

THE LOW DOWN

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ARLINGTON AREA STREET RODS ☺ April, 2011

Meeting Times and Place

The March meetings will be held at on the first Thursday (April 7th) and on the third Thursday (April 21st) of the month at the **Dixie House Cafe** on Lancaster in Handley.

YOUR 2011 AASR OFFICERS

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Letter from the (Temporary) EDITOR

Can you believe it? The 2011 spring street rod season is in full swing. Events are being planned and some are already history. Isn't this the year that you promised yourself you were going to be more active? It is for me. I plan on attending at least the Fredericksburg State Run in May and the NSSRA Rocky Mountain Nationals in Pueblo in June. Gary and Connie Cox traveled with Ruthann and I last year and we had so much fun that we plan on doing it again this year. The more the merrier, so if you would like to join us for the drive, talk to Gary about Motels along the way and while in Pueblo. Gary is a Master at making these arrangements.

Letter from De Prez

Hot is what it's Not

So the other night I was installing a thermostat in the engine going in my '64 Impala and I'm thinking. I wonder what temperature value thermostat should I install? With the upcoming summer months looming ahead I want to be assured the 409CID engine doesn't run hot all the time. Which if anybody can recall was a bit of a problem for cars of yester-year with larger displacements. This led me to think about and try to define what "hot" really is. How will I measure what "hot" is and how will I regulate "hot"?

When I was in High School "Hot" was Bonita Matthews. In West Side Story it was a girl they called "Anybody's". In Grease it was Sandy portrayed by the incomparable Olivia Newton-John and on American Idol 2011 it is Pia Toscano, I mean Haley Reinhart, or rather Lauren Alaina, but I digress.

For me (and this is all about me right?) hot as it is relative to street rods/machines/etc. is 180 degrees F and above. If you are looking for the ultimate in gas mileage temperatures north of 220 degrees F are not uncommon. But since gas mileage in not the ultimate goal but rather "being cool" (pun intended), I am going to stick with a 160 thermostat and hope to end up around the 180 range on average. For all other references to "Hot" please see the above paragraph.

Now being the ever-confidant rodder that I am but believing you must inspect what you expect, I am going to monitor my progress with not only the idiot light the Impala came equipped with but also with a manually operated accessory gauge. For carnal references to "hot" please refer once again to paragraph two. You should find me there.

To regulate "hot" I am guessing I will drive the car mostly in the evenings which coincidentally is when the vast majority of cruises are held. Of course I will have all the windows down in order to add to the "cool factor" which will negate the need to run the air conditioner therefore assisting in the ability of the radiator to keep the big block cool.

Where am I going with all this rambling you ask? Good question! When is the best time to drive your street rod? Now! Why? Because Hot is what it's Not right now. Soon we will be driven indoors by the intense Texas heat. The weather right now is absolutely perfect for cruising so break those rods out, blow the dust off and drive them to the meetings! During the summer months I am hoping to set up some occasions for the club to travel to some shops/events and when we do so it is always a bonus and a lot more fun if we all drive "cool" cars.

De Prez

ARLINGTON AREA STREET RODS MEETING MINUTES...3.4.11

by Dave Cain

Meeting held at Dixie House / Handley

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM by Bill Ancona

ROLL CALL & RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

28 Members

4 Guests: Glenn Dickey, James

Davis, Lester Hunt, Danny Armstrong, Luc Hye

READING MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING:

Waived

TREASURER'S REPORT: \$ 4969.00

PROGRAM: Luc Hye presented some products he sells. Car vacs & garage door screens.

RECEIPT OF COMMUNICATIONS/ COMMITTEE REPORTS

Food drive – 1st meeting of odd months

- Hopson – accepting magazines for TCC
- Telephone committee had not called everyone

OLD BUSINESS:

- James Kunkle recommended we combine the Club trip to Hatfields with a visit to his son in law in Gilmer. The Club agreed and decided to leave from the IHOP in Mansfield @ 9 AM on Sat., April 23. Go earlier if you plan on having breakfast.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Don Smith reported on the theft of his '32 Sedan Delivery
- James Davis and Glenn Dickey were voted in as new members
- Motion was made & seconded for Jack Gray to be installed as an Honorary Member. Vote passed.

UPCOMING CAR SHOWS:

- Friday Night Cruise In - going on as long as the weather is above 40 degrees and no rain
- Sunday AM – Busy B
- Sunday AM – Braums – Mansfield
- Tuesday night cruise in – 6 PM - at Pizza Inn, 1900 block of 8th Ave
- Goodguys – March 18,19,20
- Pep Boys – Cooper & Randol Mill – March 26,27
- Lone Star Roundup – Austin - April 1, 2
- Jeff Kinsey's – Cumby – April 9

Door prize : David Hopson, David Yarbrough
50/50 : David Hopson (donated his share to the Club)

Minutes taken by Dave Cain

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 7:50 PM

ARLINGTON AREA STREET RODS MEETING MINUTES...

by Dave Cain

No minutes for the second meeting which was held informally at Injected Customs in Fort Worth.

Gary Cox says the LSSRA State run is coming in May and will be here before you know. So you should be making your plans to attend now. He has reserved 20 rooms for the club for May 20 and 21, 2011. People should contact him to be put on the list. Thanks Gary; this service to the club is really appreciated. **** Also mark your calendar, for Hatfield's on April 23, Canton, TX, 10:00 A.M. to 2 P.M., they provide lunch. ****

Brain Teaser (From March)

Lynn and Lila are sisters. Liz, Lynn's daughter, is 12 years younger than her Aunt Lila. Lynn is twice as old as Liz. Four years ago, Lynn was the same age as Lila is now. How old is each? Lynn is 32, Lila is 28 and Liz is 16. That was too easy.

Detroit Autorama 2011 Ridler Winner



Bruce Ricks 1956 Ford Convertible 2011 **Pirelli Great 8 and the 2011 Ridler Award Winner**



Bruce Tony Milyard 1962 Corvette 2011 Pirelli Great 8



Jim Marciniak 1963 Buick 2011 Pirelli Great 8



Tim Gunsalus 1947 Chevy Pickup 2011 Pirelli Great 8



Kenneth Tallent 1940 Ford Coupe 2011 Pirelli Great 8



Kenny Frederick 1957 Chevy 2011 Pirelli Great 8



Derrick Samson 1951 Chevy 2011 Pirelli Great 8



Mike Lethart 1939 Ford Convertible 2011 Pirelli Great 8

Club Inventory

David Cain has custody of all of these items. Let him know if you would like something a day or two before a meeting and he will bring the item(s) to the meeting.

PRODUCT	INVENTORY	PRICE
CLUB LICENSE PLAQUES	32	\$ 20.00
LARGE WINDOW STICKERS	204	1.00
SMALL WINDOW STICKERS	468	3.00
LARGE PATCH	26	7.00
SMALL PATCH	21	3.00
5 Yr. PATCH	10	3.00
SUMMER HAT	1	5.00
WINTER HAT	14	5.00
T-SHIRT LG	7	10.00
T-SHIRT XL	19	10.00
SWEAT SHIRT XXL	2	20.00
5 YR PATCH	29	3.00
10 YR PATCH	26	3.00
15 YR PATCH	22	3.00
20 YR PATCH	26	3.00

25 YR PATCH	10	3.00
SUMMER HAT	1	5.00
WINTERHAT	14	5.00

I also have the following shirts:

Polo	one XL and two XXL	\$30. each
T-Shirt	one XXL	\$10. each

All shirts are plus 6.25% tax.

Simple but Brilliant and full of truths!

Will Rogers, who died in a 1935 plane crash with his best friend, Wylie Post, was probably the greatest political sage this country has ever known.

Enjoy the following:

1. Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco.
2. Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.
3. There are two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither works.
4. Never miss a good chance to shut up.
5. Always drink upstream from the herd.
6. If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.
7. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back into your pocket.
8. There are three kinds of men: The ones that learn by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence and find out for themselves.
9. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
10. If you're riding' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.
11. Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier'n puttin' it back.

Wedded Bliss

Our very own, Ron Rich, and Melanie Hall exchange vows on March 12, 2011. (Melanie is a beautiful Bride and Ron looks, ummm, eh, very distinguished.) Congratulations from the whole Club!



Meaningless Factoid of the Month

The average American eats 126 pounds of potatoes each year which is on average a potato a day. Nearly 48 pounds are consumed as French Fries and other frozen potato products.

The following was furnished by Gary Cox who is sponsoring this meeting on behalf of AASR for the benefit of its members (if enough people are interested AASR may be eligible for a group rate):

LTC Financial Partners
Present A
Long Term Care Planning Workshop



To The Members of
Arlington Area Street Rods

Who: All Members and Spouses

When: Thursday, April 14, 2011

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Town Village Arlington
1250 W. Pioneer Parkway
Arlington, TX 76013

What: Education, Complimentary
Dessert, Coffee/Tea

RSVP to: cindy.ward@lctcp.net
(Please RSVP so we may plan appropriately!)

Questions: Call Cindy Ward at 817-880-5632

The US Department of Health and Human Services tells us that once we are over the age of 65, 3 in 4 of us WILL need more than traditional health care. The expense of such care – even for a year or two -- can devastate a nest egg rather quickly! While long term care is not something any of us looks forward to experiencing, being prepared ahead of time is not just smart from an emotional standpoint, it is indeed wise from a financial perspective.

Come learn the facts about being prepared. The presentation will be spent laying out the facts. We will discuss the risks, the costs, and offer a basic foundation for making informed decisions on this important subject matter.

You will also learn what special discounts are available to members of AASR members and their spouses.

Besides, coffee and dessert are complimentary!

Compressed Air Car

Tata Motors of India is ready to introduce the Air Car. Is this the next big thing? Is this thing going to make History? Tata is the Indian company that makes the world's cheapest car.

World's First Air-Powered Car: Zero Emissions by Next Summer



This six-seater tax, which should be available in India next year, is powered entirely by a tank filled with compressed air.

Tata plans on producing 600 of these cars by August this year to be used as taxis. The Air Car, called the "MiniCAT" should cost around \$8,177.00 in India and will have a range of around 10 hours between refuels with top speed of about 65 MPH.

The cost of a refill would be about \$2.00 or you could buy the optional compressor and plug into your home electricity when not driving for about a four hour charge costing less than 75 cents. Refueling at a service station takes 2 to 3 minutes.

The MiniCAT which is a simple, light urban car, with a tubular chassis that is glued, not welded, and a body of fiberglass powered by compressed air.

Microcontrollers are used in every device in the car, so one tiny radio transmitter sends instructions to the lights, indicators, etc.

There are no keys - just an access card which can be read by the car from your pocket.



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Open Letter to Eddie Sandoval

I started to write you an email, Eddie, but I need to fill this side of the last page of this newsletter and I figured I could kill two birds with one stone. (Eddie asked me if I had an old SBC engine laying around that he could use in an upcoming project. I do and this is my precautionary tale to him.)

Eddie, I have a SBC short block that you can have. I got it with a trade for an "in process" Model A coupe years ago. I don't have much confidence in the builder since he was using a Ford pickup steering box in a drag link fashion and had convinced himself that he would be able to get used to the steering being backwards i.e. when you turned left the car would go to the right and vice a versa. In any event, he had this engine that he had bought from a friend of a friend's babysitter's boyfriend. So the engine is in unknown condition. It has been sitting in my shop without heads for the better part of 15 years. There appears to be very little wear in the cylinders and there is only a slight carbon ridge at the top of each cylinder. So here is what I would do with this "free" short block assembly if I were you.

Use a ridge reamer to cut the carbon ridge from the top of the cylinders so as not to break the pistons when you remove them. Mark all main bearing caps and rods for reassembly. Disassemble short block. Remove all oil galley and freeze plugs. Mic all cylinders to check for wear (I believe they are OK). Take to machine shop to have them vat the block and check for cracks and crank and cam bearing alignment. Also have them check the crank. (I don't have a cam bearing knocker so I would also have them install the new cam bearings.) If everything checks out; install new freeze plugs and reinstall oil plugs. Check pistons and pins. Clean carbon from ring grooves. Buy new rings and rod and main bearings. Buy new cam and lifters and push rods. Buy assembly lube and oil. Buy new double roller timing gear set. Buy a new water pump and fuel pump. Buy a Fel Pro engine gasket set. Buy PlastiGauge. Cross hatch cylinder walls so that new rings will seat.

Reassemble short block checking ring gaps and all bearing clearances. (I have the tools needed, I believe, to do all of this and would be glad to help, as I am sure others in the club would also do.)

And that my friend is the cost of a "free" short block.