



Cruisin' News

February 2016

President – Clay Seachris

Vice President – Bob Schmeichel

Treasurer – Jayne DeBoer

Secretary – Marilyn Haper

Newsletter Editor – Susan Seachris

Feelin' the Pressure – Spring's Comin'

By Clay Seachris

President's message

This is always a transition time as the signs of spring begin to overshadow the dark winter days. Most of our winter events have passed. Summer cruise plans are being made and rooms are being reserved for out-of-town cruises and shows. Just last week the club got a number of flyers through email. Those with build projects are starting to feel the pressure to wrap up the details and get their car ready to roll. I know I'm looking forward to spring fever and as the days get longer, my motivation increases to finish my winter projects.

The Ice-Breaker Party at Mike and Lori's was a huge hit again. There were about 80 people there with room to spare and more than enough food to eat. After the crowd chose a favorite man in glasses and woman in glasses. We realized we were congratulating both Terry Jellis and Nancy Jellis for taking home first place honors and "valuable" prizes. Thank you for all the fine food, thank you to all the good sports participating in this year's contest. We're exploring ideas for next year's silly contestant. Thank you to hosts, Mike and Lori Paulson.

Winterfest of Wheels just wrapped up and all indications are it will be another great Cure Kids Cancer fundraiser. A number of club members showed off their cars and many of us helped behind the scenes. Dave and Karen Leisinger always put on an organized, classy show. There were many high-dollar cars there again and I continue to be impressed by so many humble hotrodders. I always enjoy our vendor friends there, also.

Our annual Valentine's Party was another fun evening. LifeScape catering had great food and plenty of it. The Party Planning Committee did a great job of making this a memorable evening. Many at the party went home with parting gifts. It's also great to see Betsy Petersen and Sandy Gunderson joined the committee.

For a color copy of the newsletter or to see additional photos, go to our website greatplainsstreetrodders.com.



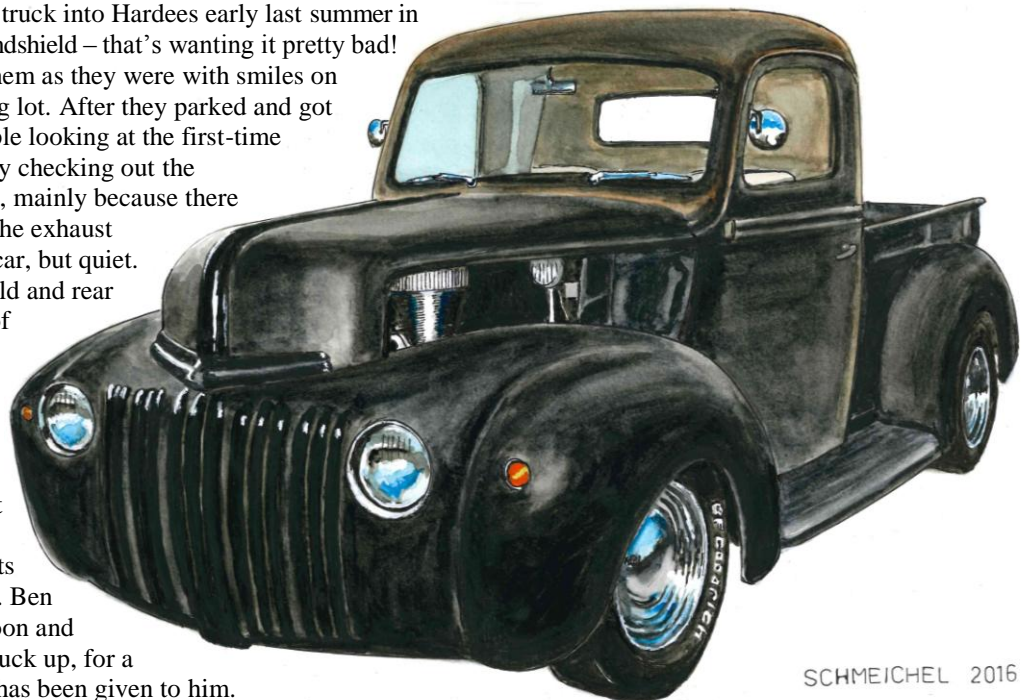
Endearment Without Terms

By Bob Schmeichel

In 1979, while still in high school at the young age of 17, Ben Ekrem bought a 1946 Ford pickup as a project to play around with from a junk yard neighbor. The idea of building an old hot rod pickup was strong that summer for a couple of months as he tore it down to the frame. And then for some strange coincidence Ben discovered girls and other fun things to do with his time, which changed his priorities for more than 30 years. Because of his involvement with taking the old Ford pickup apart, Ben started tinkering on other people's projects playing around doing bodywork, which eventually led him to college to learn further about the trade as a career. As time moved forward while working through college and dating Tami for about a year, Ben was diagnosed with diabetes.

Tami knew all of the ins and outs of diabetes because of the history of it within her own family and didn't let it scare her away when Ben asked her to marry him. So from that point on with having and raising kids, along with creating a good life for all, the '46 Ford pickup was pushed further back in Ben's thoughts. Ben's bodyshop career directions and relocating the family over the years to different parts of the state to better themselves kind of became the norm with life being good and fast forward until late of 2011. Because of the diabetes, Ben was starting to have some health-related issues that were wearing him out and soon to be diagnosed with kidney failure and a weakening pancreas. To survive Ben was immediately put on a weekly kidney dialysis regiment while Tami began a search for help beginning with the National Kidney Foundation to apply for a kidney donor. Tami knew of all the connections to reach out to because of her father having a successful kidney transplant in 1970. While Tami was willing, as well as one of their daughters, to give up a kidney for Ben, their blood types didn't match Ben's, so the frustration and search was on. During the dialysis treatments Ben was on disability, away from work, struggling to keep a positive mind set with what he was going through while hoping for a good outcome. Eventually this became a more stressful time and Ben decided to bring the old '46 Ford pickup home from where it had sat for 30-plus years and use it as a distraction or therapy for himself in between dialysis treatments. After getting it home, the idea worked as he thought it would allowing him to get focused away from the realities of his life then and finally get going on building this long-awaited idea of a hot rod truck. After months of dialysis treatments and working on the truck when he felt like it, a long-time friend's wife came forward from Wisconsin to volunteer one of her kidneys saying she felt she had to do it. After extensive testing, it was found out that she was a match with Ben's blood type and the transplant would happen soon. The transplant happened in August of 2012, and then a year later in November of 2013 Ben also received a pancreas transplant. These two events changed Ben's life immensely leaving him without diabetes in his life anymore. He said he is doing fine today kidney wise and finding some wonderful normalcy in his life again without ever forgetting about the gifts that basically keep on giving. These days when Ben is not working on his new career as an insurance auditor, he is focused on his '46 Ford pickup with Tami's help. They are pretty much physically building this truck together as they have done everything else in life!! So far they have installed a new floor in the cab, new cab corners, a new box, and are still working on getting it exactly the way they want it. To make it roll low, they installed a Fatman (Mustang II) front end with coilovers and disc brakes while a 9-inch Ford rear end with coilovers is held in place with a 4-link set-up that completes the rear half. To make great sounds up front and push the picture, a race car nephew put together a hopped-up (as Ben says it) 350 Chevy, which is controlled by a 700R-4 AOD trans. I vividly remember standing there and seeing the first time they drove this truck into Hardees early last summer in 2015 on a Saturday evening without a windshield – that's wanting it pretty bad!

But I have to say, I was as excited for them as they were with smiles on their faces as they rolled into the parking lot. After they parked and got out, the truck was surrounded with people looking at the first-time showing of this hot rod pickup and many checking out the engineering put into the rear suspension, mainly because there wasn't a floor in the box yet. I thought the exhaust sounded pretty cool like a healthy race car, but quiet. After that day, they had a new windshield and rear window installed to keep the wind out of their smiles. The doors still have the original glass. Ben and Tami continued to work on the truck while driving it a lot last summer where ever they took it and not always without small issues. Those little things are getting ironed out as time goes on and the truck is getting closer to where they want it to be with its outward appearance shouting all hotrod. Ben hopes to hook up the air conditioning soon and install 4.11 rear end gears to liven the truck up, for a second chance at life in the fast lane as has been given to him.



SCHMEICHEL 2016



House Bill 1164 - 02/09/2016 Special Interest Vehicle Rear-Plate Only

"This bill has been extensively amended (hoghoused) and may no longer be consistent with the original intention of the sponsor."

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to provide for a special interest motor vehicle license plate for certain vehicles under certain conditions.

4 Section 1. That chapter 32-5 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

5 Any person who is a resident of this state and is the owner of a special interest motor vehicle
6 may apply to the county treasurer of the applicant's county of residence for a special interest
7 motor vehicle license plate.

1 requirements in section 4 of this Act and pay any applicable fees in order to receive a special
2 interest motor vehicle license plate.

3 For purposes of this Act, a special interest motor vehicle is a vehicle that is collected,
4 preserved, restored, or maintained by the owner as a leisure pursuit and is not used for general
5 or commercial transportation. The special interest motor vehicle license plate may be placed on
6 any automobile, pickup, truck, or van licensed pursuant to § 32-5-6 that qualifies as a special
7 interest motor vehicle.

8 Section 2. That chapter 32-5 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

9 The special interest motor vehicle plate shall be issued in place of the regular plates issued
10 pursuant to § 32-5-85. The special interest motor vehicle plate shall be numbered and designed
11 by the secretary to be visibly distinct from regular noncommercial license plates. The special
12 interest motor vehicle plate shall be reflectorized and validated with a decal each year in the
13 same manner as noncommercial license plates. Notwithstanding the requirements of § 32-5-98,
14 a vehicle for which a special interest motor vehicle license plate is issued is not required to
15 display a number plate on the front of the vehicle. The special interest motor vehicle license
16 plate shall be securely fastened to the rear of the special interest motor vehicle in a horizontal
17 and upright position.

18 Section 3. That chapter 32-5 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

19 In addition to the noncommercial annual registration fees, each applicant for a special
20 interest motor vehicle license plate shall pay an annual twenty-five dollar fee. All fees collected
21 pursuant to this section shall be credited to the license plate special revenue fund.

22 Section 4. That chapter 32-5 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

23 An application for a special interest motor vehicle license plate, as provided for in section
24 1 of this Act, shall include a signed affidavit wherein the applicant attests to the following:

- 3 - HB 1164

1 (1) The motor vehicle for which the special interest motor vehicle license plate is sought
2 is driven less than six thousand miles per year;

3 (2) The motor vehicle for which the special interest motor vehicle license plate is sought
4 is not used for general or commercial transportation, but rather for occasional
5 transportation, public displays, parades, and related pleasure or hobby activities; and

6 (3) The current reading on the odometer of the special interest motor vehicle.

7 The secretary may, at any time, require an applicant to provide additional information to
8 determine if the applicant meets the special interest motor vehicle license plate requirements.

9 An applicant shall annually, at the time of registration renewal, submit the current odometer
10 reading of the special interest motor vehicle. If an applicant fails to provide this information the
11 registration may not be renewed.

12 Section 5. That chapter 32-5 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

13 If an applicant misuses the special interest motor vehicle license plate by not adhering to the
14 special interest motor vehicle license plate requirements, that applicant shall surrender to the
15 department all special interest motor vehicle license plates in his or her possession and is not
16 eligible for a special interest motor vehicle plate for a period of three years.

17 Section 6. That § 32-5-67 be amended to read:

18 32-5-67. All fees received pursuant to §§ 32-5-42, 32-5-42.2, 32-5-65, 32-5-65.1, 32-5-159,
19 and 32-5-160, and this Act shall be credited to a fund to be known as the license plate special
20 revenue fund. The special revenue fund shall be expended for the purchase of special plates
21 required pursuant to this chapter and the expenses of the office incident to the issuance thereof.
22 Disbursements from this fund shall be made by warrants drawn by the state auditor on vouchers
23 duly approved by the secretary.

Sympathy Offered

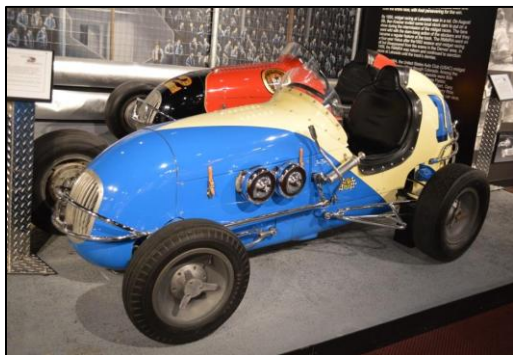
Our thoughts and prayers go out to Cheryl Van Noort and her family. Cheryl's brother, Robert "Bob" Steenholdt, passed away January 12. We appreciate all the help and support Cheryl has given us through the years and we're glad to be here for her now.

Thanks Given

Dear Great Plains Street Rodders, I want to thank all of you for your letters, calls and visits during the recent loss of my brother, Bob Steenholdt. Your friendship is immeasurable. Cheryl Van Noort

Lincoln Weekend of Fun

Our Annual Lincoln, Nebraska Trip is March 5 and 6. As usual, we tour the Museum of American Speed and many attend the Manginelli Swap Meet. Every year the museum displays change. There're also many shopping opportunities for the guys and gals. You may do as much or as little as you like with the group. We're at the Oak Tree Inn (formerly Super 8) again, (402-467-4488), mention Lori Paulson/Great Plains Street Rodders for a discount.



Membership Renewals

Send your dues to Great Plains Street Rodders, Jayne DeBoer, Treasurer, 1606 E. Northstar Lane, Sioux Falls, SD 57108. We're almost done – Thanks for your help.

Ice-Breaker Crazy Eyes

Thank you Mike and Lori Paulson for the Ice-Breaker Party. Terry and Nancy Jellis showed up with "crazy eyes" and took home People Choice "valuable" prizes.



Young Hotrod Hearts

"The Future of Our Hobby Lies Within Our Youth," has been one of our mottos. We enjoy seeing them achieve their goals. ♥♥♥♥



Tyler Swanger and Ally Dykstra enjoying a Mexican Riviera Vacation together.



Sean Ahlers and Sarah Dirks enjoying West Coast Vacation together.

February Birthdays

(2nd half)

Morris Fick	17
Ken Buchanan	18
Ron Roe	23
Joyce Gough	23
Art Umland	25
Don Hood	26
Tami Ekrem	27

March Birthdays

(1st half)

Randy DeBoer	2
Kevin Kappenman	4
Vern Brown	5
Ken Bagley	7
Ken Levene	8
Lynn Hammerschmidt	8
Vickie Hauge	12
Lisa Frock	13
Les Ramstad	14
Don Jensen	15

February Anniversaries

(2nd half)

Bob and Ellen Van Noort	18
John and Dianne Moore	19
Rich and Melania Barnes	26
Ron and Maritta Husman	26

March Anniversaries

(1st half)

Bill and Candy Sarris-Nelson	9
Mike and Karla Rohde	23

Dates Are Mid-Monthly

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

2015 Financial Report

Treasurer Jayne DeBoer has compiled our financial report. It's positive, comprehensive and kept available upon request. Annual member dues are our only income. Communication and publications are our main expenses: newsletter, other printing and website. Party support for Valentine's Day, Christmas, the Weinie Roast and Children's Home Society are also significant.



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.

The Cotton Chev

The "Cotton Chev" '57 Chevy you see here was built as a "gasser" for dragstrip use by local racers Bill Stapleton, Roger Dearduff and Ron Downs. The car was built and raced for a few years in the early 1960s, and then sold to my friend, Bob Thoen. Dan Cotton Chevrolet, in Beresford, was the sponsor of the car when raced. I met Bob and became aware of the car in 1964 when Bob pulled into the Barrell drive in and challenged me to a drag race. (It's a long and twisted story from there...) This was a pretty neat race car for its time and made a really cool street machine for Bob: he had a hot 283 in it for power and all the necessary speed parts a high school kid could afford. After a couple years Bob sold the car to another high schooler who promptly went about wrecking the car in a series of crashes. The couple in the photos is Bob and his wife, Mary, as high school kids.



TS Olsen collection



Summer Cruisin' will be here soon.

Meet-n-Eat Schedule



2/24/16 VFW, (Burger Night)
3601 S. Minnesota Ave., Sioux Falls

3/02/16 The Cracker Barrel
2409 S. Shirley Ave., Sioux Falls

3/09/16 Buffalo Wild Wings, S. Louise
2601 S. Louise Ave., Sioux Falls

3/16/16 Tailgators
1013 N. Splitrock Blvd., Brandon

3/23/16 Shenanigan's Pub
1903 Tea Ellis Road, Sioux Falls

3/30/16 Crack'd Pot Restaurant
1430 N. Minnesota Ave., Sioux Falls

4/06/16 Rookies Sports Bar & Grill
2616 S. Louise Ave., Sioux Falls

4/13/16 Pizza Ranch, East 10th
3809 E. 10th Street, Sioux Falls

4/20/16 VFW, (Burger Night)
3601 S. Minnesota Ave., Sioux Falls

4/27/16 Shenanigan's Pub
1903 Tea Ellis Road, Sioux Falls

*****Summer Cruise Schedule Starts up*****

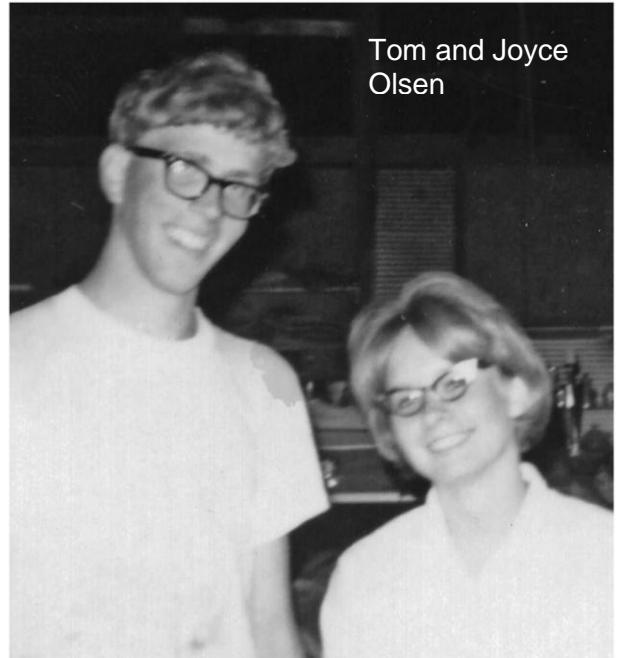
5/04/16 (Tentative) Wendy's West 12th
400 S. Lyons Ave., Street, Sioux Falls

More Valentine Sweethearts

Kris and Larry
Golden



Tom and Joyce
Olsen



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

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." ☺



December 18, 2015

Great Plains Street Rodders
Attn: Jayne DeBoer
1606 E North Star Ln
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Dear Jayne and Friends,

It seems the year has flown by and another holiday season is upon us. It is a heartwarming time of year with the festive music, twinkling lights and holiday goodies!

Sadly, in the work we do at Children's Inn, this time of year is no exception in seeing the instances of family violence and abuse that occur in our community. Fortunately for us, the community response is that of compassion and caring, especially during the holiday season.

In 2015, Children's Inn has witnessed a notable increase in the requests for safety and support from victims all across the community. Because of that increase, our supplies and reserves of necessary items have dwindled, if not vanished. Your help in restocking those shelves is so appreciated!

During the holiday season, and year-round, Children's Inn appreciates all you do to help victims of domestic violence and child abuse & neglect. Your gift of diapers, canned goods, cereal, ham, toiletries, toilet paper, color books, clock radio, clothes, snacks, creamer, pajamas, wipes, socks, hair items, purses, coffee, Tylenol, wash clothes, toys, cups, 10 \$10.00 Walmart gift cards, \$25.00 Target gift card, \$15.00 Hy-Vee gift card and a \$25.00 Hy-Vee gift card, and your belief in the work being done here at Children's Inn, will go far to help those in need of safety!

Thank you! We appreciate you continuing to make Children's Inn a part of your "Santa" tour!

Sincerely,

Staci Kropuenske
Development Coordinator
Children's Inn - LIKE us on Facebook!

Sioux City Ford Lincoln



CAR SHOW & SHINE

WORTHINGTON, MN
Saturday, May 28, 2016
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Cruise Lake Okabena at 2:00

» TOUR MUSEUM OF AUTOMOBILE MEMORABILIA
» FOOD STAND ON PREMISES

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