

(R)MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS - ISSUE NUMBER 218 - AUGUST 2025

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

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MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS

Issue Number 218 - August 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 31ST SHOW IN MY 2011 V6 MUSTANG - BY RICK MITCHELL

The weekend of May 4 and 5, 2024 brought heavy rains to central Maryland and forced postponements of three great car shows to the south and east of my home. The first event to reschedule was the Spring Open Car Show, presented by the East Coast Drifters car club, to be held at the Mechanicsville Moose Lodge in Mechanicsville, MD on their new date of May 19. I was fortunate to attend this excellent event for the first time in spring 2023 and was impressed by how well the show was organized. It was open to all years of cars, trucks and motorcycles. The club said there was a Top 70 for trophies, plus many Best of awards. What I found though, last year, was that this Top 70 was only for the older cars. There was also a separate batch of trophies for our newer models, and I received a nice award for my 2011!

This show is judged by points by members of the club. These volunteers do not have their own vehicles in the event, so their efforts are completely unbiased, which is an unselfish assignment. The ride is 72 miles, or around an hour and a quarter, with driving into the country in southern Maryland after getting off the Capital Beltway, so depending on the traffic and weather it can be a long ride, but certainly an enjoyable trip. I do not recall the number of entrants last year, but it seemed like well over 200 that were spread over a huge, grassy field next to the Lodge. This was a great location for a big event!

The weather, however, interfered twice more with the scheduling for this excellent show. It was postponed again from May 19 to July 13, but storms and excessive heat forced another change to September 8, and renaming the event to the 2024 (Fourth time is a charm) Fall Classic car show! Hopefully milder weather in the fall would allow this event to happen! Finally, after many months of excessive heat and rained out shows, the weekend of September 8 promised better weather. In fact, that morning required a light jacket for the start of the day.



My Mustang waiting to be judged.

The ride to Mechanicsville was enjoyable and uneventful while listening to Sirius XM! I soon pulled onto the Moose Lodge's property a few minutes after 9 o'clock. I was assigned entry number 231 and directed to a lower field near a baseball diamond that was near where I parked last year. I saw that the show field was filling quickly. In fact, the East Coast Drifters later noted that, "Unfortunately, we reached capacity at 9:45am and had to close the field." They said there were over 300 cars, trucks and motorcycles in attendance. This was an incredible turnout!

Usually the judges do not look at our cars for several hours, so I took the next hour and a half and recleaned everything. It amazes me how a car that sits in a garage all week gets so dusty! And those beautiful polished-aluminum wheels? They are like brake dust magnets, and always require cleaning once I park on a show field. But the weather was perfect with light breezes and no threat of rain, so touching up my car again was pleasant duty. Occasionally a spectator stopped to chat. In fact, I had a long discussion with one person who was looking to buy a Fifth Gen V6 Mustang, and he wanted to know their differences. By noon, the jackets were off and we were back into warmer weather!



When we registered we were given our scoring sheets, and I looked mine over. The club was using a brief, 100-point system, broken down into four areas: paint and body, engine and compartment, interior, and trunk compartment, with each valued at 25 points. This was fine but a little unusual in that our trunks were given the same value as the other areas. Many shows do not look at trunks or place less emphasis on them, but mine was ready after I pulled out all of the cleaning gear and my lawn chair!

Once I had my Mustang ready, I walked around the show field a few times to look at the many interesting cars and trucks and take pictures that will be featured in the next issues of Mitchell Motorsports. During one trip my Mustang was judged, but I was not there, and so I never met that person. We were not required to be there for our judge, but it is a good idea to stand by if a judge had a question.



An incredible display of awards!

Later that afternoon we were called to the center of the field for trophy time. The East Coast Drifters had a top 70 set of trophies for the 2000 and older cars that were awarded first. These were followed by my class, with 25 trophies for the best late models, and I was fortunate to receive one. After these awards, there were 12 specialty plaques given out, followed by another 19 trophies for other cars, trucks and motorcycles. This was 126 trophies and plaques in total that were individually called out. Short of attending a national show, I do not believe I have ever seen such an impressive array of trophies!

After the awards, I spoke with the club member who was their master of ceremony for a few minutes and thanked him for the excellent show that the East Coast Drifters held. They also announced their spring and fall 2025 show dates. This was an absolute gem of a show! The turnout exceeded their expectations, the facilities were excellent, and the club members were very professional. They took the time to judge every vehicle that was there, and the awards were generous and impressive. I will greatly looking forward to attending future East Coast Drifters events!

-END-

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MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS

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Welcome to another issue of our MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS e-newsletters with a feature photo article for our members. Thank you for joining our Association. Tell others about us.

On Sunday, September 8, 2024, I attended the 2024 (Fourth time is a charm) Fall Classic car show, held in Mechanicsville, in southern Maryland. There were over 300 entries at this excellent event, and we will present three photo issues of Mitchell Motorsports showing a few of the entrants. This was a 1967 or 1968 Mustang fastback made up as an Eleanor tribute that looked excellent!







-END-

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MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS

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SENT TO OVER 570 MUSTANG OWNERS AND CLUBS

OUR 220TH ISSUE!

Welcome to another issue of our MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS e-newsletters with a feature photo article for our members. Thank you for joining our Association. Tell others about us.

On Sunday, September 8, 2024, I attended the 2024 (Fourth time is a charm) Fall Classic car show, held in Mechanicsville, in southern Maryland. There were over 300 entries at this excellent event, and we will present three photo issues of Mitchell Motorsports showing a few of the entrants. This was a 1956 Ford Thunderbird that was in amazing condition. I took a few extra pictures to show how truly nice this car looked!













-END-

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On Sunday, September 8, 2024, I attended the 2024 (Fourth time is a charm) Fall Classic car show, held in Mechanicsville, in southern Maryland. There were over 300 entries at this excellent event, and we will present three photo issues of Mitchell Motorsports showing a few of the entrants. This was a most likely a '32 Ford with extensive modifications and an incredible engine compartment, as well as a custom interior. It looked terrific on the show field!







-END-

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MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS

Issue Number 222 - August 2025

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***Welcome to another issue of our MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS e-newsletters with a feature article for our members.
Thank you for joining our Association. Tell others about us.***

MY 32ND SHOW IN MY 2011 V6 MUSTANG - BY RICK MITCHELL

I entered our incredible Mustang hobby in October, 1981 when I bought my first Mustang, a 1966 Sprint 200 coupe, and started its restoration. Not long after I joined the National Capital Region Mustang Club, and within six months, I attended my first Mustang show that was held by NCRMC the following April at Academy Ford in Laurel, MD. Now, all these years later, I am still going to NCRMC events! I was also at their Mustang Club of America Grand National held in Fredericksburg, VA over Labor Day weekend in 2019, and I have been to many other events hosted by the club. Next up was their Summer's End Mustang Spectacular & All Ford Show, held on Saturday, September 14, 2024, at the Ion International Training Center, a large ice skating complex, in Leesburg, VA, about 68 miles or an hour and a quarter away.

I was at this event last year, and the location is excellent for car shows as we were set up by classes in their large parking area. This show uses MCA Abbreviated Rules where the emphasis is on cleanliness, condition and workmanship for Mustangs through 2020, with newer models and other classes using popular voting. My Mustang is usually placed in a modified class at these events as there are so many changes on my car. In addition to showing my Mustang, I volunteer to assist with judging and have helped with that over the last three fall shows. This is a great training exercise for me personally as I have to look carefully at what I am judging and note exceptions on the score sheets, if I make points deductions, as each owner may request these sheets if they want. It takes time but I enjoy this.

The forecast at my take off time of 7:30 called for temps in the '60's to start, but quickly climbing into the '80's by the afternoon, with generally sunny skies and no threat of rain. I drove to the show in a light jacket but quickly put that away by the time I arrived at the Ion Center. The fun part of this long ride through Virginia was cruising the last 22 miles on Route 267W from the Capital Beltway to Leesburg. The road was generally empty at that early hour, and I could cruise uninterrupted at speed. I saw my V6 engine give me an incredible 30.4 miles per gallon for the first time since I bought this Mustang, the highest I have ever seen and a personal best for my car!



My Mustang waiting to be judged in the early morning hours.

When I arrived at the Ion Center, my Mustang was placed in Class L for '64-1/2 to '20 Mustang - Modified. In the past this class usually drew only two to four cars, but today there were ten modified Mustangs in my class, and I did not know any of the other owners. This would be a challenge! So I spent my first hour recleaning my car and getting it ready. I did not see my Mustang being judged later, but we were not required to be there when our cars were reviewed.

Not long after I spoke with the head judge and asked to review a class. I was given Class A for '64-1/2 - '68 Mustangs, for which there were three awards, and I had seven or eight coupes, convertibles and fastbacks to look at. The head judge said that I was judging these cars based solely on cleanliness and craftsmanship, and not for incorrect hardware or the wrong parts. In the 1980's, I restored my '66 Sprint coupe as noted, and that information has generally stayed with me over the years, so I felt comfortable looking at these Mustangs. I looked at everything except undercarriages as I had no way to get under these cars.

A few of these owners wanted to ask questions, so I judged their cars first and then spent time sharing what I found. I felt that this was a good learning tool for them as well as for me. The goal was to help these owners make their cars better for future shows, if they wanted to go that route. Most of the deductions were for areas that should not be too difficult to correct, such as cleaning engine areas or repainting parts under the hood. The only bad aspect of this assignment was that half of the way through judging, a yellow jacket tried to sting my right wrist leaving a nice sore spot for the next hour, but I just kept on reviewing the cars!



Two late model Boss 302 Mustangs on site that day. Two great-looking cars!

After judging I had time to photograph several of the more interesting Mustangs and other specialty Ford, Mercury and Lincoln products that were at this show. There were a few rare examples, including early Shelby Mustangs, a Mercury Marauder, a '57 T-bird, and an exceptionally rare and well-kept pink '56 Lincoln. This last car was an incredibly big luxury vehicle, and it later took the Best of Show award at trophy time. It was very impressive! We will feature a few of these cars in our Mitchell Motorsports newsletters.

When we were called forward for trophy time. Class A, the group that I judged, was called first. The Mustang that won first place was owned by a man who had owned this car for 10-15 years, but had never shown it. This was his first Mustang show, ever! The only area that strongly stood out to me as needing attention was that his black carpet was noticeably sun-bleached in some areas and looked grey. I said that this may be a good winter project to have his faded carpet replaced with newer material. Most of the Mustangs in Class A were generally in good shape and just needed a little more attention to detail. Eventually the club got to Class L, my class. They awarded multiple trophies for first, second and third place, and I was fortunate to receive a second, which was a nice award.



Long-time friend and living legend Richard Porter was at this show for several hours with his late wife Pat's beautiful '65 convertible. Richard has been a friend for more than 40 years!

One of the highlights for me personally was the opportunity to speak with several of the NCRMC officers. This was important because this club is hosting the Mustang Club of America Grand National over Labor Day weekend in 2025, which is another three-day event held in Fredericksburg, VA. National and Grand National shows are the highest levels of competition in our Mustang hobby, and these same club officers are making the extensive arrangements needed for running this excellent event.

Another highlight was assisting with the judging by reviewing a class of Mustangs and answering questions when asked. I believe both the judge and the owners learn something from this exercise, and it is time well-spent. Overall, this show was an excellent opportunity to enjoy our Mustang hobby on a higher level. Do you want to get more involved in our Mustang hobby? Try judging a class or assisting another judge and learning more about the process. It adds a whole new and interesting dimension to car shows!

-END-

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On September 14, 2024, I attended the NCRMC's Summer's End Mustang Spectacular & All Ford Show, held at the Ion International Training Center, a large ice skating complex, in Leesburg, VA. There was an excellent assortment of Mustangs and other Ford, Mercury and Lincoln products there, and we will feature several in our Mitchell Motorsports newsletters, with one this month and the other two next time. In this issue we have the pink '56 Lincoln that won the Best of Show award. This car was in excellent condition and very impressive to look at!











-END-

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