

MOPAR CONNECTION

The newsletter of the Black hills Mopars

Edition 2007, Issue 1

Jan/Feb

Guess What?

The end of the past year has come and along with it a new first for the club... Martha Watkins became President of the Black Hills Mopars. No...this isn't a misprint. I became President and look forward to serving the club the best that I can. Along with every other President thru the years, I would like to continue to push the club to being one of the top car clubs in the Black Hills. We have the club members, we have the cars, and we have the Mopar Power to achieve this!

I would to thank the past officers for their work in the past year, Jeremy Farr- President, Kevin Losing- Vice-President, Scot Rathert- Secretary, and Van Mettler-Treasurer. Their dedication to the club helped to make the club what it is today.

But most of all, I would like to thank each of you, our club members, for placing the club as one of the best car clubs in the Black Hills!

MOPAR TO YA! Martha

Club Christmas Party

As most of you know, we held our annual Black Hills Mopars Christmas party on Sat, Jan 27th. We missed Superman but Bob, the Birthday Boy filled in. The gift exchange was the usual steal and whine with a lot of cool gifts getting stolen. Some of the gifts were Mopar signs, a cap with headlights (Tony Heick stole that), diecasts of Cuda's, GTX's, Coronets, and a battery charger.

The Club purchased chicken and the pop and everyone brought a dish to pass. Lots of food was on hand to fill the stomachs of everyone. Most of you know it was held at the American Legion, so they had a full service bar. Some chose to purchase alcohol from there, which was appreciated by the Legion.

As in the past, officers were elected. The new officers are: Martha Watkins-President, Jeremy Farr- Vice-President, and Scot Rathert- Secretary/Treasurer. We wish the new officers congratulations and good luck for the coming year.

Membership

This is the time of year that we remind you that your membership dues are due. Our dues have stayed the same as the past year- \$15 for a single membership, and \$20 for a family membership. These dues are necessary to finance the club through the next year with such things as: postage, newsletter and flyer printing, the Club picnic in June, the Christmas party, and other events the Club chooses to have.

If you know anyone who is not a member but would like to become a member, please tell them about the meetings at Flags and Wheels on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 7:00 pm. Or they may contact one of the officers: Martha 787-5695, Jeremy 484-0669, or Scot 342-9243.

You may pay your dues at the next meeting or send a check to the:

Black Hills Mopars, PO Box 2824, Rapid City, SD 57709.

We hope to have lots of returning members and many new ones too.

Mopars in the Hills Car Show

The clubs annual Mopars in the Hills Car Show is scheduled for June 23, 2007 at Dodge Town in Rapid City. In anticipation of the event we need to get the t-shirt design to the printer so that we may get our shirts printed early. If you have a design in mind, please bring it to the Feb 17th meeting.

Some of the ideas have been the Peoples Choice and/or the Dealers Choice, a design including the many Mopar parts logs (this was done for the 4th Annual Car show). Bring your ideas and lets see it on the backs of our Club members!!

The Counts Car Show 2007

Again this year we are participating in the Counts of the Cobblestone's Annual car show at the Civic Center Feb 23rd-25th. Move-in will be on Thursday the 22nd from 12 noon- 9pm. Our display needs to be completed by Friday at noon.

We are going to need volunteers to help set up the cars and the displays on Thurs evening and on Friday morning and afternoon. We also need volunteers to watch the doors.

This Years display is going to be simple, but we still need your help. We would like old and new Mopar memorabilia to scatter around the cars. What do you have? Posters, pictures, old magazines with cars, oil cans, and any other cool stuff to let people know that the MOPARS are in the building!!!

Make sure you put your name on them so we can return them to you. Anything would be appreciated.

Hope to see you there!!!

New Club Jackets?

In the past years, the Club had jackets made with the Club Logo on the back. Our colors for those jackets were purple and white, and purple and gray baseball style. Purple is no longer available in the baseball style, I guess the manufactures don't know who the Minnesota Vikings are! We can order in a different color and style.

If you are interested in getting a jacket, please contact Martha @ 787-5695. I will then get with some of the screen printers to see what is available and prices. I do know that the more jackets we purchase the less the cost of the jackets. I am expecting the cost to be in the \$45-\$75 range depending on the jacket style. I will have more information at the March Meeting.

A Sad Time

On January 11, 2007, a Mopar Legend passed away...Dick Landy. The cigar-chomping "Dandy" Dick Landy died of kidney failure at the age of 69. Dick Landy was a pioneer in the Funny Car and Pro Stock ranks of NHRA Drag Racing. He was a Hall of Fame drag racer who epitomized the exciting and

exhilarating period of early drag racing which set the tone for the multimillion-dollar NHRA industry.

Landy began racing in 1956 as a freshman in high school with a '32 Ford. After graduating from college with studies in engineering, he opened Automotive Research, a high-performance tuning shop which became the center of his drag racing operations. In 1970 he opened Dick Landy Industries (DLI) which he operated until his death. The company did research and development for Chrysler and building of engines for marine and nostalgia engines.

He raced Fords for 1961 and 1962 but when Chrysler entered the racing field, he switched midway through 1962 to race a Plymouth.

In 1964 "Dandy" Dick raced a 64 Dodge with a 426 Wedge then switched to the 426 Hemi when it was released that spring. Running the Super Stock consistently at 11-second it was one of the West Coast's strongest Super Stock entry.

Landy continued to race Mopars, including a '66 Dodge Dart, a '67 Hemi Coronet, a 69 Dodge Charger which he drove to a Winternationals Street Eliminator win, a Pro Stock '71 Dodge Challenger, and a '74 Dodge Challenger.

Landy matched raced until 1976 when Chrysler pulled support of drag racing. In 1979 he built a small-block Pro Stock Charger allowing another driver to drive for him. This was to be his last effort in drag racing.

Dick Landy will be remembered for his cigar-chomping, wheel standing, and Mopar Racing. Goodbye, "Dandy" Dick Landy!

Classifieds

This is the section that allows you the member to advertise for items for sale, items wanted , or items for trade. It could be a whole car or an interior screw that is needed to complete your project. We have all needed a part that some one in the club may have. **So don't be shy... advertise!!!**

For Sale: '72 Challenger body, original Petty Blue 340 automatic car. Missing some parts. Car needs complete restoration, \$1800.

Set of 4 A-Body 14" rally wheels with the 4" bolt pattern, includes '70 Center Caps and trim rings, \$300.

2 - 15x7 after-market rally wheels with the 4" bolt pattern, \$130.

'71 charger deck-lid with factory cut-outs for Go-wing, excellent condition, \$200.

Small Block Aluminum Bell Housing, fits 318, 340, 360, good condition, \$60.

Set of 4 14" rally wheels, acorn center caps with some damage, \$100.

Reproduction 22" radiator for 70-72 A-Body with small block, nice \$100.

Call Bob Watkins@ 787-5695.

Member's Ride

This is the section that we spotlight a members car or truck that they own and to introduce you to the member with their Mopar story. For most of us, the story is the hunt and purchase of our dream. For others it's the restoration of the dream. So take time to meet a member each newsletter and get to know them a little better.

Members: Don and Jody Bruckner

Car: 1972 Plymouth Cuda

Don and Jody have been members of the Black Hills Mopars since 2000. They have 2 children Jessie, who is in the Air Force, and Tyler and his wife, Lily, who have been Don and Jody's Designated Driver at many of the Club Christmas Parties. Don has been a Mopar lover since his high school days in Aberdeen, where he drove a Duster. Jody, on the other hand, didn't understand cars, but she knew horses. So Horsepower met up with...Horse Power!!

Don bought his 'Cuda in 1999 from the second owner. Since the purchase, he has painted the car, put a new interior in, new tires and wheels, new exhaust, a 340 engine and 727 tranny. He has added a 'Cuda stripe to complete the look.

Don has been known to leave black marks on the street and in driveways with the car. He has also raced it at Sturgis with a best time of 9.30 in the 1/8th mile and at Pierre with a best time of 14.30 in the quarter.

So if you see Don and Jody in their 'Cuda, you can bet they are leaving black 'Cuda marks behind.

Tell Us What You Think

Some of our club members are dissatisfied with the club and the direction it is heading. So here is your chance to be heard and give us your opinion and ideas to help us move into a direction that most of our members want. Please answer the questions below and add any comments or concerns you may have. When it is completed, please send it to us in the addressed stamped envelope. Thanks for your input to help continue the Club's growth.

1. In the past years, we have held a May Day Run on the first Sunday of May, The turn out has been minimal for various reasons including weather. Do you still want to continue with the Run or have a Poker Run In the fall?

2. The Counts of Cobblestone would like to have a Drag Racing Duel with the Black Hills Mopars. Would you be interested in running your car down the track in Sturgis for fun ?

3. What other events besides the ones mentioned would you like to do?

4. Would you like to demos on our meeting night at various places, such as at a local body shop to see how to buff your car for that car show shine?

5. What other demos would be of interest to you?

What would you like to comment on, in addition to the above questions?

Events Calendar

The events listed are subject to change. We will make sure to notify you here of a change. If you have other dates of shows or swap meets please let us know so that we can post them in this section.

Jan:

27- Club Christmas Party at American Legion, 6:00 pm

Feb:

17-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00 pm
23-25 Counts Car Show at the Civic Center

March:

17-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00 pm
30-April 1- Mopars at the Strip Car Show and Swap Meet, Las Vegas, NV

April:

21-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00 pm

May:

5-May Day Run?? Time to be announced later
5-Mopars at Thunder Mountain, Denver, CO
19-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00 pm

June:

2-3-Mopars in the Park Car Show and Swap Meet, Shakopee, MN
8-10-Black Hills Overdrive, Several shows throughout the Hills Area
9-10-Center of the Nation All Car Rally, Belle Fouché, SD
16-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00 pm
23-Mopars in the Hills Car Show at Dodge Town, Rapid City, SD

July:

21-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00
21- Mile-High Mopar Nationals, Bandimere Race Complex, Denver, CO

Aug:

11-The Dam Run Car Show, Pierre, SD
18-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00 pm

Sept:

15-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00 pm
29-Mopar Fall Fling @ Liberty Chrysler, Rapid City, SD

Oct:

20-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00 pm

Nov:

17-Club Meeting at Flags and Wheels, 7:00 pm

Dec:

No Meeting because of the Holidays