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Metropolitan Owners Club of North America

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

RONNIE BAUMAN

This last year has been a trying time, a trial for our patience, and a tough time for our cars. Some of us may have actually utilized this time well, and done the necessary maintenance our cars need, and we are always too “busy” to get to. And, some of us have let our poor little cars sit in the garage (if they are lucky enough to be kept “Inside” .). And now, at last, we get to get together and go for a “group Drive”. There are few things as much fun as driving along in a line of our colorful cute little cars, and seeing the waves and smile from folks on the street.

Now that it appears the restrictions on gathering may be lifted, please be sure to check your car out thoroughly before taking it for a spin, or worse yet, joining in a group activity, and having to pull over to the side of the road because of “old gas”, or a gummed up spark plug, or a wire that was already loose and it just fell off due to a few little bumps in the road.

On a personal note, Judy and I both received shots #1 and #2 of the Covid 19 vaccine and suffered no ill effects. We are looking forward to seeing each of you soon. Please Check the SoCalMets newsletter or our facebook page for upcoming events.

This has been a year of change for me. Time is moving on, and I have started “thinning out the Herd” of my collector cars. (No, I am NOT selling any of my Mets). We recently took my restored 1926 Model T to the McCormick Classic Car Auction in Palm Springs. Yes it sold, and while it was time for me to sell it, I still felt a little bad saying good bye. It was a beautiful car, and had been a friend for 40 years. So, after a long drive back to the yard on Spruce St. in Riverside, my phone rings: It’s the fellow car collector from Seattle who had bought the Model T. The auction was over, and he needed to get the car loaded in his trailer and take it home. Just a little problem: “What are the three pedals on the floor for? And how do I start this car? “ So, I talked him thru the sequence. And made sure he had my phone and email. I think he might just need it.

Bye for now.....I am truly looking forward to this Spring and Summer and getting together with each of you.

One final thought: The International meet in Dubuque IA this summer? We are all ready to get out and do something! This might just be the time to do it.

Bye for now, Ronnie



Looking in the Rear View Mirror



From the archives of the former Metropolitan Club of California are these scenes of a workshop in Pasadena Ten years ago.

Below current MOCNA Southwest Tech Advisor Nate Hall recommended a tool to have. It's a double ended square head brake shoe adjusting wrench. It was available from Moss Motors then and is now available from the Metropolitan Pit Stop. Part #25990. \$11.95.



From the November 1996 issue of the Metropolitan News publication
of the former Metropolitan Club of California
Keith Hays Editor

TECH TIPS

DISCLAIMER:

Teck Tips are furnished to members, as a service, to the Metropolitan Owners. They are not tested or certified by the Metropolitan Club of California Ltd. its officers or the editor of the newsletter. Some are furnished by members, some are taken from other publications, and re-written to fit this newsletter. They should be reviewed prior to actual use and only used when you are sure that they are appropriate for your car.

APPLYING RUBBER TO METAL: Backs of new rubber parts should be roughened with coarse sandpaper to obtain maximum adhesion. Painted metal should be slightly sanded also. Always check fit of rubber before applying adhesive. Contact cement is probably the best adhesive for any rubber product. Follow manufactures directions carefully. Generally rubber requires three coats to the 'glaze' called for. Silicone type adhesives make a good bond, but must have pressure applied while setting. Auto 'trim' cement makes a fairly good bond and does not require pressure if allowed to get tacky before applying. Always use new cement, even small lumps in old cement will show through the rubber. (Tip taken from MOCNA Met Gazette)

METROPOLITAN TRIVIA

STANDARD EQUIPMENT (No extra cost): Upholstery Trim Combination T-600, Off-White Vinyl Bolster with Gray-Black Square Seat Cloth (houndstooth), standard on all models. Two-tone paint, Foam rubber front seat cushion, Map light, Cigarette lighter, Electric windshield wipers, Dual-sun visors, Ash tray, directional signals, Oil bath air cleaner, Continental tire carrier and cover, jack and tire wrench and Dual horns.

EXTRA COST EQUIPMENT: Weather Eye Heating and Ventilating System, Radio and Manual Antenna, Whitewall tubeless tires.

DEALER INSTALLED ACCESSORIES: Petty Design Hood Ornament (Flying Lady), Windshield Washers, Partial Flow Oil Filter, Outside Rear View Mirror, Fuel Filter, Back-up Lights, Trunk light, Curb Indicators, Visor Vanity Mirror, and assorted items for appearance, maintenance and Cooling System.

NOTE: The description of the "Weather Eye Heating and Ventilation System" was as follows!

The Weather Eye System, recognized as trhe world's finest heating and ventilating systems, is available on the Metropolitan at extra cost.

When the car is in motion, air is forced through the wide cowl intake and down through the opening in the body. From here, the air enters the Weather Eye and passes through the heating core supplied with hot water from the engine. When extra heat or defrosters are needed, a large fan, located directly behind the heating core, may be turned on. The fan supplies warm air to both the passenger compartment and defrosters. The flow of water thru the heating core is controlled by an automatic thermostat which can be regulated by the occupants when an increase or decrease in heat is desired.

Note: The description of the Radio was as follows!

A powerful 5-tube superhetrodyne radio is available at extra cost. The large tuning knob is indirectly lighted & both controls conveniently located in the center of the dashboard for operation by driver or passenger. Most of the component parts are readily interchangeable with those in 12 volt American manufacture.

Hope you appreciate just how good the Radio & the Weather Eye really are!!!!!!



Patrick Horley in Albuquerque, NM, recently posed a striking question to the MOCNA facebook group. He wrote:

“Out of curiosity, hypothetically how many of you (if you were alive and old enough in the 50s & 60s) would have bought a Metropolitan New at that time?”

He goes on to say that he didn't think he would have but today he loves his (2nd hand) Met. The question garnered at least 25 interesting opinions from current Met owners.

If you saw the article on facebook, you read that it was a decent split between the people who would have and who would not have purchased a new Met at that time. And it seemed to be an equal vote among men & women drivers. The many stories and recollections of first seeing a Met are heart felt. Of course how old you were when Mets were new adds an interesting variety to the experiences.

Your editor is obviously in the elder category and so posted the response below:

“A wonderful question, Patrick. I was in high school when Mets came out and I thought they were cute. But my dream car at the time was a 1956 Lincoln premiere 2 door hardtop”. >

Today however, I'm a proud owner of the red 1961 Met (above) which I bought 14 years ago, then, as a used 46 year old classic!

Sad to say, I never got that Lincoln but did own a Thunderbird later. - Ken Conner



*Masterpiece on the Mississippi
MOCNA 2021 International Meet*

John Riley, Gary Bosselman and the Met Set of Wisconsin would like to invite you to Dubuque, IA on June 9 through June 12, 2021.



The Host Hotel will be the Hotel Julien, in historic downtown Dubuque, Iowa, just blocks from the Mississippi River. Hotel Julien was built in 1839, most recently completed a 33-million-dollar renovation. It has 133 rooms available, MOCNA has reserved 75 rooms at a very special rate of \$139.00 for single/double rate plus State and Local taxes. Hotel block closes on May 8, 2021. You must call Hotel Julien directly at 800-798-7098 or 563-556-4200 to register for a room. Website registration will not be available.

Truck and Trailer parking will be off-site and about 4-blocks away at a hotel-owned property. The hotel parking lot will be for Metropolitans only. Wednesday and Thursday shuttle service will be available back and forth.

Tentative tours will include:

- The world's largest collection of VW Micro-buses, with lunch on the grounds, Thursday.
- Self-Guided Tour of the baseball movie site "Field of Dreams" in Dyersville, IA.
- Self-Guided Tour of the Ertl National Farm Toy Museum on your way to Field of Dreams.
- Self-Guided Tour of the Promiseland Winery along the above route.
- Lunch, dinner or cocktail stop at Iowa's oldest Restaurant and Bar, Breitbachs Country Dining along the above route.
- Self-Guided Tour of the Potosi Brewery and ABA National Brewery Museum in Potosi, WI.
- Self-Guided Tour of the Whispering Pines Winery just south of Potosi.
- Self-Guided Scenic drive along the Mississippi River when you leave Potosi.
- Self-Guided Tour of the National Motorcycle Museum in Anamosa, IA.
- Self-Guided Tour of the Galena, IL shopping trip.
- Saturday car show along the Mississippi River.
- And, we still need to find time for the valve cover races, slow drags and socializing.

The Saturday car show will be along the Mississippi River and Dubuque Harbor on a grassy area just a few blocks from Diamond Jo Casino, Stone Cliff Winery and National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium. And, it is just a few blocks from the Hotel Julien.

John and I along with the entire Met Set of Wisconsin look forward to hosting the 2021 MOCNA International Meet in Dubuque, IA. You come for the cars; you stay for the people.

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June 9 - 12



So here we are in the month of March 2021 and we haven't even done a cruise. Since the last newsletter, New Years, Ground Hog Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day, Daylight Savings, & even St. Patrick's Day will have passed us by. Soon Passover & Palm Sunday will be over and it will be April Fool's day. Does anyone have an idea for a April Fool's Day event? Or later, April 4th, some sort of Easter Parade? Brainstormers are welcome here. Contact our Cruise Director Marcia Jones if you have any ideas.



Seriously we hope that none of you have had any Covid-19 complications. With the contact restrictions easing up, there should be hope of for us driving and eating together soon. - Ken



Photo above, we were Covid compliant May 16, 2020 in Santa Ana, CA
Below, camera looking into the sun Jan 25, 2020 at Long Beach, CA

