of Southwest Virginia Regional Disaster Relief Fund.

MCA National and Grand National shows for 2025, 26 & 27 are listed under Events in the new website www.mustang.org.

The MCA GRAND National show "Gathering of the Herd" is August 29-31 in Fredericksburg, Virginia Fairgrounds is now open for registration, which closes July 30, 2025.

A few Regional events are listed on page 74 in the March's issue of "Mustang Times".

Now is a great time to drive your Mustang out of the garage for a little run. The drive will tell you if you need to make some adjustments to make sure it is ready for show time at Friday/Saturday cruise-ins. CVMC's upcoming Spring show at JR Tucker High School is on April 26.

March's issue of "Mustang Times" has our very own Ben Bruno's interesting Mustang story along with colored pictures, an impressive article, and page's 19-25.

For our new members you can join MCA on line. There are 4 different tier levels discussed in MCA's website www.mustang.org. "Mustang Times" magazine is the official club publication, for members only, and included with your membership. The only way you can obtain this attractively published magazine is with your membership

application. Worldwide membership is over 15,000 and growing. When you join MCA please email me at (67sprint@comcast.net) or Sandy Robbins at (CVMCmembership24@gmail.com) so we can keep up-to-date on new MCA members for our club President's award for the pasted 17 years. The magazine has beautiful colored pictures, great stories, Mustang modifications, and information from our President, Jeff Mays; editor, Donald Farr; and the Judges Corner, on pages 4, 6 and 8. As a member you can advertise your Ford parts you want to discard, sale your Mustang at no charge (for advertising) or buy another Mustang listed on pages 78 to 79.

As always check our newsletter, Facebook, CVMC events calendar, and Car Club Council of Central Virginia (CCCCVA) for any upcoming shows or activities.

Now that spring is coming, still wear your mask, and wash your hands often to stay healthy.

Articles by Dave Dickey
MCA Regional Director
Phone: 804-730-1450

MCA – CVMC Gold Card Judges:
1964 ½ to 1966 – Dave Dickey
1967 to 1968 – Dave Dickey
1995 to 2016 – Tony Hall.

CVMC – MCA *Certified Judges*:
4TH Generation: David Deusebio
Laurie Deusebio
5th Generation: David Deusebio
Laurie Deusebio, Dave Dickey,
Michelle Jordon, David Lythgoe
:



Richmond Ford
Phone: 804-358-5521
4600 West Broad St.
Richmond, Va. 23230
www.richmondford.com

Be sure to present your CVMC Membership Card for a Club Discount on parts in their Parts Department

Ron Kody, President
Richmond Ford Lincoln



MAKING YOUR MUSTANG MORE FUN TO DRIVE SINCE 1985
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CLASSIFIEDS

NOTE: please let us know when your item sells!!

CVMC is not responsible for information contained in the sale ads. Each ad will run for two months.

Officers

President: Kathy McWilliams
Vice President: Graham Marsteller
Secretary: Michelle Jordan
Treasurer: Cathy Hinzmann
MCA Regional Director: Dave Dickey
Membership Director: Sandy Robbins
Past President: Tony Hall

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