



# **Indy Mopar Club News**

February 2008

[www.indymoparclub.com](http://www.indymoparclub.com) Jan Peel and Dave Watt, editors  
Meetings are the last Thursday of every month

Next regular meeting: Thursday February 28, 2008 will be held at **MCL Cafeteria, 3630 So. East Street**, (US 31- N of Southern Plaza between Sumner & National) Indianapolis. Meet for dinner at 6pm, meeting at 7pm.

Trivia question, this one is a multiple part question: The 2008 Daytona 500 is now in the books with Ryan Newman going to Victory Lane with his Dodge. Who was the last winner of the Daytona 500 in a Dodge, what year, sponsor, and model of Dodge was it? Answer at the bottom of page 1.

2008 schedule of events. More events and details on the way.

**March 1 and 2, 2008** The Chrysler Performance Trade Show and Swap Meet by Indy Cylinder Heads held at Blue Ribbon Pavilion of the Indiana State Fairgrounds. The Indy Mopar Club will set up an informational display.

**May 3, 2008** The Indy Mopar Club will host an all Mopar Car Show at Palmer Chrysler Jeep Dodge **NEW LOCATION, 5051 West Pike Plaza Road.** (317)-293-4900. Registration 9-noon, awards at 3pm. Top 20, Presidents Choice, and The Finer Details awards. Event T-shirt and goody bag to the first 40 entries. Door prizes, 50/50 drawing, food, DJ are some of the events planned. Rain date May 10.

**May 17, 2008** The Indy Mopar Club will host an Open Car Show at Fletcher Used Cars in Edinburgh. Registration 9-noon, awards at 3pm. Door prizes, 50/50 drawing, food, and DJ are some of the activities for the day.

**June 21, 2008** The Indy Mopar Club will host an all Mopar Car Show at Fletcher Chrysler Dodge Jeep, 3099 S. Morton Street (US 31 South), Franklin Indiana. Registration 9-noon, awards at 3pm. Top 20, Presidents Choice, and The Finer Details awards. Event T-shirt and goody bag to the first 40 entries. Door prizes, 50/50 drawing, food, and DJ are some of the events planned. Rain or shine.

**September 20, 2008** The Indy Mopar Club will host an all Mopar Car Show at Danville Chrysler Dodge Jeep. See website Upcoming Events page for new dealership location. Registration 9-noon, awards at 3pm. Top 20, Presidents Choice, and The Finer Details awards. Event T-shirt and goody bag to the first 40 entries. Door prizes, 50/50 drawing, food, and DJ are some of the events planned. Rain date September 27.



Read on page two how Scott Oller's 1937 Plymouth has gone from two tone estate vehicle transformed into this bright blue beauty. As purchased July 2000 on the left.

## Trivia answer:

Ward Burton won the 2002 Daytona 500 in the #22 Caterpillar Dodge Intrepid. Did you get it right?

## **Scott Oller – 1937 Plymouth Coupe**

My current Mopar is a 1937 Plymouth P4 Deluxe Coupe, serial number 3197954. I purchased it in July 2000. It's a California car that rolled off of the Los Angles Chrysler plant assembly line on June 29, 1937. It was shipped to The Greer-Robbins Company, a Chrysler-Plymouth dealership in Beverly Hills, CA where it was presumably sold to its first proud owner. I did a little research into the Greer-Robbins Company and found it was the first Chrysler-Plymouth dealer in southern California. The two principals were Perry H. Greer and Albert C. Robbins. Mr. Robbins was a native of Auburn, IN.

I have always liked the styling of mid 1930's coupes. The large round fenders, running boards, bullet shaped headlights and long sloping trunks are just it for me. I finally decided it was time to buy one. I searched printed ads and around car shows, swap meets and on the internet until I found the right one located outside of Victorville, CA. The location was convenient since I was living in Los Angeles at the time.

The car was from an elderly lady's estate. Her heir was not interested in keeping it and listed it on the Car Trader website. I saw his ad and gave him a call. I drove out the next day to take a look.

According to the seller, and the license plate agreed, the car was driven until 1985 and then sat in storage. The car was not drivable but looked to be in good solid condition. The original finish had been repainted a couple of times. The body looked nearly rust free from having spent its life in southern California. However the interior fabric was pretty much done in by the hot and dry desert climate. The engine turned over freely. The tires held air but were very dry rotted and looked as though they would pop at any minute. The seller and I struck a deal and the car was mine.

A fellow I worked with was a Mustang collector and owned a roll back hauler. For a case of Bass Ale and a tank of gasoline he was willing to help me get my 'new' Plymouth transported to a borrowed corner in another friend's workshop.

I found some used tires to replace the dry rotted ones and could now roll the car around without worry of a blow out. I then started inspecting the car more closely. Cleaning out accumulated dust and sifting through loose small parts that were scattered throughout the trunk area and behind the seat. I discovered that the Plymouth was in remarkably good shape and only had a few missing parts. The search for replacement parts began while making small repairs here and there. A copy of the car's build record from the Chrysler Museum confirmed the engine was original.

Early in 2001 we moved to Dallas from LA. After getting settled, I began disassembling the car one part at a time. To help prevent memory loss, as I removed a part I would make a note about it on a piece of paper. I would then put the part and note in a zip lock bag or tape the note to larger parts. I left the major components such as the engine, rear end and transmission assembled for later.

The car's lack of rust made disassembly much easier than I expected. I continued disassembly and parts cataloguing continued until the body was off of the frame. The car was ready to begin parts restoration and reassembly. It was March of 2003 and a job change came about. We moved to Greenwood, IN. The Plymouth made the trip in a bunch of boxes. It's amazing how large a completely disassembled car can be.

Once moved in to Greenwood, restoration began by having the frame cleaned and powder coated. The body work came next. First, all of the body parts and shell were stripped down to bare metal. A few small rust holes appeared but were very minor. Some old 'fender bender' damage was found on left front and right rear fenders. They were beat up a bit but the guys at Generations Auto Body in Franklin repaired them with little trouble. They were able to match the original Middy Blue color from a 1937 Plymouth paint chip chart that I found at a swap meet. Once painted the body shell and frame were reunited using new rubber cushions from Steele Rubber.

The next step was rebuilding the rear end. The housing and case were cleaned and powder coated. I replaced all of the seals and bearings, reset gear clearances and made new axle shims. Several of the spring leaves were broken so I had new leaf springs made and powder coated. I then rebuilt the front axle assembly with new king pins and bushings in the spindles and restored the brake system. Next on the list are installing a new upholstery kit and an engine rebuild.

So far it has taken me longer than I originally thought in July 2000. Working on the car, finding parts and meeting other people with similar interests is an enjoyable hobby. This is my first original restoration project so I have had to learn as I go. All of my other hobby cars in the past have been a race car or hot rod of



some kind. I really enjoy the challenge of keeping the car as original as I can. The fact that Chrysler engineering was a bit ahead of other manufacturers in the 1930's and built the '37 model Plymouth with all steel body construction and hydraulic brakes makes it easy to maintain originality and have a safe and durable antique car.

# **CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER**

**Bob Beisel and Rick Eilert** went to the World of Wheels car show February 10<sup>th</sup>. Bob's 69 Charger won 4th place in the 'Conservative Custom Hardtop'. Rick's 73 Roadrunner came in 1st place for 1973 - 1978 restored.

**INDY MOPAR CLUB Monthly Meeting      Secretary Report      January 31, 2008 7:00 PM**

## Welcome and sign in – Steve Wisdom, President:

Steve Wisdom brought the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Jan Peel presented outgoing President John Bauer with a circular stained glass INDY MOPAR CLUB memento for all his leadership and hard work the past two years.

Steve asked all members and guests to introduce themselves and be sure to sign the attendance sheet.

## **Secretary's Report – Ronda Cherry:**

Ronda had laryngitis so Steve asked Jan Peel to read the highlights of the November 2007 meeting.

## **Treasurer's Report/Membership Update – Mike Leyes:**

Mike gave the treasurers report as of January 31, 2008.

November 29, 2007 Balance was \$1,397.81; Income for December was 8 membership dues of \$360.00; Expenses – none; Balance December 31, 2007 balance is \$1,757.81.

January 1, 2008 beginning balance \$1,757.81; Income for January was for 5 membership dues of \$150.00; Expenses – Cash for change for January meeting \$100.00; January 31, 2008 balance is \$1,807.81.

Membership dues are coming in slow.

## **Event Calendar – Dave Watt:**

Dave talked about upcoming events for the year:

May 3<sup>rd</sup> Palmer Dodge

May 17<sup>th</sup> Edinburgh Show

June 21<sup>st</sup> Fletcher Show

September 20<sup>th</sup> Danville Chrysler

September 26 - Darlene Chrysler  
**Event Advertising = Pat & Pat McKarski:**

Pat gave an update on the advertising. They are presently advertising in Indy Auto & RV; Old Cars Only; and Mopar Collector's Guide. Pat has also been in touch with 2 radio stations in Indianapolis to advertise our shows and possibly have coverage the day of the event.

## **Communications Director Report – Dave Watt:**

Dave displayed the plaque and read the letter from Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation thanking us for our generous donation of \$5,266.94 in 2007.

## **Old Business – Steve Wisdom:**

- A. Club Member Profile for Newsletter & Website
    - 1. February – Scott Oller
    - 2. March – Bob Schonegg
    - 3. April – Rick Eilert
    - 4. May – Larry Mayes
  - B. Joint get together with another Mopar club.  
Tri State Mopar Club: Eric Gegert (513) 892-2042 [kagebert@fuse.net](mailto:kagebert@fuse.net) River Valley Mopar Club  
They will be meeting February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Indy Cylinder Head location.
  - C. Palmer Dodge 2008 show date confirmed for May 3<sup>rd</sup>, rain date 10<sup>th</sup>, at new location  
Edinburgh Open show date confirmed for May 17<sup>th</sup>  
Fletcher Chrysler show date confirmed for June 21<sup>st</sup> or August 2<sup>nd</sup>. A vote was taken for preference of date. The show will be June 21<sup>st</sup>.  
Danville Chrysler show date confirmed for September 20<sup>th</sup>, rain date 27<sup>th</sup>, in new location
  - D. IMC Name Tags (Renewals for 2008) – Larry and Sue Mayes will again print the membership cards
  - E. Mecum Auction would like 20-25 club members to help with the auction.
  - F. INDY MOPAR CLUB special recognition award – John Bauer:  
John presented Jan Peel with a plaque that read: INDY MOPAR CLUB Award of Appreciation  
Presented to JAN PEEL for her outstanding service and dedication to the Membership of the Indy Mopar Club, our Associates and Club Charity – 2007.

## New Business – Steve Wisdom:

- A. Mecum Auction would like 20-25 club members to help with the auction.
  - B. New location for February meeting will be the MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East St. Come early at 6pm and eat before our meeting at 7pm.
  - C. A vote was taken on the color for the 2008 T-shirts and Plum Crazy won by a large margin.
  - D. Larry Mayes will research the cost of name tags for the club and report at the next meeting.
  - E. Preparations are being made for the Swap Meet in March, 2008. A sign up sheet was passed around.

Steve then adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted – Ronda Cherry, Secretary

March Birthdays: Ken Keeney, 3-1; Teresa Kelly, 3-2; Mark Fields, 3-6; Steve Grantham, 3-8; Kimberly Hill, 3-12; Ken Komlanc, 3-18; Pat Mosier, 3-20; Sue Kelly, 3-29; Jeanie Fedoryk, 3-31.

March Anniversaries: Verne & Phyllis Williams, 3-9; Julia & Bob Schonegg, 3-14; Steve & Judy Shutters, 3-18; Pat(rick) & Pat(ricia) McKarski, 3-23. Congratulations to all!

Tattler's Corner

**Tatler's Corner**

It seems that the entire Indy Mopar Club membership is capable of keeping secrets. Stan and Jan seem to be taking turns to be sick so Stan couldn't attend the January meeting when Jan got her plaque, but did he ever catch "Hail Columbia" when she got home for not telling her about it. But he got off the hook when he told her that he was threatened with his life if he told her, so he didn't. The alternative didn't appeal to him.

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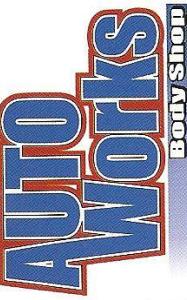


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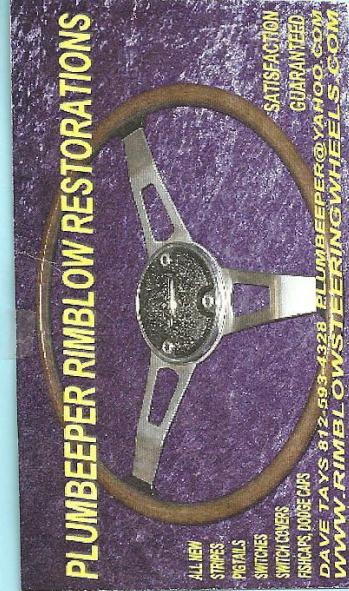
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