

**“AT EACH OF NEXT  
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AN OPPORTUNITY  
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FOR CERTIFIED  
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TO TAKE TESTS IN  
WHATEVER CLASS  
THEY DESIRE TO  
BECOME ONE.”**



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## 2009 SEASON WRAP-UP

The 2009 show season has already come and gone. It was a good one, too! Although we had, in addition to the 45<sup>th</sup> Mustang Anniversary Show in Birmingham, Alabama, only three national shows they extended across the U.S. from North Carolina in the East, through Indiana in middle America to Southern California in the West. We saw some great Mustangs in every class and a multitude of fine owners and their families who together make going to and judging cars at MCA shows a fun national pastime. Next year's show season promises to be an even greater one with four MCA National Shows and a Grand National as well. These venues are strung across America too, beginning in March at Pensacola, Florida, and ending in September in Asheville, North Carolina, with shows in between at Mustang, Oklahoma, the Grand National in Bellevue, Washington, and Virginia Beach, Virginia. These widely spread shows are geared to provide an opportunity for all MCA members to attend and participate in a show from whatever corner of the USA you live.

Inasmuch as there are several months in which to get ready for one or more of these shows, there are two opportunities which will allow show attendees to better prepare his or her car. The first of which is attending the annual Judges' Meeting which will be held in October in Juneau, Wisconsin. Head Judge Charles Turner addressed this in his "Judge's Corner" last month.

As he stated, one of judging's common concern is a real or perceived inconsistency in results between shows and finding a cure for this ill will be the focus of this year's meeting.

The second is the result of a suggestion by *Mustang Times* editor, Mary Jean Wesche. She thought it would be a great idea for MCA's magazine to feature a regularly appearing article entitled "Ask the Judges." She discussed this with Charles and me and we agreed with her. She introduced this opportunity for everyone to participate in this public forum in her Editorial in the September issue of the *Mustang Times*. And I encourage you to do so! Head and assistant head judges often receive technical questions which we attempt to answer promptly; some by e-mail, some by phone. However,

the responses are often answers to queries that have a much greater span of interest than to just those who pose them. This initiative gives everyone an opportunity to see and appreciate the answers to questions which, we believe, will have a much broader audience of interested Mustangers.

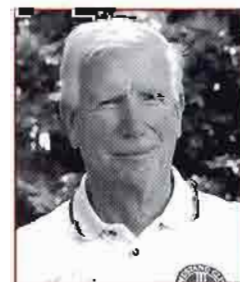
One question of general interest I'd like to address here is the so-called "ten-year rule." On the recommendation at last year's Judges' Meeting, the MCA Board of Directors approved the concours, and unrestored judging of Mustangs no newer than ten-years old. Cars in that category can be judged in daily or occasionally driven classes, the modified class, or popular vote class. And while we have certified and gold card judges for the 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Mustangs these credentials won't be activated until 2015.

Also, at each of next year's shows, we will be scheduling class-specific seminars for judges who want to increase their knowledge and/or who want to become a judge. And at each show an opportunity will be given for certified judge aspirants to take tests in whatever class they desire to become one. This new initiative began at National Shows this year; several MCA members successfully passed the test and became a certified judge the same day.

I am looking forward to next year's show season, to learn new technical items, to meet new friends, and to see familiar faces.

See you there!

*Allen Stewart*



**Allen Stewart**  
National Head Judge  
3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Generation