



Mopar Muscle Cars of Austin

Random Thoughts & Club Happenings

Another month, another newsletter! At this time of year, we're all pretty busy and I'm no exception. Seems like the cars get bumped way down on the priority list as Christmas approaches. Oh, we have big plans of what we're going to do to the cars over Christmas, but it seems like we usually get so full of turkey and dressing that we put off the work 'til January. At least that's how I am, anyway.

The news for this month is our **MMCA Christmas Party!**. Everyone and their family is invited, and it will be at the **Springhill Restaurant in Pflugerville, at 6:30 PM Friday Dec 10th**. Of course, many of you will see this newsletter AFTER the party.... which is why I mailed out a separate flyer about the party already. Hope to see y'all there!

Events Coordinator Steven Dykes has been hard at work. The plan for the coming year is to have one event, whether a swap meet, show, or junkyard run, scheduled as a "club event" every month. I'll put that info in the calendar next month as it becomes complete.

This month's feature article is part two of "The Nationals" by Dave Haight.

Steve Lacker

Feature Article

The 1999 Mopar Nationals

by
Dave Haight

Part II- The Hunt

As usual at the Nats, we split up into two groups with a designated meeting point for later on. This time we had the added bonus of having 4 two-way radios to keep in touch with the other group in case we found something that another member was looking for. Terry, Ken, and Ron went off in one direction, Dean, myself, and Dave took the other direction. I knew Ken was looking for a power steering hose for the 'Bird, Terry was looking for his infamous radiator (#2578934), Dave was looking for a Challenger Dana, my Brother and I were looking for a set of wheel mouldings we passed up the year before, and I'm not sure what Ron was after.

Dean and I got lucky and found the mouldings that morning, but we paid \$325 instead of the \$225 they were asking last year. Prices are going up, as we found out the hard way. Ken found the "right" power steering hose, but decided not to part with the \$125 asking price when you can get an equivalent at Pep Boys for a whole lot less. He did, however, find a hood cowl for the 'Bird at a reasonable price. Dave found the Dana he wanted, but passed on the \$1100 asking price, hoping that the price might drop a bit the next day. Ron found some side markers and some pieces for a 6-pack setup. Terry found some aluminum hemi valve covers in pretty good shape. Since Dave wasn't finding any car parts, he got itchy and had to spend some money on a Matchbox-type model of his Roadrunner, and several other die-cast models of the 'Runner and Challenger. That was about it for the first day, so we headed back to the hotel to prepare for the next day and shoot the breeze some more.

That evening, Ron told us about his eating experience in China (Ron spent much of last year in China as part of his "real job" - ed.). I hope he doesn't mind me telling the story. He was telling us how while in China, he tried to eat and drink as the Chinese do so as not to offend them. Therefore we heard how you might be sitting down to dinner with live viper snakes in cages at your feet, to be eaten shortly. A young man would come take a snake from the cage, kill it, and drain the blood and bile. These could then be drunk, supposedly giving you the power of the viper. Ron said that it was a good idea to have a shot of saki handy REAL quick after that experience! But you better not mess with Ron now. He's got the power of the viper! I bet he wishes he OWNED a viper (Dodge, that is!) Ron also sampled monkey brain, turtle, and he's fairly certain he had a bite or two of cat also... and who knows what else. You'll have to ask Ron for more details. His stories about his stay in China are very interesting. Anyway, back to the

meet.

Day 2, Saturday: I forgot to mention that Friday was a bit of a scorcher, but not as bad as it was here in Austin. Saturday was overcast with the threat of rain and MUCH cooler. Not more than a few minutes after we went in the ticket gate, it actually did start to rain. It was light and brief, and didn't discourage us a bit. Once again, we split into 2 teams to continue our search.

Dave did get lucky- the price on the Dana had dropped down to \$900. After a bit of haggling, Dave got it for a little less than that. We tried to raise Terry on the radio to get him to come check it out, but he was watching the races and had his radio off. We met at noon in the designated spot, and went back with Terry to check the Dana out. Terry thought it was in good shape and a good deal, so Dave forked over the money and now we had a big rear end to deal with. That's another "story in a story," but if you stick with me you'll hear it later.

After that, we split up and went our merry ways again. My brother and I went into Legendary and ordered vinyl roofs for our Chargers. I know Terry had already been there and bought Lucy a new carpet earlier. I'm sure all 3 Mopars were pleased. Next we went to the stands and watched a few races and then the Burnout Contest. Both were very enjoyable, and there was even a guy from Austin with a green GTX who did an awesome burnout. I'm just glad I wasn't the one washing the rear quarter panels after that! It rained a bit more and the wind picked up while we were in the stands. I hate to admit it, but we "macho men" stood in line half an hour for a hot cup of coffee!

After our coffee, we decided it was about time to get in touch with Steven Dykes' brother-in-law. He had agreed to hold our parts at his home in Columbus, and Steven would bring them back to Austin when he came back from dropping his daughter off at college the following week. We couldn't get him at home or on his mobile. I'm sure Steven told us he'd be out racing that day, but being over 40 none of us remembered that. We left messages, and figured we'd get connected eventually

By now it was about time to call it a day, so Dean, David, and I headed back to where the Dana was, and Ron headed off to get the van to load the Dana. When we got there, we found Terry guarding the Dana because the previous owner had decided to leave early! So we waited for Ron. Turns out he was stuck in traffic, but we started to wonder if he was sleeping on the job. Ken showed up and volunteered to go looking for him with his trusty radio. Dave went to the gate to watch... also with a trusty radio. Shortly, David spotted Ron approaching so we radioed Ken to abort his mission and return to home base. When he got there, he discovered that home base had a problem: the Dana is too big to fit in the rental van. I don't know if we punted, scored a touchdown, or kicked a field goal, but we got it mostly in by pushing it way up by the passengers' side door. So we set off for Steve's brother-in-law's place to drop off our goodies.

Stay tuned for the conclusion next month.

Local Activities

Planning meetings for Kars for Kids began in October, and the show is scheduled for May 6th 2000. Kit Neal has been representing our club at the planning meetings. At the last meeting, the group selected this year's charity organization. It is the Royal Family Kids Camp, a camp where abused, neglected and abandoned children with special needs can go to acquire life changing memories. The next planning meeting will be in early January. Call Denise or Sherri at 462-0393 for info.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 10 MMCA Club Christmas party! This is a FRIDAY evening party, beginning at 6:30 PM at Springhill restaurant in Pflugerville. Bring a cheap "white elephant" gift if you want to participate in the exchange.

Dec 11-12 Belton, TX Swapmeet presented by Little Valley Auto Ranch at the Expo Center

May 6 2000 Austin Texas Kars for Kids at the Sonic Drive-In at 134 E. Riverside.

Dues Blues

Up this month: Ray Ewell, Jerry Pennington, Harvey Rydell, and Harry Amon.

Wanted

(2) 15x8 inch Mopar Cop Car rims
Rallye hood or Fiberglass 6-pack (T/A) hood for Challenger
Sure-grip 3.23 or 3.55 for 8-3/4

Call Mike Cox (512) 303-3100

5/99

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**Wanted:**

"Tuff" steering wheel

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

7/99

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WANTED

1967 PLYMOUTH BODY SERVICE MANUAL

RADIATOR #2785934

TERRY 'E BODY' SIEGMUND (512)451-1454 11/99

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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**

For Sale

Mopar Muscle Cars of Austin 10th 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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**Unique Plymouth for sale by original owner:**

Triple-black 1968 Plymouth Fury VIP 2-door, special-ordered with:

**440 Super Commando engine**

**4-Speed manual transmission**

**Factory A/C**

**Factory installed "Auto Pilot" cruise control**

Sure-Grip rear axle

Power disk brakes

6-way power driver's seat with headrest

4-way passenger's seat

power windows

tilt/telescoping steering wheel

Factory AM/FM

Unusual factory option combination was arranged with Chrysler factory representatives by Austin Chrysler/Plymouth dealer Jay Smith in 1968 for the original buyer, who is now selling the car. Car was garaged most of its life and has original paint, original vinyl top, and original vinyl/cloth interior- all in good condition (never wrecked, no tears in vinyl or fabric).

Approximately 70,000 original miles. All trim intact. Car runs and drives, needs new fuel tank (running with a temporary auxiliary tank). **Serious buyers please call Jack at (512) 452-7165 to arrange to view car.**

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Almost new Edelbrock Performer (Carter AFB) carburetor, 750 CFM version. Call **Mike Mosley (512) 671 6490**

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Cragar SS mags (2) 15x7, (2) 15x10- good shape, \$175

340 cast iron intake, \$100  
X-heads, \$250/pair  
LA purple cam .284 (NIB) \$100  
LA single plane intake, \$100  
LA six-pack intake, \$200  
A-833 4-speed w/ pistol-grip E-body, \$500  
4-speed console, \$100  
Rallye gauge w/ wiring, E-body, \$100  
(2) 72-74 Challenger taillight assy., \$75 / pr  
(3) Challenger doors w/ glass, \$100 each  
(2) Standard gauge sets, E-body, \$50 each  
MAKE AN OFFER, Wife says all must go!  
73 Satellite Sebring 2-door hardtop, 318, auto, right rear quarter damage (have goold rear half),  
\$1500 OBO

**Call Mike Cox (512) 303-3100**

5/99

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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, roller timing chain, 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**

7/99

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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 or call (512) 376-5321 (after 7 PM) and ask for Wendell. Web: <http://www.drmpar.com>

8/99
