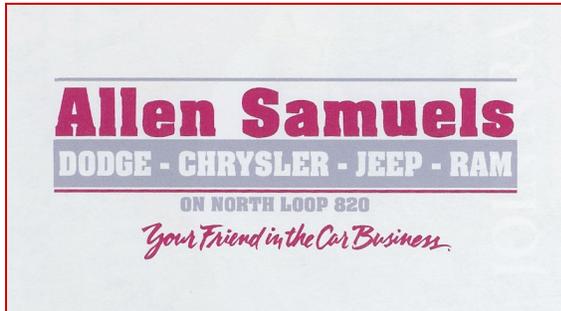




UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 8** Cowtown Cars and Coffee, 8am-10:30am,
Montgomery Plaza, FW
- Aug 16** Club meeting, 5 pm, Spring Creek BBQ, Bedford
- Aug 15** Christian Classic Cruisers, 6pm-9:30pm, Birdville
Athletic Complex, North Richland Hills
- Sep 5** Southwest Mopar Mini Nats, Central Park,
Garland, TX



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Aug 2015

THE STARTING LINE

Official Monthly Publication of Cowtown Mopars

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Secretary - Rich Lemmon
Membership Director - Joann Deering
Activity Director - Chris Sharp

Vice President - Phillip Taylor
Treasurer - Kurt Schuster
Editor - Barry Hansen

Appointed Positions

Race Team - Mark Buchanan
Website - Kirk Maisenbacher
Show Team - Morris Counts/Ron Carroll

Cowtown Cars and Coffee, every second Saturday, 8 am to 10:30 am, west 7th St, between Montgomery Plaza and Target store, Ft Worth. FREE. Sponsored by AutoBahn Motorcars, usually free coffee and donuts. www.cowtowncarsandcoffee.com

Christian Classic Cruisers, every 3rd Saturday, 6pm-9:30pm, March through October, Birdville ISD Athletic Complex, 9100 Mid Cities Blvd, North Richland Hills. \$15 entry fee, spectators free. www.christianclassiccruisers.com

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FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK



I want to thank Rick and Carol Mariano for opening up their house to us for our Annual Cowtown Mopars Picnic. We had a small turnout but the fellowship was great, we got to tour Rick's garage and his collection of cars, had plenty of good eats thanks to Ken Angyl and had a pool for those that wished to cool off.

Our Dyno Day will be at SpeedTek on August 29th at 10 AM until everyone there has had their turn. Cost is \$35 per car with a minimum of 10 cars so come out and see what you have. Help will be needed by club members to get the cars strapped down. Come on out and bring your car to see who has the most horsepower among all the cars there. We will have the smoker there with dogs and burgers. SpeedTek is located at 5950 Airport Freeway (Carson St exit), Suite 400, Haltom City, 76117.

Now on a sad note. Those that attended the picnic already know because I made the announcement there. That meeting was my last as President of Cowtown Mopars. My father-in-law suffered 2 strokes in a week and is now in rehab and my mother-in-law has Alzheimer's. They lived in Mineral Wells and it was impossible for us to take care of them there so we have moved my mother-in-law in with us and my father-in-law has gotten out of rehab and is now with my wife and I at our house. It is 10 times more demanding than I ever thought having my mother-in-law here due to the Alzheimer's and my father-in-law has mostly lost use of his right arm and leg so he requires a lot of help in everything he does. Because of this my free time is very limited under the circumstances. For this reason I am not going to be able to continue being the President of the Club. This is not something I want to do but is something I have to do. I saw it coming in the future and already planned to announce that I would be stepping down next April but my plans have moved to now because this happened sooner than I expected. I will continue to make functions that I can but my free time has been taken away and I have to take care of family first.

I am sorry I am having to do this and this is hard because I wanted to push for an even bigger show next April but I am unable to carry on any further. Thanks for everyone's help and I appreciate each and everyone of you.

Your Club President,

Mike Bearce

BY THE MINUTES *Rich Lemmon*



Cowtown Mopars Club Meeting and Pool Party at Rick's

Start 1504

A. Activities

1. Dyno Day weekend maybe Aug 29.
2. Mark Buchanan gives a racing update.
3. Possible cruise to Pop's Burgers in Waxahachie.
4. Aug 1 is the Vietnam Vets rescheduled show.

- B. Due to family health reasons Mike Bearce might have to step down at the end of the year.

End 1515

From The Veep's Desk

Well folks, mean ole editor says it's time for another missive so here I go. Am progressing on the truck, got things sorted out on the tranny. Turns out the '73 turbo had a bellhousing that is almost 2" shorter than the '76, so pawed through the bed of the '73, found an adapter the adds the same distance. Found the flexplate also, but it was shallower than the '76, so was wondering how the torque converter was going to reach the tranny properly. Got the converter from the '73, measured everything I could, compared it to the '76 converter, was all the same. Hmmm. So I pawed through the bed again, pondered on it, then thought maybe the cranks are different. Turns out the '73's crank had a spacer on it. Drove it off, was tough, been on there long time. Found the correct bolts in the bed of the '73 so now have the adapter and the flex plate on the '76, powder coated the tranny pan and some other stuff, got the correct shifter linkage on the tranny. Now to clean the Dana 20 transfer case and pretty it up some, then install it all. Hope the driveshafts don't give me any headaches.

On another topic, a co-worker and I were talking about AMC Gremlins the other day. Made me think about doing some research on them. Were you aware that at one time AMC entertained importing a version of a car that would out perform a Lambo Contach, and get 30 mpg? I wasn't either, but it was the forerunner of what we now call the Acura TSX. Wonder why they didn't end up doing it?

Well, I started this column prior to the news of Mike's dilemma so I want to express my gratitude for all he has done for the club and offer our thoughts and prayers for him and his family. I hope the transition goes smoothly for the integration of the in-laws into his life.

Phill

We continue to send our prayers and good wishes to Morris Counts, still recovering from a stroke and a fall. Please consider visiting and/or sending a get well card.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Joann Deering, Membership Director

Time to Renew for 2015

Club dues for 2015 are due. You do not have to fill out a new registration form if your contact and vehicle information are the same.

Remember...upon renewal your Membership Card will allow you to get genuine Mopar Performance and replacement parts from *Allen Samuels CDJR* for 10% over cost and buy a new car or truck for Employee Pricing. That is serious cash.

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Family membership New \$35 / Renewal \$25

Current members,

If you have a change of contact information, vehicle or other, please remember to send in those changes.

Thank You

Thank You

Thank You

Our esteemed President, Mike Bearce had to step down from the office last month due to personal reasons. The appreciation of the Board and the club go with him along with our best wishes and good thoughts. Mike has been a great leader to the board and an inspiration to the club members. He sought to participate in and set an example in every interest of the club: racing, car shows, cruising, club outings. Mike you will be missed. Do not be a stranger or we will have to come and get you.

We welcome and look forward to supporting our President of Vice (I mean Vice President) Phillip Taylor as he makes the transition to our fearless leader.



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The Go Fast(er) Department

Mark Buchanan - Race Team Coordinator

HEY THIRTEEN TIME TMCCC CHAMPIONS!!!!

Well 13 times TMCCC Champs,

Not much to report till we get back to the track in September. So I will just relay a personal story. I mentioned to some other club members it feels like I haven't raced all year. That is how I feel, but that will change real soon I have a feeling. I will keep you posted.

I'm sure you all know by now our, I hate to say former pres, Mike Bearce had to step down as club pres. I would like to thank Mike for his service to the club and wish his family well as they care for one another.

Stay tuned

Mark

2015 Race Schedule:

March 8	Kennedale
March 22	Denton
March 29	Ennis
May 3	Denton
June 7	Ardmore
Sept 13	Denton
Sept 20	Ennis
Oct 4	Kennedale
Nov 1	Ennis
Nov 14	banquet

Denton and Ardmore open 9 AM
All others open 8 AM



The mailbox for Grave Digger Monster
Truck shop and store, Poplar Branch, NC.
photo B. Hansen



Don't forget we're online:
www.cowtownmopars.com
and "Cowtown Mopars" on Facebook!!!



Off The Wing by Barry Hansen



Is it just me or has this happened to you? Two years ago replace ball joint on the Caliber in two hours. Time for the other side so start early, finish early, rest of the day free. But, have to move three cars just so I can get the one I want where I want. The Ram still has tools and materials in it from a buddy's project the day before. Unload the Ram. Garage is a mess, had to clear a path and sweep so I can get the jack out. Clear off workbench (looks more like a storage area) so I could get tools and parts laid out. Can't lay on pine needles and pine cones so sweep the driveway. After three hours am ready to jack up the car. The shade has moved so re-position the car. Now it's lunchtime, break for lunch. This ball joint is seized, fights me every inch of the way. Another 3 and a half hours pass. Finally back on the ground just in time to clean up and take wife out in the other car (driveway front end align has to wait until tomorrow). And that's how you turn a 3 hour job into a day and a half job.

Book review... "Proving Ground, A History of Dodge, Chrysler and Plymouth Racing". Author Jim Schield, Motorbooks Press. 190 pages, big 9 1/2" X 11" hardback. Big beautiful pictures of Mopar racing from 1924 Le Mans to recent NHRA. Once I picked it up had to thumb through every picture before I could put it down. The writing is a page turner, could stand alone without pictures. Author Jim Schild, obviously a Mopar man, demonstrates he really knows his stuff. \$3.95 plus one \$3.50 ship charge per order, Edward R. Hamilton, Bookseller. Schild has one other book (out of print) "Maximum Performance: Mopar SuperStock Drag Racing 1962-1969". Must be one great read because Amazon has it new \$654.41 and used \$324.99. You read that right.

Dodge announced ramping up production of the HellCat engines. Response and pre-orders have been overwhelming. Rest easy, in addition to ordering your \$650 book above you can order your HellCat Charger or Challenger in Sept.

NHRA report..Summit Nats, Norwalk, OH, Jack Beckman, Charger, F/C winner. Lucas Oil Nats, Chicago, IL, Tony Schumacher T/F winner, Tommy Johnson, Jr over Matt Hagan in all Charger F/C final, Allen Johnson HEMI Dart Pro Stock winner. Mopar Nats, Denver, CO, Tony Schumacher runner up T/F, Jack Beckman Charger F/C winner, Allen Johnson HEMI Dart runner up Pro Stock. Sonoma Nats, Sonoma, CA, Jack Beckman over Tommy Johnson, Jr in another all Charger F/C final. Jeg Coughlin bailed on his Dodge and went back to a Camaro Pro Stock. Oh the shame, oh the shame.

Notes from the road...back from a 3 week roadtrip to the east coast of Virginia. So glad to be back in Texas. Drivers there are the worst (wife's been to Boston says seen worse). Traffic is horrible, freeways are way over capacity. One tollroad, \$3 for one 3 mile stretch. Stoplights are a suggestion. On the Interstates truckers will pull out and be side by side for miles before completing a pass. To be fair it might be the new 70 mph speed limits and I think most trucks are governed to about 73 mph. Heaven help you if they both hit a hill and slow to 55 or 60 before one truck finally, painfully finishes the pass. And could the overtaken truck slow down just 2-3 mph to let the other trucker in? Oh hell no. On the other hand the wife found some incredible twisty and scenic two lane roads over the Smokeys that were perfect for legging out the AWD Caliber. Saw the Grave Digger Monster truck and shop in NC and ate in Digger's Diner.

When I'm traveling I'm not asking for much...just see that my plate says this Mopar's from Texas and get the hell out of my way.

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Every 3rd Sat. 11:00a-3:00p, El Chico's, 2111 Justin Rd Flower Mound. 35 classes, 9 B.O.S, \$10:00 entry.

Every 3rd Sat. 8a-11a, April-November, Cars at the Club, the Speedway Club at Texas Motor Speedway, N. IH35W at Hwy 114.

Aug shows:

Aug 1 Vietnam Veterans Celebration and Show, Veterans Park, Loop 820 and Clifford St. Entries invited to drive in parade though town to show area. Meet at the school, 401 south Cherry Lane at 7am. Parade starts at 9am thru White Settlement to the park. Open to all cars but really want '65 to '75 muscledcars.

Aug 9 Dallas Mopar Club monthly meeting, 2 pm, Spring Creek BBQ, 12835 Preston Rd, Dallas

Aug 15 Highland Village Balloon Fest & Car show

Aug 15 Unity Park, 2200 Briarhill Blvd Highland Village Tx. \$15. 40 classes, 10 BOS.

Aug 22 Maverick Harley-Davidson, I-35 Carrollton Tx. 8a-4p TOP 30.

Sep 5 Southwest Mopar Mini Nationals, Central Park, 1310 West Ave F, Garland, TX. Approximately 8:30a-3:00p

MINI-NATS



Central Park



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Once again, the 2015 Mini-Nats will be held at Garland's Central Park. Located at 1310 West Avenue F, Garland, Texas 75040, Central Park provides plenty of space, shade, and access to the amenities you need to spend the day at a show.

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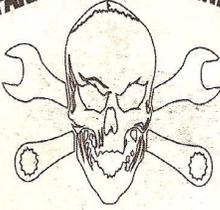
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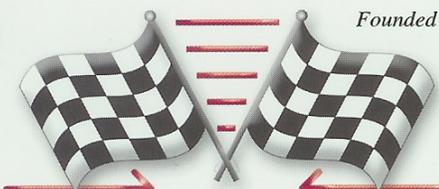


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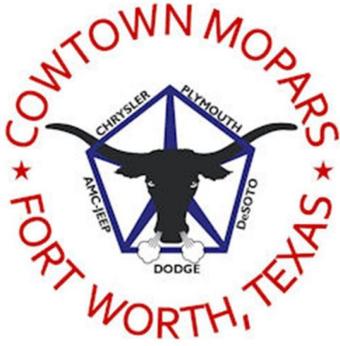
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Date _____ Type of Membership: New _____ or Renewal _____
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