

FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

It's November, the month we celebrate Thanksgiving. I hope you have reason for celebration and thanks. Actually, I hope you have many reasons. No doubt in my mind, I certainly do.

My health, and that of my family, continues to be good. As a matter of fact, as soon as I finish this column, I'm going to get my flu shot. With so many "bugs" going around these days, it takes work even to stay healthy.

I am extremely fortunate and blessed to be employed. So many are not. I've worked for the same company for 30 years now. I'm not wealthy, rich, or "in the money" and a six-figure income most certainly is not showing in my checking account. But, I do have a job, great folks to work with, and a position I do enjoy.

Christopher continues to grow and Nancy still laughs at my stupid jokes and ideas. I love it when Christopher says, "Daddy, I need help." Me, Daddy, help? I thought only Mommy could heal, and clean, and help.

And Nancy, like I said, stands with me and just rolls her eyes sometimes. Sure you can build an extension for the garage, pull up the shrubs in the front lawn, or build a new motor for the '66. Yes, I'll bring you some Tylenol, and the hot pad. No, I will not remind you about getting older (definitely not wiser) and you should ask for some help when you want to carry 15 sheets of 5/8-inch plywood. [Remember I said earlier I was in good health and a good thing, too. However, it does seem my decision-making capacity still needs assistance]

What about our Mustangs? We have more opportunities, more events, more shows, etc. than ever to show off and enjoy our favorite car. You can go to an MCA National or Grand National, a regional show, a drag race, a track day, an auto-cross, a cruise-in or what have you. There are just so many ways to enjoy our Mustangs.

And, oh my goodness, the Mustangs themselves. If you're into the classic Mustangs, parts, information, and stuff abounds. People absolutely love seeing old Mustangs (and maybe other makes) driving around. I know when I stop at a gas station with my '66, it takes five minutes to pump the gas, 15 minutes to answer the questions about the car, and 20 more to listen to the stories about "the one I had," or "my best friend had a 7-second Mustang (yeah right) when we were in high school," or "I met my wife and we dated while driving a Mustang," or "I've got one and it should be running by next year".

Or new ones, the new MCA Edition, the new 5.0L, the Shelby GT350 or SuperSnake or GT500, the new Boss 302. Having had the opportunity to drive all of these, I can honestly say it is a thankful time to be a Mustang fan. Everybody wants to know, look, and touch the new Mustangs. I'm sure there are more to come...

You might be thankful I only have a few more months as President of the MCA. As for me, I'm thankful to have been the President of the MCA. I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to lead this great organization, meet so many new friends, attend events all over the country, and of course, drive the previously mentioned Mustangs. It has truly been my pleasure and privilege.

As a matter of fact, the last 2010 Board of Directors meeting was this past weekend in Dallas. We can all be thankful for next year's Board and the Executives elected to lead the MCA. And, as one insurance company commercial states, we are in good hands going forward.

Along those lines, I am thankful for the progress, improvements, and growth within the MCA. Yes, there is still a lot to do. But, we've come a long way, done a lot, and steadied the organization.

I hope you and yours have a thankful November. I hope you are just as thankful for the things I mentioned, among many others. Please say a prayer, or offer support, for those less fortunate. Shake a soldier's hand, put out an extra place at the dinner table for someone, and be proud to say "Thank You and Thank Goodness" for even simple things.

Have a great Thanksgiving. I know I have so much to be thankful for.

Sincerely,

Steven McCarley



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