

NOW & THEN



KEITH AND VICKI OWENS SHARE THE HOBBY AND TWO CALIFORNIA SPECIALS

Text and Photos by Mary Jean Wesche

Earlier this summer, I spotted Keith and Vicki Owens and their two California Specials at a National Show. I couldn't resist photographing them. Unfortunately, it took most of the summer to get with them, but get together we did!

Keith and Vicki read an ad for the 1968 California Special in *Mustang Times*. They called the owner and made

arrangements to go to Kentucky and look at the Mustang. They decided the price was right and the car was exactly as the owner had claimed. They purchased it and drove it home. The previous owners have since become good friends with Keith and Vicki and are glad to see the GT/CS is well cared for. Additionally, in 1966 at the Johnson City, Tennessee, National show, they met the two other previous owners who were also glad to see the California Special in such great condition. The Meadowlark Yellow Mustang has a Black Comfort Weave interior, factory air, and upper and lower consoles. They have kept the '68 fairly stock. It still has its original 289, stock chassis, rear suspension, 2.80 gears, brakes, and power steering. The shocks have been upgraded to KYB Gas and the wooden steering wheel was refinished as it was cracked.

Keith and Vicki live in Pennsylvania and say that most people in their area don't know what the GT/CS really is. They like the fact that their car is rare and different from other Mustangs, yet

has a Shelby look. They've taken the '68 to several shows. It's won a Gold at a Grand National and 5 Gold awards at MCA National shows in Concours Driven. Their only regret is that the '68 is equipped with an automatic transmission instead of a four speed.

When the 2005 Mustang was introduced, Keith and Vicki were immediately attracted to the new style. Since they already owned three Mustangs, the aforementioned '68, a 1965 Coupe and a '68 Convertible, they didn't want to make the investment in a fourth car. When the 2007 GT/CS was introduced, Keith and Vicki both decided they wanted one to accompany their '68. Since allergy problems prohibited them from driving their convertible with the top down, so that Mustang was sold and they immediately purchased the Performance White GT/CS shown here. The car has black leather interior with Dove inlay. It also has a five-speed manual transmission, the Comfort Group, black rear louvers, and color-keyed quarter window louvers.