

Tom Kelly

Motion accepted By Unanimous Vote by those present

Vickie Walker

Jeff Platzer

This issue to be determined at next meeting.

Vickie Walker

D. New/Broke/Fixed

Vickie Walker

Group reminded: Don't forget to tip our waitress

Ronda Cherry /Tom Kelly

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Nearly 60 Year Quest to Fulfill a Dream

By Jay Williamson



This story starts in the Fall of 1966 when I was 6 years old. By this age, I knew my Father had a love for old cars. He would often point out cars as we drove down the street and tell me how I could identify the year, make and model of a car.

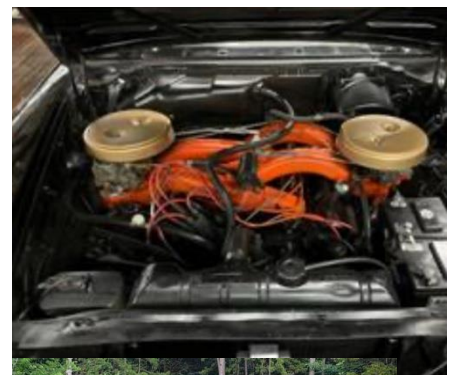
On one particular day, the love of cars would be passed to me. It was my first day of what would be my 1st grade school year. It was a little intimidating as I walked by myself to school. But as I walked onto the parking lot, the most beautiful car caught my eye. It belonged to a new teacher at my school, Miss Cronin. She was very attractive, but my attention went to her car.

You may remember that in 1966 the Batman cartoon started airing each afternoon. My friends and I loved everything Batman. Especially the Batmobile. As I watched Miss Cronin pull onto the school lot, I thought her car could have been the Batmobile. It turns out that it was a 1960 Chrysler 300 F Hardtop. I stood there for probably 10 minutes just staring at this long, black finned car. It was at that moment that I fell in love with classic cars. I told myself that if I ever had the opportunity to buy a car just like that one, I would.

Fast forward about 30 years. I bought my first classic car. A 1960 Studebaker Lark Convertible. The same type of car my parents owned when I was a very young child. Since then, I have purchased, restored and then sold 11 more classic cars. The goal was to set money aside to purchase one of these beauties if one ever became available. Then this past Fall, I had one pop up on my computer. These rarely come up for sale because they only built 964 of them and only 215 are still known to exist.

Road Trip

The car was in rural Arkansas and while it was priced fairly, I still wanted to inspect it first. I immediately called Jeff Platzer to consult with him and share pictures. We both felt it was a good candidate and decided to make a road trip to look at the car. I called the owner, who was the sister of the owner, who had suddenly passed away. She explained that he loved the car so much that he had built a building around the car to store it. I jumped on the computer and reserved a trailer to be picked up in Arkansas and was planning to pull it with my Jeep Grand Cherokee. The night before leaving we realized the tow capacity on the web was wrong and I could not use the Jeep, so I scrambled and borrowed my Sons Pickup Truck. At the same time, Jeff received the bad news that he would not be able to get time off work to go with me. I decided to make the trip solo and pray I could get the car on the trailer by myself. I made the 10 hour trip to Southwest Arkansas where my first stop was at the trailer rental. Then the plan was to pick the trailer up the day before and take it with me to look at the car. But I decided that would remove any ability to negotiate if I showed up with a trailer, so I told the rental people I would return the next day after inspecting the car. They explained it would be no problem and the trailer was already on the lot and ready for pick up the next morning.



The Inspection and Negotiation

By this time, I had figured out my tow vehicle, reserved my trailer, got my wife onboard to be ready to send a wire transfer from our bank. I was now ready to get up the next morning to inspect the car. I showed up in the middle of nowhere early the next morning. I thought I heard Banjos playing as I weaved my way through the remote Arkansas roads. As I pulled down the lane, there she sat. My dream car. I was surprised to see the car running, but the owners sister greeted me by saying that the car had been running perfect until that morning when they couldn't get it to start, ran down the battery trying and eventually had to get a jump. As I walked around the car, I noticed that the paint looked original. So much that I could see the primer through the paint. Still, the car showed no signs of ever having rust or body damage. I jumped in the car for a test drive and found a few small gremlins that needed addressing. Turn signals worked in one direction only, tachometer was non operable, Electroillumination lighting was not working, the two rear windows were non operable and the gauges were not working, but the car ran great with no noises and the push button transmission shifted hard, but went through all the gears. I gave Jeff a call and filled him in. We agreed that the asking price was well below average for the car, but it was going to take some money to get it where I wanted it. Jeff suggested that I tell them I was interested, but wanted to go back to my Hotel and look up costs to restore the car and then come back with an offer that night. Before I could leave the driveway, they threw out a number that was 25% lower than their asking price. After consulting again with Jeff and my wife, I negotiated a price that made all involved happy.

Not so Fast

After going back to my Hotel Room, I just went and chilled out. I tried to get some sleep, but I tossed and turned. Something just didn't feel right. I couldn't put my finger on it. I called my wife hoping she would talk me off the cliff, but she said if I didn't feel good about it, just come on home. In the end, I decided I would buy the car unless one other hurdle popped up before I got it loaded. I instructed my wife to go to the bank and be ready to wire transfer the money and I would go pick the trailer up from the rental store and load the car once funds were received.

I arrived at the rental store and met with the same person that told me the day before that he had my trailer ready to go. We went through all the paperwork and he went outside to inspect my trailer hitch. He looked at my plates and said, "oh, this is going to Indiana?" I said yes and that was in my reservation. We went back inside and he started typing again on his computer, he did this for 10 minutes until I asked if there was a problem. He said yes, that he didn't have a trailer for me and the nearest one was 190 miles away. I explained I had driven 10:hours to get there and I just put eyes on the trailer he had pointed to me as mine the day before. He just repeated that he had no trailer for me. That was the last straw for me. I stopped my wife from going to the bank, called the owner and apologized and told her I would not be buying the car that day. I was fuming all the way home as I drove another 10 hours. For three days I tried to find a way to make this deal work. I decided to get quotes for a covered transport. I thought if I could get the seller to help with the cost, I would buy the car. To my amazement, she agreed to pay for nearly all the shipping.

I now have the car and I'm thrilled. It's even better than I thought. I have fixed most of the little things and am now having the exhaust replaced. I also had the two-4 barrel carburetors rebuilt and in a week, it goes in for a complete repaint. I still need to sort out the gauges and repair the two rear window motors. I have a new dash pad ordered, which comes from Sweden of all places. It also needs the bumpers re-chromed. Can't wait to get the car out this summer. Might even try to go to Carlisle with it.

Thanks to Jeff Platzer for his expertise and advice

[illegible]



TATTLER'S CORNER *(In Memory of Jan Peel and her awesome sense of humor!)*

(Please let me know if any humorous stories involving Club Members!)



April 2025 Birthdays:

Ron Kriech 04-08 Ginger Zimmerman 04-14
Rick Zimmerman 04-19 Lori Karch 04-19 Evan Springer 04-23

April 2025 Anniversaries:

Linda & Tim Little 04-16 Sharon & Kevin Weden 04-25 Sherri & Jeff Andis 04-29

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!

2025 INDY MOPAR CLUB – EVENT LIST

TBV – to be verified TBD – to be determined 03-16-25 tvk

						IMC Contact
Jan	30	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
Feb	2	Sun		WPC Winter (Mopar) Swap Meet	Expo Ctr Warren MI	Tom Kelly
	20	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
	28-Mar 1	Fri-Sat		Indy Cyl Hd Chrysler Performance Trade Show	Ind State Fairgrounds Ronda Cherry/Vickie Walker	
Mar	1	Sat		Indy Cyl Hd Chrysler Performance Trade Show	Ind State Fairgrounds Ronda Cherry/Vickie Walker	
	28-30	Fri-Sun		O'Reilly World of Wheels Car Show	Ind State Fairgrounds	Larry Mayes
	27	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
Apr	24	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
May	9-17	Fri-Sat wk later		Mecum Collector Car Auction	IN State Fairgrounds	Ronda Cherry
	29	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
Jun	1-6	Sun-Fri		Airflow Club of Amer National Meet	Springfield, IL	Tom Kelly
	5-7	Thur-Sat		Natl Assoc of Lil Red Express Owners	Strongsville, OH	Tom Kelly
	25-29	Wed-Sun		The National DeSoto Club 39 th Natl Meet	Akron, OH	Tom Kelly
	26	Thurs	6-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
Jul	12	Sat	10a-2p	Fletcher Chrysler - IMC Cruise-In	Franklin, IN	Steve Wisdom
	9-13	Wed-Sun		Walter P Chrysler WPC Natl Meet	Carlisle PA	Tom Kelly
	10-13	Thu-Sun		Plymouth Owners Club National Meet	Carlisle PA	Tom Kelly
	11-13	Fri-Sun		Chrysler 100 Yr Anniversary at Carlisle (All Clubs)	Carlisle PA	Tom Kelly
	31	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
Aug	8-10	Fri-Sun		MOPAR NATIONALS-Natl Trails Raceway Columbus (Hebron) OH		Tom Kelly
	16	Sat		Woodward Dream Cruise (wk long lead up)	Oakland County MI	Jeff Platzerr
	28	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
Sept	12-13	Fri-Sat		Pure Stock Muscle Car Drag Race	Stanton MI	Tom Kelly
	12-14	Fri-Sun		Holley Moparty-Beech Bend Raceway	Bowling Green KY	Tom Kelly
	12-14	Fri-Sun		Natl Hemi Owners Assoc Reunion	Bowling Green KY	Tom Kelly

	25	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
Oct 4	Sat (Rain Sun 5 th)	10a-2p	York Chrysler / IMC Cruise-In	Plainfield IN	Vickie Walker	
	TBD		Breakthru T1D (JDRF) RUN/WALK	Indianapolis IN	Steve Wisdom	
	30	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
			Nominations for 2026 Officers			
Nov	20	Thurs	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Vickie Walker
	22-23	Sat-Sun		Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals show	Rosemont IL	Tom Kelly
Dec	7	Sun	5p	Indy Mopar Club Christmas Party	Steve Wisdom's Clubhouse	Steve Wisdom
			NOTE: NO DECEMBER MEETING AT MCL	1202 Leisure Lane, Greenwood 46142		
Local Cruise-Ins (Reoccurring)						
May thru Sept	1 st Fri	5-9pm	Danville Cruise-In 1st Friday of Month	Danville IN Town Square	Tom Kelly	
May thru Sept	Sat	6-9pm	Lowes Summer Cruise-in - Every Sat Night	Avon IN US 36	Jeff Platzer	
May thru Sept		TBV	Mooresville Cruise-in / TBV	Mooresville IN	Dick Crawmer	
Apr thru Oct	Sat	4pm	The SUDS Cruise-in	Greenwood IN	Evan Springer	
May thru Sept	Thur	5-9pm	Martinsville Thursday Cruise on the Square	Martinsville IN	Dick Crawmer	
Apr thru Oct	Fri	5-8pm	Indy Eastside Cruise-in 11351 E. Wash St.	Culver's/Meijers Indpls	Larry Mayes	
TBV	Thur	4-8pm	Happy Days Restaurant 2126 S, Sherman	Indpls	Larry Mayes	