

UM Supermileage

10/30/2017

Updates:

The team has made big strides in the last month, from meeting with professors in related fields to finding a lighter and more efficient starter engine. We are continuously looking for better and more efficient methods to really make our cars improve.

The closer we get to the end of the semester, the more we look ahead to the competition in April. We are thankful that both our electric motor car, Magnolia, and our ICE car, Spruce, will be going to the Shell Eco-Marathon in Sonoma, CA. Our next biggest hurdle is deciding how we plan on transporting the cars to competition. A few members are hoping for a cross-country roadtrip!

Social Event: Pumpkin Carving

Earlier in October, members met up with endless apple cider and donuts to see who could carve the best pumpkin.



The favorite pumpkin of the afternoon was carved by Taylor Larsen. She attempted to carve a Canadian leaf into her pumpkin to show off her Canadian heritage. Another popular carving was done by Austin Osagie of a bat mid-flight.

Engine Team



Our subteam has finished designing a new starter motor setup and is in the process of making components. This year's motor is much smaller than last year's to reflect the relatively small amount of torque needed to get our 25cc engine spinning. Three gears will transfer the motion of our starter to the engine increasing torque along the way. An overrunning clutch will then allow the engine to spin faster than the starter without also driving the motor or the intermediate gears. Our subteam also got welding training and has started manufacturing a new exhaust. To help keep the back of the car organized the team is planning engine mounting and wiring set ups that will allow the engine to be removed without knotting any wires. We are excited to get all the parts in place so we can devote time to engine testing and efficiency calibration.

Giving Blueday

For the past few years, University of Michigan has been holding an event called Giving Blueday, which falls on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving (November 28). It is an opportunity for organizations around campus to raise money for a charity or cause of their choice. Our team will be participating, but we encourage our supporters to check out the website <http://givingblueday.org/> where there is a short video that describes the event and its importance.



Above: A few of our team members getting creative with their pumpkin designs!

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