

(R)MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS - ISSUE NUMBER 194 - APRIL 2025

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

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MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS

Issue Number 194 - April 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 23RD SHOW IN MY 2011 V6 MUSTANG - BY RICK MITCHELL

As we approached the Father's Day weekend, there were only a few shows here in central Maryland that looked worthwhile for that Sunday, but there was one other earlier event scheduled for that Saturday, June 15, 2024. This was a Father's Day

car show hosted by a church located only a half an hour away and an easy ride. This event was rain or shine, and it offered Top 20 for trophies, as well as pastor's choice and ladies' choice awards.

The judging for their Top 20 trophies was done by members of the church's trustees, and the ladies' choice award was selected by several women from the church. The church members' cars were not judged. The trustees were not using score sheets, but rather they described their judging as, "popular vote among the judges." "Our intent is to have a fun day for a good cause, and not so much a competition" (although that was exactly what it was.) This looked like an enjoyable event to attend with good weather, so I contacted my three Mustang buddies, Leo, Glenn and John, and we arrived at the church by 8am and were the first four cars there!



My 2011 Mustang.

The weather could not have been better. The day was in the low '80's, with little humidity and plenty of sunshine, and a light breeze most of the time. As it turned out, this was this church's first car show. We were spread out and double-spaced parked on their side lot. Soon the church members were handing out water bottles, and not long after they were taking orders for free lunches for every entrant, and then delivering these meals to each person!. I had never seen anything so generous like that before at a show!



John's excellent '66 coupe.

The registration closed at noon. By then there were only 39 cars and trucks in the show competing for the 22 awards, so our chances looked good. Then the trustees started walking among the entrants' vehicles and writing car numbers down as they criss-crossed the show field. At 1:30, they called us to the registration area for trophy time. John and his '66 Mustang won one of the Top 20 trophies, but then Leo, Glenn and I with our two '08 Mustangs and one '11 were not called. Most of the awards appeared to go to the older cars from what I could tell. Was this just a coincidence? We will never know, but it just seemed that statistically, when choosing the winners from a random collection of nice show cars, that one of the three of us with our newer cars should have been called. Otherwise, it was a great day on the road in the Mustang. So I went home, put my car away, and then got ready for the next adventure!

-END-

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got Mustang?

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MY 24TH SHOW IN MY 2011 V6 MUSTANG - BY RICK MITCHELL

Father's Day is always a nice celebration for those who are fathers or grandfathers, and a day where the Dads usually get to do whatever they want before a family get-together. In my case, this was a great opportunity to look for another Father's Day car

show somewhere close-by and head out for the day, but be back home before anyone knew I was away at an organized car show!

In the days leading up to the big event, there were only two viable gatherings to drive to on that Sunday, and so I chose a Father's Day car show on June 16, 2024 held by a church about a half-hour south from my home. This show was using 15 judged categories with guest judges who were supposedly local mechanics and classic car enthusiasts who were to select the vehicles that best represented the different classes. There were approximately 16 trophies for category winners and six honorable mentions. Last year at their first show they had about 87 entrants. This event would be very difficult to win, but it was an easy Sunday morning ride on Father's Day.

When I woke up early that morning, my first thoughts were that I really did not want to go to this show. I felt the chances of winning were so slim as to be nearly non-existent. But then I remembered that four of my Mustang friends were going and this was a free show, and it was also an easy drive, and I was already pretty much committed to meeting up with the others, and so I went. This turned out to be mostly a bad idea.



I arrived at the church and luckily was parked next to two of my friends, Leo and Glenn, and both were there with their '08 Mustangs. This show was held on a huge, grassy field next to the church. There were already a high number of cars and trucks there when I arrived before 9am, and they continued entering the property for quite a while after that. Eventually the number may have been 175 or more. I was placed in their modern cars section with other newer cars. Bear in mind that my class had only one trophy, as well as one honorable mention award, for two in total. I stopped counting the number of entrants in my class when the number entered passed 24. As time went by, Leo said he thought that the number of modern cars in our class may have reached 40! And we were all competing for just those two awards!

We were later told that the judging would occur between 11 to 12 noon. All we saw was one woman walk down our line of cars with a camera taking pictures of our cars at about 11:45am. Was that really how our cars were judged? A quick picture, and that

was it?! Within the next hour we were called to the center of the field where the trophies were presented. They were all handmade out of bits and pieces of leftover small parts from a shop or garage, and then welded together. They were definitely "unique"!



When the church started calling out the winners, they named the honorable mentions first. I do not know who that was in our modern cars class. They then went through the roster again for the class winners. And the winner of our modern cars class was...wait for it...drum roll, please...a '24 Corvette! And you know, "No one builds 'em like the factory!" This was just unbelievable. There were possibly 40 cars in our class with all makes, models and years, and our "judge" selected a brand new Corvette! What were the chances?! What an incredible letdown and seriously disappointing.

At least I got to talk to my friends about different shows and our future plans, and we all had good ideas to share on past and present events, so that was certainly worthwhile. There were also several great looking Ford products there for pictures for our photo issues of MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS. But other than that, under this show's current format, I doubt I will return any time soon.

-END-

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On June 16, 2024, I went to a Father's Day car show held by a church not too far from my home. This event was on a huge grassy field next to the church. Eventually the number of entrants may have exceeded 175 cars, trucks and motorcycles. We will feature several of the more interesting Ford products seen at this show over two issues of our MITCHELL MOTORSPORTS.











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MY 25TH SHOW IN MY 2011 V6 MUSTANG WAS HOT, HOT, HOT! - BY RICK MITCHELL

Next up in my car show rotation was the 4-H Camp Summer Field Of Dreams Car Show, held on Sunday, June 23, 2024, in Street, Maryland. This town is located in Harford County, northeast of our Baltimore Beltway. The drive was a 44-mile run with about half of the trip cruising on rolling country roads to get to the site and great fun to drive! I went to this event last November and knew no one. It was their first show, but it worked out well, and I looked forward to going again. This event was open to all vehicles, and there were 67 trophies available, of which there was a Top 50 and various "Best Of" categories. The organizers expected 500 cars and trucks to appear this year, but that seemed overly optimistic!

The best part of this show was that they were using a points system for judging again this year, which I greatly prefer, and they were also looking at our trunks, which is rare anymore. The forecast from a week out called for temps in the high '90's by the day of the event, but the site was located on a huge, grassy field in the country, and in the center was the Harford County 4-H Camp's building that was air conditioned, and where a craft show was also scheduled for the same time, and we could go inside to cool off, if needed, as there was little shade nearby. Last year the organizers did an excellent job while using many judges to evaluate a great number of visiting cars and trucks.

As we came to the Saturday before this event, the forecast eased slightly, with a projected high of 92 with mostly cloudy skies and winds near 15mph. This was not, however, the hottest show I ever attended. That dubious honor went to the Fair City Mall show conducted on a Sunday in Fairfax, Virginia, during the summer in the mid-1980's. That event was held on a macadam parking lot with absolutely no shade. There was a fast food restaurant nearby where we could run in to get something to drink, but for the rest of the time we were out in the sun! The temperature hit 100-degrees by 10am! This was one of the earliest shows I attended where the club tracked our scores on a computer, and you guessed it, it crashed! This delayed the final results and trophy time, causing more exposure to the high heat. This was also the only time I ever called in to work on a Monday back in those days and pulled a vacation day to recover!



John's beautiful '66 Mustang.

For this show, I arrived at the 4-H site by 8:45am. I could tell that the forecasted high temps would reduce the turnout as I was parked closer to the back of the field than last year. Much to my surprise, my friend, John, and his '66 Mustang, was already parked across from me. I did not know he planned to go! I then gave my Mustang a complete once-over as I knew the heat would affect me sooner rather than later. With this being a judged show where my judge may look at anything, then everything now needed attention. It is amazing how much dust collects on a garaged car after sitting for only one week, and how streaky-looking the glass gets! About an hour later I had my car set up the way I wanted. Then it was time to figure out how to deal with the heat. I found that I was good for only 20-30 minutes sitting with my Mustang in the sun with an opened umbrella, and then I walked inside the air conditioned building for a few minutes to cool down, and then I went back out on the field again. I wanted to be with my car when my judge inspected it in case there were questions.

*My '11 Mustang.*

A few hours later the judges walked around the cars, trucks and motorcycles. When we registered earlier we were given our blank score sheets right away. It showed exactly what each judge would look at. The emphasis was on the exterior, engine and interior. There were 12 categories within those three major areas, and each sub-category was worth five points, for 60 in total. There was also a note to the judges telling them words to the effect that if the hood or trunk were not open, then the score was "zero," so they were serious about looking at those areas. When I first pulled onto the lot, a green Datsun 240Z was then parked next to me, but he left his hood and rear hatch closed all day. I never saw that owner again until the show was over. I did not see how he could win under those circumstances.

When my judge came, he never looked my way nor made any comments. He reviewed several areas for a few minutes, and then went on to the older red Plymouth parked beside me. After the judging was completed and the 50/50 winner was announced, the club first called the winners of their Top 50. The only person I knew was John with his '66. and he was called

early. What I noticed was that the organizers were calling out quite a few late model Mustangs and Camaros in their Top 50, which was a good sign. I was counting the winners, and when they got into the high-30's out of 50, I was very fortunate to be called. After that, there were the 17 other "Best of" trophies. I later asked how many entrants there were on this day? Bear in mind that last November there were over 300, but with the heat, today's total only reached 123.



One of the Top 50 awards!

Soon after I walked back to my Mustang. By then there were cloudy skies forming with a threat of late afternoon storms, so it was time to pack for my one-hour ride home. It was another great day out in the Mustang!

-END-

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-END-

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