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Rev It Up

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GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF RJ CARS INC.

Welcome back to Rev It Up! We'll soon be seeing many of you for seasonal car shows and gatherings. We've listed some of these events so you can be sure to get them on your calendar.

We're looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting up with new people this year as well! Our annual Open House Event (August 5th) is a great time to come out and meet the RJ CARS staff members and look at some of our recent projects first hand. We have lots of food, fun and music for all ages. BRING OUT THOSE CLASSIC CARS!! SEE YOU

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THERE!!

Our office is looking great with all the license plates that we've collected and started hanging on the walls. Thanks to all of you who have do-

nated to our collection!
Keep them coming!

I've been waiting for a very long time to have a new office in my shop and it turned out

even better than I had imagined. Look for more improvements to the RJ CARS facility soon. We've got a lot of plans unfolding for the upcoming year! We are currently wrapping up a rotisserie restoration of Mike

Bonsanti's 1966 Dodge Hemi Coronet 500. Look for pictures of this car soon or you might just see this one in person at the Carlisle All Chrysler Nationals. Come see us in Row N, spaces 89-92, July 7-9th.

Wow! I'm very excited about our "Swingin'" article below. Matthew and I will be very busy with this in depth father/son resto over the next couple of years. Special thanks are in order to Mark and Samatha Briggs for agreeing to sell Matthew the car and helping to make his teenage dream come true. The hills of South Dansville will echo once again with the sound of an orange 340 Dodge Dart! Sorry neighbors! Look for "Mad Matt" to replace "DangeRuss" behind the wheel. I see a race to the drivers seat in our future! Have a great summer!
Russell

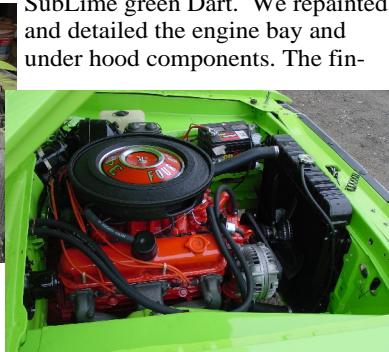
AND WE WERE SWINGIN'!

April 3rd was the official day of completion on one of the 1970 Dodge Dart Swinger projects RJ

engine, transmission, and front suspension. We also removed the seats and replaced the carpet in this SubLime green Dart. We repainted and detailed the engine bay and under hood components. The fin-



Engine bay before Restoration



Engine bay after Restoration

CARS, Inc. had under way. Our good client, Ted LaFrance, signed on with us to do a partial restoration to his 70 Dart Swinger. RJ CARS removed and freshened up the

ishing touch was installing the characteristic rear black stripe to

this 340 powered mean green machine— all in a 3 month turn around time!

Ted has given RJ CARS, Inc. the privilege of working on several cars in his collection, including a 1966 Plymouth Belvedere II, 426 Hemi, and 1970 Dodge Challenger T/A, with matching numbers 340 Six Pack and matching number 4 Speed Transmission.

However, the 1970 Dart



Swinger was one of Russ's personal favorites because he also had a 1970 Dodge Dart Swinger.





RJ CARS, INC. "Plated" Wall

Thanks to our readers we have a lot more to put up on the wall!

Also note:

Cheryl's Triumph TR3A Show Board (previous issue) – lookin' good!

Some Muscle You Might Not Have Known About!

Among muscle cars there always were a few that were a little more rare than others. According to the Muscle Car Club web site, 8 out of the top ten rarest are Mopars. Here's how they ranked:

1. 1967 Dodge Coronet R/T, Convertible, 426 Hemi
 2. 1970 Dodge Coronet R/T, Convertible, 426 Hemi
 3. 1969 Chevrolet Corvette ZL-1 427, 2D Coupe, 427 V8
 4. 1970 Plymouth Road Runner, Convertible, 426 Hemi
 5. 1970 Dodge Super Bee, 2D Pillared Coupe, 426 Hemi
 6. 1966 Dodge Coronet 400, Convertible, 426 Hemi
 7. 1971 Plymouth 'Cuda Hemi, Convertible, 426 Hemi
 8. 1969 Pontiac Firebird Trans Am, Convertible, 400 RA IV
 9. 1968 Dodge Coronet, Convertible, 426 Hemi

10.1970 Dodge Challenger R/T, Convertible, 426 Hemi
Out of the top 43 muscle cars, 32 of them are Mopars.
Now that's what I call muscle! And according to one
Muscle Expert, the value of these cars increase about 10%
each year- a lot better than most other types of invest-
ments!

Hemi convertibles are well represented on the list, for reasons you might not have thought of; Convertibles represented everything that the “typical” muscle car buyer did not want, a higher price, more weight and generally lower top speed. Add the convertible option cost with the extra cost of a Hemi engine and you quickly understand why Hemi Convertibles are the most rare muscle car.

By adding unusual combinations of color (interior and exterior), transmissions, radios and other options of the day your car could move up or down the above list. But in general, it sure would be nice to have some sort of Hemi Convertible in the garage!

What's it Worth?

By: Cindy Gemmill

Just when I thought I was getting used to the amount of time and money the restoration client is willing to invest in their project, along comes a situation that just blows me away! In January we were contacted by a gentleman who lives in New Jersey. He and his father had this 1970 Barracuda Convertible they were considering having restored. Contacting RJ Cars, Inc. he gave us the information on the car and also sent pictures. As they say "a picture is worth a thousand words", the car needed an *extensive* restoration (it was very rusty!). However, this car was a Cuda Convertible and the color combination made it very rare— Alpine White exterior, all red interior with a black top.

As you might expect, the cost of an “extensive” restoration is somewhat daunting. Not giving up hope for giving this car a new life, this father/ son team listed their car on EBay. Well, I think you know where this story is going....The buyer of this 1970 Barracuda Convertible paid \$39,000 for a car that would have needed an *extensive* restoration! Oh, but the return on the investment! If the restoration is done correctly this car could be worth hundreds of thousands more than the amount of the original investment.

According to the seller, the buyer of the car is converting it into a 1971 Hemi Cuda Clone and restoring the original drive train (318) and ultimately plans on re-selling it as a Hemi Clone. The seller also wanted to let us know that he took the proceeds from "this non-running rust bucket" and bought a very good condition, well maintained 1986 Ferrari Mondial convertible. He says "He now has a four seat convertible to take the family out in, without the time and cost of a lengthy restoration of the Barracuda", although he does wonder at times "what I let get away with that one."

.....SWINGIN' (CONTINUED)



"DangeRuss" in 1989

The 20 year anniversary of Russ's first trip to the Nationals in 1988.

Russ fondly remembers "being up for days" preparing for and driving to the Nationals. He also remembers the "bare-bones" budget

he had to work with! He even slept in the car for lack of funds for a hotel room!

The same car Russ's son, Matthew, just purchased as his first muscle car!

With the help of Larry Jackson, Russ restored his 70 Dart Swinger 340 to include bucket seats supplied by Rick Pfaff. The current 2 year rotisserie restoration is scheduled to finish in time for the 2008 Nationals.

Though decisions are still being made about the details of the car, Matt has decided to keep the color combination his Dad had. The original GoMango orange with a black vinyl top. He will install an original style rear stripe, add performance

upgrades to the brakes and drive line components of the car, and keep the interior stock with an upgrade to include a factory style tach. And even though he has the original bench seat for the car, he will keep the same bucket seats Dad sat in.

With the purchase of a parts car from John Jamison, Matt has received help again from Rick Pfaff for other parts.

We hope you all join us in watching the journey of this car and this special father-son project come to life, again!



As you can see from the photos, Matt just grins from ear to ear whenever he has a chance to work on his future ride!

FUEL- IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE A FOUR LETTER WORD!

Well all know better, but sometimes you are just "driven" to stomp on that gas pedal– and that's a hard urge to resist when sitting behind the wheel of a 1970 Cuda with a 426 Hemi!

Well, okay, you shouldn't resist that urge when sitting in a car like that, but when your in the "family-mobile" that's exactly what you should do to avoid paying extra at the pump.

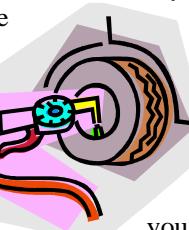
When we're driving to work or home after a long day at work it's easy to zone out and not really pay attention to *how* we are driving, but small changes can add to noticeable savings when you need to re-fuel. Here are some numbers from the www.fueleconomy.gov web site– do the math, I think you will be surprised at how much you can save!



tune or has failed an emissions test can improve its gas mileage by an average of 4%. (at \$2.99/gallon, that's \$0.12/gallon) Fixing a serious maintenance problem, such as a faulty oxygen sensor, can improve mileage by as much as 40%!

*Check and replace air filters regularly could save up to 10% (\$0.29/gallon)

*Keep tires properly inflated– save 3% (\$0.09). Under-inflated tires can lower gas mileage by 0.4% for every

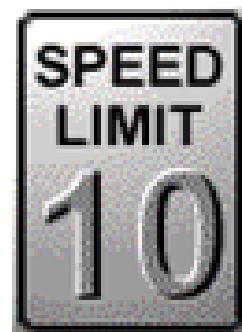


1- p.s.i. drop in pressure. Properly inflated tires are safer and last longer.

*Using the recommended grade of motor oil can improve mileage by 1-2% (\$0.03-.06). Look for motor oil that says "Energy Conserving" on the API performance symbol to be sure it contains friction-reducing additives.

*Drive sensibly– aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration & braking) can lower gas mileage by 33% at highway speeds and by 5 percent around town. (\$0.15-0.99)

*Observe the speed limit. As a rule of thumb, you can assume that each 5 mph you drive over 60 mph is like paying an additional \$0.21 per gallon.



*For those pickup or van drivers– remove excess weight.

Time to get rid of those winter sand bags! An extra 100 pounds in your vehicle could reduce your mpg by up to 2%.

*No brainer's– Avoid excessive idling, use cruise control and over-drive gears when ever possible. Shopping for a new or new-to-you car? Check out www.fueleconomy.gov for a handy "Find and Compare Cars" page that will help you figure out which year and model car, truck, minivan or suv will give you the best gas mileage.

We may not be able to kick our foreign oil dependency overnight, but we sure can avoid paying more by kicking those bad driving habits!



1789 County Route 50
Arkport, New York 14807

We're on the Web!

www.rjcars.com

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Phone:
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Fax:
775-860-5203

Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm
Monday -Friday
Saturday By Appointment

Email: jacobs@rjcars.com

CURRENT RJ CARS, INC.

- 1971 Dodge Charger R/T Clone
- 1971 Dodge Super Bee
- 1966 Dodge Coronet Hemi 500
- 1970 Dodge Challenger R/T
- 1970 Dodge Dart Swinger 340
- 1970 Plymouth 'Cuda
- 1970 Plymouth Super Bird
- 1973 Dodge Challenger
- 1964 Chevy Nova SS

Upcoming Events

Come see us at the
All- Chrysler Nationals 2006, Carlisle, PA, July 7-9, 2006
We will be in Row N, Spaces 89-92

Cruise Night, Every Wednesday Night Through August, 6-8 pm Hornell Bowl, Hornell, NY



**Join us at our
3rd Annual Open House
August 5, 2006**

For Sale:

- * 1968 Plymouth Barracuda Formula S Convertible, 383 4-Speed car with fender tag. Needs complete restoration. \$15,000 or best offer. Call 607-324-4622, ask for John
- * 1969 Plymouth Barracuda Formula S Convertible, 340 4-Speed, car with a/c, matching #'s, fender tag and build sheet. Needs complete restoration. \$12,000 or best offer. Call 607-324-4622, ask for John
- * 1963 Triumph TR4 Ferrari red, chrome spoke wheels, ready to show or drive! Call RJ CARS, INC. 607-324-8325

