



**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Wilfred "Bill" Johnson.....President.....2008  
 C. Steven McCarley.....Vice President.....2008  
 Jim Keenan.....Secretary.....2008  
 Kay Kleschka.....Treasurer.....2008

Arley Whitsell.....Past President.....\*2008

**NATIONAL DIRECTORS**

Lark Bragg.....Pensacola, FL.....2008  
 Beverly Bragg.....Pensacola, FL.....2008  
 Ron Bramlett.....Morada, CA.....2008  
 Rodney "Shorty" Brown.....Stokesdale, NC.....2008  
 Gary S. Byrd.....Columbia, SC.....2007  
 Elizabeth Cofer.....Concord, CA.....2007  
 Austin Craig.....Parkland, FL.....2008  
 Dave Curee.....Goshen, OH.....2007  
 Stan Edgington.....Castro Valley, CA.....2008  
 Charles Hampton.....Anderson, SC.....2008  
 Edward Hockaday.....Houston, TX.....2008  
 Joe Horne.....Youngstown, OH.....2007  
 Randy Jacobson.....Lyn Haven, FL.....2007  
 Tom Kleschka.....Otto, NC.....2007  
 Jim McFarland.....Knoxville, TN.....2008  
 Richard "Mo" Mozeleski.....Fredericksburg, VA.....2007  
 Joe Odine.....Wyandotte, MI.....2007  
 Steve Prewitt.....Grovetown, GA.....2008  
 Merv Rego.....Lakeland, FL.....2007  
 Pat Rego.....Lakeland, FL.....2007  
 Wally Short.....Albuquerque, NM.....2008  
 James Silverman.....Brockton, MA.....2007  
 Julia Trone.....Petersburg, IL.....2008  
 Laurie Slawson.....Tucson, AZ.....2007  
 Wanda Whitsell.....Springfield, VA.....2008

**Regional Club Charter Committee**

Chairperson—Jim McFarland  
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**Regional Club Support Committee**

Chairperson—Jim Keenan  
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**National Show Committee**

Chairperson—Laurie Slawson  
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Our goal as human beings is to make our life here on earth well spent. That certainly ought to include "being at peace" and "being peaceful".

We are bombarded with so many distractions every day that our minds seem to go into overload. Instant communications and on-demand responses command OUR attention. Even if we think that we haven't given complete control to television commercials, cell phone ringing, or e-mail messages, the pressure is there. It is the tension between feeling guilty sitting in a row boat on a Sunday afternoon, versus being available to the next incoming message.

What about intrusions into our life? I always thought the telephone was the most impersonal tool available to humankind. I am changing my opinion. One of our local television news programs ran an interesting bit on e-mails this past week. They were asking the question, "Are e-mails making us mean?" Have you noticed that it is pretty easy to be rude in an e-mail, when you don't have to look someone else in the eye? E-mails can be pretty impersonal. Worse than that, we can be "nasty on line." It is easy to become a "keyboard commando" and hide behind the screen. Sadly, this can happen to a Mustanger, as to any other person. I have discovered that when someone wants to engage me in a running "word game," I am good for one healthy response, and after that I just don't do any more exchanges. Rudeness in e-mails is as unacceptable for MCA members as a drunk-driving actress is to the Girl Scouts.

There are some acceptable things that I would like to bring to your attention.

First, in this issue of the *Mustang Times* there is a great article from the Judging Committee. After the finish of the largest attended National Show of the year, the PRARIELAND ROUNDUP at Springfield, Illinois, July 20-23, the question the Head Judges heard the most was "How do I become a judge, and what are a Certified Judge and a Gold Card Judge?" The Springfield show was unbelievably well done, and as a result it was an exciting affair. From the Tally Room to the show lot, everyone moved like clockwork. There were enough experienced judges to complete judging the nearly 300 cars by Saturday late afternoon. "But," said Wally Short (National Head Judge) "it would really help to have more certified and gold card judges." And there were plenty of people who said, "We would like to step up. How do we do it?" Check out the article on page 8.

A really acceptable, and important, thing that I would like you to do is look at the "bios" and ballot for the future leaders of the MCA in this issue of the *Mustang Times* and cast your vote for the future of the MCA in 2008. The detachable card is postage paid. It is simply up to you, the MCA member, to fill in the card, and mail it.

Finally, there is one last task I have for you. I would like you to read the very important news from MCA Board member, Ron Bramlett. It concerns cost increases. I keep wondering why our MCA dollars don't seem to go as far as they did a few years ago. I remember how hard Arley Whitsell and Jim Chism and Chuck Micele worked at keeping a balanced budget. The Board of Directors theme since the early 2000s has been "A Zero-Based Budget" which translates into, "if you don't have the money, you don't spend it." With all these financial controls in place, it just didn't make sense to me why MCA could grow in membership, and yet the dollars didn't seem to keep up.

Then, two of our Board members, Ron Bramlett and Shorty Brown, examined the 2006 and 2007 finances and they found that it cost the MCA more money a year to service each member than we received in dues. Two other members, historian Randy Jacobson and Board Secretary Jim Keenan, researched and found that the last time the MCA dues were increased was in January 1986. So, changes are in order.

I hope you will read the articles I have mentioned. The MCA family acts like a family should—with care and acceptance!

*Bill Johnson*

**WILFRED "BILL" JOHNSON**  
 President

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