



Indy Mopar Club News

www.indymoparclub.com

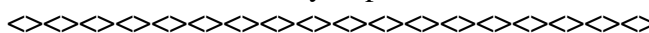
April 2019

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Steve Wisdom, Treasurer 317.457.5205	Dave Opel, Secretary 317.850.1834
Randy Smith, Communications Director 317.696.1894	

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

Next regular meeting: April 25, 2019, will be held at *MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East Street* Indianapolis (US 31- N of Southern Plaza between Sumner & National). Meet for dinner at 6pm, meeting at 7pm. A Map Quest link is available on the IMC website – www.indymoparclub.com.



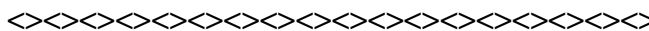
Presidents Message

President's message:

Just a reminder, have your picture taken with your car(s) and submit them for inclusion in the 'Member's Rides' on the club website. You may have updated your rides or even changed them. In either case we want to connect your faces with the cars.

Have you considered taking your car to the track? Test and tunes have started for this year. If you're not into drag racing, Cars and Coffee is happening each week rotating locations., and many weekly gatherings have started. Shine and Show your rides.

Bob Thomas - April 2019



Bob Thomas Profile

It all started in 1964 while I was at Indiana Tech. My plan was to be an aerospace engineer and join NASA. I had ordered a '63 Impala SS with a 409 4 speed. Probably ordered too late because it never showed up. Finally, I went to Chicago where I ordered it. Bottom line, that jerk did not help. He then told me he couldn't refund my deposit. Well I was already ticked off as I slammed down on his desk. That woke him up as well as my friend who was with me on the trip. After various unprintable words, he produced a check. I went immediately to the bank and asked if the check was good. Finally, I got my money.

So now I was still driving a rust bucket '55 Ford. My friend finally convinced me to look at Plymouth or Dodge. His story was that his Dad had a '63 Fury with a Max Wedge. He said he needed posi-traction and enough Power to go to work in Gettysburg during the winter. He was fond of taking his friends for a ride and have dad downshift to second at 60 mph. Yeah, black marks and squirrely at full throttle.

So, I had a High School buddy working at the Dodge dealer. I bought my first Dodge with a 383 4-bbl, four speed. It became the fastest one in town. I was hooked. I raced it at an AHRA track northwest of Ft. Wayne. They still Flagged the start back then. I seemed to get a 2 car-length launch on any of the competition. I usually won each time I entered. I had run out of money for school and my friend and I started a speed shop in Ft. Wayne. By then I was really hooked.

We were towing his '63 Studebaker Lark race car to the track with the Dodge, usually not racing the Coronet. Some people were tired of trying to beat me. The reason for not racing it was a '63 Dodge called 'RUSS' DODGE'. One race a guy came over to look at my car. His comment was "You're in trouble today, Russ is here". This guy would hammer the opponent 2 to 2.5 lengths at the start and look in his mirror as he feather-footed it to the finish. I pulled to the staging lanes being cautious to avoid him until the finals in the class. When the flag dropped, we both came out together. He later told me that he looked in the mirror and did not see me. I remember seeing him panic and throwing hard shifts to try to beat me. He should have had an

easy go at it. He was running a 4.30 : 1 rear end. Mine was 3.23 :1 single track. He also had 10.5-inch slicks and mine were 7-inch.

Well he did beat me by ½ a front fender. Later, he came over to introduce himself. He said that was the closest race he had been in. I showed him what I had done to the car. He was surprised with my rear gear and small tires. I had a 750-cfm carb from a Pontiac and some cheap headers. Most gearheads at that time couldn't tell the difference. We got to be good friends and I helped him change the cam in his engine. Chrysler was sending him cams to try.

Later, at the track I was approached by a guy looking that was in that class. He told me they were protesting Russ, saying he had a 426 and not a 383. I told them that they were wrong and I had worked on his engine. Back then most bench racers, and Hot Rod magazine, couldn't tell a RB from a B block. I decided to enter the contest. Counting cars again I was paired with the buddy of the guy. He had a Fury. Piece of cake. Lining up again paired with the loud mouth, I asked if he saw what I did to his partner? Arrogantly, He scoffed and said, "Yeah I saw. But he has a big car and I got one like yours. And I have 10-inch slicks and a 4.10 gear. You don't." I beat him worse than I had his buddy.

One day in '66 we were returning to the shop, we passed a closed filling station. Sitting behind it was a '64 Dodge sedan. I checked and found that it was owned by an insurance company. I contacted them and they sent out an adjuster to show it to me. He said it was stolen and had no engine or trans. The car was an all steel Ramcharger 426 Max Wedge sedan. Later I discovered it was 1 of 25 built just before the Hemi replaced the Max Wedge. The car came from Mr. Norm's in Chicago. Should have kept it. While looking at the car I asked for the key to the trunk. The insurance guy was in front and he threw them to me. Opening the trunk to inspect, there was the cross-ram manifold and carbs, 4.56 rear end and transmission. The rear and the trans are in my Colt today. I quickly closed the trunk and told him 'sold'. (\$300)

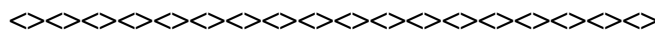
I ran the car for 7 years including the 1969 NHRA Div. 3 Super Stock Circuit. Top class back then. Pro Stock started in 1970. after 3 broken engines I ran out of money. Parts were getting expensive. In 1973 I went to Air Force Officer's school and stopped racing. Working for GM I was often criticized for driving Chryslers.

Going back to '70, at the shop we were setting up a street hemi for a young man. He seemed to have money but not very wise. We tuned the engine and rebuilt the trans. Put in a trans kit from B&M including a reverse valve body. My partner and I repeatedly told him and demonstrated the new shift pattern. His response was 'I know, I know. I know how to drive', We dropped it.

The night before the first race, we were finishing up. Partner says, you know we need to test it before delivery. It was 2 am, no mufflers. We idled to a road outside of town. I took the first pass. The car pulled the wheels and was gone. Awesome. He made a similar pass back. Slowly we went back to the shop. About 10 minutes later a police car cruised by very slow and the passenger officer was wagging his finger at us. They knew where we lived.

Later in '84 a friend at GM offered a '77 Colt for free if I would make it a race car. I said yes and the rest was history. These are only a few stories during that time. No time here, maybe later.

Author~~~Bob Thomas



Indy Mopar Club Meeting Minutes Meeting March 28, 2019

WELCOME AND SIGN-IN:

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by our President Bob Thomas.

Members were asked to introduce themselves and say what is in the future. Those that attended were Bob Thomas, Chuck & Linda Butler, Ronda Cherry, Tim and Sandy Dewitt, Bill Edgerton, Tom Kelly, Ron Kriech, Dart & Donna Liebrandt, Dave Opel, Rick Ordo, Jan Peel, Jeff Platzer, Evan Springer, Steve & Cheryl Wisdom, and Rick Zimmerman.

Secretary's Report – Dave Opel

- A. Highlights from the February minutes presented. No additions and/or corrections.
- B. A motion was made by Evan Springer to accept the minutes as presented, Bob Thomas seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Wisdom

- A. February 28, 2019 balance was \$1,723.19; March income was \$592.00; March Expenses were \$200.00; March 28, 2019 Balance \$2,115.19. Flower Fund \$108.85. 46 paid members. A motion was made by Evan Springer to accept the treasurer's report, Chuck Butler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Communication Director – Randy Smith - Absent

- A. No report was given as Randy was absent.

Member News, Birthdays, Anniversaries – Chuck Butler

- A. Chuck Butler gave the report for the birthdays and anniversaries. Congratulations to all.

Event Calendar – Chuck Butler

- A. Evan Springer has placed IMC with Old Cars Only activity Roster
- B. As spring has finally arrived shows and drive-ins are being listed & organized.

Old Business

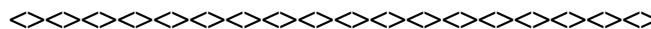
- A. No update for Indy Cylinder Head Tour – Ronda Cherry
 - a. Ronda is still in contact with them
- B. Member's page on IMC website - Photo of members cars with their member. A motion was made by Evan Springer to pursue this, Steve Wisdom seconded the motion, the motion carried.
- C. Other unfinished business - Membership

New Business – Bob Thomas

- A. Fletcher Cruise-in - July 13th, with Dick Crawmer volunteering to be in charge of arrangements.
- B. Westgate Cruise-In September 7th with rain date September 14th.
- C. Tom Kelly discussed an upcoming car show at Auburn, IN May 17th-18th. The Hoosier Plymouth Owners Club is organizing an overnight trip. For information contact Tom Kelly or Jan Peel
- D. Club Newsletter Member Profile
 - a. April – Bob Thomas
 - b. May – Dart Liebrandt
 - c. June - Sam Willard
 - d. July - Fletcher Cruise-In
- E. Other new business
 - a. Open to membership
 - b. Ideas for Club Activities
 - c. Show and tell

A motion was made by Evan Springer to adjourn and was seconded by Steve Wisdom. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Opel



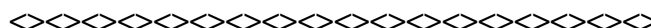
May Birthdays:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Curt Carzares, 5-7 | Harry Ewing, 5-7 | Dick Crawmer, 5-11 |
| Ed Leyes, 5-12 | Nicole Springer, 5-12 | Keith Rohloff, 5-16 |
| Xiang Thomas, 5-16 | Rick Bruettig, 5-19 | Glenn Keilman, 5-19 |
| Steve Wisdom, 5-22 | Mary Leyes, 5-23 | Matt Trout, 5-26 |
| Mike Leyes, 5-28 | | |

May Anniversaries:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Evan and Nicole Springer 5-1 | Bruce and Lois Phillips, 5-7 |
| Bob and Xiang Thomas, 5-20 | Steve and Michelle Haug, 5-25 |
| Bob and Karen Rosenberger, 5-26 | |

Congratulations to all!



FOR SALE

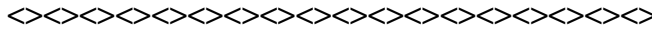
1970 Plymouth Barracuda 440, Torqueflite with Overdrive; Slapstick shifter functions with toggle for electronic OD. 3.91 rear ratio Member Contact info: Ed Wagler at 812-327-1605



**Members attending March 28th meeting with Mopar banner sent from John Bauer
Thanks to Chuck & Linda Butler for the picture
Tattler's Corner**



The weather finally cooperated so that we had a nice crowd at the meeting this month
Let's just hope that it favors us again for our April 25th meeting.



A few months back I saw a cute Dodge commercial on TV. The commercial had a dad working on his car and his little boy sitting on the ground next to it playing with LEGO SRT vehicles. They were patterned from one of the FAST & FURIOUS movies. Naturally I had to see where I could get my hands on this LEGO set ASAP! Well, EBay came through for me once again and a few days later, the box was on my porch. This LEGO Speed Champion set contains an SRT Demon Challenger & a '70 Charger along with a Drag Strip Starting Line 'Christmas Tree'. So Teresa and I gave the set to our 10 year old grandson Jadin Dickerson who loves all things LEGO. His two Dodges are now rumbling at the starting line waiting for the lights to come down!



Submitted by Tom Kelly 4-17-19

2019 INDY MOPAR CLUB – EVENT LIST – TBV – to be verified TBV – to be determined

Jan	31	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
Feb	8-10	Fri-Sun		World of Wheels	Ind State Fairgrounds	Tom Kelly
	17	Sun	8a-3p	Chicagoland Mopar Connection Swap Meet	Illinois	Tom Kelly
	28	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
Mar	1	Fri	TBD	Set-Up – Indy Cyl Hd Chrysler Perfor. Trade Show		(Ronda Cherry)
	2-3	Sat-Sun	9a-5p	Indy Cyl Hd Chrysler Performance Trade Show	Ind State Fairgrounds	Bob Thomas
	28	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
Apr	25	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
May	4	Sat	11a-5p	Cinco de Mopar-Commun Cancer Show	Lafayette, IN	Tom Kelly
	14-18	Tue-Sun	8a-?	Mecum Collector Car Auction	IN State Fairgrounds	Tom Kelly
	17-18	Fri-Sat		Chrysler Power Classic Nat'l Trail Raceway	Columbus OH	Dave Watt
	30	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
	31-Jun 1	Fri-Sat		FAST-Pure Stock Drags	Martin MI	Dave Watt-Mike Leyes
Jun	TBD	Wed-Sun		Airflow Club of America National Meet	TBD	Tom Kelly
	27	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
Jul	13	Sat	TBD	Fletcher CDJR/IMC Cruise-In	Franklin, IN	Dick Crawmer
	12-14	Fri-Sun		Carlisle Chrysler Nats	Carlisle PA	Dave Watt
	16-21	Tue-Sun		National DeSoto Club Convention	Hutchinson KS	Tom Kelly
	20-21	Sat-Sun		Belvidere Mopar Happening	Belvidere IL	Tom Kelly
	25	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
Aug	9-11	Fri-Sun		MOPAR NATIONALS-Nat'l Trails Raceway	Columbus (Hebron) OH	Tom Kelly
	13-18	Tue-Sat		Walter P Chrysler Club National Meet	Auburn Hills MI	Tom Kelly
	13-17	Tue-Sat		Back to the Bricks Car Show	Flint MI	Tom Kelly
	17	Sat		Woodward Dream Cruise	Oakland County MI	Tom Kelly
	29	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
	TBD	Fri	TBD	DSR Open House-Car Show	Brownsburg IN	Evan Springer
Sep	7	Sat	TBD	West Gate Chrysler / IMC Cruise-in	Plainfield IN (Rain Date 9-14)	Bob Thomas
	12-15	Thu-Sun		Plymouth Owners Club National Meet	St. Clair MO	Tom Kelly/Jan Peel
	13-14	Fri-Sat		Pure Stock Muscle Car Drag Race	Stanton MI	Dave Watt/Tom Kelly
	19-22	Thu-Sun		NMCA Race-Show	Lucas Raceway (IRP-Clermont)	Dave Watt
	26	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
	TBD	Sat	9a-12n	JDRF RUN/WALK – Military Park	Indianapolis IN	Evan Springer
Oct	31	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg Nominations for 2020 Officers	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
Nov	23-24	Sat-Sun		Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals show	Rosemont IL	Dave Watt/Tom Kelly
	21	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg Election night for 2020 Officers	MCL Cafeteria	Bob Thomas
Dec	TBD	Sat	TBD	Indy Mopar Club Christmas Party	Steve Wisdom's Clubhouse 1202 Leisure Lane, Greenwood 46142	Bob Thomas

In May we have lots of extra things to do and think about - Mother's Day - a day to honor both our living and deceased Mother's. Then all the Racing celebrations connected with the Indianapolis Speedway.

