

So to prep the Cuda for Vegas, I had Aaron Bourdage apply his considerable knowledge and skill last week to a couple of areas that has had me going nuts for several years. Item # One, I helped Aaron install new fuzzy/plastic wind seal channels on the leading edges of the front roll up windows. When I restored the car way back in 2000, the originals crumbled to dust, and I didn't know where to go for the new parts. I solved that problem a couple of years ago, but didn't know how to install 'em.

Item # Two, Aaron wrapped his brain around the Cuda's nasty habit of tossing the air conditioning belt. This little issue arose when I swapped in the manual transmission. The a/c belt didn't seem happy with the occasional combination of high revs & banging shifts. I bet I went through a dozen belts. Aaron developed a theory that the new belts are woven in such a way that causes them to not like pressure applied to their top surface. Well, the stock a/c bracket system has an idler pulley that does just that. Aaron thought if we removed the idler, then purchased a belt of an appropriately shorter length, this belt would not see pressure on the top surface and therefore, not eject itself. I went along with this theory, and bought a new belt. But I privately thought to myself that Aaron had maybe breathed a little too much brake cleaner. Turns out, he was right. I was flabbergasted. And still am. This belt remained on the car despite driving to Vegas and back. And it even endured an occasional flogging of high revs and banged shifts. I wouldn't have thought of this in a thousand years. All that remains is the unsightly hole in the bracket where the idler used to be. I can live with that.

Also, in prep for the Vegas show, I repainted the metal portion of the dash and installed new Legendary seat covers. After eleven years, the old ones had faded and stitching was tearing through the vinyl. That was a lot of work. Masking the dash, removing and re-installing the seats, removing the old covers, installing the new. But the Cuda looked pretty good. I was expecting a good showing in the A-Body Modified class. But no. Out of a dozen and a half entered, I got skunked. These were pretty blinged up Cudas and Darts, and I'm of the anti-bling school of modification, so... But still, my car looked pretty good.

It must've been the hole in the idler bracket.

—Bob Gough, Y'r 'umble Ed'r

The Newsletter of the Mopar Club/San Diego

PentaGram

www.moparclubsandiego.org

APR 2011

Mopar Club Spring Cruise!!!

Club Cruise & BBQ, Sat Apr 3

At least 2 dozen Club cars turned out for this back country cruise organized and mapped out by Jim Signorelli. Of those cars, only five were vintage, the rest being new or newish LX platform cars, many of which were Challengers. And a new Camaro driven by Cathy Jamieson. A terrific route took us from Casa Machado onto the new Route 52 connection to Highway 67, onto eastbound 8, thru the Cuyamaca, stops in Julian and Dudley's, then to Casa Signorelli for the bbq. No breakdowns occurred. Not even Cathy's Camaro!

Upcoming Club Cruise on Sunday June 5

planned by Clubmember Cliff Cunningham that will take us from Dalton's Roadhouse 775 center Drive in San Marcos, thru De Luz Canyon, to Old Town Temecula. Put it down on your calendar. More info as the date approaches. Wonder what Cathy Jamieson will drive?

Temecula Rod Run, March 11-12

As usual, the town was filled to capacity with fine rolling hardware. This

year, Bill Andrews showed his '69-1/2 A12 Super Bee and Marc Viau displayed his '64 Savoy. Both are splendid examples. And both took trophies.

Clubmember Henry Thurston provided these photos of, at left, The Slab circa 1961. That's Henry's mom's dad in the foreground. At right, is a photo of Henry's mom and his dad's dad on New year's Day, 1962. She's got her eye on a Studebaker Lark on the lot of a Dodge deal on El Cajon Boulevard. Thanks, Henry! Very cool!



the Mopar Club at the Strip

It was almost a regular Club meeting there were so many members attending this year. In addition to those shown in these photos were Randy Carpentier and his son, Dale Gallup, Larry and Yolanda Dewees, Dan and Paula Smith from Lake Havasu, Gary Weaver, Neal Halpin, Terry Ulmer, Ed Kohler, Steve Carter, Marv Reiser, Aaron and Joe Bourdage, Ben and Ann Giangliulio, Larry and Debbie Johnson, Lee Meyer, Jim Signorelli, and probably a bunch more. Except for Sunday, the weather was cold. But at least it was really windy. The car show and swap meet were bigger this year, but the racing was the big activity. If you haven't been, put it on your list for next year.

Below: Founding Member Steve Sedlemeyer has hailed from Las Vegas for several years now, so getting his blown 340 Duster to the event is pretty much a no-brainer.



Above: that's Ted Montano in the near lane in his Plymouth Business coupe doin' the big burnout. This was on Sunday when the weather was spectacular. Thursday, Friday and Saturday saw high winds, low temps, and even brief snow flurries. Right: Pat Borovicka in his Dodge Coronet "Red Sled" lines up against an altered GTO in the A/FX group.



Below: Joel Miner was the crowd favorite with his altered wheelbase A/FX "Miner Threat" '65 Dodge. Joel's rear bumper tattooed the starting line at least three times, depriving Joel of a view as to where the car was headed. This year the A/FX class included a couple of Fords, Mercs, Pontiacs each, and a Chevy.



Above: Bill "HemiBoy" Baugh entered the his Dodge Rumble Bee in the 1/8 mile Bonus Round. While he was losing in round two, he took the 2nd place trophy for trucks at the car show awards ceremony. Somebody walked off with his trophy, though. So he lost, won, then lost.



Left: hard-leavin' Bill Ruhlman departs the line in his nasty 340 Valiant for a 9-second pass while crewman Steve "Hollywood" Williams watches how the suspension reacts.

Below, left: John Boville drove his new 6 speed/5.7 liter R/T Challenger to the event and entered the New Hemi Challenge.

Below: Jim Collins' '65 Plymouth RO21 tribute car, lookin' sharp as ever, occupied a place of honor as last year's recipient of 1st Place in B-Body Modified.



Above: in the Too-Much-Fun-For-One-Guy category is Marc Viau, who raced his 300 SRT to 12.20's, his 340 race Duster to low 10's, and took his silver '64 Savoy down the track for a 13.20 et. Oh yeah, the Savoy took 1st place in '62-'65 B-Body Restified.



Right: at least half the journey back to San Diego is an open desert road.



Upcoming Events

- Next Club meeting will be 7pm Wed., May 11 @ Casa Machado. For events: www.goodoleboyssandiego.com
- **RaceLegal** at The Q Apr 15, 29, drags & Hi Octane Slide event, \$30/race, \$8/spectator
- **Barona Drags** April 28 Fuel Alteredds www.baronadrags.com
- **3rd Jamul Hot Rod Show & Chili Cook Off**, Sat Apr 16, 10a, Simpson's Nursery, Jamul, 619/337-5626
- **Spring Fling XXV**, Apr 16-17, Woodley Park, Van Nuys, www.cpwclub.com, call Bob for Club caravan info 858/292-5344
- **Motor Cars on Mainstreet** Sun Apr 17 8-3, Isabella @ Orange, Coronado, \$30 prior 4/10, www.coronadomainstreet.com
- **Heartbeat Happening XIII**, Sat Apr 17, Bates Nut Farm, 15957 Woods Valley Road, Valley Center, 760/221-6869
- **6th Edelbrock's Rev Up For Kids**, Sun May 1, 10 a, Vic's Garage 510 Madrid Ave, Torrance, www.edelbrock.com
- **Car Craft Magazine Anti Tour 2011**, Fri May 6-Sat May 7, 9:30 meet at Turbonetics 2255 Agate St, Simi Valley, 11:00 depart for Morro bay, Fri cruise nite, Sat Car Show 9-4, return via Hwy 101, info: carcraft.com
- **Cars & Coffee on the Mesa**, Sun May 8, 8am, JBA Auto Center 5675 Kearny Villa Rd. San Diego, www.greenspeedoco.com
- **Clairemont Cruisers**, begins Sat Apr 23, 4821 Clairmont Mesa Blvd near Woodie's Hot Dogs
- **Santee Lakes** 3pm Season Begins April 1st info 619-315-1060 <http://www.MobileEventRadio.com>
- **Cruisin' Grand**, Escondido season begins Fri Apr 1, spiderwaldron@yahoo.com
- **Cajon Classic Cruise** begins Wed Apr 6 thru Oct 27
- **Jack's La Jolla Classic Cruise**, every Sun 7am, 7300 Girard Ave
- **East County Cruisers** 6:30p Tuesdays, Tyler's Taste of Texas 576 N. 2nd, El Cajon
- **Ramona Cruise**, Sun 4p-8, on Main St in Albertson's pkg lot
- **Cruisin' Italian Style**, Pernicano's, 1588 E. Main, El Cajon, ea. Thur nite
- **The Classic Malt Shop** every Friday, 5p, 3615 Midway Dr.
- **Home Town Buffet** 1st Sat each month 9am, 2nd/4th Tues 5:30pm, Main St, E.C.
- **Dalton's Roadhouse** 1st Sunday each month 12-4p 775 Center Dr. San Marcos
- **Good Ole Boys Breakfast** 10am 2nd & 4th Wed, Denny's 2642 Jamacha
- **Coco's Restaurant** 11a-3p, 3rd Sun 16759 Bernardo Center Dr, R'cho B'rdo
- **Ruby's Diner** Carlsbad Company Stores 7- 9:30am last Sat 5620 Paseo Del Norte
- **Bonita Donuts**, Bonita, Sat 8am, 4414 Bonita Rd. Vons Shop'g Cntr
- **Fred's Old Fashioned Burgers** Alpine, 1st, 3rd, 5th Sat, 5pm
- **Donut Derelicts** Huntington Beach, ea. Sat 6:30am Adam's Ave. Donuts, Magnolia @ Adams
- **Cars & Coffee @ Ford PAG Mazda HQ** 7a ea Sat 7905 Gateway Blvd, Irvine

Classifieds

As a tangible benefit to being a member of The Mopar Club, you get free ads. Give Bob a fax 858/292-5344 or better e-mail bobgough@san.rr.com

For Sale: 1968 Dodge Dart GT hard top, 360 auto, console, needs interior, 8.25 rear, 4-1/2" bolt power disc brakes, new black vinyl top, water pump, recore 4 row radiator, hoses, front end rebuilt in 2003, dark blue Maaco in '03 Dale 858-349-0677

For Sale: Price reduction! 8-3/4 Diff, 741 case, 4:56 gears, S.G., no whine/ howl, asking \$400.00 Also two - 15" x 7" Keystone Klassic wheels. 5 lug on 4-1/2" Excellent condition w/ center caps, washers & open end lugs. Asking \$225.00 pr. Larry 714-553-2971

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