Mossy Creek Cruzers Car Club

NEWSLETTER
November 2026
Volume 169
Editor: Rick Elder

Ramblin' On (things you need to know)

HELPING DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN – Bring new, unwrapped toys to the Dixie Pawn Shop in Jefferson City. Also consider donating to: "Coats for the Cold" (see last page).

NEXT CLUB MEETING – Tuesday, December 1 at Shoney's in Dandridge, TN. All members are welcome to attend. The meeting starts at 6:30. Come earlier to eat.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES:

December 8th – Lakeway Mustang & Ford F-100 Club Christmas Party.
December 19th – MCC Christmas Party at Bob & Linda Latham's. 5:00 pm.

Committee leaders will be appointed at our January meeting. If you would like to lead, or work on, a committee, now is the time to step forward.

Letter from the President

Cruzers,

Our Trunk-or-Treat Was a success! Quite a few classic cars were there with a lot of candy to give away. We had a bunch of children dressed in all types of Halloween outfits from a tiger to a black and white cow and even a few superheroes! Everyone seemed to have a good time and if they were hungry, there was a hot dog cart with the best hot dogs and homemade chili, the Mountain Dawgs!

The weather could not have been better. Perfect weather allowed us to pull our chairs out and sit and visit with friends, which is always enjoyable. We collected three large plastic bags full of toys for the under-privileged children.



The rain sure messed our club up this year with our 2 car shows. It is sad and bad when one car show gets rained out, but for the first time ever, both of our shows were rained out! The main thing is that it hurts our charities by not doing well t these shows. Better luck next year!!!

Let's plan for a better 2027 with new members, new ideas, new places to convoy to. Everyone try to bring more fun to our club.

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Meeting Minutes – November 1

Submitted by Mary Moore

The meeting was opened by President Pat Dukes with 17 members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a prayer...

Bob Lathum gave the treasurer's report with a balance at the end of October of $15,234.72. Bob discussed the revenue from the Bush Beans Car show with a breakdown of each part of the show's fund raising. Bob then reported that the organizations/charities receiving donations from our club proceeds this year will be the same as last year, with the one addition of a Cocke County VFD. Linda L made a motion to accept the treasurers report as given. Chris G seconded and the motion was approved by the membership present.

Linda Latham discussed the need for help with preparations for next year's car shows. Specifically, registration envelopes, Silent Auction Baskets, and a place to store items. Mary Moore volunteered to help with registration envelopes. Jackie and Sherry usually put the baskets together.

Pat introduced two new members, Betty and David Downing. Welcome!

Pat discussed that the Chamber of Commerce is going to close. We have been giving the toys collected to them for distribution. We will be discussing ways of distribution for next year. Suggestions are through schools, through Toys for Tots etc. but we want to keep them local.

January is time to sell ads and get our books ready. We will need to have car show dates and rain dates. Will also need the flyers done for the shows. Bush beans already have us for second and third (rain date) weekends in October. We can go over the flyers at the next meeting.

Brooklyn Balzano is making her candy sleds for sale again this year. She will have them at our next meeting. She donates supplies to nursing home patients with proceeds.

Rick Elder brought up elections. Nominations were made last month at the meeting and only one person was nominated and accepted for each office. Nominated officers include:

President –Pat Dukes
VP – Bobby Estes
Treasurer – Bob Latham
Secretary – Mary Moore

Rick Elder made a motion that these listed be voted into office for 2027. John Moody Seconded the motion and all members present voted approval by show of hands.

The Board of Directors for 2027 include: John Moody, Mike Wright, Rick Elder, and Pete Balzano. Linda Latham made a motion to accept the Board members as nominated. Betty Downing seconded the motion and membership present approved by show of hands. These nominees are the Board Members for 2027.

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Meeting Minutes – October 6 *(continued from page 2)*

Bobby Estes brought up the Farmer daughter Power Tour cruise on Saturday, November 7. Meet at Union School on 160, near exit 12, before noon. Reservations for 1 p.m. Cash or check only.

December 8 - Mustang/F100 Club Christmas Party on 2ND Tuesday in December. Details to be determined.

December 19 - 5 PM. Mossy Creek Christmas Party at Bob and Linda Lathams home in Rutledge. Bring a dish to share and a Dirty Santa gift.

The first Cruise for 2027 will be on January 1, New Year's Day to Burger King in Rogersville, TN.

January 15 to 17, 2027, the Hamblen County Car Club has the 13th Winter Angel Expo. This is an indoor show held in the Great Smoky Mountain Expo Center in White Pine.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.







Letter from the President (*Continued from page 1)*

I would like to thank everyone for nominating me again for the Presidency of our club. I promise to lead and plan a lot of new things in the new year! Let's all participate more in all activities and suggest new ides to help maintain and support this club that belongs to all of us! Thank you for your faith in me and for allowing me to retain the Presidency.

I have a great support system with the Vice-President in 2027, Bobby Estes. He will lead our club on trips and have other clubs join us. And Mary Moore, as the Secretary. She stepped right up and is doing an excellent job keeping the minutes at our meetings. And or treasurer, Bob Latham. He does an excellent job keeping the club's finances in great order. And our Board of Directors (Mike Wright, John Moody, Pete Balzano and Rick Elder) keeps us abiding by the club rules.

It just doesn't get any better than this!!

Keep Cruisin'
Pat Dukes, President
865-363-5891

Refrigerator Page

Print and Hang On Your Refrigerator for Reference

PUT THESE DATES ON *YOUR* CALENDAR!



Upcoming Events

Nov 7	**POWER TOUR** to Farmer's Daughter, Chuckey, TN. Meet at Union Heights School on 160 at Noon
Dec 8	Mustang/F100 Club Christmas Party. Details coming!
Dec 19	MCC Christmas Party at Bob & Linda Latham's. 5:00 pm. Bring a dish to share and a $25 Dirty Santa gift.
2027	
Jan 1	**POWER TOUR** to Rogersville Burger King. Meet at Shell Station on 25E at 8:00 AM.
Jan 15	Hamblen County Car Club's 13th Annual Winter Angel Expo, White Pine, TN (indoors), Noon to 6:00 pm
Jan 16	HCCC WAE - 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
Jan 17	HCCC WAE - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Local Meetings

Get involved!
Everyone is welcome to attend and learn about these clubs:

- 1st Tuesday – **Mossy Creek Cruzers** – Shoney's, Dandridge, 6:30 pm
- 1st Thursday – **Hamblen County Car Club** – Davy Crocket Restaurant, Morristown, 7:00 pm (No Dec Meeting)
- 2nd Tuesday – **Lakeway Mustang Club** – Shoney's, Dandridge, 7:00 pm
- 5th Tuesday – **F-100 Club** – Shoney's Dandridge, 6:30 pm



2026 Trunk or Treat



Club Social Media

Web Site
www.mossycreekcruzers.org

Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/MossyCreekCruzers

About Mossy Creek Cruzers

Founded in 2012, the Mossy Creek Cruzers (MCC) car club consists of a group of car enthusiasts dedicated to helping with charities in Jefferson and surrounding counties, while supporting our passion for cars. It is our intent to share in the fellowship by raising funds through the events that we plan. Our events are family oriented. We are a 501(C) non-profit organization.

2025 Officers

President
Pat Dukes
865-363-5891
mossycreekcruzers@aol.com

Vice President
Doug Rodgers
904-802-8027
nascar02nut@gmail.com

Treasurer
Bob Latham
301-602-7498
bobgoespostal61@yahoo.com

Secretary
Mary Moore
mary947.mm@gmail.com

2026 Board of Directors

Mike Wright
865-806-5050
mikeyw59@gmail.com

Pete Balzano
423-312-3486
petebmountainman@aol.com

Rick Elder
423-231-1326
relder@micromfgsys.com

John Moody
727-215-1782
denisejohn@verizon.net

Pat Dukes
President

Operating Committee Leaders

Article Six of our by-laws' states: The members shall nominate and elect the following positions:

Car Show Director – Doug Rodgers
This individual organizes a committee to conduct any car shows sponsored by the Club. The position requires commitment to the club through promo on, advertisement, participant involvement, and public relations.

Communications Coordinator – Rick Elder
This individual shall be responsible for writing, editing, and maintaining a monthly newsletter for the Club and distributing it to members and other clubs. Position also includes publicity and maintains the club's website.

Membership Coordinator – Pat Dukes
This individual is responsible for promo ng membership, collecting dues, and working with the community as a Club representative. They must maintain a membership roster of all member types.

Chaplin – *Open*
This individual leads all meetings with a prayer. They check on members' health and family situations and send flowers/cards or appropriate condolences when required.

If you would like to volunteer to lead or work on a committee, please contact one of the people listed on this page.

The MCC Car Club Newsletter is an official publication of the Mossy Creek Cruzers Car Club. It is created and distributed electronically each month. All news articles, photographs, and items of interest are welcome for consideration for publication, but subject to editing. Submission deadlines are the date of the MCC monthly meeting. Members who do not have email may receive the newsletter by snail mail upon request.

Building Fast Sleighs Isn't Just for Garages: Local Youth Spreads Holiday Cheer

Morristown's own Brooklyn Balzano is putting her heart, and her creativity, into helping others this holiday season. Living with Dystonia, a neurological movement disorder, hasn't stopped Brooklyn from pouring her energy into making a difference. Each year, she sources supplies and meticulously constructs handcrafted candy "Santa sleighs" to raise money for local causes.





This year's mission is especially meaningful: proceeds will go toward purchasing holiday gifts for residents in local nursing homes, as well as supporting the local Humane Society in memory of Brooklyn's beloved dog, Shadow, who recently passed away. During the holidays, the festive tradition comes full circle when her dad, Pete, dresses as Santa and Brooklyn joins him as his elf to deliver the gifts in person.



Brooklyn is a dear friend of our club. Please consider helping her mission by purchasing a sleigh, or two, or by donating to her cause. The candy sleighs are available for $5 each and can be purchased in person at the Dixie Pawn Shop in Jefferson City or by calling Pete directly at 423-312-3486 to place an order.

APPALACHIAN MINISTRIES OF THE SMOKIES

COATS *for the* COLD

DECEMBER 3, 2026 | 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

The Ministry Center located at 511 Municipal Drive, Jefferson City, TN, 37760
Deadline for donations is November 30, 2026

items needed





Toboggans
Scarves
Gloves
Blankets
Coats







DONATE:
Sponsor a heater for $40, or drop off physical items.

LOCATION:
511 Municipal Drive, Jefferson City, TN 37760
(for drop-offs and mailed gifts).

LEARN MORE, VOLUNTEER, CONTACT:
Karrie Foust | 865-475-5611 | kfoust@cn.edu.