



MiniNews

Mini Owners of America, Inc.: P.O. Box 2872-D; Pasadena, Calif., 91105

MOA T-shirts

After several months of searching, a new source for Mini Owners of America, Inc. T-shirts has been found.

The T-shirts, which are available in white only, are made of a heavier material than those MOA previously ordered and returned due to poor quality. The club emblem is silk screened on the back 13 inches in diameter in red, white, blue and

black. \$3.50 plus 25 cents for postage and handling will buy any member of MOA a club shirt.

An order form will be printed in next month's Mini News, or send a check or money order for \$3.50 plus 25¢ for each shirt ordered now to MOA P. O. Box 2872-D, Pasadena, Calif. 91105. Be sure to state the correct size - S, M, L or XL.

Charter clubs may order

shirts by contacting the National Headquarters.

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BLMC's new Austin Model 'T'. Details on page 4. Photo: Jerry Frattini.

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Pasadena, Calif. 91105

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Mini Owners of America
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Menlo Park, California
94025

SEATTLE:

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1610 - 40th
Seattle, Washington

TUCSON:

Mini Owners of America
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.....with a little help
from our friends.....
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Cherie Proffit
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CLUB NOTES

LOS ANGELES: Members will have a chance to vote on new by-laws for the club at the next meeting, August 15. A copy of the by-laws will be sent to all L.A. members prior to the meeting. Any suggestions are highly welcome.

NEW JERSEY: July 4, ten Minis and one 700 cc A-barth appeared in the Montclair, N.J. Independence Day Parade. 'Twas indeed funny; the Minis amidst a large group of classic cars such as Cord, Bugatti, Delahaye and Packard. After the parade we joined Suburban Sports Car Club for a picnic and a rousing game of volleyball. Plans are being made for a rallye on October 6.

events

AUG. 15-L.A. mtg. 1500 E. Rosecrans Ave., Compton, Lueders Park, 7:30 PM

AUG. 16-N.J. mtg. 172 Park St., Montclair, 8:00 PM

SEPT. 4-L.A. Events mtg. 3775 Canfield Ave. #16, Los Angeles, 7:30 PM 839-8261

SEPT. 11-S.F. mtg. First Federal Savings, Howard & Primrose, Burlington.

TUNING TIPS

by Chris Beyer

Want more oil pressure? Try fitting a small washer in the oil pressure relief valve "bullet" where the spring seats. We have also found that a Cooper S distributor noticeably helps any non-S Mini; that wrecked Hondas are a good source of tires; that you can buy American-made points, rotor, cap, and condenser for much less than Lucas replacements; that BLMC makes a spinoff filter head which came on late Sprites and fits Minis; that Reeco-Fish carburetors are available in Canada (but expensive) and that if you don't dig what a limited-slip or Power-Lok diff does in the wet, Dyno Corporation has a front swaybar that, in conjunction with a huge rear bar, makes a Mini handle unbelievably, wet or dry.

Get in Touch

Below is a list of telephone numbers of charter club 'personnel' which might be of some assistance for those "just passing through", club-to-club communication or just someone to talk to when your Mini won't run.

CHICAGO: Dave Conway, Treas.....(815) 744-1333
DAYTON: Barry Prosser, Pres.....(513) 299-1785
L.A.: Ken Reid, Pres.....(213) 391-2562
N.J.: Chris Beyer.....(201) 743-8030
S.F.:
SEATTLE: Mike Howze, Pres.....(206) 284-9498
TUCSON: Larry Bethal, Pres.....(602) 265-6860
Russ Skillman, Sec'y.....(602) 327-7039
MINI NEWS: Pam Raabe.....(213) 587-3843
Kathie Bershee.....(213) 848-2005

Race Results

NEW JERSEY-RACING

On July 4th, Ed Spreen, Jim Boffo, and D-sedan National Champion, Chris Gross made it a Mini 1-2-3 at Lime Rock at the SCCA Nationals there. Ed set a new CS lap record. He finished second to Al Cosentine's Fiat 128 at Bridgehampton on the 16th, a race which saw the end-over-end demise of Dave Ammen's GTA.

Chris Beyer

N.J. Meetings

New Jersey MOA will meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 PM. Meeting place, until further notice, is 172 Park Street, Montclair. Next meeting is August 16. Phone Chris Beyer for details or directions at 743-8030.

Road & Track

MOA's National Headquarters has been swamped with mail in the past two weeks thanks to the plug ROAD & TRACK's August issue gave us on page 21. Mini News would like to return the favor, even if we don't have quite the circulation R&T has! Anyway, thank you, ROAD & TRACK.

CLASSIFIED

Classified ad rates are:
Up to four lines - 50¢
(\$1. for non-members)
Four to eight lines - \$1
(\$2. for non-members)
Etc., etc.

New Members

Robert Huxford.....
.....Lawton, Okla.
K. Douglas Scribner.....
.....Rochester, N.Y.

Renewals

Bob Amsden.....
.....Indianapolis, Ind.
Doug Hartwell.....
...So. Lake Tahoe, Calif.

Two Minis Go To School by Barry Prosser

Friday night found Mick Sorrell and myself in line for tech inspection for Mid Ohio's Drivers School for Sports Car Club of America.

Mick was driving a very well prepared 1275 S, and myself a reworked Mini 850 with drum brakes, sporting a stock 1100 engine and even a muffler. During the week I use the car on the street so preparation was minimum but complete. We had to pass a very rigid tech inspection. I must say, one of the most thorough I have seen.

Saturday morning began early. Mick and I, both MOA members, were soon to find out Roger Koch, Divisional National Champ, and Robert Kimes, also MOA member, both Mini drivers, were to be out instructors.

We were not the only Minis there for we

to three additional drivers. After the rampvamp of Mandatory drivers meeting, we found ourselves making headway to the false grid along with such cars as B/S, C/P, D/P, E/P, and F/P all in the same class.

Our first session was half hour long. It was under the yellow flag for the purpose

of becoming acquainted with the track. After returning to the pits, I learned Mick did not make the first session for he had broken a throttle cable while waiting in line to get on the track. The repairs were made and the afternoon session provided fun for all as the 5 Minis raced among themselves. Late in the session, (Con't. on page 5)



Barry Prosser's 1100 Mini at school

r n a t k b w t s o z y d u

letters

Dear Sirs:

I take issue with the Bomb Engineering ad in the last issue of Mini News. BLM Special Tuning is very much alive, captained by Basil Wales. It is the Competitions department which was closed up, as was detailed in Peter Browning's excellent book, The Works Minis.

-Chris Beyer
New Jersey, MOA

Dear Sir:

Since the Austin Mini is no longer sold in the U.S., is it possible to legally bring one in from Canada? The version being sold there is equipped with an emission system on the 998 cc engine. If the car does not pass U.S. standards, could it be modified to meet these requirements, or could the engine be removed or even the complete car disassembled to qualify as a kit?

-Thomas D. Yost
Minot AFB, N.D.

ED.-

Since Mini News and Mini Owners of America, Inc. does not have very much legal advice at hand, we feel that should you decide to purchase a new Mini and register it legally, contact the U.S. Customs Service and the Dept. of Motor Vehicles in your state.

We have had many opinions on this subject, everyone has a different idea of obtaining a new Mini. As far as we know, the car cannot be modified to meet the National Safety Standards, i.e. collapsible steering wheel, overall size of the car, improper construction of the firewall and something to do with the power to ratio,

not to mention the rest of the list. This brings up the question of Hondas: how do they do it? Well, the answer that we heard was the car isn't classified as a car. It has a motorcycle engine, therefore it must be a motorcycle.

If you want to find out how others do it, or their ideas on it (Ross Converse says a '72 Mini 1000 can be easily brought down from Canada for around \$1900) write to Ross at RFD #1, Ellsworth, Maine 04605, or to Jim Proffit c/o U.A. Racing, 2765 19th, Signal Hill, Calif.

Anyone else who has purchased a new Mini and would like to share their secret, please write to Mini News.

SUBSCRIPTION

Subscriptions to Mini News are available at the rate of \$2.00 per year, 12 issues. Send a check or money order to M.N. Subscription, P.O. Box 2872-D, Pasadena, Calif. 91105.

Rates apply to U.S., U.S. Poss., Canada, Mexico, Central America and Puerto Rico. All rates in dollars.

NEW FROM BLMC

BLMC has just released news of their new Austin Model 'T' (as in tractor).

It comes complete with enclosed cab and wind-screen wipers for chasing livestock in fowl weather. The new Austin Model 'T' has front-wheel drive to pull you over the ruts.

BLMC says they guarantee the Model 'T' to get your crop to market faster providing more time for repairs.

So whether you're hauling hay, peaches, lumber or just plain 'hauling', the new Austin Model 'T' is for you!

NOTICE!

Even if the Austin Model 'T' is a utility vehicle, it will not pass the United States Safety Standards allowing its importation. Besides, the above printed material on the Model 'T' is an outright lie!

Exclusive Distributor for Janspeed Engineering. We stock all Janspeed & BMC competition equipment for Mini's & Coopers. \$1.00 for Catalog. 20% discount for Mini Club Members. Special - Excellent fiberglass one piece Mini front ends with nines - \$100.00. Shock absorber kits including shocks. Hydroelastic Competition shock kits including shocks - regularly \$50.00 now \$30.00.

DOLPHIN COVENTRY CONVERSIONS

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Continued from page 3

Mick's 1275 showed his strong potential and the make-up of lost time by dicing fender to fender with the B/S Datsuns only to show them Minis do Handle better.

Sunday found us making practice starts for the afternoon sprint races.

Finally, the aspect of competition grew near as we were called to the grid for our sprint race. The parade lap began and the minis were grided in about the middle of everything. As we got closer to the start-line the flag dropped and engines roared and Minis screamed thru the first corner. After the first lap we sorted out and settled down and began passing. Mick was by this time working his way to the front passing all B/S and production cars and fighting to maintain a position with the front running C/P cars. While back in the pack I was pushing my Mini around slower E/P cars and maintaining a lead over the other Minis, only to be lost on the last lap when my car came to a rest at the side of the track with an over heated engine and a shredded fan belt. I waved the other Minis on and knew the weekend was very rewarding because only at competitive speeds the real lust of a Mini is what its all about. "Minis Forever."

NORTH AMERICAN ICE RACING CHAMPIONSHIP



An essay on technique: Dwight Bowden's Mini front-wheels it through a turn ahead of Willy Cross' rear-wheel drive Datsun 2000.



Dwight Bowden (24) leading Roger Patch (89), Bob Borden (52), and Ron Cooper (16) through the last turn in last year's Championship. Bowden and Cooper tied for second in Class 1

ANCHORAGE ALASKA



classified:

Late '67 Austin Cooper S 1275 completely reconditioned inside and out with lustrous ember mist finish. Many options and new equipment plus new stereo cassette deck. Extremely quick, meticulously kept in absolutely impeccable condition throughout; a most desirable motor car for the enthusiast who requires the best! Said to be the 'cleanest and tightest' Mini in Jersey by Jack Clark of the Spreen Racing Team, and Chris Beyer, former Pres. of N.J. MOA. Call Steve at (201) 746-5953.

Early '68 wagon 1098, very good mech. Radials, partial del. \$875. Ross Converse, RFD 1, Ellsworth, Maine 04605

Wanted: Wet 1275 'S' and extra front subframe in good running condition - body not important. Will trade 1960 Bugeye + extras Ed Hillis, 614 Park Ave., E. Orange, New Jersey 07017

For Sale: '67 Austin Mini Moke, new red paint, roll cage, top, removable body, wide wheels, new wide tires, undercoated, completely rebuilt, only 16,000 miles on car, engine little modified plus other extras. Very sharp! \$850. or offer. Forced sale due to recovery of stolen Cooper 'S'. (415) 755-1007 Steve Prima, 369 Vista Grande, Daly City, Calif. 94014

Speedwell XM-1 new header exhaust manifold \$25. Also, other Mini parts cheap. Evenings (213) 437-1673.

Interested in making contacts in Montreal, objective: 4 good bodies with fair engines for personal use \$100 - \$600. If delivered to N.Y. I will pay about \$100 clear. Will also pay this for leads on cars delivered to me in N.J. Gil Caputi (201) 377-6453

FOR SALE: Four 12 inch Ansen-type Aluminum wheels. Great for Mini Mokes - Never mounted. Will ship. \$100. Call (213) 848-2005

Deadlines

Deadlines for articles, photos, etc. for Mini News are:

Photos-28th of every month.

Articles, ads, etc.-last day of every month. These are firm deadlines. Any material submitted late will be subject to the next issue. Please send correspondence to Pam Raabe, 8157 Beechwood Ave., South Gate, California. 90280

BACK ISSUES

Back issues are still available for 50¢ each. Please state which volume when ordering. Below are the issues still in stock.

Volume 1, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9.

Volume 2, Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12.

Volume 3, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6.

write to MOA, P.O. Box 2872-D, Pasadena, Cal.



Advertising space for sale; details upon request.

MINI OWNERS OF AMERICA, INC.
P.O. BOX 2872-D
PASADENA, CA 91105



FIRST CLASS