

From The Top...

by Bill Dillard
MCA National President



All Eyes Will Be On The MCA In April, Let's Work Together...

Seems like we've been leading up to this moment for a long time. Here we are, April of 1994, and we're about to stick the 30th candle in the cake. It is certainly rewarding to be at the forefront of something as exciting as the 30th birthday of an American legend. And I guess this brings me to an interesting point about the Mustang.

Legends and classics cannot be made, they're born and they develop respect over a period of time. I have to admit, however, that the Mustang was destined to be a classic from the start. Although plenty of copycat carlines followed the Mustang, none of the competitors outsold it, and no other nameplate can lay claim to the phrase "pony car" like the Mustang can. It's the carline that created a market - 30 years ago this month. We're ready to celebrate in a big way.

This brings me to a very important point. In Charlotte, the MCA will be under the spotlight like it has never been before. The 20th Anniversary was never like this, and it's unlikely the 40th Anniversary will generate the interest this one has because that's just the way it works. Most of us celebrating the 30th Anniversary are baby boomers. For most of us, the 30th Anniversary tends to be the pinnacle in many respects. Most of us are at the height of our careers and looking at what to do with the rest of our lives. Some of you might be actually undergoing your own "mid-life crisis."

There's a cure for "mid-life crisis" parked on the lot of your local Ford dealer or within the pages of the regional auto trader. Whether you're seated behind the wheel of a pristine 1964 1/2 convertible or embracing the cockpit of a 1994 GT coupe, the Mustang is the proverbial fountain of youth. I've never seen it fail to get a person excited. And excitement behind the wheel of America's original is the key to feeling good in 1994.

And, for goodness sake, this brings me to still another point. Feeling good is what our hobby is all about. When Stan Jones and 30 others founded the Mustang Club of America 18 years ago this month, I don't believe they knew where it would lead in the years to come. I was one of those 30 people, and it gives me pause to think of just how long ago the founding of the MCA has been.

As Mustangers, we have to get back to the basics of what this hobby was, and is. Fellowship is where it all began 18 years (and 30 years!) ago. Let's focus less on the competitiveness of the breed and more on how we can support one another in 1994. Charlotte can be our new beginning if we take the right approach out there. Let's be on our best behavior out there and show the world the friendliest bunch of people ever to spin a camlobe in the car hobby.

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