



PONY XPress



The Official Publication of the
Garden State Region Mustang Club

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President's Message

We're only days away from February and you're finally getting your January newsletter. I can run down a list of excuses but in the end, it comes down to motivation. After 26 years of doing this newsletter (John Rerecich gave me a 4 year break a few years back. Funny, he moved away shortly after that & I haven't heard from him since...Hmmm.) I didn't think that I had anything to say.

Granted, our Installation Dinner notwithstanding, January is one of the club's slowest months. Although I, along with the rest of the Board have been busy behind the scenes setting up 2024's schedule of events, much of that still needs to be finalized, so what can I say. Well, I can say that it will be a busy year, as we celebrate our namesake's 60th Anniversary. Besides our GSRMC events there will be a lot of special events and shows that will mark this milestone.

Speaking of the dinner, I was unable to attend this year due to a cold I was suffering through at the time (One of those previously mentioned excuses.). Fortunately, my wife, Louise, was able to represent me and Bill C. was able to run the show in my absence. I heard that it was a great night, and the food was delicious and plentiful. I also heard that our guests from the Marine Corps League gave us a gift (shown on the right) that we will be auctioning off later in the year.

I would like to thank the Hartmanns for setting up the dinner this year. Since the Zeris Inn closed a number of years ago, we've been to numerous restaurants with a few different chairs. It was nice to see Bill & Maryann take charge this year.

Welcome New Members		
Mark Silverman	Stanfordville, NY	'19 GT350
Judy DiVico		'23 Mach I

Thank you also to Helaina Semmler for everything she does to help make the dinner a success, particularly getting the ringer gifts that make the gift exchange so entertaining.



Let's get back to the newsletter. It's no secret that I've been looking for someone to help with the newsletter or take it over. I have also wondered if the newsletter is necessary in this age of instant knowledge that is the internet and social communication via Facebook. I'd like to hear from you in that regard.

In the meantime, a little help goes a long way. Other than our long-distance member Rick M from MD, and our former treasurer in NC, I haven't received any cover car articles in quite some time. I know almost all of you have a Mustang and a Mustang story, and I know that most of you have not submitted an article. You can use the form elsewhere in this issue as a guideline and send me pictures of your car (different angles, interior, engine compartment, etc.).

Until next month,

Mike DeLiberto, #001



WWW.GSRMC.ORG

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| Feb. 14 | FIRST GSRMC Meeting of 2024 at the American Legion Hall. |
| Mar. 20 | GSRMC Meeting |
| Mar. 23 | St. Patrick's Day Parade, Ringwood |
| Apr. 5-7 | Mustang 60 th Celebration. Barber Motorsports Park, Birmingham, AL
www.mustang.org |
| Apr. 13 | GSRMC National Mustang Day Celebration |
| Apr. 17 | National Mustang Day, GSRMC Meeting |
| May 31-Jun 2 | Carlisle Ford Nationals. Carlisle Fairgrounds, Carlisle, PA. Celebrating Mustang 60 th Ann & Mustang II 50 th Ann.
www.carlisleevents.com |
| Aug. 2-4 | 61st Ann Das Awkscht Fescht. Car Show & swap Meet. Mustang is featured car. Memorial Park, Macungie, PA
www.awkscht.com |
| Aug. 16-17 | Woodward Dream Cruise & Mustang Alley. Detroit, MI. Area |

GSRMC member Jeff Chase is offering his automotive repair services to fellow members at reasonable rates. Call/text Jeff at 201-452-5244 or jnccar@comcast.net

MUSTANG GT4 EARNS BACK-TO-BACK WINS

With the debut of the 2024 Mustang Ford laid out an ambitious motorsports program that would see its latest pony car compete in a range of motorsports. To compete in the 2024 IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge, Ford Performance partnered with Multimatic Motorsports to create the Mustang GT4, which took home a victory in its debut race and backed that up with a second win during the IMSA VP Racing SportsCar Challenge season-opening race at Daytona International Speedway.

“This win is a testament to all the hard work that has gone into the line-up of Mustang GT3, Mustang GT4, and the Dark Horse R across Ford Performance, Multimatic, and all of our partners,” Mark Rushbrook, Global Director of Ford Performance Motorsports, said. “To see Mustang GT4 come out here, in its first race with Luca Mars and KohR Motorsports, and bring home the win is a pretty special moment in time for our overall motorsports program.”

KohR Motorsports driver Luca Mars piloted the Mustang GT4 to its first win during the Roar Before The Rolex 24, in which he moved up nearly one spot in every lap as he moved ahead 19 class positions in just 22 laps. In the process, he put down the quickest lap of Saturday’s race at 1:53.740.

“I knew we were going to be fast in the long runs, as straightaways have always been where Mustangs are good. I was able to work it well into the corners, make passes, and maintain the gap – while chasing down those in front of me,” Mars explains. “The car was just so dialed in between the infield and banking. The car was really fast, and I was making passes whenever I needed to. I caught the leaders earlier than I thought. I had to sit back with the car to cool the tires, so I could be there in the end to make the moves to win.”

He continued making those moves in the second race of the weekend. This time he didn’t have to work his way up to the front of the pack as he earned the pole position to begin the race and held onto first place for the duration of the race.

“The car was really fast — led flag-to-flag from the front this time. Lost a spot in the beginning, but I was able to get it back easily. I just managed the gap, and the car was strong for all 45 minutes. I had no doubt that I could win with this car,” Mars says. “I’m really glad to see this result after all the hard work that’s been put in. It’s especially exciting to be able to do this for a brand like Ford. They worked really hard to get these new cars out here for this year — in GT3 and GT4 — and it’s just super cool that I’m the first one to be able to finish with a win for the first two races of the year.”



The Mustang GT4s will attempt to keep this momentum going as they return to action this weekend at the Rolex 24 at Daytona on Friday, January 26 - 28.

Steve Turner, Fordmuscle.com, January 24, 2024

MUSTANG GT3 PRODUCTION INCREASED TO MEET DEMAND

The new Ford Mustang GT3 debuted last June as one of many Dark Horse-based racers set to take on motorsports events across the globe over the coming years, one that’s powered by an enlarged version of the naturally-aspirated 5.0L V8 Coyote engine, in this guise displacing 5.4 liters. It sends power to a rear-mounted transaxle gearbox, while a bespoke short-long arm suspension resides beneath carbon fiber bodywork and a unique aero package, making it quite different from its road-going brethren. As *Ford Authority* reported last July, the Ford Mustang GT3 debuted to strong demand from the onset, which has prompted FoMoCo to build more examples of the new racer, according to SportsCar365.

As the Ford Mustang GT3 prepares to make its debut at this weekend’s Rolex 24 at Daytona with fresh liveries and a full driver lineup, Ford Performance global motorsports head Mark Rushbrook acknowledged in an interview that interest in the racer remains “very high,” even though for now, its pair of customer teams – Proton and Dinamic GT – will be the only two competing in the model for the entirety of the 2024 season. However, the automaker – along with partner Multimatic – plan to ramp up production moving forward to meet demand.

“With our late homologation date, we were limited on the number of cars we could build because you don’t want to risk too much and build too many cars too early and find out you have an issue,” Rushbrook explained. “We’re limited on the number of cars that are built in time to support a full 2024 season. But we are ramped up to build two a month. We will keep building to demand and I think we’re going to be busy for quite some time to meet that demand.”

Fordauthority.com,1/25/2024, Brett Foote

DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES



365th Meeting

Date: November 15, 2023

In person meeting – doors opened at 7:00 for our Holiday Cookie Exchange

Business Meeting opened: 8:04 pm

Meeting Adjourned: 8:26 pm

President Mike welcomed all attendees. Started with the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 35 members attended.

Guest Speaker: None

Secretary's Report:

The November monthly meeting minutes as printed in the December 2023 newsletter were reviewed and approved!

Treasurer's Report:

Jim S. gave his final report.

Membership Report:

Joe D. absent 213 members; Less than 119 renewals. Please see Louise to renew tonight.

Guests – none

Sunshine Report:

Anthony Cecala – has viral meningoencephalitis; doing better

Bill P. Wife, Bette passed away

Merchandising:

Mike D. – Jackets? Some people are interested.

Unable to set up merch. tonight as to how room was set up.

Website:

Bill C. – has decals but not with him; next meeting

Facebook:

Joe D. absent – no issues

Newsletter:

Newsletter went out this week.

Send Mike pictures from shows for the archives and Newsletter. Always in need of cover cars

National Report:

Steve Y.– April 24 – Mustang 60 years at Barber Motorsports Park , Birmingham Alabama – judged show is sold out.

May 2024 – Ozark International Raceway

August 2024 – Deloines, Iowa

October 2024 – Savanna, GA

June 2025 – National show in Cincinnati

Aug 2025 Grand Natl, Fredericksburg, VA

Old Business:

Club photo 8/27 – taken at picnic; 35 Mustangs for our 30th anniversary. Free copy/magnet to participants, see Mike.

Installation Dinner 1/13/24 – Bill & Maryann Hartmann. Cinders, Mine Hill – need to be a member in good standing to attend. 50 people signed up already. After dinner a gift exchange. Business casual.

(contd. on pg. 6)

(Minutes, continued)

New Business:

Team Shelby Northeast – doing two events one in Carlyle; and July 25 -27th Grand nationals in Millville race track. Putting together hotels

Miscellaneous Business:

86 GT Convertible for sale white; auto
67 Conv. Lime gold, block top/int. 6 cyl; “survivor” car, 50,000 orig. miles – coachsamn@yahoo.com
Member in Springfield looking for good place for body work.

Hospitality Report:

Thank you to everyone who brought cookies and our chairs Paul and Stacey for setting up.

Reminders:

Sign attendance sheet, Renewal forms are up front, Dinner forms – see Bill H., Take containers home.
No meeting in January 2024; Installation Dinner is our meeting.

Motion to close the 365th meeting was made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol-Ann Rose, #653, GSRMC Secretary

**GSRMC meetings begin at
7:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of
each month at American Legion
Post 155,
13 Legion Pl., Whippany, NJ
07981
Members & guests are
encouraged to attend.**

COVER CARS WANTED

Your car on the cover of your club’s newsletter. What could be better than that? And it’s so easy.

We are looking for GSRMC members’ Mustangs to feature on the cover and inside the Pony Xpress. All you have to do is take a few pictures of your prized pony from different angles; front, rear, ¾ front, engine compartment, interior, etc. Then either write an article about your “baby” or fill out the info sheet located elsewhere in this issue. Finally, e-mail them to Mike D. at 8550mustang@gmail.com and sit by your computer until your Mustang gets the star status it deserves. It really is just that simple.



The GSRMC is now on Instagram. Thanks to Ben Ashmore, members can now post pictures on Instagram that can be viewed by anyone searching key words. Our official account is @gsrmc.

If you would like to post pictures of your car or club events, send them to Ben at ben-sr@benashmore.com.

This is another way of telling the world how much fun it is to own a Mustang and be in a Mustang club like the GSRMC. I hope many of you will participate.

CLUB PHOTO

There are still a few remaining reproductions of the 2023 Club Photo. If anyone would like a free copy see Mike D. at the February meetings or by contact him at 8550mustang@gmail.com. They are available on 5x7 photo paper or as a magnet.

PONY XPRESS MUSTANG INFORMATION SHEET

Name: _____

Engine Modifications: _____

City: _____

Year: _____ Model: _____

Trans: _____ Axle Ratio: _____

Body Style: _____ Mileage: _____

Open, Limited Slip or Locker? _____

How Long Have You Owned This Car? _____

Other Options or Additions: _____

Original _____ Restored _____ Modified _____

Who Performed Restoration/Modification? _____

Primary Use: _____

How Often Driven _____

Exterior Color? _____

Please write the answers to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. Tell us as much as you like, we want to know about you and your car.

Original Paint? _____ Original Color? _____

Type of Wheels/Wheel Covers: _____

Tire Size/Type: _____

Exterior Options: _____

Interior Color: _____ Standard or Dlx? _____

Interior Options: _____

Engine Size & Type: _____

Original/Rebuilt? _____

If Rebuilt, Who did work? _____

_____ When? _____

Factory Engine Options: _____

1. If you are not the original owner, how did you locate this Mustang?
2. Does your car have an unusual history? Low mileage, very high mileage, drag racing?
3. In what condition did you find it? Was the color correct? Was the engine correct? What major changes were necessary to make the car original?
4. Which options are original, and which have you added in restoration?
5. How long did the restoration take? Was it done at your home, or in professional shops? Who were the pros, if any?
6. Has this car received awards or special recognition? Has it ever been featured in magazine articles?
7. Did any family members assist in your restoration? Any fellow club members assist?
8. Do you prefer to drive your Mustang daily, occasionally, or never? do you take part in concours shows, racing or AACA events?
9. Please add any other interesting information about you and your Mustang.
10. Have you owned other notable Mustangs or Shelbys in recent years? What and when?

Please send this page, your answers and a photo to:

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REAR VIEW

