PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Now that our National Show season is well behind us and things are slowing down a bit, I have a few comments I feel need addressing at this time. I had the opportunity to attend the four National shows: Pensacola, FL; Chattanooga, TN: Biloxi, MS; and Atlanta, GA. Without exception all these shows were outstanding. Each of the regional groups did a great job in putting these shows together, for believe me there is a lot of work and coordination goes into putting together a National show. I would like to recommend to the regional groups that have not hosted a National show yet to try one and you will find out first hand.

One thing that stands out above all others for this season is the Street Driven class. This class has gotten out of hand, in that a great percentage of these cars should be in Junior Division. Some of the cars that I observed not only should have been Junior Division cars, but they were trailered to the show; a couple even in enclosed trailers. Now we know that this class was not created to be abused like this. It was created to be a fun class, also to give the people that drive their Mustangs the opportunity to participate in the National shows and compete, also for the young people who maybe can't afford to completely restore their car or some need it for transportation because it's the only car they have. So it is obvious that the Judging Committee needs to take a long hard look at this class and drastically improve it for 1986. I have talked with a lot of people about it and it seems that the greater majority wants to continue the class rather than discontinue it. Personally I would not like to see it discontinued. How about you people that are concerned about this letting us hear from you with your ideas and your feelings in general.

Another matter that needs addressing at this time is the Retired Class. I would like to give you my personal views on this class. It seems that this is slowly becoming the "forgotten about Mustangs" class. I think that is something that needs correcting for sure. I'm not sure just how it should be done. I have a feeling that it should be something that each regional group handle

for their respective shows, otherwise I can foresee no one with a retired Mustang showing up with their car. Let's face it, to reach the retired class first the person and their Mustang has to graduate from the Junior Division (that is win two first place positions) then go into Senior Division and place first twice. I might add that competition is strong in Senior Division. So what I'm saving is the person has quite an investment moneywise, not counting their time spent before the Mustang is eligible for the Retired Class, plus it is quite expensive today to travel several hundred miles to display their Mustang with no competition just to get a dash plaque which doesn't seem quite right. My thoughts are that a regional group that is hosting a National show can obtain a list of the retired Mustangs from National Headquarters then by special invitation get the owners to participate with a "special" award (a nice trophy or plaque), with some recognition. Otherwise I don't think we will see many retired Mustangs on the circuit for long. Can we let this happen? Let us hear from you with your comments.

I would like to welcome two new regional groups. The Green Country Classic Mustang Club, Tulsa, Oklahoma and the Arkansas Valley Mustang Club, Fort Smith, Arkansas. Welcome aboard and we wish you the best.

I would like to say a special "thank you" to all the members of The Green Country Classic Mustang Club for a very enjoyable weekend that my wife and I had at your annual show September 20th and 21st. Real nice show.

Until next time -

Harace

"Mustang means sun glasses and shoes and hats. Mustang means billions of dollars for the economy and millions for Ford suppliers, Ford employees, and manufacturers of a myraid of Mustang accessories."

Ford Division General Manager, March 1966

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