



Indy Mopar Club News

www.indymoparclub.com

April 2017

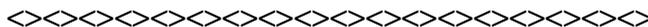
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Meetings are the last Thursday of every month except November & December.

Next regular meeting: Thursday, April 27, 2017 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.



Steve Claycomb: MOPAR CLUB BIO

I grew up in the small town of Vincennes in southwest Indiana along the Wabash River. I am the third oldest of nine children. Yep; four boys and five girls. My dad was an auto mechanic at the local Dodge dealership in town; where he became a front end alignment specialist. Mom was a stay-at-home mom. With nine kids what else could she do!

So my first introduction to MOPARS was the car dad had when my oldest brother was old enough to drive. It was a 1958 Plymouth Savoy, with a 318 V8 Torqueflite push button transmission. For the times it was a pretty stronger engine, and that car could really fly.

Granddad borrowed it one summer to visit his other son in Dallas Texas, and said he ran 85 miles an hour for 8 hours. Well, when my brother got his license, he would get the car on a Sunday morning and my other brother and a few friends would stop by the local donut shop and everyone would buy a half dozen donuts and a pint of milk. Except Bill. He was too cheap, he would just wait till the rest of us were full and take what was left over. There is always one like that in every crowd. Well once we had the donuts and a tank of gas, we would cruise southern Indiana and Illinois for several hours.

That particular Sunday, oldest brother Ed was driving on US 50 dual lane towards Lawrenceville, Illinois. I can still hear the music blaring on the radio, all four windows down- " I FOUGHT THE LAW AND THE LAW WON". Then this Cadillac passed us. Ed said, "We can't let that happen", so he floors it and passed the Cadillac, then the Cadillac passed us again and Ed comments the old Plymouth seems to be holding back. We were coming into Lawrenceville so he pulls off on a side road. Now you would have had to know Ed, he never does anything easy. As I mentioned earlier this was a Torqueflite push button. Anytime Ed took off from a stop he would have to start with Drive1, then Drive 2, and then DRIVE. Yah, you're right, 70 miles an hour in Drive2! She didn't blow but there was a distinctive knocking sound. Since being a mechanic dad rebuilt the engine, but she was never quite so fast again.

The next MOPAR of note was a 56 Dodge 1/2 ton public service utility bed truck with working spot lights on both sides of the cab compartment. The Dodge had an old inline 6 cylinder which was not quite enough, so Dad installed an old HEMI from a farm irrigation pump that a farmer had given him for work he had done. It was matched to a three speed standard transmission and a low geared rear end. It was not as fast as the old Plymouth but it would get up there quick. Well, you know what wild kids do with a truck with side spotlights on a boring Saturday night? In southern Indiana we like to call it "bush whacking". You would turn off the headlights and sneak up on someone parked out on old lovers lane road then light up the whole countryside with the high beam headlights and both spots. It was amazing how fast two people could get from the back seat to the front. Of course we were a mile down the road before they could get their car started to chase us. Boy, we were rotten kids.

Now we come to my first car. In 1967 my older brother, by one year, Don, had a 1964 Dodge Dart convertible, which he was going to trade in on a new GTO. The Pontiac dealership was going to give him 600 dollars for it. He told me if I could come up with the 600 I could have it. I checked my bank account and



borrowed 387 dollars and bought it.

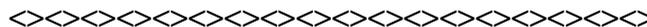
I was a junior in high school at the time and to have my own car; a convertible to boot, that was a big deal! I drove the 64 two years in high school then two years while I went to Vincennes University where I received an Associates degree in mechanical engineering. Upon graduation I was hired as a mechanical draftsman for Davidson Industries in Southport on the south side of Indianapolis.

While working in Indy I was dating my high school sweetheart from Vincennes. So every Friday at five o'clock I would fire up the Dodge and fly down SR 67 to Vincennes, then stay till late Sunday night and head back to Indy. I swear some of those Sunday's I think that old car knew the way back to Indy by its self because many a Sunday night I don't remembering driving back.

Then on June 12, 1971 we were married and the 64 became our family car. We drove the 64 until it was replaced in 1973 with a Dodge Dart Sport 318 automatic. We were also in need of a more dependable second car which ended up being a 1970 Dodge van with a 318 automatic.

The old 64 was relegated to sporadic duty as a spare vehicle and deteriorated due to non use. Then in 1976 we bought a home in the Edgewood and 31 area. The only problem was the house only had a 1 car garage, so we had a 2 car garage built in back to park the Dodge Dart. While in the garage I put into motion plans to restore it. In 1967 I payed my brother 600 dollars for the car and it seems that once I started to restore it everything I did on it cost 600. New convertible top \$600, new interior \$600, rebuild engine \$600, new paint job \$600. Well now we are here in 2017 and the old girl is in restored condition and ready to go CRUISING.

Author~~~~~Steve Claycomb



From your Indy Mopar Club President:



I know now that “Trouble” (Jan) is feeling much better because she is now starting to hassle me for my President’s Comments before I am ready. What would I (we all) do without her?

Thursday April 13th several Indy Mopar members and a few other guests from the Modern Mopar Group met at the Business Arts Design facility in Beech Grove, Indiana. We are all more familiar with the Business Division’s name, Car Art Design.

The owner, Bart, showed us around their recently upgraded facility with its many product and art displays and the latest technology in equipment, all the while discussing the myriad types of in-house art work, design, and signage that they produce for many high profile customers. Everything from display signs, banners, decals, and wraps just to name a small example of their unlimited abilities. Their top of the line equipment, supplies and displays made for a very impressive tour.

Bart then proceeded to run, from start to finish, an example of the processes involved to produce a finished product of a Classic Car Show Board / Display sign. I was really impressed with the very best of materials used in the process and the highest quality of the finished products. Thanks to Steve Wisdom who made arrangements for our visit and tour of the Car Art facility and operation.

I hope that everyone is starting to get in the groove for Fletcher/ IMC Cruise-In on July 8th. This, our next big endeavor, is but just around the corner now. It is never too late to make arrangements to acquire items for door prizes and raffles and etc. If there any questions and/or suggestions for the Cruise-In don’t hesitate to contact Rick Ordo, Dick Crawmer or Bill Edgerton, (our Cruise-In trifecta) who once again accepted the task of taking the lead in planning and managing the IMC/Fletcher Cruise-In this July.

I did meet up with a few of the other Indy Mopar “Group” and its leadership. It is not that we came up with any ideas as how others can distinguish the difference in our Club and their Group or not get mixed up as to who is who. But, we did agree that caution must be made when using like organizational names. We agreed that we are basically in it for the same reasons. We both desire to serve others and we all Love our Mopars. I did invite them to our meetings and functions as did they to us. More later.

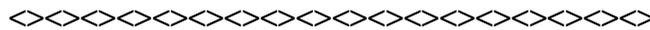
I’m sure that everyone got to see at least one of the dramatic Dodge Demon unveiling. It is truly an incredible vehicle. I just can’t figure out which color I want? Hum, I would think that the Last Viper would be a great investment too! Maybe I can get one of each, hum?

You may get tired of me saying how much I appreciate this great Indy Mopar Club. But, it is all of you that make this an exceptional Club! I hope everyone can make the next IMC meeting April 27th.

Be safe! “Mopar or No Car”.

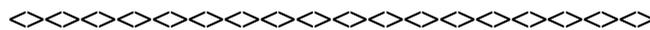
Evan Springer

April, 2017



THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Tony Fields is still having more ups and downs with heart issues. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.



INDY MOPAR CLUB MONTHLY MEETING, MARCH 30, 2017

“Show and Tell” presentation started just prior to the Meeting by Tom Kelly. (See article in this issue).

The meeting started at 7pm with introductions of new members preceding intros by the other members attending. New member Terry Snider who works for Don Schumacher Racing spoke briefly about the new Drag Pack/Demon Challenger prototype that DSR has been testing. It was noted that the full details on the Supercharged Challenger Demon will be released to the public at the New York Auto Show April 14 with an advanced event on April 11.

The meeting was attended by Brian Berkowitz, Ronda Cherry, Jack Collins, Bill & Randi Edgerton, LouAnn Ewing, Tom & Teresa Kelly, Ron & Dru Kriech, Ed Leyes, Mike Leyes, Ken Malott, Scott Oller, Rick Ordo, Jeff Platzer, Dave Sanders, Randy Smith, Terry & Catina Snyder, Evan Springer, Bob Thomas, Steve & Cheryl Wisdom, and Rick Zimmerman.

Steve Wisdom gave the Treasurers Report (current balance \$2068.81) and noted we are at 59 members that included 13 new & renewals at the Indy Cylinder Head Show in March. He noted he can order IMC Polo shirts in any color for \$20.

Randy Smith gave the Communications Report and mentioned his fiancée Ann has some ideas for updating the IMC Website as she provided this for her College employer. Once classes are out at end of May, they will work with Lynn Miller and establish a committee to put ideas together. Randy mentioned that there has been a lot of interest in our Facebook site so need to review criteria for allowing access and monitoring.

Evan passed out the new IMC Business Cards that Tom Kelly had printed for members to hand out to prospective new members at shows this summer. Evan also mentioned another group has set up their name and a website as 'IndyMopar.com' and is sponsoring an upcoming event. There is concern about confusion between groups. Brian Berkowitz was familiar with the group and provided some info that he understood. It is approximately 4 months old, they do a lot of cruising and have benefited the charity 'Caring Bridge'. They are comprised primarily of late model Mopars (new Challengers, Chargers) so Evan said he will contact them to discuss the issues. It was brought up that Indy Modern Mopars might be a suggestion to further differentiate the two clubs.

Ronda Cherry provided member news, birthdays and anniversaries. It was noted that Jan Peel, newsletter editor has been doing well with her cancer treatment but is currently battling a fractured vertebrae issue. It was also noted that Tony Fields' health issues have been an up and down battle. During the meeting, Evan noted it was great to see that Ed Leyes was able to attend the meeting after his serious health issues.

Event Calendar highlights were discussed. A flyer was routed noting that the west side Avon IN Lowes Home Improvement store will start having a weekly cruise-in on Saturday nights starting May 6- Sept 30 from 6p-9p.

It was noted that the Hemmings Motor News "Great Race" will have a stop in Franklin IN this summer. (TVK- subsequent to the meeting: **The Great Race Starts** in Jacksonville FL and ends in Traverse City MI. The Rally along the 'Dixie Highway' will stop for an overnight stay in Franklin, IN at the 'Courthouse' on Tues June 27 starting at 4:30pm. Lots of early vintage cars participate. See Greatrace.com for details).

Evan provided a recap of the Chrysler Performance Trade Show (Indy Cyl Hd Show). Excellent attendance this year. The IMC provided an Appreciation Plaque to Russ Flagle.

Upcoming events include the Car Arts Facility tour on April 13 at 6:30p. No group gathering for dinner ahead was planned due to work schedules so meet at the facility at 4th & Main in Beech Grove. Evan noted that Car Arts also print banners and it was proposed and approved that a new banner for the club sign-up table for events like the Indy Cyl Hd Show be purchased. It could be double side printed for registration, IMC Logo, etc. Evan will investigate.

The Fletcher Show is set for July 8. The term "Cruise-In" was discussed and the club decided that was the correct terminology to use for event advertising so it was not construed as a car show with trophies. It will be a cruise-in only as done last year. Evan asked all to try to obtain door prizes. He has a formal "IMC Letter" for presentation to companies during solicitation so they know who we are and that we are a legitimate donor to JDRF. See Evan for copies. Please contact Rick Ordo, Fletcher event organizer, for additional information about the Cruise-In.

The Don Schumacher Racing Open House – Car Show will be Friday Sept 1 and the IMC is requesting a large turnout, at least a dozen IMC cars. It was a large event last year with many racing and other 'silent bid' auction items and well worth attending. This is the Friday of Labor Day weekend.

Evan noted a good article by Dave Opel this past month and that Steve Claycomb is providing a member profile for the April newsletter. Scott Oller volunteered for May. Looking for volunteers for additional newsletter articles each month.

Evan requested that members volunteer to work out details to set up other Club events.

The Lucas Oil Raceway (Indpls Raceway Park for the old-timers) **Wednesday Test and Tune** (T&T) starts in April and continues thru Oct. Many Club members expressed interest in drag racing their cars. Tom Kelly looked up the T&T schedule and entry costs: 12 & under Free; Spectators \$10 and Racecar/Driver \$25. Helmet (SNELL 2010 rating) required if car is 13.99 or quicker in quarter mile. Tom Kelly will set up a couple of Wednesdays this summer for the club.

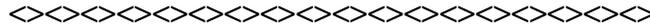
Evan confirmed the following club event dates:

2017 Westgate Cruise-in Sept 9;

2017 JDRF Walk Sept 30;

2017 IMC Christmas Party Dec 16.

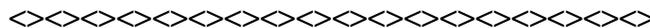
Minutes submitted by Tom Kelly (Dave Opel absent)



SHOW AND TELL-Vintage Plastic Model Kits – by Tom Kelly

The “Show & Tell” presentation included discussion of various vintage E-bay & Lebanon’s ‘Hobbies-n-History’ Model Shop plastic model kits. Plastic kits are made for every interest including cars, planes, old Indy Cars, boats and even Birds. Examples of all types were brought in for viewing. It was pointed out that some vintage kits that have been started but unfinished can be purchased at a much more reasonable price than the \$100+ price they are bringing on eBay. Some household chemicals like ‘Simply Green’ can be used to strip the original paint finish and you have a like-new kit to start over. A Johan ‘1960 DeSoto Adventurer’ kit was brought in to illustrate.

A plastic model of a Ford Tri-Motor passenger plane was brought in for the Show-and-Tell display. The Ford Tri-Motor was manufactured from 1926-1933. Tom had seen a real Tri-Motor on display at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn and became fascinated considering it appeared to have a corrugated sheet metal skin. Tom noted that another restored plane is being flown around the country for both display and if interested, you may sign up for a ride for \$75 per person. This was suggested as a possible IMC event if anyone was interested in seeing this antique plane. During the discussion, Evan Springer noted he had gotten an opportunity a few years back to actually sit in the co-pilot seat as he has an active pilot’s license. Evan was handed over the controls to fly it once in the air. He noted the controls are cable operated instead of the hydraulics used in later era planes and this proved to be a thrilling experience. He highly encouraged anyone interested to grasp the opportunity. Per their website, the plane will be in Bloomington IN, Cook Aviation on May 18-21, 2017. It will later fly into Anderson IN, Anderson Municipal Airport-Darlington Field on June 15-18, 2017. Please contact Tom Kelly 317-439-1727 if interested in additional information.



May Birthdays:



- Harry Ewing, 5-7
- Dick Crawmer, 5-11
- Ed Leyes, 5-12
- Nicole Springer, 5-12
- Carla Crask, 5-13
- Xiang Thomas, 5-16
- Glenn Keilman, Jr., 5-19
- Steve Wisdom, 5-22
- Mary Leyes, 5-23
- Bill Crask, 5-24
- Mike Leyes, 5-28

May Anniversaries:

- Evan and Nicole Springer, 5-1
- Bob and Kim Vorpe, 5-17
- Bob and Xiang Thomas, 5-20
- Steve and Michelle Haug, 5-25
- Bob and Karen Rosenberger, 5-26 50 years!!!!

Congratulations to all!

