



Cruisin' News

June 2014

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

Pedal to the Metal

By Clay Seachris

President's message

Every June I'm amazed at how many events and gatherings are now available. Last weekend there must have been a half dozen or more local car-related events. On Sunday at one of the car socials, a friend asked me where I'd been and we shared that we both were busy enjoying cruising events and had not seen each other. There are so many events that I worry club email will make some coordinator will feel left out if I don't mention their show. For this reason, during this busy season, I'm going to limit my emails to special information on our Wednesday night cruises and to passing along invites from event organizers. It's quick and simple to forward show organizers' invites. Email me or click reply to any email from president@greatplainsstreetrodders.com if you need anything or want to share information. Also, always check siouxlandcouncil.info for information. Derrick Stokes works hard to keep that schedule up to date. As I've mentioned before, the Siouxland Car Council site is only as good as the information received from those organizing the events and emailing secretary@siouxlandcouncil.info with simple information and link to event websites.

We host a couple nights coming up. I'll be hitting the toy section to purchase about 80 *HotWheels* cars for children at the Children's Home Society. We always have enough free *HotWheels* on hand also for visiting children. The club will also be providing free root beer floats at this ice cream social.

Our annual Poker Run is coming up. Veteran volunteers will be enjoying the run this year so there is a stop needing a volunteer. Ron Friedbauer has volunteered to manage a stop and I'm hoping Terry and Nancy Jellis set up a spot with their new poker roulette wheel. I think the dartboard stop needs a manager and we have other games available or you can think up your own. If you want to manage a stop, let me know. Thank you.

Keep checking the schedule on The Siouxland Car Council website siouxlandcouncil.info for updates.



Just a few of the Great Plains Street Rodder cars at Terry Koch's cruise night

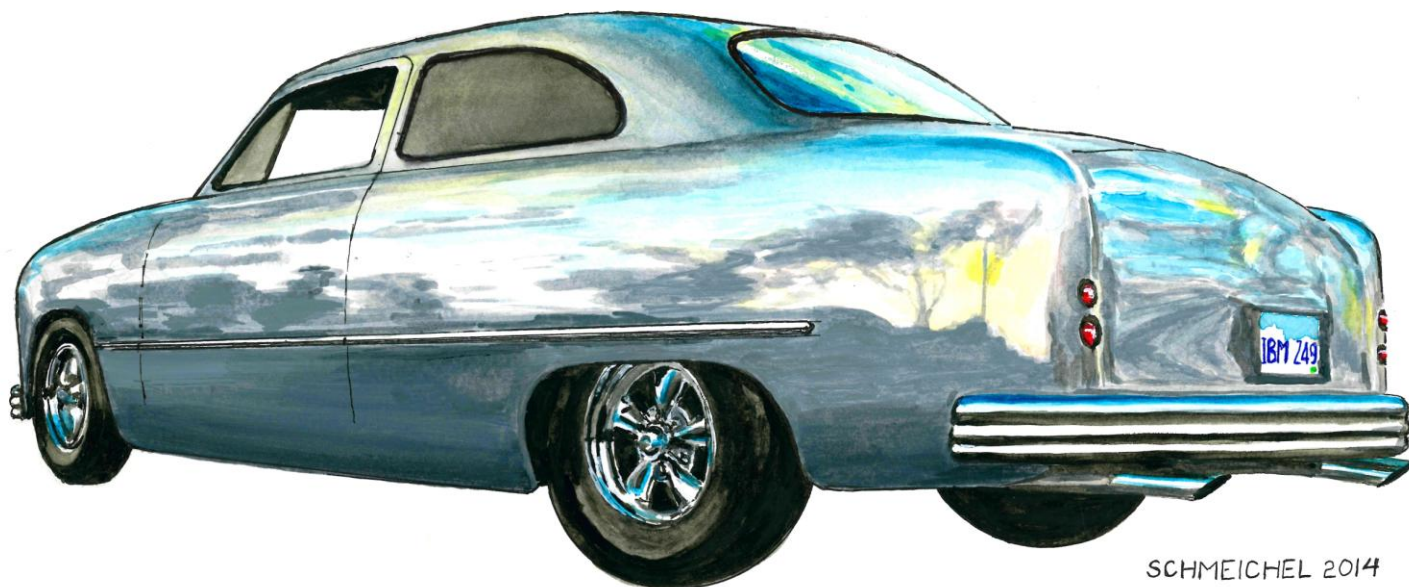
Old Customs Never Die

By Bob Schmeichel

If you have been into old cars for the last 40 to 50 years, you would understand the trends that have evolved since the end of World War II in 1945. The young GI's back then had gained a bunch of mechanical knowledge working everything from jeeps to airplanes. They pretty much learned what it took to make something go faster at the government's expense while doing their duty during war time. Some who came back home had the insatiable need for speed. Although money was tight back then, the ones who wanted to go faster did what they knew worked. They would buy a \$10 or \$15 1930-something car and strip it down to bare essentials to lighten and streamline leaving only a body without fenders, a frame and an engine. They toyed around with adding another carburetor or two to get more power and wind in their face with no regard for safety. During those early years, some of the returning GI's even created businesses building engine parts to sell to the novice to make more power and add to the growing speed picture. This style or trend of car eventually led to high-speed, timed events on dry lake beds and later leading to the Bonneville Salt Flat Racing and a new, evolving sport called drag racing. The Bonneville Salt Flats as well as drag racing has a heavy following even up to today with people who love speed while putting their hearts, souls and a lot of money into it to achieve their goals.

In the 50s and 60s the car trend seemed to shift to customizing cars to have something no one else had. It usually involved removing all the identifiable trim on the outside of a car, thus the terms nosed and decked came about. Outside door handles were removed and the top was chopped along with the body maybe channeled to lower the outward appearance. Many things were redone right down to creating a new body by transferring a piece from one car to another and improving the looks in whatever wild way they could imagine. Many of these hand-crafted and created old cars back then had newer, larger engines installed by their creators still with speed in mind and are highly sought after today. Ed Roth, Bill Cushenberry, Alexander Brothers, Barris Brothers, Blackie Gejeien, Bill Hines, Darryl Starbird and Dean Jeffries are just a few of the names who made a big impression on the custom car scene nationally through the L.A. Roaster show along with the publication of *Hot Rod* magazine. That scene blossomed from there and continues even up to today.

Here in South Dakota in the 1960s we had Gary Gerhardt who was enthralled with building a custom car himself because of all the pictures he had seen in *Hot Rod* magazine then. His car of choice to start out with was a 1949 Ford 2-door sedan. Seeing the end result in his mind's eye, he hit it hard and heavy with what he wanted to do to make it individualized. He nosed and decked the car, removed the outside door handles, removed the drip rails, rounded the door corners, chopped the top 4 inches while doing the body work in lead and reshaping the trunk. After a few years with all he had done with the car to change its original identity and not seeing the end, he lost interest in the car. Because of that, it set for the next 25 years until Ken Hedges bought the car on a whim. Ken Hedges realized later that he wasn't going to do anything with the car and in 1990 offered to sell it to Larry Johnston who lived in the Aberdeen area. Larry was excited to get the car knowing of it and how much work was already done. Yet when Ken delivered the car to Larry's house, Larry said he was a little bit overwhelmed seeing the interior area loaded up with seat springs, window trim pieces, fenders and everything else relating to the transformation piled up in a heap. It took three or four years before Larry really dove into this new project setting in the corner of his garage. Once the motivation was there, Larry decided to take it a little further with body modifications he did himself. One area was changing the hood of the car to one off a '51 Ford, which kind of slicked up the front end. On the rear end of the car, Larry frenched the taillights (a term referring to being sunk into the body) to finish out the desired custom look he was going for. Also along the way, Larry installed a Plymouth Voltaire sub frame on the front of the frame to get his desired lowered ride height along with an 8-inch Maverick rear end with lowering blocks. Larry then installed a 318 Chrysler engine and 904 torque flight trans that came out of a local highway patrol car. After getting the car mechanically sound and having it ready to paint, Larry then hired Tracey Batest to paint the car a base-coat clear-coat metallic grey color. The car was finished by Larry after that totally to what you see today. Although this customized '49 Ford is not the only old car Larry and Dawn Johnston have, they have driven it all over the country putting 40,000 miles on since its completion. Larry said besides the car having a really comfortable ride, the old highway patrol car engine in the '49 still gets 20 to 22 mpg along with the car getting more attention than anyone could ask for. Life gets fun every time they get into the '49 to go for a ride!!



SCHMEICHEL 2014



Behind the Wheel

By Karen Roe

Employed as a floor guard at Carousel, Gale Horan got to skate with the boss's daughter, a pretty girl named Judy. They hit it off and have been skating through life ever since. Married 39 years this summer, the Horan's have a daughter, Sarah, 35, and a son, Ben, 31. Sarah, a single mom with three children, lives in Harrisburg. Ben, recently married, lives in Sioux Falls and has a daughter who lives in North Dakota.

Originally from Minneapolis, Judy has three sisters and a brother. Her family moved to Sioux Falls just after she graduated from high school. Her parents built the Carousel Skating Rink where she met Gale who was a student at Augustana. "After work," Gale recalls, "at 1:00 a.m., we would go to Kirk's or places like that to have coffee and just visit. That would be our date for the night." Several months later, they were engaged. "We wanted to be married on skates," Judy adds, "but my very Catholic mother said 'no.' We had to be married in the church." In less than two years, due to the poor economy, Gale enlisted in the Air Force. "My first assignment was in Ramstein, Germany, where our daughter was born. I was in medical administration. We did the paper work side of running clinics and hospitals. My second assignment was at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha. I got out in 1980 when we built our house."

Gale and his twin are the oldest of five boys who grew up in the south Sioux City area. He attended college at Norfolk, Augustana, and later at UNO. His job resume includes a stint in the Air Force, a brief job at the V.A. Hospital and 15-plus years as an agricultural seed salesman. Perhaps the most challenging career choice, however, is his present one as a funeral director for Miller's. Though returning to school in his mid-40s was a lot of work, Gale managed to finish as one of the top in his class. "There were three different reasons why I chose that field," Gale explains, "For the scientific side, the creative side and dealing with people, which I find very interesting. The people will let you know if you've done a good job so it's very gratifying when they're pleased with the service we've provided."

Described by Gale as a wonderful mother, Judy stayed at home or worked part-time while their children were growing up. Presently, she is employed in the Harrisburg school district and helps the teachers in the Special Ed classroom. "I love working with children who have physical and mental disabilities. I feel my job working with special needs children is very rewarding."

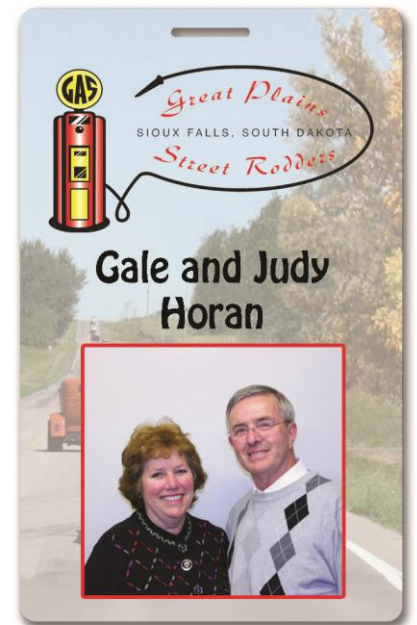
When asked about favorite pastimes, Judy responds, "I love to read and do sewing – like making curtains for my grandchildren. I also like decorating and enjoy cooking."

Gale admits to being a big sports fan, supporting the Nebraska Cornhuskers, the Minnesota Twins and Vikings. Since his job is very time-consuming, he doesn't get to do a lot of things he'd like to do, but he enjoys working in his yard and helping out an elderly neighbor with mowing. Unwilling to "toot his own horn," Judy offers this praise: "Gale is a really good singer. He was in all the musicals in high school and college. He loves to sing the old 50s songs, and I get the pleasure of listening."

The Horan's get up early. "We have coffee and talk for at least an hour," says Judy. "We end the day the same way. It seems like there's always something to talk about." They also enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren who Judy says are very dear to them. A favorite car event was a poker run last year when Judy came up a winner. Gale remembers a cruise last summer. "It was just fun to drive around Rock Rapids and see everyone's reactions to the old cars."

Though both Gale and Judy feel that their lives have been very fulfilling, Judy would still like to visit Hawaii. Gale's wish list includes a couple of racing events, but one takes place on hooves, the other on wheels. He would like to attend a Kentucky Derby and a NASCAR race.

Whatever their future holds, we are glad this cordial couple is a part of the Great Plains Street Rodders. By the way, Gale, you can belt out the old 50s tunes anytime.



Thanks Given

Thank you to the Great Plains Street Rodders for the memorial to my mother. This group is the greatest. Vince and Sandy Jones.

Thanks Cruising In

Thank you to everyone for coming out to the Wednesday night cruise party. It was a really nice time with perfect weather for the evening. It was great to see everyone! Terry Koch



A Heesch Thank You

Friends and family held a benefit for Val and Tiffany Heesch who were victims of a drunk driver a year ago. Val just had surgery again on a plate in her arm. She has overcome so much to walk with the aid of a brace and a cane. Fellow club members ran Poker Run stops and many supported the benefit. Val and the whole Heesch family share a heartfelt thank you to all who helped and supported in this event.



1st Poker Run: Mike Paulson

2nd Poker Run: Bob Schmeichel

Thanks for Hosting

Thank you to Terry Koch for opening your private Pressure Kocher Race Shop for a cruise stop and picnic. The weather was perfect, the food was awesome and it was so well attended it was hard to get an accurate car count.



Thanks for Dessert

Roger and Cheryl Van Noort hosted an after-dinner party in Brandon that was a lot of fun. We cruised there for ice cream and enjoyed having that and many other desserts.



Church Lunch & Fly-In

Thank you to Bill and Lana Kulander for inviting us to the 35th Annual Fly-In. Everyone enjoyed the skydivers, pot-luck lunch and camaraderie.



June Birthdays

(2nd half)

Larry Golden	19
Mike Paulson	20
Dawn Johnston	20
Mary Ramstad	21
Denny Heidebrink	22
Dick Anderson	23

July Birthdays

(1st half)

Susan Jump	1
Karen Roe	3
Dianne Boatright	4
Larry Snuttjer	5
Eric Anderson	8
Jan Malcomb	10
John Moore	11
Larry Olson	12
Karen Walker	12
Nancy Snyder	15

June Anniversaries

(2nd half)

Melvin and Dorothy Holmbeck	18
Larry and Dawn Johnston	19
John and Vickie Hauge	21
Ron and Cindy Friedbauer	24
Mike and Deb DeBoer	25
Gale and Judy Horan	28

July Anniversaries

(1st half)

Butch and Debbie Yesda	1
Duane and Jackie Olson	2
Reed and Carol Peterson	6
Terry and Nancy Jellis	10
Roger and Dianne Corkill	11

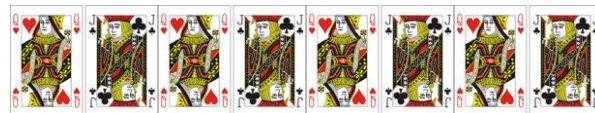
Dates Are Mid-Monthly

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

Our Annual Poker Run

Our Annual Poker is Wednesday, July 16, please pass the word and invite your friends. Volunteers are needed. Let Clay Seachris know if you would like to help. Thanks.

Poker Run and Other Fun...



Mike and Noelani cheer Lori Paulson on as she "takes a spin"



Terry tallies Ken's poker run sheet as Marilyn waits to take a spin



Roe's Nomad and Kullander's Corvette at Springdale's Fly-in



Jay & Linda Petersen's '32 five-window. "Where were you in '62?" ☺



The potluck picnic at Sherman Park – beautiful evening!



Terry Peterson and Ivan Buskol at Terry Koch's Picnic Cruise



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.



1965 Wheels Parade

In the summers of 1964-66, Sioux Falls hosted a "Wheels Parade" where young enthusiasts could drive their cars and motorcycles in a parade through the downtown area. These two pictures are from the staging area on Phillips Avenue prior to the start of the parade in 1965. In the first photo, you see the Corvettes of Sandy Miller and Gordon Stewart (loaned to a couple high-schoolers), my '56 Chevy wagon, and my friend, Randy Williams' '56 Chevy sedan. Check out all the small motorcycles and mopeds that were swarming the area as well. In the second shot, is Keith Gunderson's '65 Chevy II and Roger Steuck's '56 Chevy, along with a long line of others waiting for the parade to start. We had a blast...it was a great time to be a hot rodder!

Great Plains Street Rodders and the Museum of American Speed

For many years our group has spent a March weekend together in Lincoln visiting, shopping and touring the Museum of American Speed. Through the years, we've made friends with museum workers and enjoyed the occasional visit and laughs with museum founder "Speedy" Bill Smith. Bill and Joyce Smith started Speedway Motors in 1952. Bill's story is similar to many current family-owned parts suppliers in that he was a racer himself who wanted to share products with friends so they could improve their cars. Today, Speedway Motors is America's oldest speed shop and among the world's largest manufacturers and distributors of parts for racing and street rods. Joyce Smith, "Mrs. Speedway," who cofounded the shop with Bill the same year they married and worked alongside him for the next 61 years passed away in 2013. On May 30, D. William "Speedy Bill" Smith passed away at his home. We're going to miss "Speedy Bill". His welcoming smile and helpful personality remain forever in our hearts and minds. Our visits through the years have acquainted us with the current management and we look forward to future visits at the always changing, ever expanding Smith collection.



Siouxland Car Council Schedule

Every May we join with everyone at the Wednesday Night Cruises coordinated as a member club of the Siouxland Car Council. Please join us. Guests are welcome. We are a family-oriented club, we encourage the next generation, so children are also always welcome to all our events.



06/18/14 Handy-Man Cruise Night

910 E. 10th St, Sioux Falls, SD

06/25/14 Children's Home Society, Float Social

801 N. Sycamore, Sioux Falls, SD

We're hosting

07/02/14 Cruise Night - Empire Pontiac Club

Sherman Park, 805 S. Kiwanis Ave, SF, SD

07/09/14 Cruise Night - Lincoln County Cruisers

Jack Fox Park, 225 N Broadway, Canton, SD

07/16/14 Poker Run - Great Plains Street Rodders

\$5 to Play, 100% Payout

We're hosting

07/23/14 Cruise Night - Sioux Empire Ford Club

Wall Lake, Wall Lake Township

07/30/14 Falls Overlook Café

825 N. Weber, Sioux Falls

08/06/14 Olsen's Garage (Tom & Joyce's)

2409 W. 85th Street, Sioux Falls

08/14/14 Riverdale Park – Potluck

2000 E. 24th Street, Sioux Falls

08/20/14 Veteran's Hospital Car Show

2501 W. 22nd St, Sioux Falls, SD

08/27/14 Bethany Meadows, Show-n-Shine

3008 E. Aspen Blvd., Brandon, SD

Recipe

Grilled Bananas

2 bananas (not too ripe)
2 tablespoons sugar
2 tablespoons ground cinnamon
2 tablespoons honey
Vanilla ice cream for serving
Chocolate syrup for drizzling, optional

Preheat gas grill. Slice bananas, in their skins, in half crosswise and then lengthwise so each banana yields 4 pieces. Set aside on a clean platter. In a small bowl, combine sugar and cinnamon. Drizzle honey on the cut sides of the bananas and sprinkle with the cinnamon-sugar mixture. Let set for 5 minutes.

Place bananas, cut side down on the grill. Grill for 2 minutes or until grill marks appear. Using a pair of tongs, turn them over and cook for 5 more minutes, or until the skin pulls away from the bananas. Remove bananas from grill and serve immediately on top of ice cream and drizzle with chocolate syrup, if desired.
(Makes 4 servings)

Us Kids Love Ice Cream

June 25 is the Root Beer Social and Cruise to Children's Home Society. Everyone gets a free root beer float. The children get *HotWheels* from the club.

Also, please bring hotrod-related magazines to donate to Children's Home Society - No magazine swimsuit issues. The children read them and enjoy looking at the photos. Every year it's interesting to hear how much these young car lovers know about our hotrods. Arrive early (5:00 p.m.) if you'd like to serve floats or handout *HotWheels*. As with all our events, bring your children to the fun. Thank you, Candi and Bones Hanson, for coordinating the supplies and everyone else for helping to make this a memorable evening.

****Please** email your yummy recipes to president@greatplainsstreetrodders.com.**

Classified Ads
(FREE to All Members)



FOR SALE – 2008 Ford Taurus SEL 4 door, alloy wheels, AM-FM-CD 6 disc player, auto on floor w/console, leather bucket seats, keyless entry, vanity mirrors, power steering, power brakes, a/c, cruise, near new tires, Sun roof, Exceptionally Clean, never wrecked, clear title, always adult driven, Mom quit driving, (time to move it), Second Owner (my parents), 34,500 miles, Recent trip averaged 26-27 MPG, NADA is \$13,275.00, Make Reasonable Offer, Contact Jerome Miller at 368-2418



FOR SALE – 1947 Blue Ford Club Coupe, 302 Ford balanced motor with a B&M 144, Pro-Charger, AOD Ford transmission, Ford 9" rear-end with Richmond 3:55gears, A/C and heat, P.S., louvered and flamed hood, painless wiring, stance is right, fast, reliable, tight Coupe. \$34,800. Contact Bill Kullander 605-366-1158 kullbill@sio.midco.net



FOR SALE – 1965 Mustang GT 289 c.i., 4 barrel, automatic. I have the factory air (complete I think) not sure if it works. I also have a factory power steering which like most units today should be overhauled before installing. Also have radio, mirrors, hood hinges and other spare new and used interior parts. This is a real GT and is a solid daily driver. Asking \$17k for this and parts. Chuck Robertson, 605-951-2459, chuckr327@gmail.com



FOR SALE – 1970 Buick GS 350 Skylark, Rebuilt 350, auto, posi. Bench seat and interior very good shape. Very straight body, small rust through lower right front fender and trunk. Needs headliner and heater core with box. Drives very well with super rubber and correct Buick wheels, trim and bumpers excellent. \$6,750 Eric Anderson, Spirit Lake, Iowa 712-380-4969



FOR SALE – Chevy 350 ci Goodwrench Engine only about 20,000 miles \$500 Call Doug 605-351-5599

FOR SALE – 1967 Buick Riviera GS. Good running 430, console auto and posi. Floors good, as is trim and bumpers. Headlights even rotate. Body very straight, interior buckets vinyl cracked and brittle. Missing drivers door panel. No room, no time. \$950 Eric Anderson, Spirit Lake, Iowa 712-380-4969



FOR SALE – 1989 Buick Reatta, 3800 with auto, 106,000 miles on this good runner- just drove it from Princeton, MN (240 miles) with no problems. Good rubber, trunk looks like new, interior a wee bit faded. Headliner needs to be reglued (sagging) and needs a muffler. Right wiper arm bent. No room for winter. \$1,500 Eric Anderson, 712-380-4969



FOR SALE – 4L60E Transmission 1994 Chevy, Completely rebuilt, \$650, Call Doug 351-5599

FOR SALE – 1947 Chevy 2-Door Sedan, All original, Stored inside for years, Very Solid hotrod project. Glenn Walker 336-7070