



Red River Classic Mustang Club
“The Pony Express”
November 2024



Dear Members,

It's election season once again at the Red River Mustang Club, and we're excited to open up opportunities for fresh faces and new ideas on our Board! A few of our valued board members are stepping down this year, and we're looking for enthusiastic members to step up and help lead our club forward.

Serving on the board is a rewarding way to give back to our community, make new friends, and play an important role in planning the events, activities, and initiatives that make our club great.

If you're passionate about our club's mission and want to contribute your ideas and energy, we encourage you to consider running for a board position.

Interested in learning more? Simply speak with any current board member for additional information. They'll be happy to answer your questions and provide insight into what the role entails.

Let's keep the Red River Mustang Club strong and vibrant with your help. Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to seeing who will join our leadership team for another exciting year ahead!

Best regards,
The Red River Mustang Club



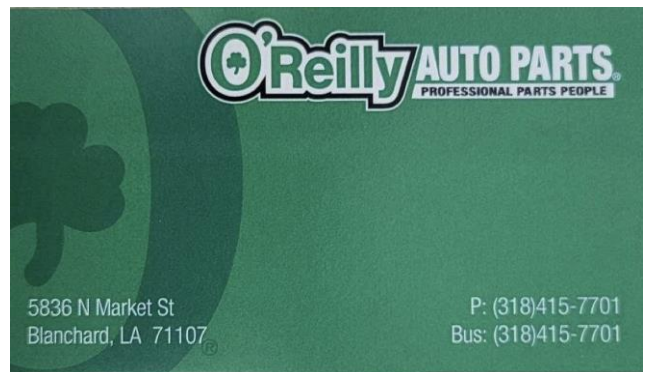
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From the President

Hello Mustang Family ! The year end is rapidly approaching. I hope everyone is prepared for the holiday season. The end of the year also means a lot of club business needs to be finalized. Last month I told everyone board elections are upon us and all board positions are available. As of this writing we have no platforms submitted for any of the positions. Now for the reality of the situation. Last board meeting the board accepted my resignation as president as of Jan 1. My new job responsibilities and other personal reasons do not allow me fulfill my duties as president. I will still be an active member. The board also accepted the resignation of Rusty Rhame , VP , Tina Ponder , Treasurer, and Kelly Mayo , show director. The board is tired ! We have held these positions for years and get less help from the membership with each month.

Club participation in our last annual show was virtually none besides board members. We need people to step up and take the club into the future. It hurts to see all the effort over the years crumble. Warning...if no one steps up to the positions of president , secretary, and treasurer by Jan 1...we will have no choice but to dissolve the corporation , liquidate club assets , and no longer have a club. The choice is yours.

Tom Hughes
President,
Red River Mustang Club



Getting Your Money's Worth?

I thought of several titles for this newsletter article but the main theme is "How to spend a fortune and only have an old car to show for it." I did it. I am still doing it. Are you? Read on.

My wife has a saying, "If you want economy it is going to cost you!" And that is true, true, true. Why does salt free anything cost more than the regular version? Why is gas with no alcohol cost about a buck a gallon more than regular unleaded with 10% ethanol. Do they really start with the full version and chemically or mechanically remove the alcohol? I think not. I bought a diesel VW at one point to save money on fuel. The thing cost \$2,000 more to get the diesel engine to save a few cents per gallon. Hah!

Back to the main premise that this Mustang business is not cheap. To save on repair hassle or the cost of restoration buy a new 'Stang. I priced a 2024 GT Convertible with the premium package and some other goodies and the window sticker was over \$64K. And there was a dealer add-on sticker for a few grand more.

About 15 years ago I paid a very reputable hot rod shop a whole suitcase full of greenbacks to restore my 64 ½ convertible. They did an outstanding job, as most of you know. And when it rolled out of the shop, I had a brand new nearly 60-year-old car. I drove it for 13 years needing little or no major maintenance, only oil changes and the like. I certainly received a lot of miles of motoring pleasure and a few gold trophies along the way. But up front it cleaned out my savings and then some. But detractors would argue I still had a 60-year-old car.

Now to the real sink hole. I acquired a 1964 Fairlane 500. I paid just a few bucks for it and was planning to get an engine and some other needed goodies out of it and sell off the rest for junk. Didn't exactly work out that way. Today the Fairlane sits under a tarp in the back yard.

The week before the 64 ½ convertible was stolen, I bought another engine and transmission set-up that would be correct for the "early production" Mustang. I had searched for such an engine for decades and finally found it and bought it at the Melbourne MCA show. Way before I went to Tulsa to pick it up, the intended recipient was hiding in someone else's garage or chop shop.

Turns out I am rebuilding that engine and the transmission to go into the Fairlane. Although running, the Fairlane's engine and tranny smokes and shakes and rocks and rolls but doesn't do a very good job of propelling the Fairlane. Then there is the pile of new interior stuff sitting in my attic ready to go into the Fairlane. I am putting new or rebuilt stuff with a mega-buck price tag into an old hulk. May be something wrong with this picture.

Whatever your preference, buying new or rebuilding and restoring, I can testify that it is going to cost something huge. There are advantages to both scenarios and costs associated either way you go. Whatever you like. I think the Fairlane 500, completed the way I am dreaming of, will be great. It will be unique, maybe eye catching or head turning. But it will be a 60-year-old car that has a heap of cash stuffed into it along the way.

And I haven't begun to calculate how deep a money pit the 1984 Mustang Convertible GR 350 20th Anniversary edition will be by the time I finish with it. Scrooge McDuck began to worry when his money bin sank to the 70-foot mark. I'm spending my kids inheritance.

So Mustangers, enjoy them, drive them, and realize one way or the other you're going to pay for them!

.John



Hello members

From Lane Butler

Due to outside must I have not been very active this year, but as a member since 1997 and having held several board member positions for many years I feel the need to voice my concerns for the club. The club must come down with a bad case of apathy.

Apathy, also referred to as indifference, is a lack of feeling, emotion, interest, or concern about something. It is a state of indifference, or the suppression of emotions such as concern, excitement, motivation, or passion.

The club is experiencing low participation and a reluctance to step up and take responsibility for the club. Meeting attendance has been low for several years. Always the same small core group volunteering as board members, planning activities and attending events. There are rumors of several board members resigning because they have held the positions for many years and cannot get anyone to volunteer to replace them. Those rumors have grown into "the club is dying, might as well shut it down." Sure, shoot the horse because it threw a shoe.

Instead of ending the club, maybe it is time to restructure. Reprioritize objectives. What is the core function of the club? "The general purpose of the club is to encourage use, service, and preservation of all Ford and Ford powered vehicles, Classic Fords and Mustangs regardless of year." Not to put on a big yearly show. Not to support local charities. Not to stress about membership dues or bank balances. Not to plan a dinner cruise every weekend or attend every local or national show. The club was formed for people that own Mustangs to gather and have fun, whenever and wherever. All a club needs is a president, a secretary and a treasurer (**that we can trust.**) I'm not saying we don't need newsletters, internet presence, or coordinated activities, because those positions are very important for communicating with members and building public presence but are not core functions for running the club. Majority vote of the club can suspend the bylaw requirements for other positions.

All "car people" are not the same, and objectives change over the years. Some would rather sit and polish while talking to other enthusiasts. Some would rather be in the garage building. Some only want to drive. Some only dream of having a Mustang. There was a time I enjoyed showing the 67 coupe because I built it my way. I spent hours cleaning and polishing the 03 Cobra to have it judged. Now I prefer to drive my dirty 2020 instead of cleaning and getting judged. I have missed several meetings this year because I was having too much fun in the garage wrenching on my latest project. The club must support and appeal to everyone's interests.

Above all - go out to the car community and be nice. Enjoy every build. Encourage the new owners. Just because it isn't your style doesn't mean someone didn't put a lot of effort into their dream, and a lot of dream into their effort.

Lane Butler
RRCMC Member

From Rusty

It's time for our Board of Directors Elections! We need new ideas and fresh eyes for our club to continue. All Board positions are open. It's time for us to move forward or we will collapse as a club.

I encourage our membership to step up to fill the board.

I'm proud to have been a member of this club since 1992, holding several board positions over the years. I personally am tired. I look forward to a new board leading us into the future and wish them much success!

Keep the Ponies on the Road

Rusty Rhame

Vice President



Kelly's Blog

Hey Everyone

As everyone knows that the year is Fastly approaching to the end and the spots on the board is open for grabs. I don't know anything going on in November. After our club meeting we will cruise to Ming Garden for dinner. The first Saturday of December we will not have a Christmas part we will just go and meet up at Tamollys for dinner..

On a personal note, as most of yall know I am not working at Kroger's anymore and I'll start working on October 30th.

See yall there.

Kelly, aka Ducky
Show/Activities Director





A Bit of Cents



From the Treasurer & MCA Regional Director

As the year draws closer to the start of another, our club's election season is upon us, just as it is on the national level! After several years as your treasurer, I have decided not to seek re-election for the 2025 term. I hope one of our other members will want to manage the club's finances and inventory.

Speaking of inventory...

We have PLENTY of 2024 (\$25) show shirts available, as well as some prior year (\$10) ones.

2024 – 2XL (8), XL (9), Lg (13), Med (4), Sm (1)

2023 – 3XL (1), XL (9), Lg (1), Med (3), Sm (1)

And speaking of finances... earlier in October, other regional MCA clubs throughout the nation put out a challenge to all the clubs to financially assist the areas hard hit by hurricane Helene; we stepped up to the challenge, the board approved a \$1,000 donation to Samaritan's Purse (we selected them because per the people living the nightmare, this organization was boots-on-the-ground helping all they could)! Overall the regional MCA club challenge has been reported to have donated over \$23,000 to assist the people who lost everything...

Some MCA Show Planning

April 4-6, 2025 Dezerland Park in Orlando FL

May 23-25, 2025 Ozark National Raceway in Gravois Mills MO (show & track)

June 27-29, 2025 Cincinnati OH

August 29-31, 2025 Fredericksburg VA

April 3-5, 2026 Jacksonville FL

May 14-17, 2026 Bristol TN

July 24-26, 2026 Tulsa OK

August 28-30, 2026 MCA 50th Anniversary Braselton GA

Thank you for allowing me to be your treasurer, I will be more than happy to assist the next one through the transition!

Tina
RRCMC Treasurer
MCA Regional Director



November 2024

Mark Winderweedle

**Happy Birthday From
The Red River Classic
Mustang Club**

Upcoming Events

November 2th: RRCMC Monthly Meeting at VFW in Bossier 5:30pm

November 19th: RRCMC Board Meeting Shane's in Bossier

November 28th: Thanksgiving Day

2024 Board of Directors

President

Tom Hughes

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Vice President

Rusty Rhame

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Secretary

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Internet Director

Thomas Monahan

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Vacant

Member at Large

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