

Big Chief's Corner

Having Fun Yet?

I'm always excited when members of the club come to me after an event to tell me how much fun they had. That's what this club was founded for, having fun.

Our recent race outing was a cold, windy day but the good natured teasing and personal bests on track had warm smiles on the faces of those who participated. In the following days I had calls from several people telling me how much they enjoyed it and wanting to know when we'd be going again. It sounds like race chairman Paul Crutchfield had better start planning another one.

The cruise in at Sonic was another good example. I had members and attendees stop me to say how much they enjoyed the event. I think it was our best effort yet. We owe a special thanks to Gordon O'Steen for providing music for the cruise. I know he's a Chevy guy but I think it's time we made him an honorary member of the club.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our chair persons who have headed up these events. Paul Crutchfield did a nice job of setting up our race events and will continue to organize those events. Nice work, Paul, and thank you.

A club thank you to Wayne and Stacy Major as well. They went the extra mile to schedule our cruise ins with the Sonic on Stagecoach Road. They also arranged for the trophies and door prizes we handed out. That's the kind of thing that keeps them coming back.

There's more fun to come as the summer progresses. There are a multitude of local car shows and cruise ins to attend. Keep an eye on the web site, this newsletter and your email. I'll try to keep you abreast of those.

Another biggie on the horizon is the Pontiac Southern Nationals in Dallas. Those that attended last year can tell you that it's a top notch show and a fun time. If you haven't made reservations yet, you should. Check the calendar of events in this newsletter and on the web site for details.

Shortly after the PSN show is an the POCI national convention in St. Louis. Again, you should make reservations now if you intend to attend. It's going to be huge and hotels are filling up.

Don't forget our car show and the Poncho Power Tour either. Those will be coming up in the fall. They should be equally entertaining. Make your plans, there's a lot more fun to be had.



The APA sponsored cruise in had an estimated 60 cars attending. Story and photos on page 2.

APA Granted Non-Profit Status

There was no official APA meeting for April since our regular meeting time fell on Easter Sunday. We did have an informal meeting with those attending the cruise at Sonic.

There were two major developments in the past month, President Chris Ritter reported. First, the IRS has recognized our non-profit status. Second, Children's Hospital has approved the request to use their name in promotions for the car show.

Ritter also pointed out that club members would need to nominate and elect a new treasurer at the next meeting. He reminded members that Dusty Palmer agreed to remain in office only until the non-profit status was approved.

With the approval of the non-profit status and the green light for Children's Hospital the development of promotional material for the car show can begin. Ritter and Bruce Rhoads will be working on that.

The club banner was delivered to Velma Spradlin. She will be taking it to the vendor she purchased it from to have our sponsors logos put on it. These will be removable vinyl that can be changed yearly.

The club picked up some additional sponsors including Crain Pontiac, Buick, GMC, First State Bank, A & J Collision and Xpeditor Xpress. Ritter will work with the new treasurer to establish a separate bank account for this money due to IRS considerations.

Cool Temps, Sticky Track Make For Low ETs

March 29th was a windy, cold day but the weather conditions didn't seem to slow the APA members on or off the track.

With 8 cars racing and more driven by members who came to

watch, the track seemed awash in Pontiacs.

Several members reported setting low ETs for their car. This was attributed to the cold air and a good track. Wayne and Patty

Stiles had the starting line sticky as temperatures warmed the track.

Low ET for the day was set by Paul Crutchfield with his 10.204 second pass at 105.75 mph. That converts to a 12.206 in the quarter mile. Others breaking into the 10 second bracket included Bruce Rhoads (10.449) and Chris Ritter (10.492).

The award for most red lights in a day went to Ritter as he lit the cherry bulb on four of his seven runs. He was claiming color blindness at the end of the day.

To see all the results and how the club racers stacked up against each other, go to page three and check out the stats.



Jonathan Lobb (near lane) and Jon Badgett go at it during time trials at Centerville.

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Tony Riddick has an LS1 engine for sale. You can call him at 501-888-3096 or email him at: Rockylightfoot@sbc.com

1971 LeMans - 4 door - 350ci - 80K miles. Call Ray Hoyt - 835-7638 - Sherwood, AR.

Daniel Sullivan is looking for a dash pad to fit a 1968 Tempest. Contact him via email at thevadar@hotmail.com

If you have items for sale, trade or need something, contact Chris Ritter @ critter@ardemgaz.com or 501-803-9219

Cruise In A Big Success

Cruise in chairman Wayne Major summed it up quickly. "Not bad for our first time here," he commented while surveying the lot full of classic cars, muscle cars, imports, exotics and street rods.

An estimated 60 cars and 150 people showed up for the Easter Sunday gathering held at the Sonic Drive In on Stagecoach Road. The turnout surprised everyone involved considering the holiday.

Gordon O'Steen, a dear friend to the Arkansas Pontiac Association, provided music for the group. As oldies music swirled through the air participants gawked at cars and visited about upcoming shows.

Attendees registered at the main table and were given tickets for door prize drawings and coupons for a free drink. There were several prizes given out on three occasions during the cruise in.

Two trophies were presented at the end of the event. Club president Chris Ritter presented the Car Hop's Choice award and Club Choice award to two lucky participants.

In addition, Sonic provided coupons for free meals for a Cook's Choice award and the Manager's Choice award.



What are cruise ins all about? Why standing around and talking hot rods, of course!



The massive turnout filled the Sonic and overflowed into several adjacent parking lots.

479-576-4001


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centervilledragway.com

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Mark Your Calendar

May 3
Toad Suck Days Car show
 Bank of America and Regions Bank parking lots. Entry forms can be picked up at the Toad Store or the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information call James Pollard 548-3045 or 329-9148.

May 3
4th annual Spring Fling Pontiac Show
 Beaman Pontiac-GMC
 1525 Broadway, Nashville, TN
 This is a two day show. Dash plaques, awards, parts, vendors, car corral, door prizes and special displays.

\$15 entry fee. Registration from 9 - 12 on Saturday Gold - Silver - Bronze - Best of Show - Dealer's Choice awards.
president@pontiacn.org
<http://www.pontiacn.org>

May 10
CAMS Sonic Cruise In
 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
 Sonic on Kiehl in Sherwood.
 501-834-1108
<http://www.camscarclub.org>

May 15
Cruisin In The Rock River Market district - Downtown LR
 5 - 9 p.m.

501-370-3201
 Door prizes and merchant award.

May 17
5th annual Vilonia Car Show
 Sponsored by Vilonia Vintage Car Club.
 High School parking lot.
 Pre-register is \$15.00, day of show, \$20.00
 100 point judging.
 Ken Redding - 501-796-2385
 James Edwards - 501-753-3443

May 17
Indian Nations Pontiac/GMC Show

Ernie Miller Pontiac
 4700 South Memorial
 Tulsa, OK
 Sponsored by Indian Nations Pontiac Club of Oklahoma
<http://www.indianationspontiac.freeservers.com>
 Call - Larry Crider at 918-227-0430

May 18th
APA Club Meeting
 Meeting is at 2:00 p.m. at the Aerospace Education Center. After the meeting we will cruise to the Sonic on Stagecoach for our monthly cruise in. Cruise in is from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.



