



November 2006

PONY TIMES

ROANOKE VALLEY MUSTANG CLUB NEWSLETTER

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www.roanokevalleymustangclub.com



UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

December 1, Salem, VA

Salem Christmas Parade, 6:30 p.m., sponsored by the Salem Kiwanis and Salem/Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce, (540) 387-0267.

April 12-15, 2007, Charlotte, NC

Spring Auto Fair at Lowe's Motor Speedway

April 20-22, 2007, Mustang, OK

MCA National Show, www.mustang.org

May 25-27, 2007, Louisville, KY

Mustangs Unbridled MCA National Show sponsored by the Derby City Mustang Club, open to Mustangs and All Ford Powered Vehicles, Information and registration already available at www.derbycitymustangclub.com or www.mustangsunbridled.com.

June 22-24, 2007, Concord, CA

MCA National Show, www.mustang.org

July 20-22, 2007, Springfield, MO

MCA National Show, www.mustang.org

August 31-September 2, 2007, Augusta, GA

MCA Grand National, www.mustang.org

RVMC MEETING UPDATES

Our next meeting will be on *Tuesday, November 21*, at 7:00 p.m. Arrive at 6:30 if you would like to order food.



This is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS:

• Post-Christmas parade party at the Cook's in Salem. For more information contact Butch Cook at Myred64stang@aol.com or 540-387-1979.

• *RVMC Christmas Party* at the *Home Place* - *Sunday, December 17th* at 3:00 p.m.



We will do our annual gift exchange. If you wish to participate, bring 1 gift per person, such as a couple would bring 2 gifts (\$10 limit per gift).

This will also serve as our December meeting. For more information contact Butch Cook at Myred64stang@aol.com or 540-387-1979

ST. FRANCIS FUNDRAISER (from Lisa Moles)

The Dogtoberfest event was really great. Kevin, Bob Leary, Tim Edwards (with friend Tracy and dog Jack), Bob Teeter, and myself and Paxton made it out to the days events. We had 5 beautiful cars there to represent the club, one with the requisite doggy slobber on the windows I might add. I personally did not hang with the car all day as Paxton was ready to do some exploring of the activities and even participated in Americanine- Idol, and the Parade of Breeds. But I know the 'guys' did hang out at the cars and talk with visitors. While we may not have attracted any new members that I am aware of, I think it was great publicity for the club. We were the first thing you saw when you walk! ed up with our banner displayed on the fence right out front. Niki, the organizer of the event, has already emailed to see if we want to be included next year and I told her absolutely. Seems they are already planning ahead for the 3rd annual Dogtoberfest events next fall. I have some photos that I will send around and maybe see if we can get them posted to the website, if you all think that's a good idea. If you can make this event next year, it truly is worth the time to go out and see their beautiful facilities and all that they have going on and see where our funds are going.

One thing I've thought about, since I did have a few folks ask why we were there.... what if the club bought another banner - nothing huge or fancy, but something that simply says - The Roanoke Valley Mustang Club Proudly Supports the Saint Francis of Assisi Service Dog Foundation - or something like that. We could display it at our shows, use it in the parades, events like Dogtoberfest etc. Just something to think about, and I'd be glad to see about getting prices if we want to pursue this.

MCA NATIONAL SHOW FOR 2008 UPDATES

We are in the planning stages of organizing an MCA National show application for May 5-7, 2008. Please attend the November and December meetings for the latest updates.

POTENTIAL BAD VENDOR ALERT!!!

Club members have had difficulty with an aftermarket parts vendor called ABC Exclusives located outside of Dallas, TX. The parts were of poor quality and did not fit, and they are now having difficulties obtaining a refund. They did not want to be petty, but felt it would be good to warn others who may be thinking about ordering from this vendor.

MUSTANG NEWS

The Boss will be back! Ford re-introduced the new Boss 302 crate engine at the SEMA show with a plan to have it available to consumers early next year. It is a 5.0L V8 with a range 340-500 hp and a cost of \$1,759 for the base block and \$4,600 to \$10,000 for a complete engine. A production Boss 302 specialty Mustang will be available for 2009, just in time to compete with the redesigned Camaro.

Shelby will offer a GT500 40th Anniversary package available through their Las Vegas facility and dealer network starting early 2007. See www.shelbyautos.com for details.

LOSE WEIGHT FOR BETTER FUEL ECONOMY?

Most of us know that the more we carry in our vehicles, the less our fuel economy, and our weight and the weight of our passengers could be a contributing factor. It is well known that airlines are dealing with rising fuel costs partly as a result of average body weight increasing over the past decade. Some auto analysts estimate that driver and passenger weight could affect 1-2% of fuel economy. Sheldon Jacobsen, an industrial engineering professor at the University of Illinois, estimates that if every American lost 1 pound, 39 million gallons of gas could be saved out of 130 billion gallons consumed each year. There are other, short-term ways to improve fuel economy such as removing excess unnecessary items from the vehicle, having properly inflated tires, reducing wind resistance, better driving habits such as making fewer quick starts and hard stops, and keeping the vehicle regularly maintained. Manufacturers could also do more to reduce vehicle weight while maintaining safety, appearance, and engine power.



FORD NEWS

Ford reported record losses of \$5.8 billion for the third quarter of 2006. Much of this has to do with money towards employee buyouts. Unfortunately, the fourth quarter could be even worse for losses.

The last Ford Taurus rolled off the Hapeville (Atlanta) plant on October 20, ending the run of one of Ford's most successful vehicles in its history with over 7 million vehicles produced. The Taurus was the top selling vehicle nationwide from 1992-1996, with a record number of 409,751 vehicles sold in 1992. The last Taurus off the line was purchased by Truett Cathy, the founder of Chick-fil-A, whose local franchises benefited from having the plant close-by. The 59-year-old plant will be closing, eliminating nearly 2,000 jobs from the local economy. About 300-400 employees have taken jobs with Ford in Kentucky. The rest have received severance, educational, or retirement packages.

Ford sales for October 2006 are 22% higher than 2005 and even reported a small <1% gain in truck and SUV sales for the month. Current inventory at the end of October 2006 was about 600,000 vehicles, about 100,000 lower than last year. These numbers indicate progress on Ford's goal to align production with consumer demand. About 75% of cars on the lots now are 2007 models. The 2006 end-of-model-year sale was a success.

The Ford Fusion got "Top New Model" in Consumer Reports' 2007 auto issue and was named one of the best family cars, right up there with the Honda Accord and Toyota Camry. The Mercury Milan and Lincoln Zephyr, which share the same platform as the Fusion, also scored well.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2007 RVMC OFFICERS

If you are interested in serving as an officer, or would like to nominate someone please contact Butch Cook at Myred-64stang@aol.com or 540-387-1979.

The open officer positions are:

President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and SEMA Representative. Voting takes place during our Christmas Party December 17th.

RVMC OFFICERS FOR 2006	
President:.....	Butch Cook
Vice President:	Mike Kessler
Secretary:	Edgar Kline
Treasurer:	Suzanne Beels
Newsletter:	Janet Wojcik, Linda Lancaster
MCA Rep:	Suzanne Beels
SEMA Rep:	John Beels
Historian:.....	Kevin Sexton



See you on
the 21st at Logan's!

Roanoke Valley Mustang Club
c/o Linda Lancaster
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