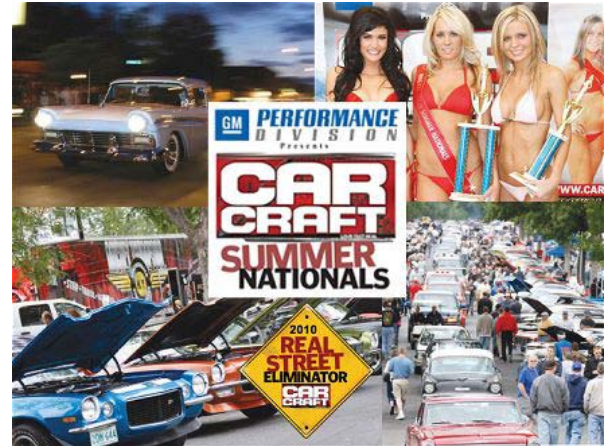


July 2010



Officers:
President: Bryan Flattem
Vice President: John Enga
Treasurer: Terry Didion
Secretary/Merchandise: Ian & Lori McAree
Webmaster: John Delke
Forum Master: Tom Brokaw

Summer is in full swing and we're in the prime of car show season. All the local cruises have begun, plus one of the largest car shows in the world has now passed. It's amazing to think that in a state where the classic car season is only about 6 months long that we would have such a large number of enthusiasts. This month brings the second largest car show in Minnesota: Car Craft Magazine's Summer Nationals. Every year, this show continues to grow, and I don't think this year will disappoint. As a club, we again plan to secure a large and prominent spot along the main cruise route where all our members attending can show off their cars as a group. Over the past few years we have created and become residents of Chevelle Row, which is now a fixture at Car Craft. This is the best single show we can attend to display our cars and our club to everyone from Minnesota as well as the surrounding states. It's also a great place to recruit new members and club sponsors. Details of the exact club parking location cannot be spread until it is secured on the Thursday before the show. Watch our website for final details and when people will be lining up before gate opening.



Here's a
teaser of what
Car Craft
is like:





Cool Tool:

Split wire loom installation tool. It hinges like a clothes pin, just slip over the wire and start the loom. It spreads the loom as you feed it. Use for 3/8-5/8 loom. Cost is about \$5 from O'Reillys.

Showing your car 101:

Entering your first car show; it's a rite of passage for some of us. It's actually a simple process, but a little preparation and planning can make things go smoothly and help you actually enjoy the experience. The first step is prepping your car. Give it a good wash. Clean the windows, vacuum the interior and get the gunk off those wheels right? There are books written solely on detailing your car, go check them out. The better your car looks, the prouder you will feel and the more attention it gets. If possible, scope the area out ahead of time. Figure out the entrance point, and look for potential parking spots. Some places have little shade, or there might be a dirt area. For large shows, the only way to really ensure a decent parking space is to get there early. Many of our members will get to the Car Craft show well before 5am, and that's with spaces already reserved for our club.

Once settled, you can do any finish detailing (dusting, tires, etc) and relax. You did bring a chair didn't you? Here's a short list of other things you'll probably want to bring: sunscreen, cooler with snacks, money, pop-up awning, maybe something to read. Photo albums showing the restoration or buildup, mirrors to show the under carriage, and professionally made detail signs are popular.

Plan on being with your car if it is being judged. There are 3 main types of judging: participant, spectator, and qualified judge. The first 2 are often more of a popularity contest based on personal tastes or friendships. Qualified judge shows will typically have several people using a criteria form that will rate aspects of the vehicle such as paint quality, fit and finish, aesthetics, restoration accuracy, and overall quality. Most of the larger shows will divide entrants into multiple classes. If you are in it to win it, remember that if they can't see it they can't judge it. Be near your car when the judges come around, have the hood, trunk, and doors open, and DO NOT hover or interfere, just be available for questions.

The downfall with car shows is often the same reason as why we do it: the spectators. Any veteran of car shows can relate to the person who "had the exact same one when I was younger, but it had different..." or the person who owned several rare or notable cars, though you are pretty sure they didn't. Maybe the most infamous is the person who comes up to your car and either picks it apart for not being 100% perfectly restored, or is wrong about what they know and tries to convince you or others nearby that they know more than you. Either way, this is the time to pick your battles. You can just nod and smile hoping they leave, or take them on knowing that there's a good chance something even more absurd will probably come out of their mouth.

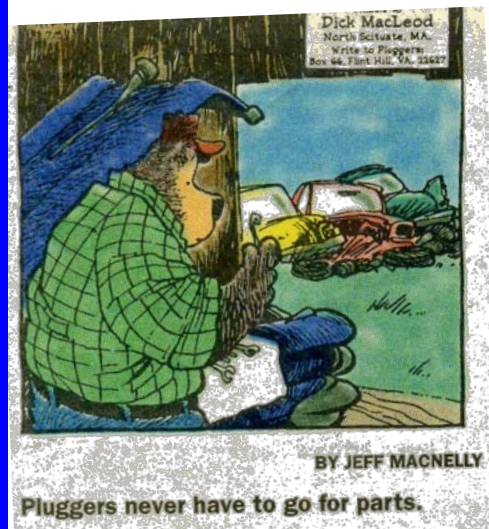


Next Meeting:

**Fuddrucker's in St Louis Park
South 394 frontage road
East of Louisiana Ave
952-593-3833**

5 Quick tips:

- GM thermostat gasket p/n 10105135 has a silicone sealant already in place, install dry for a good seal
- For proper cooling, mechanical fans should be less than 2" from the radiator. The closer the better, and don't forget to use a proper shroud.
- Connect A/N fittings to hard line using Earl's "tube mates." These are simple leak-free fittings that go on the end of a cut hard fuel or transmission line.
- GM AC Delco fuel filters are reported to be rated at 5 microns and come in several versions of barbed, threaded, or both. You can also get adapters to connect to them using A/N fittings.
- Before drilling a hole into carpet, use a sharp knife and cut an X where the bit will go through. This will help keep the bit from pulling a thread and ripping up your new carpet.



SWAP MEETS

Since this month's newsletter covered car shows, what better time than to mention a great source for parts? The idea is simple: people gather in a location, spread out their stuff and wait for buyers. As a buyer you have a smorgasbord of parts, memorabilia and who knows what else to pick through, it can be very exciting to find that certain part you



need. Is it the right part for your make and model? If it's a mechanical part, is it still useable? Is it a good enough deal to buy it here vs. a new one? All of these questions should come to mind. Some things you should keep in mind while at a swap meet: The seller might not be 100% honest, it's up to you to know what you're buying or willing to take the risk. If you are looking for a very specific part, be ready with part or casting numbers, pictures, dimensions, or even the old one so you can compare it. Wheels are very popular, but they come in many bolt patterns. Templates are available to make sure you get the right ones. Bring tools if you are looking at buying an engine, rear axle, or other assembly. If you can't see it, how can you know the condition? Also, if you're planning on buying something big or heavy, don't be afraid to bring a shoulder bag, cart, or wagon. Sometimes you can find kids there



with carts that you can pay to bring your stuff to your car. You also need to plan on how it will get home. Some sellers will deliver, but expect to pay extra.



Selling at a swap meet is a lot more work, but a good way to get some money back on parts you don't need and free up some space in your garage. The best thing about selling at a swap meet is that if you price to sell and it's in good shape, there are people out there who buy stuff to resell later. You might not get top dollar, but you also don't have to bring it home, try to sell it online, or just throw it away. Some tips for selling: lay everything out so it can be seen easily. Some people bring sawhorses or tables. If you have smaller items, consider a shallow box or bin to keep them together. Clearly mark things if you know their application. Have an idea of what things are worth too, both new and used. Some people will put a price on things, plan on getting less than that. At least it's a starting point for buyers. Haggling is part of the swap meet game. Some consider it an art, some think of it as a hassle. Either way, you want to know what you're willing to accept and have some thick skin. Buyers are looking to find faults so they can offer less money, and some will say almost anything. In the end, be prepared to strike a deal. Can you break a hundred? Bring small bills for change. One last thing: some swap meet locations require sellers to provide a sales tax identification number or fill out the form on the spot. It is then up to the seller to report that to the government.



NAVIGATING A SWAP MEET:

- *Take your time, look over, under and around for those hidden gems**
- *Don't walk 3 people wide in a 4 person wide aisle**
- *Try not to zig-zag too much while you're walking, especially if you have a cart or wagon.**
- *Don't be afraid to ask if they have something you don't see, especially if they have similar things.**
- *Please don't stop in the middle of an aisle to talk to friends, move off to the side so people can get past.**
- *Bring a friend, swap shopping lists and keep in contact if you find something.**

Bring the kids, they can sell pop or just be another set of eyes when you have to go to the bathroom.



There can be some good deals on whole cars too.

This Chevelle drag car was spotted without engine or tranny, but it was in pretty good shape and had a roll cage and narrowed rear end. Asking price \$8500

Check out the car corral. This '70 was sitting off to the side of the swap meet with a for sale sign. It had SS emblems, but looking at it closer showed otherwise. Nice car, but no price shown and the owner wasn't around.



Have Fun at the show! We'll see you out there!