

2009 Mayflower Marathon TMC Cruise

Article by Butch Hora and Photos by Bob Yates



It is the time of year again when everyone gets into the holiday spirit and spends time with family and friends. That usually means that they get together and have large feasts and celebrate. Unless you are one of the thousands of people in the Tidewater area that won't be able to enjoy a turkey dinner because they have lost their job, or worse than that, are homeless. For the past several years the Tidewater Mopar Club's (TMC), Vice President Bob Kinker has gathered some members and cruised up to donate food thru FM 106.9/FM 99 who promote the Mayflower Marathon's food drive for the Foodbank of Southeast Virginia (FBSEVA). Unfortunately I have missed the first 2 years the club has done this because of being in Arizona with family. But this year, I was lucky enough to be back in time to take part in the cruise.

The club members gathered up at the new Hall Chrysler Jeep Dodge dealership around 1 pm on Sunday, November 22nd. After waiting for all of the members to arrive, at 1:40 Bob lead the parade of cars down Virginia Beach Blvd. to the Pembroke Mall where there were already several hot rods parked from other car clubs that were helping out. One thing that was different this year was not only did club



members donate food, but because the club had such a good year, we were able to present the FBSEVA with a check for \$500.00! The Community Events Manager for the FBSEVA, Debbie Mergi was really appreciative to the club for our support and donation. She was especially surprised to see us again after the successful food drive and cash donations that the club gave back in September at the car show/food drive that we did with Hall Virginia Beach Dodge. I want to thank everyone who donated food and came out to make the cruise a good time. Hope to make it even better next year!

Member Highlight

On October 2-3, 2009, Michael Tillett a new member of the TMC was a participant in the "Wild Thing all Mopar Show" held in Wildwood, New Jersey. Michael and his 2006 Chrysler 300 C won first place in Chrysler Class, congratulations on your win. Michael is also the President of the First Flight Cruisers Car Club and wanted to let club members know they are having a show March 11th-14th in 2010. For more info you may check the website www.firstflightcruisers.com he would greatly appreciate your support in this event.



Club Officers

President

Butch Hora (vamopar1@cox.net; 757-427-3094)

Vice President

Bob Kinker (robertkinker@cox.net; 757-421-4176)

Treasurer

John Goodman (johngoodman3@cox.net; 757-427-0659)

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TMC on the Web
<http://www.tidewatermoparclub.com>

Newsletter Editors

Chris and Bob Yates

TMC MEMBER RIDE OF THE MONTH

OWNER: *Ed Miller*

RIDE: *1965 Plymouth Belvedere*

ENGINE: *426 Hemi w/Cross Ram*

2x 770 Holley cross-ram 4-barrel carbs

TRANSMISSION: *727 Torqueflite, w/4000 stall converter, reverse manual valve body*

REAR END: *9" Ford w/5:14 gears w/spool, w/Chrysler ends & brakes, Dana 60 axles*

Article by: Ed Miller and Photos by: Chris Yates

In the early 1990's, my friend, Rich Burke bought this 1965 Plymouth Belvedere for a street car to replace his "Old Orange" 1971 Plymouth Fury. He



soon started racing it and installed the roll bar, a fiberglass hood, bumpers trunk lid, ladder

bars and had it painted Big Bad Orange. He worked the runs down to 10-flat quarter mile before retiring and selling the car to Dana Byrum. Dana's work schedule didn't allow him much time to race the car, so he sold it to me in 2006.

I started running it with the 440 that was in it. Not long after buying it I installed the cross ram Hemi. Once



the Hemi was installed it then broke the 8 3/4 rear end, twice! To fix that we installed a 9" Ford rear with Chrysler ends

and brakes so we could utilize the 35-spline Dana-type axles from the 8 3/4. That fall, the car's best run was a 5.96 ET at 113 mph in the eighth mile at Outer Banks Speedway.

Unfortunately, after the 6th race win of the year the Hemi broke at the first annual "Ronnie Sox Memorial Race" at Roxboro, North Carolina. Upon further investigation, we



found out that the Hemi broke a valve seat. So, we replaced it with a 440 again and finished racing out the rest of 2007.

For 2008, we fixed the Hemi and put it back into the car just before the Suffolk Raceway Reunion. We did not race the car much after that in 2008. But in early 2009 we got busy and installed a full NHRA certified rollcage with a Lexan windshield. When we brought her out this time the best run was a 9.63 ET at 137.86 mph in the quarter mile. It ran good all weekend and was consistent enough to win the Modified Eliminator Class at the 2009 Tidewater Mopar Club "Mopars vs the World" race at Virginia Motorsports Park in Dinwiddie.

Since then we made another change to the Hemi by replacing the stock cross ram with a new sheet metal cross ram intake manifold. On the last run at the Outer Banks Speedway the car ran 5.98 at 115 mph in the eighth mile. More tuning is necessary in order for the car to reach its full potential.



BUSINESS: *Hall Chrysler Jeep Dodge*
LOCATION: *3152 Virginia Beach Blvd.*
SERVICES: *New & Used Car Sales, Service & Parts*
GENERAL MANAGER: *Chris Colbert*
TMC P.O.C.: *Chris Colbert (757) 498-2200*

Article and Photos by "Butch" Hora

Have you driven by Hall Virginia Beach Dodge lately? If you haven't already heard the breaking news, our good ole' sponsor Hall Virginia Beach Dodge has



officially moved down the road. Under guidelines set by Mother Mopar, all dealers have been directed to merge the Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep names under one roof. So, when you are looking for your friendly Dodge Boys you will need to drive a few blocks further down. Look on the opposite side the road for 3152 Virginia Beach Boulevard and you can't miss it.

You'll make the left at the traffic light onto Cranston Lane, this is the main entrance to the Dealership. You can't help but notice that the main building is surrounded by new Dodge Challengers (awesome). On your left where the old Pontiac dealership parking lot was now holds the large inventory of Jeeps. As you pass the showroom you will see to your right the new car service drop off lane and 2 large garage doors that will take you inside to the massive service center.

Once inside you will notice their 5 welcoming service advisors that are assisted by 26 Chrysler trained technicians, of which 19 are master technicians! They have 35 maintenance lifts and a fully operational detail department that work on a state of the art epothane floor system. Their service crew is available 6 days a week for your convenience.



TMC SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH

To the right of the main showroom is a main new car parking lot, which is full of an assortment of your favorite Dodge and Chrysler vehicles. I have been informed that right now is "Chryslers Year End Wrap up Event" and Credit Union Members get 1% under invoice pricing! Plus 0% financing for 72 months and up to \$7500.00 in Rebate money with No Charge Maintenance! If you looking for a quality used car than further across the parking lot is another large building that is strictly for the Used Car Sales and Operations.



As far as any changes to our club's scheduled events or meetings, there are none. I have been assured by General Manager, Chris Colbert that everything will be actually better. We still are planning our 3 scheduled



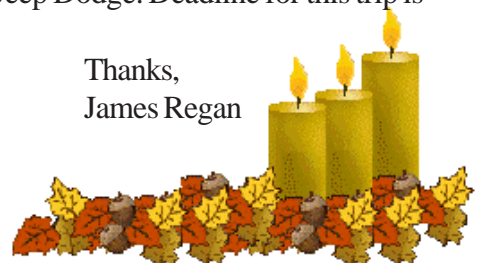
shows in March, June and September. Best of all wait till you see the size of our meeting room which is upstairs in

the Used Car Building. I think change can be good and I think this will help keep Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep vehicles around in the future.

*** Help needed***

My name is James Regan and I work at Hall Chrysler Jeep Dodge and I am making my annual trip to the Terminal Care Unit ward at Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters (CHKD). If anyone would like to help or donate anything to the cause they can contact me for further information at either 757-498-2335 or by email at regan@hallauto.com. I have been doing this for 7 straight years and to see the joy on the kids faces is a gift in itself. All donations can be dropped off at the Used Car building at Hall Chrysler Jeep Dodge. Deadline for this trip is December 15th.

Thanks,
James Regan



“Part of Mopar Racing History”

TMC MOPAR MOMENT

Article by “Butch” Hora
Facts and Photos provided by Ed Miller

In the past 30 years getting NOS parts for your Mopar has always been expensive or impossible and aftermarket reproduction parts have been slow being manufactured. Unlike Ford and Chevy owners, when restoring your Mopar on a budget, especially in the Tidewater area, it required some cagey connections. Many of us remember when there was no internet and searching the local junkyards and the trading post for that Challenger taillight or Road Runner fender was your only hope. For me and many other Mopar owners in the area we have had the option to pick up the phone and call Ed Miller. Over the years I have called Ed not only for parts, but for answers to many Mopar questions. I have known Ed since back in the early 1980's when I raced a little at Suffolk and Creeds. Over the years I have dealt with Ed quite often and we have become good friends. But it wasn't until a few years ago that I really found out about the racing history of this Tidewater Mopar Club lifetime member. The following are some of his accomplishments over the last 50 plus years of his drag racing career.

Racing began for Ed in 1957 when he began racing a 1954 Studebaker at the Sampson Air Force Base in Seneca Falls, New York. Through the years 1958-1963 Ed raced Pontiacs and won many local championships and set many track records. From the Spring of 1963 to the Spring of 1965, Ed served his country in the United States Army. After getting out of the service Ed made his move to Mopar in the Summer of 1965, when he bought a 1963 Plymouth that ran AA/SA. In 1966 Ed bought a 1965 Hemi 4 speed Plymouth and began burning up the tracks.

His achievements include:

- May, 1966 S/S E.T. and MPH National Records NASCAR Drag Race Division at Capitol Raceway, MD.
- June, 1966 S/S Class winner at NHRA Spring Nationals with his 1965 Hemi Plymouth at Bristol, TN.
- July, 1966 A/MS MPH National Record NASCAR Drag Race Division at Niagara Drag Strip, NY.
- September, 1966 S/S Class winner at NHRA US Nationals in Indianapolis, IN and had low e.t. and Top Speed of all S/S cars.
- February, 1967 SS/A Class winner at NHRA Winter Nationals and was S/S Eliminator Runner Up with his 1965 Hemi Plymouth in Pomona, CA.
- May, 1967 Set NHRA AMP MPH record.
- June, 1967 Set the NHRA SS/A E.T. record and was runner up at NHRA Division 1 points race at Sanford, ME.
- June, 1967 Set NHRA SS/A MPH record and won Division 1 Points Race S/S Eliminator at Island Dragway, NJ.
- July, 1967 Ed's '65 SS Plymouth was featured in "Drag Strip Magazine"
- September, 1967 Set NHRA SS/A MPH record and ended up Division 1 S/S points Champion at Connecticut Dragway.
- October, 1967 Won NHRA S/S World Championship in Tulsa, OK and the \$10,000.00 Non Contingent Award from Hurst Shifters. Other awards brought the winning total to over \$16,000.00. Easily the best pay day for a drag racer at that time.
- October, 1967 Appointed one of Hot Rod Magazines Top Ten for 1967.
- January, 1968 World Champion Car featured in "Super/Stock FX Magazine."
- January, 1968 Won SS Eliminator at Super Stock West in Carlsbad, CA.
- January, 1968 Class winner AHRA Winter Nationals at Lions Dragstrip, CA.
- February, 1968 Won SS/A class at NHRA Winter Nationals in Pomona, CA.
- June, 1968 Won SS Eliminator at Niagara Spring Nationals the first time out with his new Hemi Barracuda.
- July, 1968 Won SS Eliminator at Canadian Challenge Cup Race in Cayuga, Canada.
- July, 1968 Won SS class at Super Stock Nationals at New York National Speedway.
- August, 1968 Won SS Eliminator at Niagara North American Nationals.
- August, 1968 Won SS Eliminator NHRA Points meet at St Thomas Dragway.
- 1968-1971 Chrysler Factory sponsored racer with one of the 50 S/S Hemi Cudas and later a Pro Stock Duster.
- 1969 sponsored by Syracuse Region Plymouth Dealers and did Super Car Clinics at many Plymouth dealers in the region and displaying his '68 Hemi Cuda at many car shows in the US



Ed Miller Nabs NHRA Pro Stock Circuit Win



DOVER, New York—Ed Miller landed a win for his New York fans at Dover Dragway posting his first triumph of the year in the NHRA Division 1 Pro-Stock Circuit. Miller's Cuda set low E.T. and Top speed of the meet at 10.20, 138.50 mph along his winning path. Photo by T. O'Shea

(Continued from page 4)

- March, 1969 Won match race at Capital Raceway, MD.
- April, 1969 Won Street Eliminator at Cayuga, Canada.
- May, 1969 Set NHRA AMP Speed Record in Englishtown, NJ.
- May, 1969 Won Ultra Stock Circuit meet in Delmar, DE.
- May, 1969 Won Ultra Stock Circuit meet in Atco, NJ.
- June, 1969 Runner-up NAAR Spring Nationals in Richmond, VA.
- June, 1969 Won SS Eliminator in Montreal, Quebec.
- June, 1969 Won a 2nd day SS Eliminator in Montreal, Quebec.
- June, 1969 Won match race in Delmar, DE.
- July, 1969 Won SS Eliminator in Montreal, Quebec.
- July, 1969 Won Ultra Stock Circuit meet in Waynesboro, VA.
- July, 1969 Won Street Eliminator in Lancaster, NY.
- July, 1969 Runner-up in Street Eliminator in Niagara Falls, NY.
- July, 1969 Won Ultra Stock Circuit meet at Capital Raceway, MD.
- August, 1969 Took 3rd place at Super Stock Nationals in York, PA.
- August, 1969 Won Ultra Stock Circuit meet in Delmar, DE.
- August, 1969 Won Street Eliminator in Niagara Falls, NY.
- September, 1969 Won Street Eliminator in Lancaster, NY.
- September, 1969 Runner-up SS Eliminator in Utica-Rome, NY.
- September, 1969 Won Street Eliminator in Lebanon Valley, NY.
- September, 1969 Won Street Eliminator in Lancaster, NY.
- September, 1969 Won Ultra Stock Circuit meet in Rockingham, NC – this was a final points meet and won the points championship for the year.
- Chosen as 1 of 8 AHRA Pro Stock Grand American Professional Racers in 1970.
- March, 1970 Set E.T. and MPH records and won Pro Stock Eliminator at AHRA Lions National meet in Long Beach, CA.
- April, 1970 Won Pro Stock Circuit Meet at Dover Dragway, NY.
- April, 1970 Won Pro Stock Circuit Meet at Peterson Dragway, PA.
- May, 1970 Won Pro Stock Circuit Meet at Suffolk Raceway, Suffolk, VA.
- August, 1970 Won Pro Stock Circuit Meet at Capitol Raceway.
- 1970 Won East Coast Pro Stock Circuit Points Championship NHRA Div. 1 for 2nd year in a row.
- Ed even was featured in a *Quaker State Oil* ad in the August 1970 "Hot Rod Magazine."

Ed moved to Chesapeake, Virginia in January of 1971 and opened Ed Miller Racing Enterprises, a speed shop and machine shop specializing in Mopar cars. For the year 1971 Ed teamed up with Rick Holladay to run the Pro Stock Circuit and the team finished second.

Some more of Ed's accomplishments are:

- One of "Super/Stock and F.C. Magazine's" Top 10 Pro Stocks March, 1971.
- April 1974 Set IHRA National E.T. and MPH records in 1/8 mile and won Class with Formula Stock 1969 Hemi Charger at Charlotte, NC.
- May 1974 Set IHRA 1/4 mile National E.T. and MPH records and won class with the 1969 Hemi Charger Rockingham, NC.
- 1975 started racing a "new" 1968 Hemi Barracuda in SS/A.
- May 1975 set the NHRA National E.T. and 1MPH records at points race in Suffolk, VA.
- November 1976 set the NHRA E.T. record at the Little Guy Nationals Suffolk, VA.
- 16 National Records in 10 years of Part Time and Professional Racing.

For the next 33 years, Ed has continued to work the Mopar magic and can usually be found at the local race track. Ed has been invited to a multitude of events and gone to Mopar only car shows sharing his wealth of experience and knowledge with a new generation of Mopar fans. Ed has been one of the best thought of Chrysler engine builders on the East coast for years and continues this still today. As a honorary Tidewater Mopar Club lifetime member, he has been supportive and active at many of our events, especially this year. He turned 70 years old at our 2009 Mopar Madness show and won his class for the weekend! As this article is being written he is currently planning his next race car project.

"Here's to you Ed, long may your Hemi roar!"



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President's Corner

The November 2009 Tidewater Mopar Club (TMC) meeting was held on November 10th at a new location, 3152 Virginia Beach Blvd, the now named Hall Chrysler Jeep Dodge dealership with a group of 16 members present. TMC's Vice-President Bob Kinker brought the meeting to order in the newer, bigger conference room that is upstairs in the Hall Used Car building. I was out in sunny Arizona and missed the meeting at the new location. But from the notes that Bob gave me, even with the short notice of the change in location, the meeting was held without any issues. The guest speaker for the night was A.J. Schneider, who has been an Amsoil Independent Dealer for several years. He uses Amsoil products in his own vehicles and highly recommends it to you for your own vehicles to help maximize your fuel economy, reduce engine wear and improve power and overall performance.

November has been a quiet month for the club other than the cruise in for the Mayflower Marathon on the Sunday the 22nd. The next big event on the club's schedule is the annual TMC Christmas Party which is going to be on Tuesday, December 8th at 7 pm. This is the same night as our monthly meeting and other than the new location, the party will be just like last year. Many members have already volunteered to bring a dish and we will have our

famous gift swap. For more info call Rick Seaman at 450-4907 or check our website at: http://tidewatermoparclub.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=3977.

In looking back at 2009, it has been a great year for the club. Are current member count is at 137 members, which I am told is one of the highest in the club's history! All 10 events that we attended including the ones we sponsored had Mother Nature's blessing and were successful. We also have 17 great sponsors that have given the club support and discounts. That includes our newest sponsor; Kalbones Speed Shop and Off Road who just had a great car show on Halloween. They are also offering club members a 10% discount on parts and labor! I am really happy that our dealership Hall Dodge not only survived all the problems in the car industry this year, but came out even stronger now under the same roof with Chrysler and Jeep. I am looking forward to our first Show -N- Shine in March at their new location.

The new 2010 show schedule will be coming out soon. I hope that everyone enjoyed being part of the club this year and are planning to **renew your membership** for next year (application enclosed and will be posted on the web). From all of the club officers and board members at TMC have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mopar to ya,
Butch Hora, TMC President

2009 Tidewater Mopar Club Membership Card Sponsors:

<u>Business</u>	<u>POC</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Discount</u>
Hall Dodge <i>www.halldodge.com</i>	Chris Colbert	757-498-2200	10% Parts/labor
Magnum Machine	Kurtis Bosh	757-424-1440	10% Labor
Beach Radiator <i>www.beachradiator.com</i>	Glenn Davis	757-437-7800	10% Parts/labor
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Gene's Transmission (Norfolk) <i>www.genetransmissions.com</i>	Wayne Dunham	757-461-3530	10% Labor
Maaco Paint Shop (Oceana) <i>www.maaco.com</i>	Neil Renvyle	757-425-5600	10% Parts/labor
H & T Collision (Body Shop)	Hank Fassler	757-498-3051	10% Parts/labor
Herb's Parts <i>www.HerbsParts.com</i>	Herbert Reynolds	302-376-8508	Best Price Available
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VA Motorsports Park <i>www.VirginiaMotorsportsPk.com</i>	Bryan Pierce	804-862-3088	\$5.00 Discount (Friday)
Mancini Racing <i>www.ManciniRacing.com</i>	Wes Sheehy	800-843-2821	Best Price Available
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Kalbones Speed Shop & Off Road	Craig Brashears	757-368-3726	10% Parts/Labor

