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HAS THE MCA OUTGROWN BOUNDARIES?

Did you ever get a great present and start playing with it only to have it break? Then you had to wait until the stores opened to get a new one? The fact that it was broken wasn't bad enough—having to wait made it even worse.

As I begin working with clubs in the position of MCA's Club Charter Chairman, I see a similar scenario played out all too often. However, instead of it being a broken present, it's a club inquiring about a MCA charter only to find out their boundary overlaps with another club that is already Chartered with the MCA. After they are advised they will need to speak with the existing club whose boundary they overlap, you can almost feel the gas go right out of their carburetor, so to speak. As an MCA chartered club co-founder (Mustangs of Burlington, NC), I clearly understand the silence on the opposite end of the phone as the caller digests what they have just been told. Sometimes it works out with them being able to work with the existing club and soon have a MCA Charter to show off. Unfortunately, there is the other side, where nothing can be worked out and the two Mustang clubs reach an impasse due to boundary conflicts. Which brings me to my question to you, "Are boundaries something that we really need?"

This is an issue that your MCA Board of Directors has dedicated a great deal of time to, and an issue they find themselves discussing with more frequency. Fortunately my friend, fellow board member and MCA Treasurer, Ron Bramlett asked one day in an email, "Why not do away with boundaries?" Excellent question, Ron. Rarely does a question look like an answer, but this just might be one of those times. Now,

I have no doubt that somewhere out there someone is reading this and thinking, "I asked that question years ago." To those folks I can only say, great idea. I guess sometimes you have to leave some to invent and let others innovate it, so let me put on my innovator hat and get to work on this issue.

To really get into this issue and move forward, we need to know how you feel about the existing boundaries and if you feel it's productive to continue to have them. As I have sat and pondered this issue, I continually find myself coming back to asking these questions: "Does having boundaries fit into the mission of MCA to foster and promote the Mustang hobby?" "Who are we hurting by not chartering a Mustang enthusiast club because of their location within another club's boundary?"

I know my answers to those questions and have spoken to several others and gotten their views. However, we want to hear your thoughts on this important topic. Do you feel the present boundary set up is conducive to the mission of MCA?

*Galloping on,
John Threatte, Chairman
Club Charter Committee*

Please email us your thoughts regarding if the MCA should keep boundaries, to editor@mustang.org.

I will have an independent source compile the results and present them to the members of the Board of Directors.