

So, Superbowl XLV is over and the Packers have brought the Lombardi Trophy to their home in Green Bay Wisconsin. Turns out the Pittsburgh Steelers were the dirt beneath their chariot wheels in this closely contested game. Funny. I didn't read of any big deal public welcoming home parties for their cherished millionaire heroes in the streets of either Green Bay or Pittsburgh.

And we in San Diego didn't have to worry about that, as our millionaire heroes never made it to the playoffs. So, what can we do to amuse ourselves during the depressing depths of winter?

Well, for starters I'm gonna be at North Island Naval Air Station this Saturday for the 100th Anniversary of Naval Flight. They are planning to have a fly-over of 200 Navy planes, some vintage, some current, led by the Blue Angels. Geez, what a sight that'll be!

Then what's next here in the So Cal wintertime. Hmmm, lemme see. Oh yeah, the Big Three Swap Meet. This thing is now in its 44th year. Wow, that's as old as my Cuda. Much to the chagrin of Mrs. 'umble, there's never a year that I haven't come home with a greasy nugget or two. And The Club, of course, always has a BBQ cookout at noon. During our brutal weather conditions (that actually happened last year with rain on Saturday), we stay toasty dry in our swap spot under the trolley tracks.

That same weekend on Sunday, Steve Waldron is hosting a fund raising cruise to keep alive the weekly street cruises in Escondido. Seems the business district has pulled the plug on financial support. It's important to help Steve in this, as the Escondido Cruise is by far the best in the County. So, if you're not going to be at the Swap Meet on Sunday, wipe the dust off your Mopar and cruise on out to Escondido. It'll be a bright sunny day, perfect for driving your Mopar. Start out early with a stop at JBA Racing for coffee and a donut.

And be sure to stop and reflect for a moment about all the fun that the car folks in Pittsburgh and Green Bay must be having.

-Bob Gough, Y'r 'umble Ed'r



Clubmember Leo Montiel & outdoor fun in Toledo.

The Newsletter of the Mopar Club/San Diego

PentaGram

www.moparclubsandiego.org

FEB 2011

The Car Show Season gets started!!!

CARe Animal Rescue Car Show, Sat Feb 7 At this show in San Juan Capist-

rano, the Mopar Club was represented by Prez Larry Johnson & wife Debbie with their vintage Challenger 440/6 Pack, and Jeff and Julie Walker, who were there with their Challenger redux. To show the evolution of the design, they displayed their cars side by side, and were lookin' good! Trophy judges saw fit to award hardware

to other cars in the field, however. Oh well, it was a nice day & the Johnsons & the Walkers helped raise money for the animal shelter.

Larry Holt, Sr passed away on Feb. 1 after a short battle with cancer. Larry was



not a member of The Club, but was giant among local racers for forty years. Over that time, his race cars were seldom beat, whether a gasser or a dragster. Larry was not only a good driver but he was superb at building high performance engines. He operated his own machine shop, Speed Specialties, with his son, Larry Jr. and was a trophy sponsor to our All American Car Show last year. Several Club members have had race and/or street

Larry and his Anglia



engines built by Larry's shop. As good as Larry was with race cars and engines, however, he was even better with how he treated his customers. He was always fair, and always stood behind his work. Many San Diego hot rodders attended Larry's funeral, and several addressed the attendees and said just that. But it was his closest friends and family members who spoke of Larry's deep commitment to family. An online memorial to Larry's life can be seen at <http://www.greenwood-sandiego.com>, including many photos of his cars. Larry is missed and deepest condolences to the family.

Upcoming Stuff This Sat Feb 12 is the **100th Anniversary Parade of Naval Flight and Open House at North Island NAS**. Our own Bill "Hemiboy" Baugh is involved with the event and has recruited heavily from the ranks of the Mopar Club to staff the Classic Car Show component of the event. Space available has limited the entries to 100 cars, and only confirmed entries will be displayed. **45th Big 3 Swap Meet Qualcomm Stadium Feb 25-27**. Hours are 12 noon- 4pm Fri, 8a-4p Sat, and 8a-Noon Sun. As usual, The Club has reserved swap space SA06 and we'll have donuts/dogs/burgers/sodas on Sat & Sun. There will be floor space for your extra parts that you want to sell. There is a parking fee at the gate. **JBA Racing Cars & Coffee on the Mesa**, Sun Feb 13 get there early enough (suggestion: dawn) and J will have donuts at his casual cruise in that occurs on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Show off your Mopar and do a little bench racin' with the Brand X and Brand F boys. Also, J will have his new and very impressive shop open for tours. You'll like what you'll see.



back into
the
fold

Clubmembers Jeff and Julie Walker have been married for forty one years now, and they attribute that happy fact to thinking alike on a lot of things. Heck, they not only attended the same high school, La Jolla High, but their dads are US Navy aviators. And when it comes to their cars, well, performance was what Jeff and Julie always looked for.

That all started back in 1970 when Julie spotted a blue '68 GTX on a dealer lot. In spite of not having the convenience of power steering or brakes, it became Julie's daily driver. She became so fond of the car, she began calling it "Goliath". Unfortunately, it ate like its namesake, getting 12 mpg when Julie drove it. And maybe 10 when Jeff was behind the wheel.

But starting with the '80's, you were a pariah if you owned a muscle car. And after ten years, Jeff and Julie sold the GTX, and immediately regretted it. Yeah, there were cars that they owned that offered performance as defined by the Smog Years, but their nomenclature seemed to begin with a "Z", or "RX". And some of those were even furrin' cars. And none were like "Goliath".

But then, when the new Challenger came out, all of that changed. Not only did it look like a muscle car should, you could select between two Hemis! The Walkers were stoked.

So, the hunt was on. The Walkers thoroughly researched the options list on the Dodge website. They decided that they wanted a black one with the 5.7 liter Hemi V-8, six-speed manual transmission, and no expensive extras live a NAV system or sunroof. Turns out, that was hard to find. After a couple of months, they found Baxter Chrysler Jeep Dodge in Omaha had just what they wanted. And no dealer mark up. So, the Walkers bought one-way tickets to Omaha,



Clubmembers Jeff & Julie Walker have long regretted selling their '68 GTX. But no real American muscle cars were built in the 80's and 90's, so they didn't own one. When they saw the new Camaro concept a few years ago at the San Diego Car Show, they were not impressed. Also at the show was the new Challenger concept, and they new they had to get one. They waited for the six-speed manual trans to be offered and sprung for a black one.



Above: You'd be smilin' like Julie & Jeff if you had a new 6-speed 5.7 Hemi Challenger. Above, right: the dash has been autographed by the car's designer.



where they were picked up by the dealership, bought the car and drove it back to San Diego. At the AZ-CA border, the California fruit inspector drooled all over the car. As they cleared his inspection, he yelled "Hit it!". And the Walker Challenger burned some tire in anger for the first time as they pulled away.

But as any hot rodder knows, personalization of your ride is the name of the game. And Jeff and Julie know the game. One of the first things done to add uniqueness was to have custom graphics added. But the Walkers wanted the graphics to have a factory appearance. So, thinking a silver and red "hockey stick" with "R/T" and "HEMI" on the rear fenders would look pretty cool, they took their car to airbrush artist Chuck Parker in Oceanside. Chuck worked up a design that included dark gray band between the silver field and red pinstripe. To cap it off, Chuck painted accents in matching colors on the hood to accentuate the power bulge and scoops. At our All-American Car Show in 2009, the Walkers had Challenger designer

Micheal Castiglione autograph their dash. Jeff has also ordered up a set of SRT springs and shocks to lower the car, and 20x10" & 20x9" chrome rims from Rocket Racing to replace the 18" stock rims.

Pretty as she is, this Challenger is no garage queen, as Jeff and Julie have spun the odo to over 13k miles.

After thirty years, Jeff and Julie once again, have some Mopar muscle in the garage. This one, they'll probably hang onto.



Jeff and Julie have personalized their Challenger with custom graphics. Next, she'll be sitting pretty on an SRT lowering kit and 20" chrome rims.

Upcoming Events

- Next Club meeting will be 7pm Wed., Mar 9 @ Casa Machado. For events: www.goodoleboyssandiego.com
- **RaceLegal** at The Q Mar 4 & 18, \$30 to race, \$8 spectator
- **Barona Drags** Sat Feb 26, Mar 12-13 www.baronadrags.com
- **100th Anniversary of Naval Aviation**, North Island NAS, Sat Feb 12. A once-in-a-lifetime flyover of 200 aircraft is planned + static displays of planes & ships. Free!
- **Cars & Coffee On The Mesa** Sun Feb 13 dawn-10a, JBA's Performance 5675 Kearny Villa Rd, jbaracing.com
- **Orphan/Hand Crafted Car Show** for kit cars and dead badges (AMC, DeSoto, Plymouth), Sun Feb 13, 9a, 7900 block of Girard Ave, La Jolla \$15/Jan 15, \$20 after orphanandhandcrafted@gmail.com
- **Auto Waste Recycling Event** Sat Feb 19, 9a-1p, School for Creative/Performing Arts 2425 Dusk Dr; Sat Mar 19, 9a-1p Mira Mesa HS, 110510 Reagan Rd, used oil & filters, coolant, batteries
- **Valentine Cruise**, Sat Feb 19, 10-1, Long-shadow Ranch, Temecula 760-315-2057
- **Big 3 Swap Meet** at the Q Feb 25-27
- Clear out your garage of old greasy car parts & bring 'em down to the Club Swap Space SA06 under the trolley tracks just west of the station. The Club will spring for dogs/burgers/sodas on Sat & Sun Call Bob 858/292-5344 for info
- **Escondido Cruise Fund Raiser**, Sat Feb 27, 8a-1p, \$20/car by Feb 23, 1 free t-shirt & meal ticket/car, send check to SoCal Promotions, PO Box 300887, Escondido 92030-0887
- **Chickin' Pie Diner**, ???
- **Santee Lakes** ???, 14727 Pomerado Rd
- **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, Carlsbad
- **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: 4 wheels and tires for sale, 14X5.5 SB wheels with P215/70R14 Good-year tires. \$250.00. Call Tom 619-449-9167

For Sale: 1968 Dodge Dart GT hard top, with 360 auto, console, needs interior, 8.25 rear, large bolt power disc brakes, new black vinyl top, water pump, rebuilt 4 row radiator, new hoses, front end as re-built in 2003, painted dark blue by Maaco in 2003 Dale 858-349-0677

For Sale: Attention race fans, 8 3/4 Diff, 741 case, 4:56 gears, Sure Grip, no whine/howl, Larry 714-553-2971, asking \$500.00

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