



SNAKEBYTES

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Busy Summer for Hoosier Cobra Members

Fun Events Have Been Well-Attended

Mike Bare

Your average Cobra nut

2015 has been a busy year for the ladies and gentlemen of Hoosier Cobra. The annual meeting was held in April at New Castle Motorsports Park. After a short business meeting, the gang jumped into rental go karts and careened around the impressive facility. Meanwhile, onlookers had a good time looking over the colorful lineup of Cobras parked out front.

Then, a couple weeks later, it was down to the Morgan/Brown County area. The club cruised some scenic country and a Sonic drive-in restaurant and then enjoyed pizza and lots of conversation nearby. After another scenic drive, we stopped at Oliver Winery before heading home. Thanks to Jeff Kleiner for taking the lead on this one.

(continued on page 3)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

* Running around with Hoosier Cobra

* More fun stuff to come

More Interesting Events Planned for 2015

The fun is just beginning at Hoosier Cobra. The summer's activities have been well-attended and lots of fun, but there's still time to enjoy hanging out with the club and tooling around in your Cobra.

We're just about to leave on a really neat Madison cruise. Later this month is an event that was well-received last year. This year's poker run will send you to different locations to pick a playing card. At the end of the day, whoever can make the best poker hand is eligible for really extravagant prizes. Well, sort of extravagant. Well, you might have a good time.

After that is a southern Indiana cruise that you won't want to miss. Perhaps you've heard of the Tail of the Dragon in Deals Gap, with its 318 turns in 11 miles. Well, you don't have to go to Tennessee or North Carolina to find a similar stretch of road. Highway 66 in southern Indiana is a hilly, curvy, scenic road that begs to be driven. So, we're going to cruise a stretch of it, as a club, in our little hot rods.

Then, it's up to Fairmount to participate in the James Dean show up there. It's a huge gathering of special interest cars that's sure to give you plenty to look at. (continued on page 4)

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Strategic Benefit Consultants is a Registered Investment Advisory Corporation in the Indianapolis area. Founded by Hoosier Cobra member, Scott Holley, the company works with individual clients to maximize current income and/or cash flow, both taxable and tax-free. Additionally, the company seeks to create long-term capital appreciation using prudent financial planning techniques depending on clients' needs, risk tolerance, and assets. Scott has been in the financial industry since January 1975 and is a true car guy. He was among the original founding members of Hoosier Cobra. For Personal Financial Planning, Investment Advisory Services, or Retirement Planning, call SBC at 866-818-1028.



MIKAR is a specialty auto repair shop in Carmel. Originally specializing in European cars, owner Mike Hamblin has expanded the business to include work on classics, muscle cars, hot rods, and race cars. Mike is a genuine car guy who has worked extensively as a mechanic and fueler for Indycar teams for many years. With 38 years in the car repair business, Mike has the know-how to fix or upgrade your specialty car. Check him out at 120 1st Avenue SW in Carmel or call him at 317-575-8282.

The historic Suds Drive-In in Greenwood was next on our agenda, where we joined street rods, rat rods, customs, ricers, racers, and all other sorts of cars at what is Indiana's most well-known cruise-in. As usual, the HC cars drew a lot of attention and a lot of people stopped by to chat.

Mike and Carolyn Schmidt hosted the annual picnic at their house in the Kokomo area. Attendees began by touring a local car museum and then stopped by Schmidt's for food and fun. Thanks, Mike and Carolyn!

The London Cobra Show was another June highlight. Several Hoosier Cobra members trekked to the Columbus, Ohio area for a few days of fun. The weather was less than optimal, but good enough that a good time was had by all. Members enjoyed a cruise-in, touring, autocross racing, and a massive Cobra car show. Most impressive was the Saturday night banquet where it was announced that the Ohio Cobra Club's total donations to Cystic Fibrosis research have now totaled over \$1 million. No one from our club won the Superformance raffle car, though.

Just a few days later, the HC folks were on the road again. This time, it was to Carmel, for the huge 4th of July parade. This is the 2nd year in a row the club has entered the crowd-pleasing cars in the parade. Crowd estimates range as high as 50,000.

Next up for the Hoosier Cobra hooligans and their not-so-subtle autos was the Run to Rick's event. John Bullock organized the cruise to include a stop at founding member Rick Yeager's house, but Rick was not feeling up to having a driveway full of snarling cars and a houseful of company. We continue to keep Rick in our prayers as he courageously battles multiple sclerosis.

Instead, the gang met in French Lick and traveled to Jasper to eat at the famous Schnitzelbank. The multicolored lineup of Cobra replicas then snaked through the

countryside to near Ferdinand. There, we got to tour the very impressive car collection of Joey Lange, local businessman and car lover.

Then, it was back to the curvy, hilly roads of southern Indiana as we traveled to the "nearly world famous" Dairy Barn in Birdseye. It was a hot day and ice cream was a fitting treat before we started for our respective homes.



Checking out a most impressive mancave and car collection

Hoosier Cobra Diversity

Not only are there some very interesting people in the club, the club has got a real mixture of cars in it. Some of the cars came more in the form of a kit, and had to be built at home. Some came as turnkey-minus, and required installation of a drivetrain.

There are cars in several colors. Let's see, there are black, blue, red, silver, bronze, orange, yellow, and green cars. Have I missed any? There are cars with stripes and without. Double roll bars and single. Quickjacks or bumperettes. Modern, low-profile tires or the more retro-looking 15" tires.

In addition, there is a real variety of manufacturers. In addition to 12 FFR's and 11 Superformance cars, there are also 3 cars from ERA, 2 cars from B&B, 2 from Shell Valley, 2 from Unique, and 2 from Lonestar. There are also cars from Rowen, Midstates, Backdraft, JFC, Accurate Machine Products, and Roger Upton Car Crafters.

DON'T FORGET THE WEBSITE

Our website can be found at: www.hoosiercobra.com. That's how you can keep track of club activities and news. You will also usually find some pictures of recent cruises, too. We've now got a new button on the main toolbar called "MEMBERS." If you click on this button, it takes you to a gallery of pictures of dues-paying members' cars. You can also see information about our corporate sponsors there.

LOGO ITEMS AVAILABLE

As always, if you would like Hoosier Cobra hats, T-shirts, polo shirts or jackets, we can help you get those items with the official club logo on them. These high-quality items are available at a reasonable cost-so reasonable that the club doesn't even make a profit on them. ☺ Contact Terry Gentry at tgentry34@msn.com.

DUES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

We normally collect club dues after the first of the year, but if you've forgotten to pay yours, we're always glad to get them. Send those to Bob Lennon, 210 Surrey Hill, Noblesville, IN 46062. You get a nice decal for your car and you get your car pictured on the website. Most importantly, you help the club with its expenses. Dues were reduced from last year's amount, and we hope to reduce the dues again next year, if possible.

SUGGESTIONS ALWAYS WELCOME TOO!

Keep us informed about what's happening with you. Also, if you have suggestions for the website, the newsletter, or club activities, contact one of the members of the Hoosier Cobra Board.

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Getting lined up at French Lick. Love the brick street!

(continued from page 1)

After that is a trip out to the west side of the state to witness the historic Newport Hill Climb (or maybe even another event that's just as interesting).

Finally, we always look forward to the Nashville cruise and lunch at the Story Inn. The scenic vistas of Brown County and the brightly colored fall foliage are a perfect backdrop for great photos and good times with friends.

Unless we find some more fun things to do, that will wrap up our 2015 cruises. If you have suggestions for places to go and things to see and do in 2016, be sure to suggest those. In addition, if you'd like to organize and/or lead a cruise, we'd love to hear from you.



The Czarneckis at the London Cobra Show banquet



Yeah, we like to have fun!



