





January 2010

www.indymoparclub.com
President Ronda Cherry, Vice President

Jan Peel Editor

Tom Kelly, President

Mike Leyes, Treasurer Jessica McCormick, Secretary

**Dave Watt, Communications Director** 

Meetings are the last Thursday of every month except November & December **Next regular meeting:** <u>Thursday January 28, 2010</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.

Member Profile of the Month BRIAN & ELAINE BERKOWITZ



I decided about two years ago, after attending several car shows and cruise-ins with my friend in his 1970 Chevelle that I really wanted to have a hot rod of my own. I broke the news to Elaine. I had no idea what I was looking for but I knew I wanted a Mopar if at all possible. Both our daily drivers are Mopar products. Well the search was a DAILY ritual online. I had a budget which was to be split between a car and new granite countertops in the kitchen. It did not take long to determine that the budget was not going to get me into what I wanted, so I started looking into Rat Rods as an alternative. After we looked at several, I think Elaine was worried I was going to end up in a rolling deathtrap or maybe she just knew my heart was set on more of a traditional hot rod. We decided to put the granite countertops on hold and find a Mopar in our new budget. I had looked at several Dusters and Darts from the beginning of my search.



For some reason I was just attracted to them, plus they seemed to be more reasonably priced. I had looked at a red 1972 Duster online that was here in town on a couple different web sites. On Labor Day weekend 2008 I saw it in person. I really liked the car but wanted to think it over plus it was a little out of my price range. About a week or so later after contacting the owner Elaine and I went up to look at the Duster again and possibly make an offer. After driving it I felt confident with my decision to make an offer. Unfortunately the owner was not as confident with my offer as I was! So we left without the Duster, we got about 20 minutes away when my phone rang and the Duster was ours.

We have enjoyed our short time with our Duster, cruising, making friends and mostly trying to get it running right. I thought I finally accomplished that, unfortunately on the way home from the shop, I got caught in a downpour and ended up having an accident about 2 minutes from my house. I was broken hearted. This ended my first season of cruising and making new friends, at least with the car. After going through all the steps with my insurance company and a couple body shops, I decided I wanted to add money to the settlement and

have several problem issues addressed and the whole car repainted. Now I am not a mechanic in any way shape or form and the thought of pulling the motor, mind you a perfectly good running motor out of a car for a paint job was more than a daunting task, but thankfully Dave Sanders and Bob Vorpe stepped in to lend a hand. I have been ordering replacement parts since we decided to have the whole car painted, some of which Elaine has questioned the necessity of, apparently she is having trouble understanding how the rear bumper needs replaced in a front end collision! Still trying to explain that one and several other purchases. My car is currently at King Classics getting repaired and repainted, I hope to have it back on the road this spring.

Authored and pictures provided by Brian Berkowitz

## From the desk of our President, Tom Kelly

Welcome to new members Luke & Misty Ubelhor, Bristow, IN, with a '69 Plymouth Roadrunner.

Happy New Year to all! Let's hope the year ahead will be a great one for you, your families, the country and the Indy Mopar Club.

To kick things off, let's talk about Club activities for the upcoming year. As most are aware, the economy was very tough on a couple of the Chrysler dealerships that sponsored two of our shows for the last few years. Considering some problems encountered at the third dealership's show last year, our car shows will turn in a different direction. We are extremely excited to be able to work with Champion Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge this year as well as Adesa Auto Auction for two shows this summer. Anyone who has assisted on past shows knows the amount of work required. Please consider pitching in when we start helping to pull these together. We'll discuss details at upcoming meetings.

We'll also have a presence at another event in just a few short weeks. Member Larry Mayes mentioned at the Christmas party that it would be good exposure for the Club to have a display at the Feb 12-14 World of Wheels. He had gotten some information and the contact name. Larry also found out that the VW Club has won the Club Display Award for the last number of years and that just didn't seem right. My brother Dan and I volunteered brothers Rick & Jim to sign-up their three cars since they weren't there! After kicking it around among ourselves and getting details from Larry, we decided to put together a display. For the fourth car, we'll have a gorgeous '69 4 speed Road Runner that's appeared in Mopar Collectors Guide. It belongs to my cousin who just joined the Club.

So...this year we'll try to wrestle the Club Display Award away for the Indy Mopar Club.

Our display theme will be a '70s era Chrysler - Indy Mopar Club Used Car Lot. We have an original dealership sign, along with the "Chrysler Corporation" sign from the old Indianapolis Foundry. With a few pieces of paneling and some marginal carpentry skills, we hope to create a dealership storefront façade. There will be no cost to the Club (the car owners paid their own entry fees) but if we win the Award, we'll donate the prize money to JDRF in the Club's name.

To pull this off, we will be dressing in cheesy '70s clothing. Bell bottoms, leisure suits, polka dots or paisley, whatever we can find at the Goodwill store will be the fashion of choice. Ladies, break out those white go-go boots! We also have some of the nylon Dodge & Plymouth racing jackets that should fit in. If anyone is interested in assisting, either helping on set up or hanging at the display in period costume, let us know at the Jan 28 meeting. I've asked if we can have a JDRF donation box at the display but I'm still waiting on an answer.

Last item, please put on your thinking caps for other summer activities. Maybe a club picnic, a Tuesday night trip to the drag strip, a club cruise to one of the weekly Indy area gatherings, drive-in movie night, a museum tour... throw out some suggestions. To make this Club even better, we need everyone's ideas and involvement. See you at the January meeting!

Tom Kelly







Ken Mosier and Debbie Mounce receiving their Awards for Outstanding Performance.







Indy Mopar Club very special cake. Teresa Kelly with her Santa Claus. Ginger helping pick and explore gifts. This was a very fun night. Lots of gift exchanging, "Oohing" over gifts as they were opened, and teasing going on. Ginger was her usual vibrant, smiling, and energetic self.









Pictures provided by Jan Peel with an apology for the quality of some of them.

## Indy Mopar Members' News

Debbie & Terry Cummings were at the Christmas Party and looking good. Sue Mayes had back surgery January 6<sup>th</sup> but is home now and doing pretty well. She is taking daytime Physical Therapy. Carol Ann Bauer is on the sick list with a bad back. She will find out what the future with that will be when she goes to the doctor on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

## Upcoming Events - \*\*Indy Mopar Club and others

\*\*January 28, 2010 - Indy Mopar Club meeting at MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East Street, Indianapolis \*\*February12, 2010 – IndyMopar Club representation at the World of Wheels.

\*\*<u>February 25, 2010</u> - Indy Mopar Club meeting at MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East Street, Indianapolis

\*\*March 6-7, 2010, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Chrysler Performance Two Day Trade Show and Parts Swap Meet, Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis IN.

\*\*June 6/6/2010 Sunday TBD Ypsilanti, MI Orphan Car Show

\*\*June 29-July 3, 2010, Walter P Chrysler National show in Dayton OH June 29-July 3 more details later.

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## Member Birthdays and Anniversaries



<u>February Birthdays:</u> Thelma Fields, 2-4 Cindy Sanders, 2-8 James Bratby, 2-16 Chris Deweese, 2-21 Laura Bratby, 2-26 <u>February Anniversaries:</u> Jack and Sheilla Collins, 2-2 Ric and Vicki LaFollette, 2-12 Congratulations to all!

Terry Cummings, 2-6 Dave Himes, 2-10 Brian Berkowitz, 2-17 Dan Kelly, 2-21 Tom Kelly, 2-28

Steve and Cheryl Wisdom, 2-7 Michael and Patricia Patterson, 2-18

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#### Parts for Sale

Mopar parts for sale: A, B and C body axle/housings, Slant six parts-(almost anything ya need). Slant six 4 spd bell housing and O/D trans. 66/67 B body SS trim and wiring harnesses, frt bumper brackets, factory AM/FM radio, rear and side glass. 67-69 Cuda bumper cores/ brackets and frt plate bracket. Stock Iron 4 bbl intakes. New A body super stock rear springs, 70-73 A body rear bumper brackets. E body frt bucket seat brackets (not rusted). Many new (not remanufactured) stock electronic and points distributors --- lots of stuff. (317) 753-8385 – Brownsburg IN 46112



## **Tattler's Corner**

We had a little subterfuge going on before the Christmas Party. It seems as though some people just simply don't really care to go to parties. But when their "better half" did some pleading, wheedling, and other means known only to her, they finally made it to the party. Now I don't want to give away any secrets, but our sincere thanks to P.M. for making this extreme effort. And who was it that kept encouraging people to take a gift away from someone else? Not that they needed much encouragement. Some people are truly sneaky. Be sure to be good and behave yourself or you might be the next one I "Detect". Catch ya all next month.

#### Reminder from your Editor Jan Peel

Remember to send in your dues for 2010 so you will be included in all the exciting upcoming events.

I would appreciate any news about our members that have attended other events and/or have had their cars or stories in other publications. This is your newsletter, help me make it an even better one by sharing this kind of information so it can be published here. You can contact me by E-mail <u>Jpeel83719@aol.com</u> or call me at 317-357-5760 or send it to me by mail: Jan Peel, 5128 E Rowney St, Indianapolis IN 46203-3741. (Complaints may also be handled this way. Be gentle when you do this please.)

