

CELEBRATING THE FORD MUSTANG

Mustang Generations | "More Than a Car" | Feature HMC Car | Club Happenings



Introduction

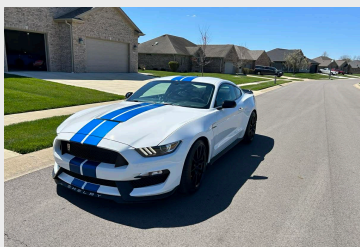
Welcome to our monthly newsletter. This newsletter will chronicle the activities of the *Hoosier Mustang Club* that has its members centered in and around Columbus, Indiana. Articles for this newsletter will showcase the Ford Mustang both within and outside of our club. We hope you enjoy reading the *Hoosier Pony Times*.

HMC "Feature Car"

This month's "Feature Car" belongs to Doug Koester. It is a beautiful white 2017 Shelby GT350.

See the full article of this feature car on pages 3 & 4 of this edition of the

Hoosier Pony Times.



Mustang Generations

The **third generation** of the Ford Mustang debuted in 1979 and was built on Ford Fox platform, marking one of the biggest redesigns in the car's history. Often called the "Fox Body" Mustang by enthusiasts, this generation replaced the smaller, fuel-crisis-era Mustang II with a more modern and versatile platform. Its longer wheelbase, lighter weight, and improved engineering gave the car better handling, more interior room, and a cleaner, sharper design that reflected late-1970s and 1980s styling trends.



Throughout its 1979–1993 production run, the third-generation Mustang evolved significantly in both appearance and performance. Early models offered a range of engines from economical four-cylinders to V8 powerplants, but by the 1980s the 5.0-liter V8 became the star of the lineup. The return of performance-oriented models such as the Mustang GT and later the high-performance Ford Mustang SVT Cobra helped restore the Mustang's muscle car reputation after the performance decline of the 1970s. Fuel injection, improved suspension tuning, and five-speed manual transmissions also made these cars more competitive and enjoyable to drive.

The *Fox Body Mustang* became a cultural icon thanks to its affordability, tunability, and motorsports success. Its simple mechanical design made it especially popular for drag racing, street performance builds, and aftermarket customization, a reputation it still holds today. By the time production ended in 1993, the third-generation Mustang had successfully bridged the gap between classic muscle cars and modern performance vehicles, helping keep the Mustang name alive and relevant until the arrival of the redesigned fourth generation in 1994.

Information about the 4th generation of the Mustang will be in our next Edition.

“Blast from the past pics”

April 18, 2015

Cobweb Cruise



Mustang - “More than a Car”

We continue our discussion dedicated on the topic of **“Mustang, *More than a Car*”**.

I would like each of you to think of how the Mustang is “more than just a car” to you.

When the Mustang was introduced on April 17, 1964, the advertisement read: ***“Presenting the Unexpected, Mustang has the look, the fire, the flavor of the great European car. Yet it’s as American as its name... and as practical as its price.”***

So to continue this series on “*More than a Car*”, member Shirley Bozell emailed into me the following: *“I believe all Mustangs are Special! You notice them right away because of their beautiful lines and uniqueness. I especially love our **Boss** and our **GT 5.0!** They make me smile when I go out to the garage and see them. I feel young all over again, everytime I drive them!”*

So to continue this discussion I would like for each of you to submit to me *an email* that will answer the question of: “Why is Mustang *More than a Car*? I will then compile your answers and add them to future editions of the newsletter.

Upcoming Events

10 - HMC Monthly Meeting - 6-8pm - Chicago Pizza

13 - Gathering of Mustangs Car Show - Halderman Museum - 10am-4pm Tipp City, OH

20 - Falls City Mustang Club Car Show - 8am-4pm Sellersburg, IN

27 - Queen’s City Mustang Club Car Show - 8am-4pm West Chester, OH



Basic Car Information:

2017 Shelby GT350 Mustang - This Shelby GT350 is a high-revving, naturally aspirated 5.2-liter “Voodoo” V8 with a flat-plane crank that produces 526 horsepower and revs past 8,250 rpm. Paired with a 3.73 gear ratio, Tremec 6-speed manual transmission and a chassis tuned for actual track use, it delivers a driving experience that is rare these days.

Enjoy the story of this special car written by its owner, Doug Koester.

Feature HMC car

Doug Koester

2017 Shelby GT350 Mustang



The History:



Everyone knows that the GT350 isn't just another Mustang, right? It was Ford doing something genuinely different.

I bought my 2017 GT350 new from Landmark Ford in Springfield, Illinois in January of 2018. (Sort of a belated Christmas gift to myself.) It is Oxford White with blue racing stripes and sounds like a monster. I walked into the dealership

thinking that I was interested in a GT500 but it was gone by the time I got there. Then, I spy this white beauty looking right at me. As soon as the salesman let me fire it up, I was a goner. The next step was the hard part – convincing my wife I “needed” a sportscar.



Feature HMC car*Doug Koester**2017 Shelby GT350 Mustang***The Story with this car:**

This car has always been garaged in a controlled-temperature environment and usually is under a car cover. It has never seen water, as I always polish it and it has never seen rain. She still has her original Ford battery and original Michelin Pilot Super Sport tires. I immediately changed out the air filter to put in a K & N filter, giving the car an extra 10 – 15 horsepower. I currently have 15,000 miles on the car and have enjoyed every mile. As for other modifications, I added white Shelby lettering on the front splitter and a new “Shelby Racing” decal in November of 2025. Both of these modifications really set this car apart from any others.

As part of the purchase of this vehicle, Ford sent me to Ford Performance Racing School in Salt Lake City, Utah in Sept. of 2018. What an amazing experience! This was a 2-day track experience consisting of a ½ day of classroom training getting to know the GT350 and the rest of the time on a road-course track with an instructor. Ford provided the track GT350's and the instructors concentrated on best racing techniques, including apexes, cornering and straight out balls to the walls racing. Let me tell you, this car was meant for cornering!

**Enjoying this car:**

What I most enjoy about this car is the **sound of the 5.2L flat plane crank** and the **performance** I get out of the 6-speed transmission and suspension. This car is **glued to the road** and off-ramps quickly became my favorite place to drive!

This car feels like a **race car** in every aspect!



Club Happenings

May, 2026

**May 13th Monthly Meeting -25 Members attended!
Welcome New Members: Ryan & Joshlynn Ault, Spencer Niles,
Woody DeZarn, and Randy & Karla Eudy**

Wheels for Wishes - Charity Car Show - May 2nd

We had 10 members of the club show their cars at this charity car show in downtown Columbus. It was a cold day in May, but as the sun came out we all warmed up and enjoy supporting this event.



Cruise-In for a Cause Show - May 8th

We also had 10 members at this event. We gained a returning member, Woody DeZarn, at the show.

