

# Alternate Power Initiative News Letter

ISSUE 03 APRIL 2011



The Alternate Power Initiative is a committee of the Whiting-Robertsdale Community Improvement Corporation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) entity

[www.alternatepowerinitiative.com](http://www.alternatepowerinitiative.com)

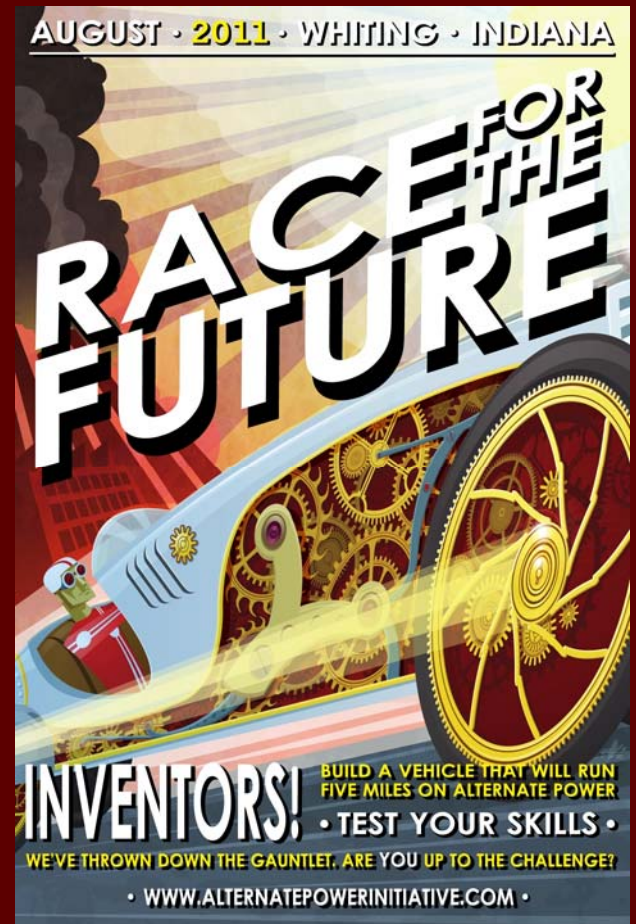
## this issue

Remarks from the Chairman P.1  
John Frett P.2  
Pumping Station One P.3  
Final Comments P.4

Editor: Greg Krabbe

## Remarks from the Chairman

April is almost over and we are still waiting for the weather to break, it will be nice to see warmer days. One good thing, though, is that all of you, who are building vehicles for our competition in basements and garages, don't have to feel guilty about spending time indoors working on your projects. A series of warm sunny days would give us all spring fever.



With all of the news about rising gas prices and the pain that we share at the gas pump it becomes more obvious that a challenge such as our *Race for the Future* and other such competitions across the country, are very important. Working together we can invent the solutions to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and perhaps do our part to slow the pace of global warming. Those of you who have taken up this challenge are bold and imaginative spirits.

Our goal is to encourage inventors and do what we can do to make this gathering of creative minds profitable for all involved. Thank you to all of you who have shared your stories, in this News Letter, either as Advisory Board members or contestants. We can all benefit by getting to know each other and supporting each other in this endeavor and who can predict what the outcome will be?

Bill Halliar

Chairman; Alternate Power Initiative Advisory Board

# Advisory Board Member Interview

## John Frett

John Frett has been a member of our Advisory Board since its founding in 2009. He is an engineer with an exacting eye towards detail and the experience to know the important features of a good design. John's input, as the competition first took shape in 2009, was invaluable to the formation of the rules and goals of the race.



As John was growing up his family was involved in the construction industry, so as a youth he was exposed to the rigors and safety standards that are an integral part of that discipline, perhaps this is where his interest in engineering was born.

This background in safety and engineering made John the perfect person to take charge of vehicle inspections for the 2010 race. John carefully looked over each vehicle to understand its operation and made suggestions for last minute modifications to improve the safety of each. He has agreed to perform the same function for the 2011 race. He and his team will inspect each vehicle as it is registered to ensure that it meets minimum safety standards and also that it conforms to the rules of our competition.

John is all for green energy, and new ideas, making him a natural to serve on the board for this second year. John says; "Unfortunately, I haven't been personally active in pursuing alternative fuels, I've been involved in races before, but nothing involving a full size vehicle."

John has a BSME in engineering from Valparaiso University and a Masters degree from Purdue University; he is currently employed in the rail industry. In his spare time John enjoys working on cars, tinkering in the garage and doing an odd bit of remodeling now and then. John is an enthusiastic volunteer at a local railway museum and has spent much time through the years serving at his church.

John is married to Christina who works as a nurse. John and Christina have three cats.

Greg Krabbe

Editor

# Pumping Station One brings folks to the design table.

*Pumping Station One* will field two teams at our August event, here is the first of two interviews;

The first *Pumping Station One* team is comprised of Jordan Bunker, Dan Bornside, Ed Bennett and Tim Saylor, friends that met through their association to Hackerspace and their individual interests and collaborations, all live in the Chicago area (forgive the vague geography). Hackerspace, is a web based community workshop, a trendy and helpful place to learn and exchange ideas and collaborative efforts.

Tim Saylor (27) is married to Gretchen and together they often enjoy back packing and climbing, and throw in some Hockey now and then in their free time, Tim is a software consultant for an established and reputable firm in the computer science venue. Tim believes green power is a laudable objective and one that can become the catalyst for great things in the future.

This first team of *Pumping Station One* may well come to the race with a steam powered vehicle, running on four tires at present, of the Bicycle variety.

Currently in the design phase the team members are eagerly throwing in their individual expertise, each in their own discipline and background, to address the ultimate need of more force and power from the least environmentally invasive source.

A goal that all of us with a driver's license can feel right now as Gasoline edges closer to competing with Champaign in price per gallon is ultimately a question of "smart, clean and effective" transportation sources and dependable fuel. The first person to crack the answer box will become a household name for Centuries!

Almost all great inventions began in a small garage or shop, the factories and fancy labs, came later! The "spark" that starts the fire is always seen in darkness.

We will all be anxious to see what *Pumping Station One* brings to the table!

Greg Krabbe

## Some Final Comments from the Chairman

Please visit our face book page and blog, you can find a link to each on our web site. I have been building a vehicle to use as a promotion for our competition. I have posted details of construction, photos and assorted comments. If you would like please share with us stories of your own work. Perhaps by sharing in this way we can inspire each other in as we progress towards the August 27 race day!

Thank you, I look forward to your comments.

Bill Halliar

Chairman; Alternate Power Initiative Advisory Board

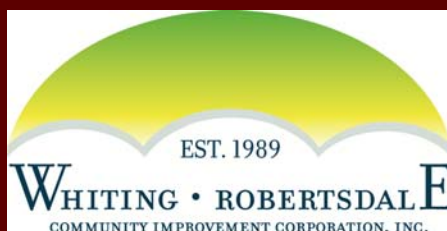
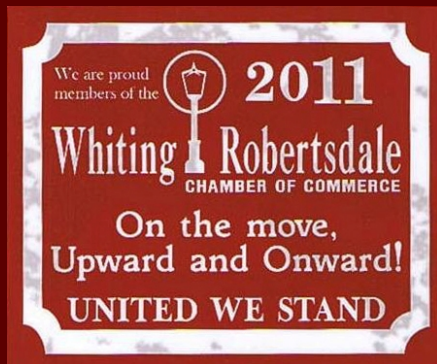
Whether you think you can or think you  
can't; you are right!

Henry Ford

Here are some web sites that  
you might like to visit;

[www.escapefromberkeley.com](http://www.escapefromberkeley.com)

[www.greengrandprix.com](http://www.greengrandprix.com)



Alternate Power Initiative

P.O. Box 425  
Whiting, IN 46394

[info@alternatepowerinitiative.com](mailto:info@alternatepowerinitiative.com) email

[www.alternatepowerinitiative.com](http://www.alternatepowerinitiative.com)

If you would not like to receive the API News Letter in the future please email us at [info@alternatepowerinitiative.com](mailto:info@alternatepowerinitiative.com)  
with unsubscribe in the subject line