



Fords Unlimited Car Club

Newsletter

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FORDS UNLIMITED CAR CLUB

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December 2021

P.O. Box 1282, O'Fallon, MO 63366

www.fordsunlimited.com

Merry Christmas



2022 Dues



This is your last notice of your dues being due. Everyone's dues are due by December 31st. Please fill out the form below and mail in or drop off at our membership meetings. **Remember, your dues will not be accepted without this renewal form.** Dues are \$25. Second member in the same household is \$10. This form is for renewals only. Members who joined after September 1st, are paid through 2022.

FORDS UNLIMITED MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

(Please note that this form is for renewals only, not for new members)

Member _____ \$25 Second Member _____ \$10

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Phone _____ email address _____

Non-Member Spouse _____

Amount enclosed Cash _____ Check _____ Date _____

This form must be used with your dues payment. Your dues will not be accepted without this form. Deadline is December 31st.

Mail to P.O. Box 1282, O'Fallon, MO 63366 or drop off at a membership meeting

2022

Club member, Vern Anderson was able to attend the NHRA Midwest Nationals held on September 25th at World Wide Technology Raceway. The first photo (right) shows Vern with his favorite driver, Erica Enders, winner of four championships in the Pro Stock class of the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series. The photo (bottom left) shows Vern with John Force, Brittany Force and Robert Hight, president of John Force Racing. The photo (bottom right) shows Vern with Top Fuel dragster driver. Clay Millican.



Awards Banquet

The celebration of our successful 2021 year and the kickoff of the new year for our club will be held on Saturday, January 22nd at the Syberg's located on Dorsett, just east of Hwy. 270. This is the same location as in past years. That evening we will award the winners of our Points Race and introduce your new board of directors for 2022.

The menu will be similar to previous years which will include tossed salad, fried chicken, roast beef, mashed potatoes, vegetables, bread, butter and dessert. We will also supply a cake. Tea and coffee will be served and there will be a cash bar available.

The club's total cost is over \$35 per adult including attendance prizes, appetizers, cake and so on but we will pick up most of the cost of the evening. The charge for members is \$12 and \$15 for adult non-members. Kids 4 years to 15 years will cost \$5. Kids 3 years old and under are free. Doors will open at 6 pm for happy hour and dinner will be served after 7 pm.

We will need a confirmed head count by the first week in January. A confirmation will be in a form of a check for the cost of your party. **You must be paid in advance to attend.**

Please sign up at any meeting or contact Syl Biermann at 314-541-5624 if you plan to attend. If you cannot attend a membership meeting, please mail your payment to Fords Unlimited Car Club, PO Box 1282, O'Fallon, Missouri, 63366. Remember, there is no membership meeting in January.



Looking Ahead

As we head into the Holiday season, things have slowed down for our club, but our activities director and our board of directors are planning some events to keep us busy during the winter months.

As noted above, our first event of 2022 will be our Awards Banquet. Please get signed up if you plan to attend.

On February 12th, we are planning a trip to the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation and Flying Museum - Gateway Chapter to view the restoration of these classic birds. The museum is located in Maryland Heights. As always, lunch will be planned. We will post more details in later newsletters. This will be a points event.

We have an event that is still in the planning stages for March and will post that event as details are available.

Our activities chairman, Dennis McBee is in the process of planning our monthly cruises. We will be making some location changes this year as better location become available. These will all be events for points again this year.



Here are the tentative plans, subject to change.

May 22nd-JJ's of St. Charles.

June 12th-Undetermined.

July 23rd-Bandana's-Manchester.

August 25th-Maggie O'Brien'-
Sunset Hills.

September 25th-JJ's of O'Fallon.

We normally don't plan many other events during the car show season

As some of you may already know, the Lakers/Hemmings site will be shut down after the first of the year. This was our main source of information on car show and car cruise information. There is the possibility that if they can find a reasonable replacement site they may resume publication.

We are looking for any information that our members can find on car shows for next year. We will not be posting flyers but we will add to our Area Events section in our newsletter and on our website. If you hear of a **CONFIRMED** car show or cruise, please pass the information at a club meeting or send to our club email. fordsunlimited@gmail.com

Although we always have our show date posted before the first of the year, many clubs don't even think about their next show until spring, so little is available right now.





Our annual shopping day for our Toys for Tots charity donation was held on Saturday, November 20th. This year we were able to purchase or have donated over \$2,600 in toys and clothes, thanks to the 50-50 profit from our meetings and our car show. Several members made large personal donations. After shopping, we headed to the Sinclair dealership to load up the bed of a F-150 and a new Bronco. Of course, when finished, we did what we do best, we headed to a local Pasta House for lunch. Thanks to Syl Biermann for helping to set this holiday event and to all of our generous members whose donations make this possible. Thank you all.



Club Sponsors

As everyone knows, the show is the most important event for this club because that is what keeps it functioning. Without it we would just be a bunch of friends getting together at car shows and may well not have survived these 35 years. However there is an aspect of the show that gets overlooked or just not given enough credit which is the importance of our sponsors. For those who were not present at the monthly membership meeting when the final show report was presented this year's profit was \$9,600 after all expenses were paid. Our expenses this year were close to \$8000, the majority being trophies, dash plaques, insurance, park fees and printing. Our major sponsors, Dave Sinclair Ford, Bommarito Automotive and Ed Akers Farmers insurance supported us with \$7500 in sponsorship funds which paid for almost all our expenses. Without this additional revenue our profit would not have been enough to finance next year's show. Give that some thought, can you imagine doing all that work and not getting enough in return to have another show?

Our sponsors allow us to continue with what has become the largest single manufacturer show in the St. Louis area and without them our show would have to undergo drastic changes. They support us not because we are a great group of people, which we are, but because they view us as a path towards potential customers. We are car people who connect with other car people to send to their dealerships so we are part of their advertising budget. If it ever gets to the point they do not feel they are getting a return on their advertising dollars they will spend their money elsewhere. Therefore we are obligated to uphold our portion of this partnership by sending them customers. I realize buying cars is not something done very often but you need to let your friends, neighbors and relatives know the club has representatives at these dealers to provide them with a better car buying experience than just walking in the front door. Between our two sponsors almost any make of vehicle can be purchased. Although we are primar-



ily Ford

people for those who are not you can purchase other makes of cars or trucks. Sinclair sells Lincoln, Buick, GMC and even Chrysler products. For those who prefer foreign vehicles Bommarito sells, VW, Toyota, Nissan, and Honda. It doesn't matter what vehicle you are interested in you need to visit one of our sponsors and let them know you are there because of Fords Unlimited Car Club. Our representative for Sinclair Automotive is Kerry Childers who can be contacted at 314-623-4589. A club member's son was in search of a Lincoln, contacted Kerry who found him a car and he drove in from out of state to pick it up. That is the kind of personalized service you will receive. At Bommarito Automotive our representative is Kevin Hall who can be contacted at 314-276-8255. Kevin can search the entire Bommarito network while you are sitting in his office to find the vehicle, new or pre-owned, you are looking for. Dealing with our sponsors is a win, win, win proposition. Our sponsors win from selling cars, we win from continued support from them and the buyers win from getting a great deal and personalized service. And after purchasing a new ride contact Ed Akers at 636-578-2640 for insurance. Ed is also a broker for Hagerty Insurance and a number of our club members have switched to Hagerty and saved considerably. The owner of Archway Trophy, from whom we have been getting our show trophies, talked to Ed and switched his personal and business insurance to Farmers. Even if you haven't bought another car, talk to Ed to see if he can save you money on your insurance needs and let him know you heard about him from Fords Unlimited.

So please keep this in mind and let's all do our part in supporting our sponsors so they will continue to support this club and allow us to keep having the best show in town!! Thanks from your president.

2022 Ford Maverick

Info supplied by Steve Schneider



Pickup trucks have been getting bigger, heavier, better equipped, more capable, and more expensive for years, but Ford may soon disrupt the trend. The

long-rumored compact Ford truck to slot in below the mid-size Ranger is getting closer to reality, and the signs are pointing to it arriving sometime

in 2021 wearing a Maverick badge. Here we've illustrated what the 2022 Ford



Maverick could look like based on various spy photos.

Rather than a body-on-frame construction, this new model will share its unibody, transverse-engine architecture with crossover models such as the Bronco Sport and Escape. Recent Maverick prototypes have been spotted with four doors, suggesting that it will be a crew-cab pickup looking somewhat like a Bronco Sport with a bed, though with a different front-end design. In other words, the relationship between the two will be akin to the Honda Ridgeline pickup and closely related Pilot SUV.

Because the Bronco Sport is significantly smaller than the Pilot, it stands to reason that the Maverick will have a smaller footprint than the Ridgeline and other mid-size including the Ranger. It will also reportedly be cheaper than the Ranger, which starts just above \$26,000, as Ford told dealerships early in 2019 that its new compact pickup would have a sub-\$20,000 price sticker. We're now dubious of that. Unless the base-model Maverick is significantly decontented compared with its crossover sibling, we struggle to see how it could cost so much less

than the least expensive Bronco Sport, which stickers for \$28,155.

Powertrain offerings will depend on how committed Ford is to a low-cost variant of the Maverick. The cheapest version of the Escape, for instance, has front-wheel drive

and a turbocharged 1.5-liter three-cylinder with 181 horsepower; the base Bronco Sport has this same engine paired with standard all-wheel drive. We think that the more powerful 245-hp turbocharged 2.0-liter and the Bronco Sport's more sophisticated all-wheel-drive system would be better suited for the Maverick, given expectations for hauling and capability. Both of these en-

gines are likely, along with an eventual hybrid version. While some small-pickup purists may want a manual transmission in a vehicle like this, we doubt Ford is considering it.

The Maverick's interior will share components with the Escape and



Bronco Sport's cabins. Ford's Sync 4 infotainment system should be on hand, along with the Bronco Sport's clever underseat storage cubbies. We're not sure what size the Maverick's bed will be, but for reference, the Ridgeline offers a 5'4" bed and the Ranger offers a 6' bed with the extended cab and a 5' bed with the crew-cab configuration.

Ford sold more than 4,100 Mavericks during the vehicle's first full month of sales in October. Eckert said the company will continue to ramp-up production of the truck at the automaker's Hermosillo plant in Mexico.



The Most Valuable Mustang from Every Generation

By David Zanlea (Hagerty) Contributed by Steve Schneider

#2 (Excellent) condition average value: \$259,000

Let's start by acknowledging the omission here: The most valuable Mustang from the first generation—or *any* generation, for that matter—is the 1965 Shelby GT350R which currently has an average condition #2 value of \$898,000. But let's also acknowledge that the 'Stangs turned out by Carroll Shelby's outfit are a whole other ball of wax, with their own legend and lore. What the Boss 429 illustrates is that Mustangs are to be taken seriously in their own right. That was the general idea behind the car back in 1969. By that point, the pony car craze that Ford had started with its 289-powered compact had spun wonderfully out of control, to the effect that every Detroit automaker was exploring how big a V-8 it could offer in its small two-door model. To re-assert dominance—and meet homologation rules for NASCAR—Ford stuffed its beastly 429 V-8, replete with aluminum heads, into 1360 Mustangs in 1969 and 1970. The Boss 429 option brought a near 40 percent surcharge over the more streetable Boss 302, meaning those who bought them in era needed relatively deep pockets and a one-track mind. Nevertheless, a young street racer who bought one new and held onto it would now find it has matured into a nice retirement nest egg. One brought to auction earlier this year sold for \$385,000.

#2 (Excellent) condition average value: \$31,900

"Wasn't the '70s a drag, you know?" So observed John Lennon in an interview just hours before his death. Considering the drop off in performance and coolness from the Boss above to the peak Mustang from the following generation, it's hard to disagree with him. Yet the Mustang II was—in its way—ambitious. Whereas other manufacturers allowed their muscle cars to slowly fade through the Me Decade with progressively weaker engines and bigger fenders, Ford attempted to reinvent the Mustang as a smaller, more accessible car and, in so doing, bring it back to its roots. Kind of like punk rock. Of course, the Mustang II isn't exactly Sid Vicious, which is why even well-preserved examples of the most powerful version, the Cobra II, can be had for used-car money. That said, Mustang IIs are appreciating faster on a percentage basis than any other car on this list. Perhaps collectors living through the 2020s—which, if we're being honest, have also been a drag so far—finally appreciate these miniature Mustangs.

#2 (Excellent) condition average value: \$93,900

We're on the record as calling the SVT Cobra 5.0 a poster child for rising values of 1990s cars. And why shouldn't they be? The Special Vehicles Team's take on the 5.0 was both a fitting swan song for the Fox-body and a foreshadowing of the absurdly capable special-edition Mustangs sold today. The SVT-version of Ford's famous mighty mouse got an aggressive camshaft and special cylinder heads, lifting output to 235 hp and 280 lb-ft of torque. Since by this point Mustangs were as much about handling as straight-line speed, the Cobra also got seventeen-inch wheels (a big deal in '93) and four-wheel disc brakes. The race-ready Cobra R ditched the rear seats, radio, and A/C while adding larger brakes, engine oil cooler, power steering cooler, and Koni shocks and struts.

Fox-body Mustangs have been appreciating across the board in recent years, thanks largely to the fact that the people who grew up with them, Gen-Xers, are now the prime movers on the collector car market. Due to the R's extras and rarity—just 107 were built—it's at the head of the pack.

#2 (Excellent) condition average value: \$53,200

One of the secrets to the Mustang's success over the decades has been its engineers' unerring ability to do more with less. The fourth-gen Cobra is a prime example. By the year 2000, state-of-the-art sports cars from Japan and Germany bristled with turbocharged engines and sophisticated chassis electronics. Even the Mustang's crosstown rivals, the Chevrolet Camaro and Pontiac Firebird, were benefiting from some trickle-down updates courtesy of the C5 Corvette. In contrast, Mustang partisans at Ford had weathered an attempt to replace the car with a front driver by updating the Fox-body platform on a tight budget.

It's hard to imagine anything that shared origins with a '70s Fairmont keeping up with contemporaries like the Mark IV Toyota Supra, yet the Cobra R does and then some. Thanks to a 385-hp, 5.4-liter V-8 and a serious diet, the car hits 60 mph in well under 5 seconds. It also acquits itself well on a race track, courtesy its beefed-up Bilstein dampers and independent rear suspension. Those credentials hold up even today, making this most-valuable of SN-95-chassis Mustangs something of a performance bargain, to boot.

#2 (Excellent) condition average value: \$76,200

With apologies to Hellcat lovers, it was really this supercharged Mustang that hurtled us into the gonzo era of muscle car performance. Its 500-hp V-8 is the prime attraction—those who want a true track focus can find that in spades in the contemporary Boss 302. The GT500 is all about the cacophony of supercharger whine, exhaust, and tortured rubber. No wonder, then, collectors are willing to pay a premium to be able to put the top down and hear more of that wonderful noise. The convertibles, on average, bring some \$7000 more than the coupes.

Fords Unlimited's 35th Annual Car Show August 7th, 2022

The show was moved to
this date since our normal
July date was unavailable.

Classified Ads & Events



A FREE SERVICE FOR ALL FOR FORD ENTHUSIASTS.

EMAIL to fordsunlimited@gmail.com

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD FOR ERRORS. SOME ITEMS ARE TAKEN FROM OTHER CLUB NEWSLETTERS.

December
2021

Parts For Sale

For Sale. Raxiom Dual Halo Projection Headlights. Fits '99-'04 V6 & GT Mustangs. Like new. \$125 636-352-9188 Jim Goodrich.

Area Events

December 9th. Cruise -In & swap meet-8am till 2pm. \$5 parking spot. Free to spectators and cruisers. Car, truck, motorcycle and bicycle parts and memorabilia only. Held at 3725 Harry S. Truman Blvd., just north of Highway 70.

January 22nd. The Fords Unlimited Awards Banquet will be held at the Syberg's on Dorsett Road. Details are posted earlier in this news letter. **Club event.**

February 12th. Tour of the Army Aviation Heritage and Flying Museum in Maryland Heights. Details to follow. **Club event.**

August 7th. Fords Unlimited's 35th annual all Ford car show to be held at McDonnell Park. This is a date change. More information when available. **Club event.**

If anyone has information on any car shows or cruises for 2022, please send to fordsunlimited@gmail.com Thanks.

Club Events

December 8th
Membership Meeting @ JJ's
of St. Charles-7pm
come early if you plan to eat

Our monthly membership meetings are held at the JJ's of St. Charles, located at 1215 S. Duchesne, St. Charles, Missouri. Their phone number is 636-946-3500.



Meetings start at 7 pm. Please call JJ's to check on weather related meeting cancelations. Come early if you plan to eat.

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