



# PARENT CHILD **garage**

Text by Austen and Myron Moser  
Photos by Myron Moser

**A**usten has been a classic car buff since he was a little boy. I would take him to "Back to the '50's" car shows almost every year since he was 6 years old. The show regularly features thousands of classic cars, and is held annually at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. At about 10 years old, Austen decided that one of his favorite cars was the 1969 Mustang Mach 1. In the fall of 2008, his Uncle Terry found one for us, and I bought it.

Austen was only 13 years old when we bought the Mustang. My wife and I made him a deal: School is his "job," and he needs to do the best job he can. We would pay him \$1,000 for an "A," \$500 for a "B," and nothing for a "C" or below. Well, that's all the motivation he needed. He threw himself into his studies, and went from an average student to almost all As (with a few Bs) the very next semester. He works hard all week at school so he can earn his Pony, and he has already "paid" for about 2/3 of the total cost.

On the weekends we work on his car. In the summer, our vacations consist mostly of me taking longer weekends

so we can make progress on the Pony. I hired Todd Blankenship, a Ford Certified Sr. Master Technician (and Mustang fanatic) to help us refresh the engine/drive train. I also hired a Classic Car Body Man to help us do a full rotisserie restoration on the body. Both guys work with Austen and me on weekends and some evenings. Austen has to "pay" for their labor with his grades as well.

After about 1 1/2-years of work, we plan on having the car completed by this Spring. He is jazzed to take his car to an MCA Event! We plan on showing it at the Des Moines, Iowa, National Show in August this year.

I can tell you this has been some of the greatest father-son time I could ever hope for. Instead of burning out playing endless video games or hanging out with the wrong crowd, my son wants to be with me. We have a great time! We have both learned so much and shared some wonderful memories together.

I have never owned my own muscle car (I've always wanted to). I'll get my own eventually. For right now, I am having a ball doing this with my son. I highly recommend this to any parent, to build memories with your child like this.

We have many more photos to share with you. The car is still on the rotisserie,

there is still some body work on the front end that we are doing. Meanwhile, we are starting to put the wiring kit in, and we'll put the wheels under it next, so there are still plenty of memories to come. We are happy to share them!



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I have also enclosed a picture of the car body (currently painted, Austen chose yellow and black for his Mach). That's Kris Lanus, the Classic Body Man extraordinaire that worked on the body with us, standing next to Austen. Kris is also a Mustang fanatic, that's his project car, '70 Mach 1 behind Austen's.

We very much enjoyed meeting Steve Prewitt, Horace Collums, and other fine MCA people at Barrett-Jackson. We also enjoyed the conversation at the club's booth, and Austen is now a proud member of MCA.

**Editor's Note:** Chris Hall, chairman of the Youth Committee submitted this first story for the "Parent Child Garage" Department. Chris wrote, "This is truly a story that will make you smile. This story was submitted by Myron Moser who joined the MCA at the Barrett-Jackson Auction this past January."

Please read Chris Hall's column on page 26, which explains the MCA's revised Youth Program. We hope this is the first of many articles, as we know there are numerous "youth members" out there. One such Youth Owner is Tucker Brigman in Washington. Watch for an article about him and his Fox Mustang in the near future.

