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Atlantic Blue '98 Cobra Convertible

I have been a Mustang owner now for 24 years. My first Mustang was a 1984 GT. I loved that car; it was the first sharp car I had ever owned. I purchased it after finishing school when I began working at Marshall Space Flight Center. I hate to admit it but it wasn't my first choice. But just starting out and being on a budget, price dictated my purchase at the time. I'm glad it did! This may sound a little strange but it was amazing what owning a car like that can do for a person. When you have a Mustang you become cool. You're a member of an elite club. To understand what I'm talking about you have to own one.

A Mustang is not just a car. It's a way of life. Some of my fondest memories are associated with this car. Girls I've dated, races I've won, and trips taken. My favorite is a trip snow skiing. I had a trunk mounted ski rack on my '89 GT convertible. Where ever we stopped for gas someone would come up and look at the car and comment how good it looked or take pictures. Strange, no one ever asked to take pictures of my former battleship gray 4-door AMC Hornet. Even the bad memories are good, like the time at Destin, FL, when I got water in the gas and had to push the car. Looking back thinking about pushing that car in 100-degree temperatures does make me laugh—a little.

Now I'm beginning a new chapter in the Mustang way of life. About a year and a half ago I joined my first car club, Shoals Mustangs. I knew the Mustang was a great car but thought Mustang clubs were for older high-dollar restorations. I didn't know how my car (Atlantic Blue '98 Cobra convertible) would fit in. The great thing about Mustangs and its owners is acceptance. It doesn't matter if it's a '64 1/2 or an '09. You're part of the family.

Since joining my local club and the MCA I've had a ball! There is always something to do. We've gone to car shows and cruises. There is nothing that stops a crowd quicker than a line of Mustangs pulling into a parking lot. This year is looking great. I was invited to participate in NASCAR's driver introduction at the FoodCity 500 in Bristol, TN. It was a blast and will be hard to top that but I'm going to try. I've already attended the 45*. We have more shows and cruises planned. The most fun I've had so far this year happen in March. Later this year I'm going to Nashville to put the Cobra on the track at the Superspeedway. Sometimes you have to let those horses run.

Join your local car club and the Mustang Club of America. Membership does have its rewards, you may have more fun then you can stand!