

Bringing it Back to the Members

The simple statement above sums up the energy behind the 35th anniversary celebration planned for April 15-18, 1999, at Charlotte Motor Speedway in Concord, North Carolina.

Those in charge of this massive event have made it very clear that the happiness and enjoyment of the Mustang enthusiast is by far the most important aspect of the show. To that end some major changes have taken place in how entry fees will be charged.

For the 1994 celebration there was a registration fee and then an additional fee assessed for admission tickets. This time MCA is absorbing the cost of those admission passes. Therefore you will find that registration for the Judges Choice Division will simply be \$20 per vehicle with no additional charges. And the fee for the more serious-minded Concours Division will be a flat \$50. Both registration costs include two weekend passes.

Adjustments are being made to the number of classes in each division based on the entries from 1994. Approximately 30 new classes have been added to the Judges Choice Division, many to accommodate the later model vehicles. Those of you who attended the 30th anniversary show may remember some very large classes within the third generation arena.

The Concours Division is being altered to include up through the 1989 models to coincide with MCA's traditional concours judging.

The amount of accessories sold for the 30th celebration was mind boggling. As an example, over 600 official MCA 30th Mustang Anniversary Celebration jackets were sold. (Just visit any early

spring or late fall show and you're bound to see plenty of those red jackets.) This time officials are hard at work in an effort to bring us jackets, shirts, hats, and numerous other items that are of better quality but at a lesser price. Once again this is a way of bringing it back to the members.

A major change in accessories sales this time is that all advanced purchases will be handled by mail order rather than the option of having items held for pick up at the registration area. However, accessories will be on sale at the registration area (at the Hilton Hotel) as well as inside the track after registration closes. This is another change from the 1994 event.

Numerous activities are in the works including an open track session. This will be handled by Charlotte Motor Speedway officials and will be scheduled so that those wishing to run the track event and enter a car in the show will not be faced with an either/or situation.

Emphasis is being placed on activities for younger enthusiasts, too. After all, the younger generation will someday be Mustang owners and show officials want them to realize what fun this hobby can be. Activities, seminars, and possible surprises from Ford are in store for the older kids. A silent auction is planned to benefit the Mustang museum effort and it is rumored that there may be a lottery for the chance to ride with one or more racing celebrities.

You can be assured that there will be more vendors present than you can shake a stick at, so start compiling that wish list right now. Manufacturers Row will once again be a focal point of this

MCA-sponsored event. And we expect to see elaborate displays by major sponsors.

And speaking of sponsors, we have been told that the list is quickly building.

As in 1994, an Evening With Ford dinner will be held. Officials were faced with so many disappointed folks in 1994 due to limited seating, that a search is on for a larger facility.

Negotiations are being finalized with as many as 18 hotels within the Concord/Charlotte, North Carolina, area that will cover all price ranges. Hilton at University Place will once again serve as headquarters and will also be the site for registration where packets and credentials will be available.

Temporary registration forms (the final touches are being worked out on the official show logo) should be available any day now. These forms will carry the information necessary for registration and hotel reservations. Forms and accompanying information will be published in this magazine and possibly some of the newsstand magazines.

We have been asked to point out that an early registration deadline will probably be established. More than likely a higher registration fee will be required after the yet-to-be-determined date.

This editor has been sworn to secrecy concerning some aspects of this extravaganza. So trust us when we say this is one event you don't want to miss! We're only one short year away from celebrating 35 amazing years of enjoyment with America's favorite pony car.

The countdown is underway!

Hall of Fame Members

Many of you may have noticed a slight change in the front portion of this magazine including the relocation of the Mustang Club of America Hall of Fame listing. We are very pleased to announce that the move was necessary due to the addition of three new names to the list.

All too often the individuals who receive the most press and recognition are those we tend to associate with the history of Mustang. The three names that have been added may have you scratching your head. However, these three gentleman were instrumental in bringing the original Mustang project to completion.

Joe Oros, who was in attendance at the 1997 SEMA Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, is the former Director of Design, Ford Studio. Those MCA members who attended the SEMA event were treated to detailed insights as to the hows and whys of certain aspects of the 1964 1/2 Mustang.

Hal Sperlich was Mustang Program Manager while Don Frey was Senior Product Planning Executive for Ford Division.

We are very pleased to include these pony pioneers in our MCA family.

An official induction ceremony will be held at a later date.

5 For 4

Are you the type person who enjoys a bargain? Do you scour the weekend edition of your local newspaper for 0% finance sales, one-day-only sales, and

so forth. If so, then we have a deal for you!

To show appreciation for our thousands of loyal members, a package deal has been established for new and renewing memberships. It's very simple and quite painless - just sign up for four years and receive a fifth year free of charge. That's right, you will receive one year of membership free of charge.

For complete details contact National Headquarters at the address or phone number listed on page three.

We all know that MCA is the best Mustang club in the world, so go ahead - take the plunge!

1999 MCA Shows

Even though excitement is building for the 35th anniversary event, don't forget that plenty of Mustang shows will be planned for the year.

We recently received word that Houston, Texas, will be the site for the 1999 Mustang Club of America Grand National. Additional Nationals are in the approval stages as of this writing.

We will bring you all the necessary details as they become available.

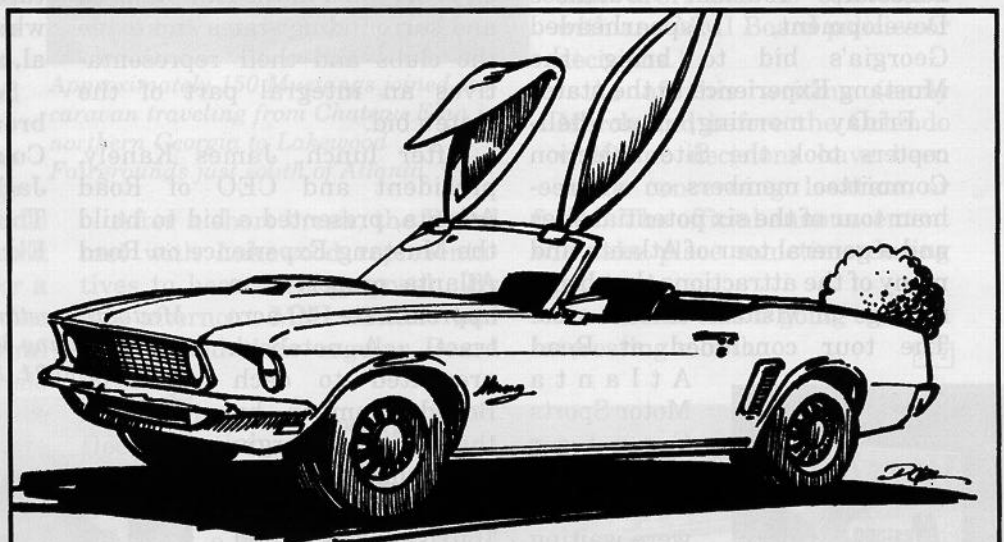
Event Calendar

Upon recommendation by the Publishing Committee, the Board of Directors approved the inclusion of shows hosted by non-MCA clubs within our events listing.

We view this as a service to our members who are not associated with nor reside within the territory of a chartered regional group. By listing these shows, MCA members will have a chance to participate and act as ambassadors for our national organization.

LOOSE BOLTS

by Don Bolt MCA 36888



**Not-So-Famous Ford Options:
The bunny ears and cotton tail available for
the 1969 Playboy Pink Mustang.**