





March 2010

www.indymoparclub.com

Jan Peel Editor

Tom Kelly, President

Ronda Cherry, Vice President Mike Leves, Treasurer Jessica McCormick, Secretary

Dave Watt, Communications Director

Meetings are the last Thursday of every month except November & December Next regular meeting: Thursday March 25, 2010 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.



In previous articles, I have written about my two current muscle cars: A 1970 Hemicuda and a 1971 Challenger R/T. This article is about my first car, a mist green metallic 1968 Plymouth GTX and why and how I came by it.

The picture above was taken in August of '68. Me, wife Karen, and only child Shauna. It was a hot day and we had just got back from taking a ride out in the country. We had only had the car for eight weeks when this picture was taken. The strange thing was, I didn't even have a drivers license. My wife Karen did all the driving. I had never gotten a license when I turned 16, as all my friends had done. My father had died of cancer when I was 15 and I went work at Burger Chef shortly thereafter. High school during the week, then five-tomidnight, six or seven nights a week didn't leave any time to go get a license. I was something of a curiosity to my friends. As time went by, I deliberately avoided getting one because I knew I would be tempted to get some old clunker and spend what little time I had available, not to mention money, maintaining it. Most of my friends did have cars and they spent all of their money repairing and maintaining them. I decided to save as much money as I could so I could go to college. I knew my mother was struggling to make it as a single mom and had no spare money for me. I did help out by buying all my own meals, clothes, books for school, and transportation. I washed and ironed my own clothes and did some chores around the house but in reality I was on my own. From the time I went to work until I married, I mostly only just slept at home. After high school, I went to Purdue Extension (now IUPUI) and worked at a neighborhood pharmacy six or seven days a week, mostly at night.

Don't misunderstand, I had always liked cars and helped a lot of my friends work on them. I knew how to drive by the indulgence of my friends. I just didn't have the money to spend on it. That's not to say I wasn't interested in cars. I was particularly interested in drag racing but I also followed NASCAR back in the day. Sox & Martin and Richard Petty focused my attention. That's how I became to be a Mopar fan.

I married Karen while I was going to Purdue. It helped because she had a regular full-time job. The problem was, she became pregnant. Well, I had to get a real job myself. So I started working for National Starch & Chemical as a lab technician. We decided to buy a new car to replace her '60 Corvair. I had been reading most of the car magazines of the day and thought myself to be familiar with the subject of muscle cars. We happened to go to the Indy Auto Show and when I saw the newly-remodeled GTX for 1968, I knew I was destined to own one. A few months later, I went up to Northside Chrysler-Plymouth and ordered one. 4-speed? Of course! Traction package? You bet! Interior upgrade? Why not! Vinyl Roof? Yeah! Six weeks later the car was ready.

I had to get my brother to go with me because I couldn't legally drive it. I thought the salesman's jaw was going to hit the floor when he handed me the keys, I said to give them to my brother because I didn't have a license. Ah! Life's little memorable moments, we never know where they are going to come from. The insurance company thought it so odd they sent an investigator around, twice, to ask if anyone had ever seen me driving the car. They thought I was lying about not driving the car so I could get a better rate by having my wife as the only driver. I mean, a guy who orders a hot, 440, 4-speed muscle car and claims he doesn't drive it because he doesn't have a drivers license?! To say they were skeptical was an understatement.

I did get my license about six weeks after this photo was taken. The guy at the license branch was taken aback when he found out he was going to be in a "monster" of a car (his actual words, by the way) to give me the over-the-road driving test. He thought I was pretty gutsy bringing a car like that. He said usually people brought very sedate small cars with automatic transmissions to take their test in. He also noticed that it was strong in the acceleration department - oh yeah! I passed but he told me I should work on parallel parking a bit more. Anyone that knows me knows I can't park. I just never had much skill in going backwards!

I loved that car. Even now, about once a year I will have a dream about it. I wake up and have to remind myself that I traded that car off years ago. It must be voodoo. There is something primeval about the feeling you get when you unleash a big block car. I may be getting old but the feeling is still there as fresh as it was 40 years past. I only owned the car for a year and a half. It was just too costly to drive - the way I drove it. The 440 is an incessant gas guzzler. I had to use Sunoco 260 in it. Otherwise, it would diesel-on forever. So, I traded it for a more economical Lemon Twist '70 340 Duster. The GTX was not a practical car for me at the time but some things you just have to do. Like the new Challenger SRT. I'm feeling "that old voodoo" again. Now, what color should I get....?

Authored and picture furnished by Bob Rosenberg (Rosie)

From the desk of our President, Tom Kelly

Welcome to the following new members: Preston & Rose Droddy, Indianapolis, 1970 Dodge Challenger T/A and 1970 Dodge Challenger T/A; Jesse Stephenson, Indianapolis, 1974 Dodge Dart and 1974 Dodge Dart. Welcome back to the following former members who have rejoined: Dave & Terry Fishburn, Fairland, 1974 Dodge Dart Swinger; Brent & Julie Norman, Brownsburg, 1970 Plymouth AAR Cuda; Jim Rockey, Sharpsville, 1970 Plymouth Roadrunner; and David Tays, Greensburg, 1970 Plymouth Road Runner. Tom Kelly

From our members

From Larry Mayes: The Cruise in Somerset KY is the 4th Saturday of each month. The MOPAR weekend is May 22, 2010. Hot Rod weekend is in July and is like a mini Power tour with groups starting from 3 or 4 different cities and head to Somerset, I've read up to 2,500 cars on this weekend. If anyone is up to a road trip this is one I have always wanted to do. It is about a 5 hour drive down. If I were to go, was thinking of cruising down on Friday night and getting a room and return on Sunday. So is there a group that would be up to a road trip and what month would you want to go? I think it starts in April till Oct. Here is a link to the official Cruise homepage. http://www.somernitescruise.com/ There is also a web cam where you can view it from downtown Somerset. Don't remember where to link to it, buddy at work is from Somerset and told me about it. Comments from World of Wheels. I heard from several Indy HiWinders members on the club display and all thought we had the best and glad we won the prize money. Also they were telling me about the cruise in and show in August and would like to see some of the club cars there. They were really impressed with Jim Kelly's twin Savoy's Max Wedge cars and would like to have them there. Larry

Indy Mopar Club Monthly Meeting Secretary's Report February 25, 2010, 7:00pm

Welcome and Sign-in: Tom Kelly, President

- Tom brought the meeting to order at 7:00pm
- Ronda Cherry announced January Birthdays and Anniversaries
- All members were asked to introduce themselves and tell about their car(s)
- <u>34</u> Members and <u>2</u> guest(s) attended

Attendees were: John & Carol Ann Bauer, Brian Berkowitz, James & Laura Bratby, Bill Bratton, Ronda & Dennis Cherry, Estell Claycomb, Jack Collins, Mel Crane, Rick Eilert, John Heeringa, Dan Kelly, Jim Kelly, Tom & Teresa Kelly, Ed Leyes, Mike Leyes, Gary & Jessica McCormick, Jim Parker & Chris Usher, Michael Patterson, Jan Peel, David Sanders, Bob Schonegg, Ken & Sharon Scobel, Bob Thomas, Dave Watt, Tom Williams, Rick & Gnger Zimmerman, and former members David & Terry Fishburn (rejoined IMC tonight).

Secretary's Report: Jessica McCormick

• Jessica gave the highlights of the January 2010 meeting

Treasurer's Report & Membership Update: Mike Leyes

- Balance Sheet
 - February beginning balance: \$2,637.95
 - February income: \$771.00
 - February expenses: \$423.02
 - February ending balance: \$2,985.93 (Flower Fund balance: \$508.94)
- Membership: Currently 55 members for 2010
- Mike suggested raising the price of prior year show shirts from \$2 to \$3. A vote was taken and approved.

Events Calendar: Ronda Cherry

- Mopar Swap Meet, March 6-7, Indiana State Fairgrounds
- ADESA Car Show, May 15, ADESA Auto Auction (note date change)
- Orphan Car Show (MI), June 5

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

Communications Report: Dave Watt

- World of Wheels pictures posted
 - Send additional pictures for posting
- Newsletter Announcement
 - Send articles for newsletter to Jan; anything interesting you may run across

Old Business: Tom Kelly

- A. World of Wheels
 - a. Tom thanked all who helped out during set-up and tear-down. And a BIG thank you to the Kelly family for donating their time designing, building and donating the display!
 - b. IMC won Best Club Display with \$500 cash prize and all IMC cars won awards
 - c. Indy High Winders would like to formally present the award to the Club and host us at one of their weekly Thursday meetings, date set for April 8th; will be discussed in March
- B. Mopar Swap Meet (Indy Cylinder Head)
 - a. Sign-up sheets passed around for
 - i. Club volunteers to staff club table
 - ii. Volunteers to assist with entry doors on Friday
 - iii. Member cards to be displayed
 - b. Membership brochures will be updated and printed in time
 - c. Tom will make 'Save the Date' flier with club show dates
- C. Member profiles for newsletter and website
 - a. March: Bob Rosenberger
 - b. April: Dave Fishburn
 - c. May: Bob Schonegg
- D. Car Shows
 - a. ADESA, May 15 (note change); rain date June 5
 - i. \$20 car registration, ADESA will handle money
 - ii. The Club will assist with
 - 1. Registration from 9am to noon
 - 2. 50/50 Raffle and others
 - 3. Kiddie activities
 - iii. New award: JDRF People's Choice
 - iv. Marsh possibly donate food and bring antique car collection
 - v. It was suggested that the Club meet before hand (breakfast possibly) and ride to show together; discussion was tabled for March meeting
 - vi. Dave Watt will check with Ken Mosier to see if he will give Finer Detail Award
 - vii. Club cars will be in the show and can be judged, if owner chooses
 - b. Champion, July 17th evening: Discussion tabled for March meeting
- E. Fletcher Event
 - a. Tom Kelly visited Fletcher and they are very interested in hosting show this year
 - b. They are fine with any date suggestion
 - c. A vote to pursue item further was taken and agreed; date proposed September 11th
- F. Insurance Policy: No new information, still under last year's policy
- G. New Events
 - a. Coordinator sign-up sheet passed around
 - b. Jeff King Shop Tour (coordinator: Brian Berkowitz)
 - i. Jeff King offered to open his shop for a demonstration and dinner
 - ii. Brian suggested to visit in conjunction with IMC's March meeting
 - iii. The Club voted to visit the shop on March 18th at 7pm

- iv. Expecting 25-30 members attending
- v. Notification emails will be sent to club members (mail/phone calls to members with no email address)
- H. IMC Logo Sweatshirts
 - a. See Brian Berkowitz for ordering
 - b. Order will be placed after March meeting

New Business: Tom Kelly

- A. Member Directory: Tabled until March meetinga. Only for club members, information by permission only
- B. Club Calendar: Tabled until March meeting
- C. 50/50 Drawing: \$88 total; Jim Kelly won \$44

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded

Respectfully Submitted, Jessica McCormick, Secretary

Upcoming Events - **Indy Mopar Club and others

**<u>March 25, 2010</u> – Indy Mopar Club meeting at MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East Street, Indianapolis

**<u>April 29, 2010</u> – Indy Mopar Club meeting at MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East Street, Indianapolis

- **May 15, 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 11, 2010, Indy Mopar/Fletcher Chrysler Car Show

**September 29-October 3, 2010 Fall Carlisle

**October 6-10, 2010 Hershey AACA

Member Birthdays and Anniversaries



April Birthdays:

Butch Gillock, 4-4 Debbie Komlanc, 4-5 Mel Crane, 4-7 Kristen Gallup, 4-12 Ginger Zimmerman, 4-14 Rick Eilert, 4-15 Stan Sanders, 4-17 Rick Zimmerman, 4-19 <u>April Anniversaries:</u> I am not showing any for April Congratulations to all!

Wanted/Looking for: 3.23 or 3.55 gear set for 8 1/4 rear end in new/good condition. Chad 765-361-9098

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



A rough estimate of hours put in making the display for World of Wheels was 200. Now at \$0.00 per hour the overall cost to the club was \$0.00. Wonder if they hire out???? And what is this I hear about Ginger saying she worked the "Boulevard"???? Sometimes you hear the strangest things. Guess it's all in a day's work.

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 <u>Jpeel83719@aol.com</u> 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.)

A Little Bit of Humor

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. "Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle."

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. "I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!"

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, "Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit." "And why not, darling?" "You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning."

A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, everyone burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, "What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?"

