

LOOKING AHEAD

**"THE USE
OF JUDGING
SEMINARS AT
EACH SHOW
THIS YEAR WILL
CONTINUE TO
STRESS THE
IMPORTANCE OF
CONSISTENCY."**



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How quickly time flies, particularly when you're having fun . . . and attending MCA's national shows is always fun. As 2009 seemingly zipped by with cosmic speed we find the 2010 show season virtually on the horizon. This year's events are scheduled for an absolutely great array of venues. They stretch from coast to coast; from Virginia Beach, Virginia, on the Atlantic side to the Pacific's Bellevue, Washington, to Pensacola, Florida on the Gulf Coast as well as middle America's Mustang, Oklahoma, and Asheville, North Carolina (see schedule on page 56).

In 2010, we will have four National shows and a Grand National and, in as much as they are fairly well spread out geographically, there is an outstanding opportunity for great participation at each of them. Since the Grand National show is not the last one on the calendar (3rd of 5), it will present a problem with the selection of winners of the Pinnacle Award and the Authenticity Award, which are to be given only at a Grand National show based on the total participation at all shows. However, this will be addressed in an appropriate manner later in the year.

This past year, your judges have been striving to initiate methods to ensure consistency at and between shows. The recent annual judges' meeting, which was reported on by Jeff Speegle in the December issue of *The Mustang Times*, highlighted training of judges to enhance consistency. The use of judging seminars at each show this year will continue to stress the importance of consistency across the board.

Another way to maintain consistency is to provide seamless oversight. There are no changes in show classes this year. And the MCA judging team remains basically the same as last year's, with the sad and notable exception of our Assistant Head Judge for Classification, Lark Bragg. His untimely death in late December leaves a large hole in the judging community. He and his untiring efforts to make each show run more smoothly will be sorely missed. Lark and his wife, Beverly, graced every show with their presence and participation. Their involvement in the affairs of MCA as members of the Board of Directors provided guidance at yet another one level.

We will continue to stress the involvement of the youth of the MCA community. As we go through time, our older members are slowly being replaced by the new generation of Mustangers. We see a greater number of modified Mustangs on the show field as young participants strive to create a ride which meets their aesthetic and performance requirements. All of us need to continually encourage these initiatives.

The Mustang Club of America continues to be one of the most exciting and family friendly automobile clubs in the U.S. Charles Turner and I look forward to seeing as many MCA members as possible at our shows this year. And we also look forward to working with judges at all levels to make 2010 the best show year ever.

See you there!

Allen Stewart



Allen J. Stewart
National Head Judge
3rd, 4th and 5th Generation