



Monthly newsletter of the Seattle Area Mini Owners Association

Vol. XLVI, Number 2, February 2011



An actual count isn't available, but there were more than 20 LBCs parked on and around George's yard.

White Elephant

SAMOAns spend a Saturday spending at the annual auction

The rain wasn't much fun but the event was a success.

That's because throughout the afternoon of Jan. 29, the auction action inside George Thompson's garage was as steady as the downpour outside. Fueled by hot dogs, potato chips, and red beans and rice, SAMOAns bid feverishly on Mini-related items in silent and conventional auctions.

The event was the club's January meeting and annual White Elephant auction. Held every winter between the NFL playoffs and the Super Bowl, the White Elephant is easily the year's major SAMOA fundraiser. And while the total raised won't be announced until the February meeting, the number of donated items was strong and the participation was enthusiastic.

Participation was enthusiastic, too, during the meeting. For the first time in years, voting for officers actually involved more than one candidate for two of the positions. When ballots were counted, Tim Boyd was declared winner and new SAMOA president for 2011. Jamie Mesaros was elected Vice President, Chuck Heleker Treasurer, and Dan Berglund Secretary.

The White Elephant is a great opportunity to get your Mini out of winter hibernation, get together with old and new members, and get a head start on your seasonal parts purchases.

It may be just a rumor, but I heard a number of members left the White Elephant with a trunkful.

See you next January.



December meeting minutes

Amid the White Elephant auction excitement, the Jan. 29, 2011, monthly SAMOA meeting was called to order at 2:25 p.m. by President Chuck Heleker in George Thompson's garage.

First order of business was recognition of 2010's SAMOA officers and committee chairs. Chuck then began a brief history of "The SAMOA Inspirational Award and Dick and Carmen Penna Memorial Trophy" and followed that with a rundown of past winners. Club Secretary Dan Berglund was then announced as the winner of the Penna Award for 2010 — both for his service to the club as devoted Newsletter Editor and for his poor taste in gearshift knobs.

Minutes of the December meeting were then approved with no additions or corrections, as published in the January newsletter.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Dan read aloud an e-mail message received from Doug Smith at Fairlady Motors, aka UP Garage. Doug conducted the club's Jan. 8 Dyno Day, and says there's "never been a better bunch of car guys" at his shop.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Barbara Praefke reported an ending balance from December of \$3,986.41. Expenses, including web hosting, postage, and food for the December meeting, totaled \$242.18. Income from memberships and regalia totaled \$241. Ending balance is \$3,985.23. The report was approved by a voice vote.

Committee Reports

Membership: Chair Ed Sauer introduced guests Dan Birkemeier, John Speare, Scott Ragsdale (Skip's son), Dick Lane (who worked for Rowland Motors in an earlier era) and Matt Furman (son of new member Mike

Furman). The signup sheet indicated 45 members were in attendance, but it appeared a number of people hadn't signed in. Ed paid special attention to the presence of distant-past member Bert Lobberegt, who brought some items for the silent auction, and legendary life-member Al Beebe, who contributed \$150, even though his ongoing membership is free. A big SAMOA thanks to both.



Our auctioneer in action. Thanks very much, George, for hosting and hawking.

Newsletter: Editor says the number of members getting their newsletters via the U.S. Postal Service continues to dwindle, and thanks to everyone for the savings in cost and effort.

Tool/Part Library: Chair Kelley Mascher has sorted and evaluated the parts in the library. He says many are old, and the rubber/seals/etc may be gone. What's there may be auctioned or sold outright for salvage at the February meeting. Dick Lane is donating a factory spring compressor and (if we can get it from former member John Elmgren) a wrist-pin tool.

Events: Chair Don Dixon brought up the club's December Food Drive for KING TV and NW Harvest. It included 15 cars and delivered 1,686 pounds of food. Priscilla Wood's herculean effort alone produced 311 pounds of food and \$745 in donations and Starbucks matching funds. The club also kicked in a cash donation of \$1,000.

The Jan. 8 Dyno Day (with pizza later at the Cloverleaf) was a roaring success at the new Fairlady digs in University Place. The Oscar in the big-bore category went to Jerry Miller (71 HP), and in the small-bore category to Don (44 HP).

An event in the immediate future was to follow the White Elephant. Several members would retire to Don's and, through the liberal application of beer, fix Carl Barfield's muffler.

Events to come include the Feb. 26 meeting at Group 2 Motorsports (and tour of neighborhood car collections) in Seattle, the March 26 Belfair cruise from Carl's home, the MG Car Club's Tulip Rallye, the Vancouver ABFM, the British Heritage Fest in British Columbia, the June 6 Bash on Vashon, Mini Meet West, the SOVREN NW Historics, and the July 23 Bellevue ABFM. Watch the club's Web forum for more info.

Regalia: Chair Dave Baughman brought pads and pens to replenish our supply. Other Chair Patti Boyd had hats, T-shirts and sweatshirts on display, including the hard-to-find XX Larges.

Website: Chair Kelley has had only brief contact with webmaster Rodney, and says hosting costs and payment to renew our Web address are being taken care of.

Mini Cooler: The Mini Q/Cooler now resides at Mark Hurston's (Dawn Baughman says thanks), and Mark is planning upgrades. George has donated paint for the remodel, and Mark has built a table display to show what's planned and what's needed.

Photo Site: Chair Tim Boyd says things are pretty quiet, but reminds us to send new pix to him at qwickmini@gmail.com.

White Elephant, Cont.

Old Business: Get your Mini Mania discount cards from Chuck.

New Business: No one spoke up.

For Sale/Wanted: Regalia is available right now. Mark's shell is still for sale. As an aside, Chris Miller says he recently sent his 1,200th door cable to Somerford Minis in England. Chad Lloyd has good used 10-inch Falken tires for sale.

Technical Discussion/Questions: John Maloney says he's built a rear subframe trailing-arm-shaft reamer guide.

Next Meetings: The February meeting at Group 2 in Seattle will take place Saturday, Feb. 26. The March meeting will be held Tuesday, March 15 — place yet to be determined.

Nominations/Election of Officers: Nominated for President: Tim Boyd and Mark Hurston. Nominated for Vice President: Barbara Praefke and Jamie Mesaros (Barbara withdraws). Nominated for Secretary: Dan Berglund. Nominated for Treasurer: Chuck Heleker and Noreen Cloft. Nominations were closed, and members picked up and marked ballots. Ballots were counted by Dan and Carl. New officers: Tim Boyd, President; Jamie Mesaros, Vice President; Dan Berglund, Secretary; and Chuck Heleker, Treasurer.

President Chuck handed the gavel over to President Tim.

Reminder: "Don't leave your Mini at home."

The meeting was adjourned by incoming President Tim at 3:46.



Ladies and gentlemen, your new president, Tim Boyd. SAMOA also thanks Autosport, Group 2 Motorsports and Seven Enterprises for their gracious support of the White Elephant.



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• www.7ent.com

SAMOA officers and volunteers

President

Tim Boyd (425) 868-5033

Vice President, Tool Librarian

Jamie Mesaros (253) 906-5305

Treasurer

Chuck Heleker (425) 226-2783

Secretary, Newsletter Editor

Dan Berglund (235) 833-7666

Regalia Meister

Patti Boyd (425) 868-5033

Membership Chairman

Ed Sauer (425) 877-1016

Dues are \$20 per year. Make checks payable to SAMOA. Send to: SAMOA dues, 24112 Brier Rd., Brier WA 98036. Newsletter submissions are welcomed. E-mail articles or classified ads to: mininewsletter@yahoo.com.

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Association**

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February SAMOA meeting

Saturday, Feb. 26, at 10 a.m.

at Group 2 Motorsports

4442 27th Ave. W, Seattle 98199



Let me see...why is it we attend the February meeting? Is it for the industrial-neighborhood ambience? No... Is it for the quality paving in the area? No... Is it for the occasional whiff of Fisherman's Terminal? No...

Group 2 is about a block south of the Ship Canal and several blocks west of Fisherman's Terminal.

From 15th Ave. W., exit onto West Emerson St. just south of the Ballard Bridge. Go west past Fisherman's Terminal and Chinook's Restaurant and turn right onto 21st Ave. W.

Follow 21st and it turns into West Commodore Way. Turn left onto 27th Ave. W. and go a little more than one block. Group 2 Motorsports is on your left.

Lost? Call Joe English at (206) 378-0900.