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FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

My column about keeping up a black Mustang must have hit a nerve. I know how much effort I put into mine. The Emails, phone calls, and comments I received convinced me everyone else with a black Mustang is working just as hard. Having written here for almost two years, that column brought out more comments than anything else I've written. The two things I picked out of everyone I heard from were: 1. Black is very much a color (despite what we are taught in school) and folks either love it or don't like it at all. 2. What a pain in the bottom to deal with... but, man, does it look good when properly taken care of.

The only thing I'll add is next time you're at an MCA show, a cruise, or whatever, and see someone toiling over a black Mustang, stop and speak. Those folks (me included) need a friendly hello. Besides, it will give them a chance to catch their breath while talking with you.

How many of you have been by your local FORD dealer to see the new 5.0 Mustangs? How many of you have driven one? OK, if you've been by and have driven one, then how many of you have a huge urge to add another Mustang to your stable? Ain't gonna lie, I want one. The new engine pulls from just off idle and doesn't seem to quit. I'm pretty sure you will run out of road before it runs out of steam. And a factory 6-speed, how much better can it get?

Let's see, a new 5.0 engine, 412 horsepower (probably under-rated, feels like more) 6-speed, 25 miles per gallon, killer looks, great seats.... Ok, I'll stop. I think I'll get a color other than black. How about Kona Blue?

When I first had the pleasure of driving the new Mustang, within about 3 minutes I knew I liked it. Had FORD made it easier to exit the facility we were at, I'd have just driven on home and parked it in my driveway. You just don't know how many times I've had to bite my tongue to keep from telling you about that experience.

Have you attended an MCA event yet? I hope you have, either as a participant or a spectator. I've seen and driven some really nice Mustangs this year. By the time you read this, two Nationals (Pensacola, FL, and Mustang, OK), a Grand National, (Bellevue WA), several track days, and numerous regional events will have already taken place. Make sure to put an MCA event on your calendar.

Speaking of events, how would you like a Grand National (as the last event) held in a centrally located city for, say, five years in a row? Oh, and the same time of year each time as well. Would you be interested? Would you attend?

Plans could be made, schedules planned, vacation time set up, hotel and travel arrangements made, etc. I'm just asking but it sure sounds like a good time and a great idea to me. Let me, your club's MCA Regional Director, and others on the BOD hear your thoughts.

Hopefully, all of you know about Ford's continued support and sponsorship of the MCA. And, you are supporting them and the others sponsoring the MCA; Heacock Classic Insurance, Mustangs Plus, Kicker Audio, etc. Man, it is so great to have good sponsors.

I'm happy to report that we have an additional sponsor—Shelby American has signed on board. That's right, Mr. Shelby and his (very) excitable staff believe in the MCA enough to join our other sponsors. Be sure to thank them whenever you get a chance.

One more thing, elections are coming up. New directors are needed on the National Board and several existing directors want to return. All need your vote! Please take the time to look over the ballot coming your way in September. Some names you might recognize, others may evade you. Read the bios, ask your fellow MCA members, make some phone calls. Whatever it takes to convince you, VOTE.

Now, I've said my piece for another month. While we were taking here, dust has settled on my BLACK Mustang. If you will excuse me, I need to get my California Duster, my soft cotton towel, my Quick Wax, my polishing cloth, the Gold Class, two or three extra rags, some water to drink, some.....

Oh, wait a minute, I forgot to mention that I got a ride from Vaughn Gittin Jr. in his Monster Energy/Falken Tire drifting Mustang. OMG! There is absolutely no need for him to even have a windshield. Everything, and I mean everything, can be seen looking out the side windows. Smoke, noise, slide, smoke, noise, slide, you get the idea? Way sideways slide! You try to say that.

If you get the chance to ride in one of these machines, do it. Worst case; you get out and kiss the ground like I did!

Now, refer to the list of items above.



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