



TM

Horse Tales

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January
2009

Official Newsletter
Denver Mustang Club

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Holiday Party 2008

By Tim Steenson, DMC Newsletter Editor

On Sunday, December 7th, the Denver Mustang Club celebrated the holiday in style with a dinner and gift exchange at Red Rocks Country Club in Morrison. We had 97 members and guests in attendance.

Once again, Santa popped in for a visit with gifts for the kids (both young and not so young!).



The gift exchange was a big hit. Several die-cast Mustangs were traded, and the gift of the night seemed to be a light-up Mustang sign, which was traded quite a few times throughout the evening!

Club members in attendance were asked to provide input for Club events in 2009. The board has tabulated the responses, and will use this information to help us plan some events this year. There were a lot of great ideas! If you have any additional ideas please let us know!

Mustangs in High Definition

By Tim Steenson, DMC Newsletter Editor

A new 3-part series is airing on Discovery HD titled "Why We Race: The Mustang Challenge". Co-developed by Ford Racing Technology and Miller Motorsports Park in Tooele, Utah, tiny HD cameras were mounted on the inside of the racing cars to capture the hairpin turns and dramatic finishes. This road racing series utilizes only Ford Mustang FR500S vehicles, which feature 4.6-liter, 3-valve production engines. The Ford Mustang FR500S is the first race car built by Ford Motor Company on a production line intended for sale to the public. Some of the highlights include: A cold-air kit; Six-speed racing transmission; High-capacity radiator; Two-way adjustable dampers and springs; BFGoodrich g-Force R1 tires.



For show times, go to <http://dhd.discovery.com> and search for "Why We Race"

Photos copyright Ford Motor Company

Reminders

JANUARY CLUB MEETING

Friday, January 9

Phil Long Ford, Denver
Tufts & Wadsworth
2nd Floor Meeting Room

7 PM to 8 PM

BRING YOUR
MUSTANGS!

POLAR BEAR SWAP MEET

Saturday, January 24

Adams County Fairground
9755 Henderson Road
Brighton, CO

8 AM to 2 PM

Let's have a great year! — from the President



"I'm looking forward to a great 2009!"

— Mike Rhynard Jr.

Team DMC,

I am looking forward to a great 2009 with all of you. Before we head into 2009 I want to thank Terry Lewand and the amazing DMC board for their outstanding leadership and dedication to the club in 2008. We had a good year with lots of activities and fun. As we go into 2009 we as a board hope to build on the many years of experience and fun the club has had.

We are looking to bring in some guest speakers to give performance and detailing tips. We are planning some great events that we hope all of you will both help with and participate in. We are planning more informal group gatherings and fun times.

I am very excited to be part of the board and a member of the DMC in 2009. I think we have some great ideas and plans for the year. We all look forward to seeing all of you at the DMC events and meetings. Geri & Peggy have some delicious cookie recipes in store for everyone! I really think 2009 is going to be a lot of fun and can't wait to see all of you in January.

I hope you all had a wonderful Holiday and that 2009 brings each of you happiness, good health and prosperity! We'll see you on January 9th!

Tech Corner

By Tim Steenson, DMC Newsletter Editor

Gears 101

You'll often hear talk of someone putting "gears" in their car. What are they, and why bother? When we refer to gears in this manner, we are not talking about the gears in the transmission; we're talking about the final gears in the rear end. In a rear wheel drive car such as the Mustang, the final gears reside in the differential, which is in the center of the rear axle. These gears serve to multiply the engine's torque, which allows the car to be propelled forward using less power than if there were no gears.

A car's final gear ratio refers to how many turns the driveshaft must make in order to turn the rear wheels once. For example, currently, the standard gear ratio of a Mustang GT is 3.31:1. The driveshaft must turn 3.31 times for every revolution of the rear wheels. Replacing these gears with a "lower" gear, which is actually higher numerically, increases the torque multiplication. Popular gears for Mustangs include 3.55's (an option available from the factory, but only with manual transmissions) 3.73's (standard on the 2008-2009 Bullitts), and 4.10's.

Older Mustangs, especially those built during the fuel conscious late '70s and '80s, may have 3.08 or even 2.79 gears. This allowed for lower engine Revolutions Per Minute (RPM) at highway speeds, and subsequently provided better gas mileage. Increased efficiencies in fuel injection and the development of overdrive transmissions allow today's Mustangs to get better mileage, even with the lower gears that are used today.

Replacing the gears will provide quicker acceleration, but will reduce top speed. So you don't go as fast, but you get there quicker. Gear swaps are especially popular among drag racers, where you can find some cars with gears as low as 4.88's. The key is to choose the right gear ratio that allows you to be at the peak of your powerband at the end of the quarter mile. If you find yourself having to shift into 4th gear a few car lengths before the finish, and crossing the line at 3500 RPM, swapping to a lower rear end ratio could allow you to cross the line at 6000 RPM, where your motor is making more power.

There is still an impact on your gas mileage when changing out to a lower gear. At 65 MPH, you will see an increase of about 400 to 500 engine RPM when running 4.10s vs. 3.31s. You will probably see your highway mileage drop by 1 or 2 miles per gallon. You'll also find that you must shift earlier than you're used to, since you are accelerating quicker.

There may be some of us that have swapped our own gears, but this is not a project to be taken lightly. The gears must be adjusted so that they mesh together perfectly, to reduce noise and to reduce wear. A difference of just a few thousandths of an inch can make your gears whine unbearably. This is one of those cases where it may very well be better to pay an expert. Head-snapping acceleration is much easier to enjoy when it's not accompanied by shrieking, that is, unless the shrieking is coming from the passenger seat!

Membership Update

By Geri Durbin, DMC Membership Chair

Happy New Year DMC!

It is hard to believe 2008 has come and gone, and 2009 is upon us. It will be an exciting year as all Mustang clubs celebrate the 45th anniversary of our beloved Mustang.

Big thanks to all who attended the Christmas party and completed the suggestions for activities sheet. Your board is working to bring some fun activities your way in 2009. If you were unable to attend the Christmas party, feel free to give suggestions you may have to any board member.

The shift to a new year signals that your 2009 annual membership dues are due. Dues remain the same for 2009, \$23.00 for renewals and \$28.00 for new members. Dues can be paid at membership meetings, or if unable to attend the meetings mailed to the P.O. Box at:

Denver Mustang Club

P.O. Box 621111

Littleton, CO 80162

Here is to a great year enjoying our Mustangs and our DMC camaraderie. See you at the meetings!

Members Present at the December Meeting

97 members and guests in attendance
(Holiday Dinner/Gift Exchange at Red Rocks Country Club).

January BD's

- 1/13 Connie Gehl
- 1/14 Sandy Rallo
- 1/14 Lee Woods
- 1/19 Mike Gleason
- 1/21 Jan Partain
- 1/24 Bill Anderson
- 1/26 DeAnna Minneman
- 1/27 Jenna Cappleman

Final 2008 Membership

75 paid members/families

Tack Shop

Cars, Parts, Tools — For Sale or Wanted

If you know of or have a 1969 or 1970 Mustang project car that you would like to sell please contact:

Mike Rhynard Jr. at michael.rhynard@sun.com



Message From Your Editor

By Tim Steenson, DMC Newsletter Editor

First, let me say "THANK YOU!" to Tony Peccolo for the fantastic job he did for us in 2008. I've definitely got some big shoes to fill! I'd like to continue the "What's in the 'Stable'" section each month, so I'll be hounding you all for write ups and pictures.

I'd also like to include some other rotating features, allowing you to show off what you're doing with your Mustangs.

Maybe you saw a really nice Mustang at a show, or your car has won a trophy? Let me know, and I'll put it in "Show Ponies".

Did you have a good day at the track? Send me some details and a picture, and I'll run it in "Race Horses".

If you take a nice cruise, and get that perfect shot of your Mustang along the way, send it to me, and I'll put it in "Pony Rides".

This is our newsletter, and I'd like to see as many members' cars and info in it as possible!

Please feel free to send any pictures, stories, or suggestions for improvements to me at tjsteenson@comcast.net.



Founded in 1965, the Denver Mustang Club is the oldest Mustang club in Colorado.

Club activities include car shows, swap meets, picnics, autocross events, drag racing, the Rocky Mountain Mustang Roundup and our own annual Wild West Auto Fest car show each September, featuring a large display of all types of vehicles — cars, trucks, and motorcycles.

Denver Mustang Club
P.O. Box 621111
Littleton, CO 80162

www.denvermustangclub.com

Info Line: 303-933-5631

Club Sponsor
Phil Long Ford of Denver
7887 W. Tufts Ave.
Denver, CO 80123
(303) 932-3673

— 2009 Events —

January 1: Registration begins for Rocky Mountain Mustang Roundup go to www.rmmr.org for details

January 9: DMC Club Meeting @ Phil Long Ford

Check out the DMC website for the complete calendar and event details for 2009!

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www.ambrosioconcepts.com Thank you! — Dan Ambrosio

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