

Hello,

I noticed in the article, Eastertime Coral in the April '07 issue that the '68 Mustang shown does not have the rear side reflectors. I have seen this a lot and do not have them on my 68 coupe. Mine was a Dec. '67 build and the engine is dated 67.

My question is did some come without the rear reflectors and only the front turn signals or have these all had work done to them over the years?

I received an answer from Johnnie Garner of MCA stating that all '68's should have the rear reflector. Although I don't question him, I sure see a lot of them with the front but not the rear.

Thanks in advance for shedding any light on this. I would like to know what was original before I cut into the quarter to add the reflectors.

Jaime McLain

1968 MustangCoupe/289

Jaime,

I forwarded your question to National Head Judge Wally Short. Here's his answer:

"Your 1968 Mustang was built in Dec. 1967. All 1968 Mustangs built prior to February 15, 1968, are equipped with a rectangular red reflector, with color-keyed bezel, inserted into a cut-out in the rear of the quarter panel. Models assembled after February 15 are equipped with a bolt-on red reflector with oval-shaped chrome trim. Later quarter panel do not contain the cut-out.

The 1968 Mustang is almost 40 years young! Many classic cars such as yours have a high probability of being damaged over the years. To repair severe rear end damage, the best option is to replace the entire rear quarter fender panel. I have seen such perfectly replaced quarter panel, that you couldn't tell that they were repaired. I also have seen them without the rear reflectors. Let me suggest this to you. If you are planning on entering your car in a Daily or Occasion Driven Class then let it stay the same. However, if you are planning on serious Concours competition, then I recommend that you have a professional body man install the correct reflector. Good luck!"

Wally Short

MCA National Head Judge

Mary Jean,

I have been a Mustang nut since junior high school in the late '70's. Our mascot was the Mustangs so naturally most of us owned a Mustang. My first one was

a 1967 GTA with a 390. When I blew the engine out of it, I sold it and purchased a 1969 Sportsroof. I also had a brief stint with a 1966 Galaxie 500XL. Unfortunately, due to jobs, family, house, etc, I was not able to keep a Mustang for many years. I finally was in a position to buy a 1968 Shelby GT350 clone in 2005. In 2006 I traded it for my current and dream Mustang, a 1969 Mach I, Wimbledon White with red interior, 351W. It is mostly original with only 70,000 documented original miles. This car has always been my dream. Several years ago I obtained a 1/24th scale model of my dream car, down to the exact exterior and interior colors. When I purchased the Shelby clone, I was looking for my dream car but could not pass up the good deal. A year later my best friend (who owns several Mustangs, a good friend to have) called and told me he had found my dream car and he would buy it if I would trade him my Shelby clone for it. I jumped at this chance and the rest is history. I intend to keep this car and pass it down to my son, but not until I die (he thinks he should get it when he turns 16).

I did not join MCA during all those early years and I deeply regret it. I decided this time I would join all the clubs I could and commit to staying with them until I die. I am also a member of the Mustang Owners Club of Austin and SAAC. So, no matter how high the annual fee becomes, it will always be worth renewing my membership. I missed out on too much all those years ago and I will not let that happen again.

I want to get more involved and hopefully attend shows that are close to Texas. When I retire someday, I want to be an MCA judge. For now I will do my part and vote for the board members, my ballot is on the way.

Thank you for such a great club.

Robert Sandlin

Member #61871

Robert,

We're glad that you've learned the error of your ways and that you are a member now. We're glad to have you on board. How about sharing photos of your Mustang with us? Nice to hear that you plan to share your hobby with your son. I hope he enjoys the Mustang as much as you do.

Thanks for the letter and, on behalf of the MCA Board of Directors, thanks for casting your vote.

-mj

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And this week-end I'm headed to the Augusta MCA Grand National. I can hardly wait to get there and again see folks one more time. Steve Prewitt and his club always put on an amazing week-end with a great show and a rather entertaining talent show! Then, the very next week-end (the first week-end in September), another trip to California. I've been invited to drive an R-model, ex-IMSA racer, in a vintage event at Infineon (Sonoma) Raceway. Another Mustang weekend with a race track thrown in to boot! Whoo-Hoo, we are definitely having some fun now.

Heavens, it has been one busy Mustang summer. Oh, I read two books, one being Lee Iacocca's new book, "Where Have All The Leader's Gone". Can't say I agree with him on every detail, but a great read, especially if you are even remotely curious about things, events, and people. And I did keep my regular job, just in case you're wondering! I spent several long evenings working, keeping my jobs on schedule, and even designing a couple of new pieces. My boss did try to send me to a "new employees" class a couple of times though.

I hope you've notice one thing in all my summer travels; the Mustang Club of America is THE Mustang place to be. And with that, the people that make up the Mustang community are absolutely awesome. Mention a Mustang or the MCA and people start talking. Excluding my own home and loving family, I can't think of any other place I'd rather be or other people I'd rather spend time with!

One last thing, if you've got some place, some event, or some where you think the MCA should be, let me know. 2008 will be here soon and I've got a new calendar I need to fill with summer plans!

See You,

Steven McCarley

Mustang Club of America

Vice-President 2007-'08

We would like to hear what's on your mind.

Send your letters via e-mail to:

editor@mustangtimes.org

or via USPS to:

LETTERS TO EDITOR

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