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Regional Club Charter Committee

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Regional Club Support Committee

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National Show Committee

Chairperson—Steve Prewitt

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FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Welcome to the Mustang Nation 2010! Is that strange or what? Not the Mustang Nation bit, but another year added to the calendar. This time last year I was just stepping into the President's role here in the MCA. What were you doing last year? How about 5, 10, 20 years ago, or even longer? Maybe, if you're one of our newer, younger members you were not even born!

Let's see... Like I said, last year I was newly elected to be MCA President. What a challenge and what an honor. I'll skip 5 and go to 8-years-ago—Christopher was born. Now there's a life changing experience. I simply cannot say enough about how cool it is to be "Daddy." Eleven years ago, Nancy and I married. I'm not 100% certain, but I think she saved me from myself. Wild, crazy, and alone is not my idea of heading into the golden years...

At that time, I was preparing to race in my first professional race. I'd spent several years running club cars but was given the opportunity to race the Rolex Series under Professional Sports Car and SCCA. Running the "24" was definitely a highlight reel moment.

Back to 1992, I raced my first car race (I'd raced motorcycles and go-carts growing up). Man, my tow truck, a Ford F-150 of course, was faster than my first race car. But at least everyone was going in the same direction, relatively speaking, and I was "racing."

In 1982 I started working for Georgia Power, where I still work today. That's changing, too, as we transition my department, and others, over to our parent company, Southern Company.

In 1978 I got out of Auburn University. I am still a War Eagle fan to this day (Sorry, Austin!).

In 1973, that would be 37-years ago, I graduated high school. I still remember the clothes—bell bottoms, big collars, jeans, polyester, long hair. Wait a minute, that was all in the Belk's catalog I was just looking through. By the way, I was driving a 1966 Mustang.

In 1969, Vietnam was wide open and covered the evening news. Obviously, today we are still at war, but now in Iraq and Afghanistan. Whether or not you support the idea, I hope you support our troops. I did then and I do now. They are the ones letting me type this, allowing me to sleep peacefully at night, protecting my family, my way of life, and even my Mustangs.

On the bright side, I bought my very first Mustang. You've heard the story before, but it was a four year old, 6-cylinder automatic with 13-inch wheels, hubcaps, and not an extra in sight. But... it was a Mustang and I'm still a Mustang Nation member today.

One note: A MUSTANG IS A MUSTANG IS A MUSTANG. All Mustang owners, Mustang supporters, and Mustang dreamers are welcome in the MCA. I don't give a rat's patooty if it's a '65, a '69, a '73, Lord knows, a '74-'78, an '82, '93, '98 or a brand new 2010, EVERY Mustang is welcome in this organization. That goes for show-perfect concours Mustangs, street-driven Mustangs, drag racers, road racers (obviously my favorite), modified, resto-fied, you name it and it is a vital part of the Mustang Nation and welcome in the MCA and at MCA events.

And, that goes for the owners as well. Young, old, hip, cool, or square, I simply do not care. If you are into Mustangs, if your friends, co-workers, etc. are into Mustangs, well you get the idea.

Where were you in 1965 (if you were at all)? I was 10, loved cars, the outdoors, and was into everything with wheels. I had a Schwinn Sting-Ray and I was bad. I'm pretty sure you were too!

I could go back further but things get a little fuzzy, and I don't talk much about my Daddy-ing in 1962, way too soon and way too early for both of us. Besides, 45 years is more than enough to think back in one sitting.

I'll bet you have great memories and stories to tell as well. I'm positive a lot of them are going to have Mustangs in them. The many folks I've met along my 45-year journey shaped the man I am today. Many are still friends. Some have passed away, but all are a part of me.

Mustangs are the same. They are a part of me, just as I'm sure they are a part of you. Don't shake your head no. Your Mustangs have names just like mine.

The MCA is the Mustang place to be. The Mustang is going to be "the car", and enjoying my Mustang is gonna be high on my list.

Join me as we reminisce about the good old days, but remember, we are in the better now days!

Later,

Steven McCarley



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President

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