



## Mopar Muscle Cars of Austin

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### Random Thoughts & Club Happenings

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Last month I started the newsletter out with a “news flash” about the fact that PST now offers Polygraphite suspension kits for 73 and up B-bodies. I can now announce that its not fiction, and they aren’t on indefinite backorder! My kit arrived last week. The kit is very complete, including sway bar bushings, all 4 ball joints, strut rod bushings, all 4 tie rod ends, and all upper and lower control arm bushings. In this kit, you must re-use both the upper and lower control arm bushing outer shells, but new inner shells are provided. The workmanship looks good, but I won’t know about the fit until I start the installation. That, of course, is a job that I probably will postpone as long as I can- just the thought of suspension work gives me visions of bleeding knuckles, grease ground into my (blond) hair, and lots of very bad language...

The multi-club Cruise and picnic in Bastrop was another great time this year. The weather looked a bit threatening and several of us who had anticipated a warmer day nearly *froze* while we were waiting for everyone to show up at Callahan’s. But it was actually much warmer and less windy down by the river in Bastrop, and it turned into a wonderful day. We had a good turnout too: Enrique Guerra drove his Barracuda, Dave and Dean Haight brought out the freshly painted green Charger (and had the best looking late B-body at the picnic by a WIDE margin!), Terry Siegmund brought Lucy the 70 6-pack 440 ‘Cuda with a bad attitude (but she behaved that day...), Steven Dykes brought his Dakota, Ken Beard brought his ‘74 Satellite, and I brought my ‘66

Polara. A lot of people came in their daily drivers because of the threatening weather, but I heard several people comment that it made the gathering a bit more interesting since there were cars out and about that aren't usually seen at these events.

After the picnic, several of us decided to make a stop by the junkyard in Niederwald on the way home. I think we all picked up a few goodies, Steven Dykes nearly lost his cell phone in the weeds, and I confirmed a suspicion that I've had for about a year now. Listen up you can save a buck or two. By now, most folks are very familiar with the Mopar Performance high efficiency radiator fan and clutch package. At around \$50-\$60, it is not really a *bad* deal since a new clutch costs over \$30 by itself, and you get the very efficient, quiet, and effective 5-bladed MP fan as well. But what would you say if you could get that same fan for \$8-10 and then add a new Hayden clutch from Pep Boys for \$30, saving at least \$10 off the MP price? Or better yet, if you've got a known-good clutch, the fan will significantly improve cooling and reduce power draw all by itself. Well, the 5-bladed "Mopar Performance" fan is none other than the exact same fan used on (get this!) *SLANT SIX* powered cars and trucks from the early 1980's. Its true! I first suspected it when I replaced a water pump on my grandmother's slant-six 83 Diplomat last year and thought to myself, "Hey- that thing REALLY looks like the MP fan..." But I didn't have an MP fan nearby for comparison at the time and never bothered to follow up. But when I saw a slant-6 Ram pickup in the junkyard, I had another look and confirmed that it is the same part. The 5-blade fan is stamped with the number 4140063 along the edge of each blade on the front (radiator) side near the tip. Both the MP version and the stock slant six version have this stamping. It makes sense too. Mind you, this is just my *hunch*, and certainly not confirmed by Chrysler, but I'll bet that the research and development that made that fan so efficient was done back at the end of the last gas crunch when every drop of fuel saved was important. Chrysler probably made a lot more of the fans than they did slant-six powered cars and trucks because the 3.9L v6 replaced the slanty soon afterward, and now the MP division is selling the fans as a performance booster. Chrysler has never been known for letting good parts go to waste!

Finally, there is yet another bill in the Texas legislature that has the potential to *drastically* impact our ability to keep and drive our cars. It is HB 1550, and would impose emissions testing on cars up to 35 years of age (!) in any county designated by the EPA as a "non attainment" area, which will likely include Austin and the surrounding counties within a few more years. The text of the bill is available online through <http://www.texas.gov> (or ask me for a hard copy- I'll gladly send you one. My numbers are 825-3286 <work> and 295-2884 <home>). Go to "legislature online" and then search for "HB 1550" and you'll find it. I would recommend writing a short, friendly note explaining your opposition to the bill to both your congressman and the author of the bill (Warren Chisum from Pampa, TX). The last version of this bill died in committee during the last legislative session, aided in part by letters opposing it.

-Steve Lacker

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## Local Activities

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Kars for Kids is coming up on May 8th. This is usually our biggest show in Austin each year, so lets try and get as many Mopars out as we can! Its an “all-makes” show, so we don’t want to be *too* outnumbered. Its also a good time and for a good cause.

Once again this year, members of the club will be travelling to the Mopar Nationals in August. Contact Dave Haight for more information on this event.

There will be another planning meeting for Kars for Kids on April 8, 7 PM at ASI Corporate office 4513 Burleson Rd. Goodie Bags will be prepared and filled at this meeting, so volunteers are encouraged!.

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## Dues Blues

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These folks are due this month: Dave Wolgast Steve Knickerbocker, Glenn Swaffield, Ray Ewell, Mike Cox, and Craig Rowling.

Please see Harry or mail your dues in to the club PO box on the outside of this newsletter.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Apr 23-25 New Braunfels TX New Braunfels Swap Meet, New Braunfels fairgrounds,  
Info: 830-572-2626

Apr 29-May 2 Fort Worth, TX Spring Pate Swap Meet Texas Motor Speedway

May 8 Austin, TX 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Kars for Kids Sonic Drive-in at 134 E Riverside

Drive

May 15 Blanco, TX Blanco Classic Car Show, Blanco State Park, PH 830-833-570

**(NOTE: I haven't seen this announced in any of the other club newsletters, just in *The Latest Scoop* from last month.** I will try to call the info number before the meeting and announce the results- but for those of you who miss the meeting be sure to call before heading out.)

May 23 Belton, TX First Assembly of God Car Show Judging in 10 classes plus 'people's choice' and 'best of show.' Registration at 9:45, Church service at 10:30, BBQ at Noon, judging from noon-3PM. For info, call 254-939-2122

June 5-6 1999 Boerne, TX Dodge Charger Meet info: Wes at (210)493-0750

July 23-25 Fredericksburg, TX Fredericksburg Swap Meet & Craft Show, Lady Bird Johnson Park, info: 915-388-2223

Sep 4-5 Garland (Dallas), TX Southwest Mopar Mini Nationals Audubon Park, Garland, TX. Show times: 9-4 daily; Registration: 8-12 Saturday, 9-11 Sunday; Awards: 2 PM Sunday

Sep 25-26 Houston, TX Tenth Annual Houston Mopar Show and Race at Houston Raceway Park.

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# Wanted

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Schumacher/Creative Services 6 to LA V8 kit

73 + A-body 8\_ or 8.75 rear axle assembly – 3.23 or 3.55, serviceable, SG preferred

73 + Disk Brake Master Cylinder & lines through proportioning valve.

Tuff wheel

4 Cop car wheels

Battery trunk mount conversion

LA V8 electronic distributor, control module and wiring

OE un-silenced air filter assembly for Carter TQ

LA engine gaskets, bearings, timing chain

**Call Steven Dykes (512) 218-4752**

4/99

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## WANTED

FOR 1967 GTX RADIATOR #2785934

CALL **TERRY 'E BODY' SIEGMUND (512)451-1454** 12/98

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B-body big yoke 3.23 SG rear end for a 73 Satellite, Rallye hood or 6-pack hood for a 73 Challenger, Console mount for cassette player. Call **Mike Cox, (512) 303-3100**

12/98

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Taillight Assemblies for 1968 Barracuda. Call **Mike Mosley, (512) 832-5270** 12/98

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# For Sale

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**Mopar Muscle Cars of Austin 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary License Plate Frames.** These are metal frames with black-on-white lettering. Frames are now officially real cheap!. Contact **Harry Amon (512) 345-5832** and he might just give you a pair (or charge \$5 each, \$8 for a pair).

12/98

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**For sale or trade:**

OE spreadbore 4 bbl manifold for LA V8 – EGR plugged

9” K&N air filter assembly – Fits squarebore 4 bbl carburetors – NEW

(Element used in assembly below lowers cover 3/4 inch)

OE Chrome, un-silenced air filter assembly for 273 4 bbl w/o CAP

OE 2 bbl manifold for LA V8 – No Smog

Hurst Competition Plus 4-speed shifter mechanism – needs overhaul

Hurst 4-speed installation kit for A, F, & J-body – NEW

Rectangular floor shifter boot and trim plate for cars w/o console – NEW

M/T cast aluminum valve covers for LA V8. Will not fit adjustable rocker arms.

Small valve (1.78/1.5) LA V8 cylinder head assemblies (2), good valves & springs, approx. 75K miles, does not have hardened valve seats.

Plug-in trailer wiring tap for 95-96 Ram or Dakota – NEW

Schumacher S6 to B/RB – mounts and isolators. – NEW

OE '68 Mopar AM radio, thumbwheel controls

**Steven Dykes- (512) 218-4752**

12/98

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-1970 383 HP engine- \$300

-18-spline 4-speed trans- \$400

-23-spline 4-speed (close ratio), apart- \$200

-Aluminum bellhousing- \$150

-Big block heads, 2 each 906, 915, 452, 346 castings

-Exhaust Manifolds for 70 E-body 383

-MP parts, never used, call for prices (want to recover investment- less than what MP charges now!): 509 cam, adjustable pushrods for 440, rocker arm package, roller timing chain, chrome rocker shafts, MP distributor for 440, 933 valve springs.

- New Hayes street/strip clutch and pressure plate (BB/4-speed/coarse spline)

-New Year One 6-pack air cleaner base

Call **Isaac Jackson (512) 282-6261**

4/99

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73 Dodge Challenger rolling body w/ NIB trunk floor- \$1000

E-body parts:

non-air dash pad, very good condition- \$100

(2) Rallye guage sets w/ wiring- \$100 each

(2) Standard guage sets- \$50 each

Interior panels, black, fair condition-\$125

Compete front header panel w/ grille- \$100

Front bumper- good- \$75

Doors w/ glass, L&R, interior and exterior trim, \$100 each

LA engine purple cam, .284, NEW in box, \$100

Small block 6-pack setup, \$500

3-speed manual trans w/ shifter- \$35

(2) 73 Challenger Taillight assemblies- \$100 pair

Make offer for all of above Call **Mike Cox, (512) 303-3100**

12/98

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340 Windage tray, used large and small Rallye Wheel centers (both styles), 71-74 driver's side 340 HP exhaust manifold, 360 Thermoquad intake, 3 small bolt pattern mag wheels with tires, 4 used 205/70-15 tires, A-body front and rear sway bars. **Harry Amon (512)345-5832**

12/98

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**For Sale:**

**20 GALLON SHOP PARTS WASHER**

ALUMINUM RIGHT ANGLE OIL FILTER ADAPTER FOR SMALL BLOCK

360 ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTOR

70-74 CUDA REAR 1/4 GLASS W/REGULATORS

MANY OTHER 'E' BODY ITEMS !

**Terry (512) 451-1454**

12/98

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**1972 Plymouth Satellite.** 360 CID 2-bbl, auto, complete, great interior, excellent chrome, road wheels, dual exhaust **Enrique Guerra, 512-388-7942**

12/98

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**Parting out 400 mopars,** 1953 to 1976, southeast of Austin. Open Saturday and Sunday. 512 376 6727 ask for Wendell.

1/99

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