

MOPAR CONNECTION

The newsletter of the Black hills Mopars

Edition 2008, Issue 2

Spring 2008

Martha's Moments

Just when we think spring is here, it starts to snow. I'm not complaining about the moisture, but it could have come throughout the actual winter and give us plenty of rain for the spring. I guess I just have cabin fever, ready for the car shows, racing, and family visits.

This summer may be more of family time and local shows. With the cost of fuel, diesel (\$3.99/gal), gas with ethanol (\$2.24/gal), and racing fuel (\$9.99/gal) I think we will become homies!!

I hope the gas prices don't scare anyone away from coming out to our club sponsored events. We will try not to have too many that go out of town. Maybe a cruise night in town or an evening picnic. Let me know what you think.

Until next time Mopar to Ya!!!
Martha

Membership Money is Due

We are in a new year and everyone's membership is up. Most of you have paid your dues but those of you who haven't please forward a check(\$15 for single and \$20 for family) to: Black Hills Mopars, PO Box 2824, Rapid City, SD 57709.

We use the money for pizza parties, newsletters, flyers for the 2 shows, pre-pay T-shirts, and other essentials. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact an officer: Martha @ 787-5695, Jeremy @ 484-0669, or Scot @ 342-9243.

Mopars in the Hills Car Show

We are in the finalizing stages of certain items for the show. The t-shirt design is one of the main items. The suggestion of the theme of the show and shirt is "Some Things Never Change" with the old and the new Challenger on the shirts. We are limiting the number of shirts to 45. So if you don't get one, I am sorry. We have over bought the last few years and we have decided to limit the quantities so as not to have the overstock. We will also have an event shirt for the Mopar Fall Fling at Liberty with a run of about 35 shirts.

We are also in the decision making of The Snack Shack. Last year we tried selling Hotdogs and Sloppy Joes but it didn't go over so well. We are thinking of selling just Sloppy Joes this year. We can also sell nachos and super nachos using the Sloppy Joe meat.

We are looking forward to having a successful show this year. Hopefully the weather will be nice...not too cold and raining and not blistering Hot!! If anyone has any ideas Please let us know. We are always looking for new thing to try.

Newsletter Goes Cyber

With postal rates and copy costs continuing to spiral upwards, the club would like to try something new. The more newsletters we can send via e-mail, the more \$\$\$ the club can spend on t-shirts, picnics, and such.

Any member who wishes to receive his/her newsletter via e-mail can do so by e-mailing me with your name and current e-mail address. I will put together a club e-mail address book and you'll get your next newsletter or other club bulletin as soon as we have it on paper. You can then read and delete it or print it out at home and read it at your leisure. If you don't have e-mail or you just your newsletter the old fashioned way...no worries...whoever isn't on the e-mail list will continue to receive club correspondence via snail mail.

Send me your cyber info right now while you're thinking about it...It'll only take you 60 seconds and your done. Send info to: scotrocks@rap.midco.net

Even if you've given the club your email address in the past, I would appreciate your current info as addresses do change from time and I would like to compile the most up-to-date list possible. Thanks for your Mopar support.

Scot

1971-1972 Plymouth Satellite/Roadrunner/GTX Spotter Guide

It seems that the late B-Bodies are gaining a little more respect these days. A few exceptional models have brought some decent prices at this year's Barrett Jackson auctions. A 1971 Roadrunner left the auction block in January at \$32,000 – and a 1971 GTX drove home in March after a \$30,000 bid. But can you really bestow the title of muscle car to post-1970 B-Bodies?

Back in the early 70's, insurance companies boosted premiums on "high performance" models, making them less desirable to customers. Car companies felt the pinch on sales, and started shifting their marketing from performance to luxury. Although horsepower ratings declined a little in 1971 and 1972, decent performance was still available before the emission laws choked everything down in 1973. So are these late B-Bodies keepers? Well, if you look at the production numbers, I would say you were looking at some diamonds in the rough.

From 1968 through 1970, roughly 165,000 Roadrunners and 40,000 GTX's were produced by the Chrysler Corporation. Contrast that in 1971, with only 13,046 B-Bodies getting the Roadrunner nameplate, and a scant 2,626 became GTX's. By 1972, the production numbers for the Roadrunner had dropped to only 6,831 birds, and the GTX was no longer its own car, but a performance package designation for the Roadrunner. A 1972 bird that was optioned with the 440 big-block was called a Roadrunner GTX. With low production numbers like these, I think this era of (dare I say muscle car?) has a lot of potential with collectors in the future.

The 1971 and 1972 Satellite/Roadrunners and the 1971 GTX's share the same exact body style. So how does one tell the difference? Besides the obvious standard versus performance hood differences, there are at least five visual clues to dating this type of B-Body. The first subtle visual clue resides on the front loop bumper. The 1972 loop bumper has a vertical slit on each side of the lower portion of the loop for the jack to be inserted into.

The 1971 loop bumper does not have these slits because it came with the older style jack that gripped the bottom lip of the bumper. These loop bumpers are identical otherwise, so they are interchangeable between these two years. So we don't have a positive identification yet.

The next clue is the emblem on the center of the header panel just in front of the hood. The 1971 emblem sits by itself in the circular depression in the header panel. For 1972, the emblem and its shiny circular background takes up the entire depression area. Again, these are interchangeable, so we're not 100 percent yet. A more distinguishable visual clue is the rear bumper redesign in 1972. The 1971 rear bumper is relatively flat with recessed slots for the tail light assemblies to show through. On the 1972 models, the bumper is more accentuated or raised where the tail lights are housed. Once again, these are interchangeable between years.

One difference that is easy to spot on the 1972 Roadrunners only, is the redesigned grill inside the loop bumper. The 1972 Satellite inherited the same grill styling from the 1971 model. The most telling visual clue is the side marker lights. The marker lights on the fenders and quarter panels are recessed on the 1971 models, and reside entirely on the outside of the fenders on the 1972 models. Of course, if you can get a peek at the VIN, that will be the paramount for positive identification. The sixth digit is a 1 for 1971, and a 2 for 1972.

Happy Hunting!
Scott Rudge

Martha's Note- Look for Scott's review of the Scottsdale and Palm Beach Barrett-Jackson Auctions in the next newsletter.

Counts Car Show

I would like to start by saying Thank you to all the members who took time to clean and enter their cars in the show, the members that took the time to help watch the doors (it's a hard job), and for the many members who came to see the beautiful cars. There were over 250 cars in the Civic Center with 196 of those being judged. Like usual, the move in day was beautiful and the move out day less desirable. All of our members cars won a 1st place trophy in the class that they were placed in.

Cory, Tessa and Aiden Voyles' '69 GTX won Best All- Around Mopar. They received a HUGE trophy (bigger than Aiden) and a check for \$1000! Congratulations!!!!

Great job to everyone who made the Civic Center "Rock with Muscle"!

Classifieds

For Sale- '64 Plymouth Fury 2DRHT, needs complete restoration. Would be a great project for a restoration or as a drag car, includes a 4-door parts car. \$2200. Call Bob@ 787-5695.

For Sale- Small Block blow-proof bell housing with engine protector plate. \$125. Call Bob@ 787-5695.

For Sale- 8 ¾ third member, 4:56gears with Sure Grip, 742 case, drop in and go, \$300. Call Bob @ 787-5695.

For Sale- 8 ¾ third member, 4:10 gears with sure grip, \$350. Call Bob @ 787-5695.

For Sale- 9" B-Body Rearend \$75. Call Jeremy @ 484-0669

For Sale- 225 Slant Six and 904 trans, \$100, Call Jeremy @ 484-0669.

For Sale- 14" Small bolt pattern Wheels (4), \$50, Call Jeremy @ 484-0669.

For Sale- Small Block 727 Trans, \$50, Call Jeremy @ 484-0669.

If you have any cars, trucks, parts, or other items, you can place an ad in the newsletter for FREE, unlike the Rapid City Journal!!! Please let me know. The next newsletter will be out in July after the Mopars in the Hills Car Show.

Schedule of Events

This is a list of events that I have dates for. If any are missing that you may know about please let me know so that it can be included in the next schedule.

- April 19th B H Mopars Club Meeting, 7pm @ Flags and Wheels**
- May 3rd Coys Swap Meet, Denver, CO**
4th Mopars at Thunder Mountain, Bandimere Speedway, Denver, CO
17th BH Mopars Club Meeting, 7pm @ Flags and Wheels
31st - June 1st - Midwest Mopars in the Park, Farmington, MN
- June 5th-8th Black Hills Overdrive**
6th-8th Thunder on the Prairie, Alliance, NE
13th-14th All Car Rally, Belle Fourche, SD
14th Silver Grill Café Old Town Car Show, Ft Collins, CO
21st Boston's Show and Shine Benefiting Habitat for Humanity, Rapid City
21st BH Mopars Club Meeting, 7pm @ Flags and Wheels
28th Mopars in the Hills Car Show, Dodge Town, Rapid City, SD
- July 11th-13th NHRA/POWERade Mopar Mile-High Nationals, Denver, CO**
19th BH Mopars Club Meeting, 7pm @ Flags and Wheels
20th Cummins Rocky Mountain Truck Fest, Denver CO
- Aug 9th PINKS All Out, Bandimere Speedway, Denver, CO**
16th BH Mopars Club Meeting, 7pm @ Flags and Wheels
- Sept 6th Coy's Swap Meet, Denver, CO**
20th BH Mopars Club Meeting, 7pm @ Flags and Wheels
27th Mopars Fall Fling, Liberty Motors, Rapid City, SD
- Oct 18th BH Mopars Club Meeting, 7pm @ Flags and Wheels**
- Nov 15th Club Bowling/Club Meeting, 2pm (Place to be determined)**
- Dec *No Meeting because of the Holidays* Happy Holidays!!!**