



Indy Mopar Club News

www.indymoparclub.com

August 2011



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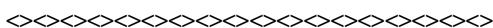
Meetings are the last Thursday of every month except November & December.

Next regular meeting: ******August 25 Meeting:****** The August meeting will be at Masterpiece Classic Cars (675 N. U.S 31, Whiteland, IN 46184). Food and drinks provided by the club at 6:30 and the meeting at 7:00. General cleanup after the meeting is expected. We have a good amount of seating available but may need a couple extra chairs, so if you can throw a folding chair in your trunk we may need it. Please RSVP me at bberkowitz@indy.rr.com by August 5 so we can get enough food. I hope you all can come.

Brian Berkowitz



Welcome to new members **Marshall & Evelyn Ferguson**, Indianapolis, 1972 Dodge Crestwood Station Wagon.



2011 Mopar Nats – Reported by Brian Berkowitz

Just wanted to let our club members who were unable to attend this year, we were well represented at the event. We set up several tents together to make our own little Indy Mopar Club area. This year's weather for the most part was fantastic. The cars were looking good and I think we all had a good time. The cruises were interesting also, I am sure a few tires were completely used up on Friday and Saturday evening! On a personal note, I drove the Duster over this year with no issues. I also recruited a co-pilot for the trip, Corbin Sanders (Dave's son). I think we both had fun and for the most part his music selection was good and he kept the pilot stocked with drinks and snacks! And except for about 30 minutes on the way home he stayed awake, by the way a cool way to wake up your co-pilot is to hit the brakes and yell "OH MY GOD!" Although Corbin was not as amused as I was at this. Hope the Monster Mopar Weekend is as fun.



Member Profile

Scott Oller



I live south of Indianapolis in Greenwood. My wife Jan and I moved here in April of 2003. I currently work for General Motors at an engineering facility in Castleton. My job is involved with testing and R&D work on automatic transmissions for heavy duty diesel pick-up trucks. Jan was ordained as an Episcopal priest in January 2010. She just finished her training as an Episcopal Chaplain at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, MS.

Louisville, KY is my home town. I lived there from 1958 until moving away in 1992. As I was growing up, my dad and I would go to several different local sporting events. The ones I liked the most involved some form of auto racing. Any kind of a racing car was just so interesting to me.

When I was a senior in high school I had a part-time job washing dishes and mopping floors. With my parents' approval and money from my job I built a hobby stock race car to run at the Fairgrounds Motor Speedway, a local quarter mile track that is no longer in existence. I spent a lot of my spare time and effort working on my race car. My dad said he was happy with that since he knew I was working in the garage and not somewhere else getting into trouble.

My interest in auto racing set the course of my life. My dad's cousin was into drag racing. I liked to go to his shop to hang-out and help when I could. He would coach and mentor me on building engines and life in general. He recommended that I take a job as a machinist so that I could learn the basics of mechanics. That was some of the best advice I ever received from anyone. I was able to get a job with General Electric in Louisville as a tool and die maker apprentice. I served out my 4-year apprenticeship and then continued to work as a journeyman tool maker until the fall of 1989.

It became clear to me that if I wanted to pursue auto racing as a career, I would need more than my machinist and fabrication background. I quit my job, took what savings I had and enrolled full-time into mechanical engineering school at the University of Louisville. I graduated from Louisville and then moved to Arlington, TX for a master's degree at Texas-Arlington. My professor introduced me to Buddy Morrison of Reher-Morrison Racing Engines. I started working/volunteering part-time at their shop. I graduated from UTA in December 1994 and was hired by Reher-Morrison to work on their NHRA pro-stock drag car for the 1995 race season.

In December 1995 I started at Honda Performance Development in Santa Clarita, CA. I worked on race engine development for their CART series racing program. I met Jan while living in California. We were sitting next to each other on an American Airlines flight from LA to Dallas. We started talking, exchanged business cards and were married 19 months later in June of 1999.

I suppose working on racing engines wasn't enough cars for me. I got an urge to buy an old car to restore. In July 2000 I bought a 1937 Plymouth P4 business coupe to restore. I joined the Plymouth Owner's Club a month or so later. As many of you know, I am still working on the '37 some 11 years later.

A career opportunity opened up for Jan early in 2001. I was ready to take some time off from racing and work on my '37 Plymouth. We moved to Plano, TX which is a few miles north of Dallas. Engineering jobs were a bit hard to find at the time. I took a 6 month 'sabbatical' to work on our new house, garden and the '37. I enjoyed the time very much. It let me know that retirement will be absolutely wonderful. I eventually took a job with Stanley Tools. The factory made wrenches, ratchets and sockets. I worked there as a manufacturing engineer in charge of broach tooling. It's strange how life runs in a circle sometimes. This was another example of how my tool and die making experience paid off again.

One day Jan mentioned she heard that the Texas Motor Speedway was hiring part-time people to work during the different race weekends. I applied and was hired as a security guard to work in the garage area. That was great since I got to be up-close to the race cars, teams and drivers. During one of the IRL events a friend of mine told me that John Menard's engine shop in Indy was looking for an engineer. By then I had the itch to get

back into racing and Jan was ready for a change too. A few days later I talked with the manager at Menard's. He hired me on a Wednesday. I was on a plane going to the race in Japan on Friday.

Racing jobs are dependent on sponsorship and manufacturer dollars. Since moving to Greenwood in 2003 I worked with Menard's IRL team then with Toyota Racing Development until they withdrew from the IRL and then back to Menard's to work on NASCAR engines until March of 2008 when I went to work for GM. My future career goal is the one I started thinking about in Texas – RETIREMENT!!!!

Author~~~~~Scott Oller



INDY MOPAR CLUB, MONTHLY MEETING, JULY 28, 2011

SECRETARY REPORT

WELCOME AND SIGN-IN: There was a room full with 36 attending: John & Carol Ann Bauer, Brian Berkowitz, Bill Bratton, Carlton & Regina Brock, Ronda & Dennis Cherry, Dick & Dorinda Crawmer, Rick & Susan Eilert, Marshall & Evelyn Ferguson, Tony Fields, John Heeringa, Ed Leyes, Mike Leyes, Gary McCormick, Bud & Debbie Mounce, Scott Oller, Jan Peel, Bob & Karen Rosenberger, David Sanders, Stan Sanders, Ken Scobel, Bob Thomas, Mike & Vicki Wallace with daughter Catie, Dave Watt, Tom Williams, Steve Wisdom, and Bob Schonegg who re-joined IMC.

President, Brian Berkowitz, brought the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All members and guests were asked to introduce themselves.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Ronda Cherry gave highlights of the June meeting for Glenda Wallace who was absent.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: Mike Leyes:

Balance as of June 30, 2011 was \$5605.72.

Income for July, 2011, was \$50.00. Expenses for July, 2011, were \$5.20. Ending Balance as of July 28, 2011, was \$5650.52.

Membership: There were 74 members as of July 28, 2011.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: Dave Watt:

Dave stated that the website is updated now.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Brian Berkowitz:

Club Profile for Newsletter:

August - Overview of the NATS at Columbus, Ohio

September – Overview of August 25th meeting at Masterpiece Classic Cars

October – Mopar Nationals

Car Show Review:

Gary McCormick thanked everyone that helped on the Champion Chrysler Dodge Jeep show Saturday July 23rd.

Event Advertising Update: Bill Bratton:

Bill had no new updates for advertising. He suggested that we try getting 2012 car show dates set as soon as possible to give the highest exposure in magazines, flyers, etc.

Events Coordinator Update: Dave Sanders:

Summerfest, July 31st, 2011

Mopar Nationals – August 12th thru 14th, 2011

Cruise-In Columbus IN, 3pm, September 17th, 2011

It was confirmed that the Westgate cruise-in is scheduled for September 10, 2011, and they will donate \$250 to JDRF. There will be more information on the cruise-in at future meetings. Hot Dogs, hamburgers, and dash plaques were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS: Brian Berkowitz:

A. The August Mopar Club meeting will be held at Masterpiece Classic cars, 675 N. U.S. 31, Whiteland, Indiana, Thursday, August 25, 2011. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., with our meeting at 7:00 p.m. The Club will provide food and drinks. Please RSVP by August 5, 2011, to Brian Berkowitz, E-mail - bberkowitz@indy.rr.com, or telephone 317-696-7533.

B. Possible raffle of Car Art Sign at Westgate Cruise-In.

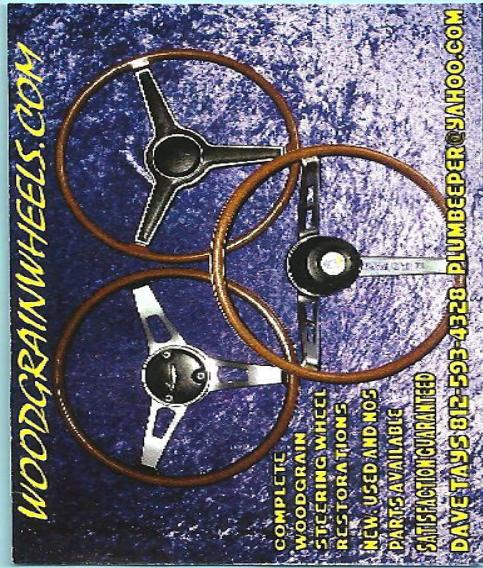
C. Car Art Sign Tour?

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