



# Cruisin' News

October 2015

President – Clay Seachris  
Vice President – Bob Schmeichel  
Treasurer – Jayne DeBoer  
Secretary – Marilyn Haper  
Newsletter Editor – Susan Seachris

## *There Is a Season - Turn, Turn, Turn*

By Clay Seachris

President's message

This year's cruise season has ended and planning for next year began even before our last cruise night. Most of next year's Wednesday evening 22-week cruise schedule is set. The cruise planning group will fine-tune details and locations for a couple more months. J&L Harley has their date set for June 1 and their calendar will be out in time for Christmas. Terry Koch hosts again and his date is June 6, followed by Handyman Cruise Night on June 15. We'll be hosting the Children's Home Society root beer float social the following week. Falls Overlook Café will be July 13 so cruisers may enjoy the falls together, then make their way to downtown to see Corvettes at Hot Summer Nights. Our annual Poker Run has been moved to August 3, so members may enjoy both Hot Summer Nights and our Poker Run. The Pontiac Club Sherman Park Picnic, Ford Club Wall Lake picnic, VA Car Show, Bethany Meadows, Dakota Digital Open House, Executive Touch/Subaru, Church Youth Group fundraiser and NAPA in Tea all have their same week next year also. Tom and Joyce Olsen have a great location and we'll enjoy their evening again next year. Terry Schulte's new, larger store will be open, and he may host a second evening. Terry's always a great host, and the door prizes he insists on giving make it even more socially fun.

Autumn and winter events have already begun. Last week 51 cars showed up and we enjoyed a perfect evening at Harrisburgers. Their new salad bar seemed to be a great addition to burgers and ice cream. Roger and Cheryl's Wine Tasting is this weekend, and keep in mind (since many don't drink wine) this event is more about good food and visiting than it is about wine. The following weekend Robin Miller has her Craft Fair and maybe the guys can bother Jerry in his cool man cave on the same visit. For more information on these events, see the flyers in the upcoming pages or email [President@GreatPlainsStreetRodders.com](mailto:President@GreatPlainsStreetRodders.com)

For a color copy of the newsletter or to see additional photos, go to our website [greatplainsstreetrodders.com](http://greatplainsstreetrodders.com).



**Street Rods filled the area and enjoyed time at NAPA Auto Parts in Tea.**

## Un-Realized History

By Bob Schmeichel

Most people would walk right on by a Chevrolet Corvair not realizing when they were introduced in December of 1959 that they were the most technologically laid out American car since World War II. GM wanted to create a car to be competitive with the Volkswagen market and did so from its beginning. From the body styling to the rear-mounted air-cooled engine and transmission, many European car manufactures mimicked the Corvair look in their own ways right up until 2002. While GM played around with upping the horsepower of the Corvair six cylinder by adding a turbocharger to maybe step into the European Porsche market, another idea of a single same chassis for both the Corvair and the Corvette came about. The same frame idea for the rear mounted Corvair engine and flipping the engine to the front of the rear end making it a mid-engine mounted Corvette kind of floundered in the design department and never happened. It makes you wonder if some of those GM designers went on to Europe to pursue the mid-engine concept there with Ferrari and other supercars. Over the years the Chevrolet Corvairs by themselves evolved into many different models to meet the public demands of gas mileage and smaller cars starting with a 2-door hardtop, 2-door sedan, 4-door hardtop, 4-door sedan, a convertible, a station wagon, a passenger van, a commercial van, and a pickup. GM did very well with mass produced sales the first six years with all these different models available. They could be had with a 3-speed or 4-speed manual trans as well as a 2-speed Powerglide automatic transmission. The flat six-cylinder engines came with 80 horsepower and ranged up to 150 horsepower depending on how they were ordered from the factory. All Corvairs had an independent rear suspension much like the mid-60s Corvette and were unfairly scrutinized by Ralph Nader as being unsafe at any speed. That scare came about because people were making the air pressure in the tires the same all around, which made them handle squirrely. But later that was proven debunked because of how people drove. Because the engines were air cooled, the heater borrowed from Volkswagen ran off gasoline, which cut the gas mileage by about 5 miles per gallon when using it in the winter time. In 1960 when the Corsair came out it was called the "Car of the Year" by Motor Trend Magazine. After years of small styling changes and technological improvements, the Corvair in 1965 had reached a status and considered to be the most handsome car in the world. And along with that same year many other auto manufactures were starting to create their own stylized car designs along with more horsepower and beginning to create what we call muscle cars today. Horse power was in demand and coming on strong over gas mileage. By May of 1969, Chevrolet had produced 1,786,243 Corvairs in its nine-year existence and decided to drop the Corvair line in general due to declining sales. To date, it has been called the most successful rear-engine car ever built in America.

In 2003 a coworker of Kris Tank told her in passing that she was thinking about selling her 1963 Corvair convertible that her parents had bought new and she had driven daily through all four college years. It had been parked back in her parent's garage after college for 10 years then moved to a family farm where it sat for 17 more years, and now was the time to sell it. Kris knew that her husband, Dave, had a vested interest in Corvairs because of his father having a Chevrolet dealership in North Dakota the 60s, and Dave driving one in high school. It didn't take long, and Dave and Kris had the Corvair at their home with Dave diving right in to restore the entire car. Touching a Corvair again reminded Dave of how simple these cars are to work on. This car had the optional 102 horsepower engine with a power glide automatic transmission option. Dave said he had never seen one with a power glide transmission at his dad's dealership because the cost was about 10 percent of the car cost then, so they are kind of rare to see. By the time Dave had the entire car all apart, he had removed and replaced the floor in the car as well as rebuilding the engine himself. He updated the electrical system generator to an alternator along with a newer

lightweight magnesium engine fan. This was a technical engine improvement in 1965 that allowed the car to accelerate and slow down quicker because of the lighter weight. Dave said he did all the body work and had a work-related customer paint the car for him, but kicks himself over the five-year rebuild for not taking enough pictures when he took it apart as a reference for later reassembly. With the original seat used in the back, Dave also installed new seat covers on the front bucket seats besides adding a new white colored convertible top. With the car done since 2008 and having driven it 14,000 miles, Dave and Kris thoroughly have enjoyed belonging to the National Corvair Club, and hitting other Corvair events around the country while competing and comparing notes. Moving to this area of the country and being new members of the GPSR, hopefully their fun continues!



SCHMEICHEL 2015



Every October until May, Great Plains Street Rodders transition to a supper social club. Hotrods Optional.  
Please join us. Many of these gatherings have special group rates. Guests are welcome.

Schedule is also posted on [greatplainsstreetrodders.com](http://greatplainsstreetrodders.com)

**(2015 Schedule)** Schedule is subject to change to accommodate the group's fun.

**Oct. 21 – Hy-Vee Deli – 26 & Sycamore**

1601 S. Sycamore Ave., SF, Regular menu items

**Oct. 28 – VFW**

3601 S. Minnesota Avenue, SF, Burger night

**Nov. 4 – Pizza Ranch – East 10th**

3809 E. 10th Street, SF, Regular buffet items

**Nov. 11 – Roll'n Pin**

3015 W. Russell Street, SF, Private room

**Nov. 18 – Crack'd Pot**

1430 N. Minnesota Ave., SF, Regular menu items

**Nov. 25 – Hy-Vee Deli – 26 & Sycamore**

1601 S. Sycamore Ave., SF, Regular menu items

**Dec. 2 – Buffalo Wild Wings - Louise**

2601 S Louise Ave., SF, Regular menu items

Mention club to hostess so you don't need to wait in line

**Dec. 9 – Tailgators**

1013 N. Splitrock Blvd., Brandon, Regular menu items

**Dec. 16 – VFW**

3601 S. Minnesota Avenue, SF, Burger night

**Dec. 23 – Hy-Vee Deli – 26 & Sycamore**

1601 S. Sycamore Ave., SF, Regular menu items

**Dec. 30 – Pizza Ranch – East 10th**

3809 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, SF, Regular buffet items

**Jan. 6 – Rookies Sports Bar & Grill**

2616 S. Louise Avenue, SF, Regular menu items

**Jan. 13 – Shenanigan's Pub**

1903 Tea Ellis Road, SF

**Jan. 20 – The Cracker Barrel**

2409 S. Shirley Avenue, SF, Regular menu items

**Jan. 27 – Crack'd Pot**

1430 N. Minnesota Avenue, SF, Regular menu items

**Feb. 3 – Hibachi Grill & Supreme Buffet**

1100 West 41<sup>st</sup> Street, SF, Buffet

**Feb. 10 – Valentine's Party ♥ LifeScape**

4100 S. Western Ave., SF, Special Catered Meal



## Thanks Given

We thank you all for the thoughts, prayers, friendship and memorial. Our hearts are filled with gratitude. The loss of Tom has left a tremendous hole in our hearts. We continue to take each day one at a time. Tom loved being part of this club and sharing his love of cars. He treasured your friendship. We thank you. Judy Cain and Family.

## Sympathy Offered

Our thoughts and prayers go out to fellow member, Ivan Buskol and his family. Ivan's mother, Olga, passed away September 28. The club sent a memorial on behalf of all the Great Plains Street Rodders.

## Social Planners Wanted

We're looking for a couple people to begin shadowing and learning about the Meet-n-Eat Committee. Terry Peterson and Gary Jorgenson are looking for some additional ideas and different perspectives on our off-season social schedule. They will be retiring from the committee soon. We're looking for new volunteers to carry on site relationships and the social schedule they've built. Restaurant socials are still the mainstay. They also plan special gatherings like Chili Feeds, Spaghetti Socials, Wine Tastings, Antiquing Socials, and just about anything social that is fun, easy and inclusive during the winters. Visit with Clay Seachris, Terry Peterson or Gary Jorgenson if you're interested.

## Wine Tasting 7

October 17 at 5 p.m. is a social at Metro Station, 906 E. Redwood Blvd., Brandon. Bring a bottle of wine to sample and food to share. Wine optional - fun mandatory. ☺

## Christmas Party Plan

December 5 will be the evening of the Annual Great Plains Christmas Party at LifeScape on south Western Avenue. Keep an eye out for \$15 gift exchange clearance items. That morning we're planning our annual charitable trek to Children's Inn again. Santa's been shopping. Thank you to this year's planning committee: Judy Horan, Jean Knowlton, LaDell Mertons and Maritta Husman. Visit them with your ideas or questions.



## Thanks for Hosting

Thank you Doug and Karen Walker for hosting a fun Hotdog and Ice Cream Social. The Sunday weather was perfect and the cul-de-sac was filled with cool cars.



## Robin's Random Crap

October 23 and 24, Robin Miller is hosting a craft show at her home, 26989 273<sup>rd</sup> Street, Tea. She and Debbi will be sharing their creations. Stop by for a chance to win an original set of Debbi Jean Earrings. See the flyer on the schedule page for more info.

## October Birthdays

(2<sup>nd</sup> half)

Jim Solheim	18
Sally Steiner	24
Tom Olsen	28

## November Birthdays

(1<sup>st</sup> half)

Susan Seachris	1
Clay Seachris	2
Jack Boatright	4
Steve Ollerich	9
Jackie Olson	10
Dean Gough	11
Marilyn Anderson	11
Sheryl Winningham	12
Rhonda Ollerich	13

## October Anniversaries

(2<sup>nd</sup> half)

John and Sonja Lynch	16
Bob and Sandy Schmeichel	20

## November Anniversaries

(1<sup>st</sup> half)

Jack and Dianne Boatright	4
Dale and Joyce Aurit	5
Dick and Marilyn Anderson	11

## Dates Are Mid-Monthly

The two-month birthday and anniversary schedule is listed from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## Club Logo'd Apparel

Midstates Imprinted Sportswear, 935 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, 332-7811 has both our logos. Just drop off your items and they'll help you.



Great Plains  
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA  
Street Rodders



# Autumn Cruising



Charlie and Sandy Hollingshead's '55 Pontiac at Harrisburgers



Don and Pat Reichert's '58 Impala at Harrisburgers



Milo and Sandy Gunderson's '55 Chevy at Walker's Sundae Social



Dan Tilus's '35 Ford Pickup at Harrisburgers



Greg and Teena Frederick's '48 Ford at Walker's Sundae Social



Faye Gallagher in her '66 Impala at Executive Touch/Subaru



Bob, Archie, Ron and Jeff enjoying an autumn evening



Lynn and Ann Kimball's '72 MG at a Youth Group Fundraiser



## Photographs and Memories

by Tom Olsen

I'm a car guy and veteran Great Plains Street Rodder from Sioux Falls who developed an interest in cars in the early 1960s, and that passion has been with me all these years. Each month I'll share a picture or two in the newsletter and will offer a short narrative on each for your enjoyment. While I'm primarily a Chevy guy, I'll do my best to mix things up a bit so everyone sees something they might enjoy.



## Gasser Wars – Big John

Willys "Gassers" were prevalent in 1965, and "Big John" Mazmanian had one of the quickest, and likely the prettiest one around! I was fortunate to see "Big John" race his 1941 Willys at the 1965 Nationals in Indianapolis. The car ran in A/Gas Supercharged at the time and featured a 467 ci Chrysler Hemi with a GMC supercharger and a B & M Hydro Stick trans; quarter mile times were in the 9 second range.

This was the time of the "Gasser Wars" when various camshaft, transmission, piston, tire and other parts companies would post ads in the automotive publications of the day boasting of the car with their product and calling on all comers at the next big event.

Mazmanian was one of the dominant players in the "Gasser Wars" competing with all the major teams of the day. The black and white photo is from the Indy Nationals, the color photo is from the 2015 NHRA Hot Rod Reunion.



## Christmas Charitable Morning and Evening Christmas Dinner and Gift Exchange

December 5 at 9:00 a.m. we'll meet for a social hour and gather together all your charitable supplies for Children's Inn. Then 10:00, we'll go to Children's Inn with Santa Claus to deliver your gifts and supplies. Then that afternoon at 4:30 p.m. the Christmas party social begins followed by a catered meal at 5:30 and the Gift Exchange Game beginning at 6:30.



*More Details to Come*





## *Meet-n-Eat Schedule*



**10/21/15 HyVee Deli, 26<sup>th</sup> & Sycamore**  
1601 S. Sycamore Ave., Sioux Falls

**10/28/15 VFW, (Burger Night)**  
3601 S. Minnesota Ave., Sioux Falls

**11/04/15 Pizza Ranch, East 10<sup>th</sup>**  
3809 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Sioux Falls

**11/11/15 Roll 'n Pin Restaurant**  
3015 W. Russell Street, Sioux Falls

**11/18/15 Crack'd Pot Restaurant**  
1430 N. Minnesota Avenue, Sioux Falls

**11/25/15 HyVee Deli, 26<sup>th</sup> & Sycamore**  
1601 S. Sycamore Ave., Sioux Falls

**12/02/15 Buffalo Wild Wings, S. Louise**  
2601 S. Louise Ave., Sioux Falls

**12/05/15 Charitable Morning & Christmas Party**  
4100 S. Western Ave., Sioux Falls

**12/09/15 Tailgators**  
1013 N. Splitrock Blvd., Brandon

**12/16/15 VFW, (Burger Night)**  
3601 S. Minnesota Ave., Sioux Falls

**12/23/15 HyVee Deli, 26<sup>th</sup> & Sycamore**  
1601 S. Sycamore Ave., Sioux Falls

**12/30/15 Pizza Ranch, East 10<sup>th</sup>**  
3809 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Sioux Falls

## *Great Plains Street Rodders Enjoying Another Summer Picnic*





**Classified Ads**  
(Free to All Members)



**WANTED** – Classified ads

Free help for members selling or wanting something. Just email/reply with the information and a picture if you have one to any club message.  
[president@greatplainsstreetrodders.com](mailto:president@greatplainsstreetrodders.com)

**FOR SALE – Pontiac Wheels.** 6"x14" \$20 for both. Call Bob at 361-1932

**FOR RENT – Garage Space,** 12' x 21' wide, 12' high inside, available with one or two 10' x 12' upper storage decks, electricity, insulated, fire-proof sheetrock, insulated floors. Also large 50' x 36' spaces available in adjacent building. Also outside storage available. Security fence surrounds property. Call Dale Aurit Home: 334-5005 or Cell: 605 212-5949

**FOR SALE – 1964 Galaxy 500 2dr Hardtop,** all new interior, recent paint and restoration updates. Asking price is \$25,000. Call Mel Holmbeck for more info or make an offer. 361-2740, "Dorothy and I enjoy this Ford. I'm just looking for something different." ☺



**Great Plains Street Rodders**

Hosting the events below

**Roger and Cheryl Van Noort**

**Robin Miller**



YOU'RE INVITED TO A WINE TASTING PARTY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2015

@ METRO STATION

906 E. REDWOOD BLVD, BRANDON

BRING A BOTTLE OF WINE AND AN HORS D'OEUVRE  
TO SHARE

THE FUN STARTS @ 5:00

Call Cheryl @ 941-2644 if you have any questions.

*Debbi Jean*  
**Trunk Show!**



**Date:** Friday, October 23 9:00 am—6:00 pm  
Saturday, October 24 9:00 am—4:00 pm

**Where:** 46989 273rd street, Tea, SD

- Directions: from Sioux Falls:
- South on I-29
  - Right on Exit 71
  - Continue Westbound just over 1/2 mile
  - Brick House on the south side of the road

Featuring Debbi's one-of-a-kind designs.

- Handbags inspired by vintage quilts and linens
- Crystal and otolith jewelry
- Handbag Organizers
- Aprons
- Salvation Bracelets

We can't wait for you to see them!

In addition to Debbi's creations, Robin Miller will be sharing some of her artwork.

- Watercolor Paintings
- Jewelry
- Stained Glass
- Fused Glass
- Bean Bag Games



Stop by for your chance to WIN an original set of Debbi Jean earrings!

Christmas is coming! Come and buy that perfect gift for someone  
(or maybe for yourself!)

(Sorry, no credit or debit cards accepted at this time.)

[DebbiJean@hotmail.com](mailto:DebbiJean@hotmail.com)

[DebbiJean.com](http://DebbiJean.com)

605.201.6136