

Jim's Hawaiian Surprise!

Jim Berry is our "Guest Writer" for this month. Can you imagine Jim's surprise when he came across this? Keep up the good work everyone, stories like this make our little newsletter fun to read, and to look forward to every month - Ed.

Hi Folks:

When Dan asked for volunteers to write an article for the news letter I thought "piece of cake". I had something I wanted to share with everybody. So no problem. Now it is crunch time and it is not so easy as I thought. I would like to tell you about our trip to Hawaii. Now lest you think I am going to bore you with a lot of travel pictures, put your mind at ease. This story does start about ten years ago when we went to Maui in August. We got off the plane in Kahului and it was 105 degrees and 80% humidity. We looked at each other and said "We could be home and be this miserable." Well it turned out to be a decent vacation but everyone there said "You need to be here in December when it is cooler and there are the whales to watch. So last December the kids & grandkids are all visiting in-laws so we decided to give Maui another chance. Well it was cooler, and greener (last trip they had just had a forest fire and all the hills were black). However we still didn't see any whales. The people running the boat said "You should have been here yesterday". Have I heard that somewhere before? Having done the road all the way to Hana last time we didn't go all the way back to Hana but we did get to a rest stop that had an

unusual site. Chickens and cats all eating from the same pan.



They seemed oblivious to the fact that one is supposed to be eating the other. The chickens just went around begging from everyone. We saw a beautiful little valley called 'Tao' where the last battle fought by King Kamehameha to subdue the king of Maui. It seems the USA had something to do with this too because we gave Kamehameha the cannons he needed to win. I guess we have always been involved around the world. The next stop was a little town called Paia. It was a nice town with antique stores and art galleries but what I thought would interest the club was this gas station



I thought Rick especially and all the folks that helped with the station at Pioneer Village would appreciate this. Now the reason I thought I could write this rambling, was what I want to show next. Being in a farm related business I wanted to see an actual farm. There is lots of sugarcane but I wanted to see a *real* plantation. So we went to the "Maui Tropical Plantation", a tourist trap if I ever saw one. I don't know if it really had any fruit to pick. We missed the shuttle. However we did get some good ice cream and sat around the grounds taking pictures of the beautiful flowers and watching the people filing in for the wedding to be held there that night.

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There were many more but I didn't want to bore you with flower pictures.



I was surprised however when I walked into the farmers market to see:



And a slant window to boot. Owning a slant window myself made me really curious. It was impossible to get any information out of the help. They said to call back and talk to 'Remy'. So thinking I had all the information I needed in Remy, I called back the other day to talk to him. Apparently he is only the farm manager. The owner of the farm, and the car, lives in Los Angeles and purchased the car in San Diego a year or so ago. Remy said the car just showed up there one day. Not even knowing what to do with it and having to learn how to drive it, they

finally decided to put it on display in the store. He was reluctant to give me the owner's name so I couldn't find out much more than this. The car appears completely stock. Whoever restored it did a nice job. Maybe I've been sheltered but I have never seen another slant window woody. Maybe some of you can tell me how rare they are. According to the sign posted over the car there were only 11,300 woody station wagons produced in the Model A era.



Dual Sidemounts! I must say it quite a shock to



walk into a farmer's market in Maui, Hawaii and see a Model A woody, a slant window woody. One more story about cars to finish up. When we got to Maui, Joanne wanted to drive around in a convertible. We have never owned a convertible.

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So I rented a Red Mustang convertible. It was



fun to drive and experience. However, it seemed like every parking lot we drove into had four or five red mustang convertibles. It seems that every tourist that comes to Maui wants to drive a red mustang convertible. Well this is the end of my little tome. Hope you all enjoyed it.

Jim Berry

Snippets From The Past

From the August 1983 SPARTON NEWS -

TECH TIP:

Several chapter members have recently experienced on their Model A's, a problem known as "exhaust pipe drop", or EPD. With EPD the muffler disconnects at the exhaust manifold and falls to the ground letting the full force and blast of the exhaust system resound just ahead of the firewall while the muffler scrapes along the blacktop emitting sparks and resonating like a big drummer on the car's floorboards. If you haven't yet experienced EPD, then you have a "fright" coming.

You can be assured that EPD is covered by "Murphy's Law" and always occurs at the worst possible time. Recent examples are Gordon's (Sanford - Ed.) EPD on the Lemoore Naval Air Station at the RR crossing during the heaviest after-air-show traffic. Also, Rick's EPD on I-5 while climbing the ridge amongst the trucks.

Gordon, after consulting with the Chapter's 'Old Timers' gives this report; Chronic EPD (as well as exhaust leaks at the manifold) may obviously be

caused by loosened manifold clamp bolts or by the manifold clamp being incorrectly installed (i.e. upside down). It is most probably caused, however, by the 'skimpy flare' on the reproduction mufflers we get now -a-days. Our Old-timers said, "There used to be more flare (much more) where the muffler is clamped onto the exhaust manifold". They also said, "If we could increase the flare, we could prevent EPD and at the same time reduce or eliminate exhaust leaks at that point.

Ideas, anyone? Gordon took a torch and ball-pee-hammer to lengthen the flare on his pick up muffler before going to Morrow Bay. It held (both EPD and Leaking); but he feels a better job could be done with some kind of a flaring tool or pattern to stretch the flare against. Ideas?

I thought it would be interesting to have some historical content to the Newsletter. Each month, I will try to have something for the Snippets From The Past column. Edwina has supplied me with copies of some old newsletters. If any of you old timers have copies from the '50's, 60's, 70's, and '80's, please let me borrow them, so I can make some copies. - Ed

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