

IN SEARCH OF ...

"I HOPE EVERYONE UNDERSTANDS THAT CARS ARE JUDGED ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL MERIT AND TO A STANDARD AND ARE NOT, IN ANY WAY, COMPARED TO OTHER CARS DURING THE JUDGING PROCESS."



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

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

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

Having the first show under our belts, I have a much better vision of the task at hand.

Talking to Jeff Speegle, Assistant head judge for early Shelybs, and the crusader of preaching on consistency of judging, I realized his short seminars at Judges meetings at National/Grand National Shows has paid off in big dividends, with a much more promising future. Many have put much effort into this program and even more have indicated they'll join us going forward. Future seminars will focus on a wide diversity of subjects, and will be sensitive to the length of the seminar to maximize people's attention span. I do foresee more information shared on subjects like the Modified class, issues concerning Unrestored and Thoroughbred, and Occasional/Daily Driven issues. Much of the focus has been on how a judge introduces himself or herself to the owner of the Mustang that is about to be judged. Additionally, I think something has to be developed on proper etiquette toward not just the typical member but also toward a new, bright-eyed youth. The way we present ourselves will have a dramatic effect on that youngster and what he/she ultimately thinks of MCA. We all talk about how the youth are the future of MCA—first contact is key.

During the show in Texas, Billy Henson and I spent a good part of Sunday morning examining a great example of an original 2005 GT. The Mustang, owned by Tim Francis, has low mileage, and was a perfect car to start our campaign of building a database that will be used in the hobby for many years. The plan is to not have just a database of technical information, but also to create a database of photos. During the time we spent on the car, Billy and I found many exciting details we never noticed before, from special markings to highly specialized bolt heads.

The next show is in Jacksonville, Florida, and I hope to be able to duplicate our efforts on additional fine examples of low-mileage Mustangs from both fourth and fifth generations. I anticipate we will get many GTs to review during the show season. But I do fear, and I hope I am wrong, that six-cylinder models in low mileage and original condition

are going to be hard to find. These Mustangs are just as important as the GTs, Cobras, Shelybs, and other more common Mustangs at our shows. So please call me or email me if you have a V6, hopefully we will be able to spend some time with your car.

I just received a letter from an MCA member who asked about our Specialty Class. He has a 1995 GTS. The GTS was a stripped-down version of the GT, and about 6,000 or so were built. He asked if it, and other cars with a short production run, would be a candidate for the Specialty Class. If our judging was handled in such a way that cars were competing with one another, a separate class for that type of car might produce better results for the owner. But, I hope everyone understands that cars are judged on their individual merit and to a standard and are not, in any way, compared to other cars during the judging process. The best place for this Mustang, if it remains as Ford Motor Company originally produced it, would be MT (Trailer Concours), MS (Driven Concours), or URC Unrestored. I want the writer of the letter, and all of the MCA membership, to understand that at MCA National/Grand National shows each Mustang is in an island unto itself and judged to the standards developed by MCA, which reflect the originality of how Ford designed the vehicle.

Hope to see you all at a show this season.



Jim Silverman
National Head Judge
3rd-5th Generations