



**Member Profile of the Month**  
**THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY – Larry Mayes**



71 Cuda just after I bought it



When I sold it



What it looks like now

My love of Mopar started a long time ago. My dad worked at the Electrical plant in Indianapolis and said, “You will drive a Chrysler product”. That was OK by me, my 1<sup>st</sup> car was a 67 Barracuda coupe. Over the years I have had so many cars when I try and make a list I never get it finished.

I was working at Chrysler and living at home. I was making \$200 a week and didn’t know what to do with all that money. So I was buying and selling cars. I usually had a different car at least every 6 to 8 weeks.

Some of my cars over the years have included cars other than Mopars. At one time while still living at home I had parked in Mom & Dads driveway a 69 SS Chevelle 396 375HP, 71 Mach 1 and a 74 Camaro. Once those were sold it was back to Chrysler products. My 1<sup>st</sup> new car was a 77 Aspen Custom that I ordered. The base price was \$3,500 and when I got done with the options it listed for \$6,900. It was a T Top, 360, at, ac, pw, pl, tw, posi, fold down seat, you name it, it probably had it. I also had a 67 Barracuda Formula S coupe at the same time. The engine was apart with a spun bearing and someone had run into the front. I got the parts I needed off my sisters 67 that got totaled and a 340 out of a 72 Duster that a guy I worked with totaled. In 78 I bought a 72 Challenger rally 340 3 speed stick, hemi Orange, black top and interior. I loved that car. In 79 mom got a new TC3 from Northside Chrysler Plymouth and I had taken it in for service. While waiting I was roaming around the dealer lot and behind the service department was a 1971 Curious yellow 383 auto Cuda convertible. I was checking the car out and seen it didn’t have a plate on it. I ask the service guy about it and they told me a guy brought it in because it wouldn’t run and he ended up getting a divorce so the finance company got it back. It was sitting there, not running and for sale by the finance company. I called them and started trying to buy it. I was laid off from Chrysler at the time, had just bought my 1<sup>st</sup> house and didn’t need another car. Had my Aspen & Challenger, but I wanted this car. It had some damage to the front right fender, the outside mirrors where broke or missing and small amount of rust on the rear ¼. The guy I talked to said they wanted \$1,600 for it. I told them that it didn’t run had body damage and the top would need replaced soon. After several calls I was able to buy it for \$850.00.

Now this was in 1979, they told me they thought the fuel pump was bad. I shot some starting fluid in the carb and it fired right up. Looking at the fuel gauge it didn’t move a bit when I turned the key on, so I figured it was out of gas. After I paid for it and had title in hand I took 5 gallons of gas and a chain, no one had trailers then, we flat towed everywhere needed. Put gas in tank and primed the carb, it fired up and run. We headed

from Tom O'Brien's to my house by Marion County fairgrounds. Well, we needed the chain after all. I made it to 30<sup>th</sup> and Emerson before it quit.

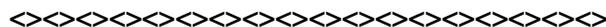
The oil had gas in it so I figured, they were right bad fuel pump. I changed the pump with one off a 383 I pulled out of a 69 charger and then changed the oil. Still was getting gas in oil. Bought a new pump and changed the oil again and still getting gas in the oil. At this point I figured there was no way I had 2 bad pumps. I had purchased a 600 Holley for the Challenger and decided to try installing it on the Cuda. Once it was on and changed the oil a couple of times it run great and no more gas in the oil. The power valve in the factory Holley on the Cuda was bad causing the gas in the oil and for it to run bad. I had the car for 7 or 8 years, it drove good but needed a lot of work. The front pump in the trans was leaking due to the thrust bearing in the engine being bad. The trunk had a hole in it where a steering gear went thru and some rust on the 1/4s, dent in front fender, bumpers bent some from bumper jack and the door panels and seat backs had been cut to put Bass 48 speakers in. Since I still had the Challenger with a Hemi 4 speed (from 70 440 6 pak cuda, bought it for \$70) and a new boat I thought, I don't need the Cuda and couldn't afford to really fix it, plus you couldn't buy parts for it, so I sold it for \$1,750. This was sometime round 86 or 87. The guy I sold it to owned a shop in Broad Ripple and some of his guys were mad at him and he had the carb off for some reason and they put some nuts and bolts in the intake. End of the original engine. The last time I seen it in the late 80's it was sitting at the Shell station at 96<sup>th</sup> street and I 69.

Years later I was looking for a car and called about a 69 Barracuda convertible. In talking to the guy he told me he had a 70 Cuda convertible and had at one time a 71 Curious Yellow convertible. I took my pictures of it and showed him and it was my old car. He told me after he restored it, it was sold at Kruse auction and the guy that bought it was from Mooresville area and really liked Convertibles. Over the years I always wondered where my car was. Talking to Ken Moiser about it, he told me he knew the car and who owned it. Ken was even able to get the original engine and now the car and engine are owned by the same guy. I was able to get the guys number and called him. He wanted me to show him VIN # as to prove it was my old car. I haven't ever found anything with the numbers but talking to the different people I'm 100% sure it is my old Cuda.

In 2007 I was at a cruise in at the Krogers in Mooresville (every Friday night throughout the summer) and was ask to take a princess in the homecoming parade in the Prowler. I knew who owned the car and the business he owned but still had never met him. The day of the parade Sue and I left home early to have time to stop and talk to him. He is an older gentleman with a large collection of cars and trucks. We talked for some time, I showed him the pictures of it how it was when I owned it and told him I would like to see it again. He agreed to drive it to the cruise in that night. So in the fall of 2007 I got to see my 71 Cuda convertible again after almost 20 years. I took pictures of it with my Prowler and wish I could have it back. It doesn't look much like my old car though. Steve, the guy that restored it put all the options on a low option car. It now has shaker hood, rubber bumpers, gilled fenders (mine had standard fenders so I think maybe it was an early 71 and they used left over 70 fenders) driving lights and the paint looks too green.

Hoppie (current owner) said his grandson wants the car so it will not be sold. He has a red 70 Cuda convertible but the grandson wants the 71 Curious Yellow one. Doesn't matter because it is worth more than I can or would pay. It is nice to know where it is and I would like to drive it again. Now that I live in Mooresville I run into Hoppie every so often and have told him if he needs someone to come and drive it I would be happy to help him out.

Author and pictures provided by Larry Mayes



**Indy Mopar Club Monthly Meeting  
Secretary's Report  
January 28, 2010, 7:00pm**

Welcome and Sign-in: Tom Kelly, President

- Tom brought the meeting to order at 7:00pm
- New addition to meeting agenda: Member News, Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc.
  - Tom Kelly gave the club's condolences to Gary McCormick for the loss of his grandfather
  - Rhonda Cherry announced January birthdays and Anniversaries

- All members were asked to introduce themselves and tell about their car(s)
- 39 Members and 1 guest attended

Attendees were: John Bauer, Brian Berkowitz, Ronda Cherry, Estell Claycomb, Jack Collins, Mel Crane, Dick & Dorinda Crawmer, Rick & Susan Eilert, Frank Goodrum, John Heeringa, Dan & Nula Kelly, Jim Kelly, Rick Kelly, Tom & Teresa Kelly, Ken & Debbie Komlanc, Ed Leyes, Mike Leyes, Larry Mayes, Gary & Jessica McCormick, Bud & Debbie Mounce, Jim Parker & Chris Usher, Michael Patterson, Jan Peel, Bob Rosengerger, David Sanders, Bob Schonegg, Ken Scobel, Dave Watt, Steve Wisdom, Rick & Gnger Zimmerman, and guest Christina Rigney.

Secretary's Report: Jessica McCormick

- Jessica gave the highlights of the November 2009 meeting and the Club's Christmas Party

Treasurer's Report: Mike Leyes

- December beginning balance: \$2,909.41
- December income: \$0
- December expenses: \$ 395.58
- December ending balance/January beginning balance: \$2,513.83
- January income: \$940.00
- January expenses: \$815.88
- January ending balance: \$2,637.95

Membership Update: Mike Leyes

- Finished 2009 with 85 members
- As of January 28<sup>th</sup> 44 members for 2010

Events Calendar: Rhonda Cherry

- World of Wheels, February 12-14, Indiana State Fairgrounds
- Mopar Swap Meet, March 6-7, Indiana State Fairgrounds

Event Advertising: Pat & Pat McKarski (unable to attend)

Communications Report: Dave Watt

- Waiting on pictures from Christmas party and will post

Old Business: Tom Kelly

- A. Member profiles for newsletter and website
  - a. January: Brian Berkowitz
  - b. February: Larry Mayes
  - c. March: Bob Rosenberger
- B. World of Wheels, February 12-14
  - a. Kelly family working on display: 70's theme, 2 sided car dealership (parking lot and sales floor)
  - b. Set-up on Thursday, 2/11, 12-3pm
- C. Indy Cylinder Head, Mopar Swap Meet, March 6-7
  - a. Friday set-up
  - b. Booth display
  - c. Volunteer sign-ups for club space
  - d. Need volunteers to help with event entrances

New Business: Tom Kelly

- A. Car Shows 2010

- a. Adesa, May 22<sup>nd</sup> (rain date June 5<sup>th</sup>)
  - i. Registration will likely begin at 9am, conclude at 3pm
  - ii. Possibility of big 3 presence thru Adesa's contacts
- b. Champion CJD
  - i. Date set: July 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm
- B. Club Insurance
  - a. Hagerty
    - i. quote is good until February 6<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. \$300 annual policy fee
    - iii. Covers sponsored events, excluding meetings
  - b. West Bend
    - i. Price based on amount of liability
    - ii. Coverage not show/incident specific; rather a blanket policy for the year
  - c. Club will get a partial refund from the current policy when cancelled, prorated amount
- C. Fletcher Request
  - a. Rick Zimmerman shared that Fletcher wants to host show and would like the club to reconsider having a show there.
  - b. Gary McCormick mentioned management change at store and support of car show from new management
  - c. Meeting attendees showed large interest in adding 3<sup>rd</sup> show at Fletcher as there doesn't seem be much as much work associated with the current 2 shows
  - d. Determined that a September date would be best if added
  - e. Tom will discuss details with Fletcher
  - f. A vote to officially add a 3<sup>rd</sup> show at Fletcher will be during the February club meeting
- D. New Events (suggestions)- members can volunteer to organize
  - a. Mustang Club Slot Car Event or other Club Event
  - b. Tour Museum (Auto or other)
    - i. Local- Skillman, Children's Museum, other
    - ii. Day or overnight trip- i.e. Chrysler, Ford, Studebaker
  - c. Zoo Trip
  - d. Designate a monthly group Cruise-in to other club/organization's event
  - e. Drag Racing/Tuesday Grudge Night/Pure Stock Race
  - f. Drive-in Movie
  - g. Picnic or State Park
  - h. Business Tour (Machine Shop/Trans Shop/Restoration Shop)
  - i. Technical Training Seminar (members, Ivy Tech)
  - j. Poker Run
  - k. SCCA Event
  - l. Mini Golf
  - m. Model Car Show
  - n. Charity Event (JDRF Walk, Cancer Walk, Riley Children's Hospital)
  - o. Other ideas
    - i. Somernites Cruise in Somerset, Kentucky- Larry Mayes
    - ii. Bowling (cosmic or duck pin)
- E. Other apparel from Udders- Brian Berkowitz
  - a. Hooded sweatshirts, any color choice, embroidered Indy Mopar Club Logo (BLACK) is part of this price. First name will be \$3.00 extra.
    - i. \$19 for sizes S-XL
    - ii. \$20 for sizes XXL and up

F. JDRF Award

- a. Presented at Year-end, thank you banquet
- b. Gold Achievement Award for donations \$5,000 -\$10,000

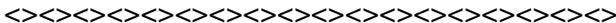
A motion to adjourn was made and seconded

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica McCormick, Secretary



**Upcoming Events – \*\*Indy Mopar Club and others**

- \*\*February 25, 2010 – Indy Mopar Club meeting at MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East Street, Indianapolis
- \*\*March 6-7, 2010, Indy Cylinder Head Swap Meet, Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis IN.
- \*\*March 25, 2010 – Indy Mopar Club meeting at MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East Street, Indianapolis
- \*\*April 29, 2010 – Indy Mopar Club meeting at MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East Street, Indianapolis
- \*\*May 22, 2010 – Adesa Auto Auctions – Rain date June 5, 2010
- \*\*June 6, 2010 Sunday TBD Ypsilanti, MI Orphan Car Show
- \*\*June 29-July 3, 2010, Walter P Chrysler National show in Dayton OH June 29-July 3 more details later.
- \*\*July 9-12, 2010 Carlisle All Chrysler Nationals
- \*\*September 29-October 3, 2010 Fall Carlisle
- \*\*October 6-10, 2010 Hershey AACA



**Member Birthdays and Anniversaries**



March Birthdays:

- Teresa Kelly, 3-2
- Mark Fields, 3-6
- Diane Turpen, 3-12
- Pat Mosier, 3-20
- Damon Reynolds, 3-27

- Estelle Claycomb, 3-4
- Michael Markowski, 3-11
- Ken Komlanc, 3-18
- Janet Oller, 3-24
- Sue Kelly, 3-29

March Anniversaries:

- Verne and Phyllis Williams, 3-9
- Bob and Julia Schonegg, 3-14
- John and Brenda Heeringa, 3-24

- Dick and Dorinda Crawmer, 3-14
- Patrick and Patricia McKarski, 3-23

Congratulations to all!



**Parts for Sale**

Mopar parts for sale: A, B and C body axle/housings, Slant six parts-(almost anything ya need). Slant six 4 spd bell housing and O/D trans. 66/67 B body SS trim and wiring harnesses, frt bumper brackets, factory AM/FM radio, rear and side glass. 67-69 Cuda bumper cores/ brackets and frt plate bracket. Stock Iron 4 bbl intakes. New A body super stock rear springs, 70-73 A body rear bumper brackets. E body frt bucket seat brackets (not rusted). Many new (not remanufactured) stock electronic and points distributors --- lots of stuff. (317) 753-8385 – Brownsburg IN 46112

**Tattler’s Corner**



From the pictures it looked to me like there was a lot of fun going on at the World of Wheels affair. I’m really not sure who had the most fun, the workers or the “lookers”, but you can bet your bottom dollar that it was appreciated by all. And how about our “Prez”! Good job all you “Guys and Gals”. Catch ya all next month.

**Reminder from your Editor Jan Peel**

**Remember to send in your dues for 2010 so you will be included in all the exciting upcoming events.**

I would appreciate any news about our members that have attended other events and/or have had their cars or stories in other publications. This is your newsletter, help me make it an even better one by sharing this kind of information so it can be published here. You can contact me by E-mail [Jpeel83719@aol.com](mailto:Jpeel83719@aol.com) or call me at 317-357-5760 or send it to me by mail: Jan Peel, 5128 E Rowney St, Indianapolis IN 46203-3741. (Complaints may also be handled this way. Be gentle when you do this please.)

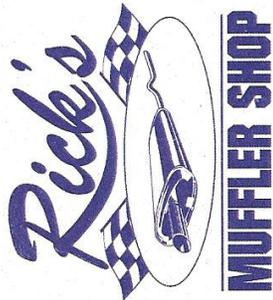
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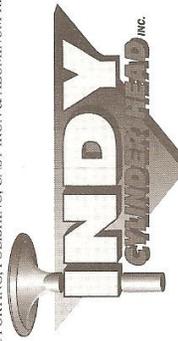
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