



A Little Car News

The Monthly Newsletter of the Central Texas Micronuts Car Club in Austin, Texas

January 2004 Edition

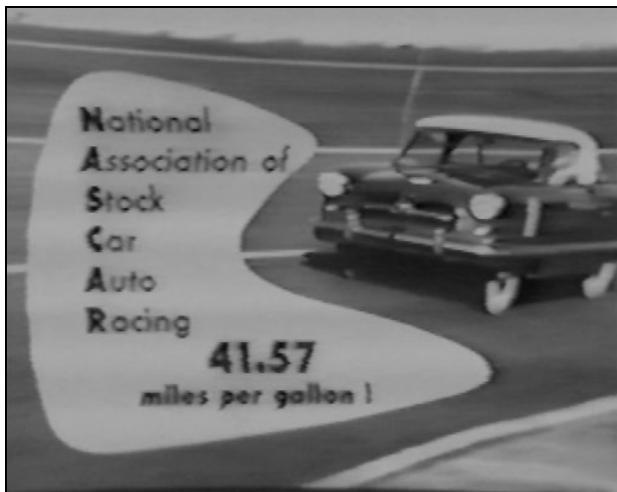
Next Micronuts meeting is Thursday, January the 8th, 7:00 at Rudy's Barbeque on Loop 360. If you see us, we'll be there!



It's hard to believe that the Micronuts turn 5 years old this year. Looking

over the past, we've added new members and friends, gotten a few restoration projects wrapped up and back on the road, more than a few nagging problems solved, expanded the newsletter, streamlined delivery to a wider audience via email and had members buy new cars to add to the stable. This past November, we had our third car show and posted our third year in the Chuy's parade. We've also consumed massive quantities of barbecue.

Stay tuned to **A Little Car News** for what's in store for zero-four!



When was the last time you associated NASCAR with good gas mileage and blurred Metros? No tellin' what the numbers would be if they'd yank that restrictor plate out of there.

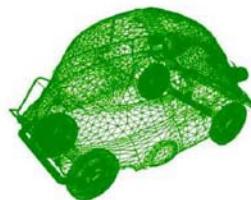


There's a new Web site out there that you need to check out. We're talking Abarth, Goggo, Peel, Citroen, NSU, Lotus, Fiat, Isetta, Messerschmidt, etc. The artwork is outstanding! You'll find mouse pads, lunch boxes, coffee cups, shirts and some unique 'microwear' in the mix of products offered up here. Their 2004 calendars are a must-have item. Check out Boogerballs Eccentric Auto Gift Shop at home.comcast.net/~lokrij/boogerball1.htm

By the way, Boogerball owner and graphic artist, Jeff Loughridge, is a really nice guy and might be open to hearing from anyone that would like to see a new microcar graphic. Jeff's on the Micronuts' mailing list so he'll see this blurb. You can contact him via email at lokrij@comcast.net.

Isetta Tech

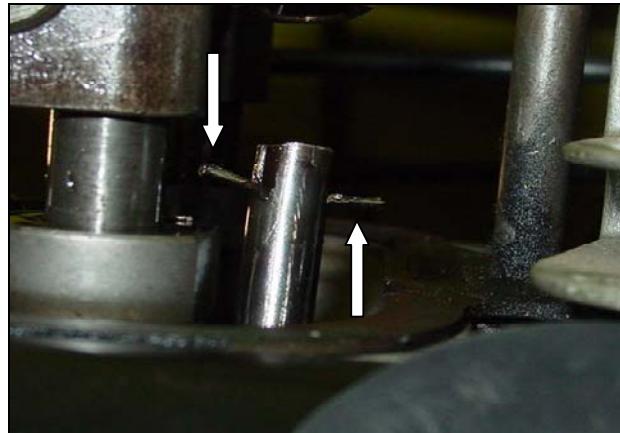
Plain English information regarding restoration, parts, services, articles, links, feedback, trivia and cutting-edge nonsense for BMW Isetta enthusiasts.



Click on a tire to get rolling.

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

After four months in a deep coma, **Isetta Tech** is back online. New URL is www.isettatech.com



In the December issue of ALCN, we had a shot of **John Wallace** hauling his new Isetta back from Dallas. The car's previous owner was **Ed Frantz** who is no stranger to Isettias. Ed was kind enough to make these two copies of pix of him and his wife Mary, circa 1956, taken in Oberursal, Germany with their first Isetta, a shiny new Z-car. Since Ed was in the US military at the time, the car's nickname, "**Colonel Bug**", was quite appropriate. **\$1,038.00 USD.**



Autopsy Shocker Revealed!

After a couple of dozen suggestions as to why **Bruce's Isetta refused to start** at the Chuy's parade, it turns out that the culprit was a mushroomed intake pushrod. **Perry Bushong** of Perry's Motorcycles & Sidecars in Fort Worth just happened to be in Austin, got wind of the problem and dropped by for a house call. Within minutes, he spotted the problem. The round tip on the top of the push rod got Atomic body slammed down into the hollow tube, splitting the sides out and shortening the rod which, in turn, was no longer able open the intake valve. The big-block was pulled, sent to Perry's **Isetta ICU** and should be back to normal pretty soon.

The arrows point to the problem. Perry says "the 8,000 RPM power shifts have gotta stop, dude."



Aside from mushroomed pushrods, the **Micronuts** are also well-known for their discriminating palates. Not only have we consumed the previously mentioned **gobs of barbecue** but plenty of good ol' fashion home cookin' at Threadgill's, double meat cheeseburgers at Dan's Hamburgers, African dishes at World Beat Cafe and fried chicken including quantum heaps of fried chicken livers and gizzards (remember the "lizard" platter?) back before Roy Henry's Famous Chicken and Waffles flat-lined on us. So where is this thread going, you ask?

If there's a new venue you'd like to suggest, even if it's a one-shot deal, give it some thought and we'll discuss it at the meeting on the 8th.



Here's a nice contrast from the snow-covered Isettias at the top of Page One except for the fact that **The Gloved One** holding the water skis looks like her next stop is the Ice Capades. Wouldn't it be great to sit around and get paid to dream this stuff up? **See ya'll in February!**