



**ROBERT & GLENDA BRAUN
NAMPA, IDAHO**

Our grandson, Alexander, loves cars. He especially likes Mustangs because of his "Gramma and Grampa."

We are Robert and Glenda Braun, long-time members of the MCA, and Regional Treasure Valley Mustang and Ford Club in Nampa, Idaho. We have two Mustangs. One is a 1965 Twilight Turquoise Fastback GT. The other is a 2003 Azure Blue Mach 1. The '65 is special because it is a family relic. Robert's older brother Donald bought it new. He drove it several years and sold it to Robert's little brother Steve. Steve drove the car until it died and he tucked it in the garage.

In his younger years, Robert had a Black Jade 1969 Sportsroof GT. Still being fond of Mustangs, Robert convinced Steve to sell him the worn out '65 in the late 1980's. He then began a restoration saga that is worthy of its own story. In fact, Robert wrote a poem about the car. The '65 was finally restored in 1998 and we have been enjoying it ever since, regularly attending and usually winning first in class at the annual TVMFC show. We have towed the car to Mustang shows in other states and have won awards there. We even participated in

the MCA Grand National Show in Park City. We did not win an award, but that was because of our erroneous decision to enter the wrong class.

The Treasure Valley is located in southwest Idaho and includes the greater Boise metropolitan area. TVMFC membership averages around 80 individuals and families with about half of them active in meetings and club events. In June 2008 TVMFC hosted its 25th annual show and shine at Nampa city's Lakeview Park. Because Mustangs are relatively sparse, our show is open to all makes and models. A typical show hosts 150 cars, and at least half of these are Mustangs and Fords.

Alexander is 4 years old and has inherited a car gene. He has a box full of toy cars, and he pesters his parents for a new one every time they go shopping. While riding around town he will name the make or model of cars he sees. Whenever he comes to Gramma and Grampa's house, he asks to play with Grampa's special Mustang toy cars. Last June at the ripe old age of three and a half, his mother brought Alex to the TVMFC show. It was his first show, and he was in heaven. He had the biggest smile on his face the whole time. He

checked out every car in the show, taking time to study the details. Of course, he had lots of favorites. I chronicled his adventure by taking photographs. After the show we made up a memory album of the pictures and gave it to Alex.



Since then Alex has had numerous car shows of his own. He lines up all of his toy cars in his bedroom and shows them to whoever will come to his room, with the exception of his little sister. She shares his fascination with cars, but tends to be a nuisance at his shows. It reminds me of how we keep an eye on the visitors to our show. You can look but don't touch!



Recently, I stayed with Alex's sister while his mother took him to school. While he was away his sister got out some of his cars and lined them up. When he got home he noticed the cars and asked me if his sister made a car show while he was at school. I confessed that Hailey had gotten a few cars out of his box. Alex ran to his mother and said, "Mom, Hailey is making a car show with my cars!"

