

SWMMC Pony Tales

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHWEST METRO MUSTANG CLUB
THE TWIN CITIES' CHAPTER OF THE MUSTANG CLUB OF AMERICA

Here We Go!

Mustangs On The Mississippi

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Pit Stop	2
New Member Welcome	3
Show Scene	5
Cruise Corner	5
Charity Update	6
Members' Machines	8-9
Members' Adventures	9
Fun Zone!	10
MCA Update	10-11
Want Ads	11
2018 Club Calendar	12
Your Club Leadership Team	13
About The Cover	13
In The Trunk	14



Apple Ford Shakopee
Sponsors the SWMMC
1624 Weston Court
Shakopee, MN

HAGERTY®

Hagerty
The Official SWMMC
Insurance Sponsor
www.hagerty.com



swmmcinfo@gmail.com

www.southwestmetromustangclub.com

www.facebook.com/southwestmetromustangclub





By SWMMC President
Dan Nicewander

March...only 1 more month until we officially kick off the car season here in MN! We've had 3 Off Season activities (Movie Day / Toys for Tots in Dec, Annual Banquet in Jan, and Shooting Night At The Range last month), and are set for Feb's Axe Chucking on the 7th! All in all a great time with the club while our rides were sleeping.

The night at the Range was a great time. We started off with safety instruction by the Range team, talked



a bit about how the process would work, and then they quickly checked us in. Close to 20 members attended so there was a wide range of experience and capability, including at least 1 person who had never fired a gun before (who said they had a great time by the way and want to go again!).



One of the best parts of an activity like this is the time to talk in between your turn to shoot. This comradery is one of the best parts about of our club, and it just makes for a fun evening.

Driving season is pretty much in sight now, and most of us can't wait to get going! We have a whole line up of things on the calendar for you to participate

in, and we're super excited to continue to offer our members a wide variety to choose from. Check out the calendar towards the back of this newsletter and mark down the dates of the activities that you want to attend. Summer gets so busy so quick that if you're like me, you'll have to make choices on what to attend and what you'll have to take a pass on. But that's why we have such a full calendar – so people can pick and choose what appeals to them. This year we have ~40 different events on the docket!



Speaking of "things to go to", **our Treasure Island event that we spoke about last fall is ON!!!** We envision this to be a 3-day Mustang event that we're calling **Mustangs On The Mississippi!** We're holding it on Fri July 24th through Sun July 26th at Treasure Island just north of Red Wing, and hope to develop this into the club's marquee event. Think something along the lines of Mustang Week or Shelbyfest where it's a regional or even national draw, pulling in Mustangs from more than just MN. The anchor of the event will be a Saturday car show, but there will be several other activities such as a river bluff Poker Run, River Cruise, Red Wing adventure, Golf outing, and much, much, more! We'll have more details on this in the near future, but Treasure Island is looking to be a great partner for this, so block those dates out on your calendars as it will be one you won't want to miss!

HAGERTY® And speaking of partners, I'd like to welcome Hagerty, who has just started a partnership with us as **The Official SWMMC Insurance Sponsor. Welcome to the club Hagerty!**

I hope you enjoy reading this month's Pony Tales!
Dan... swmmcinfo@gmail.com



By SWMMC Vice President
David Anderson

Welcome to six new members this month! We look forward to meeting you at club events. One more off-season event to join us at and then the driving season is just around the corner. Can't wait to get back on the road!

Kristopher Flaten – Burnsville
1989 Ford Mustang SSP

Jerry Flatau – New Ulm

Wilson and Katie Hall - Cannon Falls
2006 Mustang Convertible

Bill Hoofnagle – Excelsior '67 Convertible Mustang

Jordan Kauffman – Hopkins 2011 Mustang GT

Timothy Lowing – Hastings 2014 GT/CS

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that 2020 dues are due!! I hope you plan to join us for another year of camaraderie, community involvement, charities, social events, cruises and car shows!

Don't miss out on the April newsletter because of unpaid dues. This is how you stay in the know with the club on upcoming events, members rides, and adventure articles, cruise and show updates, Fun Zone performance driving events and the occasional Wrencher's corner.



David Kronk has updated the signup/renewal form for an improved and quicker experience using PayPal! Remember if renewing, you only need to select renew and enter your name so I can look you up. Or, if you prefer to send us a check or pay at an event or meeting, that is fine with us also. Pick one of the following options to renew your membership today!

To register online with PayPal click here:

[Sign me up for another great year with the SWMMC!](#)

To send a check, mail it to:

Pete Schmidt
Attn: SWMMC renewal
500 Highland Drive
Chanhassen, MN 55317

To register in person:

Join us at our monthly meeting at Poor Richard's

Your SWMMC VP – Dave "Major Hazard" Anderson





**Apple Ford
Shakopee**

is a proud sponsor of the
Southwest Metro Mustang Club

**Contact them today for your
SWMMC club member discount
on parts and that new Mustang!**

(952) 445-2420

1624 Weston Ct, Shakopee, MN 55379

applefordshakopee.com

facebook.com/applefordshakopee



The 7 APPLE BRAND PROMISES



PRICING

ONE LOW PRICE, PLAIN 7 SIMPLE, ALWAYS

Whether you're 18 or 80, you get the same price, up front, 24/7. There's no need for customers to negotiate with us to get our Best Price. Same Best Price, whether on the lot or on the Internet. We always have fair prices representing solid value.



NO PRESSURE

RELAXED SHOPPING EXPERIENCE & CONSULTATIVE SALES PROCESS

Relax, our sales team is here to help you make a wise choice and they're paid based on how satisfied you are, not how much you spend or even what vehicle you choose. Our customer-friendly consulting process aims to identify first, the wants and needs of our customers before we present our offerings to them. It is a process to build the customer's knowledge of what choices they have available prior to deciding which vehicle is best for them.



TRADE-INS

REAL CASH VALUE FOR YOUR TRADE

You'll know what your vehicle is worth before you start to shop. It's based on the current market value of your vehicle and doesn't depend on which one you want to buy. We'll pay you that for your vehicle even if you don't buy ours. We have an interactive trade evaluation process designed for the customer to get all of the money for their trade up front without negotiating. We replace negotiation with documentation and proof. We sell more used vehicles than anyone else in the market so we need your trade, thereby we can pay you top dollar to get it.



VEHICLE SELECTION

THE RIGHT VEHICLES AT THE RIGHT TIME

We have the right vehicles in stock, based on what you want, at the best value for your money. Always 100's of vehicles to choose from. Various levels of reconditioning. And we are more than happy to share with you what we have done and what we have not done... that's transparency. All vehicles are priced up front, 24/7 with our very Best Price.



FINANCING

FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR TODAY & YOUR FUTURE

Competitive financial services to meet your budget. Your choice and your credit history won't change the price of the vehicle. Financial services process aimed at creating the highest value for the customer today and in the future retaining those customer for life.



PEACE of MIND

YOU CAN'T BUY THE WRONG VEHICLE FROM US

7 day money back guarantee on most pre-owned vehicles: Bring it back in the same condition it was in when purchased and get a full refund. No questions asked. 30 day exchange available on most pre-owned vehicles: Return your purchase within 30 days and receive the full purchase price towards any vehicle on the lot. 3 months, 3000 miles drive train warranty on most pre-owned vehicles.



VEHICLE SERVICE

DEPENDABLE SERVICE TO MEET YOUR SCHEDULE

Our professional team is here to provide you full maintenance and repair services when you want and need them, including Saturdays. Extended service hours, nights and weekends. No appointments needed for oil change. Top Notch, customer friendly Collision Center services. Professional service staff that is focused on your needs.



By SWMMC Show Directors
Phil and Ruth Riddell

Another month closer to car season! I have so many thoughts running through my head... What blower can I put on my little 4.0? What can I do to squeeze just a little more power out of it?

What are you all doing this year to your Mustangs? Are you looking to improve performance? Or maybe the looks of your Mustang with a ceramic coating? Make it shine so it looks great for the upcoming car show season?

Unfortunately, I will not be able to do too much with mine this year due to an injury and surgery that will keep me from driving "ItsOrng" for a good part of the year. So, if I can't drive it I'll ride shotgun with Ruth! I will however be on that drag strip running mid 10's in my mind of course!

So far over the winter I have learned a great deal about the inner workings of SWMMC. Getting things prepared, made, donations and door prizes and so much more! We've gone back and forth on some shows and we have some in the making!

Due to some logistical problems the Fidelity lot we had planned to use for the All Mustang Show and Muscle Car Bash (formerly Pony Wars) we have asked the Management company to use the East lot by Fuddruckers this year. We have some all new Best In Show trophies we will be bringing to the Muscle Car Bash as well – one for best Mustang, one for Challenger (Dan leave yours at home!) and one



for Camaro! Things are moving along and we will update everyone as we set things in stone. I am

excited to see what everyone does to their rides this season and see what y'all bring!

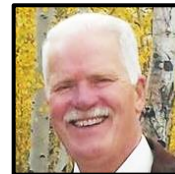
We'll have more information coming in the next few weeks, but as you might have noticed by Dan's comments in the President's Pit Stop, our Mustangs On The Mississippi event is BACK ON!!! Make sure you attend the monthly meetings as we get ready for what we think could turn into a regional Mustang event ... brought to you by the SWMMC!!!

Did you hear about the Alabama State Troopers chasing a Mustang east on I-20 toward Georgia? When the suspect crossed the Georgia line, the first trooper pulled over quickly. The rookie trooper pulled in behind him and said "Hey, Sarge! Why did you stop?" The Sarge replied "Forget it, he's in Georgia now. They're an hour ahead of us, so we'll never catch him now." 😊

2020 Show Dates...

- **All Ford**, May 17th at Apple Ford, Shakopee
- **Pony Wars**, Aug 15th at France Place, Edina
- **All Mustang** show (would fold into MotM)

Your SWMMC Show Directors – Ruth and Phil



By SWMMC Cruise Director
Steve Gunderson

Greetings fellow Mustang owners! By the time you read this our cruise season will be only a month and a half away!! Let's hope Mother Nature will be a little more cooperative than what we have seen the last few years!

National Mustang will be celebrated in the North Metro this year, on Friday, April 17th at the Shortstop Bar & Grill in Fridley, followed closely by our annual "Kickoff" cruise to King's in Miesville on Sunday, April 19th. Email invites for both will be sent in early April.

Please check the club calendar for our complete cruise schedule for 2020, it is going to be another fun year of cruises!

Your SWMMC Cruise Director – Steve



By SWMMC Charity Committee Chair, David Kronk

The club charity committee met on Feb 10, to get the year kicked off. This should be our largest giving year ever!

We will continue with the 2019 donations:

- We will give three scholarships for \$750 each to PLHS auto-tech students.
- We will get a list of requested tools from the PLHS auto-tech leaders, and review the list for funding.
- DAV MN will get the profits from our Muscle Car Bash show.
- Our December off-season event will be a Toys for Tots drop-off, and we will also support them with a check for \$1,000

We are vetting two other schools that have automotive programs. These are Minneapolis

Roosevelt and Waconia. If they are a fit for our club, the committee will make recommendations to leadership about the level of support.

New this year, **we are going to do two activity-based charitable events** to allow us to greatly expand participation among our members:

- We are volunteering at **Feed My Starving Children**, Chanhassen, on **April 2**. Look for an invitation for this at the end of February.
- In the fall, we will work with **Operation Christmas Child**. This organization collects shoeboxes full of gifts based on age and gender. More info will be sent in the fall.

Thanks to our charity committee for their service! Mary Anderson, Ty Granger, Rich Herpers, David Kronk, Dennis Mevissen, Dan Nicewander, and Steve Schmid

Your SWMMC Charity Committee Chair – David



IF YOU HEAR “TOPLESS” AND THINK “CONVERTIBLE,” WELCOME TO THE CLUB.

HAGERTY.

If you love cars, we speak your language. Join the world's largest community for automotive enthusiasts and save money on car stuff, get behind the wheel at members-only events, receive six issues a year of *Hagerty* magazine and get insider guidance on car values, trends, buying and selling.

Join the club at Hagerty.com/joinhdc



Membership benefits provided by Hagerty Drivers Club (HDC), a non-insurance subsidiary of The Hagerty Group, LLC. Roadside services provided by/through Cross Country Motor Club. Only the Hagerty Drivers Club program guide contains a complete description of benefits. Hagerty, the Steering Wheel logo and Hagerty Drivers Club are registered or common law trademarks of The Hagerty Group, LLC. ©2020 The Hagerty Group, LLC. All rights reserved.

This month's Members' Machines comes from SWMMC founder Pete Schmidt!

"My Mustang journey began late Spring 1979. I was the recipient of a red 1967 coupe as my first car. It was mostly red, with rust covering that which wasn't red. The first order of business was putting in floor pans as the road was visible from all four seats. After a while I bought a second '67 coupe to harvest a black interior, nearly rust free doors and a truck lid. The second Mustang was robin's egg blue, so I had a two-tone car. Both rear quarter panels were replaced with new metal and primer coating leaving me with a three-tone car. Another year passed before the straight 6-cylinder motor was replaced with a brand new straight 6. Late in 1981 the car was finally repainted candy apple red.



I sold the Mustang in the Spring of 1983 and bought something bigger and more reliable for commuting to college. Once college was behind me, I tried

a Mazda RX7 as a sports car and it was a blast to drive, but it never was quite what I had with the Mustang. Then life and kids caught up with me and the sporty car was gone.

The release of the retro 2005 Mustang re-ignited my passion for a pony car. In the Fall of 2010 we could afford a used car and we purchased a legend lime green 2005 GT. I wasn't looking for a green car, but the color has since grown on me. As often happens with Mustang owners, I caught the modification bug. I started with floor mats, mufflers and a short antenna, but the CAI and tune with 4.11 gears was enough to push me toward wanting more performance.

Since then a Vortech V3 supercharger has been



added. After market sway bars, shock tower brace, panhard bar, rear upper & lower control arms, 4.11 gears, lowering springs, tokico shocks, short throw shifter, and GT500 front brakes have been added to make the pony handle a little better.



I soon found myself chasing performance upgrades to keep up with more horse power – after market motor mounts, welded-in sub frame connectors, stainless steel brake lines, drilled & slotted rotors, performance tires, 3.73 gears, a new Kevlar clutch, one-piece drive shaft and 6-speed Tremec transmission. I tried autocross and a high-performance driving experience (HPDE) since I had finally caught up with my power and my car was finished being modified. I found the driving events to be fun and a great opportunity to learn how to better handle the Mustang on the road. Alas, I was wrong that I was done modifying my car.



A series of events led to three rear end gear and differential cover changes, a complete valve/head job, new Ford Racing cams, long tube headers and an air-to-air intercooler for the supercharger (now 425 rwhp and 400 ftlb torque). With any luck Pandora, the name of my Mustang, is done morphing and ready to run.

Along the way the exterior of Pandora was modified to be a tribute to the 1969 Mach 1 fastback. Flying in the face of my new technology avoidance, I broke down and installed a new 9-inch screen radio last summer due to the new hands-free law in MN. So, many, many changes to the Mustang over ten years. The changes have been mostly fun to execute (the valve/head job was a budget buster ☹️) and the

altered personality is certainly to my taste. Pandora has won only a few awards over the years, but she is a winner in my eyes and is chomping at the bit to get back on the road. - Pete

If you'd like to have your ride published in our newsletter, please send me a short write up and a picture or two!

Dan... swmmcinfo@gmail.com

Members' Adventures

This month, SWMMC member Chuck Bucanan writes a bit about his adventure at SEMA...

"Last fall I had an opportunity to finally attend the SEMA (Specialty Equipment Market Association) show in Las Vegas in October of 2019. A friend of a friend had a product booth at the show so he supplied me a pass. Wow.

This was the largest auto show that I have ever experienced.

It encompassed every bit of the Las Vegas Convention Center, which is a massive space. There was just about any kind of automotive equipment made as well as several custom cars on display. To improve your navigation around the



halls, they provide a Show app that has an index and location for every booth at the show as well as a list of events going on and products on display. There is a New Products Showcase that exhibited more than 3,000 new and featured products.

In the Platinum lot outside the central hall was a track setup with tight turns. The Ford Performance Group ran new Mustang GT's in drifting displays.

Inside there were several car show celebrities showing off their products. I had pictures taken with Wayne Carini (Chasing Classic Cars), Barry Meguiar (Meguiars Auto Products) and Aaron Kaufmann (Fast & Loud). The Mustang GTs were popular product display cars.



I hope to return as there is so much to see and I now have a better idea of how to see things I missed."



Have you been on an adventure that's car related in any way? Send me a short write up and a picture or two or three and we'll get it into the newsletter!

Dan... swmmcinfo@gmail.com



By SWMMC Vice President David "Maj Hazard" Anderson
Welcome to the **Fun Zone!**

Going to Kansas Speedway for a NASCAR race!

A group of clubbers are starting to plan for a weekend trip to see the spring NASCAR race at the Kansas Speedway. The NASCAR race is on Sunday May 31st, 2020.

As of Feb 18th, we had 14 people signed up to attend. A block of tickets (\$150 combined for Saturday's truck race and Sunday's NASCAR



race) along with race day radios will be purchased for the group by the time you read this newsletter.

The seat location for our block will be shared in the next newsletter. If you are interested in joining the group at the track, you can buy a seat near us, or at least coordinate a way to meet up with the group in the parking lot for tailgating or the races.

We have talked about tailgating before the races, and folks should know they can bring small coolers into the track for the races (with beverages, food, etc). Mike Ackerman has mentioned people can also rent head phones to use on site during the race to 1) block out some of the motor noise and 2) listen in on track talk, etc. Parking at the speedway is free.



As a quick reminder, the plan is to leave early Friday May 29th and be in KC early afternoon. We would head back to Minneapolis the morning of Monday June 1st.



A block of rooms will be reserved at a suggested Staybridge Suites hotel (\$129/night plus tax) and folks will figure out their own transportation down & back – ride share etc. If interested in learning more, let Pete know at swmmcinfo@gmail.com

Click [HERE](#) for the Staybridge Suites Independence booking link for Minnesota Mustangs. Guests will select the link, choose the dates in which they'd like to stay with us, and then the negotiated rate will appear. Please let me know if you have any questions or if there is anything I can assist you with further.

MCA Update



By MCA Regional Director
Pete Schmidt
SWMMC is the Twin Cities' Chapter club of the Mustang Club of America

We are pleased to say that the Southwest Metro Mustang Club has received our re-chartering application and have once again been awarded status of Regional MCA Club!



MCA national show schedule:

- March 27-29, 2020 Spirit of the West National Show, Tucson, AZ
- May 27 - 31, 2020, Mustang Week National Show, Eureka Springs, AR.

- July 31 – Aug 2, 2020 Nickel City Mustang Roundup National Show, Buffalo, NY
- Sept 4 – 6, 2020 Rockets and Rays Grand National Mustang Show, Melbourne, FL

Our SWMMC Treasurer David Kronk is planning on driving to the Mustang Week National Show in AR over May 27-31. If you're interested in going along, please contact David for more information.



FOR SALE: SWMMC Club Merchandise! We've partnered with CafePress.com to allow our logo to be placed almost 200 items that members might be interested in. To see the different items that you can purchase with our logo, click [HERE](#)



Want Ads **FOR SALE: SWMMC Member T-Shirts and baseball caps!**

We carry only the highest quality of club t-shirts and caps in most sizes! We have these at most all of our club events including our monthly meetings, shows and cruises, and are only offered to members. Contact us to reserve one.



FOR SALE: SWMMC Club Jackets! If you are interested in purchasing a club jacket, please contact Jill at [HERE](#) who has our logo all set up and ready to be embroidered on your favorite style. There are a wide variety of types, sizes and colors.



2020 SOUTHWEST METRO MUSTANG CLUB EVENT CALENDAR

04 Annual Banquet
29 Monthly Meeting

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JULY						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

9-11 Iola WI Old Car Show
11-12 **Cruise** - Overnight:
Bridges of Madison Cty & John
Wayne Museum Winterset IA
17-19 Street Machine Nats
24-26 **Show** - Mustangs on the
Mississippi All Mustang Event
29 Monthly Meeting

7 Off Season - Shooting
26 Monthly Meeting

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

8 **Cruise** - Muscle Car
Restorations Chippewa Falls WI
15 **Show** - Pony Wars, France
and 494
16 UMRSAAC All Car Show AS
26 Monthly Meeting

7 Off Season - Axe Throwing
25 Monthly Meeting

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

1-7 Sturgis Mustang Week
20 **Cruise** - Dragon Willow
Winery Long Prairie
26 Muscle By The Lake 10 at
the Nicewanders
30 Monthly Meeting

17 **Cruise** - Nat Mustang Day,
Shortstop Bar & Grill Fridley
19 **Cruise** - Kings Miesville
29 Monthly Meeting

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

10 **Cruise** - Fall Foliage Run &
Hoisington BBQ Hager City WI
28 Monthly Meeting

2-3 Shelbyfest Jefferson City
9 **Cruise** - Remlinger Muscle
Cars Winona
17 **Show** - All Ford, Apple Ford
Shakopee
27 Monthly Meeting
31 Fun Zone - NASCAR in KC

MAY						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

18 Monthly Meeting
21-22 Muscle Car & Corvette
Nationals, Chicago

7 UMRSAAC Apple V Show
14 **Cruise** - El Rancho Manna
Horseback Trail Ride or Horse
Drawn Trolley Ride Richmond
19-21 Back To The 50s
24 Monthly Meeting

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

05 Dec Off Season Activity
25 Christmas Day

Monthly Meetings

SWMMC Shows

SWMMC Cruises

Fun Zone

Off Season

Other Events

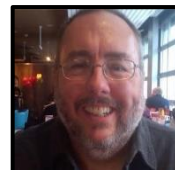
Your 2018 SWMMC Leadership Team



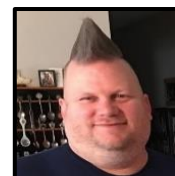
President
Dan Nicewander



Vice President
David Anderson



Treasurer
David Kronk



Secretary
Dennis Mevissen



Cruise Director
Steve Gunderson



Show Directors
Phil and Ruth Riddell



MCA Regional Director
President Emeritus
Pete Schmidt



Content Design
Jeff Mattson



Newsletter Editor
Dan Nicewander



**Webmaster and
Charity Committee Chair**
David Kronk

You can contact any of your club leadership team by emailing us at: swmmcinfo@gmail.com

Are you interested in becoming part of the club's leadership team? We would love to have you shadow one of us to help you see what's involved - and why our roles are not all that hard! Just talk to us at any club function!

ABOUT THE COVER

The SWMMC Leadership Team is excited to announce that Mustangs On The Mississippi is a go! There's a lot of effort to do in a short time, so watch your emails and come to the monthly meetings to learn more about this marquee event!

Interesting Mustang & Auto Related Tidbits

The 2007-2014 Mustang GT500 is already a collectible! by Brandan Gillogly. First seen on hagarty.com Feb 06, 2020.

“The Ford Mustang has a rich heritage from which to draw, filled with performance variants aimed at both road courses and the dragstrip. In 2007, Ford’s SVT team dusted off the iconic GT500 moniker, last used in 1970, for its most powerful production pony yet.

The big news for the 2007 GT500 was its 5.4-liter iron-block V-8 that produced 500HP at 6000 rpm thanks to a supercharger and charge cooler. The tall-deck 5.4-liter had been used in the U.S. in trucks and SUVs since 1997, but only made it to two previous car applications—a naturally aspirated 385-HP version found in the Cobra R in 2000, and the supercharged, 550HP, aluminum-block version from the 2004–2006 Ford GT.



Contemporary reviews of the GT500 praised its brute power and improved handling, but 500HP wasn’t enough for Ford. The limited-production GT500KR of 2008 and 2009 brought the iron-block



5.4-liter’s output up to 540HP, the same as the standard GT500 for 2010, which

also got a thorough redesign along with the rest of the Mustang lineup. For 2011 and 2012, the 5.4-liter produced 550HP and received a new aluminum block, matching the mid-engine GT’s power output

and surpassing the GT’s torque figure with 510 lb-ft of its own.

For most of its life, the GT500 had no real competition, but soon after the Camaro returned to the market, Chevrolet added the 580HP ZL1 to the mix. Just when it seemed that the 5.4-liter was tapped out and Ford would have a hard time upping the ante, SVT engineers went all-in with the 5.8-liter Trinity V-8. With more than an eighth of an inch added to its bore, the Trinity V-8 stretched the displacement of Ford’s Modular V-8 to its limit. The bores were so large, cast-in iron liners were a no-go. Instead, iron plasma was sprayed into the aluminum block to form the bores. The cylinder heads received improved cooling, but were otherwise almost identical to the 5.4-liter heads. New camshafts and extra boost from the supercharger, working with the added displacement and increased flow of larger bores,

combined to produce a staggering 662HP! It made the



GT500 the most powerful pony car yet—a short-lived title, as the 707-HP Hellcat debuted in 2015.

Those later-production GT500s were blisteringly fast and they brought a racecar-like firm suspension to the street—not something for the faint of heart. Unlike the ZL1 with its magnetic suspension, the GT500 didn’t offer up many compromises to comfort. It was just what enthusiasts wanted at the time, and apparently, they still want it.

Our valuation specialists go through a lot of collector car data, and the fifth-gen Mustang GT500 shows some of the most consistent buyer interest, with an adjusted Hagerty Vehicle Rating between 71 and 75 over the last five months.”