

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

The hottest, most sultry days of summer is the description of Dog Days of Summer. "Dog Days can also define a time period or event that is very hot or stagnant, or marked by dull lack of progress. The name comes from the ancient belief that Sirius, also called the Dog Star, in close proximity to the sun was responsible for the hot weather," according to Wikipedia. I could go on and give you more background on the term, Dog Days. However, that's just how I've been feeling lately. I think I have National show withdrawal.

By the time you read this, you'll be saying, "What's she whining about now? The Iowa show is next week." In the magazine-publishing world, we're always working ahead, usually on an issue several months ahead. For *Mustang Times*, we're just one month ahead. As I write this, it's early July and, for the first time in a long time, there was no National show to attend. The span between the Long Island National and the Des Moines National is just about eight weeks. Mind you, I'm not complaining, I just miss my Mustang friends. Summer, to me, is all about Mustang shows, Mustang events, driving events, and seeing all my car friends.

While time seems to lag right now, for the most part the summer is flying by. I know this is contradictory to what I wrote earlier, but the month of July just feels longer than usual this year. With my eldest grandson turning 13 July 17, and his mother turning 40 on July 24, you'd think I'd be feeling "old" instead of feeling the need for a Mustang-fix. Maybe a mid-life crisis? Nope, not for me. My husbands says, "It's simply a youth deficiency." I'm not ever growing up. I don't feel old, I feel blessed. Hey, the kids are all out of our house, all own their own homes with their own teenagers to deal with. It's every parents' dream. I know what I need to do. I need to take a nice, long, fast drive on some winding back road in my GT500, right Steve Prewitt? If only I had the time to drive it to Des Moines, now there's an idea. Wait! I have another issue to write before then. Oh, well, the roads of Lakeland, Florida, will just have to do for now.

Look for me in Des Moines and stop me to say hello. I love meeting you at shows and I thank those of you who do take the time to chat for a bit.

It's time to put on the serious hat. Are you a certified MCA judge, are you interested in judging? Have you considered attending the Annual Judges' meeting in September? Have you considered attending the Regional Directors' Summit in October? I know I don't have to give you the, "...it's your club, get involved" speech. Just read through the information in this issue on both events. Come to the Grand National in Waldorf, Maryland, and stay for the judges meeting after the awards. It was planned that weekend to help save money for attendees.

One last note, thank you to all who returned the Membership Survey. To receive responses from 6-8% of the membership is the norm. This time, we received nearly 30% responses. I am thrilled! And, as promised, prizes are being sent to those whose numbers have been randomly pulled by a computer. Replies were kept anonymous. But I want to say how proud I am that so many took the time to respond. Either it was the prizes that prompted you to write, or you got tired of my nagging! I don't want to know which applies, but you did great!

Your perpetually optimistic and slightly off-center editor,



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