



# “HOOFBEATS”

*The newsletter of the CSRA Mustang Club*

## January 2012



### Club Officers

President: Don Blackstock  
Vice-President: James Cartledge  
Treasurer: Lynda Blackstock  
Secretary/Editor: Mike Anchor

## Next Meeting: January 5, 2012

*Evans Diner 4429 Washington Road Evans, GA 30809*

*Eat @ 6:30 Meeting @ 7:00*

Welcome to the latest installment of “Hoofbeats”, the newsletter of the CSRA Mustang Club.

[mike.anchor@yahoo.com](mailto:mike.anchor@yahoo.com). THANKS!

I hope that everyone had a very Merry Christmas and has a safe and happy New Year. For Christmas, Santa brought me a blue 1969 Shelby GT 500 convertible. He even found a way to get it under the tree. Unfortunately, it is a Hot Wheels and will be as close as I ever get to owning a Shelby! I hope that everyone has a safe and Happy New Year.

-Mike

Happy  
New Year  
2012



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# From the President

*Don Blackstock*

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and Santa left you a few "stang" gifts under the tree.

Looking forward to a new year with ideas from everyone for our club. Last year we had a picnic, a trip to Dillard Ga. What would you have in mind for this year? A road trip, maybe a Saturday morning breakfast meeting, or even a Saturday lunch together?

Save the date - May 5th. This will be our Spring show at Fairway Ford. We need to vote on a charity very soon.

If you missed our Christmas Dinner we said goodbye to Amanda Yandell, as she was stepping down after 2 years of being our vice-president. Amanda, thanks again for the hours you put in! James Cartledge will see that he has a tough act to follow!

Hoping to see some new members come to our meeting! Have you passed out cards?

See ya at the Diner.

Don

"The Road goes On forever and The Party Never End"





# Trea\$urer

*Lynda Blackstock*

## **Note\$ From The Trea\$urer**

January is membership renewal month for all club members. Renewals are \$20.00 per year per family for non-MCA members and \$10.00 per year per family for current MCA members. If you haven't taken the opportunity to Join MCA (The Mustang Club of America), you should do it now. MCA membership is \$50.00 per year. If you have allowed your MCA membership to expire, please renew it now so you can still get in on the discounted membership renewal rate for our local club. You may bring your membership renewal to the January meeting or you can mail it to: CSRA Mustang Club, P.O. Box 211726, Augusta, GA 30917. Some of you have paid in advance for 2012. If you are unsure of your membership status, please drop me an e-mail at [lblackstock.csramc@bellsouth.net](mailto:lblackstock.csramc@bellsouth.net) and I will be happy to check that out for you.

I trust that everyone had a very Merry Christmas and that you will have a Happy and prosperous New Year!





## **FORD NEWS & NOTES**

### **NHTSA Ends Mustang Manual Transmission Investigation**

The NHTSA announced in August that they were launching an investigation into a variety of complaints over the 6-speed MT-82 manual transmission in the 2011/2012 Ford Mustang, with which Ford Motor Company replied that they would cooperate fully. Now, thanks in part to Ford's response to the investigation, the NHTSA has ended their investigation.

In response to the investigation, Ford had issued their thoughts on the complaints about the 6-speed manual transmission found in the Mustang GT and Mustang Boss 302, addressing each of the major complaints with an explanation and their fix for the problem.

The NHTSA's job is to protect the public from safety issues in vehicles sold in the US, so when 2011 and 2012 Ford Mustang owners began complaining that the 6-speed manual transmission in their Mustang GT or Boss 302 was shifting incorrectly, the investigation ensued. These complaints included cold shifting problems, clutch plate bolt issues, clutch stayout issues, and incidences of 5th gear making a grinding noise - all of which seem to fall short of being safety issues, but frustrating problems for new Mustang owners.

In their incredibly lengthy PDF issued to the NHTSA, Ford Motor Company addressed each of these issues and they even went so far as to elaborate as to more specific causes for these problems. This includes owners who are modifying and "abusing" their cars (read: racing), the influence of online forums that cause owners to read into things too much, a misunderstanding of the skip-shift feature and "driver effect" - which seems in layman's terms to be Ford's way of saying that the problem is due to the way that the driver drives.

#### **Cold Shifting Problems:**

Ford Motor Company found that 44% of the complaints about the 6-speed manual transmission in the 2011 and 2012 Mustang GT were related to cold shifting problems. When these transmissions were introduced, they were filled with a higher viscosity transmission lube that thickens in temperatures below 60 degrees, so on very cold days, the thickening of the transmission grease can cause increased effort in shifting. This problem will fade as the internal lubrication of the transmission heats up, but Ford addressed this issue with TSB 11-3-18, which instructed dealerships to replace the high viscosity fluid with a lower viscosity lube that does away with these harder shifts on cold days.

#### **Clutch Plate Bolt Problems:**

Some complaints on the Mustang's 6-speed transmission were based around an increasing effort to shift over the life of the vehicle, along with a grinding noise. Ford found that this was due to the clutch plate bolts loosening over time and Ford began using a revised fastener system on October 19th, 2010.

**Clutch Stayout Problems:**

Some drivers complained about an issue where the clutch would not reengage at higher RPMs, but when the engine speed dropped below 4,000rpm, the clutch would engage. So this should not be classified as a safety issue. Also, Ford found that there was an issue with the spring rate on the clutch return spring, which the company fixed by going to a revised spring setup.

**5th Gear Grinding:**

Some of the 2011/2012 Mustang GT and Boss 302 owners complained about a grinding noise when in 5th gear. Ford found that there was a component quality issue with the synchronizers for the 5th gear assembly, which Ford Motor Company rectified with the problematic cars.

Now, based on Ford's report and the NHTSA looking into 364 reports of shift quality issues, the NHTSA has officially ended their investigation. They believe that Ford has properly addressed the various Mustang problems, which do not pose a safety

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Dynacorn International has just released the 1967 Mustang convertible body. Dyncorn has made some structural improvements that make it possible to bolt in a 390, 427, or 428. All you need is a donor car with a VIN and the ability and wherewithal to put it together. Oh, and \$15,995 for the shell.





Lesson # 1: Make sure that you know the difference between 1st gear and reverse. If you confuse the two, you may find yourself in a similar situation as this driver is Switzerland. The 24 year-old driver of this car did just that, and broke through a parking deck wall and plummeted three stories to the ground. He took out a tree and some scooters, but everyone was reported to be ok. Well, maybe someone's pride was hurt....

*CSRA MUSTANG CLUB'S FORD DEALERSHIP SPONSOR:*





Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson were going camping. They pitched their tent under the stars and went to sleep.

Sometime in the middle of the night Holmes woke Watson up and said: "Watson, look up at the stars, and tell me what you see."

Watson replied: "I see millions and millions of stars."

Holmes said: "and what do you deduce from that?"

Watson replied: "Well, if there are millions of stars, and if even a few of those have planets, it's quite likely there are some planets like earth out there. And if there are a few planets like earth out there, there might also be life."

And Holmes said: "Watson, you idiot, it means that somebody stole our tent."

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Two rednecks, Bubba and Earl, were driving down the road drinking a couple of bottles of Bud. The passenger, Bubba, said "lookey thar up ahead, Earl, it's a poll-ice roadblock!! We're gonna get busted fer drinkin' these here beers!!" Don't worry, Bubba", Earl said. "We'll just pull over and finish drinkin' these beers, peel off the label and stick it on our foreheads, and throw the bottles under the seat".

"What?", asked Bubba. "Just let me do the talkin', OK?", said Earl. Well, they finished their beers, threw the empty bottles under the seat, and each put a label on their forehead. When they reached the roadblock, the sheriff said, "You boys been drinkin'?" "No, sir", said Earl. "We're on the patch!"

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## **Signs Your Cat May Be Trying To Kill You**

1. Seems mighty chummy with the dog all of a sudden.
  2. He actually \*does\* have your tongue.
  3. You find a stash of "Feline of Fortune" magazines behind the couch.
  4. Cyanide pawprints all over the house.
  5. You wake up to find a bird's head in your bed.
  6. As the wind blows over the grassy knoll in downtown Dallas, you get a faint whiff of catnip.
  7. Droppings in litter box spell out "REDRUM."
  8. Catch him with a new mohawk looking in the mirror saying, "Mew looking at me? Mew looking at me?"
  9. Takes attentive notes every time "Itchy and Scratchy" are on.
  10. You find blueprints for a Rube Goldgerg device that starts with a mouse chased into a hole and ends with flaming oil dumped on your bed.
  11. Has taken a sudden interest in the wood chipper.
  12. Instead of dead birds, leaves cartons of Marlboros on your doorstep.
  13. Ball of yarn playfully tied into a hangman's noose.
  14. You find a piece of paper labelled "MY WIL" which says "LEEV AWL 2 KAT."
  15. Now sharpens claws on your car's brake lines.
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# From the "There ought to be a law dept.":





# CSRA Mustang Club in action



North Augusta Christmas Parade



North Augusta Parade line-up



Evans Christmas Parade



Evans Christmas Parade



# MCA CORNER

## **The New MCA "Three 4 Two!" Membership Drive Program**

Help the MCA grow and extend your MCA membership while doing it!

Want to help the MCA grow and extend your MCA membership while doing it? That's now possible by taking advantage of the MCA's "Three 4 Two!" Membership Drive Program that will take place from December 1, 2011 and end at midnight on February 29, 2012.

It's been the goal of the current MCA National Board of Directors to be able to find a way to lower the yearly dues for MCA members and increasing the MCA's membership is the quickest way to achieve this goal. Spreading our expenses out over more members brings down the cost per membership of running the MCA. But, to increase the MCA membership, we need current MCA members help. So we created the "Three 4 Two!" MCA Membership Drive and it goes like this.

Any current MCA member can sign up two new MCA members and get his or her MCA membership extended for one year. That's three MCA yearly memberships for the price of two!

The "Three 4 Two!" Membership Drive Program immediately gets the MCA two new MCA members, not renewals, and extends the current MCA member's membership by one year. A win for the MCA and a win for the recruiting MCA member! That's all there is to it. Just follow the guidelines outlined below and sign up new MCA members as fast as you can!

Visit [www.mustang.org](http://www.mustang.org) to check out the details.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 27-January 29, 2012:** MUSTANG CORRAL@24 HOURS OF DAYTONA  
Daytona, Florida. For information, visit [www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com/corral](http://www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com/corral).

**March 23-March, 25 2012:** Gulf Coast Mustang National. Pensacola, FL. For information, visit [www.gulfcoastmustangclub.org](http://www.gulfcoastmustangclub.org).

**April 26-April 29, 2012:** Mustang Showdown at the Red Rock Corral. St. George and Irvis, UT.  
For information, visit [www.numoa.com](http://www.numoa.com)

**March 25, 2012:** Cherry Blossom Festival Car Show. Macon, GA. Visit <http://fmccherryblossom.webs.com/about.htm> or email [cobrastang@bellsouth.net](mailto:cobrastang@bellsouth.net) for more info.

**May 5, 2012:** CSRAMC Annual Spring Show at Fairway Ford. Details coming soon.

