

This and that!

Anyone who knows me and thinks that nothing can slow me down—guess again! After two weeks of staying put at a friend's home, recuperating from knee replacement surgery, and doing physical therapy three days a week (starting the day after surgery), I'm back at the office. Boy, it feels good to be on the move. However, I'm moving slow—really slow. With a cane, even! And, although I hate it I'm not going to complain because I'm not in pain as I was before the surgery. The healing process has begun and I'm on the mend. Actually, I am heading to Phoenix for the Thunder in the Desert National Show, and then on to Las Vegas the following week for the Bright Lights Show at the Fremont Street Experience, and then to the SEMA show at the Convention Center. But, before you say anything like I thought you slowed down, remember, I'm still moving slowly! In fact, I had to rent a scooter for the SEMA show. Talk about feeling your age!

What does all this have to do with you, *Mustang Times*, or anything else in particular? Probably nothing, except I had Mustang withdrawal for nearly three weeks. Not talking to my friends, or sending emails, or surfing the web, or working on *Mustang Times*, and most of all, not being allowed to drive was probably the most punishment for me. And, to add insult to injury, I had to give back the ROUSH RTC the day before the surgery. So, I'm back driving my own daily driver, rolling billboard Saleen Mustang, with an automatic transmission. Good thing too, I doubt my left leg would move fast enough to push a clutch.

All this has made me think about how fortunate I am and how blessed to be involved in a hobby that brings so much joy to our lives. I've received tons of emails and lots of cards from friends all over the USA and Canada, and even from Australia. To all of you, thank you so much for the well wishes!

I've always said it's the people that make this hobby what it is! Sure, we all have a common interest—the Mustang! But, without the people to drive the Mustangs, clean and show them, race them, or drive them to work or the store, where would we be?

As you read this, the final show of the season has come to fruition. And, I wonder how many of you know that Wanda Whitsell has handled her last show as Show Secretary? How many of you know how much work she has put into that position over many years? How many of you have ever volunteered to help out in the tally room with Wanda, and in the past two years, with Arley as well? It's a truly busy place on a show weekend. Full of work, full of papers, highly organized, and run with efficiency! Whoever takes her place has a difficult task! Arley and Wanda are taking a break from the working portion of the MCA, and hopefully just take time to enjoy the hobby for a change. It's not too often that Wanda was actually out of the Tally Room and on the showfield. When she and Arley are out and around, it's easy to see just how many friends they've made in the MCA over the years.

Wanda and Arley, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all the guidance and friendship you've shown me over the past four years. And, I know that the rest of the friends you've made in the MCA wish to thank you both for all the work you've done to promote the hobby, promote the MCA, help run the club efficiently, and for serving on the Board of Directors for years on end.

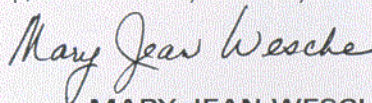
I will miss seeing you in the Tally Room, but look forward to seeing you on the showfield—having fun!

In this issue, there are several pages of Show Notes. The reason is that two of these shows were done as fund raising efforts outside of the norm. I'm not going to explain, you'll just have to read the entire magazine, not just skim it as some do, to find out what I'm talking about.

Also, there's a minor update on the Mystical Build project. Finally, we've got enough parts to actually start to do the build. So, here's hoping we will have photos of a car in progress for next month.

And, last but not least, there's an announcement from MCA and Scott Drake Enterprises that every Regional Club needs to pay attention to. Read page 20!

Next Month: Gift Guide! Yup, it's that time of year already!


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