



Indy Mopar Club News

www.indymoparclub.com

June 2020

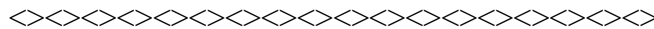
Jan Peel Editor 317.357.5760 e-mail: Jpeel83719@aol.com



Tom Kelly, President 317.439.1727	Chuck Butler, Vice President 317.539.2950
Steve Wisdom, Treasurer 317.457.5205	Ron Kriech, Secretary 317.443.4461
Randy Smith, Communications Director 317.696.1894	

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

Next regular meeting: June 25, 2020 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.



June 2020 Message from the IMC Club President

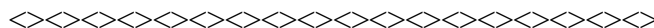
Hello everyone. Once again, I hope this newsletter finds all of you, your family and your friends in good health. It is nice to see our country opening up again, but I guess we need to continue to remind ourselves to do so cautiously. Please continue to look out for your own safety as well as those around you

I spoke to MCL and we are **GO** for our June 25th IMC Meeting. They have informed me that 'our room' will be set up to comply with current health recommendations. Please have a mask & your own sanitizer available and we'll try to get the wheels back on our Mopar and get rolling again.

As you've likely seen in our Club's earlier communications, both our Fletcher and Westgate IMC Cruise-Ins for JDRF have been cancelled for 2020 due to reasons related to the Covid situation. On a positive note, both of our hosts have informed us of their interest in resuming these great events in 2021 so if you have any ideas on how to improve them, please bring them up.

We've had to cancel a lot of great activities including museum tours so far this year so at the June meeting we'll take a look at the balance of the summer and fall and regroup as those venues also slowly reopen. The meeting agenda will focus on rescheduling some of those events so be prepared to discuss the activities you'd really like to participate in. Sure hope you can make it. Of course send in your thoughts if you can't be there. We need everyone's ideas and participation to kick start this memorable 2020.

Stay healthy and all the best,
Tom Kelly IMC Club Pres.



IMC Group at the Lowes Avon Cruise-In May 30, 2020

Not sure how everyone else felt, but for me, I think I know what a turtle feels like when he sticks his head out of his shell after getting batted around a bit.

I had not gone out much in public since early March so I was a little uneasy getting the 'Lil Red Express out in a public parking lot with a large group of people. I did wear my mask and kept proper 'social distance' but it was still great seeing friends and being able to laugh with the Club group again

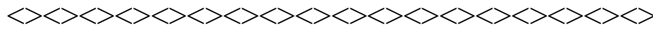
We had a pretty decent turn-out for a rather quick notice. Jeff Platzer has suggested it based on attending a week earlier and there was a great turnout of a wide variety of cars and trucks. Members that made the cruise included Jeff Platzer, Chuck and Linda Butler, Dick and Dorenda Crawmer, Rick and Ginger Zimmerman with grandson Rhett, Ron and Dru Kriech, Dave Opel, Rick Kelly & his son Pat, Bob and Kim Vorpe, and Tom Kelly. Fold out chairs were spread out behind our

cars and we walked, visited and had a great time. And there was food and Lowes Home Improvement within walking distance should your 'Stay-At Home-To Do List' require some supplies.



So, at the next meeting let's talk about what else is back on track and plan some more of these club gatherings around established local Cruises! Lots of fun and no hassle!

Submitted by Tom Kelly June 2020



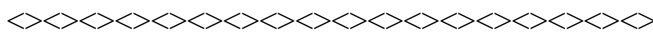
Jan, these are 3 pics. of Cheryl and her friend Jackie Jones. Jackie's daughter Jennifer is a nurse at the Marion County jail and requested masks for the prison. I opened the Carefree clubhouse for them to social distance and sew 200 masks. - Steve Wisdom



Cheryl Wisdom and Jackie Jones sewing face masks

Finished product

Thanks so much for a great job from Jan and all IMC Members.



A MOPAR Couple Returns to Japan

By: Ann and Randy Smith



Konnichiwa! We last went to Japan in January of 2018. And when we wrote about that experience we shared about all of the differences. This time around we, of course, noticed differences. But, we also noted a lot of similarities between life in the US and life in Japan. Everywhere, it seems, people are just trying to make it through the week and do the best they can for the ones they love. We enjoyed a lot of what is uniquely Japan: the food, the art, sake, sumo, etc. But Randy also noticed the richness of the car culture in Japan. Contrary to what you might expect, it is not all “tuners.” There is an appreciation for fine automobiles in Japan that spans all makes and models. (Above – Photo of an automobilia store in a high-end area of Tokyo called Roppongi Hills. Left – Ann and Randy at Kinkakuji, a.k.a. The Golden Pavilion, located in Kyoto.)



We returned to Japan to spend the majority of January 2020 introducing students to an Asian take on modernity. While there, we saw a number of classic cars. Including nice examples of Japanese classics, like the easily recognizable Nissan Z-car that we saw in Yokohama (above – left), an early 1960’s Datsun Bluebird that we saw near Miyajima (above – center), and a late 1950’s [Subaru 360](#) we saw at [Ishikawa Brewery](#) (above – right). We also encountered many cars that simply were never available in the United States. One notable example was the Honda S660 Roadster (below – left). But the real star of that show was the early 2000’s [Nissan Skyline GT-R](#). This dressed-down version of the Skyline (below – right) was seemingly optioned without the wing. The guy in the photo snapped a picture right after I did. If you don’t know about the fabled Nissan Skyline GT-R, ask your kids/grandkids who may have played the Playstation game called Gran Turismo. They will tell you all about it!



We also had a chance to stop by the flagship Nissan showroom in Ginza. The Ginza district is Tokyo's version of New York's 5th Avenue or Chicago's Magnificent Mile. But, rather than being a single strip, it's an entire up-scale shopping district. Last time we were there, we both sat in a 2019 Nissan Skyline GT-R. This time, they had the Nissan Concept 2020 on display (below – left). They also had several of their current race cars exhibited (below – right). All were either hybrid or fully electric. This approach reflects the Japanese sensibility, and the realities of living on an island where land is highly valued and extremely expensive. Japanese understand a delicate balance between modernity and nature. Their current prototypes push the realms of electric possibility and the car displays were done among natural elements such as bamboo, grasses, berries, etc.



Just how expensive is the real-estate? Well, most Japanese cannot afford cars because they cannot afford to park them. Those who are able to park them squeeze them into some of the most amazing places. Many garages actually do not even cover the whole car. And most of them were not tall enough for me to walk into. Sometimes, small garages are filled with bicycles in multi-unit apartments. And, if you do have enough room for a garage, you make the best of your space. Check out this mechanic's repair shop. His toy is above the "family truckster" and the remaining bay is for customers. This photo (below – right) was taken at about 10:00 PM, he was still tooling around in the shop. Sound familiar?



We saw plenty of examples of European cars, like the Aston Martin parked outside an important Buddhist temple in Kyoto (below – left) and the Mercedes coupe we saw in the Roppongi neighborhood of Tokyo (below – center). We also saw several early Minis (below – right) that seemed just as "at home" on the streets of Japan as they do on the streets of the United Kingdom.



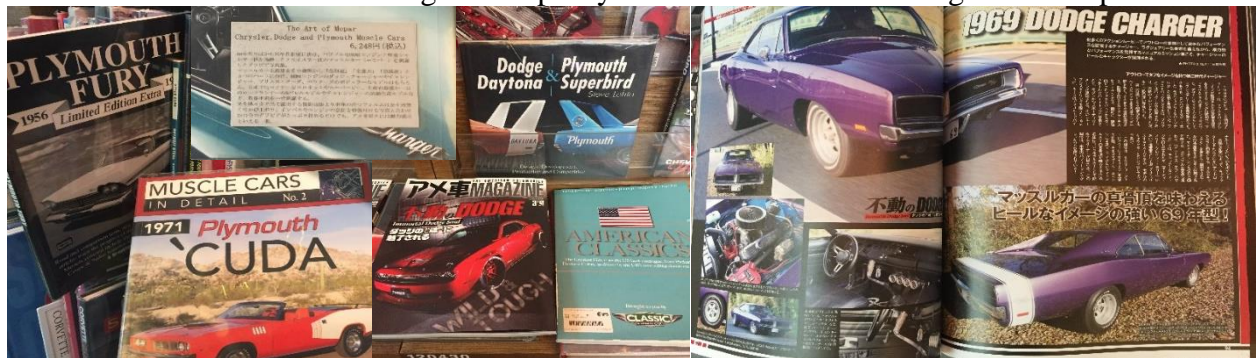
But, we also saw plenty of representatives of American auto manufacturers as well. My two favorites this time around were a late 1940's Packard sitting outside a café in the suburbs of Hiroshima (below – left), and this tidy little CJ-5 (below – right).



The automotive highlight for Randy was a bookstore in Shibuya City (part of Tokyo). Tsutaya Books, known as [Daikanyama T-Site](#) is quite the destination.

“Of course,” you’re saying, “the automotive highlight for Doc and Mrs. Doc would be a bookstore.” Perhaps you even toss in a hearty belly laugh.

But, have you ever heard of a bookstore that had a big block V-8 sporting 4 single-barrel carbs on an engine stand? This one did! (See photo at right.) I’m no expert, but is that an early Hemi?!? It certainly makes Barnes and Noble’s automotive section look like “Kid Karts” night at the races. They also had the books, movies, and magazines to back up the display. They even had a pretty extensive collection of MOPAR reading. It was pretty cool to see a MOPAR magazine in Japanese.



The display and reading material was more than just for show. The parking lot was practically a cruise-in. Porches, Geländewagens, M-series BMWs, and the crème de la crème of Japanese manufacturers rolled through. But three cars really stood out. At one point there was an Austin Healey 3000 (below – left), a Jaguar

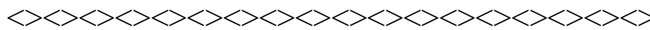
E-Type 4.2 (below – center), and a very nice example from the Ferrari stable (below – right) parked in the lot all at the same time!



Of course, Ma-MOPAR would not be outdone, even in this rarified lot. Jeep Performance Parts comes in with the win and 4 Jeeps at a single time in the lot.



We are hopeful that we will return to Japan. But, there are so many places that we'd like to travel and see! If you get the chance, and you have some familiarity with large subway systems, we highly recommend trying Tokyo. Be sure to get yourself some matcha ice cream. Sayonara!



Note: Anna Breutig's Birthday June 13th was accidentally omitted in last month's news. My apologies.



July 2020 Birthdays:

Barbara Crane, 7-3

Jim Rockey, 7-3

David Tays, 7-7

Ray Bridwell, 7-20

Caryn Williamson, 7-26

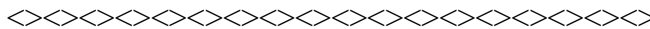
Dart Liebrandt, 7-28

July Anniversaries:

Jeff and Deb Platzter, 7-25

Rick and Ginger Zimmerman, 7-28

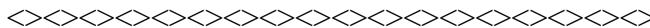
Congratulations to all!



Tattler's Corner

I hope all you fathers have a good Father's Day.


With the Coronavirus on everyone's mind be careful where you go, who you are with, and stay safe. We hope to see some of you at our regular meeting time and place. Yay!



2020 INDY MOPAR CLUB – EVENT LIST – TBV – to be verified TBD – to be determined-updated by Tom Kelly

Mar	6	Fri		Indy Cyl Hd Show Set-up			Ronda Cherry
	7-8	Sat-Sun		Indy Cyl Hd Chrysler Performance Trade Show	Ind State Fairgrounds		Tom Kelly
	26	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria		Tom Kelly
Apr	30	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria		Tom Kelly
May	2	Sat	11a-5p	Cinco de Mopar-Purdue Cancer Research Car Show - Lafayette, IN			Tom Kelly
	8-9	Fri-Sat		FAST Pure Stock Drags	US 131 Motorsports Park - Martin, MI	Dave Watt/Mike Leyes	
	12-17	Tue-Sun		Mecum Collector Car Auction	IN State Fairgrounds		Tom Kelly
	16-17	Sat-Sun		Chrysler Power Classic Nat'l Trail Raceway	Columbus OH		Dave Watt
	28	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria		Tom Kelly
Jun	17-21	Wed-Sun		Airflow Club of America 57 th National Meet	Independence, MO		Tom Kelly
	17-21	Wed-Sun		Plymouth Owners Club National Meet	Springfield, IL	Tom Kelly	Jan Peel
	25	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria		Tom Kelly
Jul	4-11	Sat	10a-2p	Fletcher Chrysler - IMC Cruise-in	Franklin, IN		Steve Wisdom
	10-12	Fri-Sun		Carlisle Chrysler Nats	Carlisle PA	Dave Watt/Tom Kelly	
	10-18	Fri-Sat		Mecum Collector Car Auction	IN State Fairgrounds		Tom Kelly
	7-29-8-2	Tue-Sun		National DeSoto Club National Meet	Brookfield, WI		Tom Kelly
	30	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria		Tom Kelly
Aug	7-9	Fri-Sun		MOPAR NATIONALS-Nat'l Trails Raceway	Columbus (Hebron) OH		Tom Kelly
	15	Sat		Woodward Dream Cruise (week long lead up)	Oakland County MI		Jeff Platze
	27	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria		Tom Kelly
	TBD	Tue-Sat		Walter P Chrysler Club National Meet	TBD		Tom Kelly
Sep	4	Fri	TBV	DSR Open House-Car Show	Brownsburg, IN		Evan Springer
	12	Sat	12n-3p	West Gate Chrysler / IMC Cruise-in	Plainfield IN		Chuck Butler
	18-19	Fri-Sat		Pure Stock Muscle Car Drag Race	Stanton MI	Dave Watt-Mike Leyes	
	24-27	Thu-Sun		NMCA Race-Show	Lucas Raceway (IRP-Clermont)		Dave Watt
	24	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria		Tom Kelly
	TBD	Sat	9a-12n	JDRF RUN/WALK - Victory Field Baseball Stadium - Indianapolis IN			Steve Wisdom
Oct	29	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg Nominations for 2021 Officers	MCL Cafeteria		Tom Kelly
Nov	19	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria		Tom Kelly
	21-22	Sat-Sun		1 week early because of Thanksgiving - Election night for 2021 Officers Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals show	Rosemont IL	Dave Watt/Tom Kelly	
Dec	14	Sat	4pm	Indy Mopar Club Christmas Party	Steve Wisdom's Clubhouse 1202 Leisure Lane, Greenwood 46142		Tom Kelly

Local Cruise-Ins (Reoccurring)

Months			Time	Name of Event / Day	Location	IMC Contact
May thru Sept			5-9pm	Danville Cruise-In 1st Friday of Month	Danville IN Town Square	Tom Kelly
TBV			6-9pm	Lowes Summer Cruise-in - Every Sat Night	Avon IN US 36	
TBV			TBV	Mooresville Cruise-in / TBV	Mooresville IN	
TBV			TBV	The SUDS Cruise-in / TBV	Greenwood IN	
Jun	13	Sat	9a-12p	Indpls Motor Speedway Museum Cars & Coffee	Speedway IN	Tom Kelly
						

Stay Safe and Stay Well