

MUSTANG MIRROR

C o p p e r s t a t e M u s t a n g C l u b



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

KEN MARTIN

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS CELEBRATING 250 YEARS AS A NATION!

2026 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Ken Martin

Kenkristen77@comcast.net

VICE PRESIDENT:

Drew Peterson

druz66@cox.net

SECRETARY:

TREASURER:

JoAnn Martorano

jdmariorano@yahoo.com

SARGENT AT ARMS:

Phyllis Petrone

sweetfilomena@cox.net

We are blessed to live in an amazing and affluent country, even though it is not perfect. Absolute perfection cannot be found this side of heaven. We have been through wartime and peacetime, economic busts and booms, internal divisions and reconciliations, personal anguish and personal joy, and every possible circumstance in between. Nevertheless, I don't want to live anywhere else in the world but in the United States of America.

Every Copperstate Mustang Club meeting at Chapman Pro-Elite in Scottsdale begins with the Pledge of Allegiance. Our car shows begin with the Star-Spangled Banner, and if possible, a presentation of the Colors of the Flag. Today The Henry Ford Museum presents a Special Independence Day Program that honors America's innovators and changemakers. Everyone in America has the freedom to gather in public and follow their interests, whatever they may be and no matter what opposition may come. That fact is what marks us as a FREE COUNTRY.

Let this 250th Birthday Year remind you of the freedoms you enjoy and the significance of this milestone. All the celebrations, meetings, memorials, gatherings, barbecues, and fireworks are each a specific call to be thankful that you live in the United States of America.



Gary Hall, a Route 66 Fun Run Super Fan

2026 was the 100th anniversary of Route 66, and the 37th year of the Route 66 Fun Run and Show. I started driving the Route from CA, through AZ, and New Mexico as a salesman for heavy equipment. I stopped in every city, every wide spot of the road, and drove 80 to 90 thousand miles per year.

The Fun Run covers a 140-mile stretch of the longest remaining section of the Mother Road in the United States, going from Seligman through Kingman, Oatman, and Topock/Golden Shores. The Annual Route 66 Fun Run was established by the Route 66 Historical Society and founders Angel and Juan Dungadiaz, brothers who lived in Seligman all their lives. They only left to fight in the Korean War and then returned to the town they loved. They also loved the history and culture of Route 66.

These are a few of my cars that have carried me on the Route 66 Fun Run multiple times.



Gary Hall, a Route 66 Fun Run Super Fan (cont'd)

My ride on my first Fun Run trip in 2015 was a 1965 white Falcon ranchero with gold and brown interior. The car was an upgraded copy of the first car Gary ever had. It had Crate 302 with 320 horsepower. All the Mustang/Shelby parts are added for handling as well as 4-wheel disk brakes and Pantera wheels. The high-performance Falcon Sprint is adorned with a license plate carrying the Sprint crossed checkered flags emblem.

On another run I drove the 2014 Convertible Mustang V6, which had 19" tires and wheels, blue-printed disc brakes, and was named Fiona after Shrek's wife!

A favorite ride of mine is the 1950 Ford Crestliner Convertible, which has a flathead with Ardun heads, air suspension, and 4-wheel disc brakes. It began its life as a convertible and then was dressed up as a green and black Crestliner, nicknamed "The Pickle" by friends.

The original Crestliner was featured in the 1950 lead advertisement for Ford, "50 new things for the 50 Ford", designed to draw people into the showrooms and rebuild Ford after the war. Any war plane built by Ford was sold to the government for the raw cost of the plane with no profit added. Ford manufactured one B-24 Liberator Bomber every 63 minutes. 8,600 of these planes were added to the war effort before the war ended.

This last May I drove the 1937 5-window Ford Coupe for the Fun Run. This car is all FORD, Boss 302 Block, all steel boxed frame, 4-wheel disc brakes, 37 Ford spring assembly with a split wish-bone, C4 automatic transmission and a 9-inch rear end. The car has hidden air conditioning with the unit in the trunk and the vents in the headliner. The front windows still open and close as originally intended by Mr. Ford.

In the 12 years I have made the Fun Run, each year has been special due to friends and family. Traveling with my wife, my grandkids, and the personality of each FORD I have driven has made each year memorable and special.



MEET-UP AT PALADINO'S JUNE 20,2026

We were a small group on the 20th, but we had a great time! Discussions covered everything from cars (of course) to work! Gary suggested we take a cruise in early October to Route 66 to help celebrate it's 100th Birthday. Sounds like fun—anyone want to join? Let's discuss at our next meeting, July 11th.



GENERAL MEETING NOTES

JUNE 13, 2026

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Finance Report was given by JoAnn.

Mitch Ross, a Service Manager from Chapman Ford was our speaker this month. His motto is to “Do the right thing for the right reason”. He’s been with Ford for over 40 years, since he was 18.

His team includes mechanics that have experience working on older cars, which is good news for those of us with older cars! There are specialists for all parts of the car—from small things like fuses, to the major issues like transmissions. The QuickLane stations Chapman has is a great place to start your experience with the mechanics.

One story he told us was about a particularly odd situation with fluids showing up where they didn’t belong—and that several shops had tried to track down and fix, with no luck. Chapman used all of their specialists working on the problem and found and fixed the problem, which made the client very happy. This is the type of professionalism we want to see!

Mitch talked about the Asset Program as well, and try to find interested students to bring in as Tech’s in the shop. Teaching the younger generation how the shop runs, and how they can be a part of it in the future.

He also told us that at one time he was into motocross, however, along with that came with meeting lots of specialists of the medical persuasion, which was not so much fun.

Thanks for your time, Mitch!

Our lucky winners of the raffle were, Ruth Anne, Phyllis, Gary & Maureen. The 50/50 winner was Melanie.

Maureen (acting Secretary)



FUTURE MEET-UPS

JULY 18th—Saddle Bronc Grill. 11056 N Saguaro Blvd, Fountain Hills Meet time to be decided.

This restaurant offers a western theme with a full bar and food ranging from small bites, burgers, chicken, steak and fish. All this PLUS entertainment!



MAKE IT YOURS



2026 Mustang® GT model with extra-cost color option shown.

Now's the time.

A LITTLE JOKE

A world-renowned heart surgeon was waiting for his car to be fixed. The mechanic, a bit of a jokester, called him over.

“Hey Doc, I want to show you something” the mechanic said, pointing to the engine. “I take these valves out, grind ‘em down, and put ‘em back in so the engine runs like new. You basically do the same thing for people, right?”

The surgeon nodded and said, “In a way, yes.”

The mechanic grinned. “So how come I make fifty bucks an hour and you make half a million a year when we’re doing the exact same work?”

The surgeon smiled, leaned in, and said “Try doing it while the engine is still running!”

MUSTANG NEWS

There’s more proof that we won’t see another Shelby Mustang from Dearborn (where all Shelby Mustang engines are built) anytime soon. Ford terminated it’s license with Shelby Licensing for the use of the Shelby name. Since 2024, it’s been obvious since the debut of the S650 Mustang that Ford has been moving away from the names of the past, replacing Mach, Boss and Shelby with variations of the Dark Horse. Another reason is the fee that Ford pays Shelby for each branded car sold.

Shelby American will continue to produce it’s Shelby vehicles, mostly post-title Mustangs and trucks from their headquarters in Las Vegas.

HELP PLEASE!

Please send your “First Rides” articles, your “Members Mustang Stories ‘ and any Mustang pictures to Maureen at GT500@twocool.net.

Also, please let me know of any typos or issues you find in the newsletter!

We’re also looking for any Ford Mustang Recalls to include in the Newsletter, as well as any car show pictures or other Mustang events you attend.

Let me know of any other upcoming car shows or events to include with the ‘Calendar of Events’.

A big THANK YOU to Gary Hall for his submission this month! It was a great read!

I suspect we all have some great stories to tell—so come on y’all! Send in your stories!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 18th—Saddle Bronc Grill, 11056 N Saguaro Blvd, Fountain Hills.

August 8th—Board Meeting—2:00pm 3950 N 89th, Scottsdale AZ

August 8th—General Meeting—3:00pm 3950 N 89th, Scottsdale AZ

September 12th—Board Meeting—2:00pm 3950 N 89th, Scottsdale AZ

September 12th—General Meeting—3:00pm 3950 N 89th, Scottsdale AZ

October 10th—Board Meeting—2:00pm 3950 N 89th, Scottsdale AZ

October 10th—General Meeting—3:00pm 3950 N 89th, Scottsdale AZ

October 24th—Monsoon Madness Car Show

November 14th—In lieu of the General Meeting, our Pizza Party!

December 13th—Annual Christmas party at Nando's, 1:00.



TOP 100 Retail Dealership in the Nation

Congratulations to **CHAPMAN FORD** for Outstanding accomplishment for 2023 Sales, Service and Performance