

#7

MASS CAR NORTH

NEWS NOTES

November's meeting was thinly attended but all in all eventful just the same.

Starting this letter off let me first say "thank you to Doug Estabrook and his wife, Carol" (hope I got it right, Doug) for attending. It was really an enjoyable surprise to have someone from Mass Car in attendance. We hope you both had a good time and will attend some more in the future. If and whenever possible for you to come up again, would you please encourage other members of Mass Car to do the same. Maybe we can put some more fun back into these clubs. I will encourage members up here to try and attend a meeting or two or as many as they like, to go down and meet and have some fun with another group of really nice guys. Before I forget, I hope you did well at the Glue Crew show and for those who attended Bay-Con show I hope everyone had a good time.

At this point I would like to remind all those who are building something for our club project to bring whatever it is and as many of them even if it isn't finished yet to my house on Nov. 16th (Sat.) 1 p.m. so that we may get a better idea of how much table space we are going to actually need for our project. You will still have time to finish any unfinished projects before the show. We need to know how many pieces and how much space we will use for each piece. I hope we will be getting more interest in volunteering your time at the World of Wheels. Currently I am waiting for a word from Dick Royer concerning passes for those who will be working with me behind the tables. Those who are planning to enter, Billy Belmont's contest will be given passes, so let's make it easy for them and not try to hit them up for too many at one wack, O.K. Guys! I am not concerning myself with contest passes because I am not entering it. If anyone has questions concerning volunteering time and passes please call me and I'll try to shed some more light on it.

A new hobby store just opened in our area. YES! Ed DaRosa just opened a store inside Sears in the Burlington Mall. Those who don't know Ed, he's the guy who donated all those nice paints that we have been picking over the last few months at our meetings. (Still a lot more paints left guys, come on down) I think for those who have benefited by this freebe it would be most appropriate to stop in and say "thank you" to a really nice guy and his store. I do believe that Ed is giving club members discounts and I will look into this further. This club should get in, check out this new store, I have been there and it was packed and filled and they were still bringing stuff in. Let's all wish him well! Here, Here!

The club auction didn't really turn out as well as we planned. Kits were abundant but the attendance was down and so were the sales. However, I did manage to sell the train set and make our investment back. Special thanks go out to Steve Carr who bought it. Let's wish him well with his purchase. Just a few of Marshall Cooper's kits did get picked up but not as many as we hoped to allow us to carry out the club's proposal. But we made a commitment to ourselves and agreed to make up the difference.

Those who don't know about the commitment the club has made it goes something like this; When Marshall asked the club to buy his collection it was understood that the money being given for the collection not go to him but instead go to his wife and kids. I agreed. Marshall is no longer employed nor is he living with his family. At this time my only way of communicating with Marshall is through his wife. After seeing the way his family was left to live I was shocked. You read about things like this in the newspapers and you see it on t.v., but never think it will happen to someone you know or even worse, yourself. But hard times have hit the Cooper family. It was agreed upon by this club to take whatever money we made from Marshall's collection after our initial investment was made back and give it to his wife and kids.

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We knew that because of the conditions of the collection we couldn't get much for the models so we would take whatever amount needed from our treasury to purchase the \$100. worth of food.(turkey, dressings, fixings, etc.) we had planned to buy one week before Thanksgiving and deliver to the Cooper family in the name of the club.

I can't send a copy of this letter to Marshall's family because then it wouldn't be a surprise, but I will send a note of some sort. We will be doing this again one week before Christmas as well.

At this time I would like to make a proposal to add just a little something more to make the Cooper's holidays a little more bright, this would come from your own pocket as well as your hearts. Marshall had a wife and three children all under fourteen years of age; one boy and two girls. The club is putting the food order together so they will have a good table. I will not expect all or any to participate in this with me, but if any one can find it in your hearts and are able to squeeze your wallets a little this year they will greatly appreciate your generosity. I know the times don't always allow us to buy that extra something for ourselves but if it wouldn't be too much to ask I know a family in Everett who could have the most memorable Christmas ever.

If anyone is planning to give anything and would like more information on how to go about doing this please call me after 2 p.m. weekdays-anytime weekends at (508) 663-7789. If I am not at home leave your name and number and I will call you ASAP.

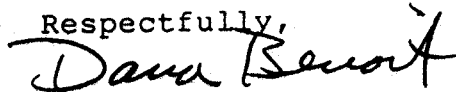
The remaining kits and built models that were part of Marshall's collection will be donated to the youth detention center in Worcester that Mark Lewis is running. It will be donated in the name of the Mass Car North Model Club and Marshall Cooper.

In closing I would like to let everyone know that I have had to write every letter and my wife has to type every one this branch of Mass Car has sent out, since it's birth and none has been as hard as for me to write as this one. I do enjoy promoting this hobby but somehow it is not the same anymore. One of the benefits of being a member of this club is that many times you can get some help when you need it, little did I know when he offered his collection that it was a move of desperation. But how could I know? It could have been any members collection I was going see. Maybe I shouldn't get too personally involved with members, maybe I shouldn't let members become friends and maybe I am wrong this time, but I got involved, and I seen it and I felt it. In the future maybe I won't get so close to the members I call friends. What I have asked all of you to do was not done for Marshall or myself. I am asking for his wife and kids because they feel that without him life has become scary.

I can't say this won't ever happen again when I walk through the door of a fellow member's house to make a bid on a collection. But I can say that since I have been through this I feel I am a better man for what I have done.

Thank you for letting me bend your ear. Please do what you can and feel good about it. For those who can't let me just say thank you for your concern. The next news letter will come out in January of 1992. I hope you all have a safe and happy holiday to all my friends.

Respectfully,



Dana Benoit
President
Mass Car North Model Club

