



# MOPAR MUSCLE

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## CARS OF AUSTIN

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www.moparaustin.org  
**April – June 2012**

### **Welcome to the Mopar Muscle Cars of Austin Newsletter:**

The MMCA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the restoration, preservation and promotion of Chrysler built products. Monthly club meetings are held every first Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30pm at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Austin, Texas located at 200 W. Highway 183. North frontage road and Georgian Drive next to the Austin Humane Society.

### **Quarterly Message from the President:**

We are glad to welcome back in publication the MMCA newsletter after a several year hiatus. The club membership has seen several additions, new members and positive in the last 6 months and we are excited about the future of the club and the car club scene in Austin. The construction of the Formula One track near Bergstrom Airport is a shining example of Central Texas acceptance and demand for motor sports in the Capital City. Thus as we move into our second season, summer (also known as hotter than the rest of year), I urge all MMCA car club members to get out and show off your vehicle. Attend events such as Cars and Coffee, City Car Shows and even larger regional events wearing your club shirts and displaying our MMCA club name and feel free to distribute this newsletter. We have an opportunity as a club to expand our presence and continue to share the camaraderie, dedication and education of Classic Mopar Muscle Cars throughout greater Texas.

## **Meet a Member Q2 Spotlight: Joe Hoppe**



### **Member since: 2001**

>**MMCA Chrysler club cars:** 1971 Dodge D100 slant six/727 running on sweet lady propane and a 1951 Plymouth Cranbrook in project stage

>**MMCA notables:** active advocate and fellow -member helping hand, 2011 recipient of Outstanding Club Member Award (Pictured above)

>**Favorite childhood muscle car memory:** 1970 Sub-lime Superbird perched on tilt at the Chrysler dealership...lust!

>**Childhood Family car:** 1969 4door Dodge Dart w/318 custom-order Forest Green with light green top!

>**Personal:** married to Polly Monear, since 1990, with our one and only Max, who's 16 (and has no interest in getting his driver's license).

>**Work:** English and Creative writing professor at ACC

>**Favorite Music:** old PuNk and Indi

>**Favorite Food:** Yes but no poultry or nuts

>**Things that only the MMCA members will know about Joe!**

1. Published poet w/ his second book, Diamond Plate, coming out this fall 2012

2. Worked w/ homeless folks in Minneapolis

3. Extensive tattoos

# “Wanda”

## 1967 Plymouth Barracuda Fastback

### “Wanda’s Story”

Hello,

My name is Wanda and as you can see I am a work in progress. I started life in the Hamtramck Chrysler plant in Michigan and then sold in Ohio. Somehow I made to a Texas man in Dripping Springs. Most of my past I am not aware of but I do know in 1993 I was saved by my current owner. I spent years in a field in New Sweden Texas just outside Manor when my new owner found me. I was tucked away in seven foot tall grass and I had not been on the road since 1975.

I was rolled onto a flatbed trailer and headed to South Austin. At first glance I was rough and my new owner started to work. I was full of dirt, trash, droppings of all kinds, spiders and a huge box full of pieces parts. Under my hood was only a bare engine with no accessories attached and a rat nest in my intake manifold. My engine was locked up and I had lots of surface rust.

John my new owner cleaned and cleaned for days on end. About three months later John had put all the parts I needed to run back on, either refurbishing what he had or replacing what was missing. He managed to get my cylinders moving using a mix of diesel fuel and automatic transmission fluid. He would put a little of this in each cylinder and let me sit. Every couple of days he would do this and try to manually turn my crank. One day I loosened up enough to make a full revolution.

So a few weeks later after making sure I could turn and with a rebuilt carb I fired up. Whoo Hoo! He was excited as was I.

Fast forward to 2003. So I did not have a good place to be worked on until 2003 and the time between 1993 and 2003 not much was done. John was busy with work and really having no suitable place to work on me I sat. I did get new tires and was waiting on the rest of my repair to be done. In 2003 John and his wife April decide to build a new driveway and garage/workshop. Whew hoo! A 24x16 barn style garage was built along with a 90 foot drive way. Now were Talking!

Now I have a new place to be. Well not so fast as it took another year for me to actually get inside of my new home. Then comes 2004 and John gets laid off from a job he’s had for 20 years. I sit still waiting.

Four more years pass and just when I was going to give up BANG! With blessings from April John’s wife and silent financial partner, John begins to start paying attention to me and cleans me up some more. He starts my engine up and begins to make a list of items I need. September 2008 he puts me on jackstands and takes all of my wheels off and begins working on me almost on a daily basis.

I guess he finally got the fire under his butt and began the process of getting me on the road. I got new brake lines, wheel cylinders, master cylinder, shoes and a host of other things. By November of 2008 I had enough work done to give it a try. Try that is to move under my own power. The day after Thanksgiving 2008 I slowly moved out from the garage and onto the drive way.

With in a few moments I was carefully tested for braking and moving forward and backwards several times. The big moment comes around 10:00 O’clock when John backs me out of the driveway and down the street. For the very first time since 1975 I am FREE!

Well since then I have an all new dual exhaust and new to me Cragger wheels and have just celebrated my second year at the Lonestar Hotrod Round-up. I get driven a lot now and as you can see John is not finished with me. I am a diamond in the rough and little by little John will shine me and make all my facets true and straight. So stay tuned and feel free to talk to my owner. He will fill you in on any updates of my build and be happy to answer any questions.

About my name! April asked John if I had a name. John said no why don’t you come up with one. April thought for a minute and said “how about Wanda” you know? “a fish called Wanda”. John liked it and saw that it was good. So that’s my story up to now I will be updated from time to time with new parts and upgrades. So stay tuned to a car show near you!

Mopar On!  
-Wanda S. Beckerley



A little rough, But I am on the road



My present day look!



### What’s been done!

- All new Brake lines front to rear
- New brake hardware.
- New shoes.
- New master cylinder and used brake booster.
- New Shocks.
- New fuel line and gas tank.
- New water pump, new upper and lower hoses, new bypass hose.
- Restored fan assembly and repainted pulleys.
- New custom dual exhaust with crossover pipe, Magnaflow mufflers and old school pencil tips.
- Re-finished dash bezel, all new lights in dash, used speedometer.
- New headlight switch.
- New headlights.
- All lights have been re-worked including new bulbs.
- New alternator.
- New voltage regulator.
- Upgraded to Mopar Electronic ignition, new ballast resistor and new high voltage coil.
- New spark plugs and wires.
- New transmission pan gasket.
- Body almost completely sanded and rattle can primer in hotrod grey for now.

- Interior is 100% Original
- Engine has never been opened!
- Transmission has never been opened!

Vitals:  
Engine: 273 V8 Carter 625 cfm Four Barrel  
Transmission: A904 3 speed  
Differential Chrysler : 7 1/4” open  
10 inch Power Drum brakes



First cruise under my own power November 28th 2008

### **Past Events:**

No significant events attended in First Quarter of 2012 to report on.

**(Please take pictures and notes on events you attend over the next three months so we can highlight here!)**

### **Upcoming Events:**

>Texas Lone Star “Hot Rod” roundup at Travis County Expo Center, Austin, Texas; April 13<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup>

>6<sup>th</sup> Annual Jarrell’s Spring Festival Car Show, Jarrell Memorial Park Community Center, Jarrell, Texas; April 14th

>20<sup>th</sup> Annual New Braunfels Area Car Club swap & Car Show, Comal County Fairgrounds, New Braunfels, Texas; April 20-21-22

>3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cars for Dystonia & Parkinsons, Cool River Café, Austin, Texas; April 22th

>10<sup>th</sup> Annual Bastrop Area Cruisers Car Show, Riverbend Park, Smithville, Texas; April 28-29th

>Mopars at the Motorplex Shootout, Texas Motorplex, Ennis, Texas; May 19th

### **Weekly/Monthly Events:**

>Cabelas Car Night Out, Buda, Texas; every Saturday from dusk until 10pm

>Taylor Car Night out, Taylor trading Center on Main St., Taylor, Texas; ‘til dark around 8pm

>Cars and Coffee, Downtown Leander, Texas; 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month starting at 11am to 2pm.

## Mopar on the Web

The Internet has made it a whole lot easier to participate in this fine hobby of ours. Keeping your car running, finding parts, benefiting from the knowledge and experience of other enthusiasts, and even just fine tuning our points of appreciation becomes a much simpler task with all the resources of the World Wide Web at our disposal. We'll try to keep you posted on the best and newest sites here. Be sure to send me a note if you find some cool Mopar websites.

### Cool Links

#### **This website has a good tech section**

(<http://www.lamopar.com>)

#### **One of the best tech websites out there**

(<http://www.earlycuda.org/>)

#### **Moparts excellent tech section, the Best classifieds**

(<http://www.moparts.com/Tech/>)

#### **Great links page**

(<http://www.mooresmopars.com/links.html>)

#### **Funny Site...**

(<http://www.acme.com/licensemaker/>)

#### **Wanna HEMI? Check these guys out!**

(<http://www.forhemisonly.com/>)

#### **Events page...**

([www.oldride.com/events/texas.html](http://www.oldride.com/events/texas.html))

([www.motoraustin.com](http://www.motoraustin.com))

### Some Online Parts Retailers

#### **Performance parts**

([www.chryslerpower.org](http://www.chryslerpower.org) )

([www.jegs.com](http://www.jegs.com))

([www.summitracing.com](http://www.summitracing.com))

([www.mopartsracing.com](http://www.mopartsracing.com))

([www.race-mart.com](http://www.race-mart.com))

#### **Replacement parts**

([www.rockauto.com](http://www.rockauto.com))

([www.yearone.com](http://www.yearone.com))

([www.moparpartsamerica.com](http://www.moparpartsamerica.com))

#### **Body-Type Specific Forums**

[www.cbodydrydock.com](http://www.cbodydrydock.com)

[www.forabodiesonly.com](http://www.forabodiesonly.com)

[www.forcbodiesonly.com](http://www.forcbodiesonly.com)

[www.forebodiesonly.com](http://www.forebodiesonly.com)

#### **NOS part retailers**

([www.classicindustries.com](http://www.classicindustries.com))

([www.bradsnosparts.com](http://www.bradsnosparts.com))

([www.440source.com](http://www.440source.com))

([www.vvap.com](http://www.vvap.com))

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**Items For Sale**

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>Webber Head Light Tester on stand.  
Tester slides up and down on a rail and slides right or left on caster wheels.  
Missing floor guides and headlight centering bail. \$25  
Call Carol Olewin at 789-0419  
[c.olewin@gmail.com](mailto:c.olewin@gmail.com)

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**Items Wanted**

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**Help Wanted/Given**

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**Tools available for Loan (MMCA members only)**

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>Sears engine analyzer 4-6-8 cylinder; tach and dwell , 1 week loan; call Mark at 512-703-7320  
>Timing light; 1 week loan, call Mark at 703-7320  
>universal Disc brake caliber compression tool, 2 week loan; call Mark at 703-7320  
>Multi-purpose hand vacuum pump kit; bleed brakes, check vacuum levels, etc, 1 week loan; Mark at 703-7320  
>Hobart Auto Arc 130 wire feed MIG welder, 1 week loan; call Robert at 436-0262  
>Pittman arm puller, 1 week loan; call Robert at 436-0262

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**!!! NOTE !!!**

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Please keep your ad current! Call or email the newsletter editor with new ads and corrections. All MMCA members may place ads free of charge. Non-members may place ads for \$10/quarterly publication.

**Join the Discussion**

**MMCA Discussion List** is an easy way to contact club members, get technical advice, and find out about club events. To join go to google.com for invitation to join : [MMCA-tx@googlegroups.com](mailto:MMCA-tx@googlegroups.com)