



# Pony Tales

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

VOLUME XLI, 11

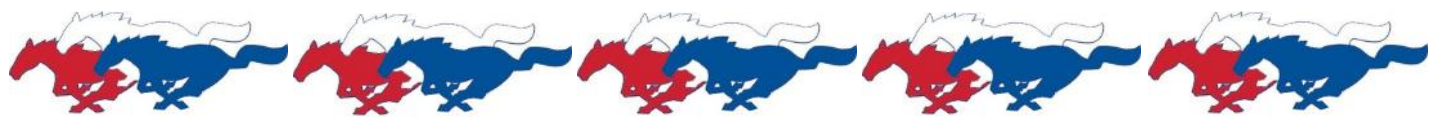
E-EDITION

DECEMBER, 2023

## CHiPs For Kids Toy Drive Kicks Off the Holidays



See article on page 6 to read more.



## 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.

# 2023

## Board of Directors

Club President	Sue Calvert
Vice President	Dan McCabe
Secretary	Bob Fentress
Treasurer	Brian Evans
Past-President	Kathy Loya
Dan Cordeiro	
Bill Davis	
Jerry Lamphiear	
Frank Lopez	
Don McEachern	
Peter Mitsopoulos	

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Food Drive	Pat Sivigliano
Historian	Ileine Burke
Hospitality	Angie Markle
MCA Regional Director	Joel Edelman
Membership	Norma McCabe membership@goldenhillsmustangclub.com
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Raffle	Cyndy Lamphiear & Lisa Mitsopoulos
Sunshine	Yvonne Westberg
Webmaster	Terry Burke webmaster@goldenhillsmustangclub.com
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



# Moving Forward

By President Sue Calvert



Hello Everyone!

I hope you all had an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday! November started off with a great showing of club member support at the Veteran's Day Parade on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Our annual CHiP's for Kids Toy Drive was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> and was a big success – despite the rainy weather. A gigantic “Thank You” goes to Judy and Bill Davis for their unsurpassed support in hosting this wonderful community event. I also want to thank everyone who stopped by to drop off new toys and gift cards. As always, your generosity is deeply appreciated!

Our election of the 2024 Officers and Board of Directors is a “wrap” and our club continues to be in good hands for the coming year. We will hold the formal installation of the new Officers and Board Members at our Christmas party on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

I have truly enjoyed being your club President for the past 4 years – but it is time for me to enjoy the position of “Past President” now.

As we go into 2024, please think of what YOU can do to become more involved in the many events that are currently being planned! Take a look at the website's calendar. Don't be afraid to organize an event that you think other club members would enjoy. There's plenty of help available for the first-time event organizer!! Let's all have some more fun in 2024!



## IT'S ALMOST TIME TO PAY FOR 2024

If you would like to get a jump on next year and make your Membership Chairman very happy, Pay 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 download a renewal application on the membership page and mail it to P.O. Box 497, Fairfield, CA 94533-0049

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

# 2023 Fairfield Veterans Day Parade



by Brian Evans

On Saturday November 11, the City of Fairfield, through the Parks and Recreation Department, held its annual Veterans Day Parade. One great thing about living in close proximity to Travis Air Force Base is the way Fairfield and the surrounding cities in Solano County show respect, support and admiration to our entire military community and especially our Veterans. This annual parade is just one way that this is accomplished. While Fairfield is known for its 10am ceremony and lunch-time parade, Vacaville, Dixon and Suisun also hold Veterans Day events and ceremonies. This year's parade theme was "SALUTING AMERICA'S VETERANS"

I feel the parade themes over these last several years have been very meaningful and appropriate. Prior parade themes have been: 2022: "SERVING WITH HONOR"; 2021: "FRONT LINE PATRIOTS"; 2019: "CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF AMERICAN LEGION"; 2018: "CELEBRATING TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY"; 2017: "WITH RESPECT, HONOR and GRATITUDE"; 2016: "PRAY. THANK. REMEMBER" and from 2015: "LAND OF THE FREE, BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE". I particularly like this last one. But they are all good stuff to pause and reflect on... Please go back and read them again.

While I personally never served in the armed forces, my late dad was a transport pilot for the Air Force for 21 years, flying the C-124 (Ol' Shakey!) for ten years, the brand new (at the time!) C-141 for six years, and finally the brand new (again, at the time) C-5 for his last three years 1970 - 1972. He also spent six months flying the F-100 Super Sabre at Cannon AFB New Mexico, in preparation for his tour in Vietnam in 1967-68, and then retired

from Travis as a Lt. Col. when I was just a little guy. And now my son Taylor is a fourth year Air Force pilot flying the B-52 at Barksdale AFB in Louisiana, following in his grandfather's footsteps. So the personal connection to the Air Force is strong, and I'm pleased that our club, through the efforts of Bill Davis and many others, does so much for our Veterans, both locally and at the Veterans Home in Yountville.

We started the day at our usual Solano Mall/Starbucks parking lot meeting place at the requested arrival time of 10:15am and had plenty of time to visit with each other and blow our last paycheck in Starbucks! And what would a Veterans Day Parade be without seeing Terry Burke looking sharp in his Air Force dress blues?

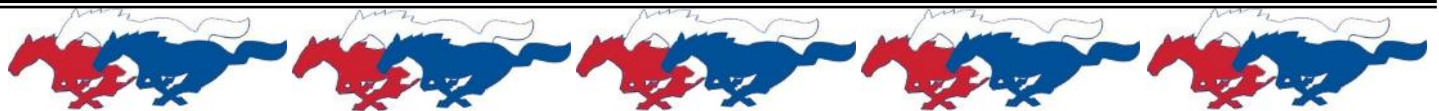
For as many years as I can remember, The Golden Hills Mustang Club made a strong presence at this parade, this year with 13 Mustangs! Although 13 is a little short of the 20 plus cars we've had at some recent parades, we still had as many, if not more, cars than other car clubs (ahem, and better looking too!).

Once again, the parade organizer asked me to provide my '68 convertible to carry the Grand Marshal in the parade; this year it was Frederick B. Young, Jr, who retired at Travis after a 20-year career of service to his country. Mr. Young was very pleased, and humbled, with this honor. (And a special thanks to Dan McCabe who agreed to be my backup convertible with his 2008 Shelby GT, as my '68 wasn't released from the "brake hospital" until literally the night before!)

With our cars decorated in our usual patriotic theme, we waited for the low altitude flyover of the new Air Force KC 46 Pegasus which signals for the parade to begin, and soon it was time to take our turn parading down Texas Street. Just like last year, when we reached the judging stand, the parade emcee encouraged us to "rev 'em up a little...let's hear those ponies roar!"

After the parade, most of us enjoyed a nice lunch at Suisun's Los Altos Mexican restaurant, where we all participated in our own "Battle of the Bulge" with their never-ending chips and salsa and tasty Mexican food! This year, we invited the directors of the Gavin Buchanon Foundation to join us for lunch, where VP Dan & Norma McCabe and President Sue Calvert presented them with their check from the proceeds of our annual car show.

Once again, I'd like to thank the club for making a great showing at this parade, supporting our Veterans and our community. And finally, to the many in our club who have served our country, THANK YOU for your service!



# 2023 Fairfield Veterans Day Parade

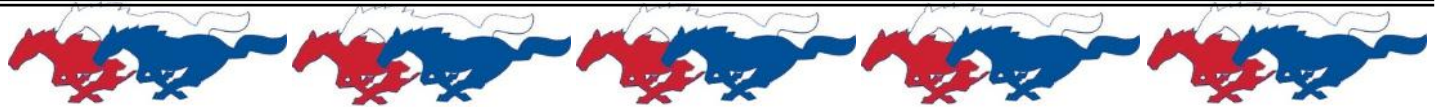


# CHiPs For Kids Toy Drive

Since there are a lot more Toy Drives going on now, Judy and Bill Davis wanted to get a jump on them by moving the date to the Saturday before the Thanksgiving holiday for the our CHiPs For Kids Toy Drive.

This year it was a big success thanks to Judy's contacts and advertising in local newspapers. Even with some rain, GHMC members came to JD Real Estate in Fairfield and helped set up and collect lots of toys and Gift Cards from club members and the general public. The CHP was on hand and the officers enjoyed the coffee and donuts, as we did too (Thanks Donnie). All day we visited and thanked everyone as they drove up and dropped off their donations. At 2:00 pm we filled the big CHP Explorer and Dan & Norma McCabe's Ford Flex to the brim with toys and delivered them to the CHP Office.

Once again, GHMC, the CHP, and many local children wish to thank Judy and Bill for opening up their office and their hearts to help those less fortunate. We know Judy & Bill want to thank GHMC members and the public for making this another successful Toy Drive.



# Tech Talk 2.0

By Paul Troxell

Happy Holidays everyone. Merry Christmas and Happy Hannukah to all.

Well, here is the end of another year. The shows, parades, and cruises are pretty much done until the spring. Alice and I have had a great time with all of you and look forward to next year. We have learned a bunch this past year. Most importantly that there is a really outstanding bunch of people that make this club what it is. We are very proud to be part of the Golden Hills Mustang Club and consider all of you valued friends. Enjoy the Holidays and be safe so we all can have more fun next year.

I know that you all have your routines for cocooning your machine and I only have a few suggestions to offer.

If you can set them on jackstands or on rubber tire saver blocks that form a larger contact patch to help reduce the forming of flat spots on the tires by being parked for long periods. And, as a bonus, they prevent the vehicle from rolling. Doing this will reduce or eliminate having flat spotted tires. By using jack stands or curved parking blocks you won't have to set the e-brake while your car is parked and it will reduce the chance of having to deal with a frozen e-brake in the spring. Back in the day we would make the sound of an old cash register, Cha Ching! Then you will not have that very annoying bump, bump, and vibration until they get some heat in them during that first drive. With some high-performance tires it can even cause permanent damage correctable only by replacement. Cha-Ching!

I recommend changing the oil before storage. Even if you have only put 500 miles on it this season there are contaminants and moisture that has built up in the oil (especially if your drives have been off the trailer, into the venue, or down the parade route, and back on the trailer). This combination of water and contaminants will develop acids in the oil that will corrode internal parts. More Cha-Ching! Doing this now is one less thing that you will have to do in the spring.

That's my two for you. It is clean and the cover is on just make sure that no one stacks Christmas boxes and all of those Amazon orders for Aunt Betty and Uncle Jack and all the rest of the Family on it.

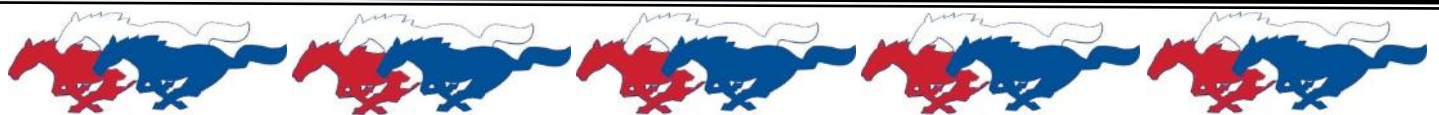
For those of us who have modified our cars for more power and improved handling, who might still drive them

through winter months there are some considerations. Starting with those high-performance summer tires in below 40 temps. Most manufacturers don't recommend driving on them in those conditions and I can testify that it is no fun. They will not stick like they do on a 75-degree day and that can lead to plenty of excitement while pressing the fun pedal. Personally, now that I don't have to, if the temps are low or it is raining, I take my pickup. It is not worth the gamble and it would cut into my "fun-parts" money repairing boo boo's. I am going to spend my winter installing an oil to air engine oil cooler and ducting my radiator. Hoping to also add hood louvers. Cha-Ching! Cha-Ching! Cha-Ching! All of these things will increase cooling efficiency as I hope to put the car on the track for the first time in the spring since I will be out of warranty. Woo-Who!

It is a very good time to install a new set of water whackers (windshield wipers). The ones on the car are old, worn out, and hardened by the sun. For good visibility during the winter months, it is a wise investment. If you can't see it, you won't know what it is until you get out to share your insurance company info with the other driver. Also, buy a gallon or two of windshield washer fluid to go with those whackers and keep your windshield washer tank full to remove road grime and oil for good visibility (see previous sentence). Also, clean the inside of your windows. Those high dollar stogies you have been smoking and that time that you forgot to roll down the window while chewing Redman will cause you to see things on the road that are not there. Cleaning the inside helps reduce glare and just makes driving safer if you have to be out and about, but especially when it is raining.

Check your tire tread depth and pressures. If the tread depth is equal to or won't touch Mr. Lincoln's head when you put a penny into the groove, baby needs new shoes. Cha-Ching! Check your tire pressures. Under-inflated tires hydroplane sooner than a properly inflated tire and are very dangerous. Hydroplaning is when the tire loses contact with the pavement due to water not being pumped out from the contact patch by the tread. Yes, all of that fancy tread patterning is there to "pump" water out of the contact patch, among other things. If you can't or don't know how to do this, swing by your favorite tire shop and see Nick or

*(Continued on page 8)*



# Tech Talk 2.0



By Paul Troxell

*(Continued from page 7)*

Tom and they will do it for you at no charge. Oh, and that light that has been on in the dash? Mention that to them at the shop. If it is not something they normally handle they might be able to direct you to a proper facility that can do the necessary repair. Especially on the newer cars there is no shortage of warning lights. Be especially aware of the ones that indicate brake problems. It won't do you a bit of good that your tires are in great condition and you can see like on a clear day if you can't stop because your brakes don't work properly. Every light means something and it is a good idea to know what they mean and take care of the problem as soon it comes on.

Speaking of lights, do all of the lights on your car work? Headlights (high and low beams), turn signals, emergency flashers, brake lights are they all working properly? Replacement of inoperative units can range from simple bulb replacement to wiring problems or having to change out modules. This can range from about \$0.75 for a tail light bulb to \$1,500.00 or even more for cars with those "That dude is driving with his high beams on!" headlights. He is not, but damn some of those new car headlights are bright! The new Mustangs with HID or LED headlights can be very expensive. Make sure that all of your exterior lighting works. In addition, make sure that your interior lights work also. And finally, if you are driving a classic or older car that does not have Bluetooth, please do not to use your phone while you are driving. If you must make or take a call or message stop in a safe, well-lit place. Newer cars are

almost always equipped with Bluetooth but managing incoming and outgoing messages, creates a distraction from driving. According to NHTSA distracted driving accounted for 3522 deaths in 2021. Don't become a statistic. We want everyone to be with us for as long as possible. And if you are anything like me, you already have a full dance card of dumb things that you've done.

It has been a lot of fun penning these articles this year and I look forward to doing it next year. You all have been entertaining and I hope that I have been able to entertain a bit as well as help you with something on your car. Now, if I could just get all of you to take me for a rip in your ride(s) (and a few of you already have, Thank You) and get Dan to install a Posi-Traction rear end in the roadster, because two tire fire is way cooler than one wheel peel, my Christmas would be complete.

If you need assistance with an issue, or even help with installing new windshield wipers, feel free to contact me. You can email me at [Diesलगunner@comcast.net](mailto:Diesलगunner@comcast.net) or call me at the number listed in the newsletter.

I think I smell sweet potato pie. I gotta go.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, and  
Happy New Year Everyone! God Bless!

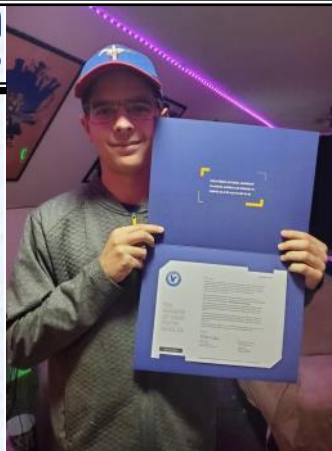


## CONGRATULATIONS

Proud parents and GHMC members, Renee & Jay Wiederspahn recently announced that one of their twins, Connor, was awarded the Presidential Scholarship from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. What an honor! He also received his acceptance letter last month.

Our members will remember the two little boys, Connor & Vincent, that joined our club while their mom was deployed back in 2014. They are now almost ready to graduate High School in Tennessee. We are very happy to see them thriving!

**Congratulations Wiederspahn Family!**





# ★★★UPCOMING EVENTS★★★



ALL FUTURE EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE

Dec 9	Saturday, December 9 <sup>th</sup> GHMC Christmas Dinner & Club Installation, Napa Elks
Dec 16	Saturday, December 16 <sup>th</sup> , Wreaths Across America. Veteran's Cemetery, Dixon
Dec 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS 
Jan 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR 
Jan TBA	GHMC Breakfast, unknown to be announced. Watch your email.
Jan 23	GHMC General Meeting 7:30 p.m. Denny's, 304 Pittman Rd., Cordelia
Feb 11	GHMC Super Bowl party at the Yountville Vets home. Details in next month's <i>Pony Tales</i>

**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)



Gavin Buchanan Memorial Foundation President, Susie Slankard, and family members happily received their donation of \$1,500 from the 2023 Biggest Little Car Show on November 11th after the Veterans Day Parade. The money will be used to buy protective gear for police K-9s

# HAPPY NEWS!



**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

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/1 Alice Troxell  
12/2 Courtney Leathers  
12/3 Karen Bradley  
12/4 Don McEachern  
12/6 Elise Stevenson  
12/7 Regina Bassett  
12/7 Andrew Schneider  
12/8 Judy Davis  
12/14 Lisa Mitsopoulos  
12/14 Kurt Souza  
12/15 Fred Sallam  
12/17 Lauma Jurkevics  
12/18 Michele Rebolini  
12/18 Yvonne Walter  
12/22 Ron Normandin  
12/25 Austin Bauer  
12/26 Ron Bramlett

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/1 Miyuki York  
1/2 Cristy Cordeiro  
1/4 Jacqueline Driver  
1/4 Anthony Robinson  
1/4 Lito Sanchez  
1/5 Cara Lorenzetti  
1/7 Olivia Herman  
1/8 Jacob Mathews  
1/9 Diane Riga  
1/12 Jackson Bozarth  
1/13 Kim Pickering  
1/13 Wendy Pickering  
1/18 Mark Scott  
1/18 Tisha vonTing  
1/20 Brittini Haran  
1/20 Shelby Myska  
1/21 Larry Tunac

1/24 Tony Laffranchi  
1/26 Chase Myska  
1/27 Clif Wilson, Jr.  
1/28 Kyle Lo  
1/30 Deanna Gee



PLEASE LET US KNOW IF WE HAVE FORGOTTEN ANYONE!

## Sunshine Corner

By Yvonne Westberg



This month get-well cards were sent to the following members:

- ❁ Robert and Carina Lo
- ❁ The Herman family- Bill, Robin, and Nicole.
- ❁ Clif Wilson has had health problems and will be having surgery soon.
- ❁ Kirk Stafford had hand surgery.

A Congratulations card was sent to:

- ❁ Barbara Stapleton, as she retired after 21 years in law enforcement and 17 years, 7 months with the Nevada Highway Patrol

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)



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★ ★ ★ **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, January 23, 2024**

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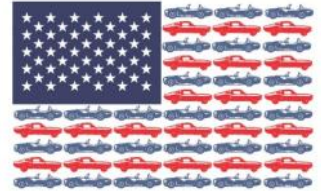
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*an MCA Regional Club*



**Merry  
Christmas  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR**

