



Mossy Creek Cruzers Car Club



**OCTOBER 2014
NEWSLETTER**

East Tennessee
Volume 32 • Editor: Pat Dukes



I just can't believe that Fall is already here!! Where in the world has the time gone? Only a few more cruise-ins and a couple more shows and then it is time to put all of our cruisers up for the winter!! I guess it will be a time to reflect on this year and all the events we have attended. Now it seems that everything we attend, it either rains or the wind is blowing making it feel a lot colder than it really is.

To me the worst part of the winter season is the lack of seeing all of our friends and club members. Thankfully we still have our monthly meet-

ings and that helps us keep in touch.

A lot of you don't know this but the Mossy Creek Cruzers now has a "Junior Car Club" at Jefferson County High School. Butch Grooms, a Cruiser and also the Vice-President of the Hamblen County Car Club, brought this idea to us. HCCC had started junior car clubs at East and West High Schools in Morristown. We brought the idea to Scott Noe and Carl Crigger, who are the car auto body and mechanical teachers at Jefferson County HS. They got on board with us immediately and we have met with them a couple of times. On September 25th, Larry Boggess, Glenn Allred, Bill O'Connell, Pat Dukes, Butch Grooms and Don McGinnis, President of Hamblen County Car Club, went before the Jefferson County School Board. We told them the basic idea of the club and they passed their approval unanimously.

The junior club will hold their own car shows and get their own door prizes and trophies. The Senior club will be there in an advisory position and guide them through the set up of their new club and their shows. They have already set their own by-laws. The kids have to keep at least a "C" average. They must attend their meetings, not missing more than three during the year.

Scott Noe and Carl Crigger have both joined the senior club and were at the last meeting along with four new members of the junior club. We were so glad to have them attend. They wanted to see how we conduct our meetings so we hope we helped them.

When they have a car show, which may be in the Spring (it is a little late now) we should try to attend and help them out. We have to keep the interest up in these classic and antique cars and the youth are our futures!! Best of luck to the new Mossy Creek Cruzers Junior Car Club!! Let's all show support to these hot-rodders of the future!!

If you would like to volunteer to help out with the Junior club, just let one of the officers in the senior club know.

Don't forget the **"Fill the Truck with Toys"** show on **Saturday, October 25th** from 10am to 3pm. It will be held at the American Legion Post #113 in Jefferson City on Highway 11-E. Registration is a new, unwrapped toy. This is the third annual show for underprivileged children in Jefferson County and we would like to surpass the last two years donations. There will be door prizes, 50-50 tickets, several awards, music and food. If you can't come and stay at the show, at least drop a toy off either at the show or to one of the Officers and help support our club.



**Mossy Creek Cruzers
Car Club**

3rd Annual

Fill the Truck with Toys Car Show
Benefit for Christmas in Jefferson County
for under-privileged children
Registration is a New, Unwrapped Toy
To be held at the
American Legion Parking Area
Saturday, October 25th, 2014
10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Music, Food, Awards, Door Prizes and 50-50 tickets

If you can't attend the show, at least drop a toy off by the show or call one of the officers to meet with you before the show to collect the toys and help our club with this very worthwhile cause. Just to know that we made a child smile means the world!!

Letter from the President

Hello all you Cruzers,

Every time I see a '55 Chevy I am taken back to 1963 when I bought my first 55 Chevy two door hard top. I wish I had it back but had to sell it after going into the Air Force and shipped overseas. I needed the money and the car was just sitting around. What a mistake! I bought her from a friend, actually I talked him into selling her to me for \$86. It had a 265 cu. in. engine, not running at the time. Needed paint badly and had a couple of holes in the floorboards and of course the headlight buckets were rusted-out. I taught myself how to do bondo work, on the job training. I should have bought stock in the Bondo Company. I also taught myself how to sand it off. I did finally figure out the more bondo, the more sanding was required to remove it. I got the engine running, patched the holes in the floor boards, installed a couple of bucket seats and was ready for the road. I had no place to paint her so I got a MACO paint job. My old '55 Chevy was looking good. I have never been as proud of a car as that '55 Chevy. One night cruising around Shoneys in St. Albans, W. Va., a car backed into my front end and the bondo went flying all over the place. I ran around picking up bondo for several minutes. I was so embarrassed, I learned a little more about sheet metal work this time around. I wish there had been a junior car club in my high school with instructors like Scott Noe and Carl Crigger that take an interest in the kids. I am sure my old '55 Chevy would have been in better shape. I drove her through my senior year and 2 years of college, working on her all the time. I did change the engine transmission, fixed the body and made a nice driver out of her. I wonder where she is today.

I am so pleased the club voted to help support a Jr. Car Club at the high school. I hope more car clubs will follow suit and do the same. We need to get the young people involved in our hobby. It will do them good to get their hands dirty and learn something about life at the same time. Bill O'Connell volunteered to be the contact person for the Jr. Car Club so all you Cruzers that can help, contact Bill or me (Larry). All help will be appreciated.

Larry Boggess, President Mossy Creek Cruzers

A BEAUTIFUL DAY FOR A ROAD TRIP!!

What a wonderful cruise we had today, Sunday, October 19th!! Thank you so much Richard and Carolyn Webb for setting this up! We met at Douglas Dam Overlook and went back roads all the way to Cosby to the Kyle Carver Apple Orchard where we toured the place and then the eight Cruzers that were there had lunch in the restaurant! Beautiful day to drive these cars (although Pat's Oldsmobile broke down and for the first time ever, had to be towed back & taken to Broadway Service Center for repair).

Mossy Creek Cruzers • 562 N. Hwy. 92 • Jefferson City, TN 37760
www.mossycreekcruzers.org • mossycreekcruzers@aol.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 24 Friday evening Blast from the Past at Carson Newman University - 6-9
- October 25 Mossy Creek Cruzers "Fill the Truck with Toys" at the American Legion in Jefferson City. The toys will be donated to Christmas County who gives the toys to under privileged children. 10 am til 3 pm. Registration is a new, unwrapped toy. People's Choice will select a few top prizes. We will have 50-50 tickets, door prizes and music.**
- October 25 Saturday evening:
Hamblen County Car Club Cruise-in at the Mall in Morristown 5:30 - 8:00
- October 31 Cruise to the Border Cruise In, Across from train Station, Bristol, TN 6 - 9 pm
- October 31, Friday evening:
Cruzers cruze-in at Big Lots in Jefferson City. 5:30 - 8:00
- November 4 MCC Club Meeting at Shoney's in Dandridge 7:00 pm
- November 8 Veterans Day Cruise In at The Diner in Sevierville. Noon - 7 pm
- November 15 Kramer Jewelry Presents a Coffee & Donuts Cruise In, 3606 W. Andrew Johnson Highway, Saturday, November 15th in Morristown 7:30 am - 11:00 am. Jim Kramer is a Cruiser so let's support his Cruise-in.

Greeneville Ridgerunners Picnic

The picnic with the Greeneville Ridgerunners on September 28th was excellent! Our thanks go out to them for inviting us to attend their annual picnic at Kinser Park in Greeneville.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Keep Paul Richardson in your thoughts and prayers.
Paul Click has had surgery but is now released to go back to work.
If you know of someone who is sick, please let Pat know.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Scott Day, Carl Crigger and Bennie Gibson

If you know of anyone would like to join our club, either bring them to a meeting or a cruise-in or just give them my name (Pat) and number, 865-363-5891 and I'll talk to them. We continue to grow all the time. We now have 83 memberships with approximately 150 people. *Go Cruzers!!*

All Newsletters that are now mailed out, may be in black & white due to the cost of getting them printed in color. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you. To see in color, go to www.mossycreekcruzers.org.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**OCTOBER
MCC
MEMBERS**

If you have items for sale or if you are looking for something, let me know & I'll post in the newsletter.

CRUZERS "Fill the Truck with Toys" for Christmas in Jefferson County

Saturday, October 25, from 10 until 3

Registration is a new, unwrapped toy for a boy or a girl. Door Prizes and 50-50 tickets. Music will be played.
LOCATION: The American Legion on Highway 11-E in Jefferson City. The Legion will have food for sale.

Mossy Creek Cruzers Car Club Officers

PRESIDENT Larry Boggett 828-289-2119 865-227-7584 boggett29@gmail.com	VICE PRESIDENT Glenn Allred 423-231-9942 redallgea@charter.net	TREASURER Bill O'Connell 865-940-1168 954-801-7237 easione@charter.net	SECRETARY NEWSLETTER EDITOR Pat Dukes 865-363-5891 mossycreekcruzers@aol.com
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1969 Stroppe Modified Prerunner

Submitted By: Cruiser Scott Day

In 1982 I met my wife. While dating her we ended up at her parents house. That's when I saw an old orange Bronco in the side yard. Normally I never paid attention to trucks, but this thing had a full roll cage and the air cleaner was sticking above the hood. It was obvious it had not been driven in years. When I went back in I asked Karen what's up with the Bronco? Her Dad (Dick) over heard the question and he perked up, and with a smile he proceeded to tell me how he used to be a crew chief for F.A.I.R. (first association of independent racers) and he pitted for Pamelli Jones, Rick Mears and James Garner. He went on about the four wheeling adventures all over the west with two trips to La Paz and that some guy named Stroppe modified it.

With me being from the Midwest, I didn't know anything about desert racing or that guy named Stroppe. The other names I knew from movies and other racing series, mind you this was before the internet so to me it was just an old Bronco, and what didn't help the cause was that he gave it to Karen for her first car at 16 and he let her pick any color she wanted. She chose Cal. Trans. Orange.

A few years later I was driving a 71 Elcamino that the body was like glass and it had a 425hp 383 stroker. I was a body man and painter by trade, I was fussy about my cars, and Karen and I were married. This is when Dick approached me with an offer. He would give the Bronco to me if I painted it and got it running, but he would have first option to buy it back if I wanted to sell it. It was a deal. So after 13 years of sitting in that southern California side yard it was about to get back on the road. But just as the engine was finished my wife was transferred to Minnesota. I had sold my Elcamino and the Bronco wasn't ready. So I paid a buddy that managed a body shop to take out the big dents and slap some paint on it, bought Dick's S10 pick up and gave him the Bronco.

A year later he drove it to Minnesota and gave it back to me,

putting it in my wife's name of course! So yes, the Bronco is my wife'sshhhhh we'll keep that our little secret!!

I only got to drive it for a month and then I had to store it for winter. Road salt would have loved that old desert sand blasted metal. Six months later it was able to hit the road when late that summer I started getting a miss in the engine and parked it. Well time got away from me and winter set in again, and before I knew it, the gas went bad. So there it sat for another 19 years. During this time we moved to Tennessee. At times I thought about selling it but I



could never bring myself to let it go, thinking I would never replace it.

About four years ago, Dick and I started to tinker with it with plans to get it going again. But shortly after that, his health began to decline along with his memory. The last project we did together was a complete new fuel system and power front disc brake conversion. It was during the brake conversion that the first weird thing happened. Dick always said it had a Dana 44 but the instructions said we had a Dana 30. At that time I didn't know how easy it was to tell. Dick said "they told me they put in a 44" and he was very upset. I think it was his memory, he forgot and I knew nothing of the hybrid axles that were produced back then. It was also the time that I asked if he had any documentation of the build since over the years he continued to talk about it, he loved it. So I thought it's a good story but no one would believe it. After Dick passed, I was still thinking of selling it and getting a fast car but every time I looked around I saw the same old stuff but never an early Bronco. That's

when I decided to keep it for good. My time is limited so again it ended up at a shop getting built. It's strange but it was like it wants to be worked on by other people and now it seems like it wants its story told. When they pulled the tranny I found the adaptor with Stroppe's name in the casting. From that point on I was on a mission. I got on the net looking and studying Stroppe but the only thing I could find was stuff on the Baja Bronco. That's when I found somebody looking for a roll cage for a Baja restoration. My cage is a six point but the four point section was identical to the Baja. That's two things now!

When I started going through Dick's things I found a box with his aluminum club plates from the Regroupers 4wd club, Team jacket patches, F.A.I.R. race decals and Dick's F.A.I.R. Membership card saying he was charter member #16. There are photos with our Bronco at the '70 and '71 Baja races in the pits with the club logo on the front fender and you can see the Stroppe cage in the back window. The photos also show my wife and mother-in-law in the pits.

It was at this time I found out about the 2013 Bronco super cel. I made that my priority. As usual the Bronco wasn't going to be 100% ready but got her together enough to drive to the show which was an hour drive away. Right off the bat I fouled a plug and checked it out. I managed to make it to the show around noon. I wanted to find James Duff because Dick talked about a guy in the group named Duffy. While doing my searches I found James Duff. And in a photo I saw his Bronco that said Duffy tough. Also on their web site they had the history and it was similar to Dick's, the same people and time period. I did find him and showed him the photo album. He told me some of the people's names that were in the pictures and that he wanted to look at the Bronco. That's when the award presentation began and as soon as they passed them out they had to run.

So today you can see this very well preserved Bronco at the Cruzers cruise-ins and car shows. Scott and Karen Day are members of the Mossy Creek Cruzers Car Club.

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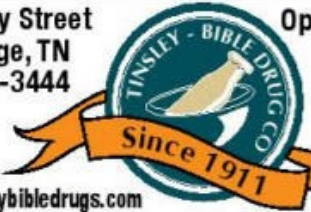
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