usic City Club (Nopar Club

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NOVEMBER, 1995

History of The Music City Mopar Club

by Pat McVay

I have always been a Mopar nut ever since I bought my first one in 1972, when I was in high school. It was never easy to find anyone to talk to about Mopars. You could talk to anyone about brand X, but Mopar people were few and far between, at least I thought so.

One day Scott Wilburn and I were talking about Mopars and we came to the same conclusion; if we were ver going to have anyone to talk to about Mopars we would have to start a Mopar club. Well, a good deal of the credit has to go to Scott. In his travels he talked to several clubs in several different cities. After a few months of discussion we decided to start a club. We sat down in my living room and tried to figure out just what to do. We talked to every person we could about it and anyone owning a Mopar that we could contact. Scott went to the State and asked about profit and nonprofit, income tax and no income tax. The IRS being the usual government organization, gave us all the help that government organizations usually give. Information from them was hard to come by. Then there was the Chrysler Corporation, who was a little more cooperative with their information; however logos and other Mopar permission was harder to come by.

Enough about preclub work. We decided to hold the first meeting on March 24,1990, at a local apartment club house. We called all the people we could and at the first meeting we had over 20 people in attendance, 17 of which joined that day to become the original members. We elected a President, Scott Wilburn, a Vice President, Charles Vuaghn, a Treasurer, myself, Pat McVay, a ecretary, Suzanne Wilburn, an Events Director, Ricky Richter, and a News Letter Editor, Joel Hausler. The meeting was short, but a lot of fun. Mopar people came in of every form and they all had something to contribute to

the club. From the person who had a show quality car to the drag racer, to the high school kid who owns his first car and drives it every day.

The second meeting, in April, grew to 34 people and not much changed, just a lot of fun and discussion about our cars. The third meeting, in May, we only grew by one to 35, more fun and refining rules.

It is hard to remember just when, but either at the May or June meeting having a car show came up and it was batted around several times, no one knowing how when or where. Finally it was decided. Scott had talked to several other clubs and on a wing and a prayer, with three months notice we had the First Annual Music City Mopar Club Car Show, on Saturday 29,1990. At the first car show we had 31 pre-entries and a total of 81 entries. We also sold t-shirts and concessions. It was a trying time. We started with no cash on hand and had to wing every aspect of the show. Were it not for the dedication and hard work of its members the MCMC would be no more. However, thanks to Gods weather and everyones hard work we went from owing \$1425.76, to put on the show, to making \$2536, enough to settle our debts and keep the club going.

That is the humble beginning of the MCMC and today, as then, members made this club successful and members will continue to make it successful. I always wanted people to talk about Mopars, but I can truthfully say, had it not been for the effort and hard work of Scott Wilburn, there would not be a Music City Mopar Club. I have always enjoyed the meetings and camaraderie of this club and hope that we can continue to have fun., no matter which direction this club goes. I will say one thing. As one of the founders and as a previous officer, it is a hard, time consuming job and they need and deserve all of our help and support.

Thank you,



Rev. Mopar's Grease Pit

MORE WITH LESS (A SIGN OF THE TIMES)

I've threatened to write about the 3.9L V-6 for some time now but have, more or less, postponed it until now. So just when you think it's safe to remain forever V-8 stalwart, you might just hear the somewhat peculiar crackle of a stout V-6 screaming up on you from behind.... Now I'm not going to say that you should rush out and purchase a V-6 for your Road Runner or Belvedere or, for that matter, even your Duster, but I do offer some encouragement for those of you with PRE 1992 Dakotas and Rams that are equipped with these engines.

You've heard the hash before, the V-6 is a 318 with two cylinders lopped off, etc. This is really only partly true as the crankshaft is most certainly NOT a cut off 360 or 318 piece. Due to the need for "equalizing" or balancing out the combustion impulses, a V-6 crank has separate, and offset, rod journals. Unlike a V-8 whose opposing pistons share a commonly placed journal, the V-6 in actuality, has six separate journals. This is done to limit vibrational tensions within the powerplant. It also makes for a nearly IMPOSSIBLE task for those wishing to offset grind the crank in order to gain some stroke. (Not to say that it cannot be done). The V-6 shares the 318/340 stroke of 3.31, and utilizes many other "common" components, like timing chain and gears, oil pump, oil pump drive gear, water pump, etc. But DO NOT expect 340 rods and pistons to be correct for an over bored 3.9... There are some really neat parts starting to surface out there for the V-6. Beginning with pistons, K.B. Is soon to introduce a 10.:1 version of their Hypereutectic piston for this little beast and J.E. already makes a SUPER LIGHT WEIGHT race forged piston in the 11.5:1 range for this application. Some decent connecting rods are available through Mopar Performance, but they should be polished and brass bushed for maximum lightness, strength and performance. That rod has part number PN 4452048. M.P. also has a high strength crank shaft (PN 4452044) and should you internally balance your V-6, Fluidampr will equip you with one of their famous vibration dampners. M.P. has a number of cams available, the biggest being a hydraulic which pretty much parallels the OLD 340 four

speed cam profile. I would go the CUSTOM route here and have Ultradyne, CompCams, or some other grinder turn a good roller or decent solid lift cam in the .550 to .590 range.

The real secret to making ANY engine run is in the heads. M.P. has a race ported head that is, in essence, a 318 style head with expanded ports (not as large as the Magnum or 360), and 2,02 intake valves and 1.60 exhaust valves. This is a very good upgrade, but the ultimate is a custom fabricated (read sectioned) W-5 Aluminum Race head...This head can be worked by Muscle Motors in Lansing, MI. But it will cost you a BLUE FORTUNE. Realistically, the V-6 can be built to the 325 horsepower level using many of the above mentioned parts. If you go nuts, you could possibly see over 400 with the W-5 modified head and all the goodies your GOLD CARD can muster.

The M-1 stands alone, at this time, as the only decent intake choice for this combination. Headers are built to fit nearly any application, so knock yourself out. Warning though...E.P.A., "Big Brother" without a cause, will frown on your modifying your Dakota or Ram in the manner above mentioned. My advice? Find one of those neat old Valiants or Lancers and have a ball. The difficulty with most V-8 conversions on them was the FRONT TWO anyway...How about a replica '33 Dodge Brothers Coupe street rod. HEY, HOW ABOUT A SMALL 190 TO 200 INCH REAR ENGINED DRAGSTER... (You alknew I couldn't resist that)...

This exercise has been one where together we have had to THINK. I do say this - as time goes by, more and more parts will become available for this little hummer, including a stroker crank and some killer rods and pistons...Keep watching your MOPAR magazines and see if Ol Rev. Mopar is right or just full of HOT AIR...

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Winning Ways for 1995

Winners at the Mopars on Mud Island 7th Annual Mopar Show and Swap Meet October 21,1995, were Carl Harvey, Jr. Scott Young, Robert Williams, and Wayne Hall.

Winners at the Old Hickory Hadley Bend Chamber of Commerce Show October 21,1995 were Barbara and Barry Knowles, Nick Willmore, Roger Hendrick, James and Kimble Spears.

Winners at the Wilson Bank and Trust Antique Car Show October 22,1995 were Kimble and James Spears Wayne Hall, Wayne Stutts, Greg Shelton, David Hite, Nick Willmore, Dale McDaniels, Terry Carter, Jim Pugh, and Scott Young.

TECH - TALK

HEADER TROUBLES

One of the first things to any serious performance upgrade has got to be headers. If the engine can't exhale it doesn't matter how much air, fuel and electricity you put in or how hard you squeeze it. Ok then, lets go get some headers: Hooker, CPPA, Head-man, MOPAR Performance, etc. Pick one. hey're all better than cast iron logs. One little thought though, you ought to get them coated. Painted ones are cheap, but rust like an old Chevy. Chrome looks great new, but turns blue quick. High temp ceramics come in several colors, but not a real chrome. HTC can also get scrathed. Why? Because headers don't fit. Which leads us to the real reason for this article: Steering. Yes Virginia, steering. How about a big block in an early B-Body, an E-Body, or definintly an A-Body or F-Body. Small blocks can cause problems too. The biggest single clearance problem is steering and suspension parts. Now, I'm not going to tell you to torch out the torsions bars or disgard the pitman arm, but I will give you a little bit of hard learned ad-vise. The rag joint and gooey ball joint on the steerng shaft are big, in the way, not necessary, and cheap to replace. How cheap? About 60 bucks. It's not free, but its better than taking a ball peen to a set of \$300 coated headers, or worse, giving up. All you have to do is go to a circle track race shop or an industrial sup-ply house and get two swivel U-joints (about \$20 - \$40 dollars each). Try to find ones splined one end to match your steering box and steering column shaft. You might score one from an old pick-up in a junk yard for next to nothing that would be more than long enough, or the supply house will have it. Measure it up, weld it up, get the steering wheel straight, install it on the splined shaftes, secure it with set screws and go racing, cruising, or Krogering for that matter. The new system looks neat, works great, makes lots more room or the headers and is the way the factory should have done it

in the first place.

Big Block Bill

KIM'S KORNE



AKA Ladies Choice

Hi there! As you probably know, cold weather temps can leave you with enough car repairs to break your bank account. That's why you should periodically check some stuff out. You might consider these tips for a smoother ride this winter. SHOCKS AND STRUTS- Freezing and thawing can make for some hazardous driving. Even the best driver can't go all winter missing all the pot holes. Which can damage tires, springs, etc. As you know, some pot holes aren't too deep, others are craters! You can lose a muffler and tail pipe, or knock the car out of alignment. If you do get swallowed up, you need to let an expert check out the alignment, (or your car person) also you need to check out the exhausts system, shocks, struts, etc. TIRES- When its cold, tire pressure should be checked monthly. (Cold weather reduces inflation pressure) Driving on under inflated tires cause the tread to wear faster and unevenly, reduce ride performance, affects vehicle handling and ruins your fuel efficiency. Check throughout the season for uneven tire wear, if you see it, it could mean improper inflation, misalignment, tire and wheel imbalance, or suspension problems. If you should get stuck on ice, don't spin your tires, the force can literally rip tires apart. BRAKES- Don't gamble with your brakes, they could save your life! Your brake system, probably the most critical safety system on your car, should be checked periodically this winter. You will have a great sense of peace of mind. ENGINE-A severe winter means lots of cars failing to start. Make sure you get a tune up, either by a pro or your car person, that way you won't have to worry about a "no start". OIL- Change every 3000 miles or as specified in your owners manual. Especially if you do a lot of "stop and go" driving, heavy hauling or travel long distances. BELTS AND HOSES- Rubber hoses living under your hood reside in an extremely hostile environment. Hoses circulate as much as 7500 gallons of coolant per hour, at up to 18 pounds of pressure. So check periodically. Failure to maintain your cooling system by flushing and refilling once a year can cause freeze up, overheating, rust and corrosion buildups. BATTERIES- These wonderful babies can lose their charges over time. Especially in cold weather, and the cable connections can corrode. Get it checked and keep the terminals clean. PAINT JOB-Don't ignore bumps, scrapes, scratches and dings this Fall and Winter. As subzero temps set in, the damage will likely get worse as rusting sets in. Don't delay! Fall has fell and winter is knocking at the door!

Stay safe and be aware!





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Larry Forrest

Neil Johnson

Let's talk sponsors. The club has many new ponsors, along with our old sponsors for us to do business with. We should give them all the business we can. They have helped us when we needed it.

The November meeting will be held at Franco's Pizzeria, 2600 Music Valley Drive in Nashville. It is in the Howard Johnson Motel Building. (Eat and greet at 12:30. Meeting at 2pm) This meeting is when you turn in your accounting of points for the for shows and drag racing for the club prize of the year.

1996 club officer nominations will be held at the December meeting. This meeting will be held at the Car-Be-Cue location on December 17th.

Dues for the 1996 club year must be paid by the January meeting or your name will be dropped from the membership list.(If you joined at or after our 1995 show, this does not apply to you.)

The club is giving Hippodrome Dodge a display of cars and trucks on December 9th. In case of bad weather we will display in the Service Department. Please bring your vehicle to help one of our sponsors. Hippodrome is located at 140 Royal Oaks Blvd., Franklin, TN. Display time will be 9am til?. I will be at the Franklin Shoneys at 8am should you want to join me.

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Another club was at our show, the following is from their newsletter: "I had not had the pleasure of attending the Music City Mopar Club show in Nashville until this year. Bobbi and I packed up the Ramcharger and headed to Nashville for a weekend with our daughter who lives in Murfreesboro and to attend the car show, held at Hermitage Landing. There were over 140 vehicles in the show, including a 7500-mile original owner '66 Dodge Hemi Charger! If you haven't attended this show, put it on your calendar." This is from Art Upchurch, North Georgia Mopars.

Keep up the good work MCMC.

Butch

A THREE POINT CAR TUNE UP THAT CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE:

FIRST- Check your tires. Remember these babies are all that's between you and the road. Check for proper inflation, tire tread wear, any bulges, etc. If needed, replace them.

SECOND- Windshield wiper blades. Almost all of your driving decisions are based on being able to see where you are going. Do a visual check, are they worn, or frayed? When they are turned on, do they clean the water or snow off? If not, replace them. Fill the reservoir, that comes in handy for cleaning off the salt and dirt.

THIRD- Lights: Turn them on. Make sure both headlights work, on dim and bright. Also check both tail lights. Then turn on each turn signal. Do they flash? If any don't, replace the bulbs. If a new bulb doesn't correct the outage, check the fuses, one of them could be out. If any of your lights don't work, you could be putting yourself in danger driving at night, stopping or turning.

By taking a few minutes to do this simple safety check, you can not only save money, but also your life.



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 19 MCMC Club meeting. Franco's Pizzeria 2600 Music Valley Drive, Nashville, Tn. It is in the Howard Johnson Motel Building. Eat and greet at 12:30. Meeting starts at 2 pm.

John R. Poteete

Mostly Old Parts and Telics

WANTED: 1967-69 Barracuda Left Front Fender and lower valance. 1962-1970 B Body Wagon or 2 door post car. Call Rev. Mopar at 876-8903, evenings.

FOR SALE: Beautiful 1966 Dodge Coronet 500 361 V-8, 727, 8¾ - Red metallic paint, Black interior, Documented 4th owner - 67,000 miles - Numerous show wins. Ph: 615 746-3390 after 6 PM CDT. Serious inquires only please.\$6000.

FOR SALE: 1991 Dodge Caravan SE - 3.0 engine - Automatic Trans., PW, PDL, AM-FM, Cruise, Tilt, PS, Power Disc Brakes, Many added extra, well maintained - one owner vehicle \$8000.00 call 746-3390.

WANTED: Need Parts for 1958 Dodge ½ T Custom Swept Side Tk. Need Mirrors-Arms (original), Windshield, any '57-59 will fit. Call 615 896-3599 anytime for Carl.

FOR SALE: '70 Dodge Truck LWB less engine and trans can set up for auto or straight Trans. Have engine & trans 400-400 hp, 318 with 727 auto. Your choice - will install. Have all the parts you will need. Call Carl at 615 896-3599.

FOR SALE: 1994 Dodge Dokota SLT Truck, Loaded, 318 Mag. Auto, Dual Exhaust, Power everthing. Ground effects with front spoiler, Radar detector, turquose & silver, 9,000 miles, one of a kind, show winner, you want believe it when you see it!!!! Call Steve at 615 355-6711.

FOR SALE: 2 each: 400 cu. in. engines 1 w/2 bbl carb. 1 w/4 bbl carb hp. 2 each: 318 cu. in. engines all 2 bbl carb. Big Blocks and small blocks 727 trans. What do you need? Need to sale some or all of listed items. Out of Space. Call Carl at 615 896-3599.

FOR SALE: 1975 Monaco, 440 auto. p/s, p/b, a/c, am/fm, 86,000 miles. \$500.00 Phone 746-4641.

FOR SALE: Dodge D100 True Spirit PU, 318 4 bbl., 727, p/s, p/b, am/fm cassette, short stepside, \$3000 phone 746-3390 after 5 pm.

FOR SALE: 1940 Plymouth Business Coupe, all original except wheels. \$2500.00 Firm. 876-2628 or Home 696-8273. ask for Bobby.

FOR SALE: 1970 Plymouth Fury III Convertible, White with Blue Interior, Black top, 2nd owner. 2500 miles on rebuilt 318. I've had the car 22 years. \$4000.00 or obo. call Gary Lee at 665-9917.

FOR SALE: '46 Plymouth Business Coupe:Great body, seamless rear fenders, Olds tilt steering and bucket/bench seats, redone int.- Wide aluminium wheels, remote doors and trunk, sound system, all Chevy Nova chassis, tranny, rear end, 350 V/8 with cam, runs great, asking \$8500. Alabama car. Frank Tomasella, 8041 Navois Dr, Huntsville,Ala. 35802. (205)881-2643.

WANTED: 4 White spoke wheels 8x15 for 76 Dodge Truck. Positraction unit for 8¾" rear end. 746-5390 after 6:00 pm FOR SALE: 1969 Ply Roadrunner Conv. 383-Auto Trans.p/

s, red with black top, black interior. A complete restoration call Wendell, 615 668-7127. 7am-3:30pm week days only. **FOR SALE:** 1994 Dakota SLT 318 automatic, power every thing, this truck is loaded, low miles. Winner at severy shows. Owner needs to sell, call for price. Come look and drive. Make offer. Call Steve 615 355-6711.

FOR SALE: Dodge truck parts. Late 60's, early 70's. Some NOS. Good used doors, glass, fenders, hood, lens, mldgs, engines, 400, 318, 360. What do you need? Will try tp locate for you. Call Carl 615 896-3599.

FOR SALE: 1970 Dodge Adventurer SE Truck. P/S, P/B, A/C, 318 eng. and 727 trans. not in the truck. Have most parts to help make this ready for the road. Not too many of these trucks around today. Call Carl 615 896-3599.



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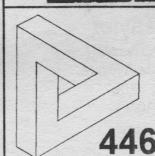
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