

# IN SEARCH OF MUSTANGS

by Jim Smart

Nineteen eighty four has been dubbed, "The Year of Change," "The Year of the Mustang." These statements are having a major impact on my life, as well as yours. Our Mustang will be twenty years young on the 17th.

IN SEARCH OF MUSTANGS has been cursed with many delays in its five year existence. You've heard all the promises on publication dates, only to be disappointed by delays as long as anyone can imagine. IN SEARCH had a modest beginning with only 650 Mustangs during its first year. Today we sport over 7000 of the nimble steeds with no end to growth in sight. Over the past several months, you've been promised yet another publication date, May 1984. Unfortunately, we are facing another delay, though not as long. This delay is "bittersweet" in nature, so read on!

This month will be the final issue to sport the IN SEARCH OF MUSTANGS column. I feel much sadness in bringing this news to all of you. At the same time, there is much pride and satisfaction in moving on to my new job as Editor of "Mustang Monthly Magazine." Many of you are aware of Mustang Monthly and no doubt a few of you subscribe in addition to your MCA membership. My membership and devotion to the club will not change. With my new position comes the vast responsibilities that come with being a magazine editor. IN SEARCH OF MUSTANGS will continue on as it has, bringing the information to you, the Mustang enthusiast. Unfortunately, the informative columns can no longer continue on a monthly basis is your Mustang Times. The IN SEARCH OF MUSTANGS GUIDE will be published this year, with or without the backing of my new employer, Mustang Publications, Inc. MCA members will receive a special discount on the book for their undying support.

With this new position will come a move to the Lakeland, Florida area, just east of Tampa. A new IN SEARCH Post Office Box will be set up and all of your letters will be forwarded to me. Though IN SEARCH will have yet another new home, I hope I never lose contact with the friends and boosters that have made the last five years very special. If you are not a Mustang Monthly subscriber, I invite you to join me, as IN SEARCH updates will be far more common. At the same time, you should always retain your MCA membership, enjoying the benefits of club fellowship. Support your Mustang Times and contribute your ideas. I have over the past five years and I have enjoyed it!

IN SEARCH OF MUSTANGS updates will occur occasionally in the Mustang Times. Your continued participation in IN SEARCH is always appreciated.

As we proceed into summer and another show season, I will be present at a number of shows around the country. I look forward to meeting many of you. I invite your contact as we head on into the future.

Looking back at nearly five years of IN SEARCH OF MUSTANGS and the special friendships made, I sit here in Salisbury on a chilly February day, reflecting warmly. Those special Mustangers, you know who you are, who have been with us since day 1. You exist all

over, from Christmas, Florida to Milwaukee, Oregon. From Czechoslovakia to Sweden. From Australia to Hawaii. You are all such beautiful people and I thank God for your friendships.

Finally, I must say how much I appreciate all of you that make up this unity called Mustang Club of America. You've all made your mark in various ways and gave IN SEARCH OF MUSTANGS that needed boost that has made it successful.

Thank you and God Bless all!

Jim Smart

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