

CELEBRATING THE FORD MUSTANG

Mustang Generations | Lonnie | Feature HMC Car | Club Happenings



Introduction

Welcome to our monthly newsletter. This newsletter will chronicle the activities of the *Hoosier Mustang Club* that has its members centered in and around Columbus, Indiana. Articles for this newsletter will showcase the Ford Mustang both within and outside of our club. We hope you enjoy reading the *Hoosier Pony Times*.

HMC "Feature Car"

This month's "Feature Car" belongs to Richard & Joyce Artis. It is a beautiful Cadillac Pearl White 1988 Mustang GT Convertible.

See the full article of this feature car on pages 3 & 4 of this edition of the

Hoosier Pony Times.



Mustang Generations

The **fourth generation** of the Ford Mustang was produced from 1994 through 2004 and marked a major redesign of Ford's iconic pony car. Built on an updated version of the long-running Fox platform, known as the **SN95**



platform, the new Mustang featured smoother styling, improved safety, and a more refined interior. Designers incorporated styling cues inspired by the original 1964½ Mustang, including the tri-bar taillights, galloping horse grille emblem, and pronounced side sculpting. The fourth generation arrived at a critical time, helping revive enthusiasm for the Mustang after declining sales during the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Performance remained a central focus throughout the generation. Early GT models were powered by Ford's venerable 5.0-liter V8 before transitioning to the newer 4.6-liter Modular V8 in 1996. The high-performance SVT Cobra models featured increasingly advanced engines, culminating in the supercharged 390-horsepower Cobra introduced in 2003. During this era, Ford also produced several notable special editions, including the Cobra R models and the 35th Anniversary Edition. The Mustang's balance of affordability, performance, and aftermarket support helped maintain its position as America's best-known pony car.

In 1999, Ford introduced a significant mid-cycle redesign known as the "**New Edge**" styling update. Sharper lines, more aggressive bodywork, and improved chassis tuning modernized the Mustang's appearance while enhancing handling and ride quality. The New Edge models, produced from 1999 to 2004, are particularly popular among enthusiasts today due to their distinctive styling and strong performance potential. The fourth-generation Mustang ultimately bridged the gap between the classic Fox-body era and the retro-inspired fifth generation that followed in 2005, cementing its place as an important chapter in Mustang history.

Information about the 5th generation of the Mustang will be in our next Edition.

"Blast from the past pics"

May 13, 2017

Charger Car Show

**Upcoming Events**

8 - HMC Monthly Meeting -
6-8pm - Chicago Pizza

18 - Cruise to Williams
Dam - 9am

25 - Salvation Army Car
Show - 9am-3pm

Aug. 1 - Indy Mustang Club
Car Show 9am-3pm

Lonnie Hembree - HMC Legacy

In May of 1978, Lonnie Hembree submitted his registration as a vendor to sell at the 1st annual Mustang Club of America car show and swap meet in Kingsport, Tennessee. Upon arrival, he and Larry Westmier, was met by the first President of the MCA, Jim Osborne, and informed him that in order to be a vendor, Lonnie needed to be a member of the MCA. Lonnie signed up and became the 385th member of the MCA.

Before the show started, Jim Osborne approached Lonnie and was told that he heard Lonnie and Larry were from Indiana. Lonnie confirming this, was then asked if he had ever considered starting the 1st Chartered Club in the Hoosier state because the MCA didn't have anyone from Indiana. Lonnie and Larry both asked what needed to be done, and Jim gave them a packet to take home with them to look over.

Over the next couple of weeks, Lonnie and Larry both discussed what needed to happen in order to start the club. The boundaries for the charter were chosen at the time to cover all territory south of I-70 across Indiana, south to the Ohio River, and from state line to line, Ohio to Illinois. The name of the new club was called **Hoosier Mustang Club**.

This past week we lost Lonnie. We as a club pray for comfort for his family. Lonnie was the reason we had the club starting. In 2023, Lonnie was recognized by the Halderman Museum for his contribution to the Mustang community with the induction into the *Mustang Club Hall of Fame*. A plaque hangs in the Museum with Lonnie's name and photo.



Lonnie's Legacy is our club, that continues on these 48 years later. His kind words, his smile, his sense of humor, his gentle soul, and his love for the members of the club will be missed by all!



Basic Car Information:

Basic Car Information: 1988 Mustang GT

Convertible Engine: 5.0 HO

Transmission: Automatic

Color: Original - Oxford White - now- 2016 Cadillac Pearl White

Interior: Scarlet Red –additionally all accessories have been dyed with matching red

Name: Pearl

Enjoy the story of this special car written by its owners, Richard and Joyce Artis.

Feature HMC car

Richard & Joyce Artis

1988 Mustang GT Convertible

**The History:**

Pearl was purchased in 1995 from Renner Ford with 50,000 miles. In 1998 she was put in the garage and not driven until 2012 when she was brought out and cleaned up with the intentions of selling her.

I invited my now wife to go to a cruise-in at Ritters in Columbus, IN. On the trip in when I opened her up it was decided that she could not be sold. When we arrived at Ritters we were met by Frank Bayles from the Hoosier Mustang Club with a membership form in hand. We joined the Mustang Club and have enjoyed meeting some wonderful people and seen some great places.



Feature HMC car*Richard & Joyce Artis**1988 Mustang GT Convertible***The Story with this car:**

One of those places was the Charlotte Race Track in North Carolina where we went with the Mustang Club. I was registered to drive the road course on Saturday, I ended up driving in the rain, it had started raining on Friday evening and continued all day Saturday. I enjoyed the ride non the less.

One day while backing into the garage I put a dent in her side. At that time I had the dent repaired and had her painted in 2016 Cadillac Pearl White. Also the interior was reupholstered to Scarlet Red and the accessories were dyed a matching red.



She also has Cobra Style wheels.

A new convertible top was put on. Then new paint and wheels, otherwise she is totally original.

Enjoying this car:

She is a **Fox Body**, not a Hot Rod or a *trailer queen* but she is **reliable** and **so much fun to drive**. Now she spends her time in the garage and going to competitions with her big sis “Stella”.



Club Happenings*June, 2026***June 10th Monthly Meeting - 26 Members attended!****1st Cars and Coffee Cruise In - June 6th**

We had 19 members of the club show their cars and several other cars come to our 1st Cars and Coffee event.

**Gathering of Mustangs Show - June 13th - 5 cars**

Best Mustang - Doug Koester
2017 Shelby GT350



Falls City Club Car Show - June 20th - 15 members



Zach Hunter and his 4-Eye Fox Body interviewed by John Clor at Mustang Club of Ohio car show in Columbus, OH

