



# NEWS



A Car Club for the Chrysler Corp. and American Motors Corp. Enthusiast (EST. 1992)

Volume 25, Issue 6

June 2017

## Events Coming Up

- CCM General Meeting, June 6th, 7 PM.
- CCM Board Meeting, June 20th, 7 PM.
- Mopar Day in the Park 24, June 24th

As we wrap up another excitement filled month of deadlines and printer errors, we take pause to reflect on the one question that sits in the back of the mind....IS SUMMER EVER GOING TO GET HERE? I know that you as well as I can't wait for the long days where you can stay out late working on your car and drinking beer— wait what does that have to do with anything? You can drink beer regardless of the weather or time of year, spraying primer on that newly added hood scoop? Not so much...

After so much rain this year, it's time to bring those cars out. Starting this month show up before the meeting and enjoy some barbeque (this runs through the end of summer for each monthly meeting) Show up a little early and have some food with your friends.

## It's Mopar Day in the Park Time Again!

In a little more that 3 weeks it will be time for our annual car show—please attend the monthly meeting for sign up sheets. Also, the board meeting will be the planning meeting for the car show. The car show is put on by our club and relies on our volunteers to make it all happen. The proceeds from the car show is what finances all of our club activities throughout the year. We need as many members as possible to help out— Thanks!



I'm looking forward to our this year's Mopar Day in the Park show. Both a blessing and a lot of work! Soon we will be calling members to help out with all of the job duties required to make sure the show runs smoothly. I hope to see you all there. Maybe mother nature will bless us again with a day not too hot and not too windy. I would like that a lot!

-Eric

You will notice something new included in the newsletter - an events calendar for the rest of 2017. Jack covers these events during the monthly meeting activities report so we thought that it would be useful for those of you who are unable to attend to have a copy.

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# Club Information

## Board of Directors

<b>President:</b>	<b>Bob Berry</b>	<b>(916) 925-0336</b>	<b>rdnrnboberry@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Randy Pike</b>	<b>(916) 835-9605</b>	<b>rtmotorsports@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Norman Benedict</b>	<b>(916) 985-8523</b>	<b>norman_1943@att.net</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Cindy Lenz</b>	<b>(916) 956-8863</b>	<b>cindypearl916@gmail.com</b>
<b>Membership:</b>	<b>Travis Kingsbury</b>	<b>(916) 812-0854</b>	<b>travis.kingsbury@att.net</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	<b>Eric Seifert</b>	<b>(916) 448-4132</b>	<b>ntstlgl1970@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	<b>Norman Benedict</b>	<b>(916) 985-8523</b>	<b>webmaster@capitalcitymopars.com</b>
<b>Car Show:</b>	<b>Tom Pluth</b>	<b>(916) 283-6112</b>	<b>tpluth@surewest.net</b>
<b>Activities:</b>	<b>Jack Porter</b>	<b>(916) 742-5356</b>	<b>jack_porter@comcast.com</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Vacant</b>		

## Staff Members

<b>Property Manager:</b>	<b>Norm Benedict</b>
<b>Competition Director:</b>	<b>Michael Moore</b>
<b>Historian:</b>	<b>Norm Benedict</b>
<b>Legislative Director:</b>	
<b>Publicity:</b>	<b>Norm Benedict</b>
<b>Sales:</b>	<b>Larry Pierce</b>
<b>Sunshine Coordinator:</b>	<b>Larry Pierce</b>

## What we're all about

Capital City Mopars (CCM) provides a place to share your enthusiasm and knowledge about Mopars and enjoy the company of other Mopar enthusiasts. CCM membership is open to anyone interested in Chrysler Corporation or American Motors vehicles who are eighteen years or older and have a valid drivers license. Annual membership dues are \$36 for regular members and an additional \$6 per co-member. One co-member is allowed for each regular member. The co-member must reside in the same household and be eighteen years or older. All members and co-members are required to participate as worker/chairperson in at least one function per year, and it is desired that, in addition, work at the annual car show.

**The Capital City Mopars is a proud member of the Association of California Car Clubs and the California Automobile Museum.**



## Guest Speaker Ideas Wanted

We are looking for ideas and suggestions for guest speakers to appear at our monthly General Meeting. In the past we have had insurance agents, oil industry experts, DMV officials, an expert from the WPC museum and various others. These speakers provide information and entertainment for the meetings and are always appreciat-

### Club Membership Renewal Time!

For those Mopar enthusiasts that have yet to renew their membership to the Capital City Mopars for 2017, our CCM Membership director is waiting for you... PLEASE contact Travis and get your renewal in so we can get an accurate count of our members. Though it may seem redundant, a new membership application needs to be filled out each year. Street addresses, email addresses, phone numbers can change, sometimes we sell or buy different cars too. We strive to run a tight ship here so accuracy is important.



### Rivercats Game Night and Club Parade!

Join us for a night out at Raley Field July 9th. The club needs to buy a minimum of 20 tickets to secure a reservation as well provide 10 cars. Please send a check for 28 dollars to the club PO Box to commit to the event. The club may subsidize part of the amount depending on participation. The cars will be part of a parade on the field before the first pitch is thrown out.

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### CCM 2016 Car show T-Shirts still available

For those that missed out on buying a T-shirt during car show day this past June, you are in luck! Several shirts are still available in a variety of sizes. Please contact Car Show Chairman Tom Pluth for more details.

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## Ralph Gilles: 'When I'm driving a car, literally, the world melts away'



Gilles' custom Viper ACR *Photo credit: NETFLIX*

### FCA's Ralph Gilles: Unleashing the 'inner racer'

[Larry P. Vellequette](#)

In the Netflix documentary "Abstract: The Art of Design," FCA global design chief Ralph Gilles zips through the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in his custom Viper ACR. *Photo credit: NETFLIX*

**T**here's no disputing it -- Ralph Gilles is one of the coolest guys in the auto industry.

But when does Fiat Chrysler Auto-mobiles' global head of design achieve *peak cool*?

That's easy: when his eyes are peering out from deep within a racing helmet, tracking the line into the apex of his next hard turn on a track in a high-powered Viper ACR.



Gilles works on his Viper ACR -- the first one ever built -- in his garage at home. *Photo credit: NETFLIX*

I've ridden shotgun with Gilles twice -- the first time, at the Sonoma Raceway in 2013, after his beloved Viper was resurrected from the trash heap of Chrysler's 2009 bankruptcy and lovingly improved.

The second time was a year later at the Circuit of the Americas in Texas, with Gilles driving a Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT.

I remembered those harrowing rides this spring while watching a new hourlong documentary on Gilles on Netflix. *Abstract: The Art of Design* tracked Gilles as he and his team developed the Chrysler Portal concept a year ago. But it was his comments about racing in the documentary that revealed what drives one of Detroit's top designers.

"I have an inner racer inside of me," Gilles explains in the film. "I've been watching racing since I was a kid. I went to four different driving schools in a span of six years, and briefly competed. But the part that speaks to me even to this day, and why I do it, is the escape."

As his custom-built black Viper ACR powers around the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in northern Ohio, Gilles explains the intricate 650-hp ballet.

"When I'm driving a car, literally, the world melts away," Gilles says in the film. "You and the machine meld together. Everything kind of goes into slow motion, and you're dancing with the car. I come alive in a way."

Gilles, the former head of the Dodge and SRT brands, shares his passion for racing with his wife, Doris. In the film, she is shown racing an Alfa Romeo 4C with her helmeted husband coaching from the passenger's seat.



Gilles isn't the only one in his home with racing in his blood. His wife, Doris, is shown in the documentary racing an Alfa Romeo 4C while her husband coaches from the passenger seat.

Though *Abstract: The Art of Design* shows Gilles racing historic Alfa Romeos, he makes clear that his heart belongs to the Viper. Gilles owns the first-ever Viper ACR, signed on the boot by workers at Conner Avenue Assembly in Detroit, where it was built.

"The Viper's a big part of what turned me on about Chrysler," a wistful Gilles explains. "At the time when the Viper came out, it had double the horsepower of the Mustang. It was the fastest car you could buy. Insanely large engine, a V-10 that was 8 liters. I mean, just enormous. And you could buy that car for less than \$50,000 when it came out, so it was unheard of."

- Courtesy Automotive News

# Your Story Here

At the last few monthly meetings, the editor mentioned that the newsletter is always looking for a new story and ideas or suggestions. Too much late model stuff? Too many oddball pictures? Want more articles that you saw on Allpar 10 years ago? Hey—this is your newsletter! If you have suggestions for what you want to read please do not hesitate to contact the newsletter office. We are very open to suggestions. Otherwise our crack(ed?) staff will continue to dig in the archives for weird, old stories and pictures of Chrysler products that you will enjoy!

## Chrysler A57 Multibank Tank Engine

Created in 1941 as America entered [World War II](#), the **A57 Multibank** engine was born out of the necessity for a rear-mounted tank engine to be developed and produced, in the shortest time possible, for use in both the 109 examples built of the [M3A4 Medium Tank](#), and the 7,499 examples built of the successor [M4A4 Medium tank](#), each of which had lengthened hulls to accommodate them.



In order to use existing tooling, five [Chrysler](#) 250.6 cu in (4.1 L) (bore 3.4375 in or 87 mm, stroke 4.5 in or 114 mm) <sup>[1]</sup> [L-head](#) inline six cylinder engines were arranged around a central shaft, producing a unique 30-cylinder 21-litre (1,253 cu in) <sup>[1]</sup> engine in a relatively compact but heavy package. The crankshafts were fitted with gears, which drove a [sun gear](#) arrangement. <sup>[2]</sup> With iron block and head, <sup>[1]</sup> it featured [Carter](#) TD-1 [carburetors](#) <sup>[1]</sup> and 6.2:1 [compression ratio](#), <sup>[1]</sup> for an output of 370 hp (280 kW) at 2400 rpm. <sup>[1]</sup> It necessitated a longer hull (same as the M4A6), <sup>[3]</sup> becoming the M4A4; <sup>[3]</sup> most of these were supplied to Allied countries under [Lend-Lease](#). <sup>[3]</sup>

In the February 1944 issue of the magazine [Popular Science](#), an advertisement by Chrysler claimed the A57 could still move the tank it was fitted in even if 12 out of its 30 cylinders were knocked out. <sup>[4]</sup>

The M4A4 was largely supplied to the British, the US preferring the M4A3 with the more conventional [Ford GAA](#) V8 engine, and restricting their M4A4s to overseas use. <sup>1</sup>

## Random Stuff

Rumor has it that Edelbrock may be working on a 3 valve head for the gen-III Hemi—whaaaaa??

Did you know that in the 70's, you could get an International Scout with a Chrysler (Nissan) inline diesel engine? How awesome is that—try and find one now! It will be worth millions someday at Barret Jackson!

Keith Black is back in business under new ownership and is going to cast more Gen-II Hemis and Big Blocks, there is even a rumor of a Gen-III Hemi block in the works if the demand is there. Got money that is burning a hole in your pocket? See Ray Barton's website for details.



Date	Event	Location	Contact Info	Club Event
06/02/17	Thunder Valley Car Show	Thunder Valley Casino, free with canned food item for area food bank. From 4 - 9 p.m. 1975 & older cars		No
06/03/17	Downtown Lincoln car show	Downtown Lincoln. Reg from 7-9:30, show until 2:30. \$20 reg fee by May 15, or \$20 after. 1975 and older cars.		No
06/10/17	Yolo Brewing Company Car Show	West Sacramento, \$20 early reg, \$25 day of West		No
06/24/17	Mopar Day in the Park	Hagen Park, Rancho Cordova	Tom	Yes
07/09/17	River Cats Car Show / Game	Raley Field	Jack	Yes
07/16/17	Cap City Mopar 25th Anniversary Picnic	Carmichael Park	Bob	Yes
08/04/17	Hot August Nights 4th-5th	Virginia City NV		No
08/08/17	Hot August Nights 8th-13th	Reno NV		No
9/8-10/2017	Roamin' Angels Car Show	Grass Valley, 3-day event		No
09/09/17	31st Street Rod Extravaganza	Chester CA, 530-258-2562 for info		No
09/10/17	Mopar Muscle Night	Sacramento Raceway	Mike Moore	No
09/17/17	Captial City Mopar annual Picnic	Carmichael Park	Bob	Yes
11/26/17	CAM Potluck	Calif Auto Museum	Bob	Yes
12/03/17	Rally 4 kids	Shriners Hospital	Bob	Yes
12/09/17	CCM Holiday Party	Elks Lodge, Carmichael	Bob	Yes
Every Sat	Cars and Coffee (Recurring)	Palladio Parkway, Folsom		No
2nd Sunday	Cars and Coffee (Recurring)	Carmichael Elks from 8 - 12		No
Every Sun	Shopping Center Car Show (Recurring)	Cypress/Fair Oaks Shopping Mall		No
	National Auto Museum (Tenative)	Reno NV	Jack	Yes

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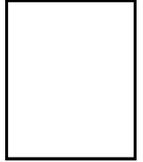
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### **The Lunch Bunch**

Several CCM members have been meeting for lunch at various locations in town on the last Wednesday of the month. They call themselves the "The Lunch Bunch". This an open invitation for anyone interested in attending. Time is usually 11AM. Larry Pierce is the organizer and you can call him at 353-0965 or mail at kpierce569@aol.com to get on the call list.

Larry will call you a few days before to let you know what restaurant the group will be going too.

**Note:** Free car club member complimentary passes to the California Automobile Museum can be obtained from President Bob Berry or Treasurer Norm Benedict. Passes can also be mailed with your newsletter when requested.

### **CCM Members!**

Got a business?

Provide a business card and it will be printed in the pages of **CCM News** free!

### **Donate Raffle Prizes**

Got any items you won at a previous raffle or bought that you do not need? Consider donating them to the club as raffle prizes for the general meeting or the annual car show.

## **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, June 6th

at 7:00 p.m.

California Automobile Museum  
2220 Front Street, Sacramento, CA.

**DMV Help Line (916) 657-6560**