

Central Texas Micronuts Fall Update

by Bruce Fullerton / Austin, Texas

Having turned into somewhat a melting pot for all-things-microcar in these parts, Ernie has asked for an update on what's been going on here in Capital City. And by the way, if you've got your Fruit Of The Looms in a wad over this issue being out late, it's all my fault.

Thanks to the initiative and effort of one of our founding members, Debbie Stuart, our club newsletter, "*A Little Car News*", wouldn't exist. Besides the news items and general brain damage that's in each action-packed issue, it has spawned an interesting emailing list that includes an array of folks from all over the place. This proliferation has triggered news, stories and pictures we would never have seen or known about. There's a lot of small stuff going on out there! Here's a dose of what we're talking about.

Right here in our own backyard, Micronut Robert Mace had Fort Worth Isetta Surgeon General Perry Bushong, of Perry's Motorcycles & Sidecars, exorcise several nagging demons from Robert's green Isetta. Turns out the chain had fallen off inside the chain drive. That might explain why it wouldn't move. Whoops, what have we here? A partially disintegrated clutch disc facing. No more 8,000 RPM power shifts for Bubba! As a party bonus, the horn works now, too.

Operating out of our Tulsa office, Phil Farmer reports that his red Isetta (third place winner in the micro category at the 2002 National Meet in Duncanville, Texas hosted by Ray Morey) has developed a fetish for melting green ignition wiring. As of this writing, the red car is still undergoing an autopsy under the direction of Isetta John Wetzal. Film at 11:00.

ALCN reader Bill Hornick from over West Virginia way chimes in with pix of his bubble window Isetta he's owned for 29 years. Looks like it's finally time to roll it out of the garage

and spiff it up. This has to be one of the nicest Isetta restoration candidates to come along in a while.



Not every 14 year old kid has a Dad that spots a \$400 Isetta coming home from work and scoops it up. Cool cart, Mr. Hornick!

Our Montevideo, Uruguay correspondent, Leonardo Correa Luna, let us know that he's added a Heinkel Kabine to his collection. He also sent a big ol' gob of pix.



Leo's Isetta isn't letting the Heinkel out of its sight. Head 'em up, move 'em out!

Leo also had some Isetta parts shipped to this writer's house this past summer for forwarding to Uruguay since the seller wouldn't ship them

outside of the US. No wonder! The bumpers and seat cover were no big deal but those door and rear parcel panels were ... literally and figuratively. It's way big for the US Postal Service. Both DHL and UPS wanted around \$750 (that's not a typo). So what was the work-around?

Well, Leo just happens to be an airline pilot for UAir. He found out that he and another captain were being sent to Miami for flight simulator training in October. Austin to Miami ain't no big deal for UPS. The package was then granted asylum on the plane back home as a professional courtesy, heh, heh. Looks like one more Isetta is headed back on to the road where it belongs. Leo also has his interior panels to use as templates for his reproduction Isetta parts business in South America. By the way, Leo does business on eBay under the moniker "isettaclassics". Good guy.

In the same geographical direction, Terry Sayther and Debbie Stuart are at it again, racing their silver BMW 502 sedan in the Carrera Panamerica. This is a torture test that begins at the southern end of Mexico and runs north with a finish line at Laredo, Texas. Some of the locales down there haven't been introduced to asphalt, concrete or guard rails yet. Terry and crew placed 3rd in their class in 2002, participated as crew in 2003 and jumped back into it this year.

Check out the action at Terry Sayther Automotive at www.terrysaytherauto.com. There's always something new and interesting on his site. Be sure to check out the "Don't Let This Happen To You" link on the BMW site.

Hmmmm what else is happening around here? Oh yeah. Micronut John Wallace has been going over his yellow Isetta with a fine tooth comb. John bought his car up in Dallas last December and has been all over it since then. The yellow car is now sportin' a leather interior, freight train quality horn, no more electrical gremlins, carb rebuild by Bing with a laying on of hands

by Perry Bushong to get it all dialed in. A fresh off-white powder coat job on the wheels really sets it off. Now, if someone can just find John a set of new Michelin MX 145R10's

Isetta Tech

Plain English information regarding restoration, parts, services, articles, links, feedback, trivia and cutting-edge nonsense for BMW Isetta enthusiasts.



Click on a tire to get rolling.

Live from Austin, Texas and like everything else around here, best viewed at 1024 x 768.

All issues of "A Little Car News" since September 2003 featuring the Micronuts' adventures and antics are posted on the Isetta Tech Web site at www.isettatech.com. Click on the "Articles" section and you'll see 'em at the top of the page. You'll need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view them. If you don't have it, there's a link to the free download. You can always click the "Feedback" link and send an email to be put on the mailing list or just cruise out there around the first of each month to grab the latest edition.

Don't take any wooden ones ... BF

Graphics by Bill Hornick, Leonardo Correa Luna and Bruce Fullerton