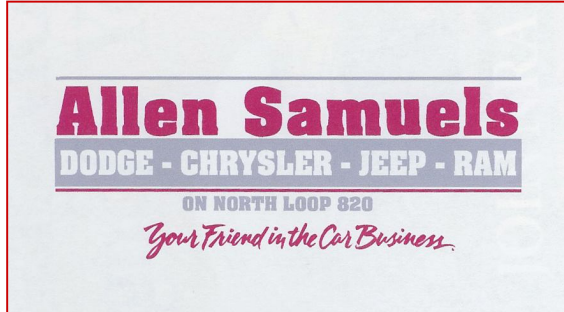




UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 16 - Monthly Club Meeting, 5 pm, Spring Creek
BBQ, 1509 Airport Fwy, Bedford, TX



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January 2014

THE STARTING LINE

Official Monthly Publication of Cowtown Mopars

2013-2014 CLUB BOARD MEMBERS

President - Mark Buchanan
Treasurer - Dan Robinson
Activity Director - Susan Brownell
Membership Director - Frank Smith

Vice President - Phillip Taylor
Secretary - Rich Lemmon
Newsletter Editor - Barry Hansen

Appointed Positions

Race Team - Mark Buchanan
Website - Kirk Maisenbacher
Show Team - Dave Mandato

BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS

With the beginning of the year comes nomination and election time. Remember that ALL positions are available to anyone that would like to be nominated. To be eligible for nomination, a person must be up to date on their dues and a member in good standing. Nominations are open in January, February and March, with elections held at the March meeting. Don't want to run for office but still want to help? Consider serving on a committee. Contact any board member for details.

Allen Samuels

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Allen Samuels gives all club members discounts on both vehicle and parts. Just be sure to show your annual membership card to the cashier/salesman. Don't have a membership card? See our membership director for a card when you renew your membership.

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FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK



In last month's installment of the newsletter I had Christmas still on my mind because of our annual party being rescheduled. Because of that I forgot the first order of business, namely wishing everyone "HAPPY NEW YEAR"!!!!!! If you missed our annual Christmas party you missed another great gathering. We had a great time and a great turnout. So much so that maybe we'll do Christmas in January next year. I know you're thinking, Mark don't get ahead of yourself. You're not even going to be President next year. You're right but it's a cool idea even if it's not my idea. Did you notice that smooth transition from party to elections. I may be alone but I thought it was cute. Yes we did have nominations for next year's club leaders and Mike Bearce was nominated for club president. Thanks to Mike for accepting the nomination and thanks to all my fellow board members for running for their current positions again this year. As you all know voting will be at the March club meeting.

For our February meeting we will be back at Spring Creek BBQ for the first time in a while. I hope to see a big crowd there as we plan and prepare for another great year.

See ya soon
Mark

BY THE MINUTES with Rich Lemmon

Cowtown Mopars Meeting and Christmas Party
1-18-14
Start 1700



1. Mark opens the meeting by discussing coming events.
 - A. TMCC
 - B. MATM
 - C. Cowtown Roundup.
2. Officer nominations opened.
 - A non-elected positions
 1. Dave Mandato resigns as Show team coordinator, position is open.
 2. Kirk Maisenbacher. is now Website coordinator.
 3. All others have agreed to continue serving.
 - B. Elected offices
 1. Mark Buchanan. will not be running again, the position of President is open.
 - a. Mike Bearce was nominated for the Office of President.
 2. All other officers have agreed to stand for reelection.

Meeting ends at 1745, party begins.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Frank Smith, Membership Director



Time to renew your membership for 2014

Club dues for 2014 are due now. You do not have to fill out a new registration form if your contact and vehicle information are the same.

Remember...upon renewal your 2014 Membership Card will allow you to get genuine Mopar Performance and replacement parts from *Allen Samuels Dodge* for 10% over cost and to buy a new car or truck for Employee Pricing. These add up to serious savings.

Renew by mail or at one of our events
Single membership New \$25 / Renewal \$15
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Got a hot tip, event, article, update, correction, comment? Cowtown Mopars newsletter now has its own email address:

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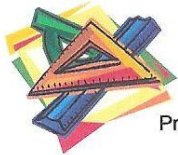
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Howard Farris
Shane Farris

From The Veep's Desk

No report



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COWTOWN CARS & COFFEE

Every 2nd Saturday. NEW LOCATION: Montgomery Plaza on 7th St east of University Dr, downtown Fort Worth. A free event 8 am to 12 n (best time 8 am to 10 am). All types of cars and motorcycles welcome. Let's try for a regular group there every month.

Be sure to visit the Facebook page: [Cowtown Cars and Coffee](#)

Off The Wing by Barry Hansen



Attended the Jan FW Cars and Coffee at the new location, parking lot between Montgomery Plaza and the Target store off west 7th St. Enter and drive between two lines of red Lamborghinis and Ferraris. Ho hum, boring (even if they are part of Chrysler now). 2nd, 3rd, 4th rows where the “good” cars were. The sponsor, Autobahn of FW, was there with several of their Jaguars. No coffee and donuts this time but they handed out \$5 gift cards from the Chick Fil A (conveniently located in the parking lot). What a deal. Autobahn rep thought there were more cars than at La Grave Field and looked forward to next meet, Sat, Feb 8. Come on down, I’ll try to be there even if it is in the wife’s Jeep or the Ramcharger (bet if I drove the Ram over one of those Ferraris that would impress ‘em).

Christmas party was a blast. We filled the room. Seemed like a good time was had by all. Great to see so many young people and kids there. Gives me hope for the future and for the club. Chinese gift exchange got to be cut-throat. Several at our table agreed we should consider moving the next Christmas party to after the holidays.

24 Hours of Daytona, Viper 3rd in class beating the factory Corvettes, this after 15 minutes in the pits for a burst power steering line. Another Viper 6th in class after a wreck put them in the pits for suspension and bodywork. As the web article on Torque news – Dodge neatly summarized: Vipers 1, Corvettes 0.

NHRA Winternationals Sunday Feb 9. Racing season officially starts for me.

Mopar spotting...Been out a while but in movie “Mr. and Mrs. Smith” (Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie) there is an awesome chase scene, the good guys in a Chrysler minivan out-running three BMWs full of bad guys. Quote “those sliding side doors are quite handy.”

More Mopar spotting...wonderful 60’s TV series “Danger Man” aka “Secret Agent Man”. Lots of chase scenes in mid 50’s Chrysler 300s and Chrysler limousines.

Fiat completes purchase of all outstanding Chrysler stock.

Speaking of Fiat, got to talking with a father and son at FW Cars and Coffee who both own Fiat Abarths. American version powered by a Chrysler four cylinder. “Chrysler” all over the valve cover, radiator hoses, decals, etc. Son thought the engine was made in Toledo, OH. Says the Abarth American engine is more powerful and much coveted in Italy when they can get ‘em. As an aside, saw an interview last year with Michael Schumacher. He owns several big bad Ferraris of course but his favorite car and daily driver is his Fiat 500 Abarth. Go figure.

Stay Mopar frosty



The Go Fast(er) Department

Mark Buchanan - Race Team Coordinator

HEY TWELVE TIME TMCCC CHAMPIONS!!!!

No big news for this month. Just **CONGRATULATIONS 12 TIME TMCCC CHAMPS!!!!!!** There were several members that didn't make it to the Christmas party and those listed here I have awards for. Grady Hentz, Gary Kemble, David Huffman, Ken Angyal and Kyle Hill.

Personally I hope to get to a track in a few weeks and see how the changes we made will improve the times.

Stay tuned

Mark

2014 Race Schedule:

March 16	Kennedale
March 30	Ennis
April 13	Dallas Raceway
April 27	Denton
May 4	Redline
May 18	Ardmore
Sept 7	Ennis
Sept 28	Denton
Oct 12	Kennedale
Oct 26	Ennis
Nov 15	banquet

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or search "Cowtown Mopars" on Facebook!!!

Tech Tip

Beefing up the 8-1/4 Axle

The 8-1/4 axle...unloved and looked down upon as inferior to the 8-3/4 or the mighty Dana 60. Even so, this axle has been used in more Mopars than any other, except maybe its larger counterpart, the 9-1/4. The reality is that although most people look down on the 8-1/4, it's really a good platform for street duty, or a muscle car running a mild V8. If you want to beef it up a bit to take some extra abuse, there is an option.

Most people don't realize that in 1997 Chrysler started building the 8-1/4 with a higher spline count Dana Trac-Lok (29 vs. 27 spline). It also started using thicker, larger diameter C-clips. This unit will fit in an older housing, but it requires axles to be cut and resplined, or new custom ordered axles. Not only does this give you a better carrier setup and larger C-clips, but it also eliminates the small tapered axles that originally came in the old cars.

I undertook this mod on my '75 Dart, and it was really quite easy. The axle is a hodge-podge of parts: The carrier is for a 2002 Durango R/T, the C-clips were for the same vehicle (although they are all the same post 1997). The 3.55 gears came used from a V6 Dodge Dakota. To put it all together I ordered a set of Dutchman straight shaft axles from Dr. Diff. Quite simply, they were A-Body axles but cut with the Durango R/T spline and C-clip slot. The Durango R/T used a different carrier than a typical Dakota. The center pin in the carrier is smaller, allowing for thicker button heads on the axles. (Note the *Durango R/T* used the 8-1/4, while the *Dakota R/T* used a 9-1/4). All I had to do was send Dutchman the diameter of the new center pin and they cut my axles accordingly.

Everything was a drop in affair, and the axles are far thicker than the factory units. I even topped the setup off with rear disc brakes from a '94 Grand Cherokee (a near bolt on mod itself). While not a setup I would put slicks on and race every weekend, I am fully confident it will hold together just fine for spirited street driving or occasional race duty.

Kirk Maisenbacher

“In The Works”

Upcoming Club Activities by Susan Brownell

No report

ITEMS FOR SALE AND WANTED

(Items posted for 3 months unless requested otherwise)

WANTED: 68-70 b body front bench seat. Mark 214-727-4324, bbuchanan8@juno.com (exp Feb)

FOR SALE: Mopar A-body 2800 lb rear super stock leaf springs with a set of F&R Drag shocks, never raced, 300 miles of street driving, \$150. Also have A-body small bolt axles, backing plates, drums, and 741 pig, \$150.00 Call Mark at 214-458-4418 or email mksuzia@yahoo.com (exp Jan)

FOR SALE from Dayna Caldwell, dkcaldwell@yahoo.com or 817-680-7345. Many many parts including rebuilt '72 340, McLeod twin clutch kit 23 spline, 10.5" w/ flywheel, tool boxes, jacks, lift, Viper parts, too numerous to list. Call or email for details and complete list (exp Feb)

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JOE WADE 817-688-3867 (exp Feb)

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The editor

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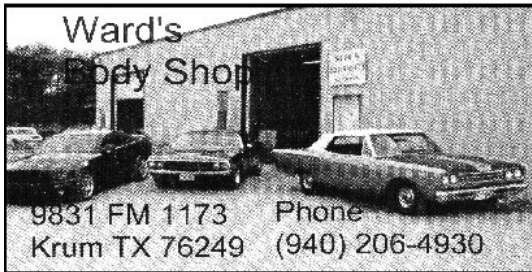
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Membership Form

Date _____ Type of Membership: New _____ or Renewal _____
Single _____ or Family _____

Please Print or Type

Name _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

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E-Mail _____ Occupation _____

Single _____ Married _____ Spouses Name _____ # Of Children _____

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How were you referred to the club? _____

Personal Information-Name, Address, Phone number, etc are placed in to a club roster and made available to club members. Cowtown Mopars will also attempt to get club-pricing discounts for its members. This will require providing the vendor with a club roster to verify affiliation.

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Signature _____ Amount Paid _____ Check # _____

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