

Indy Mopar Club News

www.indymoparclub.com June 2022



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Meetings are normally the last Thursday of every month except November & December. Refer to the President's Message for both those and future meeting dates.

Next regular meeting: June 30, 2022 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

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Welcome to new Members John-Paul and Megan Woempner, Indianapolis, with a 1973 Dodge Charger. We hope to see them soon at a meeting or an event.

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Message from Jeff Platzer, President:

Hello everyone! Hopefully your summer is off to a great start. I also hope all of your air conditioners are working properly, right?

Since the last meeting I have been continuing to work on the York show. I have been in contact with Kaye York repeatedly these past couple of weeks. The problem they have this year is that the Plainfield dealership is going to be in the midst of an extensive remodeling. This is going to cause a problem with the parking lot in terms of space for the equipment and cars. So for this year we can't do it there. The potential good news is that we are looking at utilizing their Crawfordsville store just for this year. As of today I do not have it confirmed, but Kaye is getting with that dealership and trying to get them to help out and to be on board with it. That would be on Saturday September 10 if we can do it. I know it's pretty far outside of the city but it's not too bad in reality. Maybe we'll even pick up some new faces and cars out that way?

As I said at our last meeting, I sold my twin turbo 68 Coronet. I really hated to see it go because it was a near perfect car for 5 years. The reason for the sale is that Deb and I quit riding our motorcycle, so we sold that too. We decided to build a Shelby AC Cobra replica. The good news is that it will be Chrysler powered. I am looking at putting in a 470 stroker based off the 400 block. I still do have my 67 Coronet that should be ready for the season this week, after doing some electrical, brakes, and powering steering repairs.

We are still looking for auction items for our cruise-ins, which we use to raise money for JDRF. So if you have anything, please bring to a meeting or contact any of the club officers to meet you.

Don't forget to put "Cruise Indy" on your calendar as a club event. That will be at the Indy Spinal Group in Carmel Sept. 17 from 8am-12noon. 13225 N. Meridian.

See you soon! Jeff

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Odd Fish (part 2) By: Randy Smith

Ok, letssee, ... where did we leave off... Oh yeah, that's right. So I parked it. \otimes I had left for college and came back home for shows, but I constantly ran into the type of problems you'd expect from a 30 year old car that has been permitted to sit. In June of 2002, determined to get it running again, I came into St. Louis from Chicago and several of us spent the entire weekend working on it. When we finally got it to turn over, gas shot out from under the carburetor and started pooling on the intake manifold. We shut it down. I was defeated. There my 1970 'cuda sat, gathering dust until I could find the garage space for it. During that time my parents had people ask about the old Mopar in the garage.

One day while doing some home improvement for my parents, my brother-in-law drew a smiley face on the windshield. Later, while showing off his artistic abilities, he joked that if I didn't move it soon, I might return to St. Louis to find it at his house.



One day while doing some home improvement for my parents, my brother-in-law drew a smiley face on the windshield. Later, while showing off his artistic abilities, he joked that if I didn't move it soon, I might return to St. Louis to find it at his house.

Meanwhile, I was attempting to complete my PhD. At that time it was common that PhD students worked on semester-long contracts. So, if I was lucky, I would have a full-time job for 3-4 months. Then I would have to hope to secure a full-time job for the next semester. Several of my peers worked multiple part-time gigs at a time while working on their degrees just to make ends meet. Without a reliable source of income, the 'cuda continued to gather dust.

In 2006 I landed a full-time one-year contract at Knox College and I was starting to wrap up my degree. But, I knew that I could not start work on the 'cuda until I had a garage for longer than a year. The following year, as I landed a full-time one-year contract at DePauw University, I picked up another Mopar as my daily driver. I traveled from Galesburg, IL to Greenwood, IN to purchase a 1995 Jeep Wrangler Sahara. It had a 4-inch lift installed by 4Wheel Parts and 31 x 10.50 tires along with a few other modifications.

I then took a full-time one-year position back at University Illinois – Chicago and in 2009 I landed a full-time tenure-track (long-term) position at Franklin College. I moved to Franklin and eventually Greenwood, about a mile from where I purchased the Jeep a decade earlier. During this time the Jeep went from my primary to secondary vehicle due to rising gas prices. I made additional modifications to the Jeep and tinkered with it for years. I had a lot of fun with the Jeep, but the 'cuda remained a recurring thought. And then, this happened:





My wife, Ann, joined me for the June 2019 IMC Monthly meeting. Steve Wisdom let her pose for a photo in his billboard-sided, B-5 Blue, 2016 Dodge Challenger.



And, Tom Kelly, very graciously permitted us to take a slow tool-around in his 1994 Dodge Viper RT/10 (one of my personal dream cars). By the time we left the MCL parking lot, I had pretty well decided I had to sell the Jeep and set about bringing the 'cuda to Indy. Luckily, a friend of mine was in the market for a Jeep! By the end of the Fletcher show two weeks later, we had a deal. (Coincidentally, if anyone is looking for a well-cared-for Jeep, my friend recently told me that he has to part with it. Let me know and I'll get you his number!)

I spent the next several months readying our garage for the 'cuda. Which is about three feet longer than the Jeep. I had to find more room. Stuff had to go. By late December the garage was clear, but Ann and I were

again headed to Japan with a class of students for the month of January. When we returned, Tom Kelly made good on a promise he made several years earlier. He told me, "you let me know when you're ready, and we'll go get your 'cuda."

Tom, Ron Kriech and I headed to St. Louis to retrieve the 'cuda on Leap Day 2020, just as COVID-19 was starting to hit the US. We were blessed with nice weather that day. You never know what you are going to get in St. Louis in February. When we arrived, we found the 'cuda where it had sat for the last eighteen years. Tom snapped a family photo next to the car before we started to push the car out.



While nothing was seized-up, the brakes were really soft. With my dad at the wheel, my brother-in-law assisted Tom, Ron, and I in easing it slowly down the driveway and onto the trailer.





I wish I could say the entire trip was uneventful, but we blew out a tire on the trailer during the return trip. That was a sketchy experience on the side of US 70. But, we made it! A friend was on call locally to help push it up the drive in Greenwood. I'm forever thankful, grateful, and indebted to Tom and Ron. If either of them need anything, I hope they know they have a bottomless pit of IOUs from me.





With the help of a set of Go-Jacks, I have been able to get some of the dust off and move the 'cuda around the garage. If you've ever wondered if Go-Jacks are worth the investment, I am here to tell you they are!



Since the 'cuda arrived in Greenwood, I have not had much time to work on it. I had to deliver on a grant proposal and help the Franklin College navigate how to return to in-person classes. But, I was able to do a deep clean on the interior. Everything is original.





The front seat is shot, and the carpet has a few holes. So, I purchased the new front seat cover and carpet from Legendary at the 2020 Indy Cylinder Head Swap Meet. A neighbor down the street is an upholsterer. He has agreed to let me assist him in recovering the seat at the next lull in his business. The dash

has a single, crack. But, the back seat, doors, kick panels, and the rest of the interior are in pretty good shape. This Spring I made some large steps forward in terms of necessary tools and ordering the first parts to remedy those spongy brakes. Of course, COVID is still wreaking havoc with the supply chain. Although I ordered the parts in the first week of April, they did not arrive until the first week of June.

What I have found so far is that the 'cuda continues to be an "odd fish." While the fender tag shows that it is a true 'cuda, this one rolled out of Hamtramck without road lamps. Oddly, the switch and all the wiring for the road lamps are all there. But, the lamps are not. My dad always liked the road lamps, so I will probably install them. If you happen to know anyone who has a set that are in good used shape, let me know. Over the last few days I was able to start turning some wrenches and am enjoying every busted knuckle. I've said it before, and I'll continue to say it. You might call it an "odd fish," but we call these type of 'cuda "family."

Author~~Randy Smith



Indy Mopar Club- May 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes, MCL South

President Jeff Platzer opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

Introduction of Guests/Members by Jeff Platzer.

Those attending were Jeff Platzer, Ronda Cherry, David Opel, Steve Wisdom, Tom Kelly, Dart & Donna Liebrandt, Randall Smith, Evan Springer, Bob Thomas, Walter & Elaine Thomas, and Rick Zimmerman.

Secretary Dave Opel:

A. Dave gave highlights of the April meeting as were presented in the May Newsletter with no corrections. Accepted by members present.

Treasurer Steve Wisdom:

A. Treasurer Report Indy Mopar Club April 28, 2022 to May 26, 2022. April 28, 2022 Balance \$1,859.99. May, 2022 Income \$54.00.

May, 2022 Expenses \$42.80.

May 26, 2022 Balance \$1,871.19

(Flower Fund \$175.65) 62 paid memberships.

Randy Smith - Communication Director

A. No current changes

Vice President Ronda Cherry

- A. Ronda took the attendance 13 members were present.
- B. She gave the current member news on June birthdays and anniversaries. Congratulations to all.

Event Calendar -Tom Kelly

A. Suds update - they are currently open selling ice cream only

New Business

- A. Mecum Auction review Ronda Cherry reported this was the largext attendance in Indianapolis.
- B. York update changed to TBV
- C. Fletcher update flyers are printed and were distributed to those in attendance.
- D. Cruise Indy flyers distributed to those in attendance.
- E. George Summers / Excel Cars. Jeff reported beautiful cars available
- F. IMC Patches Available for purchase Contact Jeff
- G. Club Member Profile June Randy Smith
- H. Club Member Profile July Review of Fletcher Show

Old Business:

A. York / Fletcher update - Jeff Platzer

- B. Logos discussion
- C. Cruise Indy discussion
- D. May newsletter had excellent Profile article by Jay Williamson on his 1967 Coronet R/T
- E. New members Walter & Elaine Thomas attended their first meeting and were welcomed by all

Walter Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Rick Zimmerman seconded the motion, the motion carried. Jeff Platzer adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm.

Respectively submitted by David Opel





Tattler's Corner

I sure hope that all of you are staying well and keeping cool and hydrated in all this hot weather we have been having.





July 2022 Birthdays:

Barbara Crane, 7-3

Jim Rockey, 7-3

David Tays, 7-7

Larry King, 7-12

Ray Bridwell, 7-20

John Walker, 7-23

Mary Ordo, 7-27

Dart Liebrandt, 7-28

July 2022 Anniversaries:

Larry and Felicia King, 7-4

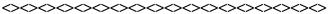
Jeff and Deb Platzer, 7-25

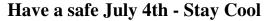
Jay and Caryn Williamson, 7-26

Rick and Ginger Zimmerman, 7-28

Larry and Susan Mayes, 7-31

Congratulations to all!









Jan	27 -	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
Feb	6	Sun		WPC Winter (Mopar) Swap Meet	Macomb College Detroit	Dave Watt
	4 4	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteri≯ Cancelled	Jeff Platzer
Mar	3-5	Thu-Sat	Indy Cy			erry/Jeff Platze
	25-27	Fri-Sun		O'Reilly World of Wheels Car Show	Ind State Fairgrounds	Jeff Platzer
	31	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
Apr	25-29			Dodge Bros Club	Charleston SC	Tom Kelly
	28	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
May	12-13	Thur-Fri		FAST-Pure Stock Drags - US 131 Motorspo	orts Park - Martin, MI	D Watt
	13-21	Fri-Sat wk	later	Mecum Collector Car Auction	IN State Fairgrounds	Ronda Cherry
	26	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
Jun	15-19	Wed-Sun		The National DeSoto Club Natl Meet	Altoona PA	Tom Kelly
	30	Thurs	6-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
Jul	9 TBV	Sat	TBD	Fletcher Chrysler - IMC Cruise-In	Franklin, IN	Steve Wisdon
	7-10	Thurs-Sun		Commemorative Air Force	Terre Haute IN	Tom Kelly
	9-14	Sat-Thurs		Airflow Club of Amer National Meet	Independence MS	Tom Kelly
	15-17	Fri-Sun		Carlisle Chrysler Nats		Vatt/Tom Kelly
	20-24	Wed-Sun		Walter P Chrysler WPC Natl Meet	Elk City OK	Tom Kelly
	28	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
	TBD		•	Indiana's Fastest Street Car Show-IMC	TBD	Jeff Platzer
Aug	12-14	Fri-Sun		MOPAR NATIONALS-Natl Trails Racewa	y Columbus (Hebron) OH	Tom Kelly
	20	Sat		Woodward Dream Cruise (wk long lead up)	Oakland County MI	Jeff Platzer
	25	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
8-	28/9-1	Sun-Thur		Ply Owners Club Great River Tour-Miss River	ver: St Louis-Dubuque IA Tom K	elly-Jan Peel
Sep	2	Fri	TBV	DSR Open House-Car Show	Brownsburg, IN	Evan Springe
	10	Sat	TBV	York Chrysler / IMC Cruise-in	Plainfield IN	Jeff Platzer
	15-17	Thurs-Sat		Pure Stock Muscle Car Drag Race	Stanton MI D Watt	Tom Kelly
	17	Sat	9a-12p	Cruise Indy	Carmel IN	J Platzer
	16-18	Fri-Sun		Holley Moparty-Beech Bend Raceway	Bowling Green KY	J Platzer
	22-25	Thu-Sun		NMCA Race-Show	Lucas Raceway (IRP-Clermont)	Dave Watt
	29	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
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Oct 27	22	Sat	TBD	JDRF RUN/WALK – Victory Field Basebal		Steve Wisdon
		Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg Nominations for 2023 Officers	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
Nov	17	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Jeff Platzer
	10.20	Sat-Sun	NOTE:	1 week early because of Thanksgiving - Electure Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals show	•	ally/Dava Wer
	19-20	sat-sun		wiuscie Cai and Corvette Nationals snow	Rosemont IL Tom K	elly/Dave Watt
Dec	11	Sun	5p	Indy Mopar Club Christmas Party	Steve Wisdom's Clubhouse	Steve Wisdon
		NOTE:	NO DEC	EMBER MEETING AT MCL Local Cruise-Ins (Reoccurri	1202 Leisure Lane, Greenwood 40 ng)	0142
May	thru Sep	t 1st Fri	5-9pm	Danville Cruise-In 1st Friday of Month	Danville IN Town Square	Tom Kelly
	thru Sep		6-9pm	Lowes Summer Cruise-in - Every Sat Night		Jeff Platzer
	thru Sep			Mooresville Cruise-in / TBV	Mooresville IN	Dick Crawm
May						
	thru Oct	Sat	4pm	The SUDS Cruise-in / TBV	Greenwood IN	Evan Springe
Apr			4pm 5-9pm	The SUDS Cruise-in / TBV Martinsville Thursday Cruise on the Square		Evan Springe Dick Crawme