

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

As I promised, I would like to give you a report on the important question, should we recognize the '74 to current year model Mustangs as members of the Mustang Club of America's family of fine automobiles?

We have, as of this writing, YES Vote 58, NO Vote 261 or a grand total of 319 votes. That's about 5.25 percent of the National Club membership. I'm disappointed, to say the least, at the very low response that we've received so far. I ask you, are we to assume that 94.75 percent don't care one way or the other? There's still time before our regular scheduled Board of Directors meeting, April 9th to get your vote in. Please vote so we will know for sure how you feel about this. If you don't vote, I don't think you should say anything about the decision that your Board of Directors makes on this issue.

We have another important item concerning Regional Groups that I think should be addressed at this time. How many members of a regional group should be members of the National Club? There's a lot of misconception on this question. I'll try to answer it for you.

In the Mustang Club of America By-Laws there's a section that pertains to regional groups. The first being,

A-SECTION 4, "Membership in good standing in the National Club shall be a prerequisite to membership in a Regional Group". Second being, B-SECTION 1, "A Regional Group, after receiving its Charter, will abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Club then in force or thereafter from time to time adopted". I think that explains it fully. The National Club has a rule that says, in order to petition for a Charter, you must have five (5) National Club members in good standing before the petition will be considered. I think this is where the misconception is. Some of the groups seem to think that five National members is all they need to maintain their Charter and affiliation with the National Club. As you can see in the By-Laws, that's not true at all.

My feeling on this is very simple. It's one thing to have a lot of members in number (a hundred or several hundred), but out of numbers, how many of these are "ACTIVE" members? (I say not many). I've had group president's tell me, if we insist that our members belong to the National Club we will loose some of them. My answer to that is, take a good hard look at the ones that you may loose. Are they active? If not, what have you lost? Just a number. As you know, active members

are the backbone of any club, whether it be a Mustang club or any other club. They also determine if the club is successful or not. I also believe that any active member that you have in your group wants to be a member of the National club also. So if you have any members at this time who are not members of the National club, encourage them to join the Mustang family. They might like it.

Speaking of Regional Groups, I really enjoyed the article in the March *Mustang Times* on the "TARHEEL MUSTANG CLUB". We need more of these articles in future issues. Get yours in so we can feature it.

I would like to welcome two NEW Regional Groups into the Mustang Club of America family this month. They are: "The Central New Brunswick Mustang Owners Club", New Brunswick, Canada, and the "Southeast Texas Mustang Club", Beaumont, Texas. We say, welcome aboard. We hope that you have a very successful year with your groups and if we can help in any way let us hear from you.

Until next time, see you.

