

EDITOR? COULD YOU SPELL THAT FOR ME?

Let's see; an editor is a person who sits behind a very large desk in a beautifully decorated office, gives story assignments to assistants and then later decides which articles will appear in the upcoming issue. Gosh, that sounds pretty easy. I wonder if I could get a job like that.

This article title is a bit strange but it pretty well expresses my feelings. When I took over the *Mustang Times* I had a good idea of what was before me since I had previously served as assistant editor, but being in charge of the entire magazine is somewhat different. So, I wanted to use this opportunity to explain to you what the title *Mustang Times* Editor really means.

To say the job is a "one person operation" is an understatement. Unlike editors of larger, newsstand-type publications I have no staff of assistant editors, writers or photographers; no art department and no in-house typesetting service. Here's a brief look at what one person does.

Once all material has been received at National Headquarters, I must sort through the mail, type and edit as needed (unfortunately far too much material is submitted in illegible handwriting), prepare captions, possibly write an article or so, try to estimate the length of an article and then take all material to the typesetting service we use (Custom Composition). Since I'm still in the learning stages, I receive able assistance in deciding on type style and size. Once the material has been typeset I bring everything back to my luxurious office which is actually a small room (probably smaller than some bathrooms) filled with boxes of *MT* material, a computer, a desk, a drafting table, a sewing machine, two file cabinets, and more books and toys than I care to think about.

I then sit and stare at a blank white page with a racing stripe at the top trying to come up with a layout suitable for the article(s) and pictures.

I must admit it takes a lot of trial and error on my part to decide on a layout before the actual paste-up takes place.

The layout and paste-up of course includes photos which many times must be reduced or enlarged. I must calculate the percentage of reduction or enlargement so the printer will know what to do with each photo. The use of photos in articles is not as easy as it seems. Rather than simply pasting the picture on the "board" (page) a "window" must be prepared which consists of red transparent paper that is cut to the exact measurements of the photo after reduction or enlargement. (I must admit I enjoyed pasting up the judging rules in the February issue since few pictures were involved.)

After the "boards" (pages) have been placed in some sort of order and the headings and page numbers are in place, everything is taken to our printer (DeKalb Litho). I wish you all could see what this magazine looks like before the printer works his magic. I'm still surprised at the before and after.

There are a lot of stages in between start and finish, but I don't want to totally bore you to death. This might sound pretty easy to some of you, but doing this is something else.

I really admire the people in our regional groups who undertake the task of preparing a newsletter for the group. I've seen all types from two or three page mimeographed or xeroxed newsletters to very impressive computer-printed newsletters. And in most all of the newsletters, I read a plea for articles and information. Let's face it, some of us are willing to do most of the work, but we're not talented writers like Rick Mitchell, Dennis Begley, Biff Hitzeman, and Tracy Harrell. We need all the help from our members we can get so we can share information and ideas with everyone. This applies to not only the needs of the *Mustang Times* but also the regional group newsletters.

The *Mustang Times* has improved tremendously through the years and I hope to see further improvement. The methods and equipment used to prepare the *Times* have also greatly improved thanks to Tracy Harrell. Help me to make the *Mustang Times* the

very best it can be. The next time you see my plea for help, don't just shrug your shoulders and turn the page. Put on your thinking cap. With over 6,000 members there is a wealth of information and ideas among us.



1966 Sprint 200 Registry

An update on the Sprint registry was published in the January 1986 issue of the *Mustang Times*; however, the Editor failed to include the registry address. My apologies to Rick Mitchell and all the Sprint 200 owners.

1966 Sprint 200 Registry
428 Madingley Road
Linthicum, MD 21090

GOING UP

According to the January 1986 issue of *Hot Rod* the 1967 and 1968 Mustangs are on the way up. These models have pretty much been ignored with the exception of Shelbys and convertibles. Most everyone has been busy chasing the 1964½ - 1966 and 1969 - 1970 models.

Hot Rod's "sleeper choice" is the 390 equipped fastback. The article further states, "The 390 engine has the power to move the Mustang from the ponycar classification to the musclecar group. The '68½ Cobra Jet Mustang with its awesome 428 Cobra Jet engine is very collectible, but expensive and hard to find."

Since a nice 390 Mustang can run into big bucks you might consider a 289 version. Look for options including tilt steering, overhead console, fold-down rear seat, factory-optional styled steel wheels (1967) and slotted steel GT wheels (1968).

The bottom line is, if you have one keep it. If you have located one, grab it!