

# Embrace all Mustangs

I don't receive very many letters from our members. But recently, I have received several diatribes about coverage of the "New" Mustangs on the pages of *Mustang Times*. I've not printed them because, quite frankly, some are not suitable for family viewing. Suffice it to say that there are those who think that none of the newer model Mustangs should ever grace the pages of *Mustang Times*.

I've kept quiet on the subject, and honestly on many more subjects that require giving my personal opinion. This time, however, I feel the need to speak out.

From the time I first saw the Mustang at the New York World's Fair when it was first introduced, I have always loved the car. I can't say that I've loved each and every model produced, but I have loved most of them. The exceptions are rare. Do I have favorites? Of course, don't you? And, if you're waiting for me to tell you my favorite, you'll have to wait a little longer.

I've been fortunate to own vintage Shelbys. I've never been fortunate to own a vintage Mustang (OK, I know a Shelby is a Mustang, but I think you know what I mean). Most of you know that we sold our Shelbys and now we have a collection of Saleen Mustangs. In between, we did own two Fox body Mustangs, and several other Ford products, too!

The Mustang hobby has always been prosperous. But, can you honestly not see how much of a shot in the arm the "new" Mustang has been to the Mustang hobby? You've read my comments before on the S197 model. I think Ford hit a home run with this car. I, for one, wish to thank them for it! If you lived through the Muscle Car years of the 1960's and early 1970's, you'd have to agree that history is repeating itself at Ford Motor Company. And, although one Ford executive admitted that he had to read the history books because he wasn't old enough to enjoy the era, they are doing a fantastic job. Just walk through a Mustang show field and take note of how many new Mustangs are on display. The 2005s are even at a point where they can now be judged. Aftermarket companies are making a fortune with parts to modify, enhance, upgrade, and redesign the newest body style. It's not surprising to me to know that many of the owners of the newer Mustangs are also owners of Vintage Mustangs as well. If you don't want to drive your Vintage Mustang every day, you can have the best of both worlds by owning a newer one.

The MCA's By-Laws state, "The general purpose of this club ... shall be to preserve and maintain Ford Mustang automobiles starting with the initial models manufactured in calendar year 1964 up to and including current models, and to serve as an accurate and technical source of information concerning these automobiles for the benefit of its members as well as the general public."

There certainly is room in our club for owners of ALL years of Mustangs, whether they are 1st, 2nd, 3rd or later generations. And, yes, this does include Mustang IIs. If it seems that the pages of *Mustang Times* are favoring the newer models it's not intentional. I will not, however, apologize for printing articles or photographs about the newest Mustang models. Our members are proud of their Mustangs, no matter the year, model, color, or condition. And, our goal is to show you the cars belonging to our members whether they are built in 2007 or were built in 1964. My goal is to bring you the latest happenings in the club and in the hobby. Just remember that encompasses millions of Mustangs! If you have a story you want to share about your Mustang, send it to me.

Although I made you wait, I'll admit my favorite year of Mustang is 1968!

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