



# TWIN PORTS MUSTANG & FORD CLUB

By Judy Aunet

**E**arlier this year, when many members of the Twin Ports Mustang and Ford Club in Duluth, MN, and Superior, WI, realized going to the "45<sup>th</sup> Mustang Anniversary Celebration" was not going to happen for them, they decided to celebrate their own way. They organized an All-Mustang car show with a local Ford dealer and a food drive that was held on April 18, 2009.

April is especially early for an outdoor car show to take place in northern Wisconsin, so everyone kept his or her fingers crossed for good weather while planning the event. As the date neared and the forecasts were predicting a rain/snow mix, members worried about how successful the show would be. But when the day came, the sun was shining and the temperatures were in the upper-40-degree range during the show. Luck was with us because as soon as the show was over the temperature dropped 20 degrees in the next hour and it snowed the next day.



Scott Post, a club member from Maplewood, MN, who entered his 1966 Mustang coupe, said despite the "iffy" weather forecasts the turnout was good.

"It was the first time I took my 1990 Mustang GT out this year," said Shane Salo of Superior.

People brought their Mustangs from hundreds of miles away. Approximately 50 Mustangs, from 1965 to 2009 models ranging from coupes to Stage 3 Roush Mustangs, were on display in front and along side Benna Ford-Roush-Saleen in Superior. The dealership also had two 2010 Mustangs for sale.

"I wasn't going to celebrate the Mustang's anniversary," said Dick Orlowski who is originally from Superior, "but I heard about this car show from my sister." Orlowski brought his 2005 Roush Mustang to the show from Anoka, MN.

John Hoska from Lexington, MN, came with his neighbor and entered his 2007 Mustang GT. "My neighbor and I both enjoyed the show," he said. "My neighbor is a Chevy man, but he likes all the Mustangs and looking at the new Fords."

Everyone attending the car show was asked to bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the Salvation Army food shelf.

"In spite of a recession and a lot of people donated to the local food shelf," said Post. The donations filled a laundry bin plus proceeds from the car show were also donated.

Jim Gerdes, Twin Ports Mustang & Ford Club's vice-president said he thought it was a great turnout.

"I like to mingle with others who have similar interests," he said, "and to see what special things people do to their cars that I can adapt." Gerdes won best of class with his 1978 Mustang Ghia.



Plaques were given in the eight different classes. Club members and Benna's employees also each awarded plaques for their choice of "Best of Show." Ed Eliason of Superior, who has completely restored his red 1965 Mustang Fastback GT, won both of the "Best of Show" plaques and a "Best in Class" plaque.

Club member Kim Culp said he was impressed with the quality of the vehicles on display. "There were a lot of really nice cars there," he said.

Fellow club member Glen Milani from Keewatin, MN, entered his 2003 Mustang GT convertible. "It was well worth the drive to the show," he said. "We had a good time, met some nice people and saw some pretty cool cars."

Kevin Johnson of Esko, MN, brought his custom 1965 Ford Mustang golf cart, which drew quite a bit of attention. Johnson said he had heard about the Twin Ports club putting on a car show celebrating the Mustang's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to benefit the local food shelf and thought it is was a great cause.

"I thought it would be a nice vehicle to have at the show and contacted the Twin Ports Mustang Club about bringing the cart," said Johnson. "The show chairman said they would



be more than happy to have us there. Johnson brought his two sons, ages 12 and 14, because they are starting to take an interest in classic cars.

"This was our first car show," Johnson said, "and the boys and I had a great time. Everyone we talked to and met was great. We decided to go ahead and join the club. Now we are even talking about shopping for a Mustang for my wife, so

we can enjoy some of the cruises with the club," he added.

"As much fun as it was celebrating the 45<sup>th</sup>, I cannot wait for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mustang," said Post summing up the day's events.

Our 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was a huge success at every turn. We collected food for the Salvation Army food shelf. Additionally, the club gained several new members. Club members and visitors alike are looking forward to the Twin Ports' All-Ford powered show on June 27, 2009, in Two Harbors, Minnesota. We won't have to worry about snow, either.