



Book Review:

MUSTANG BOSS 302

From Racing Legend to Modern Muscle Car

By Austin C. Craig

There have been many books written on the Mustang since its introduction in April of 1964. Noted journalist and *Mustang Monthly* Editor Donald Farr has written a number of publications that have assisted and been enjoyed by Mustang enthusiasts for many years. In 1983 he authored *MUSTANG BOSS 302, Ford's Trans-Am Pony Car*, at the time the definitive work on the subject of both the 1969-'70 Boss 302 racing and street-car program. Donald was able to pack all kinds of valuable information into the 114-page publication that was both interesting and informative to read. It is now out of print and brings several hundred dollars, if you can find one. Donald, who owned a 1970 Boss 302 at the time, is a true Mustang enthusiast.

For more than 40 years, Ford waited for the right Mustang and the right 5.0 liter engine to bring back the Boss 302 name for a modern reincarnation of the legendary 1969-'70 Boss 302 Mustangs.

Donald had often talked about someday reworking his original works, so when the time came, enthusiasts at Ford Racing like John Clor and Mickey Matus were both enthusiastic and helpful in assisting Donald Farr research the people and process for the new Boss 302 race and street-car programs. The result is the definitive works on the subject, both vintage and current Boss 302 models.

Introduced at the Boss 302 Reunion

last August, *MUSTANG BOSS 302, From Racing Legend to Modern Muscle Car* is a "must have" publication for any Mustang enthusiast. If someone saw a vintage or 2012 Boss 302 and did not know anything about the car, but wanted one, this extremely well written and beautifully illustrated book would teach them everything they wanted to learn about the subject.

Donald does a masterful job of telling the story of the racing and street-car programs both past and present. He also provides an insight into people who created and executed both Boss 302 programs, from Bunkie Knudsen and Larry Shinoda to today's Jim Farley and Engineering VP Derrick Kuzak.

One point he clearly brings to light is the fact that there are many talented engineering, product planning, marketing, and racing people at Ford Motor Company who successfully launched the Boss 302R and the production 2012 Boss 302. This talent is also evident today in every Ford Motor Company vehicle the company produces.

Exciting performance cars like the Boss 302 just do not come to market by themselves. Donald explains just how enlightened, passionate "car guys" like Jim Farley, Group VP of Global Marketing, Sales and Service, believed in the program. Same goes for people in key positions; like Dave Pericak, Mustang Chief Engineer, Mike Harrison 5.0 and Boss 302 Engine Program Manager, and Brent Clark, Mustang Vehicle Dynamics

Team Supervisor, as well as many others who made the 2012 Boss 302 happen.

Donald's insight into how the Boss 302 program achieved its objectives and came to fruition makes for a most interesting read.

The Boss is back and Donald Farr brings both the racing and production car programs to life for the reader.

MUSTANG BOSS 302, From Racing Legend to Modern Muscle Car is available on amazon.com and is attractively priced at \$30.00 plus shipping. It is a book every Mustang enthusiast should have in their library.

For those enthusiasts who would like an autographed copy, contact Donald at Donald.Farr@sorc.com. He has a supply on hand and will be happy to autograph your personal edition. **MT**

