



George and Leona Stevens knew it was "Best Convertible" long before their Mustang won the title

I became interested in Mustangs from friends of mine here in the Enid Shrine Club who used Mustangs in parades.

My son-in-law came in one day and said to my wife, Leona, "I know of something you just have to have, a red Mustang convertible. My neighbor has it in his garage, and he's been trying to restore it for five years. His two daughters drove it through high school and college."

I bought it that evening in September, 1980. It is a '64½ convertible,

poppy red with white top, 260 V2, automatic transmission, made in Dearborn, Michigan, the 20th of June, 1964. It was shipped to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 76A-3-86-20F-65-1-6-5F08F-173360, and it had 82,636.1 miles on it when I finished restoration.

The Pony looked fairly good. It had some rust on its back quarter panels that had been puttied too thick and a poor repaint job. The engine smoked, but ran good. I took it out on the highway and up to 95 M.P.H. Then I decided to take it to the Ford Company



for a ring and valve job. They found a small crack in the block, so I decided to put a new engine in and have all new parts installed. They found me a new 260 Engine. By this time, I had joined MCA and my daughter gave me a "Mustang Does It" book for a present. I thought after spending this much money, I might as well go first class and show it. I had the Pony bug bad by then.

I have a good friend who is a Body Shop Foreman at Chevrolet Company here in Enid, so he put new rear quarter panels on the back fenders, removed the old paint and smoothed it all out for the best paint job that can be had. I then took it to Oklahoma City for a new top, front bucket seat covers and molded floor mats. I bought five new white side wall tires of the original size. Now the cleaning, polishing and detailing began, getting it ready for its first show.

After spending well over \$9,000 and a lot of hard work, Leona and I showed

it May 30, 1981, at Amarillo, Texas Panhandle, and won Best Convertible. Then in the Tulsa, Oklahoma, Green Valley Mustang Club show, September 19, 1981, we got second place in '64 and '65 Convertible. Then McPherson, Kansas, Mid Kansas Mustang Club Show, September 20, 1981, we got second place 64½, '65 and '66. Then

on to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Mustang Club's Show, October 31 and November 1, 1981, where we got the big first place.

Now I would like to go to a National Show. My wife and I are having a lot of fun showing this Pony and meeting so many nice people.

George & Leona Stevens

