

Trio Of Ponies Paints 'Anniversary Picture'

By STEVE MCMULLAN
Editor

Jim and Sharon Slack received special honors at the MCA National Mustang Show sponsored by the Southeast Texas Mustang Club in April with their unique display of an original 1964½ Mustang convertible and a 1984 anniversary edition Pony.

The display drew the interest of both spectators and participants in the Port Arthur show, and a few more eyebrows were raised when Horace Wood of Birmingham, AL completed the 25 year history of America's favorite sports car by parking his 1989 Mustang GT convertible alongside the display.

"There's a lot of history in that scene," observed MCA President Charles Hampton.

Jim and Sharon, of Tulsa, OK, bought their 1984½ anniversary edition convertible new, but they had to trade in one of their three 1966 fastbacks to make room in the garage for the new edition.

"We had eight Mustangs so we had to get rid of one before we could buy another," Sharon recalls. "We've driven the 1984½ in parades and homecomings. But it's also our daily driver. It's driven to work five days a week by either Jim or myself or one of our daughters."

After acquiring the 1984½ Jim Slack got the bug to purchase a white 1964½ convertible to match the anniversary car.

"One of our club membs had told me she had sold her 1964½ Wimbledon white convertible to a young man who was making



Jim 64½ Convertible, Sharon's 84½ Anniversary Car and Horace's 1989 GT

payments on the car. However, he had missed several installments and she said she was thinking about repossessing the pony.

"I told her to give me a call if she decided to take the Mustang back, and three weeks later the phone rang."

The story of the 64½ convertible is an interesting one.

"Her ex-husband had bought the car at a salvage yard to restore. As it worked out, it was is first restoration of many. He's now restoring Mustangs and other old cars for a living."

But even though the Slacks wanted the 64½ convertible, its availability presented a problem.

"When she called we still had eight Mustangs and just didn't want to buy another without selling one.

"Another of our Green Country Classic Mustang Club members had expressed an interest in our 1973 'driver' convertible that Jim had bought me for my 40th birthday.

"I called him and he bought my car so we could buy Jim's 64½."

Sharon says they have owned a dozen or so Mustangs over the years, but the 64½ convertible is the only one Jim has claimed as "his."

"He really made it his when he had the car fall on his hand while he was changing the shocks out," Sharon recalls. "It now had a little of his blood mingled with the paint on the undercarriage. He likes to say his pony 'bit' him.

The accident was fairly serious. Jim still does not have full use of his hand because his finger was crushed in the mishap. But



'Two Aces' Tag: For HorACE Wood and LoyACE Johnson of Birmingham

that doesn't discourage him. He still claims the 1964½ as his very own.

"He doesn't really like to show the car. He likes to display it. Usually he displays it with his collection of Mustang Match Box cars (over 50) and several promotional Mustang toy cars."

With this being the 25th anniversary of the Mustang, Jim wanted to display the 1964½ and 1984½ together at various shows.

"We'll have them at our Green Country MCA Grand National Show in September."

The Slacks' 1984½ was purchased in October of 1985 and is white with a red interior. Options include automatic transmission, AM-FM stereo radio and cassette player and all the anniversary options. It is powered by a 302 5.0 litre engine. The Slacks have put just over 60,000 miles on the pony.

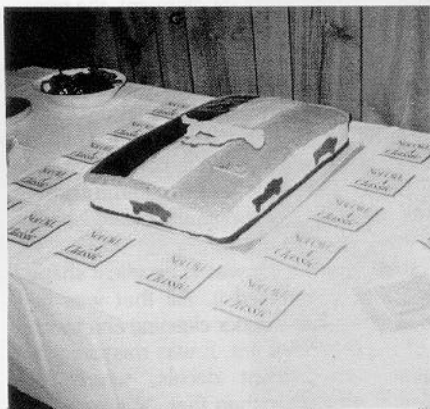
Jim's 1964½ was purchased in August of 1987. It has undergone a complete restoration. He'll only say that it has "over 100,000 miles" on the odometer. The convertible is Windleton white with styled steel wheels, G95-14 redline tires, a red interior and a 289 4V engine.

Helping complete the "anniversary picture" for spectators at the Port Arthur Show in April, Horace Wood, an MCA board member and long-time MCA workhorse, parked his 1989 Mustang GT convertible alongside Jim and Sharon's two ponies.

Wood's daily driver has 1700 miles on it. It is Arcadian White with forged aluminum wheels. Options include power windows, power brakes, air conditioning, stereo and a five-speed transmission. the 5.0 litre HO featured deluxe white leather interior.

It is a familiar sight at national and regional shows across the country, but Horace says "I bought it to drive."

Parked beside Jim's 1964½ and Sharon's 1984½ anniversary Mustang at Port Arthur, Horace's 1989 GT convertible did indeed help complete an interesting portrait of automotive history.



You can tell it's anniversary time for the Ford Mustang! This cake was the center of attention at the Classic Mustang Club Long Island Region's April meeting, where the 25th birthday of the pony was celebrated.

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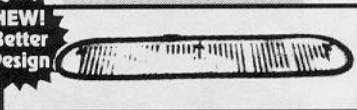


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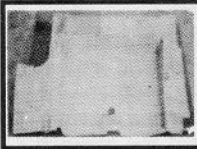


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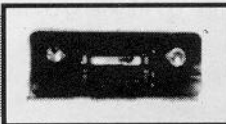
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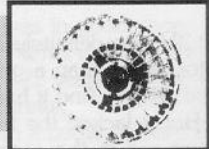
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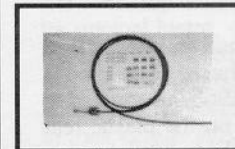
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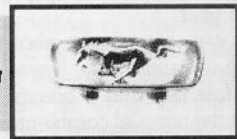
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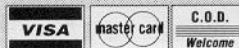
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