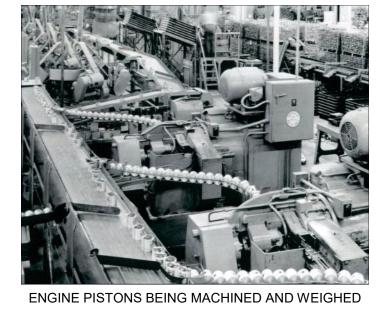
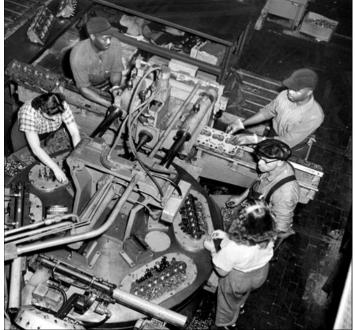


Decoding Date Codes

Most of the parts that make up our Mustangs and Shelby's were marked with a "made on" date. These dates allowed the supplier and/or Ford to track and identify certain batches of parts in case an issue or problem was identified later. Sometimes the marking also identified the shift, location where the part would be installed, type of car it would was designed for or the supplier. Today these markings can be helpful in determining if the item might be original to your specific car or help identify a suitable replacement for an item that you may be missing.





SMALL BLOCK HEADS BEING ASSEMBLED

The purpose of this article is to provide you with the basic building blocks for this task and then show you how they can be applied to specific parts commonly found on all classic Mustangs and Shelby's. We're still searching for a clear understanding of all of these markings but contained within these pages is what we know up to now. We fully expect to add to this article additional chapters as additional information is uncovered.

V.11

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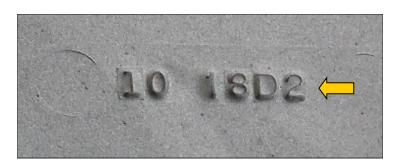
CASTING SAND RESERVES AT CLEVELAND PLANT

---- BODY ----

Sheet Metal Parts (Three Section With Plant Code)

Just about every stamped steel panel that makes up Mustangs and Shelby's included an indicator of when and where the part was stamped/formed. The most common pattern seen includes the month, day of month shift and stamping plant. The final two items are sometimes reversed depending on how the date insert was made. In most cases the small oval insert with this information was placed in a receiver built into the die before the stamping started that day.

Once installed, the date may be "right side up" or on that particular die may be a mirror image depending on the direction of the stamping of the panel and how it was installed on that car. The picture to the right and below. Show these differences.



Example
10 18 D2

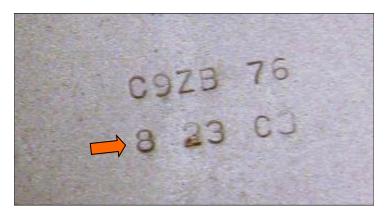
MONTH- DAY OF MONTH
- STAMPING PLANT- SHIFT



It's believed that most of the stamping took place in batches, stamping enough panels to build up inventory or fill and order since the dies could not be left in machines and left idle since panels for other vehicles were needed. So after the massive stamping machine was used for stamping Mustang A pillars (for example) they might have been converted to stamping the outer panel for truck tail gates.

In another variation, example below shows a styling change were Dearborn stamping plants designation changed from the simple "D" to a "D" within a circle

Besides body sheet metal this same pattern can be found on stamped steel FE style valve covers.





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Sheet Metal Parts (Three Section No Plant Code)

Though similar to the previous sheet metal dating pattern, this pattern does not include the stamping plant code. for some unknown reason. Most common location/part I've found this pattern is used on inner shock tower supports and early fenders as well as a limited number of other panels.

Usage is dependent on year and stamping plant. Found common on front fenders during 1965-1968.



Example
4 14 2

MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- SHIFT

Sheet Metal Parts (Full Date With Plant Code)



Front and rear bumpers were stamped with a stamping plant code and date prior to plating. On some years it can be difficult to see once installed. In the example to the left the stamping plant was the Monroe Ford stamping plant as shown in the plant code sections at the back of this publication. The last digit indicates the model year that the part was stamped for, so a bumper originally stamped for a 1966 Mustang, stamped in October 1965 would carry the M6 marking rather than a "5" for the year the bumper was stamped during.

Usage of this pattern includes front and rear metal bumpers.

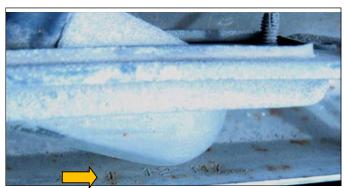
Example
5 24 M6

MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- STAMPING PLANTYEAR OF PRODUCTION

Sheet Metal Parts (Full Date With Plant Code)













Sheet Metal Parts (Full Date With Plant Code & Orientation)

In some years and applications an additional code was added to the date code stamping line that designated which side of the vehicle the panel would be attached to the unibody. The addition was a simple "L" or "R" in the pattern as shown in the example.





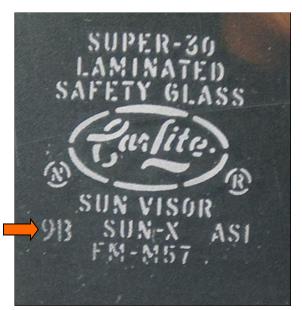


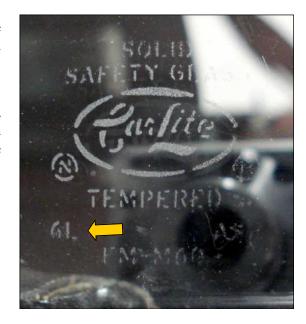


Glass

The markings found on original glass provides allot of information to the viewer. They include type of glass, manufacturer, if it was tinted and when it was formed.

This includes both tempered and laminated glass used during 1965-73. Laminated safety glass was used for windshields while tempered was used for side and rear windows. Style used for these markings depends on the year and application.





Example
4 L
YEAR- MONTH

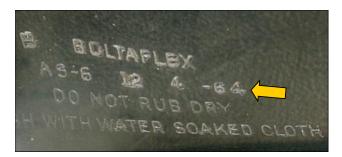
By 1972 CarLite changed the design of the markings though the date coding pattern remained consistent with earlier years as shown in the pictures below and to the right.





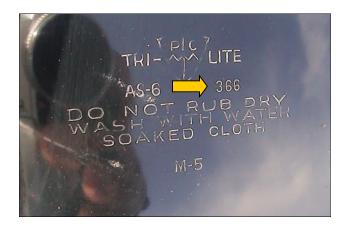
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Convertible Rear Windows



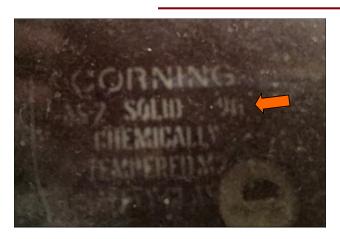
Example
4 - 64
YEAR- MONTH

Flexible/plastic rear convertible windows were marked by the manufacturer to identify them in the driver's side lower corner. Each heat stamping included a date as shown in the examples.



Example
366

MONTH - YEAR



Starting with 1967 production Corning started to provide two piece rear glass for the convertibles. Date code is found at the end of the second line identifying the year and month the glass was produced.



Example
7 H
YEAR- MONTH

Latch - Hood

Goming Soon

Example

YEAR- MONTH

Latch - Trunk

Like other sheet metal pieces the trunk latch bodies of early mustangs were marked with a date stamp. In this application a short form that included only year and month was used.



Example

5
D
YEAR- MONTH

---- BRAKES----

Brake Distribution Block (Full Date)

Brake fluid distribution block were stamped with a engineering number, manufactures information and a date into the main brass body of the block as shown in the accompanying pictures.



Example

24 03 9

DAY OF MONTH - MONTH - YEAR

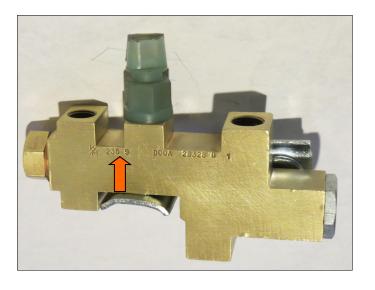


Brake Distribution Block (Julian Date)

During 1969 the date pattern changed to the Julian calendar followed by the year (single digit).







Brake Drum (Full Date)

Cast into the outer surface in much the same pattern and practice seen on other cast iron parts.





Example
4 K 27
YEAR-MONTH-DAY OF MONTH

Calipers (Single Piston-Julian Date With Supplier Code)



Stamped into one of the outer machined surfaces this stamping provides the full date the part was made as well as the manufacturer. Year code is only a single digit on these parts.

Example
326KH8
MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- KELSEY HAYES-YEAR

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Disc Brake Proportioning Valve (65-6 Gregorian Date with Year)



Used for 1965-66 Mustangs equipped with factory disc brakes the date is stamped into the metal at the end (rear surface once installed) of the valve. A Julian date calendar is posted in the appendix section of this article.

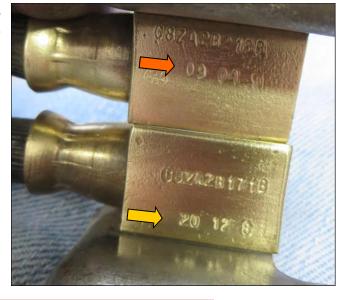
Example
169-5
DAY OF YEAR- YEAR



Flexible Brake Lines (Full Date)

Stamped into the brass block of the part this stamping provides the full date the part was made. On these items the year code is only a single digit.

Application includes front and rear flexible brake lines



Example
20 12 8
DAY OF MONTH- MONTH- YEAR

Master Cylinder (Single Bowl 1965-66 Disc Brakes)



357
DAY OF THE YEAR

During 1965 and 66 production we find a casting date on the bottom of the master cylinders designed for disc brake applications. At the end of the calendar year (Dec 31, 1965) Kelsey Hayes changed from using the Julian calendar dating method (yellow arrow) to one that included the month and day of month (orange arrow). Neither includes year but that can be determined by other design features of the main body.



Example Above
4 - 6
DAY OF MONTH - MONTH

---- DRIVETRAIN ----

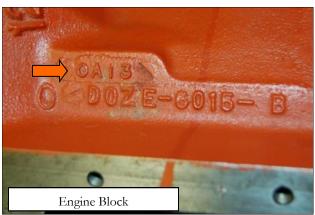
Cast Iron Parts (Full Date - Coded)

Before casting, small date plates or inserts were attached to the casting molds. In many cases the casting details show the retaining hardware used to hold the plates to the mold. These are visible in the example pictures.

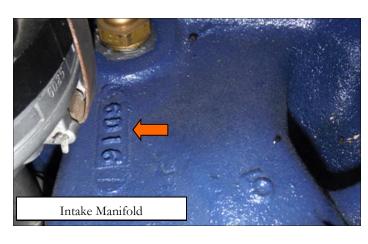
Usage of this dating pattern includes engine blocks, cylinder heads, intake manifolds, rearend third member cases, steering box main case and exhaust manifolds. Style depends on year and application.

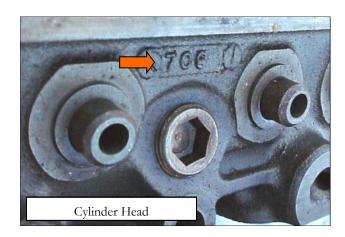












Engine Assembly & Machine (Full Date With Shift And Initial)

This stamping indicates when the engine was assembled as well as the initial of the worker that did the assembling of the completed assembly.





Example
7D19M
YEAR- MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- ASSEMBLER

Machining Date: On the oil pan surface of the engine block you will often find an addition set of letters and numbers stamped that follow the same pattern as the engine assemble date shown on this page. This is the date that the bare engine block was machined. An example is shown to the right.



Cast Aluminum Parts (Circle - Dot Style)

Some plants supplying aluminum parts used an alternate method of identifying the casting date. On of the styles had a date mold insert identifying the year. Then individual depressions, indicating the month, were pressed into the casting surface.

Usage includes aluminum timing covers as shown in the top row of pictures below as well as other parts as illustrated below those examples. Style and location depends on year and application.

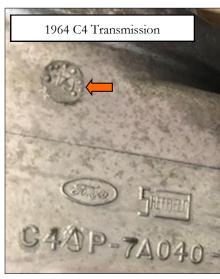
In the example below there are eight "dots" and the year 68. Decoded, these indicate the part was cast in August 1968.



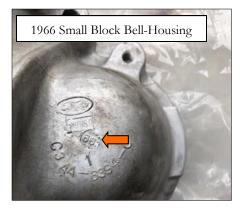








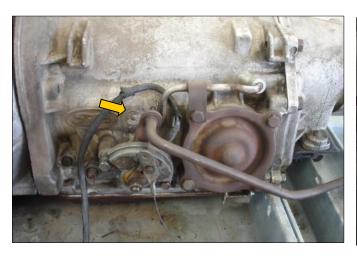


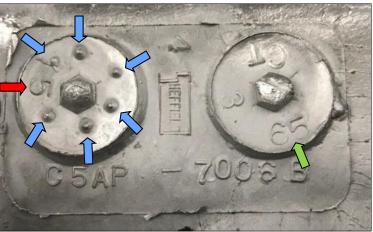


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Cast Aluminum Parts - C4 Transmission (Dual Circle Style)

One of the typical methods of indicating the casting date for the main case of C4 automatic transmissions used a pair of circles cast into the drivers side of the transmission main case where the light orange arrow below indicates. The mold plate identifies details such the maker Sheffel, mold number and dates. It appears that the dots, like in other styles of dating from this same supplier, indicate the month (blue arrows). While the day of the month is shown as a number (red arrow) and the two digit year indicated by the green arrow below, in the right hand circle.





Cast Aluminum Parts (Clock - Dot Style)

In this example the supplier used a slightly different design of identifying the production date of the part by again using a circle with the year cast into the center. In this style they also include a series of twelve short "spokes" similar to the hour marks on a clock. Unlike the pattern shown prior this one they placed a depression on the spoke indicating the month. The orientation of the "clock" appears to not be the key but the number of spokes marked with a dot does. In the example below eight spokes are marked with a dot indicating August 1965.

There are examples where the two styles are mixed on the same part. Hash-mark background with the dot method of dating is shown below. The method of decoding appears to remain consistent.







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Cast Aluminum Parts (Full Date)

Like the cast iron parts, cast aluminum parts also used date plates/ingots added to the molds prior to casting. The purpose may have been helpful if there was a flaw or issues discovered later, allowed Ford to identify batches or groups of parts.

Application includes intake manifolds such as some Boss 302 intake manifolds (to the left) as well as 1969-70 Shelby intake manifolds as shown below.





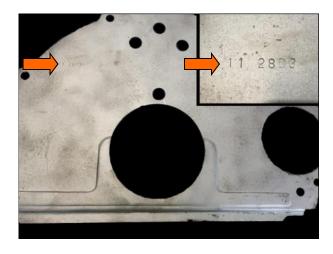
Example
5/12/69
MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- YEAR

Sheet Metal Items (Full Date & Shift)



Parts formed from sheet metal such as valve covers, oil pans and engine divider plants often have stamped date codes. Date patterns likely differed due to where the items were formed. Some reflect the same patterns we find on body panels while others have a different sequence as shown in pictures in this section..





Distributors (FoMoCo Pattern)



Specific engineering letters and number were added to the basic casting information stamped into the main body as shown in the picture to the left to identify the original application for the distributor. .

Early FoMoCo cast distributors were stamped with a simple year, month, week code and thgis pattern was used into 66 production. In the later half of 1966 production Autolite cast distributors were phased in as supply and usage increased.

Example
3 M B
YEAR- MONTH - WEEK

Distributors (Day of Month Pattern)

Starting in 1966, the Autolite cast distributors are found on Mustangs and other Ford products. Date as well as the engineering numbers were struck in the identification area of the distributor. The date was applied in the area shown in the picture below and to the right and this new date pattern was applied to both FoMoCo and Autolite versions.





Example
7G28
YEAR- MONTH- DAY OF MONTH

Engine Fans (Coded Month-2 Digit Year)

Stamped into the fan blade itself or in the support arm section, this pattern uses the standard month code and a two digit year to identify when the part was formed.

NOTE: Pattern changed in the 70's to YEAR-MONTH





Example

K 6 8

MONTH - YEAR

Fan Belts (Short Version)

As part of the molding process the information provided on each belt included the "made on" date as shown in the examples. In this case the year is broken into quarters and a number assigned to each.



Usage includes FoMoCo and Autolite fan belts. Style and design depends on year and application.



NOTE: Belts marked JC (as shown to the right) and JB are service replacement belts

Months	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	
Code	1	2	3	4	

Example
2 68
QUARTER - YEAR

Spark Plug Wires (Quarter Year Version)



As part of the marking process of the spark plugs information on each wire included the "made on" date as shown in the examples.

Usage includes spark plug wires starting at the beginning of 1967.

Months	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	
Code	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	

Example
4Q-67
QUARTER – YEAR

Air Cleaner Vacuum Door (Short Date)

Using a very small font stamp, the "door" of the vacuum motor was struck with a production date by the provider. Usage includes vacuum motor for air cleaners during some years and applications. Rectangular vacuum door style shown below and to the left, as well as the round version to the right. Notice, with and without dash between the two sets of numbers on both versions.









Air Cleaner Base (Coded Short Form)



Another one of the many different sheet metal date stamp patterns. This one appears to have seen limited use during the classic years.

Usage includes some air cleaner bases and trunk latches, mentioned elsewhere in this publication. Picture to the left is an example of a 65-66 high performance and Shelby air cleaner base.



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Carburetor (Holley)

Holley used their own date coding pattern. In the example shown below the date decodes as 8= 1968, 8= August, 3= 3rd week. Aug 3rd week of 1968

The 1973– up style of Holley dating uses a sort of Gregorian Calendar style for the month of production followed by the year of production.

1965-1972 Example 883YEAR - MONTH - WEEK







1965-1972 Chart				1973– Up Chart					
	Year		Month		Week		Month		Year
5	1965	1	January	1	1st	001-031	January	3	1973
6	1966	2	February	2	2nd	032-059	February	4	1974
7	1967	3	March	3	3rd	060-090	March	5	1975
8	1968	4	April	4	4th	091-120	April	6	1976
9	1969	5	May	5	5th	121-151	May	7	1977
0	1970	6	June			152-181	June	8	1978
1	1971	7	July			182-212	July	9	1979
2	1972	8	August			213-243	August	0	1980 or 1990
		9	September			244-273	September	1	1981 or 1991
		10	October			274-304	October	2	1982 or 1992
		Α	November			305-334	November		
		В	December			335-365	December		

Fuel Pumps (Stamped Date And Shift)



Stamped into the main housing after casting and possibly after full assembly of the unit, the date was stamped on the mounting flange on the opposite side of where the application identification code. Was applied.



Example
24 K 8 B
DAY OF MONTH - MONTH—YEAR -SHIFT

Harmonic Balancers (Coded Short Form)



On harmonic balancers you will find a stamped date code on the outer surface using a small font. Normally the date is located near the factory timing marks. This is the reverse of the pattern applied to the air cleaner bases shown elsewhere in this article.

Example
K8
MONTH – YEAR

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Ported Vacuum Switch/Vacuum Tree (PVS)

Stuck into the face of the brass base of the housing, these Ported Vacuum Switches (PVS), used to reduce emissions by controlling the vacuum to the distributor, include the month and year of production. Currently the meaning center letter is known. It may be the supplier or the plant identifier from where it was made.

Suppler was Dole Valve Company,. The single letter coding identifies the manufacturer's plant (H) Hanover, Illinois or (K) Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Example 5 - K - 68MONTH - SUPPLIER - YEAR



Rearend Housing (Stamped Short Version)



A small two digit date code stamp was applied to the rearend housings as shown in the picture, appears at this point as have been started during 1970 production. We continue to collect examples and reflect on their possible meanings.

Example
2 F
MAY BE WEEK- MONTH

Starter Motor (Ink Stamp, Coded With Shift)



From 1964 until a point during 1967 Mustang production a white ink stamp was used to provide indicate application and when the starter had been assembled. The style, from FoMo-Co to AUTOLITE changed around the summer of 1966. The FoMoCo format included year, month and shift while the AUTOLITE format also included day of month as shown in both of the accompanying pictures to the left and below. Ink stamping of starters continued into 1968 production so there was likely almost a full year when there were starters marked with both ways installed on cars depending on supplier.



Example
7 E 18 C
YEAR- MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- SHIFT

Starter Motor (Full Date, Coded Month with Shift)

A stamp was used to apply a full date and shift to the outer surface. The process of stamping the date and ID information into the case started during 67 production, as shown in this section overlapped the use of the ink stamp style though 1967 and into 1968 production at least at some plants including San Jose. This may have been due to inventory and supplier differences.

Application of this stamping pattern includes power steering rams at the end that attaches to the center link and on the main case of starters.





Example

OD14B

YEAR- MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- SHIFT

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Thermactor Backfire Valve - Stamped (Full Date)

The outer canister was stamped, likely prior to its installation with the rest of the assembly, with a simple date code.

Pattern usage includes Thermactor bypass valve canisters starting in 1968.

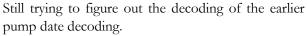


Example 8 6 69

MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- YEAR

Thermactor Pump Assembly - Stamped (Full Date)

The main aluminum body was stamped with a date code in a small semi-circle that indicated when the pump was assembled. Numbers and letters appear to line up well with one another suggesting that they were held together and applied all at the same time. Earlier pumps have a date which includes only numbers while later pumps have been found with a five digit dating pattern using a letter to identify the month of assembly.







Example
9G211
YEAR- MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- SHIFT

Thermactor Pump Body Casting - Wheel Style

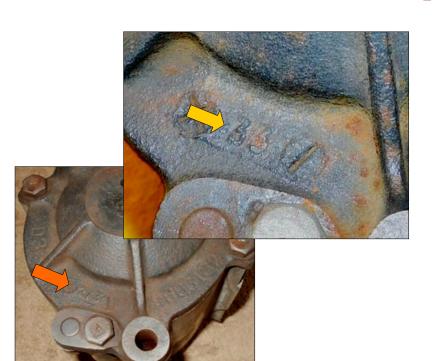
Like other aluminum cast items mentioned in this book the main body of the Thermactor pumps were dated and used a round style of marking. Unlike what were referred to earlier as the clock style of dating this version has a center circle and spokes as part of the design. This design was used on 1966- 67 versions of the pump.

In the center the year is cast while ion the spoke area the month is identified by the number of dots added to the mold in the spoke part of the design. Nine spokes filled/marked would indicate September.

In the example to the right the casting was done in June 1965.



Thermactor Pump Rear - Julian Date Code



Like master cylinder main body dating the rear covers for the 1966-67 Thermactor pump were dated using the Julian calendar as shown in the pictures. In 1968 pump were redesigned and the date was removed from that new design.

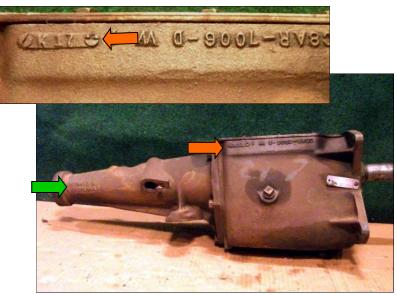
Example
9G211
YEAR- MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- SHIFT

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Transmissions - Manual (Coded Date)

For the toploader type of manual transmissions, the date can be found above the shifter arm shafts on the drivers side or just below the top surface on the passenger side as shown in the pictures below or on the passenger side shown in pictures to the right. The same style of dating can be found on tailshaft housings of the same transmissions (green arrow).





Example
L13
MONTH – DAY OF MONTH



Example F.25 . 65MONTH – DAY OF MONTH - YEAR

For the T-10 type of manual transmission the main case, tail-shaft housing and the side cover can all have their own individual casting date. Two styles of date plates/ingots for inserting into the casting molds can be seen. The rectangle version and the oval with screw heads can both be found. The oval style uses the dating pattern shown directly above (shown to the left)) while the other style includes the year as shown in the highlighted box and the picture below.



---- ELECTRICAL ----

General Inked Dated Parts (Full Coded Date With Shift)

Supplier or plant that provided some of the electrical parts to the assembly line and replacement parts supply, applied a date code to the base for tracking and accountability purposes as shown in the picture to the right.

Usage includes horns and voltage regulators depending on



year of production. Location of regulator date stamp can be found on the cover, visible on the base or under the base on the bottom surface, depending on year.

Inked date stamps have been found on 65-67 horns as shown below.

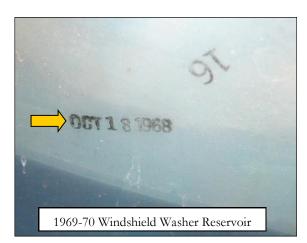


Example

8C12B

YEAR - MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- SHIFT

Inked Parts (Full Standard Date)



Many parts supplied by outside providers carried a simple ink stamped date for tracking purposes and accountability.

Usage includes plastic washer bottles, 1965-66 tachometers, wiper motor, heater fan motor and windshield washer pump. Application depends on year and application.





Alternator (Various Styles)

Alternators were ink marked with date codes documenting when a part or sub-assembly was built and when the full finished alternator was completed depending on year, alternator plant and application. We have found some examples with up to four different date stamps on the alternator identifying when different assembly steps were completed. In these examples two different date styles were found sug-

gesting that the pattern depended on what stamp had been assigned to different workers in the same or different plants (casting, stator or assembly). Colors of the date stamps differ and may indicate plant, shift or something else. So far have identified three patterns as shown below.









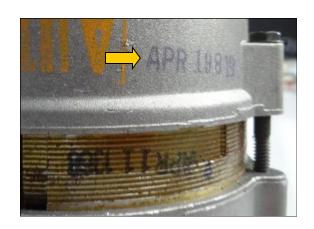
Example
OCT 26 1966
MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- FULL YEAR

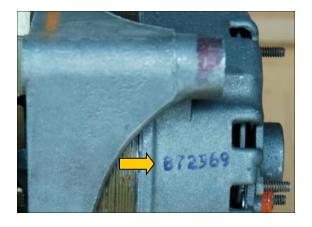
Alternator (Various Styles - Continued)



Example
7 DEC 07 '67
WORKER-MONTH- DAY OF MONTH-YEAR

Example
APR 19 8 19
MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- SINGLE DIGIT YEAR-WORKER





Example
B 7 25 69
SHIFT-MONTH- DAY OF MONTH-YEAR

Ignition Coil (Short Date With Week & Shift)



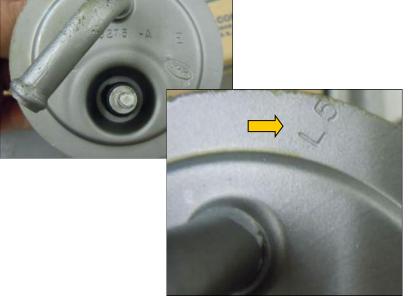
Ink stamped on the exterior surface near bottom of case in a light silver ink. A FoMoCo version was produced and used through the spring and summer of 1966. A second AUTO-LITE stamped versions was produced and used starting in the summer of 1966 and continued until it was replaced with a MOTORCRAFT version. Best guess at this time is that the code includes year, month, week and shift.





Fuel Sending Unit (Coded Month)

Applied to the outer ring of the assembly by the provider this short date code only provided the month and year of production.



Example
L5
MONTH – YEAR

Horns (Short Date With Shift)

Stamped into the base or bottom of the assembly starting in 1966 on metal bottomed solenoids. In some examples, like the one to the right, a letter proceeding the date code is believed to be a letter identifying the plant or supplier of the part.

Style and size of stamping depends on year and application.



Example

OA13B

YEAR- MONTH - DAY OF MONTH- SHIFT

Starter Solenoid (Short Date With Shift)

Stamped into the base or bottom of the assembly starting in 1966 on metal bottomed solenoids. In some examples, like the one to the right, a letter proceeding the date code is believed to be a letter identifying the plant or supplier of the part.

Style and size of stamping depends on year and application.









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---- ENGINE COMPARTMENT ----

Radiators (Western Modine - San Jose)

Since multiple suppliers provided radiators to different plants in different years, different styles of markings and dating were used. These three pictures represent typical dating of Western Modine radiators commonly installed at the San Jose/Milpitas Assembly plant. The dating pattern (year then month) was reversed on some 67-68 versions. Shown below.







65-68 San Jose Example

10 65

MONTH- YEAR

Radiators (Modine - Dearborn & Metuchen)



At the other two plants, radiator information was typically stamped into the radiator side straps as shown in the pictures. The date follows the identification codes in a different font which may suggest that it was stamped later and the side straps were stamped well ahead of time and assembly.





Heater & Radiator Hose Clamps (Short Date)

Using a small font the outer surface of the clamp was stamped with the production date by the provider as shown in the example to the right. The first digit represents the quarter of the year. 1 = Jan– Mar. 2 = April - June. 3 = July - Sept. 4 = Oct - Dec

Usage includes banded hose clamps used on radiator, bypass and heater hoses depending on year and application.





- - - - EXHAUST - - - -

Mufflers (Short Date)

Dates, like other factory markings on mufflers, were stamped from the back side producing a raised date and information details. The simpler, shorter style of dating, was used on 1965-69 mufflers as shown to the below and right. It included the month and year code as shown in the examples.





Example
6 - 67
YEAR- MONTH

The next style of dating (started around June 1969) included more details including hour, the shift and the shift stamped into the mufflers outer skin You can also see a change in the font style between the examples above and to the right. In addition the specific day of the year was included by using the Julian date, the year and the supplier. In the example to the right, the coded information decodes as the seventh hour of the 2nd shift, on the 99th day of 1971 at Arvin the mufflers outer skin was stamped.



Example
7 2 099 1 A
HOUR- SHIFT- DAY OF YEAR- MAKER

- - - - INTERIOR - - - -

Heater Assembles (Full Coded Date)

A number of pieces provided by what may have been outside supplier to Ford during 1964-68, appears to have used a date pattern applied with ink. Best guess is that the pattern identified the supplier/plant, year, month and possibly shift until 1966 when it appears to change the last code to being the day of month

Applications include heater cases and heater phelums. Style depends on year and application. NOTE: Shadow number on front of phelum is not a rotation number for the specific car as once thought.



Example
H7G2
PLANT- YEAR— MONTH— DAY OF MONTH

Heater Motor (Full Standard Date)



Stamped in white or (school bus) yellow on the face of the case this date is not visible along with the engineering number, once the heater is assembled and installed.

Example
OCT 1 1965
MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- FULL YEAR

Goming Soon

Seat Belt Webbing (Coded Date)

Jim Robbins Seat Belt Co. and the Hamill Mfg. Co were two companies that supplied the Mustang assembly lines at the three plants, with seat belts. Each seat belt received a sewn on fabric label to the webbing that identified the application and the date the belt was produced.

In the appendix of this publication you will find decoding charts for converting weeks to calendar dates starting on page #34.





Example 45-66 WEEK – YEAR

'70 Recall Markings/Dates



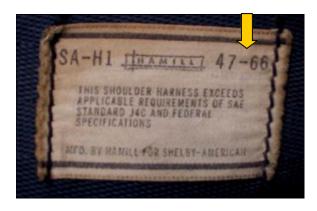
During 1970 production, Ford discovered a problem with the Hamill and Bay Trim seat belt retractors. A service campaign was announced on 9/9/69 and effected belts were dated before ones dated 36-69. Notices were sent out owners and corrections were made at the assembly lines on units made after that date. Corrected units were stamped with a date over the regular label printing as shown to the left. In this example the belt was originally produced during the 30th week of 1969 but repaired and over stamped during the 41st week of 1969.

Robbins belts had a similar problem but their corrected belts were marked on the retractor not the belt.

Shelby Shoulder Webbing

Hamill Manufacturing was chosen to provide shoulder harness's for Shelby's during 1967-1970. The date coding was the same as shown above. Below is an example of one of those labels from a 1967 Shelby showing that it was produced during the 47th week of 1966.

Example47-66
WEEK - YEAR



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Wiper Motors (Full Standard Date)



Many parts supplied by outside providers carried with a simple ink stamped date for tracking purposes and accountability.

Usage includes plastic washer reservoirs, 1965-66 tachometers, wiper motors, and some heater fan motors. Application depends on year and application.

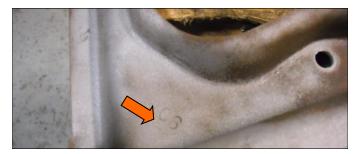




----SUSPENSION ----

A/Control Arms (Coded Date)

The outer edge of the upper a arms was stamped with a very small and often difficult to discern. A few have been found to be stamped in a secondary location on the bottom of the arm approximately midway between the ball joint end and mounting end as shown in the one picture below. Have found this practice on cars through 1969 Mustang production.









Shock Absorbers (FoMoCo & Autolite)



Stamped into the housing of the shock each shock is marked with a date a well as well as additional information. Shocks were constructed at either Gabriel's Canadian or USA plant and were marked accordingly as seen in the examples. The letter proceeding the date code is what is believed to be a letter identifying the plant that that supplied the shock. A, C, F, P & T codes are found on examples so far.

Usage includes FoMoCo and Autolite shocks supplied by Gabriel. Style depends on year and application.

Example
C4HA
PLANT?-YEAR- MONTH- SHIFT

Shock Absorbers (Koni)



This simple stamping was applied to the housing of each shock and indicates only the month and year the shock was made.

Example
11 64

MONTH – YEAR

Power Steering Ram (Full Date, Coded Month with Shift)

A small font stamp was used to apply a full date and shift to the outer surface.

Stamping pattern includes power steering rams at the end that attaches to the center link and on the main case of starters.



Example

9B18A

YEAR- MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- SHIFT

Rear Leaf Springs (Coded Version)

On rear leaf springs the makers choose to use a Julian style of dating followed by the stamping plant code for much of the 64-69 period. Decoder chart for the Julian date is located in the appendix of this document.

Stamping pattern appears limited to leaf springs and specifics depend on year, plant and application. The identification stamping and date information is found on the shortest leaf. Orientation can vary depending on time period and stamping plant. Examples below are from a 1966 (upper) a 1967 (lower left) and a 1969 (lower right).



Example

16 6E

DAY OF YEAR- YEAR- PLANT/PROVIDER





Example
050EC7
DAY OF YEAR- YEAR- PLANT/PROVIDER

Rear Leaf Springs (Coded Version) - continued



In 1969 the letter in the code may have changed in purpose, since the number of different letters observed increased Example to the left, is from a Feb 1969 example. Two different patterns have been documented so far. First style appears to be two numbers followed by a letter. The second version includes a single number followed by two letters as shown to the left, bottom.

The following letters have been documented from cars built in the later 1969 into 1970. production period. E, F, G, H, L, P, U. Research continues into the decoding the patterns for 1967 and up. As of now other decoding patterns have not turned up dates that work with when the cars were actually built with know original, to the vehicle, springs.

Rear Leaf Spring - 69-70 Shelby (Julian Date)

During the conversion of Mustangs into Shelby's the short rear leaf spring leaf on each side was replaced by another one specifically made for the application and uses a different date style.





Example
0359
DAY OF YEAR - YEAR

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- - - - UNDERCARRIAGE - - - -

Gas Tank (Long Code with Shift Version)

Stamped along the mounting edge of the gas tank, this date stamp follows a familiar pattern, shown to the right. Most of the time this stamp is not visible once the gas tank is installed. Often rust and or gas tank sealant also obscures it from view.

Dating pattern is similar to that used on starters and power steering rams as shown elsewhere in this publication.

Example
8A16B
YEAR- MONTH- DAY OF MONTH- SHIFT



- - - - APPENDIX - - - -

Codes Identifying Months (Typical)

This style of coding to identify a specific month was used on fan belts.

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Code	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	J	K	Г	M

Stamping Plant Codes

Stamped date codes often included a plant identification code as part of the pattern. This was included for accountability and allowed Ford to identify panels from specific plant if some form of recall or fix was needed. The plants listed (owned by Ford) below and to the right, are the most common ones seen during the 60-70's.





Α	Chicago, Illinois
В	Buffalo, New York
С	Cleveland. Ohio
D	Dearborn, Michigan
M	Monroe, Michigan
W	Woodhaven, Michigan

Some Other Plants & Suppliers (Information taken from internet sources)

PLANT	LOCATION		CLOSED	PRODUCED
Cleveland Aluminum Casting	Brookpark, OH	USA	2003	Aluminum Engine Blocks
Cleveland Iron Foundry	Brookpark, OH	USA	2010	Engines, Blocks & Crankshafts
Dearborn Engine	Dearborn, MI	USA	NA	Engine - Assembled and Parts
Dearborn/River Rouge Iron Foundry	Dearborn, MI	USA		Engine - Assembled and Parts
Michigan Casting Center	Flatrock, MI			Iron Casting
Green Island	Green Island, NY	USA	1989	Radiators & Springs
Northville Valve	Northville, MI	USA	198	Engine Valve
Sheffield	Sheffield, Alabama	USA	1983	Cast Aluminum Parts
Sterling	Sterling, MI	USA	NA	Front and Rear Axles + Gears
Windsor Casting	Windsor, Ontario	Canada	2007	Engine Assembled and Parts
Ypsilanti	Ypsilanti, MI	USA	2008	Starters & Alternators

Julian Dating

On some parts the Julian calendar is used to identify a time period when the part was made. This system uses the day of the year rather than month and day of moth seen in many other examples. NOTE: for leap years just add one to all dates after Feb 29th. Example April 1st would be 092 during a leap year.

NON-LEAP YEARS

Day	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Day
1	001	032	060	091	121	152	182	213	244	274	305	335	1
2	002	033	061	092	122	153	183	214	245	275	306	336	2
3	003	034	062	093	123	154	184	215	246	276	307	337	3
4	004	035	063	094	124	155	185	216	247	277	308	338	4
5	005	036	064	095	125	156	186	217	248	278	309	339	5
6	006	037	065	096	126	157	187	218	249	279	310	340	6
7	007	038	066	097	127	158	188	219	250	280	311	341	7
8	008	039	067	098	128	159	189	220	251	281	312	342	8
9	009	040	068	099	129	160	190	221	252	282	313	343	9
10	010	041	069	100	130	161	191	222	253	283	314	344	10
11	011	042	070	101	131	162	192	223	254	284	315	345	11
12	012	043	071	102	132	163	193	224	255	285	316	346	12
13	013	044	072	103	133	164	194	225	256	286	317	347	13
14	014	045	073	104	134	165	195	226	257	287	318	348	14
15	015	046	074	105	135	166	196	227	258	288	319	349	15
16	016	047	075	106	136	167	197	228	259	289	320	350	16
17	017	048	076	107	137	168	198	229	260	290	321	351	17
18	018	049	077	108	138	169	199	230	261	291	322	352	18
19	019	050	078	109	139	170	200	231	262	292	323	353	19
20	020	051	079	110	140	171	201	232	263	293	324	354	20
21	021	052	080	111	141	172	202	233	264	294	325	355	21
22	022	053	081	112	142	173	203	234	265	295	326	356	22
23	023	054	082	113	143	174	204	235	266	296	327	357	23
24	024	055	083	114	144	175	205	236	267	297	328	358	24
25	025	056	084	115	145	176	206	237	268	298	329	359	25
26	026	057	085	116	146	177	207	238	269	299	330	360	26
27	027	058	086	117	147	178	208	239	270	300	331	361	27
28	028	059	087	118	148	179	209	240	271	301	332	362	28
29	029		088	119	149	180	210	241	272	302	333	363	29
30	030		089	120	150	181	211	242	273	303	334	364	30
31	031		090		151		212	243		304		365	31

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Codes Identifying Weeks - 1967 Production

Week Code	Start	End	Week Code	Start	End
27	July 4, 1966	July 10, 1966	1	Jan 2, 1967	Jan 8, 1967
28	July 11, 1966	July ,17 1966	2	Jan 9, 1967	Jan 15, 1967
29	July 18, 1966	July 24, 1966	3	Jan 16, 1967	Jan 22, 1967
30	July 25, 1966	July 31, 1966	4	Jan 23, 1967	Jan 29, 1967
31	Aug 1, 1966	Aug 7, 1966	5	Jan 30, 1967	Feb 5, 1967
32	Aug 8, 1966	Aug 14, 1966	6	Feb 6, 1967	Feb 12, 1967
33	Aug 15, 1966	Aug 21, 1966	7	Feb 13, 1967	Feb 19, 1967
34	Aug 22, 1966	Aug 28, 1966	8	Feb 20, 1967	Feb 26, 1967
35	Aug 29, 1966	Sept 4, 1966	9	Feb 27, 1967	Mar 5, 1967
36	Sept 5, 1966	Sept 11, 1966	10	Mar 6, 1967	Mar 12, 1967
37	Sept 12, 1966	Sept 18, 1966	11	Mar 13, 1967	Mar 19, 1967
38	Sept 19, 1966	Sept 25, 1966	12	Mar 20, 1967	Mar 26, 1967
39	Sept 26, 1966	Oct 2, 1966	13	Mar 27, 1967	Apr 2, 1967
40	Oct 3, 1966	Oct 9, 1966	14	Apr 3, 1967	Apr 9, 1967
41	Oct 10, 1966	Oct 16, 1966	15	Apr 10, 1967	Apr 226, 1967
42	Oct 17, 1966	Oct 23, 1966	16	Apr 17, 1967	Apr 23, 1967
43	Oct 24, 1966	Oct 30, 1966	17	Apr 24, 1967	May 1, 1967
44	Oct 31, 1966	Nov 6, 1966	18	May 2, 1967	May 7, 1967
45	Nov 7, 1966	Nov 13, 1966	19	May 8, 1967	May 14, 1967
46	Nov 14, 1966	Nov 20, 1966	20	May 15, 1967	May 21, 1967
47	Nov 21, 1966	Nov 27, 1966	21	May 22, 1967	May 28, 1967
48	Nov 28, 1966	Dec 4, 1966	22	May 29, 1967	Jun 4, 1967
49	Dec 5, 1966	Dec 11, 1966	23	Jun 5, 1967	Jun 11, 1967
50	Dec 12, 1966	Dec 18, 1966	24	Jun 12, 1967	Jun 18, 1967
51	Dec 19, 1966	Dec 25, 1966	25	Jun 19, 1967	Jun 25, 1967
52	Dec 26, 1966	Jan 1, 1966	26	Jun 26, 1967	Jul 2, 1967
			27	Jul 3, 1967	Jul 9, 1967
			28	Jul 10, 1967	Jul 16, 1967
			29	Jul 17, 1967	Jul 23, 1967
			30	Jul 24, 1967	Jul 30, 1967
			31	Jul 31, 1967	Aug 6, 1967
			32	Aug 7, 1967	Aug 13, 1967

Codes Identifying Weeks - 1968 Production

Week Code	Start	End	Week Code	Start	End
33	Aug ,14 1967	Aug 20, 1967	1	Jan 1, 1968	Jan 7, 1968
34	Aug 21, 1967	Aug 27, 1967	2	Jan 8, 1968	Jan 14, 1968
35	Aug 28, 1967	Sep 3, 1967	3	Jan 15, 1968	Jan 21, 1968
36	Sep 4, 1967	Sep 10, 1967	4	Jan 22, 1968	Jan 28, 1968
37	Sep 11, 1967	Sep 17, 1967	5	Jan 29, 1968	Feb 4, 1968
38	Sep 18, 1967	Sep 24, 1967	6	Feb 5, 1968	Feb 11, 1968
39	Sep 25, 1967	Oct 1, 1967	7	Feb 12, 1968	Feb 18, 1968
40	Oct 2, 1967	Oct 8, 1967	8	Feb 19, 1968	Feb 25, 1968
41	Oct 9, 1967	Oct 15, 1967	9	Feb 26, 1968	Mar 3, 1968
42	Oct 16, 1967	Oct 22, 1967	10	Mar 4, 1968	Mar 10, 1968
43	Oct 23, 1967	Oct 29, 1967	11	Mar 11, 1968	Mar 17, 1968
44	Oct 30, 1967	Nov 5, 1967	12	Mar 18, 1968	Mar 24, 1968
45	Nov 6, 1967	Nov 12, 1967	13	Mar 25, 1968	Mar 31, 1968
46	Nov 13, 1967	Nov 19, 1967	14	Apr 1, 1968	Apr 7, 1968
47	Nov 20, 1967	Nov 26, 1967	15	Apr 8, 1968	Apr 14, 1968
48	Nov 27, 1967	Dec 3, 1967	16	Apr 15, 1968	Apr 21, 1968
49	Dec 4, 1967	Dec 10, 1967	17	Apr 22, 1968	Apr 28, 1968
50	Dec 11, 1967	Dec 17, 1967	18	Apr 29, 1968	May 5, 1968
51	Dec 18, 1967	Dec 24, 1967	19	May 6, 1968	May 12, 1968
52	Dec 25, 1967	Dec 31, 1967	20	May 13, 1968	May 19, 1968
			21	May 20, 1968	May 26, 1968
			22	May 27, 1968	June 2, 1968
			23	June 3, 1968	June 9, 1968
			24	June 10, 1968	June 16, 1968
			25	June 17, 1968	June 23, 1968
			26	June 24, 1968	June 30, 1968
			27	July 1, 1968	July 7, 1968
			28	July 7, 1968	July 14, 1968
			29	July 15, 1968	July 21, 1968
			30	July 22, 1968	July 28, 1968
			31	July 29, 1968	Aug 4, 1968
			32	Aug 5, 1968	Aug 11, 1968

Codes Identifying Weeks - 1969 Production

Week			Week		
Code	Start	End	Code	Start	End
33	Aug 12, 1968	Aug 18, 1968	1	Dec 30, 1968	Jan 5, 1969
34	Aug 19, 1968	Aug 25, 1968	2	Jan 6, 1969	Jan 12, 1969
35	Aug 26, 1968	Sept 1, 1968	3	Jan 13, 1969	Jan 19, 1969
36	Sept 2, 1968	Sept 8, 1968	4	Jan 20, 1969	Jan 26, 1969
37	Sept 9, 1968	Sept 15, 1968	5	Jan 27, 1969	Feb 2, 1969
38	Sept 16, 1968	Sept 22, 968	6	Feb 3, 1969	Feb 9, 1969
39	Sept 23, 1968	Sept 29,1968	7	Feb 10, 1969	Feb 16, 1969
40	Sept 30, 1968	Oct 6,1968	8	Feb 17, 1969	Feb 23, 1969
41	Oct 7, 1968	Oct 13,1968	9	Feb 24, 1969	Feb 30, 1969
42	Oct 14, 1968	Oct 20, 1968	10	Feb 31, 1969	Mar 2, 1969
43	Oct 21, 1968	Oct 27,1968	11	Mar 3, 1969	Mar 9, 1969
44	Oct 28, 1968	Nov 3,1968	12	Mar 10, 1969	Mar 16, 1969
45	Nov 4, 1968	Nov 10,1968	13	Mar 15, 1969	Mar 23, 1969
46	Nov 11, 1968	Nov 17, 1968	14	Mar 24, 1969	Mar 30, 1969
47	Nov 18,1968	Nov 24, 1968	15	Apr 31, 1969	Apr 6, 1969
48	Nov 25,1968	Dec 1, 1968	16	Apr 8, 1969	Apr 13, 1969
49	Dec 2, 1968	Dec 8, 1968	17	Apr 14, 1969	Apr 20, 1969
50	Dec 9, 1968	Dec 15, 1968	18	Apr 21, 1969	Apr 27, 1969
51	Dec 16, 1968	Dec 22, 1968	19	May 5, 1969	May 11, 1969
52	Dec 23, 1968	Dec 29, 1968	20	May 12, 1969	May 18, 1969
			21	May 19, 1969	May 25, 1969
			22	May 26, 1969	Jun 1, 1969
			23	Jun 2, 1969	Jun 8, 1969
			24	Jun 9, 1969	Jun 15, 1969
			25	Jun 16, 1969	Jun 22, 1969
			26	Jun 23, 1969	Jun 29, 1969
			27	Jun 30, 1969	Aug 3, 1969
			28	Aug 4, 1969	Aug 10, 1969
			29	Aug 11, 1969	Aug 17, 1969
			30	Aug 18, 1969	Aug 24, 1969
			31	Aug 25, 1969	Aug 31, 1969

Codes Identifying Weeks - 1970 Production

Week			Week		
Code	Start	End	Code	Start	End
32	Aug 4, 1969	Aug 10, 1969	1	Dec 29, 1969	Jan 4, 1970
33	Aug 11, 1969	Aug 17, 1969	2	Jan , 1970	Jan 11, 1970
34	Aug 18, 1969	Aug 24, 1969	3	Jan 12, 1970	Jan 18, 1970
35	Aug 25, 1969	Aug 31, 1969	4	Jan 19, 1970	Jan 25, 1970
36	Sep 1, 1969	Sep 7, 1969	5	Jan 26, 1970	Feb 1, 1970
37	Sep 8, 1969	Sep 14, 1969	6	Feb 2, 1970	Feb 8, 1970
38	Sep 15, 1969	Sep 21, 1969	7	Feb 9, 1970	Feb 15, 1970
39	Sep 22, 1969	Sep 28, 1969	8	Feb 16, 1970	Feb 22, 1970
40	Sep 29, 1969	Oct 5, 1969	9	Feb 23, 1970	Mar 1, 1970
41	Oct 6, 1969	Oct 12, 1969	10	Mar 2, 1970	Mar 8, 1970
42	Oct 13, 1969	Oct 19, 1969	11	Mar 9, 1970	Mar 15, 1970
43	Oct 20, 1969	Oct 26, 1969	12	Mar 16, 1970	Mar 22, 1970
44	Oct 27, 1969	Nov 2, 1969	13	Mar 23, 1970	Mar 29, 1970
45	Nov , 1969	Nov 9, 1969	14	Mar 30, 1970	Apr 5, 1970
46	Nov 10, 1969	Nov 16, 1969	15	Apr 6, 1970	Apr 12, 1970
47	Nov 17, 1969	Nov 23, 1969	16	Apr 13, 1970	Apr 19, 1970
48	Nov 24, 1969	Nov 30, 1969	17	Apr 20, 1970	Apr 26, 1970
49	Dec 1, 1969	Dec 7, 1969	18	Apr 27, 1970	May 3, 1970
50	Dec 8, 1969	Dec 14, 1969	19	May 4, 1970	May 10, 1970
51	Dec 15, 1969	Dec 21, 1969	20	May 11, 1970	May 17, 1970
52	Dec 22, 1969	Dec 28, 1969	21	May 18, 1970	May 24, 1970
			22	May 25, 1970	May 31, 1970
			23	Jun 1, 1970	Jun 7, 1970
			24	Jun 8, 1970	Jun 14, 1970
			25	Jun 15, 1970	Jun 21, 1970
			26	Jun 22, 1970	Jun 28, 1970
			27	Jun 29, 1970	July 5, 1970
			28	July 6, 1970	July 14, 1970
			29	July 13, 1970	July 19, 1970
			30	July 20, 1970	July 26, 1970
			32	July 27, 1970	Aug 2, 1970

Codes Identifying Weeks - 1970 Production

Week	a		Week	a	
Code	Start	End	Code	Start	End
33	Aug 3, 1970	Aug 9, 1970	1	Jan 4, 1971	Jan 10, 1971
34	Aug 10, 1970	Aug 16, 1970	2	Jan 11, 1971	Jan 17, 1971
35	Aug 17, 1970	Aug 23, 1970	3	Jan 18, 1971	Jan 24, 1971
36	Aug 24, 1970	Aug 30, 1970	4	Jan 25, 1971	Jan 31, 1971
37	Aug 31, 1970	Sep 6, 1970	5	Feb 1, 1971	Feb 7, 1971
38	Sep 7, 1970	Sep 13, 1970	6	Feb 8, 1971	Feb 14, 1971
39	Sep 14, 1970	Sep 20, 1970	7	Feb 15, 1971	Feb 21, 1971
40	Sep 21, 1970	Sep 27, 1970	8	Feb 22, 1971	Feb 28, 1971
41	Sep 28, 1970	Oct 4, 1970	9	Mar 1, 1971	Mar 7, 1971
42	Oct 5, 1970	Oct 11, 1970	10	Mar 8, 1971	Mar 14, 1971
43	Oct 12, 1970	Oct 18, 1970	11	Mar 15, 1971	Mar 21, 1971
44	Oct 19, 1970	Oct 25, 1970	12	Mar 22, 1971	Mar 28, 1971
45	Oct 26, 1970	Nov 1, 1970	13	Mar 29, 1971	Apr 4, 1971
46	Nov 2, 1970	Nov 8, 1970	14	Apr 5, 1971	Apr 11, 1971
47	Nov 9, 1970	Nov 15, 1970	15	Apr 12, 1971	Apr 18, 1971
48	Nov 16, 1970	Nov 22, 1970	16	Apr 19, 1971	Apr 25, 1971
49	Nov 23, 1970	Nov 29, 1970	17	May 1, 1971	May 7, 1971
50	Nov 30, 1970	Dec 6, 1970	18	May 8, 1971	May 14, 1971
51	Dec 7, 1970	Dec 13, 1970	19	May 15, 1971	May 23, 1971
52	Dec 14, 1970	Dec 20, 1970	20	May 24, 1971	May 28, 1971
53	Dec 21, 1970	Jan 3, 1971	21	May 29, 1971	Jun 6, 1971
			22	Jun 7, 1971	Jun 13, 1971
			23	Jun 14, 1971	Jun 20, 1971
			24	Jun 21, 1971	Jun 27, 1971
			25	Jun 28, 1971	Jul 4, 1971
			26	Jul 5, 1971	Jul 11, 1971
			27	Jul 12, 1971	Jul 18, 1971
			28	Jul 19, 1971	Jul 25, 1971
			29	Jul 26, 1971	Aug 1, 1971
			30	Aug 2, 1971	Aug 8, 1971

Acknowledgment

We fully expect to publish additional volumes in time since there are many parts that were not addressed in these initial efforts. Due to the width and breath of coverage of this article, it quickly became evident that this was not something best constructed by a single person so many members were consulted and offered input for this effort. This article is a result of their unselfish efforts and for that I thank them all.

It will be updated from time to time as more information becomes available and as more puzzle pieces fall into place.