

(R4)MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS - ISSUE NUMBER 176 - JANUARY 2025

From: remitchell22@aol.com (remitchell22@aol.com)

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 04:59 PM EDT



MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS

Issue Number 176 - January 2025

DEDICATED TO ALL FORD MUSTANGS

SENT TO OVER 570 MUSTANG OWNERS AND CLUBS

Welcome to the latest issue of our MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS e-newsletters with feature articles and other items of interest for our members. In this issue, we present more stories with pictures and other items for your review. Thank you for joining our Association. Tell others about us.

MY 20TH SHOW IN MY 2011 V6 MUSTANG - OUR RETURN TO GREENSBORO! - BY RICK MITCHELL

After a six month lay off from car shows during our Maryland winter that had several cold stretches but fortunately little snow, my Mustang friends and I were anxious to get back on the show circuit once again and attend several of the better events in the central Maryland area. After two earlier poor outings at other events, our first great choice for 2024 was the Greensboro Lions Club's 10th Annual Marty Gangemi Memorial Car Show, held on Saturday, May 25, at the Greensboro Elementary School located on Main Street, which has a wide, relatively new paved parking lot. I have attended this excellent event several times over the past years and have always enjoyed it.

My drive was about 67 miles or an hour and a quarter heading toward our Eastern Shore, which included crossing our magnificent Chesapeake Bay Bridge again, followed by a good early morning run through the country and farm fields leading to Greensboro. This year the Lions offered 50 Top Choice trophies, along with three other specialty awards, and the event was open to all makes and models of cars and trucks. The club usually uses an outside judging company with score sheets to review the entrants, which I greatly prefer. This show is incredibly well run, and I would not change anything!

This event was first scheduled for May 4, but that weekend was a wash out. The weather for the new date was perfect with clouds and sun and temps in the low '80's after the early morning haze burned off in the low lying fields nearby. The only problem was that the new date was on the Saturday before Memorial Day when many people kick off their summer by driving to Ocean City, Maryland or the Delaware resorts, potentially resulting in heavy traffic on our Route 50 that takes us to the shore. I left early on Saturday morning hoping to avoid any heavy traffic on 50, but as I was crossing the Severn River Bridge near Annapolis, all three lanes were reduced to a crawl. Several minutes later I saw that there was a fire engine sitting on the left side blocking two lanes of traffic, followed by several State Police cruisers and a damaged something or the other. But once we got through that congestion, much to my surprise we sailed right through to our Eastern Shore and then on to Greensboro, and it was a relatively easy ride!



In our May '24 issues of MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS, I published Issue Number 128 discussing the Greensboro Lions' show from 2023, which came out early in March this year. Since then I forwarded all of our May stories, including several photo issues, to John Clor at Ford Performance and asked him to consider republishing this story in their weekly FAST NEWS e-newsletters. As luck would have it, an edited version of that story with the pictures was published on May 23 in FAST NEWS, Volume 17, Issue 20. I received this on Friday, May 24, the day before the new show, and sent it to Rick Harris who is in charge of the Greensboro Lions. He said that he enjoyed the article and shared it with others in the Lions club. Timing is everything! I spoke with Rick in person at the show on May 25 about the article.

For me the highlight of this show was meeting a man from Delaware who drove to the show in his 1914 Ford Model T that looked like the day it was made! He had owned this Model T for many years, and in fact had restored it to better than new condition 51 years ago! While I was walking around taking pictures for our e-newsletters, the owner asked if I would like to sit

in his car, and he would take my picture! So I got in by the small right door and sat down. This antique car was 110 years old and immaculate inside. I then handed him my camera, and he took two pictures of me leaning out giving the thumbs up! But unfortunately he pressed the wrong button on my camera, and later I saw no images.

At any rate, I then asked him if he ever took passengers for a ride in his beautiful Model T? He said yes, and asked if I was interested, and of course I accepted! So he turned on the ignition and hand cranked the engine from the outside, and the car shook a few times and fired up! So then we drove around the school's parking lot a few times among the show cars, and then returned to his parking space. At one point he asked if I wanted to drive it, but I knew from hearing about this that foot pedals on these old Model T's were vastly different from what modern cars have, so I declined and just enjoyed the ride in this incredible time machine. This was great fun and a once in a lifetime opportunity, and I will remember that short but memorable trip forever!

Eventually the time came for our cars to be judged. In the past the Lions have used Shamrock Appraisers, who show up wearing green polo shirts and evaluate each car or truck using one judge only and what I thought were score sheets and spending five or ten minutes per vehicle, but for the show this day, I am not sure how our cars and trucks were evaluated. There were no independent judges in green shirts. Instead three or four men and women dressed in casual clothing walked by each of our Mustangs, wrote something on a clipboard, and only took short glances at our engines and interiors. This process seemed to only take a few short minutes per car. Not that this method was not a good idea, but rather it was not quite what we were expecting. Maybe Shamrock was not available? We were not told what the judging criteria was, but each review for our cars was very brief.



As we went into the early afternoon, we were called to the portico areas in front of the school for trophy time. For this show there were four of us from my home area, Leo with his '08 GT convertible, Glenn with his '08 GT coupe, John with his '66 GT coupe, and me with my '11. The club started giving out their Top 50 trophies. Glenn was called early in the rotation, and then the other three of us waited. We watched as row after row of the Lions' trophies were awarded to so many other owners. The three of us started going into a crisis mode when the club got down to its last eight or nine trophies! And then finally I was called, and then Leo, followed by one other person, and then John received one of the last few awards. Thank you, Greensboro Lions!

The Greensboro Lions conduct one of the best local, all makes and models car shows in my area. Every dollar received from the entry fees is put toward worthwhile charitable causes, and the shows are well run and held at an excellent location. The only shortcoming was that usually they draw over 100 cars and trucks, but this year there were only 78 entries. Why was that? Because the rescheduled date was moved to the long holiday Memorial Day weekend? The weather was perfect and the traffic was only moderate. For such an excellent show, I will never understand why there are not many more people attending events like this. Look for pictures this month of some of the memorable entries in our photo issues of MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS.

-END-

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(R)MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS - ISSUE NUMBER 177 - JANUARY 2025

From: remitchell22@aol.com (remitchell22@aol.com)

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 11:29 AM EDT



MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS

Issue Number 177 - January 2025

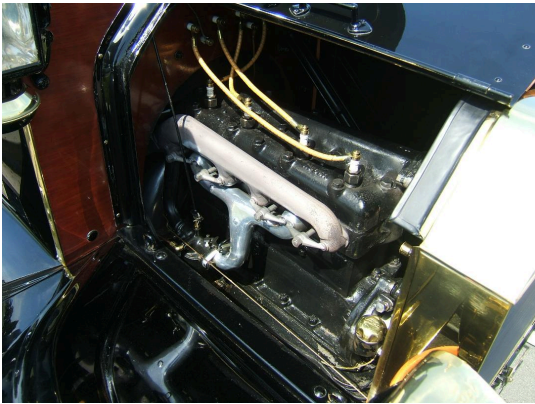
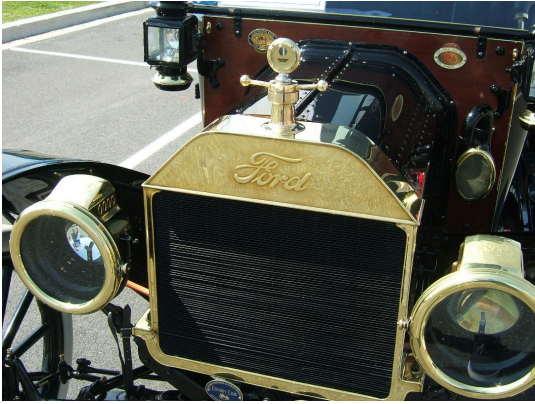
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-END-

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Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 11:44 AM EDT



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-END-

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From: remitchell22@aol.com (remitchell22@aol.com)

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 11:56 AM EDT



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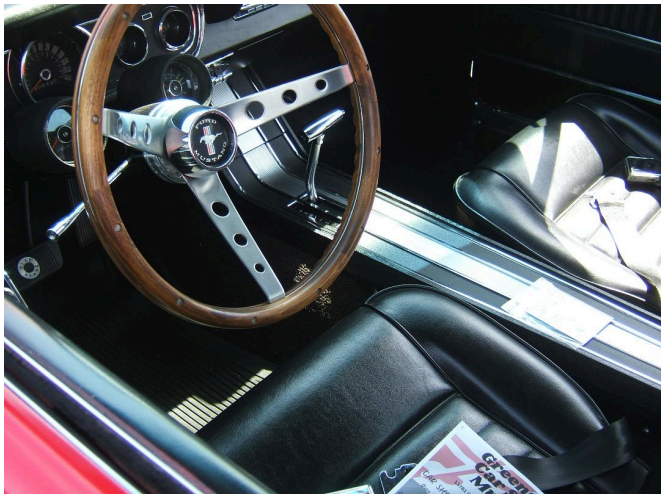
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-END-

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(R)MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS - ISSUE NUMBER 180 - JANUARY 2025

From: remitchell22@aol.com (remitchell22@aol.com)

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 12:06 PM EDT



MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS

Issue Number 180 - January 2025

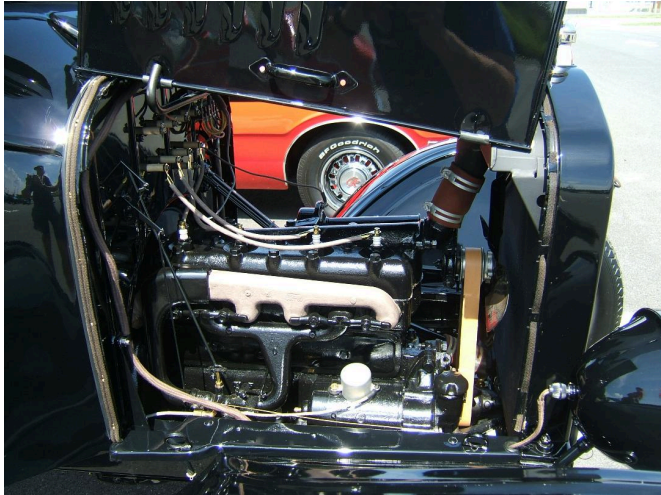
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-END-

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(R)MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS - ISSUE NUMBER 181 - JANUARY 2025

From: remitchell22@aol.com (remitchell22@aol.com)

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 12:15 PM EDT



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-END-

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