

LOOKING FORWARD

The 2011 MCA Show Season is just around the corner with our first National in Mesquite, TX, on April 8-10. We look forward to visiting our Texas friends and helping them pull off a great event. In addition to National events, there are many MCA Regional Shows that occur throughout the year. Most are single-day events, usually on a weekend, and are an opportunity for Regional MCA Clubs to bring some nice cars together, possibly sign up a few new members, and generate some spare cash for their club and/or designated charity. It can be overwhelming for a lot of clubs to put on an event such as this and it isn't unusual for most clubs to start planning for their yearly show months in advance. A lot of these clubs include some type of judging into the event with show awards for the best cars present. This is one of the big draws of such an event because owners like to know how well their cars stack up against others. Nothing like a little friendly competition, although there are a lot of folks that take this stuff quite seriously! As a single day event, it usually is not possible to use a lengthy Judging Sheet, which is why several years ago the MCA Judging Team developed a simple Abbreviated Judging Sheet available on the website. This sheet is based on our Occasional Driven Judging Class. Wording was condensed and simplified in a few areas and the total points set at 200. There are five sections of the sheet: Interior, Trunk, Exterior, Engine Bay, and Undercarriage. The main focus of the sheets is to judge strictly on Workmanship, Condition, and Cleanliness. This keeps a level playing field with all cars, no matter if they are stock or modified. The Abbreviated Sheet can be printed on one piece of paper, front and back. Most judges with prior experience can judge a car in about 5-10 minutes. For a Mustang show, it has been found that to keep things fair, cars can be grouped by generation; 1st generation is '64.5-'73, 2nd is '74-'78, 3rd is '79-'93, 4th is '94-'04, and 5th is '05-present. For a Top 50 show, the 10 best scores for each generation can be selected. Or, if there is low attendance in the 2nd generation, combine it with 3rd generation and have a Ford Special Interest Class. I wanted to remind everyone that is planning a non-National event that MCA does have Judging resources available to help. A nice by-product of using the Abbreviated Judging Sheet is that it has the same look and feel of the Judging Sheets we use at MCA National Shows. Which means that if you're familiar with the Abbreviated Sheet and have used it at your local event, you could probably do well judging at a National event. Hopefully, the use of the Abbreviated Sheet will encourage members to want to apply these skills at the National level. As mentioned, the Abbreviated Judging Sheet is available for download on the MCA website. On the front page is a link to "Judging" from there, a link to the "Abbreviated Judging

Sheets" can be followed. We offer a ready-to-print Adobe and MS Word versions. We highly encourage clubs to use these sheets for their shows. If anyone has any questions about using them, feel free to contact any of the MCA Head or Assistant Head Judges.

Another item that I want to mention relates to the old MCA Retired Class. We have been planning to eventually phase out this class. Participation has been low the past few years with only six Retired entrants for all of the 2010 show season. As some may remember, it wasn't much of a challenge to reach MCA Retired status. Four National Gold or 1st place awards and one Grand National Gold or 1st place award was all it took. One could accumulate the requirements for MCA Retired Class in as little as one show season with a good car. It was found that many owners were doing just that and we'd never see them again. So, the Conservator Class was created and it has been gaining popularity each year. We had 86 Conservator entrants for all of the 2010 show season and expect even more for 2011. With that said, we are now in the process of completely dropping the old MCA Retired Class from our National Show Classes offering. It was the plan all along to do this, once the Conservator program was created and the 2011 season will mark the 6th year for Conservator. While we understand that there are a few car owners that still enjoy entering into the Retired Class, we will be discussing this matter and hopefully come to a satisfactory solution. For those owners, I would appreciate if you would make contact with me so I can get your input on what would be fair moving forward. Remember that if you have won a blue Grille Medallion, you are already qualified to go into Conservator.

Lastly, we have two important appointments in the Judging Program. Tari Rupp, from Weeping Water, Nebraska, has accepted the MCA Judging Secretary position. Tari and her husband Marty have been regulars at MCA National Shows for quite some time and will be working together to assure the tally room functions are accurate and efficient. It's going to be a big job to fill Wanda and Arley Whitsell's shoes, but we are confident that Tari and Marty will get it done. In addition, our good friend Allen Stewart has accepted a Special Awards Chairman position. Allen will be keeping track of all of our Grille Medallion and Conservator applications and entrants and also making sure that those awards be prepared accordingly for presentation at MCA shows, in addition to our other special year-end awards (Pinnacle, Authenticity, Prestige and Platinum.) We are glad to have Allen continuing on in the MCA Judging Program and accepting such an important position.

In closing, I hope to see a good showing of Judge's in Texas next month. I would encourage anyone with interest in judging to come on out and give it a try!

**NATIONAL HEAD JUDGE -
1ST & 2ND GENERATIONS**

Charles Turner (36894)
4208 Belnap Drive
Apex, NC 27539
919.363.6190
caspian6@bellsouth.net

**NATIONAL HEAD JUDGE -
3RD- 5TH GENERATIONS**

Jim Silverman (27762)
72 Westhaven Drive
Brockton, MA 02301
508.584.8848
mustanggt350@msn.com

TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO MCA

Bob Perkins (06474)
North 3123 State Road, 16-26
Juneau, WI 53066
920.696.3788
perkinsrestoration@Hughes.net



Charles Turner
National Head Judge
1st and 2nd Generations