

(R)MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS - ISSUE NUMBER 260 - MARCH 2026

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

Date: Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 12:30 PM EDT

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**MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS**

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**Issue Number 260 - March 2026**

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**DEDICATED TO ALL FORD MUSTANGS**

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**SENT TO OVER 570 MUSTANG OWNERS AND CLUBS**

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**OUR 260TH ISSUE!**  
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*Welcome to another issue of our MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS e-newsletters with a feature photos article for our members. Thank you for joining our Association. Tell others about us.*

*On Sunday, June 1, 2025, I attended the excellent Greensboro Lions Club's annual summer event, which was their 11th Annual Marty Gangemi Memorial Car Show. This was an incredibly well run event that was open to all makes and models of cars and trucks. There were 125 entrants with many Ford and Mercury cars and trucks. We are presenting four issues of our MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS e-newsletters with pictures of several of the interesting cars in*

*attendance. In this issue we have two popular Ford products from the 1960's, a 1968 Mustang fastback with a 390 CID V8 engine, and a 1964 Falcon with a 200 CID inline six engine, one of my favorites! The woman who owned the '68 Mustang bought it in 1972 and has had it for over 50 years! It went through a complete restoration about ten years ago and was put back into its original Candyapple Red paint. Both cars were in an amazing condition!*

















**-END-**

**Rick Mitchell**  
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**got Falcon?**

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***MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS***

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***MY FIRST VISIT TO THE FORD CARLISLE NATIONALS! - BY RICK MITCHELL***



I have been freelance writing about Mustangs and Fords and attending shows since 1983, but I had never been to the Ford Carlisle Nationals before until June 6, 2025. In the spring of 2023, John Clor, the Ford Performance Enthusiast Communications manager, ran the first story I wrote about my then recently acquired 2011 V6 Mustang in his weekly e-newsletters called FAST NEWS. This looked fine on their website, and so I felt encouraged to send additional stories. Over time John was reprinting more of my articles, until this year when my material was used regularly.

By May, John sent two Ford Performance shirts that said 'Staff' on them, and he told me to wear them 'with pride'! With that I felt that I was now a member of the writing staff for Ford Performance, which was quite an honor. Seeing my stories and pictures reprinted in national publications has been a dream of mine for over 40 years. FAST NEWS is emailed every Thursday to a quarter of a million subscribers. That is quite a few Ford enthusiasts seeing these stories!



As we approached the first full weekend in June, John invited me to attend a Ford Club Leader Mixer hosted by Ford Performance on June 6, to be held under a huge tent that was placed in the middle of the Carlisle show field. Because I had never attended Ford Carlisle before, I contacted my good Mustang friend, Leo Howard, who has visited Carlisle many times over the years, and asked to ride along. We were going to the world's biggest Mustang and Ford show, except driving there in his 2023 Ford Bronco!

We were on the road from Baltimore by 6:15am in overcast weather, and we arrived two and a half hours later. We were soon walking past the many vendors selling new and used parts, as well as what seemed like tons of clothing, including t-shirts and hoodies. This was just incredible! Next we worked our way over to the grandstands in the center for cover from a brief shower. Carlisle has divided the areas around the vendors according to the different classes of Ford models, with many areas, of course, designated for the different Mustang generations. Leo and I also found the Ford Fusion area, but there were only three late models on display!



By now it was close to 11am when Mustang writer Jerry Heasley was giving a talk in the Ford Performance tent about videos he is developing for YouTube devoted to barn finds and how he locates rare automobiles and creates stories about their recoveries. I had some contact with Jerry back in the 1980's, but I had never met him in person. As we got closer to 12 noon, John arrived and set up his presentation with slides in preparation for his discussion.





He spoke for close to an hour, and the emphasis for his discussion was on finding creative ways for Ford enthusiasts and clubs to get others more involved in our hobby, and especially the upcoming younger generations of car owners. This is a concern that many in our hobby have expressed over the last few years, and Ford is now striving more and more to find other ways to get the younger owners to participate better after the 'old guard' settles into retiring from shows. I also had several opportunities to speak with John about submitting stories and pictures as this helps with developing the FAST NEWS issues. This is also a great opportunity for me personally to attend many different shows, develop new texts, and try to take worthwhile pictures ready for publication.





I also met Hannah Evans who came onboard with Ford Performance this past spring and who assumed the duties of Club & Community Engagement Specialist. I noted that there is a need to make the enthusiasts out there in the field feel more like they are a part of one, big Ford family, and holding mixers like these and spending time interacting with the many clubs and owners are excellent ways of doing that.

Finally, if you have never attended the Ford Carlisle Nationals, you owe it to yourself to attend at least one during your Mustang or Ford ownership. It is like Ford's version of heaven on earth! Also, be sure to plan your visit around one of the days when the Ford Performance team is making one of its presentations. Ford is trying to make owning their products a family experience!

-END-

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**got Ford?**

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***MY 38TH SHOW IN MY 2011 V6 MUSTANG! - BY RICK MITCHELL***



My show season for 2025 got off to a fine start when I began displaying my then six month old 2015 Ford Fusion, which was also my daily driver, at five events in central and southern Maryland, but I soon realized that my 2011 V6 Mustang was only getting short, routine weekly test rides to charge its battery and keep its internals lubricated! I needed a better plan for rotating my two Ford vehicles for show duty, and so I decided that my criteria would be to review what each show offered as far as their judging and classes, and then pick the car that had a good chance for success.

For example, if a given event used popular voting and there were usually more higher performance or classic cars there, then maybe my Mustang was the better choice, but if it was a judged show with a long drive, then my nice-riding Fusion may be better, although both cars are detailed. At any rate, I needed to take my Mustang out to a few events 'soon' as my show friends were always asking, "Are you ever taking your Mustang back to the shows?!"



Last year I attended the Hot Rods at Lincoln Tech event, an excellent popular vote show hosted by the Royal GTOs and Pontiacs Car Club, that was held next to the Lincoln Tech campus in nearby Columbia, MD, a short 20-minute ride away, and their next event was on Saturday, June 14. This show was open to all makes and models of domestic and foreign cars and trucks. There were Top 50 trophies available, as well as several 'Best of' special awards. Their show area was located on a huge, wide-open macadam parking area next to the school that was striped with the entrants spaced out, and the parking was directed by club members using walkie-talkies. It was a perfect location for a large event!

On the last occasion it looked like the club had invited several other organizations devoted to different manufacturers' vehicles, and there was also an excellent assortment of Mustangs, Model A's and many other interesting Ford products in attendance, so be sure to take a camera again this year! For this event, I met up with two other Mustang friends offsite so that we could drive in and park together. This was an excellent show to go back to for a second time!





The weather check at O'Dark Early on that Saturday showed that we would be playing the dreaded rainy day roulette game once more for most of the day. The forecast said that there was a possibility of intermittent light rain at the beginning of the show, and that thunderstorms would most likely occur by two or three o'clock that afternoon, and that it would also be generally cloudy for most of the day, although the temps were in the '70's and low '80's. There was nothing heard about postponing the show because of the weather, so I launched at 7:15am and met my friends near the observation area south of BWI Airport and watched several 737's land while I was waiting. We were soon parked and setting up at Lincoln Tech less than a half-hour later.

I had parked my Mustang and completed its first wipe down when sure enough, the first rainy sprinkles came, but just enough to let us know what may be in store, and fortunately there were no more surprises. The good news was that it never rained again that morning, and the cloud cover kept the macadam parking area reasonably comfortable. The bad news was that the threat of afternoon storms severely reduced the number of entries for this otherwise excellent and well run event. As the morning passed, the parking area was only moderately filled as compared to what we remembered from last year when there was also an excellent assortment of all makes and models, and a few very rare cars, such as a '54 Kaiser Manhattan and an '88 Avanti, that were there.



We checked the weather as the morning passed, and the forecast was still calling for storms by three o'clock. At first the club said that trophies would be awarded at 1:30, but they moved that up to 1pm so that we could finish and beat the storms. On the Thursday before this show, I completed a three-hour clean up of my Mustang in 90-degree weather, and I was hoping to return home before the downpours arrived to try to get a second show out of that effort before the next weekend's event. As it turned out, the number of show entries, from what we heard, only reached 49 cars and trucks! This was unfortunately way down from last year, and with a Top 50 set of awards, everyone received something, and that was a nice plaque, as well as the three other 'Best of' awards.

And those unpredictable thunderstorms that we were trying our best to avoid all day? They never came! Eventually the cloudy skies cleared, and we had a bright and sunny late afternoon and evening!

-END-

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**got Mustang?**



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**-END-**

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**got Model A?**

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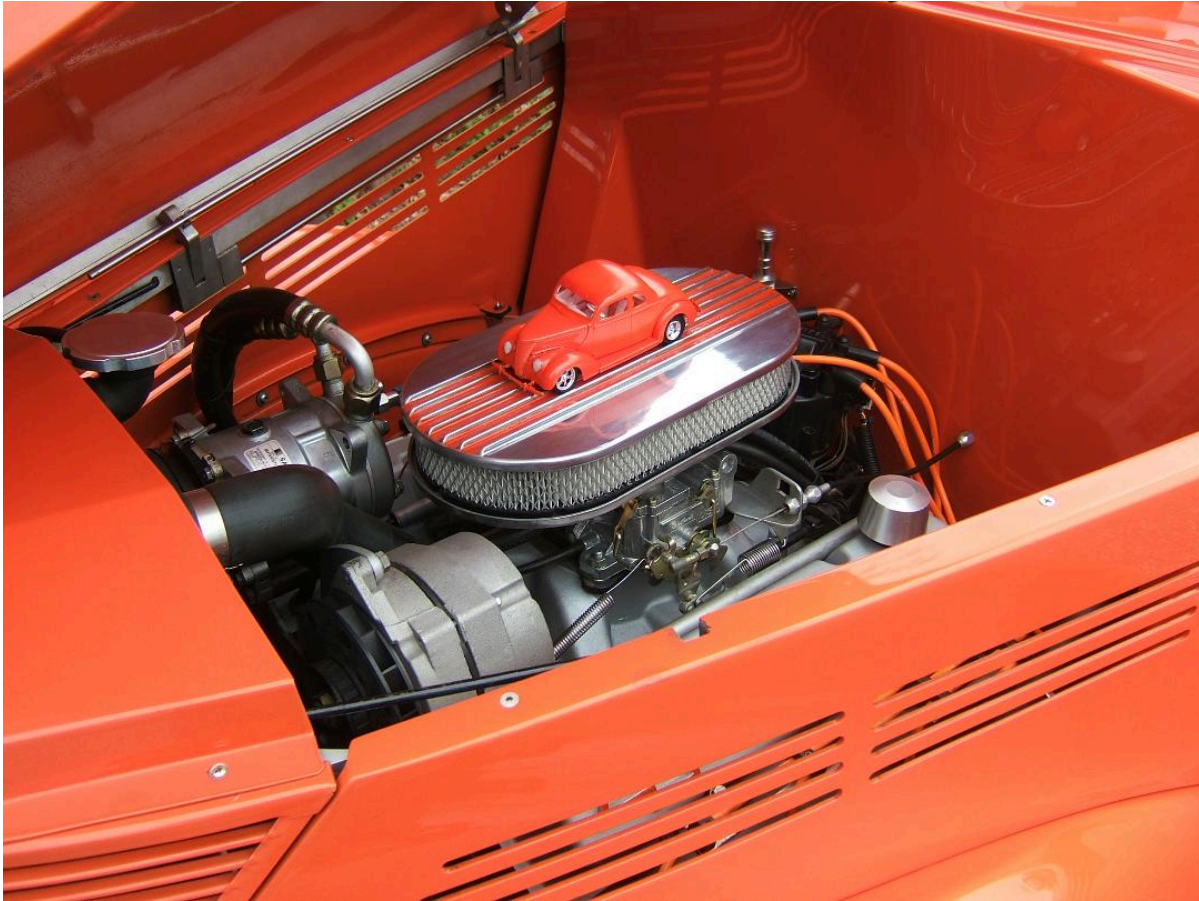
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**-END-**

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**got '37 Ford?**

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***MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS, and this is our final issue for this month. This was a truly beautiful '56 Thunderbird that would have been my choice for 'Best of Show' had the club given such an award. This car was in amazing condition, and it looked great from every angle! Hard to believe it was almost 70 years old! This was truly an iconic design and one of Ford's best, all-time classic cars!***



















**-END-**

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**got T-Bird?**

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