

Easter Sunday afternoon was the day we'll all remember as The Day The Big One Hit. Everybody has a story of where they were at the time and what it felt like. Me, I was finishing up some shelving in the hall closet. I cut the boards too tight and was using my hammer to persuade the shelves to fit better. I heard Mrs. 'umble say something from the living room but, since I was making so much racket, I said "What?" And she was suddenly there yelling at me, "EARTHQUAKE!" Our loyal pooch Misty was there at her side, too, and she looked even more spooked than the Missus. Up to then, I thought the banging and shaking was me operating my persuader.

The thing lasted at least a half minute or more, so I had time to open the door to the new garage. That's where the Cuda was residing. About 5 and half feet above the slab, up on the new four-poster lift. I stood back to watch as the walls were shaking pretty good. Most alarming of all though was the car. It was bouncing around on the lift ramps pretty hard. When the last big roll came through, that's when it happened: The car was bounced sideways right off the ramps and CRASH!! the front of the car fell right through the stud wall separating the garage from the guest bedroom. The back of the car was still sort of on the ramp, so the nose was protruding into the bedroom about fifteen inches or so, about four and half feet up above the floor. Right above the guest bed.

Well, the Missus was horrified. The pooch was looking for a table to crawl under. My addition project just suffered a major setback and now I had a new mess to clean up, with smashed dry-wall all over the place, and the Cuda to somehow extract.

But when you get lemons, make lemonade, right? I thought of those restaurants with the airplane built into the roof, like it just crashed. Lotsa atmosphere. So I told Debbie that we should leave the Cuda's nose sticking through the wall. How memorable! Breakthrough interior design! It'd be the coolest guest room in San Diego!

OK, OK, I made up that part about the Cuda falling off the lift. April Fool!. But although the Cuda never moved on the ramps, it **was** bouncing on its springs. And if the quake was closer... So when the shaking stopped, I lowered the lift onto the slab.

I've been told I'm crazy to build a one-car garage with a lift in it. Maybe so. But I'm not stupid.

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

The Newsletter of the Mopar Club/San Diego

PentaGram

www.moparclubsandiego.org

APR 2010

Car show season kicks off!!!

A note from the Prez: Dear clubmembers: Believe it! There's only 90 days till our show takes place on July 17th in Carlsbad and there seems like so much to do. We'll have a new stage this year for the band and that'll save us about \$300. An area we are hurting is trophy sponsors. We pay out about \$700 and only take in about \$350 in trophy sponsors. Please ask your bosses if they would like to sponsor a trophy for \$50.

Like last year, we are asking if each member could donate \$20 or a raffle gift toward our raffle. Last year's response was very positive and hopefully this year will be even better. You can bring any donations to any of the next 3 meetings.

We will also start sending around at the meetings, sign up sheets for volunteers, a most important aspect of any successful car show. And it's also a sign as to how strong a club is. Are 5 people running the show or are there 30? So it's not too soon to start filling out your apps and sending them in as your first sign of supporting this years show!

Hope to see you at the meeting.....Larry

Pal Joey's Car Show Sunday March 14 Clubmembers, Jim Signorelli, Steve Ramos, and John Halpin turned out along with about 75 others to benefit a local car scene guy in his fight against cancer.

Mopars At The Strip, May 26-28 Clubmembers who attended the biggest Mopar event in the west included Steve Williams, crewing for Bill Ruhlman (9.6

@ 133) & Ted Montano, who raced their "small" block A-bodies, Jim Collins who took Best Restified B-Body with his '65 Plymouth and Mike Mattern with his Best Pro Street Satellite. Bruce Jamieson showed his '64 Street Wedge Plymouth, Marc Viau raced his Demon, Aaron Bourdage, Milton Karahadian, Terry Ulmer, Marv Reiser raced his '65 Dodge, Larry and Debbie Johnson, and Jim Signorelli.

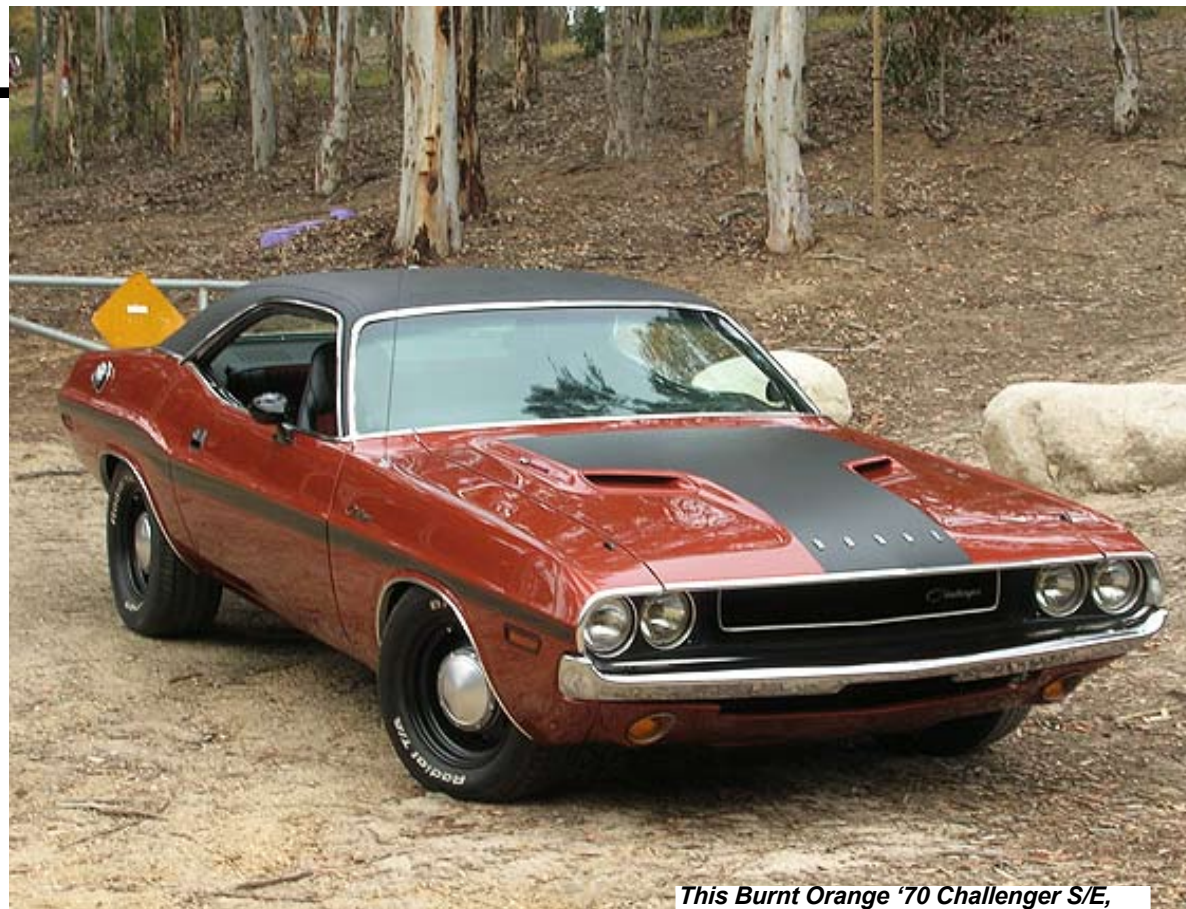
Top: Aaron, Larry, ?, Mike and Milton. Middle left, Terry and Larry; Mike's Satellite; Jim's RO Plymouth. Above, Ted goes sky high while running a 10.0 without nitrous, and right, Marc Viau's Demon did a 13.5 on street tires.



Above, Jim's Duster. Below, Steve's Lil Red Express. and Right, John's Dart.



the Mopar chick



This Burnt Orange '70 Challenger S/E, owned by Clubmember Vicki Berroth, was brought back from the crusher. The car sports air conditioning, below, and the engine is the original 318 V-8.



Steve removed the S/E rear window plug in favor of the larger standard rear window and rebuilt the front end. He and Dalis applied the black vinyl roof and decals. Steve also added "new bumpers, Cop Car wheels and dog dishes with 275/60x15's out back and 235/60x15's up front. The original disk brakes stop the car real well.

Vicki has always liked fast cars. So it comes as no surprise that she was driving a Porsche Boxster when she met club member Steve Berroth just a few years back. Well, Steve thought Vicki's love of fast cars was an appealing trait in a lady, and invited her out. One of their first dates included a trip to Torrance to take a look at a '66 Hemi Belvedere II. The car had been a regional racer for almost its entire life and its condition looked the part. But the seller said it was in running condition, and asked Steve and Vicki if they wanted to go for a ride. Vicki was in the back seat and Steve up front when the seller floored the loud pedal through all three gears. Steve says he'll never forget Vicki, giggling like a schoolgirl, while getting plastered to the rear window.

Later that evening while Steve was trying to decide to buy the car, Vicki said, "Smell my shirt – it smells like a Hemi." Next day, Steve bought the car. It is presently being meticulously restored in the Garage Berroth, next to his 440/6 Pack Superbird that has been featured in past pages of the PentaGram, and

you've probably seen at our All-American Car Show. And what of Vicki's Boxster? Steve wouldn't permit it to be parked in the garage. But knowing how she liked Mopar muscle, he showed her a new Charger Daytona on a dealer's lot and she happily traded her Boxster for it. Steve was starting to like this girl more than ever. He even let her park in the garage. Well, one thing led to another and last year Vicki's last name became Berroth. But by then she'd become a true Mopar chick. One day Steve and Vicki were checking out a car for sale in Riverside when the seller mentioned that he had a '70 Challenger for sale, also. Well, the vinyl roof had leaked to the point that the steel was paper thin. The sheet metal was severely sideswiped and the interior was rotted away and held together with black electrician's tape. The unknown previous owner re-created the side stripes with what was left of his roll of that tape.

In spite of all that, the car had some virtues: it was an original SE with the numbers matched 318 V-8 under the hood, and it was a rare color combo of Burnt Orange paint over Burnt Orange seats, headliner, dash and carpet. Yeah, that was a questionable fad that lasted between the months of April and about July of 1970, and the previously mentioned previous owner didn't like it much, either. So, on a budget, the guy rattle-canned the carpet, dash, and headliner with black Krylon. Steve told the seller, "Not interested". "Well, make me an offer", he replied. Steve told him that the car should be wrecked out and that it was worth no more than what he had in his pocket for walking around money. "SOLD!" And that's how Steve and Vicki came to own this wreck. Well, Steve was amazed at how well the car ran, so he decided to drive it home. Not only did it make the trip, it ran strong. After thinking about it for a while, Steve decided that the car might be worthy of restoration. He huddled up with his paint and body specialist, Dalis LaChance, and a plan was worked out. New sheetmetal was required for both quarters, the roof, front

and rear valences, and patch panels to fix the rust holes through front fenders. A whole new interior. The front end needed rebuilding, along with the brakes. But most of the trim was salvageable, the engine was good, and Steve knew that E-bodies were worth the effort. As Dalis progressed on the sheet metal and new Burnt Orange paint, Vicki jumped in and media blasted trim parts and with Steve, worked up a color scheme revision that called for black-out treatment at the front grille, rear trunk panel, and side marker lights. New legendary upholstery, in black vinyl was ordered with custom burnt orange cloth inserts, along with a black carpet and headliner. Just Dashes provided a new dash pad, also in black, to moderate the Burnt Orange theme when the car was new. Vicki helped Steve with the headliner installation, and Dalis and Steve applied new black decals to the sides and vinyl roof. The result is a refurbished E-Body Mopar cruiser for Vicki, with its classic lines and paint color, but modernized in its trim detail. And any Mopar chick will tell ya, it's all in the details.



Left: the interior has been redone in black vinyl with burnt orange cloth inserts, and the trunk is now almost as nice. Right: Vicki at work blasting off the rust and the patina of 40 years. As you see in the top photo, she cleaned up real pretty. And Vicki did, too.

- ### Upcoming Events
- Next Club meeting will be 7pm Wed., May 12 @ Casa Machado. For events: www.goodoleboyssandiego.com
 - **Spring Fling XXIV**, Apr 17-18, Woodley Park, Van Nuys, www.cpwclub, 818/759-1779 Call Bob for caravan info 858/292-5344
 - **Dyno Don Talk** re: New Smog & Reg Laws for pre-75 cars, 9am Sat Apr 17, 1365 N. Johnson, El Cajon, 619/987-5385
 - **Rods & Chile Cook Off**, Sat Apr 17 10am Simpson's Nursery 619/337-5626
 - **20th Main Street Coronado**, Sun Apr 18, 8am, reg at coronadomainstreet.com
 - **25th Trueline Car Show**, Sun Apr 18, 8 am, 210 West Bradley, EC 619/258-1800
 - **Mopar Club Cruise & BBQ** Sat 4/24 go to Club website for info
 - **Fuel Junkies Car Show**, 4/24, Granite Hills HS, 1719 E. Madison 10am
 - **XII Heartbeat Happening**, 9am Sun 4/25, Bates Nut Farm, 15954 Woods Valley Rd. \$25 pre/\$30, heartbeatclassichevys.com
 - **Bulldog Car Show**, 5/1, Ramona HS 9am 760/445-0735
 - **38th Antique Drags** Sun 5/2, Barona Dragway open at 6:30, '75 & older, 858/361-3057
 - **Streak 37** 5/7-9 Campland on Mission Bay 619/258-9912
 - **Cruise to Peterson's Museum** 5/16 leave target @6:30am, Denny's in San Juan Cap @ 9am 619/593-1514
 - **Run To The Hills #8** 5/22, 9am, Pine Valley 619/440-6168
 - **Let Freedom Roar** 5/23, 9-2p, Liberty Station 2640 Decatur, 619/562-2732
 - **Sunrise Cafe** hwy 76 & Mission Rd, Fallbrook 7am
 - **Santee Lakes** 3pm, Fridays
 - **Chikin' Pie Diner**, Fri, 5p, 14727 Pomerado Rd
 - **Cruisin' Grand**, Escondido Fridays, Mopar Club nite 6/18
 - **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
 - **The Donut Derelicts** Huntington Beach 6:30am Sat, Adams Ave. @ Magnolia
 - **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
 - **Koffee & Kruse** Pinnacle Peak Steak Hse, 7927 Mission Gorge 8am Sat
 - **Clairemont Square**, 4th Sat begins 4/24

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: 1969 B-5 blue Road Runner, 383/auto w/ manual reverse valve body, 3:73 S.G. diff from Randy's + extra 3rd member. Lots of add'l parts. Car is in Cleveland but has no rust as it was a San Diego car. \$15k obo + shipping call Joe Sala, 216/581-7439 or cell 216/990-4806

For Sale: nice conv. Dart for sale in Truckee CA, about 1.5 hours from Sacramento and 30 minutes from Reno. I'll do my best to answer any questions by phone or email and can send more pictures and video if anyone is interested. Tal Fletcher
Truckee, CA 530.412.0807
taffletcher@gmail.com



For Sale: Nice used Hemi A833 18 spline 4 speed trans from a Hemicuda-\$1500; 426 Hemi tunnel ram setup with 3310 750 Holleys & velocity stacks, all vintage \$600; Factory Chrysler swivel bucket seat for 59-61 Mopars very cool!-\$750; 71 Barracuda body shell or project car, original CA car, minimal rust, price depends on what goes with it but around \$10k; Lots of misc E- Body parts and stuff, call for needs; Lots of 440 engines and engine parts, 727 transmissions and the like, from good runners to core builder engines and bare blocks Give me a call, Lee 619-507-3160 Shop opening to the public soon! See ad below. Affordable rates for all! Please call for Inquiries or Appointments!

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