



This month I was going to write about something other than Club business, but when I saw Gary Childress' car on the cover, I couldn't think of a better chance to highlight

one of our most successful regional groups, the First Tennessee Regional Group. While my intent is not to pick out one group and tell you how great they are, but rather to talk about one of our oldest groups and tell you what they have done over the years.

The First Tennessee Group was the first regional group chartered outside the state of Georgia in the early days of the Club. In fact, Max Epps from that group was our first Regional Group Director who corresponded and recruited new groups. We have now grown to over 75 regional groups.

This group has hosted two National shows, one of which was the 1981 Grand National, our largest show to date. Gary Childress, Don Wolfe, Ernie Stout, Ralph Smith, Don Cox and the rest of the group have some of the finest cars we have attend our shows. But not only do they take pride in their cars, but they also support their community through the efforts of their club. I know that after the show in 1981, the group gave a sizeable sum of money to the emergency squad in Kingsport for the purchase of a new ambulance. The group is always enthusiastic and seems to have kept its members active. I know some of their members have not missed a single National show.

My point in telling you all this is that the National Club wants all of our regional groups to be strong and successful like the First Tennessee Regional Group. Besides them, we have a lot of strong groups, but we have some we are not so sure of. Some groups we have not heard from since they were given a charter. We are very interested in all the groups and what they are

doing. We keep up with some of the groups through the regional group news in the magazine. Honestly, if we got regional news from all 75 groups, we would not have room to print it all in the magazine, but, none the less, we are interested in hearing from all our groups on a regular basis.

We are doing our best to get out of the South and truly be a national club, responsive to all its members and groups.

*Bob Vickery*

## From the National Head Judge

I have had several letters, phone calls and visits from a lot of members concerning one important question. That question is about the use of semi-gloss on the undercarriage of the cars. Here it is: the use of semi-gloss paint on the undercarriage is O.K. There it is, the final word. It will be considered as falling into the primer category. (Haven't you ever seen any black primer?)

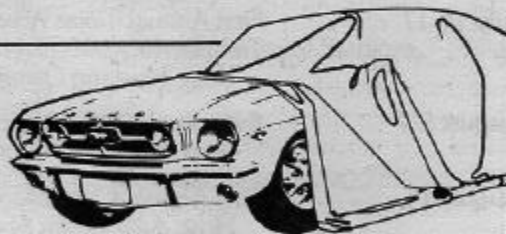
I have received some heated letters about that one. Some people have taken this thing personally and, believe

me, this was not the idea. If any of you have ever raced in some type of auto racing, then you know that these things happen. However, a good competitor, even with rule changes, seems to come back just as competitive.

I want you all to get ready, because if you plan to stay in this sport any length of time at all, you will probably see some rule changes all along. The reason I made that last statement is because the only thing permanent is change itself.

Bill Dillard

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