



Newsletter
 Volume 18
 Issue 1
 May 2005

Minnesota Grand National and T-Type Association

 **MAY MEETING** - The next meeting of the MGNTA will be at J.R. Griffin's shop, Parkdale Ultimate, located at 5100 Gamble Drive, St. Louis Park, MN on Thursday May 26, 2005 at 7:00 pm

Notes From the Editor

- ◆ Well, how about this! Somehow I found myself back behind the computer kickin' out newsletters again. Thanks goes out to Ziggy for doing such a great job and giving me a break over the past two years. Everyone, please give me your feedback on the newsletter, your contributions are always welcome.
- ◆ Also, if you would like to list anything For Sale or Wanted, I'll add these sections on an as needed basis.
- ◆ As for myself, my '85 T-Type hasn't changed much over the past couple of years, as many of you saw in the October 2004 newsletter, however I did pick up a 2002 Regal GS as my daily transportation. If there are any Supercharged Regal fans out there, I'd be glad to talk shop.
- ◆ This newsletter is going out to all current and past MGNTA members. If you have been away for a while, it would be great to see some old familiar faces again. Club meetings have moved to the last Thursday of the month and we usually meet at Walser Buick in Bloomington, except for the summer meetings. Watch for locations in the newsletters or visit www.mgnta.org for more info.
- ◆ On May 1, 2005 several club members braved the strange weather to attend the Buick Show at the Fair Grounds, see photo on page 5. Roger Flint and I will be organizing several MGNTA events and cruises this summer. It will be a lot of fun to see you all out there enjoying your cars.
- ◆ I recently purchased some parts from Walser Buick, they were very helpful and gave me a 25% discount. Look for their ad on page 4 of this newsletter.
- ◆ Lupient Auto Mall in Golden Valley has a 1987 Turbo Regal for sale. Black, 45,000 miles, no photo on their website, I haven't gone to look at it yet but I plan to. \$16,995. 763-513-5444
- ◆ I was out looking at www.supercar1.com. They have several of the Peachstate GMP diecast Turbo Regals for sale. They have the '85 Red T-Type, the '86 Designer Series, the popular "Tweaked" drag car, the '87 Black-Chrome GNX Centennial Edition, and the first '87 GN diecast produced by GMP - and for those of you who own several of this model, no price listed on their web site, but I'm sure it is big \$ \$ \$ \$!
- ◆ Several club members are going down to the GS Nationals, Bowling Green, KY, May 17-21, 2005. Come to the May meeting to hear all about it!
- ◆ Lastly, if you left last month's meeting too soon, you missed quite a show. A local police officer was trying to catch a Black Regal which burned a little too much rubber off it's tires in front of Walser. The only problem was he lost track of that Black Regal in the sea of Grand Nationals leaving the old Grandma's parking lot. He just gave up and turned around. Tom, thanks for the show. Dan, I thought your were a gone'r. Sure glad my car is silver! What fun! (the MGNTA does not condone excessive acceleration and/or street racing)

MGNTA Club Officers

Tom Shea	President and Treasurer	952-892-5669	ttshea@charter.net	Lakeville
Roger Flint	Vice-President and Co-Events Coordinator	952-948-1764	rflint@mn.rr.com	Bloomington
Curt Carlson	Newsletter Editor and Co-Events Coordinator	763-488-9797	curtc@comcast.net	Maple Grove
Jarrold Thieling	Web Master	651-598-5300	jthieling@mgnta.org	Maplewood
Mike Rosenblum	Co-Web Master	651-699-2866		St. Paul



Past President's Post's and Meeting Notes November '04 through March '05

November: The regularly scheduled "Fuddrucker's Feed" November meeting would have fallen on Thanksgiving, Thursday, 11/25/04. We moved it ahead 2 days to Tuesday, 11/23/04, the same as last year. We provided \$10.00 cash toward the meal, to each attending member.

December: There was no December meeting since it would have been in the holiday week.

Storage:

I was in contact with a storage facility in Lakeville. Lakeville Storage on highway 50 just east of Cedar Av. Ph. 952-469-1208. The manager, Rick Chaffee quoted a special club price for storage units. This is the same deal he gives to the corvette club. This is a secure, clean, fenced & locked facility. The units are new buildings with separate locking garage sized rooms. Each has concrete floors and lights with the ability to run a battery maintainer. The size of the units is 10 x 20 ft. If there are not any of these left he will substitute the next size larger which is 10 x 30 ft. The normal price for these units is 139 per month. The special price is for winter storage of 5 months at \$500.00. There are also facilities in Edina and Bloomington. The hours are 6 am to 9 pm 7 days a week.

Dyno:

Everett Beson stepped up and purchased the Dyno session at John Haley's.

This is the Dyno session referred to in recent previous newsletters and meeting notes. It was purchased for me by the club in March of 2002 as a gesture of appreciation for my contributions. I re-donated it back to the club, not wanting to make a poor showing for myself with my own vehicle.

John Haley is willing to work with the club if there is interest in a Dyno event.

Interested members contact Terry Staves, Roger Flint, Curt Carlson or me.

MGNTA Database:

We should have an updated listing of our member's cars and special features as well as any other information they would like to share. If you would like to leave it on my home phone machine or just call me in person, I'll be glad to make a note of it. 952-892-5669, until 9 pm. Cell phone 612-209-9090 anytime.

Member's info sheets:

I made some up and handed out copies at the Jan. Mtg. If you didn't get one, or would like more, let me know. We will be including these in a future newsletter for our members not able to attend meetings. We will also provide an updated members contact list.

Newsletter:

News-letter policy. We will not send out newsletters after the November meeting through and until after the April meeting. This will result in only 7 newsletters being published annually. There will be a special first edition for

the season, that will include a condensed digest version of the meeting notes from the non published months. This special edition will be larger and sent out to prospective members as well.

The format of the newsletter will change with the emphasis on text but there will be some pictures of feature cars. The size will be reduced by 50%, from the previous 16 pages to 8 pages.

Editor:

Mike "Ziggy" Cardozo did some inventory reporting for the on hand resources under his direct control. He reported that the club owns a laminating machine and stock for laminating the membership cards. He did not have the exact amount of laminating supplies for now. Mike also reported the other various supplies he has on hand. He also reported the cash on hand from the donation from Stanley Cuprina and his annual dues credit less some expenses.

Racing:

There have been comments by the "Old Guard" guys more than once that it would be nice to see some mention of the events at B.I.R. Brainerd International Raceway. These 2 events are the show & Go and the Muscle Car Shootout. They are held on the 2, summer holiday weekends of the 4th of July and Labor Day.

There are 4, other tracks.

Grove Creek, I.H.R.A.? 1/8 mile, Litchfield, MN. This place may have Friday night street tire, full exhaust racing.

Rock Falls, N.H.R.A. ¼ mile, near Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Known as the most expensive strip in the country.

Cedar Falls, Iowa, I.H.R.A. ¼ mile, almost 200 miles south.

Tri State, N.H.R.A. ¼ mile about 250 miles south and east in Iowa. Very nice, 100% concrete.

If there members that are going to any of these or others, please let Roger Flint or Curt Carlson know. They are the events Coordinators. They will see to it that other interested members get notified. It's possible that there will not be enough "lead time" to make it in the newsletter to accomplish this.

Shows:

Gopher State Buick, "Fireball" chapter show in May. All GM, Car Show & Swap Meet in the spring. Forest Lake, Black Smith show late in season. There will be an on-going list continually updated by our "Events coordinators".

Budget:

The annual budget is set up to be self-adjusting. The categories are based on a percentage of total funds available. The basic budget plan for this year is a \$600.00 annual expense projection. The budget is split equally between the newsletter and the food & refreshments allowance.



There will be some necessary policy changes to implement this. We will be adjusting our spending in both of these areas. We anticipate the basic budget will have cost overruns in both categories. It was determined to be acceptable to aim for the proposed basic budget with cost overruns paid from the residual balance.

Residual funds will be used for expenses not covered in the basic budget. It is inevitable that there will be unplanned for expenses. These additional expenses include merchandise and activities as well as basic budget cost overruns.

Thanks for the generous offer made by Dan Weissman's wife, Jackie. She is willing to make copies of the newsletter and get them mailed out. We would only have to reimburse her for the postage. This would result in substantial cost reduction in the newsletter budget. The newsletter budget also covers the cost of the membership cards and the prospect cards.

Thanks to Stanley Cuprina, who donated \$100.00 towards the newsletter, specifically, with the intention of trying to help retain an at least similar format in regards to the budget constraints. He gave this directly to Ziggy.

Thanks to JR who donated \$100.00 to the general fund.

Merchandise:

Thanks to Tom Rhude for the new club sign. That makes 2 now, that he has donated. He has also donated to other merchandise projects. The plaque for Walser in recognition of our meeting facilities. The logo T-shirts, caps and window stickers, in addition to the R&D on other projects.

Feb. Mtg. Tom Rhude brought samples of the window stickers discussed at the Jan. meeting. Tom mentioned that these stickers are very durable so they would probably be OK for exterior window applications. He mentioned that the visibility of a clear background sticker may be an issue, especially with tinted glass. We agreed to have 5 of each type of the new clear background stickers made up. Tom will bring these to the next meeting. The 3 types refer to the color of the state outline, either red, white or black.

Committee reports:

JR will have the May meeting at his shop. If Paintless dent repair is to be there, we will need to have a few members cars to make it worth while for the guy. Appraisals can be arranged if there is enough interest. Approximate cost would be \$50.00 per car. There will be some detail, appearance & care tech.

Curt Carlson may be able to arrange for the Auto electrics & electronics presentation as well.

Roger Flint has an ongoing project. He is compiling media in the form of DVDs. He is looking for members to share their VHS tapes, since he has the ability to transfer to DVD.

Ongoing Business:

April Meeting at Walser will have Tom Shea's Limited on hoist as a feature car. Tech issues abound.

Ev Beson will be back in town from wintering in Fla. Dyno session will be discussed at the April meeting. Terry Staves is the committee chair on this one.

Summer Meetings: corresponding dates for location set.

June: Porky's Drive In, midway district, University Av. St. Paul.

July: Wagners Drive In, Highway 81 north of 694 in Brooklyn Park.

August: Minnetonka Drive In, Co. Rd. 15 west off of Highway 394.

Tech:

Joel Parker, recently had a Rebuilt Power-Master installed. He purchased it from Kirban's for 375 + core of 75. He reported that it was satisfactory, no complaints so far.

JR mentioned the new 3 & 5/8 inch diameter M.A.F. This can be used with the Translator. This is what he is going to be setting up on his T.T.A. He said the M.A.F. and translator can be purchased from, Full Throttle Speed & Style in Michigan. They have all of the transition connector hoses and all other associated pieces on hand. They have plug & play connectors to allow connection of the (Plus), (Spark lead adjustment feature) of the translator. This piece allows plug in instead of splicing into your car's existing wiring harness. They also have extension harnesses to install the control box inside the car as opposed to under the hood.

Dan Weissman mentioned he was going to try the M.A.F.-less, Max Effort set up from Steve Yaklin, Also from Michigan.

We will be waiting to hear more from these two as their projects progress.

JR mentioned that club members can get a deal on parts from Walser Chev. Located in, Plymouth. Bass Lake road & 169. Contact Jerry, in the Parts Dept. 763-559-9300.

We all know that we get a deal here at Walser Buick GMC, where we are fortunate enough to be able to use their fine facilities free of charge. If possible, it would be good to patronize the provider of our considerable good fortune.

Changing of the guard:

Curt Carlson is now performing double duty for the club. He has taken over the news-letter editor's job from Mike "Ziggy" Cardozo. This is in addition to his post as an Events coordinator.

Thanks to Ziggy for his service these last 2 years, when he took over from Curt Carlson.

Mike "Ziggy" Cardozo, told me that he was in a very busy place with his life right now. He was willing to continue until I was able to find someone to replace him. We are fortunate to have Curt Carlson willing to pick back up with his old job. Curt, was in that very busy place a couple of years back when Ziggy stepped up. The transition will be good timing because it's between publishing seasons. Having a previously experienced person take over, is definitely a plus!



President's Post & April Meeting Notes

There were 14 members in attendance, Thursday, 4/28/05. Taken from the sign in sheet in that order. Tom Shea, JR Griffin, Ev Beson, Terry Staves, Joni Dehorn, Ron Heuer, Bob Peterson, Ron Lind, Art Bruers, Tom Rhude, Mike Cardozo, Curt Carlson, Dan Weissman, Roger Flint. also { Jeff Finley and Abe Shoberg, (prospective new members)}.

The next meetings location and time was announced. JR will be hosting at his shop. Parkdale Ultimate. The address is 5100 Gamble Drive. St. Louis park MN. 55416. See the MapQuest map included in this newsletter.

The reading of the minutes from the last meeting was waived.

Officers Reports.

President:

1. New member, Carol Aszman. Her son in law, Jeff Finley, in attendance as prospective member.
2. News-letter Editor changed. Now, Curt Carlson.
3. Roger Flint is working on a DVD video project, anybody with video media please contact him. He has the ability to transfer VHS to DVD. Also let him know about any websites that have interesting T.R. videos that could be included.
4. Ev Beson is back from wintering in the warmth of the Florida sunshine. He will be scheduling his dyno session soon. Interested members should contact Terry Staves (committee chair) to see if there is going to be an actual dyno event.

Vice President: No report

Treasury: Bal 1379.67 with 30 paid members.

Merchandise: We have Caps, T-Shirts, and window stickers on hand. We are expecting a shipment of Power – 6 logo lapel pins. The lapel pins were initially intended, as member recognition & appreciation token awards. The reality of the situation required us to order 100 pins, in order to obtain a reasonable price per unit. With that number of pins it is readily apparent that they will have to serve the dual purpose function of, for sale merchandise, as well.

Events Coordinators:

Roger Flint: Announced the Fireball chapter Buick club show, Sunday May 1st.

Door Prize Drawing: The President cleverly mismanaged the time remaining from the tech session. We will have the final service manual remaining from Mark Dacko's donation drawn for at the next meeting, since we didn't do it this time. It is the PowerMaster Brake manual.

Committee reports: JR will have the May meeting at his shop. If Paint-less dent repair is to be there, we will want to have a few member cars to make it worthwhile for the guy. Appraisals could be done, if there is enough interest. Approximate cost would be \$50.00. There will be some detail, appearance & care tech. JR is the committee chair on this as

well as any other concerns to do with the meeting at his shop. Contact him at his shop and leave a message. Parkdale Ultimate, 952-944-6102, Curt Carlson may be able to arrange for the Auto electrics & electronics presentation as well.

Tech session: Tom Shea's TR Limited was available in the shop & on the hoist, courtesy of Myron the service manager at Walser.

We were able to have a first hand look at some of the things that are applicable to all of our cars and a few things only found on top end exotic TRs.

Some of the things we looked at were, fuel pump hotwiring, drive shaft loop, rear air bags, cold air induction, air filters, line locks, Drag radial tires, wheels, waste-gates, exhaust systems, adjustable fuel pressure regulators, liquid dampened fuel pressure gauges, spark plug wires, oil filters, radiators, tranny coolers, cooling fans, turbos, down-pipes, emission/boost/vacuum lines, hoses ducting & plumbing, PCV and other crankcase vents, propane injection, race fuel, aftermarket gauges, and how much stuff you can carry around with you in your trunk.

After the shop inspection we retired to the meeting room and JR gave a concise presentation using Ev Beson's MAF trans + and supporting parts.

Dan Weissman spoke about his MAF less set-up. Both of these are aftermarket answers to the obvious concern of the stock MAF.

There was more tech talk than time allowed for, as usual. We had to adjourn with many more tech issues unresolved than when we started. Seems like one piece of information leads to several more questions. We will try to address these and any other tech issues that our members have at future meetings.

If there is any need for technical information between meetings, call Tom Shea. He is generally available during business hours and until 9 pm at 952-892-5669

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Spotlight Club Member of the Month, our President, Tom Shea

In an effort to keep the "Featured Car of the Month" going, I'm including a re-print from the March / April 2005 GSX-tra newsletter featuring Tom Shea. Since we all got an up-close look at Tom's car at last months meeting, I thought everyone would like to see Tom (and our club) receive some national exposure.

Who's up for next months newsletter? Is there anyone who has not told us a story about themselves and their car? Please let me know if you are interested.

"Limited Describes The Car But Not The Power" - Stage 2 Limited

- Tom Shea Racing / Turbo Regal Service - Testing - Parts

My 1987 20k mile T-R Limited has a 4.1 Stage 2 Block with a 3.625" stroke crank, early M&A heads, 4L80E transmission and Ford 9" rear end with 3.50 soft locker. The engine and transmission are managed by separate F.A.S.T. control boxes. The sleeper look is enhanced by the black paint and chrome trim with gray leather 45/45 pillow cushion seats and mini console. An astro-roof is also part of the package. The original sticker shows \$19,150 which is only \$150 less then the "most optioned" GN as featured in an earlier GS X-tra. The few options it doesn't have are the factory security system and power seats. *(Editors note: The power seat option was generally unavailable on astro roof equipped Regals due to potential headroom problems.)*

I am the President of the MGNTA (Minnesota GN and T-Type Association) and this picture was taken at one of our summer outside meetings at a local park. I'm shown in the middle standing behind my Regal and pointing.



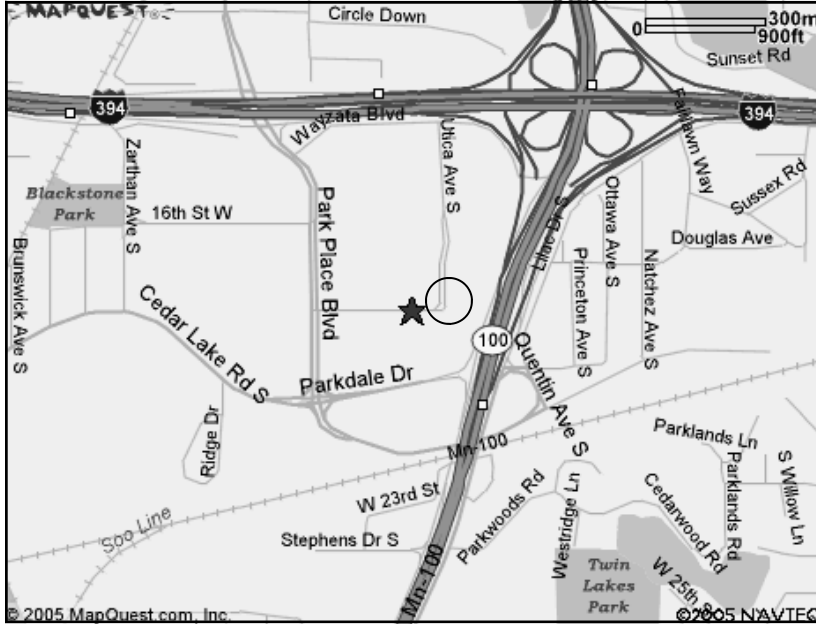
Spring Extravaganza - Gopher State Chapter of the Buick Club of America Car Show



Sunday May 1, was the first big car show for the MGNTA. I was out of town for work so my co-events coordinator, Roger Flint, made the arrangements for the MGNTA's involvement. Roger says everyone had fun even though the weather was lousy! Six members showed up with their cars. To the right is a picture of Dan Weissmann's car, see those white streaks, yes it snowed on May 1st. On the bright side, a couple of our club members won trophies. Brian Bryse took 3rd place with his '87 Turbo Regal and Dan Weissmann took 2nd place with his '87 Grand National. Congratulations to everyone who participated. Thanks for representing the MGNTA in such fine fashion, and for "Going Fast with Class".

Club Events

- ◆ We will have a hand out for the May meeting with a list of June car shows. If you are going to a car show, let your fellow MGNTA member know, you might get a couple more TR's to show up!
- ◆ May 26th Club Meeting: JR's shop, Parkdale Ultimate, 5100 Gamble Drive, St. Louis Park, MN
- ◆ June 15th, Wednesday, Culver's Elk River, Hwy 169, 5 - 9pm,
- ◆ June 17 - 19, MSRA's Back to the 50's, MN State Fair Grounds.
- ◆ June 25, Be Bop Cruisers Top 30 Car show, 2590 Freeway Blvd, Brooklyn Center
- ◆ June 30th Club Meeting: Porky's Drive In, University Ave., St. Paul.
- ◆ July 28th Club Meeting: Wagners Drive In, Highway 81 just north of 694 in Brooklyn Park.
- ◆ August 25th Club Meeting: Minnetonka Drive In, Co. Rd. 15, Shoreline Drive, Spring Park



Directions to JR's Shop:

Parkdale Ultimate - 952-544-6102

- ◆ From Hwy 394, exit Park Place Blvd which is between Louisiana and Hwy 100 and go south.
- ◆ Take a quick left turn onto the frontage road, Wayzata Blvd
- ◆ Turn right on Utica, near Chilis and Olive Garden
- ◆ Just before the road turns to the right, enter a parking ramp on the left.
- ◆ Go to the right and down, all the way to the other end of the ramp, there will be an open garage door so you can enter JR's shop
- ◆ Look for Club Meeting signs.



TO:
FIRST CLASS MAIL

12054 Robin Road
Maple Grove, MN 55369

