



# Pony Tales

Official Publication for Members of the Golden Hills Mustang Club  
Established 1982

VOLUME XLII, 2

E-EDITION

FEBRUARY, 2024

## GHMC GOES TO THE MOVIES



See story on Page 5



## CLUB PURPOSE

The Golden Hills Mustang Club, established in 1982, is a nonprofit organization, the purpose of which is to promote the admiration, ownership, care and maintenance of the Ford Mustang Automobile - regardless of model year.

The club provides a social group for its members whereby they can meet, socialize and maintain a spirit of good fellowship, and participate in activities including the use of their Mustang.

The club serves as a medium for the exchange of ideas, information and parts, and is dedicated to furthering the interest of owners and drivers of the Ford Mustang.

# 2024

## Board of Directors

Club President	Bob Fentress
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Past-President	Sue Calvert
Terry Burke	
Dan Cordeiro	
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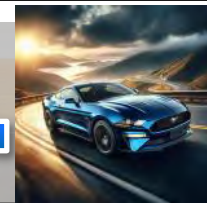
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2024 Car Show Co-Chair	Paul Troxell
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Historian	Ileine Burke
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Parade Chairman	Brian Evans
Name Badges	Dan & Norma McCabe
Pony Express to our Troops	Frank Lopez
Scholarship	Frank Lopez
Information Officer	Dan McCabe info@goldenhillsmustangclub.com
Veterans Liaison	Bill Davis
GHMC Technical Director	Paul Troxell





# HEADING DOWN THE TRAIL...

With President Bob Fentress



The year's starting out with some uncertainty about the weather, but one thing is for certain: the club is going strong! Our first club event was the Happy New Year breakfast on a drizzly morning with more people attending than we had envisioned. Then our first general membership meeting, with the White Elephant raffle, filled nearly every seat in Denny's meeting room.

We're now in the season when we should call ourselves the Green Hills Mustang Club, but the change would cause confusion with all our established branding. Speaking of branding, we have new club items available! Watch for them at the fourth Tuesday club meetings and show your GHMC pride around town.

Getting back to green hills, we're in such a beautiful area for club cruises as weather and road conditions permit. We're always looking for ideas for cruises and fun places to visit, so feel free to speak up with your ideas. Contact any of the club officers or board members or drop an email message to:

[info@goldenhillsmustangclub.com](mailto:info@goldenhillsmustangclub.com).

With unpredictable weather, some of these events may be planned or changed at the last minute, so watch your email inbox for announcements from **Golden Hills Mustang Club Info**.

Have fun on the road and be safe out there!



## IT'S TIME TO PAY FOR 2024

Thank you to all who made the Membership Chairman very happy, and Paid Early! We are off to a great start as of the last meeting, so keep 'em coming! We are trying something new. If you are reading this on your computer, scan the QR code below with your phone and it takes you to our membership page.



Scroll down to: **\*\*pay online for Membership Renewal (\$30)\*\*** and click **BUY NOW** Follow the instructions to pay using PayPal and email a completed renewal application to:

[membership@goldenhillsmustangclub.com](mailto:membership@goldenhillsmustangclub.com)

If you prefer to pay by check, please see page 11 or download a renewal application on the membership page and mail it to P.O. Box 497, Fairfield, CA 94533-0049 If you need help with printing or downloading, please call me and I can mail you an application.

Very soon, we hope to implement a new way to pay, similar to the car show application, which will streamline this process. Watch your email for details.

Thank you! Please Stay Well and hope to see you soon! Norma McCabe

# Bullitt Movie Night at the Orinda Theatre

On Thursday, January 18, the epic 1968 movie "Bullitt" was shown at the historic downtown Orinda Theatre. In December, I attended a fundraiser hosted by the Cobra Experience Museum in which we (Mikal & Kitty Brevig and I) attended a private screening of the Ferrari movie. That night we learned of a local Orinda Realtor, Tommy O'Doud of Dudum Real Estate Group, who sponsors a free monthly movie the third Thursday of each month, each time featuring a vintage "cult classic" type movie. Did you pick up on that word "free"? As in, walk right in, buy some food and snacks, and settle in to an old-time classic theatre movie chair! The cup holders are the floor at your feet!

The movie is famous for primarily two reasons. First, it starred one of Hollywood's premier 1960's movie stars, Steve McQueen (known as the "King of Cool") as San Francisco Police Department Detective Lt. Frank Bullitt, and secondly, Bullitt's "undercover ride" was none other than a 1968 Highland Green Mustang Fastback with a 390 and a four speed, which was featured in a ten-minute high-speed chase through the streets of San Francisco in pursuit of the mobster's 1968 Dodge Charger. Over the years, and actually to this day 50 years later, it is THE Hollywood car chase scene by which all others are measured and compared to. It re-

mains as the most iconic and influential car chase scenes in Hollywood cinema history! The movie is also near and dear to the hearts of Northern California, as the entire movie was not only filmed locally in San Francisco, but there were no movie studio sets used, all scenes were filmed inside of actual hotels, churches and hospitals featured in the film, which gave it a sense of realism not often seen in movies of that era.

For those interested, there is a TON of information online about the movie and the car chase scene, including the streets and actual route of the chase. In my former 1990's San Jose Vintage Mustang Owners Association (VMOA) days, there was a club member, Anthony Bologna, who was a teenager living in SF at the time of filming. His recollections and insider information were featured in Mustang Monthly magazine back in the 90's.

I was joined by a couple of colleagues from work, and Rob Lo (& friend), Dan & Norma McCabe, Frank & Pat "Lopezano," and Paul & Alice Troxell. While I've owned two different DVD versions of the film, this was only my second time seeing the movie on the big screen, the last time being the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary back in 2018. It was a great night! See me for discounted tickets to the next Orinda free movie night!

By Brian Evans

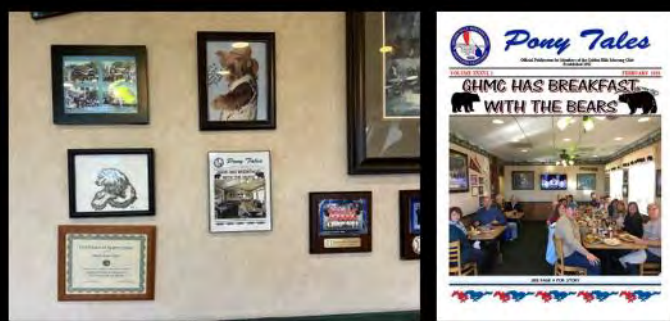




# BREAKFAST AT THE BLACK BEAR DINER



The First Event of the Year was a Happy New Year Breakfast arranged by our new President, Bob Fentress. As you can see it was well attended and the staff at Black Bear was happy to have us again. It has become a tradition to go there every January and they even framed a copy of our newsletter cover and it is hanging on the wall.



## BREAKFASTS FROM THE PAST





# Tech Talk 2.0



By Paul Troxell

## Fueling Around

This month, I am going to touch on the subject of gasoline octane. All of us go to the gas station to fill our tanks with gasoline so that we can do all of the necessary running around that we do. I don't know anyone who does this for pleasure. I am aware of some that do it wrong, though.

Buying gasoline and diesel fuel (I am going to concentrate on gasoline here) is not what anyone would classify as one of their favorite things to do. Mostly on account that it is an expensive affair nowadays. Most all of us spend more on a tank of gasoline than we ever spent taking our wives on a date back in the day! And, because of the price of gas there is a strong temptation to "save" money by choosing the cheapest place and grade of gasoline with the idea that you are "saving" money. In fact, you could be creating a very large bill for yourself in the future by "saving" money today. I'll attempt to explain why here.

Choosing the correct grade of gasoline starts with reading your owner's manual. Does your vehicle need 87 octane? Or 89, or 91? These are the three grades available here in California for us to choose from. But, how do you know which one to choose? I know that some of you choose the 87 because it is the cheapest and "my car runs just fine on it anyway". The recommended octane or grade of gas recommended by the manufacturer is in your owner's manual. It should always be followed for the best fuel economy and service life of the engine in your car. Now, notice that it is "recommended" and not required. This is America and it is your car, you can put whatever you want in the tank. Just be very clear that there are consequences. Some cars state in the owner's manual, for instance, that 91 octane is required. There is a big difference between recommended and required. Why is that?

There is actually no simple answer to that question if you are a gear-head and one who needs to know the why for everything. If you understand things like quench area, chamber volume, valve overlap, dynamic compression ratio, intake valve closing point, and several other parameters that effect fuel octane choice you can probably stop reading here. But for those that don't, fear not, as I will try to help you make the right choice. First, start with the owner's manual recommendation and your life will be good. The primary reason for "Octane" is to keep an engine from a condition called pre-ignition. You have heard this referred to by many other names like pinging, knocking, and detonation. Well, detonation is actually a thing all by itself, but many still use it to name pre-ignition.

Pre-ignition occurs when the piston has not reached the point in its compression stroke where the ignition system causes the sparkplug to ignite the fuel/air charge. When this happens the fuel/air charge begins to burn prematurely causing a rapid rise in cylinder pressure which tries to drive the piston in the opposite direction. When the pre ignited flame front collides with the flame front of the fuel that was ignited by the sparkplug, it produces a noise that we call by one of these names. The rapid rise of cylinder pressure attempting to drive the piston in the opposite direction can also cause noises to be produced. This can/will cause damage to the engine in the form of broken piston rings and lands which will cause further damage to the cylinder(s), head(s), and valves. On the older cars when this occurred the options were to let up on the throttle which lightened the load on the engine, retard the ignition timing by adjusting the distributor, and/or buying a higher grade (octane) gasoline. Modern

cars have knock sensors which "hear" these events and send messages to the computer which will "retard" the timing to stop it and we almost never hear it anymore.

When ignition timing is retarded, generally speaking, engine power and fuel economy go down. That is why our cars are so much more enjoyable when they are properly tuned and running at peak efficiency. Part of that tuning is selecting the right octane gasoline. So, the next question is "Isn't the gas at the cheapest gas station the same as the gas at the most expensive one?". Well, the definitive answer to that question is an absolute "Yes and No"! Yes, because the US has pipelines that run all over the country filled with gasoline. The refineries pump gas into these pipelines and the gasoline mixes in them. So, Chevron gasoline mixes with Arco, Shell, Rotten Robbie and all of the other brands. No, it is not the same because when a gasoline is "Branded" there are proprietary additives put into the gasoline at the "rack" in the refinery when the fuel is loaded into a delivery truck. These additives can be many and they greatly effect the performance of the gasoline. These additives can be to protect the electrical components in the gas tank from corrosion to octane boosters and detergents that keep the fuel system and engine components clean, there are even additives that help to lubricate the cylinder walls and rings to reduce friction! Especially in today's engines dirty valves, piston crowns, and combustion chambers can lead to pre-ignition. So, choosing a "Top Tier" fuel will help to keep your engine "tuned" and running strong. Use of the cheaper fuels that do not contain additives or rated as Top Tier will not keep things as clean. This is fine for your old beater that you don't mind tinkering with to keep it running all the time, but let me ask you this, "Did you select the baby food for your children based on price? Do you select your food based solely on price?"

A clean fuel system is critical even more so in modern fuel injected engines. Octane is very important in high compression, turbo charged, and supercharged engines. Use what the manufacturer recommends or requires and you will not be dismayed. You can buy 87 octane and add octane boosters but that will work out more expensively. There are many additives on the market. Use them if you like. I will pull up to the pump at my top tier station and fill my pony with 91 octane because the Ford Performance tune I run states 91 octane is required. Then I'll put the pedal to the metal without having to concern myself with saving money, am I getting the best fuel mileage, am I damaging my engine, or where do I go to get the mechanic in a bottle additive.

I hope that this helps those who waiver on what gas to buy when you get to the pump. Remember this, if you hear pinging, knocking, or whatever you decide to call that funny noise, try the next higher-octane grade of gasoline. If that does not stop it try 91 octane. If it still pings, you have a problem. See your trusted mechanic. For all of you who have or have built high performance motors with really high compression and crazy cams and/or turbo or super charged, you know. If you don't, you will.

If you have questions or suggestions give me a call or email me at:

Dieselgunner@comcast.net.

Until the next time, fill it up and drive it like you stole it!

Oh! Yea, also keep it between the ditches.



# ★★★UPCOMING EVENTS★★★



**ALL FUTURE EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE**

Feb 11	GHMC Super Bowl Party at the Yountville Vets Home. Contact Dan McCabe for info
Feb 18	Public Day @ The Cobra Experience, Martinez
Feb 24	Biggest Little Car Show Judging Seminar—East Bay Classics—Watch email for details
Feb 25	Capay Almond Festival - Esparto - Sue Calvert , Chair Watch email for details
Feb 27	GHMC General Meeting 7:30 p.m. Denny's, 304 Pittman Rd., Cordelia
Mar 17	Kids, Cars & Coffee plus Public Day @ The Cobra Experience, Martinez
Mar 26	GHMC General Meeting 7:30 p.m. Denny's, 304 Pittman Rd., Cordelia
April 13	Biggest Little Car Show Judging Seminar—East Bay Classics—Watch email for details
Apr 17	Happy Birthday Mustang Burger Run—Location TBA
April 21	National Mustang Day @The Cobra Experience
Apr 23	GHMC General Meeting 7:30 p.m. Denny's, 304 Pittman Rd., Cordelia
Apr 25-28	Kool April Nites, Redding, CA

*NOTE: If you sign up to attend a GMHC event but cannot attend, please notify the event chairperson ASAP.  
If you need contact information, please email: [info@goldenhillsmustangclub.com](mailto:info@goldenhillsmustangclub.com)*



## DOES ANYONE HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

It is always great to share some happy news, especially during difficult times. If you have something HAPPY (retirement, engagement, new grandchild, recognition or an award) to share with your fellow club members, please send me an email: [nrmccabe@gmail.com](mailto:nrmccabe@gmail.com)



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/2 Spencer Haran  
 2/2 Gerald Lamphiear  
 2/2 Ruth Tapia  
 2/3 Lauren Myska  
 2/4 Jeff Channell  
 2/5 Jacylou Terciano  
 2/6 Cyndi Lamphiear  
 2/6 Angie Pickering  
 2/6 Lexie Pickering  
 2/7 Regina Bassett  
 2/8 Nickolas Lo  
 2/9 Bill Davis  
 2/10 Laura Mize  
 2/10 Kari Stinnett  
 2/12 Robin Herman  
 2/16 Brandy Gomez  
 2/16 Riley Laroski (Pickering)

2/17 Michelle Bauer  
 2/17 Mikal Brevig  
 2/19 Mirna Ball  
 2/21 James Derby  
 2/21 Renee Wiederspahn  
 2/22 Ryan McCalmont  
 2/24 Carina Lo  
 2//25 Ron Pippert  
 2/26 Ron Bramlett  
 2/27 Bill Banovitz  
 2/27 Tim Bates  
 2/27 Lisa Rose

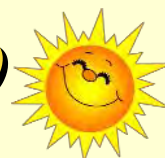


## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/1 Jacqueline McCalmont  
 3/9 Jeannette Parsons  
 3/13 Niki Eagle (Pickering)  
 3/14 Terry Burke  
 3/14 Randi Scott  
 3/15 Brandi Holstein  
 3/15 Scarlet Laroski (Pickering)  
 3/15 Donald Miggins  
 3/15 Brad Pfeifer  
 3/22 Jim Willis  
 3/29 Chris Barkman  
 3/29 Nicole Herman

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF WE HAVE FORGOTTEN ANYONE!

# Sunshine Corner



By Yvonne Westberg

Get Well Cards were sent to:

- ❖ Terry & Ileine Burke
- ❖ George Pezzolo
- ❖ Bill Banovitz
- ❖ Sue Calvert
- ❖ Pat Sivigliano
- ❖ Lisa Mitsopoulos

A Sympathy card was sent to:

- ❖ Kirk Stafford, for the tragic loss of his niece Natalie

Please keep our members that have had health issues in your thoughts. They could all use our prayers. If you would like to send them a card, email, or text, please do so. It really means a lot to know that others care.

- ★ Remember if you know of someone in need of some SUNSHINE please contact me. You can text or leave me a voicemail
- ★ or you can email GHMC Info at: [info@goldenhillsmustangclub.com](mailto:info@goldenhillsmustangclub.com)





# Biggest Little Car Show

By Robin Paulsell

## ★★ Car Show Update ★★

Planning for the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Biggest Little Car Show on May 18<sup>th</sup> 2024 is kicking into high gear. We want to welcome and thank Paul Troxell for volunteering to Co-chair the show, Paul will also serve as the Parking Committee chair. Brenda Romero is show Registrar again, but we need volunteers to chair the Sponsorship Committee and Raffle Committee. As always, these shows don't get done by just a few people, it takes all our club members volunteering to make them happen so please give me a call or shoot me an email and find out how you can help.

We want to thank Ron DuPratt Ford for stepping up to once again sponsor the club for the year and Gold level show sponsor. East Bay Classics is returning as a Gold level sponsor, but we are looking for more sponsors and we need raffle prizes. Sponsors and items do not need to be auto related, think out of the box. I have sponsor forms that I can email you. If you have a friend selling arts and crafts that would like to be a vendor, 10X10 spaces are only \$50. Non-profit organizations get a free 10X10 booth while space is available.

The MCA Judged Class is sold out and we have 53 total entries so far, this is a 75% increase over last year. Regular online registration opened at

12:01 AM January 1<sup>st</sup>. Remember club members should register their Mustangs for the GHMC Member Class, regardless of year. Club members registering a non-Mustang Ford, Lincoln, or Mercury can register in the appropriate class for that vehicle.

The first Judging Seminars to train those interested in judging or learning how their car will be judged took place on January 27<sup>th</sup>, the next seminar is February 24<sup>th</sup>. The seminars will be followed with a car show meeting, and we will have pizza for lunch. If you have any questions or ideas please contact me.

Robin Paulsell

MCA National Director

Gold Card OD/DD Judge



Looking for more sponsors to fill this page!



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# Golden Hills Mustang Club

## Membership Application

All Renewal Memberships are \$30 per year regardless of the number of licensed drivers in the family  
New Memberships are \$40 (\$10.00 offsets new member packets and name tags)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY



Applicants Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ MCA # \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL LICENSED DRIVERS OVER THE AGE OF 16 RESIDING AT THE PRIMARY ADDRESS**

If more than one in family, please provide the following information:

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

All Dependents Residing at above address (we want to acknowledge all children's birthdays in the newsletter)

Name _____	Birth Date ____/____/____
Name _____	Birth Date ____/____/____
Name _____	Birth Date ____/____/____
Name _____	Birth Date ____/____/____

The information provided on this application is used to create a membership roster for use by the Board of Directors. Other club members frequently request the information concerning address and/or telephone number(s). If you wish your address and/or telephone number (s) to be released only to the Board of Directors, Please so Indicate:

- ☐ I/We Do Not wish my/our address and/or telephone number(s) to be released to anyone but the Board of Directors.
- ☐ I/We give permission for the following information to be released to other club members, in addition to the Board of Directors:  
☐ All Information ☐ Address Only ☐ Telephone number(s) only ☐ E-mail only
- ☐ I/We would like to receive our newsletter each month by email in pdf format (Don't check if you want it mailed)

Auto Info:

Year _____	Body Style _____	Color _____
Year _____	Body Style _____	Color _____
Year _____	Body Style _____	Color _____
Year _____	Body Style _____	Color _____
Year _____	Body Style _____	Color _____

The Golden Hills Mustang Club is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Ford Mustang Automobile (all years and models). I/We agree with the terms and conditions of Bylaws as set forth by the Golden Hills Mustang Club and agree to comply therewith. All information I/We have provided above is correct.

Signature _____	Date _____
Signature _____	Date _____
Signature _____	Date _____
Signature _____	Date _____

\*This form must be signed by all members over the age of 16 for whom membership is applied.

Please Make Checks Payable To:

Golden Hills Mustang Club  
P.O. Box 497  
Fairfield, CA 94533-0049

Please Tell Us How You Were Referred: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Renewal ☐ New



★ ★ ★ **IT'S YOUR CLUB. . . LET'S HAVE SOME FUN WITH IT** ★ ★ ★

**THE GOLDEN HILLS MUSTANG CLUB  
MEETS THE 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT:**

**SEE YOU AT**



**7:30 p.m.  
Denny's Cordelia  
304 Pittman Rd.  
Cordelia, CA 94534**

**NEXT MEETING  
Tues, February 27, 2024**

**THIS ISSUE OF PONY TALES IS DIGITAL ONLY**

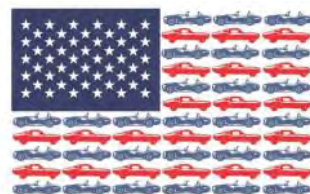
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[www.goldenhillsmustangclub.com](http://www.goldenhillsmustangclub.com)

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**Fairfield, CA 94533-0049**

*an MCA Regional Club*



**★★★ May 18, 2024 ★★★  
Suisun Waterfront Plaza**

