

# M.S.R.A

MONTANA STREET ROD ASSOCIATION • 42ND YEAR

# NEWSLETTER

[WWW.MONTANASRA.ORG](http://WWW.MONTANASRA.ORG)

JANUARY, 2016

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## PREZ SEZ...

Fellow MSRA members and friends,

Time sure has been flying by. The 2016 winter meeting is just around the corner. On the agenda is election of officers for the next two years and selection of the Rodder of the Year for 2015. There were early nominations at the fall meeting in Townsend for both and more nominations will be taken prior to voting at the February meeting. Also on the agenda will be a report of the successful scholarship program this past fall. We will tour the Montana HotRod Shop in Livingston ([www.montanahotrodshop.com](http://www.montanahotrodshop.com)), hosted by the owner, Rodney Boehm, after the meeting. Also, time permitting and weather permitting, we can travel up Swingley Road and visit Elizabeth's and my new shop.

Since the Homewood Suites in Bozeman is no longer supporting non-profits with a no-charge meeting room, we are going to add a little variety and hold the meeting in Livingston. I encourage you to make the trip to Livingston in February and be part of shaping the future of the Montana Street Rod Association. The more participation from members, the stronger and more relevant we will be.  
Bob Degenhardt

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2016 AT:**  
The Livingston Public Library, 228 W. Callender St. Livingston, MT

**Board Meeting at 9:30 am**  
**Membership Meeting at 10:00 am**

**NEW MEMBERS & IDEAS WELCOME**

# MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 4, 2015 TOWNSEND, MT

## Minutes of the October 4, 2015 Meeting Montana Street Rod Association

The October 4, 2015 meeting of the Montana Street Rod Association was called to order by Bob Degenhardt, President. The meeting was held at Betsy's Cafe in conjunction with the Townsend, Montana Fall Festival.

The membership book was passed around. One guest, Jerry Gray, was introduced. Bob passed around a thank you and remembrance card from Terry Oksa.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes was made by Tony Patrick and seconded by Roger Boom. The motion passed. A motion was made by Steve Sorg and seconded by Bob Stredwick to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as published in the newsletter. The motion passed.

There was no correspondence and nothing of note in regard to the Secretary's report.

Greg Staples was not in attendance; however, the treasurer's report was made available to the members. Details of the latest report are available in this newsletter. A motion was made by Judy Sorg and seconded by Roger Boom to accept the report. The motion passed.

Roger Boom gave a report on the MSRA car show picks for the 2015 season. He reported that seven clubs had requested and gave awards at their respective shows. Havre did not request an MSRA plaque. Roger reported that to date MSRA had 52 current members, 35 business sponsors and 8 club memberships. Clubs were asked to send a picture of their MSRA award winner to be included in the website. Steve Sorg will then update the website. One of the winners was Jim Larsen from Glendive with a 32 Ford Roadster. He is a founding member of MSRA and builder of the traveling trophy.

Steve Sorg gave a report on the scholarship committee. There was discussion regarding the plan to contribute to the flow through organization at the state level. Elizabeth spoke briefly on the history of the scholarship fund. She reported that Jeff Kraus is no longer a regent. A motion was made by Steve Sorg and seconded by Bob Stredwick to give five \$500.00 scholarships this fall. A discussion was initiated by Elizabeth Scholl about starting an endowment just for the scholarships. Steve Sorg stated that he did not think that the organization had enough funds at this point to set up an endowment. An amendment to the motion was made by Elizabeth Scholl to make the amount of the scholarship available at \$3,000.00. The motion passed.

A discussion on who to give the money to and what programs to support within the schools was initiated by Steve Sorg. Bob Stredwick suggested that we continue with the criteria we have in place - someone interested in the hobby; someone who wanted to stay in Montana to work; and a reasonable academic recommendation. Applications will be made available to the schools and students chosen from these applications. Another suggestion was made that would make the scholarship available to any student in a two-year program who has an interest in the street rodding hobby. A list of two-year schools in Montana was made available for the members.

A restated motion was made to state that all two year schools will be provided information regarding the scholarship and that it will be available to any student interested in the street rodding hobby, has a desire to stay in the State of Montana after graduation and has a reference from his/her instructor.

MSRA will receive the applications to review. The motion was seconded by Bob Stredwick. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Under old business, the proposed by-laws change regarding the signing of checks was discussed. Currently all checks are to be signed by the treasurer and the president. The new language requested is as follows: "require the treasurer to maintain a dual signature checking account that requires two signatures on each check that can be a current officer and another board member." Gary Taylor asked about any rules specific to non-profit organizations. It is possible that the banking institution would require all signatures of current board members. The proposal was tabled at this time.

Under new business, the proposed budget for 2016 was presented. A motion was made by Roger Boom and seconded by Steve Sorg to accept the proposed budget. The motion passed.

Nominations for officers for the next two years was help. A nomination for Elizabeth Scholl as President was made by Bob Degenhardt. Bob Stredwick nominated Roger Mudd as Vice-President. Dwight Wade nominated Judy Sorg for Secretary and Elizabeth Scholl nominated Steve Sorg for Treasurer. Further nominations can be made to MSRA by the January meeting. Elections will be held at the next meeting.

Street Radder for 2015 nominations were made. Bob Stredwick nominated Gary Taylor. Marilyn Patrick nominated Terry and Jerry Oksa. Election for this honor will be held at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Elizabeth Scholl and seconded by Judy Sorg to pay any bills that may come due between this meeting and the next general meeting. The motion passed.

The next meeting will be held in Bozeman at the Homewood Suites on Saturday, February 6, 2015. A motion was made by Dwight Wade and seconded by Bob Stredwick. The motion passed.

There were no announcements. A motion to adjourn was made by Roger(?) and seconded by Bob Stredwick. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Marilyn Patrick  
Secretary

# MSRA TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF 8/31/15

## Montana Street Rod Association

Treasurer's report

As of 8/31/2015

Cash in Bank: General fund: \$4,207.40    Scholarship Fund: \$7777.85\*    Total: \$11985.25

	General	Scholarship
<b>Income YTD:</b>	<b>\$1104.00</b>	<b>\$1665.00</b>
MEMBERSHIPS	\$550.00	
BUSINESS SPONSORS	\$450.00	
CAR CLUB MEMBERSHIPS	\$75.00	
LICENSE PLATES	\$ -	
PATCHES	\$	
SCHOLARSHIP MERCHANDISE	\$29.00	
<b>Expense YTD</b>	<b>\$1054.87</b>	
PRINTING	\$381.47	
POSTAGE	\$106.82	
PLAQUES	\$121.00	
LICENSE PLATES	\$ -	
PATCHES	\$ -	
MISCELLANEOUS	\$66.00	
WEB SITE	\$379.58	
ACCOUNTING	\$ -	
STATE REGISTRATION	\$ -	
TRANSFER TO SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$1,100.00 *	

\*note: bank to bank transfer of \$435 for 2014 and \$665 for 2015 received scholarship deposited to general

Expense Transaction Detail:

CK#	Date	Pay To:	Expense	Amount
3061	1/02/15	InstyPrint	newsletter	76.56
3062	1/02/15	TPatrick	stamps	56.35
3063	1/02/15	Ryan's trophies	2015stickers	16.00
3064	1/13/15	TPatrick	newsletter	255.77
3065	3/05/15	TPatrick	mailings	7.77
3066	5/20/15	Ryan's trophies	inv 9204	105.00 (cleared in June)
3067	5/20/15	RBoom	mailings	42.70
3068	5/20/15	MSRA Scholarship	transfer deposits	1,100.00
3069	6/27/15	TPatrick	mailings	49.14
3070	7/12/15	SSorg	web	379.58
3071	8/23/15	USPS	PO Box	66.00



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# LEGACY OF *Leadership*

### Legacy of Leadership: Legislative Caucus Celebrates A Decade of Successes

In its daily efforts to promote and protect the auto hobby, the SEMA Action Network (SAN) continues to partner with state lawmakers from across the country through the State Automotive Enthusiast Leadership Caucus. Celebrating its tenth anniversary, the Caucus is a bi-partisan group of state lawmakers whose common thread is a love and appreciation for automobiles.

Supported by SEMA's Government Affairs office in Washington, D.C., the Caucus has been instrumental in raising the motor vehicle hobby's profile in the state legislatures and in the eyes of the public. Working in state capitals, these legislators are frequently called upon to oppose overly restrictive legislation that seeks to prohibit vehicle modification and proactively protect the hobby by improving existing motor vehicle statutes and creating new programs to safeguard and expand it.

"We are the people that write and pass laws for our individual states," said West Virginia Delegate Gary Howell, the current Caucus chairman. "As many of the laws that govern how we title, register, inspect and equip our vehicles are handled at the state level, these state legislatures wield a lot of power over the hobby. Fortunately, there are a lot of state legislators that are fans of cars themselves, many of whom are members of the State Caucus. We want to protect your right to work on and modify your ride."

As a lifelong enthusiast and owner of Howell Automotive in Keyser, West Virginia, Howell joined the Caucus in 2011 upon his election to the West Virginia House of Delegates. He has worked extensively in the motorsports industry, raced both stock cars and drag cars, built winning race cars and award-winning show cars and designed racing parts. Among other vehicles, the Mopar fan counts several of the brand's offerings in his garage, including a Jeep Cherokee XJ and Dodge SRT-4.

Howell was preceded as Caucus chairman by former New York Assemblyman Bill Reilich, who took the reins in 2007. "Being a member of the State Automotive Enthusiast Leadership Caucus and then serving as its chairman was one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. I enjoyed fighting alongside fellow legislators from throughout the county to preserve the rights of auto enthusiasts. I believe it is critical that we work together to protect this important piece of our American History."

Reilich, who now serves as the Town Supervisor of Greece, New York, has a collection that includes a '57 Chevy Bel Air, an '81 Ford T-Bird and a late model Ford Mustang.

Upon the Caucus's formation in 2005, former Montana Senator John Brueggeman was chosen to lead the new group. "Being named Caucus chairman was among the greatest honors of my legislative service," recalls Brueggeman. "It was rewarding to work with the SAN to help recruit legislators from across the U.S. and organize them into a political juggernaut for the rights of enthusiasts. Unchecked, creeping regulation will take us off America's roads. The bottom line is there are people who don't understand us, may not like us, and wouldn't miss us if we were gone. Building a vigilant core of legislators who have a passion and understanding for our way of life is critical to preserving our rights in a changing world."

Brueggeman has been interested in everything mechanical since childhood. While he's owned several collector vehicles of various styles, including custom motorcycles, the '65 GTO and the '65 Shelby Cobra are among his favorite cars..

"These three leaders are not alone. By joining the Caucus, lawmakers from all around the country have demonstrated their commitment to upholding the rights of vehicle enthusiasts," said SEMA VP, Government Affairs Steve McDonald.

Approximately 700 state legislators from all 50 states are involved in the Caucus. For a full listing of Caucus members, visit [semaSAN.com/StateCaucus](http://semaSAN.com/StateCaucus). And if you aren't involved with the SAN, stay informed free of charge at [semaSAN.com/Join](http://semaSAN.com/Join). As a member, you will receive legislative updates as they happen in your jurisdiction—no cost, SPAM or "catch." Ask your friends to do the same. After all, great strength comes with great numbers. **–IGNITED WE STAND!**

Caption

Caucus Chairmen (L-R) John Brueggeman, Bill Reilich and Gary Howell.



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## MSRA MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARD



### 2015-2016 OUTSTANDING AG LEADERS

Max and Kirsti Cederberg have provided more than 30 years of direct support to the Northern Agricultural Research Center (NARC) in Havre through their multigenerational ranch, Hot Rod Ranch, Inc. near Turner, which was homesteaded in 1928 by Max's great uncle. The Cederbergs' host an on-farm research site for NARC and together have donated their time and agricultural passion as members of NARC's Advisory Board. The Cederbergs are often called the unofficial mayor(s) of Turner in their community engagement, mentorship of young farmers and support for agriculture along the Hi-Line. Most recently, the Cederbergs worked closely with MSU Extension as field monitors and cooperators for the orange wheat blossom midge project helping to track the presence of the midge by hosting a trap on their farm and monitoring midge populations in the Big Flat area.

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# THE ROD AND CUSTOM SCHOLARSHIP



UNITING GEAR HEADS YOUNG AND OLD

## THE ROD AND CUSTOM SCHOLARSHIP

Funded by the Helena Valley Timing Association, the Hi-Line Cruzin' Association and Montana Street Rod Association members and sponsors throughout Montana

*“Mobile time capsules, works of art, or simple transportation. Cars can, universally, trigger memories and emotions like no other object.”*  
*John Dorr III, MSRA Rod and Custom Scholarship applicant, Helena College*

**Eight worthy applicants for the MSRA Rod and Custom Scholarship received!  
The 2015 Rod and Custom Scholarship winners announced!**

“We were thrilled to receive such high quality applications from very worthy students throughout Montana this year” said Steve Sorg, Chair of the MSRA Scholarship Committee. “At the recommendation of former Montana University System (MUS) Regent Jeff Kraus, in mid-October a contingent of the MSRA Scholarship Committee and I went to Helena to meet with key Montana University System leadership. We discussed what has not worked in the past and how we could improve our working relationship to better connect to students to ensure access to our scholarship resources”. MSRA President Bob Degenhardt added “It was a very successful meeting with Ron Muffick, Director of Student Affairs, and Mick Robinson, Chief of staff, along with Roger Mudd from the Helena Valley Timing Association and Elizabeth Scholl, recent past MSRA Treasurer.” “Our team is happy to help in any way we can to do our job on the school end to make sure that our students have knowledge and access to apply. Over 70% of students attending two-year colleges must borrow student loans to fund their educations, with an average debt for Associate Degree students who borrow around \$20,000. We are very grateful to the members and donors of MSRA for this important financial resource for our students,” added Ron Muffick. “That frees us up to fundraise with the knowledge that the most deserving of students will get this scholarship,” replied Roger Mudd.

The meeting takeaway was an outstanding plan to get better access to students through the financial aid officers at each school. And a very speedy effort, led by MSRA President Bob Degenhardt, ensued to get connected by letter, e-mail and phone to the financial aid leadership at each Montana MUS two year school to ensure that as many deserving students got the application – with only 5 weeks until the 2015 scholarship application deadline!

“With a December 1st deadline, I got right into the long list of financial aid folks and got as connected to them as quickly as possible. Thoughtful personal conversations and discussion resulted and we are so very pleased to have such a good response in our first year’s MSRA Rod and Custom Scholarship offering through this new process. And in such short order! It was fascinating the different strategies that each school used to communicate in a timely manner with their student body! For instance, Flathead Valley Community College



# THE ROD AND CUSTOM SCHOLARSHIP

CONTINUED

posted the scholarship notice on the back of every bathroom stall door!” The application deadline was extended to December 15th so that as many as possible had a chance to apply and get letters from faculty. Rory Seeger, Financial Aid Director from Dawson Community College, commented, “This is a great scholarship program approach and a very generous one.” Thus eight highly qualified applicants submitted their essays along with a recommendation letter from a faculty member. “The applications were most impressive. It gave me goose bumps to read them! I was so amazed by the threads that they shared...the strength of their writing, by their inherent and committed work ethics, and by their honesty about how they learned through making mistakes. They all held high GPAs while balancing school, work and families. And the faculty wrote such personalized letters of recommendation – I feel as if I know each of them well. Each of them was so deserving; I only wish we could give all eight the scholarship award” shared Elizabeth Scholl.

And yet only three, \$1,000 MSRA Rod and Custom scholarships were available for award in the 2015 calendar year, as voted by the MSRA membership at the meeting held in Townsend in early October. “Until we raise more money to support this program, sustainably, this is all we can do, but what a difference it is already making!” said Roger Mudd. Len Broberg, Professor of Environmental Studies at the University of Montana, wrote in the closing in his letter full of accolades for his student Sean Doty, “Therefore I give Sean my highest recommendation for your scholarship. I am sure he will complete his studies successfully and repay the investment many times over.” And we are convinced that each of these deserving students will do just that.

The 2015 MSRA Rod and Custom Scholarship Applicants:

Jacob Beirwagen, Helena College  
Bruce Bradley, Highlands College  
Kyle Copelan, Helena College  
John Dorr III, Helena College  
Sean Doty, UM College of Technology  
Jacob Gibby, Miles Community College  
Kearney Holst, Flathead Valley Community College  
Molly WhiteWater Stroupe, Flathead Community College

And the winners are.....

- ◆ Molly Whitewater Stoupe, Kalispell, Montana, Flathead Community College, Accounting, Small Business, and Business Administration
- ◆ Jacob Gibby, Miles City Montana, Miles Community College, Automotive
- ◆ Bruce Bradley, Butte, Montana, Automotive

There will be an article and photos in the upcoming MSRA newsletters on each of the winners. Stay tuned!

Thanks to all the wonderful MSRA members and sponsors and contributors who have made this Rod and Custom Scholarship program possible! What a difference we are making!

*“Two-year colleges are critical for training our state’s workforce. Unfortunately, two-year schools typically do not have the financial resources available for need-based financial aid that larger four-year institutions have available. Private scholarships such as your organization’s fill a vital role in helping students fund their educations.” :Ron Muffick, Director of Student Affairs, MUS*

# TAKING YOUR CAR OUT OF STORAGE

## TAKING YOUR CAR OUT OF STORAGE: 4 THINGS TO CHECK

There are lots of reasons you may have decided to put your car into some form of storage. Here in the Northwest, classic and sports car owners are forced to store their vehicles for the winter, or risk major rust invasion thanks to the amount of salt needed to keep snowy and icy roads safe. Other times you may have a car that you just don't use anymore but aren't ready to pass along to a new owner. So you put it in storage!

**Look for leaks.** The first sign that something didn't go so well while your vehicle was being stored may be a puddle underneath. If your car has a slow leak, you may never have noticed it in the practice of everyday driving. But when your vehicle sits in the same spot for an extended period of time, that minor leak may drain a system substantially enough to make driving the car dangerous. Any evidence of leaking should be investigated, and any fluids topped off.

**Check the tires.** A car or truck that has been sitting for a long time will usually lose some pounds per square inch in the tires. If you were super careful and had your car supported by jack stands while it was in storage, there is less chance of any tire issues. Unless it was sitting for years, you can usually simply fill the tires up to the recommended pressure and within a few miles of driving be back to normal. But it is very important to check the pressure before you hit the road.

**Change the oil.** It may seem silly to change oil that has almost no miles on it, but when oil sits for a long time, it can change. Sometimes it will absorb moisture from the air, causing a layer of rust to form where this moisture came into regular contact with engine parts. Oil with water in it will not lubricate well. It's not the end of the world to drive your car before you change the oil. Any moisture will burn off as your oil reaches operating temperature. But seasoned owners will tell you they change the oil shortly after it comes out of storage.

**Pests.** There is always a chance that your vehicle was invaded by pests while it was sitting. Critters love to make a nice, warm, winter nest in cars that aren't going anywhere soon. If you find any signs of rodent infestation, do as full a look over as you can stand. Mice often chew electrical wiring. When the car's off it may not be a problem. But power it up and you can have smoke, electronics damage, or even fire. Look for nesting in the corners and hidden areas, poop, eaten food, or little plastic shavings that might be evidence of chewed wiring. You can often smell that they've been there, too. Yuck.

If your car was stored correctly, you'll have few, if any issues getting it back on the road. It's important to plan ahead in cases like this. Poor decision making on the storing-it end can mean more than a couple of headaches when you want to get your vehicle back in service. Remember to always keep safety at the top of your list of concerns no matter what it takes. There is no shortcut worth taking when it comes to arriving at your destination intact and unscathed.

*"State funded financial aid was reduced by over 50% last academic year making private scholarships even more important in helping students access and complete their educations." : Ron Muffick, Director of Student Affairs, MUS*

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