
"HOOTBEATS"

The newsletter of the CSRA Mustang and Ford Club



Club Officers

President: Tom Petrak
Vice-President: Don Blackstock
Treasurer: Laura Perkins
Secretary/Editor: Mike Anchor
MCA Regional Director: Mark Field

Next Meeting: Monday, March 6, 2023
6:30 pm to eat, Meeting at 7 pm

Location: Pizza Central
526 North Belair Drive, Evans, GA
In the Big Lots and Home Depot Shopping Center



From the President

Tom Petrak

Greetings Everyone,

Just a reminder that our 2023 calendar has been set. You can find a copy of the calendar in the newsletter and on the club web page.

Thanks for everyone that joined in on our 100-mile cruise to the Blind Pig BBQ in Jackson, GA on February 18th. We had four cars go on the cruise, on what turned out to be a beautiful day. The food was great and we had perspective new members Victor and Carrie and their son Liam join us.

We have two events in March. The first event is a cruise to Cars and Caffeine in Greenwood, SC on March 11th. See event details later in the newsletter.

The second event is the Augusta St. Patrick's Day parade on March 17th. We currently have 6 members planning on attending. Everyone is welcome. See event details later in the newsletter.

On April 1st we are participating in the 11th Annual Pee Dee Roundup Mustang and Ford Regional Show in Florence, SC. See event details later in the newsletter.

Just a reminder that it's time for 2023 dues. The membership voted to raise dues to \$20 for MCA members and \$35.00 for non-MCA members.

At the beginning of last year, I asked the membership if there were any charities you would like the club to consider sponsoring. Because of the Grand National I decided that it would be best to delay that consideration for year. Now that the Grand National is behind us, if you have a charity, you believe is worthy of consideration, please let me know.

Congratulations to Steve Prewitt for his selection into the Mustang Owners Museum Hall of Fame in Charlotte, NC. It's nice to see Steve receive this honor for all he has done to promote our hobby and the MCA. He and the other inductees will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on April 15th at a dinner in their honor in Charlotte. Check the Mustang Owners Museum website for details on attending at <https://www.mustangownersmuseum.com/events>.

That's all for now.



New Members

Chris and Crystal Magyar 2021 Shelby GT500 Golden Ticket CFTP

Chris and Maria Vaill 1990 Mustang GT convertible and 1967 Fairlane GT 2dr HT



Ford News and Notes

Ford Thinks Cars Will Repo Themselves in the Future

According to this patent, Ford imagines giving creditors broad new remote access to vehicles.

No one finances a new or used car and plans on having it repossessed someday for missing payments, but life happens, the economy fluctuates, and surprise financial hardships are a very real thing. If you fall behind on your car payments for long enough, you can rest assured that the creditor is going to try and take it back. Generally a crappy situation all around, it can also be potentially dangerous for the former owner of the car and the person doing the repossessing. It appears that Ford has come up with a supposedly safer solution that is straight out of a dystopian sci-fi film.

The Drive came across a patent filed by Ford that details "Systems and Methods to Repossess a Vehicle." The patent was originally submitted in August 2021, but wasn't published until recently. Every method described in this patent is designed to make the repossession process much easier on creditors and much harder on those who are struggling to make payments, by disabling several critical functions of the vehicle to make it more difficult or uncomfortable to drive in certain situations. Imagine falling behind on your car payments and then one hot summer day you realize that the air conditioning stops working or that the car will simply not start at all. Those are the kinds of interference that Ford imagines could be triggered remotely via the systems detailed in this patent.

It goes much further.

It's no secret that in the future Level 2 and possibly even Level 3 autonomous driving capabilities (per the SAE) will become more common in new vehicles. Ford's patent leverages such capability in its arsenal. As you might guess, it can be difficult for repo-workers to get to a vehicle that is stored on private property or in some other disadvantageous place, but with this system, the creditor can simply trigger the car remotely to drive to a different, more public place to make it easier for a tow truck to reach. Or it could even tell the vehicle to drive itself back to the the creditor directly. There is even a contingency in the system that can calculate the car's value against the cost to tow it and resell it. If it works out to be a loss then the system can instruct the car to drive itself straight to a junkyard for scrap. We're pretty sure no Ford Mustang Mach-E buyer had this sort of thing in mind when they checked the box to add BlueCruise to their order—luckily this is still only a patent.



We wouldn't blame anyone for looking at this patent and immediately falling down the slippery slope in their heads. How easy would it be for unscrupulous banks to take advantage of this system? What about hackers? All valid questions, but it is also important to remember that the industry is quite away from that level of autonomy being so common that these systems would be widespread. Also, according to The Drive, Ford is the only automaker patenting such a system at the moment. Furthermore, just because the patent was successfully filed doesn't mean it is a practical or even a feasible system to actually put into action. We're not legal experts here but we have to imagine that there are consumer protection laws in place that would prevent such systems from having free reign on any vehicle, even if the driver is behind on payments.

<https://www.motortrend.com/news/ford-autonomous-repossession-system-patent/>



CSRA Mustang & Ford Club Calendar Updates

March

Greenwood (SC) Cars & Caffeine

WHEN: March 11, 2023

TIME: Leave promptly at 8:30. Please be fully fueled and pit stops complete.

MEET: Circle K Gas Station, Intersection of I-20 and Martintown Rd. I-20, Exit 1
We plan to have lunch following Cars and Caffeine somewhere in Greenwood.

St. Patrick's Day Parade Augusta

Once again, the club is looking to participate in the Augusta St. Patrick's Day parade. The parade is Friday, March 17th. The parade starts at 2:00 at the James Brown arena and works its way down Broad Street and then back to the James Brown Arena. The people who participated in the parade last year had a great time. The crowd was great.

Meet at the James Brown Arena parking lot no later than 12:30 to lineup and decorate your car.

April

11th Annual Pee Dee Roundup Florence, SC

WHEN: April 1, 2023

TIME: Leave promptly at 8:00. Please be fully fueled and pit stops complete.

MEET: South Carolina Welcome Center on I-20

For more information and show flyer:

<http://www.escmustangclub.com/events.html>



2023 Club Calendar (Special Events)

March 17 - Augusta St. Patrick's day parade

March 25 - Cars & Caffeine in Greenwood, SC

April 1 - Pee Dee Roundup, Florence, SC

May 20 - Cruise to Shealy's BBQ and Big Mo drive-in

June 24 - Club Regional Car Show

July 22 - Savoy Auto Museum, Cartersville, GA

Aug 19 - Augusta Canal Petersburg boat tour

Sept 8/10 - MCA Grand National, Melbourne, FL

Oct 7/8 - Tail of the Dragon & Six Gap

Nov 11 - Show and Shine

Dec 3 - Martinez/Evans Christmas Parade

Dec 4 - XMAS Party

3rd Saturday Sno-Cap cruise in, April thru October

1st Sunday ice cream, May thru October

EVENTS ARE LISTED ON THE CLUB WEBSITE AS WELL

<https://csramc.org/event-calendar>



NATIONAL SHOWS AND OTHER EVENTS

Please check the CSRA Mustang and Ford Club and the Mustang Club of America website at www.csramc.org to see an updated list of all upcoming events. Check out the CSRA Mustang and Ford Club Facebook page as well.

April 29, 2023 Kiokee Kruisers 2023 Spring Old Store Cruise-In (Appling, GA). According to the group, more information to follow. Please check their Facebook page for more information

The venue for the Mustang 60th Anniversary will be Barber Motorsports Park, Birmingham, AL, in April 2024. Details to come as they become available.





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www.mustang.org

