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# Worth The Wait **Part 2**

We continue to share the fun!

**L**ast month we began our coverage of the 30th Anniversary Stampede. Most of what we showed you was the Thursday evening activities.

This month, we continue with coverage of that most fun event, but we'll show you the on-track events, the vendors, the participants, etc. The wrap up coverage will be in next month's issue.

MCA's 30th Anniversary Stampede was the biggest party celebrating the MCA ever. Although the weather was at times blistering, it was, nonetheless, quite a fun event.

Joseph Miller, fellow Mustang enthusiast, member of the Baton Rouge Mustangers and the MCA was asked by Steven McCarley to sing the National Anthem to help kick off the festivities.

Joseph had entered the logo contest, although he didn't win, that entry brought out the information that Joseph had always wanted to sing at the Super Bowl. While the 30th Stampede was huge, it's not the Super Bowl. Steve McCarley asked him for a demo tape. Once he heard him sing, Nancy McCarley called Joseph to invite him to sing at Barber Motorsports Park.

Joseph sang his heart out, and did an outstanding job to boot! Kudos, Joseph! We hope to hear you sing for the MCA again.

Friday was extremely busy for Jeanette Herndon and her helpers in registration as approximately 6,000 spectators came through the gates. All told, more than 15,000 spectators attended the event, and more than 2,000 Mustangs were at Barber Motorsports Park on Labor Day week-

end with 1,500 entered in the show.

It was also extremely busy for Larry Kilgore and James Ray from the Charlotte, North Carolina, Mustang Club. They were in charge of the on-track activities. Approximately 375 Mustangs, Cobras, GT40s, Ford GTs, Daytona Coupe took part on track Friday and Saturday. And, then on Sunday, 500 cars got in line to take a \$10 two-lap trip around the track. All told, the track time was enjoyed by all, those who drove and those who watched.

We had visitors from about eight different countries. Look for the photos of the groups from Puerto Rico, Denmark, and Mexico. One particularly lively and friendly person from Mexico was Adolfo Suastegui. He was taking pictures all weekend, all the while making new friends wherever he went. In Mexico, he works for a publisher

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who translates several US magazines into Spanish. He promised to send us copies of the coverage he did for one of his magazines. Although both Steve McCarley and I received PDF files of the pages of 30th coverage, we both have to find someone to translate. Adolfo was such fun, and took delight in everything around him!

On Saturday evening, a banquet was held at the Barber Facility. Jim Owens, Ford Mustang Performance Manager, was the keynote speaker. He showed a series of Mustang commercials, some which had not yet debuted on TV. As always, he was entertaining.

Gifts were given to all former Presidents of the MCA. It was great that those present could actually meet some of the former leaders of the MCA. That surely doesn't happen often.

Arley congratulated the two Steves—Steven McCarley and Steve Prewitt. They worked harder than anyone can imagine on preparations and details for this event. And, the end result was a huge success. Arley also thanked their wives as well. Without their support, who knows if either Steve would have survived?

A special surprise presentation at the banquet was the awarding of the Lee Iacocca Award. A committee was formed and after meeting and discussing candidates for this award, it was decided that Steven McCarley was the perfect recipient for the award. When his name was called, he was stunned and speechless. That Georgia accent went quiet for several minutes. And, the attendees gave him a standing ovation.

An auction was held with several items up for bids. The Miracle League, a local charity that builds special baseball diamonds for "Special Needs" adults and children, was the recipient of the money raised.

Gill Cormaci, Director of Sales for Vortech/Paxton, gave away a supercharger system. In order to be eligible, a letter had to be submitted stating why you felt you deserved it receive the prize. Patti Cunningham, wife of Randy Cunningham, President of Magic City Mustang Club wrote a letter about Randy that left no dry eyes in the room. Needless to say, a surprised Randy was the recipient of the supercharger system. We'll print the letter next month. There surely couldn't be a more deserving person!

The dinner was delicious, the a/c decided to give us a difficult time, and there was plenty of activity. All in all, it was a great evening.

Look for the final story on the 30th Stampede in the December issue. *MT*



*Joseph Miller sings the National Anthem, and the festivities began!*



*Kristie Moore-O'Gwynn and Wanda Whitsell manned the MCA booth. Activity at the booth was constant.*



Parish Heacock Classic Car Insurance had a brand new Yellow GT on display. When someone asked for an insurance quote, they were entered in a drawing for a die-cast model of a GT 40.



Aptly named: Pedal Car Fun, what a delightful vendor to visit. This was one of the few times there wasn't a crowd in her area.



The Ford and the BFGoodrich displays had plenty of goodies to capture your attention. Both had outstanding Mustangs to drool over!



Mustangs lining up for their turn on the Barber track. The paddock area was a happenin' place, with lots of beautiful Mustangs!



Quite a few members of the Mustang Club of Puerto Rico enjoyed the Stampede. They were so friendly and appeared to always be having a great time. We hope they come visit again!



The guys from Mexico were so much fun that Steve McCarley and Jim Silverman readily joined in their group photo. Sitting next to Jim is Adolfo Suastegui who was never seen without his camera!

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The Mustang Club of Denmark made the trip over the big pond to enjoy the weekend's events.



Steve McCarley gave interviews all weekend to local television stations. This particular interview was shown on the local WB channel.



Steve Prewitt explains the judging process for the Stampede. We thank all those who assisted in judging.



Just one example of the parts available in the vendor area.



Jon Enyeart of pony Carburetors conducted clinics on carburetors. If you have problems with your Mustang carburetor, he's one of the foremost experts who's more than able give you solutions.



The Miracle League had an outstanding display of the work they do and the ball fields they build for people with special needs.



*The job of Executive Director has many facets. Steve McCarley not only swept the floors, he cleaned bathrooms as well. We won't show the photo of him scrubbing the toilets, though!*



*Former MCA presidents were invited to attend the festivities. Gifts of thanks were presented to each of them. Here, Executive Director Steve McCarley presented a gift to Bill Dillard.*



*Randy Cunningham won a supercharger from Vortech/Paxton based on a letter his wife Patti wrote on his behalf. Steve and Nancy McCarley presented the award.*



*Jim Owens gave the keynote address and gave banquet attendees a preview of the newest Mustang commercials.*



*Several items were auctioned off at the banquet. Assistant Executive Director Steve Prewitt served as our auctioneer.*



*Members of the Magic City Mustang Club worked extremely hard to ensure that the 30th Anniversary Stampede was an event we won't soon forget. Thanks to all of you for generously giving your time!*



Steve McCarley regains his composure after being awarded the Iacocca Award and speaks to the crowd.



This is one beautiful restomod. On display with BFGoodrich, I went back to see the Mustang several times over the weekend and saw something different each time! Those wheels say Foose!



Steeda's President Dario Orlando, and Austin Craig, Marketing VP, discuss Steeda's Screamin' Yellow Q with an enthusiast who stopped



## The First, and maybe last, Photo Class!

For the MCA 30th Anniversary Stampede, a new class entitled "Photo Class" was implemented. Here's the procedure: Those who were unable to bring their Mustang to the show were able to enter their Mustang in the photo class. Instructions were given to register for that class, and to bring photos of your Mustang to the event.

Two independent judges looked at the photos and determined the winners. Although that sounded like an easy task, let me assure it wasn't. Although only five Mustangs were entered, this was a fun Well, when the judging was done, all who entered the "Photo Class" were declared winners.

Steve McCarley is such a creative individual, or should that be "devious individual?" When he came up with the idea to include a "Photo Class," we had a



brain-storming session about what type of trophy to present to the winners. The most logical choice was a photo of a trophy. Quite befitting, wouldn't you say?

We're still not convinced that those who entered the class were

in total agreement when they received their award, but they all smiled nonetheless.

The beautiful Photo Awards were created by Steve and Nancy McCarley!

I wonder if we'll ever have another Photo Class.

