

DESERT FALCON FLYER



Year: March, 2005

Issue 3

March Meeting Information

Date: **March 12, 2005**

Place: **Berge Ford**, 460 E. Auto Center Dr. Mesa, AZ (US 60 and Mesa Dr.)

Time: **5:30PM**

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

CRUISIN' TOMBSTONE

FRIENDS OF TOMBSTONE COURTHOUSE
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
TOMBSTONE COURTHOUSE STATE HISTORIC PARK
&
TOMBSTONE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THE
**2ND ANNUAL VINTAGE, CLASSIC CUSTOM
CAR & TRUCK ROUND UP**



APRIL 1ST & 2ND, 2005

12 TROPHY CLASSES INCLUDE

PEOPLES CHOICE & BEST OF SHOW

- 1) EARLY STREET ROD '36 AND OLDER
- 2) LATE STREET ROD '37-1949
- 3) ANTIQUE CAR UP TO 1949
- 4) EARLY ORIGINAL CAR 1950-1969
- 5) LATE ORIGINAL CAR 1970-2001
- 6) BRITISH CARS-ALL
- 7) SPORTS CARS ALL
- 8) TRUCKS STOCK ALL
- 9) TRUCKS MODIFIED ALL
- 10) CARS MODIFIED INCLUDING KIT CARS AND REPRODUCTIONS



**ALL ENTRANTS
PRE-REGISTRATION
ONLY!
300 SPACE GATED
SHOW**

NO ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, WEAPONS,
DRUGS, DOGS, OR STEREO'S

Security provided at show site Friday 11 AM
through Saturday til 4 PM



The next club sanctioned car
cruise is Cruisin' Tombstone. See
President's message for cruise
times and meeting place

Application is on the last page of
this newsletter.

Come join in the fun Hope to see
you all there.

FRIDAY

APRIL 1ST, 2005

11: AM ARRIVAL AND SET UP
AT TOMBSTONE UNION HIGH
SCHOOL FIELD (SEE MAP)
FREE ENTERTAINMENT 4:30 PM
BURGER BURN 5:30 PM - 7 PM
7 PM TO... ??? RETIRE OR RAISE HELL...

RAIN OR SHINE!

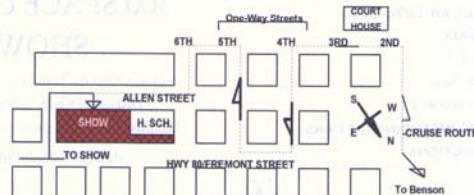
EVENT SCHEDULE

SATURDAY SHOW DAY

APRIL 2ND, 2005 10 AM - 4 PM
11 AM-1:00 PM BALLOTING
3:00 PM THE TROPHIES

GIFT AND MONEY RAFFLES
BEVERAGE/FOOD SALES
COMMEMORATIVE ITEM SALES

RAIN OR SHINE!



ARIZONA CHAPTER OFFICERS

- Pres.-Bill Hardin
(623) 544-2445
- Vice-Pres.-Vern Hastings
(480) 354-7640
- Sec.-Vii Hastings
(480) 354-7640
- Treas.-Reba Schweitzer
(480)888-0589

BOARD MEMBERS

- Jim Bycroft (602) 279-6991
- Jim Vanell (480)491-9417
- Bill Lind (480)831-9981
- Greg Lyons—Webmaster
(928)527-0156

FOR CLUB INFORMATION

Bill (President) & Kathie
(623)544-2445
kbhardin@cox.net
OR
Wendell & Reba (Treasurer)
(480) 888-0589
Santan2@msn.com

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

March 2005

The membership has set the date for election of officers. 9 April 2005. We are taking nominations from now until the night of the elections. Remember this is *your* club and it will become what you make it. Don't be shy, step up and run for an office. We have a great club, with great people and some really cool cars, let's make it work better.

The plan for the club cruise to the Falcon Club of America's 26th National Convention in San Ramon, California this coming July 14 thru 16 has had a bit of a change. We will still meet at the Circle K on Jackrabbit road and I-10, but the time and date had been changed to Tuesday morning, July 12th, at 0900 (9AM) and head out for California. I have not as of yet made the room reservations at the Marriott in San Ramon, however, as soon as I have an idea of how many plan to make the trip I will do so and no later than March 15th. If you can make it, it is going to be a great time.

The club also has planned a cruise to the Tombstone Show April 1st & 2nd and the Globe show May 20th & 21st. For the Tombstone show we will meet (Friday, April 1st) at the Smoke store on I-10 (east side of I-10) and Riggs Road at 0700 (7AM) (immediately on the south side of Riggs Road after passing over the interstate) and head out for breakfast and then on to Tombstone. Last year we were hailed on, rain on, and froze, but we had a great time and saw some great cars. They have moved the date back a month this year so the weather should be better (we hope). The plan for the Globe show has not been set as of yet but I will keep you updated. All the shows we have planned look to be a great time, if you can get away for any of them we would love to have you and you do not need your Falcon to come join in the fun.

Don't forget the meeting at BERGE FORD Saturday 12 March 05 starting at 1730 hours (that's 5:30 PM). We will go out for a bite to eat and a kick the tires session. Hope to see you there.

Bill Hardin

Minutes of the February 12, 2005 Meeting

Meeting opened 5.35 pm by Pres. Bill Hardin

Rainy evening and only 13 members braved the weather!

Minutes of last meeting read and approved

Treasurer's report same as last meeting \$1302. Reba also reported that of our 27 members, there are 4 who have not submitted their 2005 dues. March 1st is the outside limit for '05 dues before being dropped from the club roster!

Old Business: It was decided that the April meeting would be the best time for new officer elections. A full attendance of members is desirable.

New Business: Arrangements to rendezvous July 12th at I-10 and Jack Rabbit Rd. were discussed for those driving to San Ramon, Calif. For the Nat'l Annual Meeting July 15, 16, 17. More later.

A drawing for the Valentine treat provided by Bill Hardin was won by Kit Van Hassel.

Wendell Schweitzer moved and Vern Hastings seconded the motion to adjourn at 6:05 pm, and reconvene at the Country Buffet.

Respectfully,

Vii Hastings, Secretary

PRICES OF CLUB JACKETS AND SHIRTS

Price list for shirts and jackets.

Club Price		Club Price	
Men's Power Hitter Shirt.....	\$28.00	T-shirts.....	\$9.00
Men's Jacket Windward.....	\$34.50	Baseball Caps.....	\$5.00
Women's Power Hitter Shirt.....	\$27.00		
Women's Competitor Shirt.....	\$27.00	See Kathie Hardin for current stock	
Women's Jacket Windward.....	\$33.50		

Future Car Shows - Please confirm times and dates – phone numbers provided with most listed events. If you have information on Car Shows or Events not listed here please notify the editor

UPCOMING CAR SHOWS AND EVENTS

2005

Mar. 12 - 4th Annual Deer Valley High School Marching Band & Color Guard Car Show at DVHS (18424 N. 51st Ave.) - Live music, trophies, vendors, & family fun - Free to spectators - Glendale - Info: Bob 602-843-5690

Mar. 18-20 - World of Wheels at Phoenix Civic Plaza - Friday 3pm-10pm, Saturday 11am-10pm, Sunday 11am-7pm - General Admission \$12.50, Children 6-12 \$4.00, 5 and under Free - Adult Discount Coupons Available at CARQUEST Auto Parts - Phoenix - Info: 248-373-1700

Mar. 19 - 8th Annual Benefit Car Show presented by the Boys & Girls Club of Sierra Vista - Reg. 8am-10am, live auction 2:30pm, awards 3pm at the mall at Sierra Vista - All cars and trucks welcome - \$20 before Mar. 5, \$25 after, first 200 registered get T-shirt, Goodie Bag and Dash Plaque - trophies, sponsor pick, 50/50, door prizes, oldies music, giant live auction with 350 crate motor - no vendors - Sierra Vista - Info: Larry 520-459-2184

Apr. 1-2 - 2nd Annual Cruisin' Tombstone Vintage, Classic and Custom Car & Truck Roundup at Tombstone Union High School on Allen St. - Friday, 11am set up, Free entertainment 4:30pm, Burger Burn 5:30pm - Saturday, 10am to 4pm - Reg. \$30 - Tombstone - Info: 520-457-3786

Apr. 2 - Concours in the Desert to be held at the Peoria Sports Complex - over 40 classes - vendor exhibits, center stage and live entertainment, car corrals, special VIP opportunities and much more - proceeds from this event will benefit the Girl Scouts, Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, Inc. - Peoria - Info: Rachel 602-253-6359

Apr. 2-3 - 2nd Annual Mountain Cruise for Slots and Rods starts out at Casino Arizona (Phx), spend the night at Hondah (Pinetop) and ends at Apache Gold Casino (Globe) - \$25 entry, \$98 Hotel at Hondah - Limited to 115 entries - Mail all entries to Polly Soles - Phoenix / Payson / Pinetop / Globe - Info: Polly 928-402-8929

Apr. 9 - First Annual Charity Car Show presented by Southern Arizona Mopar Club - held at Toys R Us @ 4525 N. Oracle Road, across from the Tucson Mall - open to cars, trucks, sports and imports, and all motor cycles from 1920 to 1970 - goodie bags, door prizes, cruising music, charity auctions, 50/50 Drawings, dunk **Feb. 12** - Palm Creek Golf & RV Resort 1st Annual Car Show (I-10, exit 194, turn right at 1st stop light) - 10am-4pm, Reg. 8-10am - Picture Plaque Tropies, Cash Prizes, Live Entertainment, speciality prizes for best car and costume combo - Reg. \$15 - Casa Grande - Info: Carolyn 520-876-8980

Feb. 12 - Subzero Car Show at Peoria Sports Complex (83rd Ave and Bell) - proceeds to benefit Peoria Fire Dept. - Reg. \$20 - Move-in 7am, SHOW 10am, Awards 4:30pm - Peoria - Info: Mark 623-451-0221

Feb. 12 - 2nd Annual Historic Downtown Chandler Classic Auto Show - reg. 7:30-9am, show 9am-4pm - first 150 pre 1980 vehicles - Chandler - Info: Jerry 480-460-7798

Feb. 13 - **NOTICE LOCATION CHANGE** Over The Hill Gang-Phoenix 8th Annual Poker Run was at the 5 & Diner/Pavilions NOW across the street at McDonalds/Pavilions 9069 E. Indian Bend Rd - \$15 per vehicle, \$2.50 extra hands - 50/50, Door Prizes, Cash Awards \$100, \$50, \$25 - T-shirts available - Scottsdale - Info: 602-944-6630

Feb. 20 - United We Drive...Car Show presented by Arizona Automobile Hobbyist Council at Sanderson Ford - Car Show 10am-3pm - Car Show entry \$15, \$20 Day of Show, Swap Space \$25 - Trophies: Top 10, Dealer's Choice, Club Participation - Glendale - Info: 623-435-8961 or Joan 623-937-1171

Feb. 26 - 2nd Annual Mesa High Car Show - open to Classic cars, trucks, wagons, or motorcycles - Admission is FREE - food, concessions, entertainment, raffles, shirt sales, swap meet - \$15 entry, \$20 late, Vendors space \$15, swap meet space \$10 - Mesa - Info: Lou 480-472-5885

Mar. 4-6 - 13th Annual Midnight at the Oasis at Desert Sun Stadium - Yuma - Info: 928-343-1715

Mar. 5 - Planes, Trains, Automobiles and up on Two Wheels X3 at Falcon

Field - 10am-3pm - \$10/person, children 2 and under free - Mesa - Info: Abe 480-839-5847

Mar. 5 - 7th Annual Classic Car Show hosted by the Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the 27th Annual Arizona State Open Chili Championship at Dave White Regional Park (2121 N. Thornton Rd.) - co-sponsored by Casa Grande Regional Medical Center and Golden Eagle Distributors - 10am-3pm, check-in 10am, vehicles in place by 11am - Reg. \$15 - 1979 or older - trophies for People's Choice, Participant's Choice and Chili Cooks' Choice - Casa Grande - Info: Helen 800-916-1515

Mar. 12 - 4th Annual Deer Valley High School Marching Band & Color Guard Car Show at DVHS (18424 N. 51st Ave.) - Live music, trophies, vendors, & family fun - Free to spectators - Glendale - Info: Bob 602-843-5690

Mar. 12 - Marana High School Car Show sponsored by the Marana High VICA Club (12000 W. Emigh) - West Parking Lot, Fun, Food, Awards, Prize Ticket Contest(Raffle) - staging 8am-10am, Show 10am-3pm - Reg. \$5 - Free To Come And Look Around - Marana - Info: Cliff 1-520-616-6470

Mar. 13 - Havasu Classics "Show 'n Shine" at Classic Burger (Hwy. 95 & Palo Verde Ave.) - Pre-registration \$15 before 3/1, \$20 after - Lake Havasu City - Info: Dennis 928-680-6776

Mar. 18-20 - World of Wheels at Phoenix Civic Plaza - Friday 3pm-10pm, Saturday 11am-10pm, Sunday 11am-7pm - General Admission \$12.50, Children 6-12 \$4.00, 5 and under Free - Adult Discount Coupons Available at CARQUEST Auto Parts - Phoenix - Info: 248-373-1700

Mar. 19 - 8th Annual Benefit Car Show presented by the Boys & Girls Club of Sierra Vista - Reg. 8am-10am, live auction 2:30pm, awards 3pm at the mall at Sierra Vista - All cars and trucks welcome - \$20 before Mar. 5, \$25 after, first 200 registered get T-shirt, Goodie Bag and Dash Plaque - trophies, sponsor pick, 50/50, door prizes, oldies music, giant live auction with 350 crate motor - no vendors - Sierra Vista - Info: Larry 520-459-2184

Mar. 19-20 - Town of Marana Founders Day, Car Show & Swap Meet - open for Classics, Muscle Cars & Trucks, T-Buckets, Hot Rods, Kit Cars - Sat. 6-8am Car move-in, 9am-4pm Car Show, Sun. 9am-1pm? Car Show, 1pm Awards - \$25 before 3/19, \$35 after includes goodie bag and t-shirt - Marana - Info: Rick 520-888-0719

May 20-21 - 13th Annual Gold-N-Oldies "Just a Car Show" - 30 classes+ - 50/50, Door Prizes - pre-registration before May 1 \$25, \$30 after Globe - Info: Michael 920-474-2331, Jim 928-425-9271 or Merle 928-473-4360

Apr. 1-2 - 2nd Annual Cruisin' Tombstone Vintage, Classic and Custom Car & Truck Roundup at Tombstone Union High School on Allen St. - Friday, 11am set up, Free entertainment 4:30pm, Burger Burn 5:30pm - Saturday, 10am to 4pm - Reg. \$30 - Tombstone - Info: 520-457-3786

Apr. 1-2 - Covenant Hot Rod Assn. 7th Annual Springs in the Desert Charity Car Show at Arizona Mills Mall, 5&Diner, (Baseline Rd. & I-10) - live band, trophies, vendors, give aways - pre-registration before Mar. 5 \$20, \$25 after includes t-shirt and dash plaque - American cars '72 and older - Tempe - Info: Don 480-205-7925

Apr. 2 - Concours in the Desert to be held at the Peoria Sports Complex - over 40 classes - vendor exhibits, center stage and live entertainment, car corrals, special VIP opportunities and much more - proceeds from this event will benefit the Girl Scouts, Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, Inc. - Peoria - Info: Rachel 602-253-6359

Apr. 9 - Central Avenue Cruise - Come and enjoy the FUN, Meet at Park Central! - Info: Nancy 602-938-1000

Apr. 9 - Desert Mountain PTO Car Show, to Benefit Desert Mountain School Computer Purchase Program (35959 N. 7th Ave.) - 10am-3pm - \$15.00 entry fee includes, 2 Admissions, 2 Lunch Passes, 2 Raffle Tickets - All vehicles WELCOME at this NON-COMPETITIVE EVENT - Food, Drink, Music, Carnival Games, Rides, Raffle Drawing - Radio Control Vehicles and Many Other Prizes - Info: Brian 602-326-9218

Apr. 9 - 1st Annual "CARS AND STARS" Car show benefiting the North Canyon High School "Stars of the North" marching band - open to all

UPCOMING CAR SHOWS AND EVENTS (continued)

vehicles - 9am-2pm, awards 2pm - food, music, silent auction, 50/50 drawing - Reg. \$20 - Phoenix - Info: Mike 623-293-8049 or Tim 480-201-0081

Apr. 16 - 19th Annual Oracle Spring Run Car Show & Festival - parade, swap meet, craft fair & carnival - reg. 7am, parade 9:30 am, awards 3pm - Pre-reg \$20 before April 10, \$25.00 after, Food vendors-\$35.00, craft and swap meet vendors \$25.00 - Oracle - Info: Margaret 520-896-2158

Apr. 17 - 2nd Annual Roddin for a Reason Benefit Prostate Cancer Car Show at Glendale Community College - Limited to 350 vehicles - For more event information call Roddin' & Racin' - Glendale - Info: Donna or Jerry 480-963-9880

Apr. 23 - 4th Annual Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run, LETR, Charity Car Show at Ahwatukee Palms Plaza (SE Corner Warner Rd. and 48th St.) - all proceeds go to the Arizona Special Olympics - entry \$15 which includes Torch Run Dash Plaque and 2 free coupons for burgers or hot dogs - 50/50 Drawing, Great Gift Raffles, food & clothing sale - reg. 7:30am-9am, car show 9am-2pm, judging 9am-12pm, awards 2pm - class winners receive a customized event t-shirt - Fountain Hills - Info: Les 602-534-0407

Apr. 29-May 1 - 12th Annual Beeline Cruise-In and Charity Auto Show on Main Street presented by the Rim Country Classic Auto Club - Limited to 300 pre 77 vehicles - \$30 Entry Fee includes a cool T-shirt, dash plaque, killer goodie bag, burger burn, entertainment, dance & breakfast - Friday: Beeline Burger Burn 3-6pm, Registration 12noon-5pm, entertainment at the Mazatzal Casino 7-9pm, Saturday: Registration 6-10am, Car Show 8am-4pm, 3-4pm Awards, Beeline Barbecue 4:30-7pm (prepaid reservations only), 7-11pm Dance with "Come back Buddy" at the Mazatzal Casino, Sunday: Beeline Breakfast 7-9am - Main Street Poker Walk (Cash Awards), Casino Shuttle on the hour, Vendors, Music, Raffles, Grand Prizes, 50/50 and more - Payson - Reg. and Info. Sheets coming soon - Info: Larry 928-472-7769 or Norm 928-474-4766

April 29 -May 1 COME ONE - COME ALL 18TH Annual ROUTE 66 FUN RUN Sponsored by: HISTORIC ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA \$44 Entry before 4/4, \$49 after P.O. Box 66 - Kingman, AZ 86402 - (928)753-5001

May 13-15 - Azround-up sponsored by Arizona Teardroppers, held at Dead Horse Ranch State Park - Teardrop and Vintage trailer camp out/show \$15 per night to camp, \$5 day use just to see show - Cottonwood - Info: Eddie 602-999-0163

June 10-12 - Show Low Days-Still Cruizin Car Show at the Show Low City Park (Hwy. 60 & 260) - Show Low - Info: 928-537-2326

June 17-18 - 3rd Annual Chrome in the Dome Classic Car and Truck Show sponsored by the Springerville-Eager Regional Chamber of Commerce - limited to 200 1977 and older vehicles, first 110 vehicles registered park inside the dome - pre-registration before June 10 \$30, \$40 after, includes T-shirt, Dash Plaque and burger burn - Cruise, Burger Burn, dance, breakfast, judged show - Springerville/Eager - Info: Wayne 928-333-4001

July 3 - Car/Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet at Bison Ranch (Highway 260) - all vehicles welcome - 8am-5pm - Bison Ranch - Info: Frank 928-535-3006

July 14-16, FCA 26th National Convention San Ramon, California The Sonoma County Falcons For Fun of the Falcon Club of America, invites you to the "Bridgin' The Bay, California Style" 26th Annual Falcon National Convention July 14-16, 2005, at the Marriott San Ramon, 2600 Bishop Drive in San Ramon, California 94583, 74.00 + tax per night - Reservations - 1-800-228-9290 or 925-867-9200

Sept. 22-25 - River Cruizers 14th Annual "Roddin' on the River" at the Riverside Resort and Casino - Laughlin, NV - Info: 928-788-2174

Sept. 23-25 - AzRound-up sponsored by Arizona Teardroppers, held at Dead Horse Ranch State Park - Teardrop and Vintage trailer camp out/show \$15 per night to camp, \$5 day use just to see show - Cottonwood - Info: Eddie 602-999-0163

Sept. 23-25 - Run to the Pines - Pine Top - Info: Bob 928-368-5325

Oct. 1 - Central Avenue Cruise - Come and enjoy the FUN, Meet at Park Central! - Info: Nancy 602-938-1000

Oct. 8 - 18th Annual Cars in the Park held at Veterans Memorial Park hosted by the Sierra Vista Car Club - Fri: 5-8pm Cruise The Diner, Sat: reg. 8-10am, Show 8am-3pm, - Limited to 300 entrants - \$20 before Oct. 5, \$30 after, includes t-shirt and dash plaque - Music by DJ John, Basket raffle, 50/50, Door Prizes - Sierra Vista - Info: Leo 520-378-3096

Oct. 8 - 18th Annual Cars in the Park presented by Sierra Vista Car Club - Registration flyers available in April - Sierra Vista - Info: Joe 520-458-8937

Oct.14-16 - Casino Arizona Third Annual Fall Classic Car Show - 35 cash prizes to include several new classes - entry includes a calendar, food, entertainment, and much more - Scottsdale - Info: Char at 480-850-7881 or Mary 480-850-7968

Oct. 19-23 - Relics & Rods 28th Annual "Run to the Sun" - Lake Havasu City - Info: 929-855-0933

IN THE KNOW.....

Transmission Fluids in Older Cars

A question about whether it was okay to replace ATF Type A with Dexron is an interesting one. In my opinion, caution should be used when using ATF Type A fluid. There are still thousands of old owner's manuals specifying Type A, so some manufacturers are marketing a "Type A automatic transmission fluid" in places like dollar stores and drug stores. There were never any serious specs for Type A, and it wasn't all that good when it was current; but the current Type As are not much better than colored water, because the makers don't have to meet any specs at all. If this stuff were any good it would qualify for the Dexron label!

I'd suggest that you use discretion when using Type A for anything, even power steering. If you have any Type A fluid, whether it's NOS fluid from the '50s, or new stuff from the drugstore, throw it away and get some Dexron/Mercon (or F--L-M, if slippage control is an issue). And if, the old stuff is still in there after 40 or 50 years, change it, but fast. Some say that changing to new fluid after all this time might introduce some leaks as dried-out seals swell again, but I consider that a chance worth taking.

From the research I've done it seems most oil companies suggest "Type F for Ford products prior to 1977." But, if you read far enough, and sort through the quagmire, some oil companies also state "unless where Type A (now Dexron III/Mercon) is required by the manufacturer." If your owner's manual clearly states "Type A" for your specific transmission, then your best bet (if you want a soft shift) would be Dexron III/Mercon. As far as clarification and trying to decipher today's automatic transmission fluids, their intended use for older cars, and their transformations over the years, well, it's about as clear as mud.

If the owner's manual for your vehicle, and your specific automatic transmission, calls for "Type A," then I would use today's Dexron III/Mercon. If your manual calls for "Type F," then find a name brand transmission fluid designated "Type F."

Submitted by Paul Long

The Story of Jim and Judy Vanell's Falcon



I had finished rebuilding a 1984 GT Convertible Mustang a year before. I was thoroughly enjoying this car and the power it had. Unfortunately, there were other people that wanted to enjoy it as well and proceeded to remove it from my driveway without my permission. The car was recovered but was totaled. I was able to get full value due to my rebuild record keeping. We took the money and bought a '96 Mustang convertible for the fair weather driving, but the thrill of the restoration was missing. And I was hooked.

I was 10 years old when my Dad bought a '62 Falcon station wagon. Dad, the 5 kids, Mom, and our German Sheppard, really enjoyed the coziness of driving that car all over Globe, Arizona. It had a red interior and was really the most basic model. Dad used to put the back of the car on the ground and the front in the air carrying sand (he would just shovel it into the car) for his concrete projects. Boy, that made for some interesting rides home, what with no steering and all. We (I) loved that car. Dad and the car are gone now, but I was determined to recover the great feelings I had in the Falcon.

It was August of 1998, and I was without a car to restore and thinking about our old Falcon station wagon. I saw in the paper that a 1963 Falcon Ranchero was for sale. I called and took Judy, my Wife, over to see the car. To say the least, the neighborhood the car was in was extremely dangerous. You could almost smell the meth labs. Gary, the owner was a pretty good guy, but very taciturn. He started the car and we were vastly entertained by watching the water flow from all 5 freeze plugs and the radiator. Before the head gasket blew, we were encouraged to take a quick spin. We hopped in and made it about a quarter mile fueled by Hail Mary's and a lot of yelling. What steering?!! There was no relationship to steering wheel and the car's direction. And our legs were burning due to the rather large holes in the firewall. We aimed the car in the general direction of Gary's house and got out. This wasn't easy, because the small sofa that was installed in lieu of a bench seat placed your knees higher than your hips.

After taking a complete inventory of the instrument-less, metal-only interior, the really neat hole in the roof for an antenna, the sanded lead joints near the tail lights, the four different tires (one going flat before our eyes), and the rattle can primer covering the car, we said no to Gary. However; when I was talking to the owner, Judy was playing with a little black and white kitten. She made me tell Gary we didn't want the Falcon, and then had me ask for his cat! Gary smiled (first time) said yes. We still have that cat.

All the way home I was thinking about the Falcon Ranchero. It had the right look and feel and reminded me of Dad's Station Wagon (without the roof). I started really wanting the old wreck! Does that sound familiar?!! Well, a week later my Dad and I went back, and Dad, "Mr. Take No Chances" himself, said to buy the car and enjoy it!! What Joy!

I went home and got Judy and we went to go get the car. I am still in therapy after driving the Falcon home on the freeway. I don't know what I was thinking, other than great happiness to finally have my Falcon! When we got home, we put the Ranchero on blocks in the driveway, and there it stayed for 3 years. It generated some animated discussion with the Home Owners Association, but the head of the Association was a good friend, so all went well. I got the usual complaints regarding sanding dust and the smell of paint, but I just stonewalled and worked faster to beat any possible (likely) injunction.

We really love the Ranchero. It now has the same red interior of Dad's old Falcon and sometimes I am overwhelmed with nostalgia, and when I put the tailgate down, I still think of Dad busily shoveling sand into his Falcon so many years ago.

Submitted by Jim Vanell

Editor's Note: Don't forget to start planning for our trip to San Ramon for the National Falcon Convention. Wendell and I have been to the one in Breckenridge, CO in 1998. It was a memorable experience which we still talk about. It was great fun, met many fine people with common interests and there was a great swap meet. Got lots of parts for our Falcons (and mostly at reasonable prices). We'll be there without our vehicle, but we don't want to miss going to this one as it is relatively close in distance to get there. Hope to see as many club members as possible there.

The Mystery of the Glass Fuse Designations

What do the letters on automotive fuses mean? For instance, some 30-amp fuses have the designation of SFE30, AGA30, BUSS30, AGC30, IAG30, AG30, and AGX30 on them. What do these designations mean? Are they all just 30-amp fuses under the skin? Are you never quite sure when you change a blown fuse that you have replaced it with the correct one.

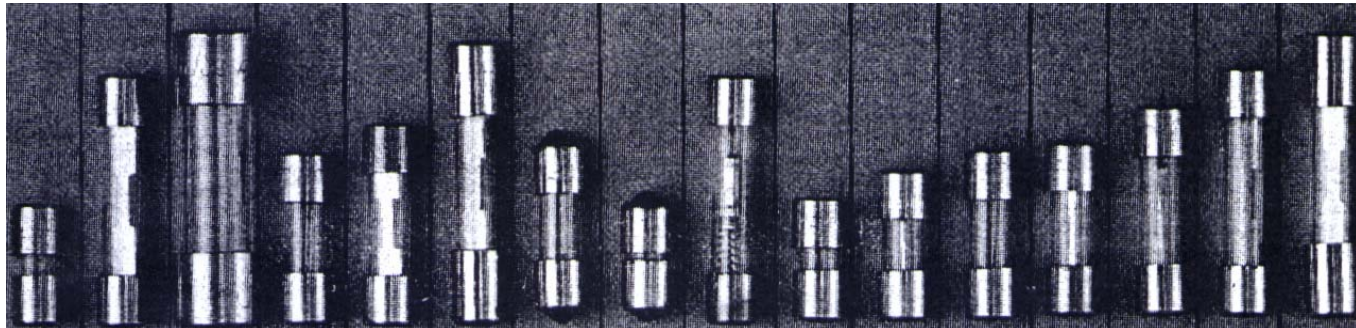
They are all 30 amp fuses. Bob Dierkes, a national sales manager for Bussmann, a St. Louis-based company that's been making fuses for 50-plus years, explained the nature of Bussmann's coding. The letters are no more than a "part identification system which someone came up with years ago" The letter A (on a Bussmann fuse marked AGW7½) means Automotive, G means Glass, W means 5/8-inch long, and the figure 7½, as you know, means 7½ amperage.

Many old car restorers are faced with the dilemma of needing the old-style 3/8-inch diameter glass fuses. The average counterman at parts supply houses seems to have a standard reply "they don't make those anymore" and that's that. Fact is, Bussmann, as well as others, is still making millions of those old style fuses. However, "they aren't commonly used in automobiles anymore," Dierkes says, even though they are available through automotive parts jobbers who may not normally carry them in inventory. If a jobber places an order for at least 10 of the old style fuses (that's Bussmann's minimum) he can get them from his wholesaler within a week or two.

Regarding the other codes, IAG30 is merely a code from another manufacturer and the code SFE30 represents early efforts to standardize codes. S means Society. F means Fuse, and E means Engineers (Society Fuse Engineers).

Hope this helps explain the mystery. The chart reproduced here is from a Bussmann brochure.

For those who are curious, the Bussmann designation for the newer type blade fuses used in more recent make cars carry an ATC code.

GLASS TUBE FUSES																
Dia.	1/4"		13/32"	1/4"												
Lgth.	5/8"	1 1/4"	1 1/2"	7/8"	1"	1 7/16"	3 1/32"	2 1/32"	1 1/4"	5/8"	3/4"	7/8"		1 1/16"	1 1/4"	1 7/16"
																
Amps	AGA	ABC	AGU	AGW	AGX	AGY	GBC	GBF	MDL	SFE-4	SFE-6	SFE-7½	SFE-9	SFE-14	SFE-20	SFE-30
1/2									MDL-1/2							
3/4									MDL-3/4							
1	AGA-1	ABC-1	AGU-1	AGW-1					MDL-1							
1 1/2	AGA-1½	ABC-1½		AGW-1½					MDL-1½							
2	AGA-2	ABC-2	AGU-2		AGX-2		GBC-2		MDL-2							
2 1/2	AGA-2½	ABC-2½		AGW-2½	AGX-2½		GBC-2½		MDL-2½							
3	AGA-3	ABC-3	AGU-3	AGW-3	AGX-3				MDL-3							
3.2									MDL-3.2							
4		ABC-4	AGU-4	AGW-4					MDL-4	SFE-4						
5	AGA-5	ABC-5	AGU-5	AGW-5			GBC-5		MDL-5							
6	AGA-6	ABC-6		AGW-6							SFE-6					
6 1/4									MDL-6 1/4							
7 1/2	AGA-7½	ABC-7½		AGW-7½								SFE-7½				
8							GBC-8		MDL-8							
9													SFE-9			
10	AGA-10	ABC-10	AGU-10						MDL-10							
14														SFE-14		
15	AGA-15	ABC-15	AGU-15	AGW-15			GBC-15		MDL-15							
16							GBC-16									
20	AGA-20	ABC-20	AGU-20	AGW-20	AGX-20				MDL-20						SFE-20	
25	AGA-25	ABC-25	AGU-25		AGX-25		GBC-25	GBF-25	MDL-25							
30	AGA-30	ABC-30	AGU-30	AGW-30	AGX-30				MDL-30							SFE-30
35		ABC-35	AGU-35	AGW-35												
40			AGU-40													
50			AGU-50			AGY-50										
60			AGU-60													

Submitted by Paul Long

IN THE KNOW. . . . “Points is Points!” by Earl Duty

ANY OLD SET OF IGNITION POINTS WILL SUFFICE, RIGHT? NO, NOT REALLY!

FIRST OF ALL, CONSIDER THE MONUMENTAL TASK TO WHICH YOU’VE ASSIGNED THIS CIRCUIT-BREAKING DEVICE: 2000 RPM ON AN EIGHT-CYLINDER ENGINE MULTIPLIES INTO 16,000 TIMES PER MINUTE THAT THE POINTS ARE FORCED TO CLOSE AND MAKE A DIRECT CONNECTION TO THE BATTERY, WHICH IN TURN SATURATES THE IGNITION COIL, WHICH THEN BUILDS UP AN ELECTRICAL CHARGE.

Next, via the cam lobe on the distributor shaft, this connection is broken allowing the built-up charge to be released (approximately 20,000 volts or more, depending on the vehicle), which in turn disperses through the coil tower, through the coil wire, and into the distributor cap, where it finally gets distributed to each spark plug in the proper firing order. And each one of these electrical charges must be created and released in that nano-second of a heartbeat.

Now calculate 16,000 functions per minute, taking into consideration the varying RPM changes combined with the time span of a day’s driving, and let me know what that figures to ... mind boggling to say the least.

So, still want to put a set of “inexpensive” ignition points in your baby? You bought the best wax, didn’t you? Why would you buy cheap points? Cheap wax won’t leave you stranded, but bad points will. So when the guy/gal at the discount parts store offers you a cheaper alternative, politely decline and spend the extra few dollars for the best available.

How do we tell if an old set of points is defective, or going bad and in need of replacement? Take the points and condenser out of the distributor, being extremely careful not to drop any screws and/or washers into the distributor housing. Magnetized screwdrivers work well here. Now physically open the insulated point arm that swings on the assembly. That will be the positive side of the circuit. Visually inspect the round contact disc that serves as the make and break contact surface of the points. This positive contact also receives the most abuse. Is it blue in color? Does it show a transfer of metal from the positive contact to the negative (the stationary contact surface), or vice-versa? If so, then trash both the points and the condenser! Transfer of metal from one contact surface to another indicates either a bad condenser (wrong rating in Mfds) or a condenser that’s loose or improperly grounded. Always change out points and condensers as a unit. They work as a team and the two must work together to accomplish one goal — get you from point A to point B.

Before you reinstall that new set of points slip a piece of clean cloth or paper between the positive and negative contact surfaces to remove any and all oily residue that collects during manufacture. Also, just prior to the installation, put a dab of cam lube (available at most parts stores and sometimes supplied with new points) on the rubbing block that’s attached to the positive arm of the points. Easy does it! Just because a little works well, doesn’t mean a lot works better. If the points are installed dry and the vehicle is driven, this will lead to premature failure, due to a gradual wearing down of the rubbing block. What this does is close the points and create arching, poor performance, and eventually more burned points. Next, carefully grasp the distributor shaft and move it back and forth. Note: Engine not cranking, of course. If there seems to be excessive play in the bushings, replace the distributor before carrying on. Very slight movement is ok. If the distributor bushings are ok, then we’re ready to proceed.

Everything back in place? One last check to make sure that the points, condenser, and related wiring are tight.

A dwell meter is the most accurate way to adjust points, but also requires an assistant to crank the engine while you make the adjustments. Caution: This act creates spinning engine parts that pose a serious danger! Avoid all moving parts. Also, the vehicle must also be in neutral with the emergency brake set.

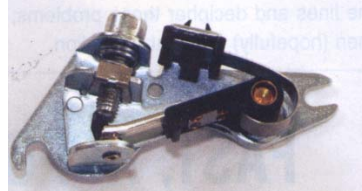
Feeler gauges have been used for untold years and work well if a dwell meter is not available. Feeler gauge settings must be made with the point swing arm on the high side of the distributor cam lobe.

When the ignition points have been set to factory specs, then turn your attention to setting the ignition timing. This requires loosening the distributor and moving it forward or backward to obtain your vehicle’s suggested setting. Caution: The engine must be running for this job, and once again there will be all those potentially dangerous moving parts!

Barring any additional carburetor or mechanical problems, your old car should once again purr like the kitten she is.



The points and condenser set shown is for a GM vehicle and is referred to as “Unipoints.” As seen here, the condenser is permanently attached to the bracket assembly. This unit retails around \$6.99.



Here’s an inexpensive set of points. Not that no distributor cam lube came in the box. At an over the counter price of \$4.99, it would indicate the quality is questionable, and most of the time, the point contacts, which get all the heat, are where the quality suffers.



This points and condenser set came with everything needed to do the job, including the small tube of distributor cam lube. Over the counter price was \$14.99.

Submitted by Paul Long

NOTE: Please review **TECH TIPS** and ***IN THE KNOW.*** . . and determine for yourself if this information will fit your application. The editor, the FCAAZ and the submitter are not responsible for information within Tech Tips., or cut fingers, lost tools, head scratching, or dementia resulting from the use thereof. Read and use at your own risk . . . some tips are dangerous in the wrong hands, quite possibly **YOURS**.

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ENTRY FORM

PLEASE PRINT**ONE VEHICLE PER ENTRY* *PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ GUEST: _____

PHONE: () _____ E-MAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP _____

VEHICLE YEAR: _____ MAKE: _____ MODEL: _____

CLASS # (see reverse) _____ CLUB Affiliation (if any) _____

Tee Shirts size (circle) _____ Registration-Single \$30.00 _____ or Couple \$35.00 _____

M, L, XL, XXL & 3XL _____ Fri. Burger Burn each guest \$6.00 X _____ = _____

Extra Tee-Shirt @ \$12.00 X _____ = _____

Please add \$4.00 for 3XL _____ For 3XL size Tee add \$4.00 X _____ = _____

{ENTRANTS MUST REGISTER BY FEB. 28TH, 2005}TOTAL _____

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SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

E-Mail aaustin@pr.state.az.us

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