



April 2016



Welcome to Car show season. Hope you're ready! Back to the '50s is in 6 weeks, then Car Cra..., the Street machine Nationals is maybe a month away and then you're knocking on August's door. I know I have some finishing up to do! I think I have a line on my brake situation, more to come when (if?) I ever get back to it. Once that's done, then I'm making a big push to do wheels and tires. Loren beat me to the rollers. He's got the same wheels I want, and maybe even the right size tires. I'll make sure I get a real close look at them sometime soon.

Tech: **Wheel offset and backspacing**

(as posted by Discount Tire October, 2010 on www.Chevellies.com)

Offset & Backspace - How Do They Relate?

Offset and backspace are essentially two different ways of looking at the same thing. They determine the location of the wheel and **tire** assembly when bolted to the vehicles hub.

Offset is the measured distance between the hub mounting surface and the **wheels center line**.

With X being the determined offset, the hub mounting surface on positive offset wheels is X amount forward from the wheel center line. The hub mounting surface on negative offset wheels is X amount backwards from the wheel center line. The hub mounting surface on 0 offset wheels is the wheel center line.

Backspacing is the measurement from the hub mounting surface to the back edge of the wheel.

****Typically speaking**, the higher the offset/backspace, the more the wheel will tuck inwards towards the **suspension** or away from the fender. The lower the offset/backspace, the more the wheel will push out away from the suspension or towards the fender.

For Example:

*If the offset on a 9" wide wheel is +12mm, the hub mounting surface will be 12mm forward from the wheels center line. Measuring from the hub mounting surface to the back edge of the wheel, the backspacing is 5.5"

*If the offset on a 9" wide wheel is -12mm, the hub mounting surface would be 12mm towards the back of the wheel from the **wheels center line**. Measuring from the hub mounting surface to the back edge of the wheel, the backspacing is 4.5"

Here's how to calculate the backspacing using the rim width and offset:

First - add 1" to the rim width and then divide by 2 to find the **wheels center line** (you have to account for the **wheel flange** which is why you add 1" to the rim width) . Second - convert the offset which is in millimeters into inches. There is 25.4mm in 1 inch so divide the offset by 25.4. Lastly - add the converted offset to the wheels center line if the offset is positive for the correct backspacing. Subtract the converted offset to the wheels center line if the offset is negative for the correct backspacing.

For Example:

17x9 +12mm offset

*9" rim width + 1" = 10"

*10"/2 = 5" (**wheels center line**)

*+12mm offset/25.4 = 0.47" (0.50" rounded up)

*0.50" + 5" = 5.50" Backspace

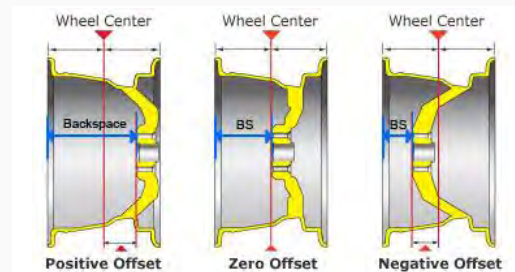
17x9 -12mm offset

*9" rim width + 1" = 10"

*10"/2 = 5" (**wheels center line**)

*-12mm offset/25.4 = 0.47" (0.50" rounded up)

*0.50" - 5" = 4.50" Backspace



*****Please note that the **wheels center line** is the backspacing for 0 offset wheels.**

News: Did you hear the news about Rock Falls Raceway? It was sold.

As reported by Anthony Bowe in www.THESHOPMAG.com 2/26/2016:

CTECH President's Passion Leads to Company's Own Drag Strip

The racing schedule for CTECH's revitalized drag strip in Rock Falls, Wisconsin, has been posted. The company is finishing last touches on the Rock Falls Raceway before it opens in April.

"We have repaved the track, put in new concrete burn out strips, widened the cool down area and return lanes, added a new scoreboard and readout, among other smaller improvements throughout the entire venue," said Darrell Martin, CTECH marketing director. "After the 2016 season we will be replacing the track barriers with concrete barriers as well."

CTECH purchased Rock Falls Raceway last fall.

"Jim Greenheck, president of CTECH, is a drag racer himself and wanted to invest into a local track to make the best venue in the midwest," Martin said. Local small town drag strips keep closing, so CTECH plans to revitalize the "sportsman" racing experience."

Rock Falls Raceway originally opened in 1969. The track, located just southwest of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, is surrounded by woodland and fields near the Chippewa River.

CTECH's revitalization efforts at the track will continue for years, according to Martin.

"There are stands in place at the track and we plan to add more down the road. The whole goal is to improve the experience racer and spectator at the track, so improvements will continue to happen throughout the season/years," he said.

Rock Falls Raceway is the first track owned by CTECH but the company is involved at other tracks, including serving as a major sponsor at Road America in Elkhart Lake Wisconsin.



Drone view, there's a video too!



Smooooooth!



Build it, and they will come?

www.ROCKFALLSRACEWAY.COM



**Club day
at the
Rock 2010**

A couple weeks ago, I took one of my daughters down to a couple stores on Grand Avenue in St Paul. She's into cooking and I thought she would get a kick out of seeing the Cooks of Crocus Hill and Penzy's Spices stores. If you haven't been to the Grand Ave area of St Paul, it's pretty unique I think. It's a mix of the typical streetfront buildings like you would see in a smaller town (think Anoka, Stillwater, Hastings) yet the houses that fill the gaps in between have also been converted to boutiques. While walking around, I noticed a couple buildings that stuck me as odd for the area, they had obviously been built long ago, and I bet with the right owner, they would be something to really stand out in that area again. Here are a couple pictures I grabbed:



Located at 777 Grand Avenue, Brasa Premium Rotisserie looks very much like an auto service shop that has been converted into a restaurant. They boast Creole-inspired dishes and high quality ingredients. After a little investigating, I found they also have a Minneapolis location which also looks to have been a service shop.

I could see an old pump out front with an oil can rack and tire stacks, maybe even a Sinclair horse painted on the wall.

Frattallone's Ace Hardware-

650 Grand Ave

(Credit: Google Street View)



Here's one that looked a little out of place too. Not sure if it was a gas station, ice cream emporium, or something else, but as a hardware store it looks like a wasted opportunity. I could absolutely see this becoming a restaurant with either an outdoor patio or maybe bar area under that cool overhang. There's an upstairs balcony area on one end too. If this were in Miami, it would probably make an awesome outdoor club complete with neon, and the DJ on the balcony.



Coulee Bank at 742 Grand has a nice corner location that really shows off its art deco design. It looks to be well maintained and has a more subtle color palette than I imagine it had years ago. If they got rid of all that concrete out front or even just created some large raised planters, it would look far better I think. This was probably a clothing store or restaurant I'm guessing. Maybe one of our members knows?

I enjoy seeing stuff like this when I'm out and about. I'm not an architecture buff by any means; I just dig seeing reminders of yesteryear. My first thought oddly enough is usually that it would have looked right in the movie Cars. Keep your eyes open; places like this are still out there right under our noses. Hopefully the next generation doesn't decide to make them into rubble.

