

MOPAR MUSCLE

Official newsletter of the East Tennessee Mopars Car Club.

Established April, 1988

easttennesseemopars.com etmcarclub@gmail.com

Club meeting:

There will be no December regular ETM club meeting.

The January 2019 meeting will be held at the Shoney's Restaurant, Rutledge Pike at I-40. East at 6:30pm Meet at 7pm.

Volume 31

Issue 11 & 12

November/December 2018

From Judy's Desk

The November meeting had a great turn out with 20 members for club elections and (the real reason) a chili supper. There was plenty of chili with all the fixins. The desserts were plentiful and delicious! Several of the Knoxville Volunteer Rescue Squad members joined us for supper. After everyone had their fill the meeting began. Club elections were held and congratulations to the following members who will service as your club officers for 2019. President: Judy Holman, V. President: Anthony Jeffers, Secretary: Darlene Turley, Treasurer: Mike Holman, Membership Director: Ken Robbins, Car Show Director: Judy Holman, Board Members: Bobby Cochran, Jim Burtner, Bill Hargis, & Danny Turley, Newsletter Editor: Judy Holman.



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The last club event will be the Annual ETM Christmas Party. This year it will be held at the Knoxville Visitor Center/Blount Mansion. We will have the opportunity to tour Blount Mansion before the festivities begin. We have ham and turkey on the menu and coffee for dessert. Everyone is asked to bring 2 covered dishes. Vegetables, salads, and desserts are needed. We will also be doing a gift exchange. Each member is asked to bring a gift (wrapped) with no tags on it. Please do not spend a lot. Please RSVP to Judy by December 13.

What: Annual ETM Christmas Party

Where: Knoxville Visitor Center/Blount Mansion, 200 W. Hill Ave., Knoxville.

Parking is in the back

When: Saturday, December 15

Time: 4:45pm - 9:00pm

Bring: 2 covered dishes and Christmas gifts (wrapped)

BYOSD: bring your own soft drinks

Attire: casual

Tour: Blount Mansion at 5:00pm.

RSVP: Judy at 865-691-6002, text: 865-806-4122, email: etmcarclub@gmail.com

Mike and I would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Be safe if traveling and we will see you in 2019!

Car Show Update

The Car Show Committee met on November 15 and began the discussion for this year's car show. The committee reviewed the car show flyer and made several changes. The date, times, and phone numbers. Also, we added a class. This year we will have 22 classes with first, second, and third place awards. Several hotels will be contacted to be host hotels. We decided to keep to prices the same: registration and general admission. We are also working on another special guest for this year's show. I will keep you posted. We are proud to have the proceeds of the 2019 car show go to the Knoxville Volunteer Rescue Squad. I will have a revised flyer ready for the January meeting.



Calendar:

January Club Meeting: look over revised flyer and make final changes

February Club Meeting: we will be folding flyers and stuffing envelopes. Getting ready to mail.



Mopar Muscle is a monthly newsletter published for and about the East Tennessee Mopars Car Club, P.O. Box 51401, Knoxville, TN. 37950. A non-profit group organized by enthusiasts of Chrysler built motor vehicles. "Mopars" is a registered trademark of Chrysler Motor Corporation, and the variation used by the East Tennessee Mopars is with permission.

ETM Officers, Directors, and Board Members

President	Judy Holman	(865)-691-6002
Vice President	Joe David Stansberry	(865)-922-7129
Secretary	Darlene Turley	(865)-828-4060
Treasurer	Mike Holman	(865)-691-6002
Membership Director	Ken Robbins	(561)-312-8648
Car Show Director	Judy Holman	(865)-691-6002
Board Member	John Foster	(865)-898-0558
	Jim Hill	(865)-690-5313
	Danny Turley	(865)-828-4060
Newsletter Editor	Judy Holman	(865)-691-6002
	etmcarclub@gmail.com	

REMINDER

Check your address label for
your membership
expiration date.

Send your updated membership
application and money to:

Ken Robbins
Membership Director
ETM
P.O. Box 51401
Knoxville, TN 37950

Make checks payable to ETM

Welcome these new members to the East Tennessee Mopars Car Club**Welcome back these members who renewed their membership**

Jim & Barbara Payne

Paul & Phyllis Arnwine

Joe David Stansberry

Vernon & Flora Thomason

Anthony Jeffers

Happy Birthday to these club members**November & December**

Donnie Andrews Phyllis Arnwine Tabatha Beal

John Foster Terry Frazier John Henry

Lucy Stolz Karen Taylor Gary Tallman

Shelby Vogeley Lisa Bloom Mary Derreberry

Jonathan Knight Donna Loy Reid Newton

Gina Robbins Carol Roberts Shane Sandefur

Joshua Schlosser



ETM EVENTS/CAR SHOWS FOR 2018*(calendar will show 3 months in advance (space permitting) any meetings/events for ETM members)*

Dec. 15 (Sat) Annual ETM Christmas Party will be held at the Blount Mansion/Knoxville Visitor Center. 200 W. Hill Ave., Knoxville, TN (downtown Knoxville) . See Judy's article in this newsletter for all the details.

ETM Events/Car Shows for 2019

- Jan. 3 (Thurs)** **January Regular ETM Car Club meeting will be held at the Shoney's Restaurant, Rutledge Pike at I-40. Eat at 6:30pm meet at 7:00pm.**
- Jan. 11-13 Cabin Fever Car Show. Knoxville Expo Center. Clinton Highway at Merchants Rd.
(Fri - Sun) Knoxville. General admission \$10. Info: 865-382-2614 (Troy), 865-922-2171 (Mike)
- Jan. 11 - 13 World of Wheels, Chattanooga, TN. Chattanooga Convention Center.
(Fri - Sun) Info: www.worldofwheels.net.
- Jan. 19-20 Winter Angel Expo Car Show, Hosted by the Hamblen County Car Club, at the Smoky
(Fri - Sat) Mountain Expo Center in White Pine, TN This is an indoor show. Registration: \$25,
Saturday: 9am -9pm, Sunday: 10am - 4pm. Info: 423-258-2255 (Guy)
- Feb. 7 (Thurs)** February Regular ETM Car Club meeting. Place to be determined.
Feb. 22-24 Knoxville News Sentinel New Car Auto Show. Knoxville Convention Center.
(Fri - Sun) 701 Henley Street. Knoxville.
- Mar. 7** March Regular ETM Car Club meeting. Place to be determined
- May 3-5 45th Annual Street Rod Nationals South, Chilhowee Park, Knoxville.
(Fri - Sun)
- June 1 3rd. Annual Old Fashion Car Show. 5930 Lyons View Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919.
(Sat) Registration: \$20. Top 20 and other awards. Info: 865-719-6201,
darrowdavenport@gmail.com
- June 22** **31st Annual "Fun in the Sun" All Mopar Car Show, Chilhowee Park Midway**
(Sat) **Side. Info: 865-691-6002, www.easttennesseemopars.com.,**
etmcarclub@gmail.com. Presented by the East Tennessee Mopars.

Recommended Mopar friendly businesses.

- There are several 100% gas stations in and around the Knoxville area. Several are changing their premium grade to a mid grade of 90 octane. The Weigel's Station on the corner of Western Ave. and Cumberland Estates has 100% gas with 87, 89, and 93 octane.
- Atkins & Son Transmission, 4001 Rutledge Pike, Knoxville, TN (865) 524-3059
- Advance Auto Parts - Knox County, Oak Ridge, Seymour
- NAPA Auto Parts - Magnolia Ave., Middlebrook Pike, & Kingston Pike, Knoxville
- Atomic Speed Shop is owned by club member Robert Elwood. His specialty is Mopar! Give him a call for your Mopar needs.
- Looking for that Mopar part, give club members Ted and Jackie a call at Stephens Performance. All they do is MOPAR!

**Stephens Performance**

For All Your Mopar Needs
9321 Hwy 207, Anderson, AL
(256) 247-1332
Call and ask for Ted or Jackie

Premier Mopar Engine Shop, High End B-Body Restorations
 Quick Turnaround – No Deposit 10% Off Labor for ETM members
 Super Flow SF-502 Engine Dyno **865-272-3619**
114 Union Valley Rd, Oak Ridge TN,

For Sale/Want Ads**For Sale:**

1964 Plymouth Savoy 4 dr.451cid stroker engine (by Rev. Mopar Racing), Tranzact built 727, Coan Torque converter, 4.10 Sure Grip differential, frame connected, front disc brakes, full 3in exhaust. Nice paint, great interior, and way too much more to list. Great sleeper. (best ET 11.94 at 111.3 at U.S. 131 Dragway) Contact Rev. Mopar at (865) 660-2440. Asking \$15,500.

Wanted:

Rear bumper and brackets for 1968 Dodge Coronet. Also, hood hinges with springs for 1967-1976 A Body. Call Keith Johnson (865) 789-1796

1965 Plymouth Satellite Hard Top. Any V-8 combo. Call Rev. Mopar (865) 660-2440

Mopars Get Accepted!

Several ETM members were in attendance at this year's Crown College Open Car Show. This show helps provide funding for the Automotive Trade School. There were all makes, models, and years represented. Including motorcycles. During the show, their DJ was interviewing participants and talking about their cars. Ken was selected and folks got to hear all about his stunning "Captain America" 2015 Challenger. Parking next to Ken were George and Alline Hackett. George brought his '37 Ford Coupe and Alline brought her beautiful 2002 Gold Prowler. All during the day, Alline let car crazy folks sit in her car for pictures.

Great memories for those lucky people. Next in the row was Judy Holman in her stock 1969 Road Runner. When the kids (and grown ups) realize what the car is, they ask, "can I here the horn?" It got a work out that day. This year's show was a judged show. In past years it was participant selection. When awards were announced the curse was lifted. Ken won 2nd place for his Challenger in the Modern Class and Judy won 2nd place in the stock class. Congratulations!



From Sow's Ear to Silk Purse

By Rev. Mopar

A name you seldom hear in MOPAR lore is that of Jim Earle, Sr. Mr. Earle was based out of Detroit (actually lived in New Baltimore, MI) area and set up and led quality control efforts on the warranty side of things for Ma MOPAR. His territory included the Eastern portion of the U.S., Tennessee included. He would show up, unannounced at dealerships with a strategically disabled car, have the service department diagnose and repair, keep time on the repair, and evaluate the results with the service manager. He also was good friends with guys like Tom Hoover of Ramcharger fame.

Mr. Earle (I called him that because his son Jim, Jr. became a friend while we were in college together) loved to tinker and go fast, so there were always projects hanging around the Earle household. One such project started out as a '55 Dodge, actually a '55 Dodge frame. Dabbling in metal fabrications, Jim, Sr. shortened and narrowed the frame he had, made compensation for the suspension, found a narrowed 8 3/4 differential, and began to build what would look like an MG TD roadster.

This project began long before I knew his son Jim, Jr. and was quite near completion by the time we hooked up as friends in 1968. Jim, Jr. would tantalize me with details of the car which only needed a drive line to complete. Hmmmm, I thought. Drive line, friends with Tom Hoover, this could be pretty good. And good it was.

In the deep recesses of the Ramcharger's garage was a late 1962 413 Max Wedge minus the intake, carbs, and exhaust manifolds. Sadly, the heads were also long gone, but the short block (12.5:1) remained as it had been in 1962, never used. Tom told Jim, Sr. that the 1967 GTX heads would be a good route to go, so they grabbed a pair along with an intake, carb, and HP exhaust manifolds. Somehow, they also spirited a fresh Torqueflite from the facility. Armed with these pieces, the car was at the point of final assembly.

Once the big 413 was in place, the final coat of red paint applied and the hand sewn (by Mrs. Earle) interior was installed, it was time for a shakedown. From what Jim, Jr. told me it was pretty hairy. It became obvious that the tires they selected for the project were totally inadequate so that adjustment was made. Once sorted out, the little roadster was an absolute terror, but Jim, Jr. was only allowed to drive it with Jim, Sr. along. During the course of the school year Jim, Jr.'s Dart decided to kick a rod out the side of the leaning tower of power that propelled what we lovingly referred to as the L.A. Dart (Lennox Avenue). It was the Spring of 1969, the weather in Mid Michigan was warm and Jim, Sr. decided that Jim, Jr. could bring the roadster to the college while the Dart was being repaired. What a break, this was going to be fun.

At the school was a rich kid named Benjamin Zeridkis whose parents had bought him a 1969 tri-power Sting Ray. He was always surrounded by girls wanting a ride or to just look at this golden beauty. At the Tastee Freeze (remember those) all the car folks would gather. So Jim, Jr., Marty Brown (Quick Fuel co-founder) and I scrunched into the roadster and made the scene. Upon arrival, groups of kids were gathering around this unique, hand built, MC looking roadster. The girls were all interested in it as the nameplate on the walnut dash was inscribed, "CUSTOM HAND MADE BY JAMES EARLE" and they thought Jim, Jr. had actually built the thing. He never let on that he only helped his dad.

About ten minutes after we arrived ol Ben Z. came rumbling in the big block 'Vette. Getting out of the car he walked over to the roadster and asked Jim, Jr. several questions, all of which had to do with the power plant of the car. "Hey, that got a small block Chevy in it?" Smiling, Jim, Jr. told him it was a MOPAR big block, a 361. Yes, that was a fib and I am sure he will be punished for it one day. The next questions were typical posturing for a race. "How does it run?", "Would like to see what it would do with my mill in it." Jim simply said: "You want to see how it runs? How about \$20.00 out on 17 mile road?" Grinning, Ben said: "You're on". So off we went.

Continued on page 8

Now 17 mile road, at the time, went a straight line from Big Rapids, MI to Baldwin, MI without a nary turn. Rural, no population to speak of, great place to lay it down. On our arrival Marty and I bailed out of the car to get ready. Ben's latest girl friend didn't budge. Jim, Jr. told me to get back in as he wanted NO excuses. Marty would start the race on the marked off quarter mile. Upon the drop of his arms, the "Vette lurched forward and moved out by about two cat lengths, then Jim stabbed the loud pedal and we flew by before the car even shifted into second gear. The result wasn't even funny for Ben who claimed he missed a gear and we would have to run it again.

Back to the beginning. Marty, standing in between the two cars ready to drop his hands and Jim smiling big and telling me that he learned the car wouldn't spin if he left at full throttle. Down came the hands, off went the cars but this time the little roadster jumped out and just continued to pull away. The result was best measured in bus lengths.

Up to that point, the little "silk purse" James Earle, Sr. created out of a '55 Dodge was the quickest car I have ever ridden in. Oddly enough, that car may still be one of the two or three quickest street cars I have ever driven or ridden in (yes, I finally did get a chance to drive it). Jim, Sr. was to donate that car to the auto tech department at the New Baltimore High School. What ever became of it remains a mystery. But the moral of the story here is: "there is no substitute for MOPAR horsepower".

Editor's Notes

By Judy Holman

A big thank you to Rev. Mopar for another great article. With the winter months approaching, take the time to winterize your Mopar - daily drivers and show car. Now is the time send in any information on 2019 car shows/cruise in's that are listed. ETM was out in force this year promoting both the Mopar brand and the club. Let's do it again in 2019!



Club Wearables - car show season is ending but Christmas is right around the corner and wouldn't you look good wearing a shirt or jacket with your name and the club logo on it? Please note that once your order is placed, it will take about 3 weeks to get your items. Place your order at any regular club meeting. All items must be paid for at time of ordering.

Club baseball hat: \$8 (ETM logo is embroidered on the front)

Club Polo shirts: S - XL are \$22 each

Club Polo shirts: XXL - XXXL are \$24 each

Club Jacket, black satin: S - XL are \$60 each

Club Jacket, black satin: XXL - XXXL are \$62 each

Club Sweatshirts (hoodies): S - XL are \$26 each

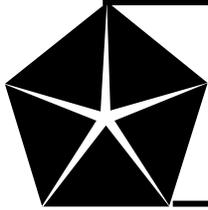
Club Sweatshirts (hoodies): XXL - XXXL are \$28 each

These are embroidered shirts and jackets with the ETM logo and your name. See Judy to place your order. Order now for car show season!

*This is a reminder to all club members, when renewing your membership, please fill out a club application and send it with your money. **Check your address label for your renewal date.** For the club members who receive their newsletter via e-mail, Ken Robbins, the club Membership Director, will remind you of your renewal date. This helps to keep our records accurate.

*If you know of a local car show or cruise in or receive a flyer from a Mopar show, let me know. Let's spread the word about a great family outing - a car show!

Membership
Expires



EAST TENNESSEE
MOPARS®

(checked when received)

Club T-Shirts:

P.O. Box 51401
Knoxville, TN 37950
etmcarclub@gmail.com easttennesseeemopars.com

OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Spouse _____ Date of Birth _____

Children _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

I Currently Own the Following Automobiles

1. _____ 4. _____

2. _____ 5. _____

3. _____ 6. _____

If you need additional space write on the back

My favorite type of car event/activities are: _____

I would like to receive the club newsletter by (circle one): e-mail regular mail

LIABILITY RELEASE
(please read and sign)

1. I, the undersigned, hereby release the officers and members of the club known as the "EAST TENNESSEE MOPARS" from any liability for damage, theft, loss of life, or accident related to club activities.
2. I agree to abide by the by-laws of the club.
3. Annual dues \$20.00 (family membership)

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____