



THE PONY EXPRESS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FORT LAUDERDALE MUSTANG CLUB



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June 2012



Racing legend and entrepreneur, Carroll Shelby, 89, dies.



Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

The automotive world has lost one of its greatest legends, Carroll Shelby passed away on May 10 at the age of 89, in Dallas, Texas.

Shelby was born January 11, 1923 in Leesburg, Texas to Warren and Eloise Shelby. Because of a heart ailment, he spent most of his childhood in

bed. After graduating high school he served as a flight instructor and test pilot with the US Army Air Corps in World War II.

Shelby's driving career was brief but memorable. He competed in two races in 1958 and 1959, winning the 24 Hours of Le Mans Race in 1959 with co-driver Roy Salvadori. He retired from racing in October 1959 due to health reasons, but opened a high-performance driving school and the Shelby-American Company. He was inducted into the Woodrow Wilson High School Hall of Fame in 1989, when it was created during the school's 60th Anniversary. He was also inducted into both the Motorsports Hall of Fame in 1991, and the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America in 1992.

Shelby partnered with Ford from 1962 to 1965, providing financial support for the Ford GT's and other Mustang-based cars. These cars included: the Shelby GT350, Shelby GT500 and the 427 Shelby Cobra. He parted with Ford in the late 1990's after having differences with Ford's CEO Jacques Nasser. At that point he moved on to develop performance cars for both Dodge and Oldsmobile. In 2003, Shelby and Ford settled their differences to become the technical advisor to the Ford GT project, while in that same year, forming Nevada-based, Carroll Shelby International.

Shelby was involved in both non-Ford projects as well as other projects, some even have nothing to do with the automotive industry. These projects included a Chili fixings kit, a men's grooming product in 1967 called, "Carroll Shelby's Pit Stop...a Real Man's Deodorant" and a line of 8-spoke alloy wheels for Saab. Donzi Marine, created a special, limited edition, 22-foot speedboat bearing his name, called the Donzi Shelby 22 GT. Only 50 of those vessels were made, and to this day is the only boat to wear the Shelby name.

One thing is clear, while the man is gone, his legend and legacy that he leaves behind will be around forever. Tributes to Shelby have been planned and held from coast to coast. Carroll Shelby will be sadly missed, but his legacy will live on.

Information for this article, courtesy of Wikipedia at www.wikipedia.com and MSN Autos at www.msn.com.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

George Toth - June 7
Herb Gauch - June 11
Carol Wechsler - June 14
Kevin Reeds- June 28
Stacey Jovi- June 30

Please remember to check our website www.flmustangclub.com for updates on club events. The bottom of the first page is continually updated with all the latest information regarding, club targeted shows, rally locations & times and much more. It will also be posted if a blast email was sent. If you are not receiving blast emails or do not want to, please contact Mark at admin@flmustangclub.com.

From the Editor's Desk...

The Pony Express e-mail address for all submissions and newsletter correspondences is: flmcpnyexpress@hotmail.com, please make a note of it. Of course, I will also gladly accept submissions to the newsletter in person.

The deadline for newsletter submissions will be no later than the Sunday of the last full week of the current month, for the following month's newsletter.

Thank you,
Bruce H. Solov, Editor

Feature: Member's Car Spotlight

Each month, *The Pony Express*, will showcase the car of a current member as well as the story behind that member's car.

Marci & John Stringert: 1988 Ford Mustang GT Convertible



Stringert's 1988 GT Convertible

This month's Member's Car Spotlight is Marci & John Stringert's 1988 Mustang GT Convertible. Marci & John have been members since October 1989.

"In the fall of 1988, John and I were driving home from downtown Pittsburgh, which took us past our local Ford dealer, North Park Ford," wrote FLMC Treasurer, Marci Stringert. Awestruck by the 'cool' Mustang that was sitting on the dealership's showroom floor; they stopped by to have a look.

Marci had just gotten her first job promotion, with the raise which was burning the proverbial "hole in her pocket." "With that, she decided to "go for the gusto." While she liked the LX model, the pictures of the GT Convertible, with the "really cool ground effects" and a scoop caught her eye. She wanted it in red with white interior and a white top, and of course, a 5-speed manual transmission. Stringert's current ride was a 1983 GT with t-tops. The salesperson took a liking to her '83, wanting to buy it for himself. The '83 had some issues, mainly the fact that it is leaking like a sieve and had 80,000 miles on the odometer.

She had communicated her interest in buying the '88 GT Convertible that caught her eye. The salesperson condescendingly told Stringert, "girls don't drive stick shifts," and attempted to sell her an LX Coupe with an automatic. Being offended by the salesperson's rude comments, calling him a chauvinist, they left the dealership, going to other area Ford dealerships to find what Marci wanted. Unfortunately, the search turned up fruitless, none of the other area dealerships had the red convertible with the 5-speed, white interior and top on their lots. They then returned to North Park Ford, to have them order the car she wanted, only because the salesperson wanted her '83 so badly.

Marci's new ride arrived at the dealership on a cold fall afternoon, and was able to pick up the new car the next day. "Low and behold, during the night, we got about two inches of snow, and it was lightly flurrying when we went to pick up my new baby," she wrote. "You should have seen the look on everyone's face at the dealership when I dropped the top, and John and I drove off in the snow, with flurries coming down and our scarves blowing in the

wind." Fortunately, that had the heater blasting and it was a short drive to their home. The Mustang spent the winter in their garage. They periodically see the chauvinistic salesman driving around in their old '83.

Approximately a year later, the Stringerts moved to Florida. She put the two cats in their carriers on the back seat, for the two day journey, entertained by a symphony of the cats' dueling meows. John arrived in Florida, with his '67 Mustang about a month before, and rented a home in Miramar, the only requirement being a garage. To her chagrin, the garage was about three inches too short to stable the pony. This was because the previous owners had built a makeshift wall to separate the laundry area from the rest of the garage. With Marci wielding a sledge hammer, the wall came down the next day, with the Mustang being in the garage by that afternoon.

Marci didn't work for about three months after arriving in Florida. She and her new Mustang went to the beach daily. "Hmmm, maybe that explains the skin cancer," she wrote. They then had to make a quick move after the ceiling in the rental house collapsed, buying a house in Sunrise, having no garage in their new home, both Mustangs had to live outside, they bought a couple of car covers, and made the best of it.

The Stringerts currently live in Coral Springs, with both of their Mustangs being stabled together in their garage. Her Mustang still only has 42,000 miles on it. Since the '88 is equipped with A/C, they take that one to long distance shows and shows during the summer. They have had many adventures and met many wonderful friends in both the Pittsburgh Mustang Club and the Ft. Lauderdale Mustang Clubs. To this day, she gets a boatload of offers to buy the car, but will never sell it, looking forward to many future adventures.

Stay tuned for next month's Member's Car Spotlight. If you would your vehicle spotlighted, please let the editor know.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 30 - June 3, 2012: Team Shelby 50th Anniversary Celebration - East. Carlisle, PA. 400 reserved spots in a premium location during the Carlisle Ford Nationals. Trying to set world record for number of Shelby's. For more information visit: www.teamshelby.com.

June 2, 2012: Car Corral at Homestead Miami Speedway in conjunction with the Formula One Auto Racing Association. Food and drinks available. 9 AM - 3 PM. \$10 Admission plus \$5 to park show car. Possibly enough interest from the club to form up a rally down to the show. If interested, please contact George.

June 3, 2012: (TENTATIVE - NOT ANNOUNCED YET) Dream Car Classic Downtown Hollywood. Pre-1980 classic cars, modern classics and custom cars from 1981-2012. First Sunday of every month through June. \$10 registration. Show hours 10 am - 2 pm. Show Car Entrance: 20th Avenue & Tyler Street. Registration from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

June 9, 2012: Club Targeted Event - Florida Marlins Game. 7:30 pm. This is a non-car event. In fact you do not have to drive at all. We will travel to the new stadium in a small bus courtesy of Derrick and Shelly. If interested please contact Mark or Arlene ASAP. Departure time for the bus is 6:00 pm. The location will be I-95 & Pembroke Road, exact location TBA. So far about 22 people are going. NOTE: as of 5/21 the group tickets have been purchased. You may still ride in the bus as long as there is room.

June 22-24, 2012: Club Targeted Event - Annual FLMC get-away to Matanzas (Fort Myers-Sanibel area). This is a non-car event. We have a group rate with the Harbor House at the Inn hotel. Their number is 866-998-9250. As of March 15th, there weren't many rooms left so please reserve soon. We typically spend one day out on pontoon boats. Any questions, please contact Marci. Most likely everyone will meet up at the hotel. Any caravans will be posted here prior to the weekend.

July 12-15, 2012: Key West Power Cruise. Begins in Lake City, spending night in Key Largo, continues to Key West.

August 12, 2012: Tattoo Exp Car Show. Hosted by Cruisers of South Florida.

August 25, 2012: Battle of the Brands (Ford v. GM) Car Show. 4 - 9 pm. Strikers Family Sportscenter, Sunrise.

As a reminder, FLMC Monthly Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month, starting at 7:30pm at:

Maroone Ford of Fort Lauderdale
1333 North Federal Highway
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33304

Meetings generally last about one hour, for more details and directions, visit our website.

Monthly Mustang Factoid

All 1965 Shelby Mustangs, as well as some early 1966 models, were delivered without back seats. Early 1966 models also retained some of the heavy-duty chassis modifications that came standard in 1965.

***The Complete Book of Mustang, Every Model Since 1964 1/2, by Mike Mueller, p.57, 2010 MBI Publishing Company.*

