

THE GALLOPING GAZETTE

January 1997

A newsletter for members of the Central Virginia Mustang Club

Issue 123

President's Perspective

Welcome Members! I hope that everyone had a safe and nice holiday. It is time to think about the club's plans for the New Year.

I have already received information on the 35th Annual Asphalt Angels Show coming up next month, February 14-16. So everyone should be thinking if they would like to show a club display.... Please let me know at the meeting if you are interested, the deadline is January 22. (Also needs a photograph.)

Congratulations to our three new directors, Linda Cosier, Richard Jones and Susan Morris! I know that they will have some good things to offer our club. Also congratulations to Michelle Tweedy for taking over the newsletter and to Nellie for taking over Picnics & Parties. Good Luck to all.

We will have a guest speaker at the next meeting, January 8th. The topic will be "How to remove orange peel from your car's OEM finish." See you soon.

Kenny Fisher, President

Reminder to all members: January is dues renewal month.

• Don't forget to encourage your friends and other Ford enthusiasts to join the club!

Happy Birthday

Please join us in wishing the following club members a happy birthday in January!

Peggy Allen
Marty Belt
Angelo Deperis
Nellie Fischer
Darlene Schmidt
Mike Timms
Holly Walker



Coming Events:

- Club meeting, January 8
- 35th Annual Asphalt Angels Car Show, February 14-16
- Club meeting, February 5

Rick's Tips

Have you ever thought about changing the color of your classic Mustang?

In general, people who want to keep their car looking as it did when it came from the factory will not change the original color. I call these people "originality enthusiasts," as they want their car to look just as if it was new.

The other end of the spectrum are those who want to update everything: including the engine, paint, interior, wheels, tires, etc. I call these people "customizing enthusiasts."

If you do change the color of your classic Mustang, the data plate can be changed for around \$35. As long as the serial number is not changed, this seems to be legal. I do not know of any law that prevents changing the car color and I do know some people who have done it.

So the question remains, Which is correct? Keep the original color or update it? The answer is simple. The owner of the car can do as he wishes. As owner, you decide what is correct for your car.

If you would like to discuss this more, please feel free to call me during the day at 222-8481.

Happy Crusin'.... Rick

Club Sponsors

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CVMC Officers

President	Kenny Fischer	(H) 743-1490
1st V.P.	Don Lane	(H) 748-6889 (W) 748-0723
2nd V.P.	Terry Wagner	(H) 276-3129 (W) 378-5253
Secretary	Debbie Shaver	(H) 768-1209
Treasurer	George Cosier	(H) 271-2139
National Director	Paul Oliver	(H) 744-8016

1996-1997 Directors

Carroll Lipscombe	(H) 329-5901
David Lythgoe	(H) 781-0105
Don Smith	(H) 790-1211
Lonnie Tucker	(H) 746-2598

Awards & Trophies	Kenny Fischer	(H) 743-1490
Car Shows	Kenny Fischer	(H) 743-1490
Charitable Organizations	Brenda Jones	(H) 740-2096
Club Merchandise	Nellie Fischer	(H) 743-1490
Door Prizes	Brenda Jones	(H) 740-2096
Membership	Terry Wagner	(H) 276-3129
NASCAR, Motorsports	Marty Belt	(H) 556-3848
Newsletter	Michelle Tweedy	(H) 261-1856
Parades, Cruises	Carroll Lipscombe	(H) 329-5901
Judging	Don Lane	(H) 748-6889
Picnics & Parties	Nellie Fischer	(H) 748-6889
Program Speakers	Don Lane	(H) 748-6889
Publicity	Michelle Tweedy	(H) 261-1856
Refreshments	Brenda Jones	(H) 740-2096
Scrapbook	Bonnie Fischer	(H) 276-3384
Sponsors		
Trivia	Monte Evans	(H) 730-2864

Technical Advisors

If you have any technical questions regarding Mustangs, you may call one of the following members for help. They will try to answer any questions you might have.

Sonny Coble	(H) 282-4932
Kenny Fischer	(H) 743-1490
Bill Jarvis	(H) 262-2137
Carroll Lipscombe	(H) 329-5901
Rick Nochta	(H) 222-8481
Richard Jones	(H) 740-2096

Minutes of the Meeting, December 1996

The December 4th meeting of the Central Virginia Mustang Club was called to order at 7:43 p.m. by President Kenny Fischer.

He welcomed everyone and expressed wishes that everyone had a pleasant Turkey Day. He noted that a box for donations to Toys-For-Tots is located at the front of the room. If you did not bring a toy tonight, the box will be available at the Holiday Party.

Kenny reminded all members to please vote for the three open Director positions during the break, if you have not done so already. There were no new members or guests present.

Birthday greetings were extended to everyone with a December birthday. The club received a thank-you note from Donna Seay for the lovely flowers and thoughts during the recent unexpected loss of her sister.

Treasurer George Cosier reported a beginning balance of \$1109.97 minus \$123.90 (Pizza Hut) minus \$30.13 (flowers) minus \$21.54 (phone) for a final balance of \$934.40. He is still working on an explanation for the \$0.42 activity charge noted last month.

National Director Paul Oliver reported the next MCA Board of Directors meeting will be December 10. He has a 15 minute Mustang Museum video for us to view, as soon as someone can make the VCR work.

Some interesting notes from the video: the museum will be called the Mustang Experience and will be the world's most interactive museum. Its mission statement is "To Celebrate the Mustang Experience." The site has been narrowed to about 5 possible locations and will need 30-40 acres. For more information, dial 1-800-MUSTang EXPerience. Debbie asked about MCA only requiring one MCA number per household. It was said that is just the way they do business, as does CVMC.

Kenny reported that the show season is over, but it's never too early to start thinking about the Asphalt Angels show in February at the Showplace.

Carroll Lipscombe reported that the club will participate in two holiday parades this year.

First, the Chester Christmas Parade will be held Sunday, December 8. Everyone will meet at the Bermuda Square Ukrops at 12:00. Parade line-up is from Noon to 1:30 at the YMCA, with step-off at 2:00. Everyone is welcome to attend. Dinner will follow at the Western Sizzlin'.

Secondly, the Hull Street Parade will be Sunday, December 14. The route will be from 9th and Bainbridge Streets to 15th Street through an area of renovated buildings and businesses. We have 3 cars for this parade and would like more to join us. Meet and be in place at 10:00 am.

Nellie Fischer has ordered golf-style shirts which are currently being embroidered. She has hats, etc. for anyone interested. Michelle Tweedy will be taking over the club newsletter effective January 1, 1997. She can be contacted at 261-1856.

Karen Lane reported that plans for the Holiday Party are going well. Please don't forget to bring a gift to exchange, if you wish. And please bring a dish to share.

Brenda Jones read an article from the Far West End Press about our car show at Willow Lawn in September. She also displayed a photo of the wild Mustang our club sponsors, Painted Lady.

Kenny read items from the bulletin board. Michelle asked about some of the listings from last month, which Kenny had in his briefcase.

Congratulations were given to Steve Shaver for achieving certification to judge '67 - '68 Mustangs. There are several certified judges in the club, but most have held their cards for several years. New cards now have a 2-year expiration date, after which they must be renewed.

Second V.P. Terry Wagner reported the club has 81 paid members. Membership renewals will be taken tonight.

The recent scenic cruise to Ralph's Barbecue in Weldon, N.C. was great fun. We passed 2 water towers, many railroad tracks, but no port-a-potties. There were 8 ponies and 2 bulls (Tauruses) for a total of 23 participants.

The raffle for door prizes in January will be a swap meet for all those "prizes" we have won over the years but never quite got around to using. Consider it a yard sale!

The votes have been tallied and the new 1997-98 Directors will be Richard Jones, Susan Morris and Linda Cosier.

Thanks were given to Geralyn Belt for the cookies as tonight's refreshments.

A reminder: next month's meeting will be January 8 due to the holiday conflict on January 1. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Define a restoration. Define fun.

The '96 show season is over. Many of us look back at the late-night preparations and early morning anxieties, which helps us define what the term "restoration" really means. As the "perfect" car is established in the mind's eye of the judging committees in the hobby, the rest of us aspire to meet these requirements.

Frustrations abound when the seemingly ever-changing parameters continue to keep us guessing on how to attain the lofty expectations of these "experts." The judging sheets from one show may include a list of items deemed in need of improvement. Yet, after considerable time and expense correcting these perceived shortcomings, an entire new list of corrections shows up on the next judging sheet at a show sanctioned by exactly the same body.

Challenges facing the hobby today include consistent judging guidelines. It is difficult to establish these guidelines when we understand one major underlying factor: All judging, regardless of the club or organization, is currently

performed on a volunteer basis. When we understand the tireless efforts put forth by the dedicated individuals who work endlessly to put on the many shows every year, it may be easier to understand the difficulties we face in establishing a solid and stable set of guidelines to accurately judge cars.

With the fanatical escalation in enthusiasm for restoring cars to the competition level, one critical element seems to have been lost – fun. We've become so lost in checking out the tiny, almost insignificant details that we forgot to step back to view the overall presentation of the entire vehicle.

Truth be known, there are no "perfect" cars. A 100-point restoration truly does not exist. We are all trying to attain the closest likeness to an ideal that has been placed on an imaginary pedestal by the judging staff. The judges have the overwhelming task of determining how close we have come to that established ideal. Unfortunately, no matter how defined judging rules are, nor how concise the judging sheet or points allocation are, there

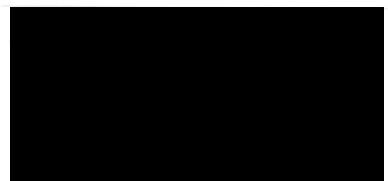
will always be a margin for interpretation by the individual, both on the judging and restoring sides. Then add on top of that human factors like emotion, pride, ego and the competitive juices that fuel most of us...and the result is further compromise.

So what does all of this mean, exactly? It means that the two essential elements must be brought back to our hobby.

First, this is a hobby. We do this in our spare time to have fun and enjoy the company of like-minded individuals with similar likes and tastes. Second, lighten up on both sides of the judging forum and acknowledge that people are really what this thing is all about. Our Mustangs and other special interest Fords don't talk, make friends or possess feelings. Bolt head markings, date codes and inspection markings are not worth taking so seriously that we lose friends or give ourselves a heart attack.

Next time you spot the vehicle in the corner with the "For Display Only" or "Not to be Judged" sign in the window, check it out. It is likely to be admired and owned by someone who has decided to live longer and enjoy our hobby more.

Central Virginia Mustang Club
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Richmond, VA 23235-0474



Please join us for the next meeting, January 8th at Richmond Ford.