



Feature Vehicle of the Month:

1941 Ford Pickup Truck

Owned by
John Macyda



John & his truck at ACS event in May

This month's featured member vehicle is a 1941 Ford pickup truck owned by John Macyda. John purchased the truck in 1997 in Naples, Florida after a friend located it. He then trailered it to Dearborn.

The truck was in good condition having served as an Air Force truck. As such it was used to drive a general around Eglin Air Force Base in Okaloosa County, Florida; and to tow floats in parades. Stars and other military emblems adorned the truck which was painted blue with yellow fenders; Air Force colors.



John drove his truck for two years and then decided to restore it, partly because of people chiding him that "the war is over!"

A friend of John's re-painted the truck the blue with black fenders – exactly as it came from the factory. The weather-stripping was also replaced. Mechanically, except for a tune-up that included changing plug wires and adding an electric fuel pump, little was done. An

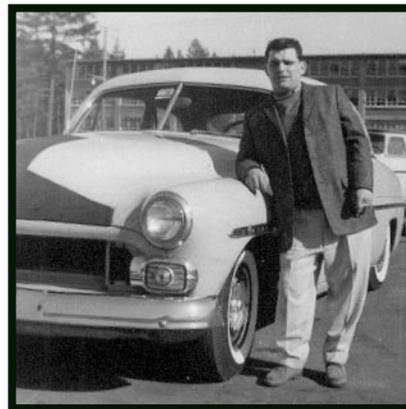
Continued on page 9.

Feature Member:

Ron Gossett

by
Bill Gipperich

This month's featured member is Ron Gossett. Ron's been a club member since 1992. Born and raised in Belleville, Ron has been interested in cars as long as he remembers -- but it was a ride in a 1949 Mercury convertible that impressed him the most. He and his date were walking home from a high school basketball game one night when the driver of this particular '49 pulled over to ask these young kids if they'd like a ride. Ron said it was few miles that they had to walk and sure they'd like a ride. Well Ron developed a deep and lasting relationship that night but not with the girl. It was the



Ron with his '50 Merc in 1959

Continued on page 9.

Swap Meet & Car Show Do Well: Thousands Attend Despite Heat



Art Cervi & Ed Goff passing out car show awards.

For the first time in many years, it did not rain at the 37th FM-RCOA Swap Meet and Car Show! For more information about the event, please see:

- Page 3 for the President's summary
- Page 11 for the car show winners
- Page 6 for the Treasurer's note
- Page 8 for pictures

The Rotunda Times



The Rotunda Times

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Dues are \$25 before & \$30.00 after DEC 31



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The Ford & Mercury Restorers Club is a hobby organization whose purpose is to foster and promote the acquisition, preservation and use of all Ford vehicles, 25 years of age and older.



Editors Message

This month I'd like to thank John Macyda for the Feature Vehicle and Bill Gipperich for the Feature Member articles. I'd also like to thank Bill Timoszyk for the Show & Tell commentary.

This year I also had the opportunity to help organize our car show and, as Bob Guetschow mentioned, the cars and show attendance were both down. Exactly a week later I attended a GTO show at the GM Technical Center in Warren and people were mentioning the same thing. The weather and the location were both better. Perhaps the economy and the price of gas are having a toll in Michigan? It'd also be nice if we could hold a show at Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn (like GM is allowing).

Please do keep materials/leads coming. Let me know of any interesting trips/shows that you take including pictures. Just give me a call (734.717.5444), email me, or put something in the mailbox. We can work on articles together and it doesn't take much time on your part! Typically, it really doesn't take more than a 10-15 minute conversation to get great material for an article. **Consider the 20th of the month as a deadline for getting announcements or other materials to me for that month's newsletter.** In this manner we can get the material in and to the printer so you have it before next month's club meeting.

Thanks for your support!

Steve Rohde, Editor



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

July 2006

Dearborn '06 is now in the history books and it seems as though we were affected again by the weather. We had rain last year and this year, heat. Our car show again was the victim of the weather. Due to the heat, car show registrations were down significantly and many people were leaving prematurely causing the show to close over an hour early. I believe the car show is a very important part of the overall event and should be built up to become the spectator draw that it should be. I believe that a combined car show with the other Ford, Lincoln, and Mercury Car Clubs in the area is the answer. There are talks to be scheduled with these clubs to get their take on the idea.

As for the rest of the meet, the gate and the swap were up from last year and the car corral surprised us with about a 33% increase overall from prior years. I talked with a number of vendors, and, with few exceptions, they reported that they were pleased with their sales and also indicated that they thought the meet was well run and trouble free. Many vendors complimented us that the traffic flow into the swap meet area was smooth and with little confusion encountered. I want to thank all of you for your enthusiasm and team work to make this years meet the great overall success that it was. I particularly want to thank those of you that stayed until the bitter end to ensure that the grounds and buildings were cleaned up and returned to the fair in good order.

Mike Fontana has the balance of the Dearborn '06 tee shirts to sell. The quantity is limited. Call Mike at 248-926-0160 or see him at the meeting before they are all gone.

Don't forget the Telegraph Cruise on July 29th. We still have the Oxford Lanes parking lot for our cars. We are all welcome from 9 AM and throughout the day. We are sharing the parking area with the Galaxie Club, so get there early for a good spot. Identify yourself as a FMRCOA member if anyone questions your access to the lot. Oxford Lanes is just South of Michigan Ave. on the West side of Telegraph Rd.

We also want to remind you to support the club picnic on Sunday, July 30th. Please see page 6 in this newsletter for more information. Let's have a nice turnout for John and Clara Hill. Bring your collector cars.

We have coming up on August 12th the annual Poker Run hosted by Herr Tom VonMeyer. He has some neat stops lined up and promises this is a garage tour we don't want to miss. Please make the effort to support the Eastsiders. They support our Westside tours. Questions, call Tom at 810-765-4515.

Club member Jerry Laho will be at our August meeting. So....don't forget. See you at the K of C Hall August 2nd at 8PM. Bring your

classic for the tire kicking session in the parking lot.
Till then,

Bob Guetschow

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Mike Leese

272 Lyons Dr.
Troy, MI 48083
248-506-4270

1969 Ford Fairlane
1971 Ford Mustang

James and Lisa Rudd

35975 Brookview
Livonia, MI 48152
734-462-8708

1972 Ford Mustang Mach 1

Bob Fryz

3629 Dudley St.
Dearborn, MI 48124
313-278-6654

1951 Ford Custom
1950 Mercury Custom
1951 Mercury Custom
1953 Mercury Custom

NEW MEMBER:
CONFIDENT, WELL
PREPARED, ENTHUSIASTIC,
GENNED UP,
ACTIVE ...



Presidential Quotes

"I have sworn upon the altar of God, eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man". -- **Thomas Jefferson**

"Nothing brings out the lower traits of human nature like office-seeking. Men of good character and impulses are betrayed by it into all sorts of meanness." -- **Rutherford B. Hayes**

Meet the New Members by Terry Worful*



Gil Brueckner

“I was born in 1961 in Ferndale, MI

I am currently an unemployed technical writer. I do manuals about computer software.

I have been Married to Linda for 11 years. We have three children 22, 21, and 6 years old. No grandchildren yet!

My first car was a 1974 Chevy Suburban.

I have collected cars since I was 18 years old. My first was a 1968 Chevelle. I now have a 1970 Chevelle, and a 1956 Ford 960 Tractor.

My hobbies designing computer websites, computer-based videos, and reading.

I think the FMRCOA is a friendly group! It has so many older members that I can learn from. I also like the Fords.

If I could own any other car other than a Ford it would be a (you guessed it!) 1968 Chevelle!

Yes, I try to do all the work myself.”



Michael Leese

“I was born in 1975 in Sandusky, MI.

I am an engineer At Ford. I also run online classifieds for muscle cars. and classic cars, under the address:

* In this column Terry Worful interviews new members so we can get to know them better!

www.DreamCruiseCars.com .

I am single, but I have a girlfriend.

My first car was a 1979 Cultas Supreme.

I have collected cars since 1998. My first was a 1974 MG midget.

My hobbies are music & non-profit work.

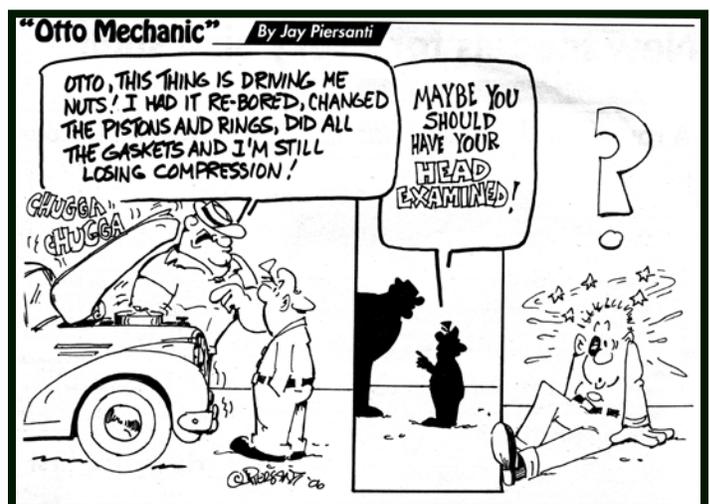
This is my first meeting of the FMRCOA, so I don't know how to answer the question, “what do I like about the club”

The other car I would own other than a Ford is a Dodge Challenger HEMI. I always liked Mopars.

Yes, I try to do all the work myself.



A screen from Mike's website: dreamcruiseCars.com





YOUR CAR!

The Rotunda Times would like to feature your old car or truck in an upcoming issue. We are interested in how you came about finding your vehicle of choice, and what you have done to enhance its beauty, and / or mechanical condition. Simply mail or email us your article accompanied with a photo to:

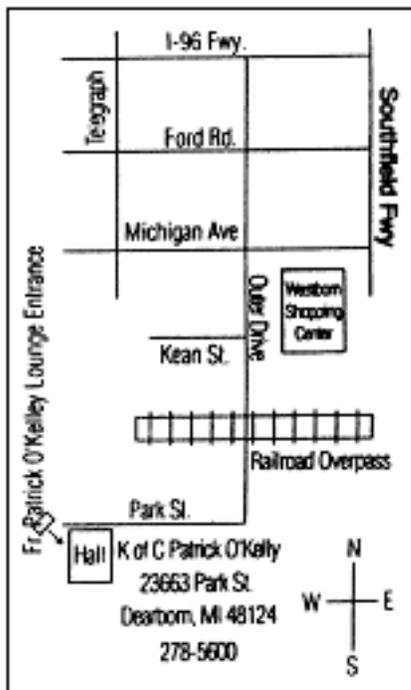
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 248.474.4356

Club Meetings

The FMRC meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Patrick O'Kelley Hall in Dearborn (313.278.5600). Refreshments are served after the meeting!

Come and bring a friend!



July Show & Tell: Phil's Photos!

by
Bill Timoszyk

As many of you are aware of, probably the hottest topic in the old car world currently is in the "nostalgia/early hot rod/modified flathead ford engine" arena. This is evidenced by countless books on the subject, the "rat rod" craze, TV shows, and the like.



Phil explaining photographs.

At FMRCOA we are fortunate to have our very own in-house "hands on expert," Phil Lyon. Phil was there in the front row seat when all this was unfolding.

Phil has many photos that he took during those years, and he has shared some with us in the past. At the July meeting, Phil brought in a large binder chock full of B&W photos from his trip to the Bonneville Speed trials in '51.



'27 Model T

Oldsmobile Rocket V-8 and Hydramatic transmission. Phil helped install this powertrain.

The photos of the cars at the Bonneville Speed Trials that Phil took were absolutely blockbuster! There were '32s, '34s, 'Ts, 'As, and



'34 Coupe

others as well as non Fords. Everything was there! The push vehicles were "killers" themselves!

For more photos please see page 10.

Please participate in these events!



2006 FMRC Meetings & Events Calendar

Below is the *tentative* table of meetings & events for 2006. New information will be posted each month as events and dates are “firmed” up. **Bold font represents club sponsored activities.** Also, *if you have an idea for a Club event, please let a Board Member know!*

July 30	Club Picnic at John Hill's Place
August 2	Club Meeting
August	Dearborn Homecoming TBA
August 19	Woodward Dream Cruise
Sept. 2-4	Overnighter TBA
Sept. 6	Club Meeting
Sept. 8-10	Frankenmuth Auto Fest
Oct. 4	Club Meeting
Oct. 15	Color Tour - TBA
Nov. 1	Club Meeting
Dec. 6	Club Meeting
Dec. 9	Christmas Walk-Greenfield Village



A Note from the Treasurer

This has been an active month for your treasurer! We had a lot of swap meet and car show transactions. This event provides our major source of operating revenue for the year.

In this regard, I'd like to thank Dave and Vivian Cheklich, Maurice and Pat Horger, and Sandy Olson for their help in collecting and tabulating the proceeds from the weekend. These folks worked diligently all weekend for the club!

Steve Rohde, Treasurer



**Annual Club Picnic
Sunday July 30, 2006**

1 PM

**John & Clara Hill's Place
10434 Homestead Lane
Plymouth, MI 48170**



Please bring a dish to pass of your choice. The main dish & beverages are furnished by the Club! B.Y.O.B.

The Rotunda Times



July Meeting Minutes of the FMRCOA July 5, 2006

After a little frivolity and some minor gavel pounding, the meeting was called to order at 8:03. Among the guests for the evening was Jim Gadwillis, who brought the Boss Mustang prototype to the meeting. Also, Tim Kocher, owner of a 2001 Mustang, and Fred Hopson, a friend of Larry Deck's attended. One new member was present, Mike Leese, who spoke to us about his web site later in the meeting. New member's badges were presented to Richard Vanders, Bill Sulak, Gil Bruckner, and Martin Pelker.

Bob announced the death of Bill Hillen, and Jim Robb reported



Relaxed members & guests in attendance!

that there were a number of our members who attended the funeral and drove their old Fords in the procession. That was appreciated by the family. The president also announced that the new good looking rosters are ready to be passed out to members. The treasurer's report was read by Steve and accepted by the membership. The June minutes could not be accepted until the August meeting.

Roger Hodyka reported on the Nankin Mills Ford show and said that there were quite a number of cars there. Phil Lyon reported on the Barn Show and mentioned that Dick Monroe helped with the cooking, and furnished the cooking equipment. Jim Chapp brought his tent to protect us from the traditional rainstorm. Fortunately there was no rain this year.

Bob reminded us of the upcoming Telegraph cruise on July 29th, and mentioned that we can park in the Oxford Lanes parking lot. Also we had a reminder about the club picnic to be held at the home of John and Clara Hill on July 30th. The poker run is being planned by Tom Von Myers for August 12th. It will take us a few miles away, but sounds like fun. We'll hear more as plans firm up.

There were some last minute updates about the swap meet to make sure all our ducks are in a row. The Midnight Cruisers may reconvene

their car show after being closed for a while.

The FMRCOA web site has been significantly improved by Gil Brueckner and Jim Crawford and we need some feedback, so check it out and tell us what you think.

Mike Leese gave his report on his web site on which you can advertise a car for sale. Bob Haas mentioned that he may be able to arrange a tour of Don Summer's company. This would be sometime after the Woodward Cruise.

Phil Lyon brought an album of pictures from his trip to Bonneville in 1951 and shared them during show and tell.

We had our 50-50 drawing and the meeting was adjourned.

Next stop, the swap meet!

Phil Lyon, Secretary



Members & their cars in parking lot before meeting.



Boss Mustang prototype.



The Board in action (L) & Jim Gadwillis (R).

Swap Meet & Car Show Pictures July 14-16



FEATURE MEMBER *cont. from page 1*

speedometer and dash of the '49 Merc that struck him blind so long ago! In fact he said he liked that so much that he now has now a '49 dash installed in his '50 Mercury convertible.

In 1958, upon graduation from Belleville High School, Ron enlisted in the Army and his tour included a stay at Fort Louis Washington where a fellow soldier totaled Ron's '49 Ford. Being an outgoing and friendly guy, Ron had made the acquaintance of some young civilians (read girls) and spent time with them at their homes. Once they got to know Ron, the issue of being a soldier wasn't an issue anymore. He became close to them and they to him. Ron introduced his sergeant to the single mother of one of his friends and they later were married. It was, in fact, this mom who made a loan of \$300 to Ron so that he could buy the '50 Mercury shown on page 1 with its proud young owner.

This was the late '50's and early 60's and President Kennedy was in office. While Ron was in Germany, in 1961, President Kennedy extended Ron's service indefinitely. Ron wouldn't be without wheels in Germany either. He owned a 1950 Opel and a 1953 Mercedes for which he remembers paying 1200 marks which, at that time, was less than \$300.

You're going to see a pattern emerge with the vintage of the cars that Ron has owned or presently owns. His first car he purchased from his



Ron's '50 Merc 2DR

brother for 'the family members only' price of 25 bucks. The car was a 1948 Plymouth. You've already read about Ron's few purchases after this one (above). Now we come to his more recent vehicles, such

as the 1950 Mercury 2Dr, which was acquired in 1990 and the 1950 Mercury convertible which was acquired around 1995. Ron also has a 1955 Chevy pickup, which was used to scour junkyards in Arizona during his visits and later during a short retirement in that state. Ron just doesn't buy nice finished cars to drive around in. No sir. He is a true restorer. Like in the case of the convertible: a real basket case. If you've seen this car or look at the photo here, you see a beautiful car with that classic custom feature of a '54 Chevy grill and the BB Chevy motor with a Saginaw 4 speed tranny. But if you were to see the before and during restoration photos you would see something else entirely! And he is not the only club member who has taken a hulk of a convertible and, with a sedan donor car, brought back something to behold.

This convertible came from Memphis, TN and literally had a tree growing up through a section of it. It did, however, have all of the necessary pieces. Ron meticulously cut out all of the body panels that are unique to a convertible and grafted them into a prepped donor body. The donor car, by the way, was a rust free car from Arizona. While these words are a simplification of the actual work done, the intent here is not to write a step by step description but rather to speak of the talent, patience, and attention to detail not to mention understanding of wife and family that it takes to do this kind of job. Ron spent about a year and a half on the restoration. He did seek some outside help by way of the interior. For that he entrusted Carl's of Waterford.

Recently another vehicle was acquired that breaks with this 1950's pattern. That vehicle is a 1940 Ford coupe from Florida. It is the

car that Ron says he always wanted, "like the one I rode around in as a kid." The power plant, however, will somewhat re-establish the pattern because it will be a 1950 Mercury. Ron explained: he's looking



Ron's '50 Merc Convertible

for something really unique for the heads and intake but if he can't find that he'll go with Isky heads from his friend Patrick of Patrick's supply in AZ.

It will have electronic ignition and an Isky ¾ race cam. Fellow club member John Price at B&F Auto Supply in Plymouth will do the machining and build up of this motor. Ron and his wife Jackie have been married for 36 years. They have 3 children and 8 grandchildren. Jackie's brother in law is credited for introducing the couple. All were at the Score Lanes Bowling Alley enjoying an evening of bowling.

After the Army, Ron returned home and went to work for General Motors in Livonia; then McCullough steel; and final Chrysler-Detroit Forge, from where he retired after 31 years. Jackie retired from Ford Motor Co. having worked in Building 1 in Truck Engineering.

After their retirements Ron and Jackie lived for a while in Casa Grande, Arizona. The pull of grandchildren proved to be too great, so they came back to Michigan!

FEATURE VEHICLE *cont. from page 1*



Elgin AF Base over 50 years ago. Can you locate John's pickup?

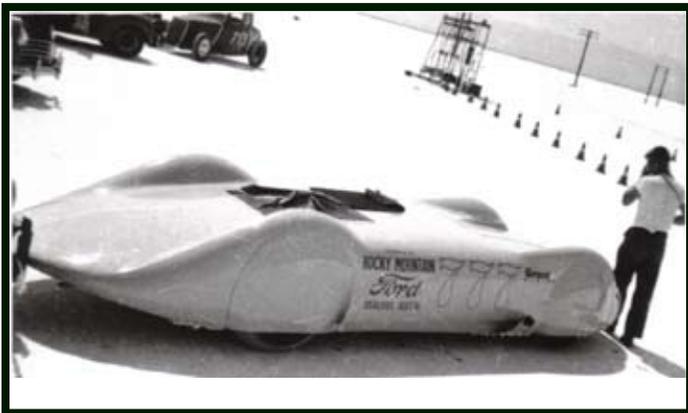
8 volt battery was changed back to a conventional 6 volt battery.

John, who joined our club about two years ago, drives his beauty to shows, around town, and all through the week. "I find the members of the FMRCOA enlightening and knowledgeable. You can always find someone in the club who knows the answer!" remarked John. "And they're outgoing and friendly." Welcome to our club John!

SHOW & TELL PHOTOS, *cont. from page 5.*



'32 High Boy



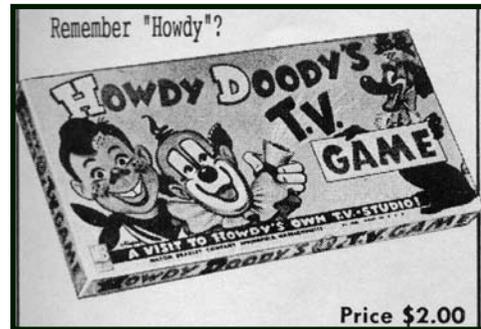
"777" Photo by Phil Lyon

This is the history-making "777" salt-flats streamliner owned and built by Denver's Bill Kenz and Roy Leslie*. This vehicle was the first streamliner to exceed 200-mph in 1950 at 210-mph, and was powered by two Ford "flatties". The car was run in this configuration until 1955, where they had the performance up to about 255-mph. In 1956, Kenz & Leslie rebuilt the car slightly: a third "flattie" was added for motivation, and the driver was moved to the rear of a car under a tailfinned canopy. The car went 260-mph in this configuration in 1956, and then Kenz & Leslie retired this car in after going 270-mph in 1957. Of course, Kenz & Leslie didn't quit racing. They continued to be involved with drag racing, first with a dragster, and then with a funny car. And, were involved in building of other racer's cars and engines in all forms of racing.

Bonneville Records set by "777":

- 1950-210.648,
- 1951-230.769,
- 1952-252.10,
- 1953-256.411,
- 1954-251.92,
- 1955-234.07,
- 1956-261.81,
- 1957-270.473.

* Adapted from www.coloradoracingmemories.com/crm_kenz_bill/crmkenzbill.htm. For more info, please see that site.





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FMRCOA Car Show Winners



Ken Rowe receiving "Best in Show" Award from Dave Gutierrez

Although smaller than usual, this year's car show had some outstanding cars in it. The cars were judged by Club members, Dave Gutierrez and a colleague from Livernois Motorsports, and representatives from Belleville and Varsity Ford. Art Cervi, Dave, and Ed Goff presented the awards. The Grand winners were:

Best of Show:
1935 Ford Pickup Ken Rowe of Toledo, Ohio

Varsity Ford's Pick:
2006 Lincoln Mark Pickup David Johnson of Belleville, MI

City Official's Pick:
1973 Dodge Challenger Dave Burton of Ypsilanti, MI

Best Ford:
1964 T-Bird Convertible Mike & Carol Bader of Romulus, MI

Best GM:
1956 Chevrolet David Heywood of Livonia, MI

Best MOPAR
1970 Plymouth Road Runner Todd Homberg of Canton, MI

In addition, car show attendees voted for the **Best FMRCOA Car** at the show. The winner was a beautiful 1963 Ford Fairlane owned by Terry and Jerry Worful!



Terry & Jerry Worful's beautiful 1963 Fairlane.

Bob Hunt Enterprises'

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Classified

July 2006

For Sale

- 1970 Torino GT 351 Cleveland M-Code 4 speed Shaker hood, PS, PB, 37K original miles. Asking \$27,500 Jack Perkett 248-476-9032
- 1939 Ford tudor sedan. 1941 Ford coupe Pat 248-455-4128 or 586-202-8486
- NOS right front fender for 1975 T-bird \$300 Steve Thomas 734-287-8236
- 1953 skirts, over fender style, \$150 flathead water pump (new rebuild) \$30 1951 Ford rear ash tray, NOS. \$35 Hank 810-231-3184
- 1977 400 engine, all together. No trans 400 Edelbrock intake. Purred like a kitten when removed from vehicle. Art 248-553-8897
- 2-1966 Ford Falcons 4 dr sedans 6 cyl package deal rebuilt engine. (no miles) 5000 miles on rebuilt trans. \$2000 for both more info call Dave 313-720-9580.
- 1976 Ford F-250 power disc brake line set. Long bed 2 wl drive ¾ ton stainless Also, main fuel line, dual tanks, For same stainless by Inline Tube, \$125 George, 734-676-1560
- 2002 Mustang hard top 3.8 L 5 speed M/T Dark blue Pony pkg , decals, chrome wheels, power drivers seat. PS, PB, AC. 28 K miles (all in FL or CA. asking \$10,650 OBO. Dan 734- 721-8572
- 1947 Ford Pickup from South Dakota. Only surface rust.. w 350 Chevy w THM350 & posi rear, Vega steering box, and new Speedway disc brakes in front. I started to make this into a rod but lost interest. Comes with original powertrain too! Over \$3200 invested. \$2500 obo. 1937 Buick Special. Straight & complete. Would make a super rod! \$1400 obo. Steve Rohde 734-717-5444

Wanted

- 64 ½ and 65 Mustang horns. Grant Beard 248-305-8031

Classified

June 2006

For Sale

- 1927 Ford roadster pickup, no rust, sheet metal only. Complete. Roger, 517-282-4738.
- Fuel injection for 302 engine. Brand new, cheap. Paul Conforto 313-801-8131.
- Chrome valve covers for 302-351 W \$40. also various new radios 313-563-1892 or 734 -942-6901.
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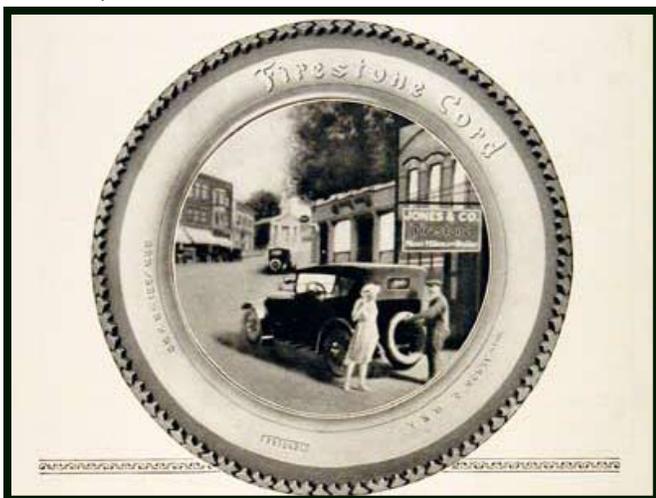
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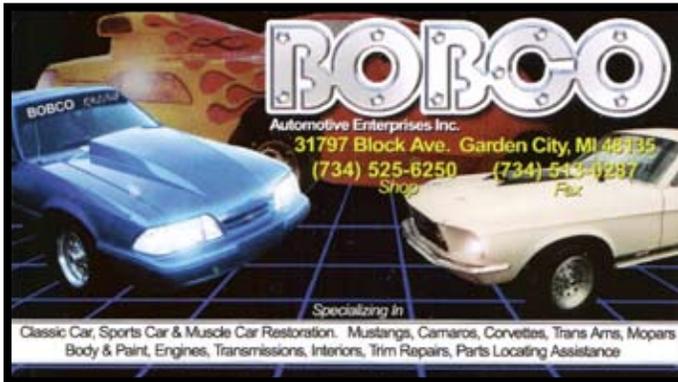
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