

# Mustang & Ford Roundup

by Mary Jean Wesche

Each year, the Car Show season begins with the Ford and Mustang Roundup—a large show at Silver Springs in Ocala, Florida, sponsored by National Parts Depot. With free registration and two park passes to the first 1,000 cars registered, you can only imagine how quickly registrations are sent in to NPD. The show brings out Fords from every era, in every condition, and is always a great time for those fortunate enough to attend. This year was no exception.

The weather is always a “guestimate” for meteorologists in Florida during January. Arriving at the 2008 show on Saturday, the weather was Chamber-of-Commerce perfect. It wasn’t until late afternoon that the skies decided to dispense “liquid sunshine.” More than 1,100 cars were on display. Countless more were registered but unable to attend. The Silver Springs attraction is a favorite winter visitor venue.

Jim and Rick Schmidt of NPD are the most gracious hosts. They are also a sponsor of the Lee Iacocca Award. On January 11, 2008, this prestigious award was given to Larry Dobbs, founder of Dobbs Publishing Group. Most of you would know him as the original publisher of Mustang Monthly magazine. There is so much that could be said about Larry and his contribution to the hobby. He is a visionary who knew there was so much more to the Mustang hobby that could be presented in the pages of a magazine. On that foundation he built a successful publishing company, which employed many major automotive journalists at one time or another. His contribution to the Mustang hobby was phenomenal. In 2005, Larry Dobbs was inducted in the Mustang Club of America’s Hall of Fame. We congratulate Larry as the recipient of the Iacocca Award from NPD. He is the first of 10 recipients who will be honored by NPD in 2008.

Go to the NPD website, [www.npdlink.com](http://www.npdlink.com) for information on next year’s event. Hopefully, we will meet you there!



(L-R) Rick Schmidt from NPD and Donald Farr presented Larry Dobbs (center) the Lee Iacocca Award. To Larry’s right is Mark Houlahan, Editor of Mustang and Fords Magazine, and Jeff Ford from RSS, also a former Dobbs employee.

