

# **Indy Mopar Club News**

## www.indymoparclub.com August 2020





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:** <u>August 27, 2020</u> 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.



## **August IMC President's Message**

Hope everyone is doing well. Though the virus continues to disrupt our lives, many are cautiously moving forward. This month's article is about my nervous re-entry into the major car show world with a trip with two of my brothers to the Chrysler at Carlisle Show in Pennsylvania. It went well, we were careful and thankfully no one got sick. It has become even more memorable for us since our other annual pilgrimage to Columbus did not happen when the Mopar Nationals event was cancelled.

Some from the Club did venture out to Martinsville on Thursday August 6 for their weekly Cruise. We had a great time and enjoyed a restaurant's outdoor dining that was just around the corner from the Courthouse Square. Here's hoping the Spring Mill Cruise-Picnic on Aug 22 is enjoyable and stay tuned as reminders and details of our other activities are finalized.

Be careful and hope to see you at an event or at a meeting very soon. All the best.

Tom

#### <>>><>>

#### Aug 6 Martinsville Cruise-IN

Fifteen members of the Indy Mopar Club and Plymouth Club attended Martinsville's weekly Thursday Cruise-In on the town square. It was a well-attended local show but most of our group arrived early so all parked together. There were shops and restaurants open so something for everyone. Bob & Wanda Van Buskirk of the Plymouth Club joined us in their beautiful '47 Plymouth Woodie Wagon.







The IMC group included Evan Springer with his lovable pup Charlie in his Dodge Magnum complete with new wheels, Randi & Bill Edgerton in their immaculate '69 Dodge R/T, Dart Liebrandt in his cool little '67 Dart (what else?!) convertible. Dick & Dorinda Crawmer were first to the Square in their Supercharged Challenger, Rick & Ginger Zimmerman brought grandson Rhett in their Jeep Gladiator, Ron& Dru cruised there in comfort in their new 2020 Ram 1500 with its sporty black-out package. Teresa and I drove the '79 Lil Red Express truck. Dart's nephew Daniel drove his awesome copper '69 Hemi-Charger 500 and later had his family attend. Some in our group hit a neat little craft shop across the square, the ladies took a little hike to

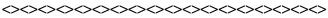




view a local building mural and later in the evening many grabbed a bite to eat at the nearby restaurants. The weather was very pleasant, so we had a great time.

Submitted by Tom Kelly

P.S. Did you notice the picture of Evan resting after 'Charlie' took Evan out for exercise?



## **CHRYSLERS AT CARLISLE 2020**

Chryslers at Carlisle in July this year was a shining star in a very dark Mopar car show sky so far this year. The Covid health crisis has wreaked havoc with our scheduled events and it nearly didn't happen this year. The Carlisle Events group in Pennsylvania cancelled many of their spring events and rescheduled others. Their event just prior to the Chrysler show was argued in a court case after an attempt by the State Health Department to close it down. The Carlisle group presented their Covid plans, argued their case and after an out of court resolution, that event proceeded, opening the door for Chryslers at Carlisle to proceed.

It was an oasis in barren car show scene. Though concessions were made compared to last year's show that my brothers and I attended, it was still a wonderful show. With the cancellation of this year's Mopar Nats in Columbus, we were even more grateful we were able to attend.

We took my brother Dan's RV this year so were able to park just down the street from the Carlisle Fairgrounds. We trailered my '68 Road Runner so once loading our cooler, chairs and pop-up canopy we were inside and setting up just about 15 minutes later. An Uber couldn't have gotten us there faster!

Carlisle's field is set up differently than the Mopar Nats and most other Mopar Shows. All similar Makes and Models are parked together in groups. The advantage is seeing all the '70 cudas or '69 Super Bees, etc., in a group. The disadvantage is separating you from friends on the show field if you all drive different models. Dave Watt, Mike Leyes and Jeff Ancil from the IMC were also attending. Mike's '70 T/A Challenger was in the featured T/A-AAR display this year as the 1970 model's '50<sup>th</sup> Birthday' was celebrated.



Other group features were a large number of 1970 Superbirds, Factory Pro Stock Drag cars (1970 being the debut year for the class) including Sox & Martin and Herb McCandless cars and also Bob Glidden's championship small block 1979 Plymouth Arrow.



One highlight of the weekend for me personally, started by me buying a long-awaited softcover book on the history of Chrysler's Motown Missile Pro Stocker. I saw these cars (new models were built each year) in action back in the early 70s so had been looking forward to the release of this book. There was a display and a lady selling the books. I asked to buy one and she asked if I wanted it autographed. "That would be great" I said as she called over a couple of guys I had not yet noticed. As one gentleman started signing the book, his written "Ted" confirmed he was Ted Spehar, the owner, engine builder and driving force behind the Motown Missile. This car was Tom Hoover and the Chrysler Race Group engineering team's test bed for Pro Stock engine and chassis development. Information they gathered and improvements they developed were guickly distributed to the other Mopar race teams including Sox and Martin, Dick

Landy, Don Grotheer, Butch Leal and so many others to keep Chrysler on their game. The late Don Carlton was the most famous pilot of this vehicle.

I asked Ted for a picture with him and he said, "why don't we stand in front of the car"! That simple request turned into an awesome 20-minute conversation about racing back in the day. The NHRA's infamous 'adding weight' to the Hemi powered cars after the '71 season was still a sore spot with him all these years later. It was so interesting to see his fervor in talking about these milestone race cars even today. I told him his efforts made him our hero and shaped our love of these cars then as well as now. He was a genuine and humble man and it was an honor to meet him.

A little fact not widely known is that the factory supported car's name came from another Chrysler Pro Stock racer, Arlen Vanke. When the car was just an unlettered test vehicle, Arlen saw it coming in the track gate and said to those around him, "here comes the Motown missile". The name stuck and the sinister black racecar was soon lettered with the name. A few years later, after Barry Gordy's Motown Records in Detroit threatened legal action, the name was changed to the 'Mopar Missile' for the rest of the factory car's racing life. Another racer did buy an old retired 'Missile' body/chassis when Ted and crew built a new model. He then continued to race it as the Motown Missile but as it was his private enterprise, it was no longer a potential legal issue for Chrysler Corporation.

No high caliber car show would be complete without celebrities so the poor soul my brothers and I chose to stalk this year was Cristy Lee of the Motor Trend TV shows fame. Snagging a group picture of her and 'Cuda-Girl' who was recently featured on a My Classic Car TV episode (she's also an <u>e-bodies.org</u> internet forum member) was a personal highlight of the show! Cristy posed on the wing of a Superbird for a gaggle of photographers as done in the past to emphasize the strength of the component required at 200 plus mph. The car's owner was far braver than I would have

been! I'm also pretty sure he would not have let my fat fanny sit on it!



<--"Cuda Girl" friend on left, Cristy Lee in middle, and "Cuda Girl" on right.

"Cuda Girl" from Motor Trend and her AAR ---->



Though we thought the show was probably 15-20 percent lighter in attendance and vendors than last year, it was still a huge show on the 80-acre site. Still great to see a larger variety of Mopars from the non-Muscle car era. We posed with an early '40s Desoto and a '64 Plymouth Police car complete with radio and other correct era equipment was an interesting vehicle as well. There was a really nice '41 Plymouth Dealership sedan delivery vehicle under a tent display. One gentleman and his son had four '64 D-100 Dodge Pickups with the High-Performance Package 426 Street Wedge engine option. Only 50 were produced during their 2-year availability per his placard. A Dodge rat rod pickup with an early Hemi also stood out in the crowd.







The car corral had a large variety and some great buys. There was a gorgeous '69 B5 Blue Super Bee and a '62 Plymouth wagon I just loved. I just needed more money and a wife who has not already been pushed to the limit by my number of vehicles I have at home. Also, there were lots of little four-legged friends accompanying their Mopar owners that made you smile.

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<--Jeff Ancil's '63 Plymouth

-->Tom Kelly's Red Roadrunner







The weather was pretty warm but was overcast much of the 3-day weekend so not overwhelming. Jordin, my stepdaughter purchased some cool little water squirt bottles with battery powered fans to help Dan, Jim and me keep cool during the event. We arrived Thursday evening so we were there bright & early on Friday.

Like the Mopar Nats, many participants and vendors pack up Saturday evening so there is sparce attendance on Sunday. Also, for those interested, there is drag racing at a track near the fairgrounds but not on the Carlisle site.

Though a long drive, the Carlisle show is well worth the trip. They post lots of on-line pics for those interested at Carlisle Events, under the Chryslers at Carlisle event.

Submitted by Tom Kelly Aug 2020



## IMC Meeting Minutes, July 30, 2020

The July Meeting of the Indy MOPAR club was called to order by club president Tom Kelly at 7:00 pm

**Attendance:** Tom Kelly, Chuck & Linda Butler, Dick & Dorinda Crawmer, Dan Kelly, Evan Springer, Bob Thomas, and Steve Wisdom.

The minutes were read from the June meeting and were accepted as read.

**Steve Wisdom** gave the treasurers report. We had a balance of \$1,971.31 at the end of June.

Randy Smith our communications director was unable to attend so **Tom Kelly** handled his part of the meeting. We were told that so far we have 523 Face Book Members. It was suggested that this would give us good exposure to the public. But we need members to monitor this so that nothing of a negative or derogatory nature should work its way in.

Tom also said that there were facets of communication that he would wait until Randy is able to attend and present himself.

**Chuck Butler** read the August Birthdays and Anniversaries.

#### **Old Business**

- A. Discussion was had on club participation in the World of Wheels Show. It was decided to table the discussion until the August meeting.
- B. DSR open house; Evan had not yet been able to determine if there would an open house by DSR or if it would be in fact cancelled. Hopefully he'll know by next meeting.
  - C. The JDRF walk has also been cancelled.
  - D. We discussed member ID cards and membership cards, nothing has been finalized on this.

#### **New business**

- A. Thanks was given to Dick Crawmer for his excellent July member profile.
- B. Club member profiles;

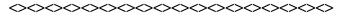
August 2020, Tom Kelly

September 2020 Dan Kelly

October 2020 Chuck Butler

- C. Dave Christie has organized a Mini MOPAR Nats to be held at a race track near Spencer Indiana on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Times will be from 10am until 6pm. It's just for fun. No prizes will be given. There will be some drag racing and a short burnout contest. Our contact is Dave Watt.
- D. Cruise to Spring Mill State Park August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Tom has secured the Donaldson shelter for the club. We'll meet at the Rural King parking lot in Martinsville and go as a group. Bring your own food picnic style.
- E. Randy Smith has suggested a nursing home (Discovery Commons) at College Park on the north side of Indianapolis would like to see a "cruise by" put on by our club. We decided that September 12<sup>th</sup> would work and afterwards we would go to Lowes to meet at their cruise-in as a club.
- F. Franklin Indiana has a cruise in scheduled on October 9<sup>th</sup> along with other activities around the Court House square. Randy Smith will check on this and let us know if in fact it will take place.
- G. There is a cruise in around the Court House in Martinsville every Thursday starting around 5:00. Anyone interested will assemble about 4:30 on Thursday August 6th

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dick Crawmer and seconded by Chuck Butler at 8:00 Submitted by Chuck Butler in the absence of Ron Kriech



My apologies to David and Cindy Sanders - Their anniversary was August 14th.



#### September 2020 Birthdays:

Cathleen Claycomb, 9-6

Ronda Cherry, 9-7

Kim Vorpe, 9-15

Bill Grohovsky, 9-16

Jay Williamson, 9-19

Dru Kriech, 9-21

Deb Platzer, 9-24

David Gut, 9-29

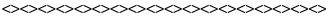
Bob Rosenberger, 9-30

## **September Anniversaries:**

Jim and Sue Kelly, 9-12

Matthew and Heather McClain, 9-22

Congratulations to all!



## **Tattler's Corner**



Congratulations to Dave Opel and his bride Donna. They were married Saturday, August 1st.



At the July 30th meeting for 'Show & Tell' Evan Springer brought three of his vehicle's Owner's Manuals that illustrate the dramatic change in vehicle features complexity over the years! Bottom: 1966 Plymouth, middle 2005 Dodge Magnum, top 2016 Ram Pickup.

For 'Show & Tell', Evan Springer brought three of his vehicle's Owner's Manuals that illustrate the dramatic change in vehicle features complexity over the years! Bottom: 1966 Plymouth, middle 2005 Dodge Magnum, top 2016 Ram Pickup.



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
<b>←</b>	26	Thur	<del>7-8p</del>	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Tom Kelly ▶
<b>1</b> pr	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 Sl	now - Lafayette, IN	Tom Kelly
·	89	Fri Sat		FAST Pure Stock Drags US 131 Motorspo	orts Park Martin, MI Dave Watt	/Mike Leyes ▶
•	12-17	Tue-Sun		Meeum Collector Car Auction	IN State Fairgrounds	Tom Kelly
•	16-17	Sat-Sun		Chrysler Power Classic Nat'l Trail Raceway	y Columbus OH	Dave Watt
•	28	Thur	<del>7-8p</del>	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Tom Kelly
un	17-21	Wed-Sun		Airflow Club of America 57th National Mee	et Independence, MO	Tom Kelly ▶
•	17-21	Wed Sun		Plymouth Owners Club National Meet	Springfield, IL Tom K	elly Jan Peel >
	25	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Tom Kelly
ul	<del>\$1</del>	Sat	10a-2p	Fletcher Chrysler - IMC Cruise-In	Franklin, IN	Steve Wisdon
	10-12	Fri-Sun	1	Carlisle Chrysler Nats	Carlisle PA Dave V	Vatt/Tom Kelly
•	<b>410-18</b>	Fri-Sat		Mecum Collector Car Auction	IN State Fairgrounds	Tom Kelly °
◀′	<del>7-29-8-2</del>	Tue-Sun		National DeSoto Club National Meet	Brookfield, WI	Tom K <b>p</b> lly
	30	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	Steve Wisdom's Clubhouse	Tom Kelly
Aug	<del>749</del>	Fri-Sun		MOPAR NATIONALS-Nat'l Trails Racew	ay Columbus (Hebron) OH	Tom Kelly
	15	Sat		Woodward Dream Cruise (week long lead t	•	Jeff Platze <b>≯</b>
	27	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Tom Kelly
<del></del>	TBD	Tue-Sat	1	Walter P Chrysler Club National Meet	TBD	Tom Kelly ►
Sep	4	Fri	TBV	DSR Open House-Car Show	Brownsburg, IN	Evan Spring
	<b>4</b> 12 −	Sat	12n-3p	West Gate Chrysler / IMC Cruise-in	Plainfield IN	Chuck Butlet
	12	Sat		Discovery Commons Nursing Home	College Park Indy	Randy Smith
	18-19	Fri-Sat		Pure Stock Muscle Car Drag Race	Stanton MI Dave V	Vatt-Mike Leye
	24-27	Thu-Sun		NMCA Race-Show	Lucas Raceway (IRP-Clermont)	Dave Watt
	24	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	TBD	Tom Kelly
!	TBD	Sat	<del>9a 12n</del>	JDRF RUN/WALK Victory Field Baseba	ll Stadium Indianapolis IN	Steve Wisdo
Oct	29	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg Nominations for 2021 Officers	TBD	Tom Kelly
lov	19	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	TBD	Tom Kelly
				1 week early because of Thanksgiving - Ele	ection night for 2021 Officers	
	21-22	Sat-Sun		Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals show	Rosemont IL Dave V	Vatt/Tom Kelly
Dec	14	Sat	4pm	Indy Mopar Club Christmas Party	Steve Wisdom's Clubhouse	Tom Kelly
					1202 Leisure Lane, Greenwood 4	5142
Months			Time	Local Cruise-Ins (Reoccurring) Name of Event / Day Location		IMC Contac
	thru Sep		5-9pm		Danville IN Town Square	Tom Kelly
3	TBV		6-9pm	Lowes Summer Cruise-in - Every Sat Night	•	
	TBV		TBV	Mooresville Cruise-in / TBV	Mooresville IN	
	TBV		TBV	The SUDS Cruise-in / TBV	Greenwood IN	
	13	Sat	9a-12p	Indpls Motor Speedway Museum Cars & C		Tom Kelly
			· -r	************************************		- 0 11011 <i>j</i>

## **Stay Safe and Stay Well**