



Cruisin' News

July 2012

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

So Many Places to Go

By Clay Seachris

President's message

The time may have come when a car enthusiast just has so many hobby-related events available that it's just not possible to attend them all. Kind of reminds me of the old analogy: too much horsepower is never enough. Well, any humble, seasoned hotrodder will tell you it's great to have it available, but there does come a time when a person just can't utilize it all. Similar here, it is great to have so many events available.

Many of us enjoyed the local town events: Harrisburg Days, Teapot Days, Hartford Jamboree days and Quarry Days. Some of the other car events I remember recently were in Lennox, Baltic and Marion.

A lot of members made the annual trip to Back to the Fifties again this year. It was fun to roam among the almost 12,000 cars and still stop and visit with lots of friends. As usual, a group of about 20 sat under the shade trees close to Gate 1 on the corner of Murphy and Underwood. Many enjoyed what became known as the "stimulator," which was Summit Racing's air conditioned racing simulator.

Our annual Children's Home Society social was a big hit again. We overcame the heat with lots of ice cream and root beer. As usual, the children were great and very excited to see the real hotrods and get a toy hotrod and magazine of their own. Thank you for coordinating and attending this evening.

Automania had a number of members showing their cars and many others attending this social evening and garage tours. This is always an enjoyable event to attend. Many of us have memories of volunteering as a club when this event began. It's nice to see the downtown event still going strong.

We still have so many events to look forward to: 12 weeks of Wednesday Night Cruises, numerous birthday parties, special weekend cruises, Annual Great Plains Street Rodders Poker Run, Hurley, Larchwood, Corvette Classic, Sioux City, Canton, Madison and others – well, just so many places to go.

Oh, beware of a purple alien, he may be an air-head, but he's still a sneaky little hotrod invader. 😊

For a color copy of the newsletter, go to our website greatplainsstreetrodders.com.



Hardee's
Mike & Sheila Miller's
'59 Chevy Biscayne



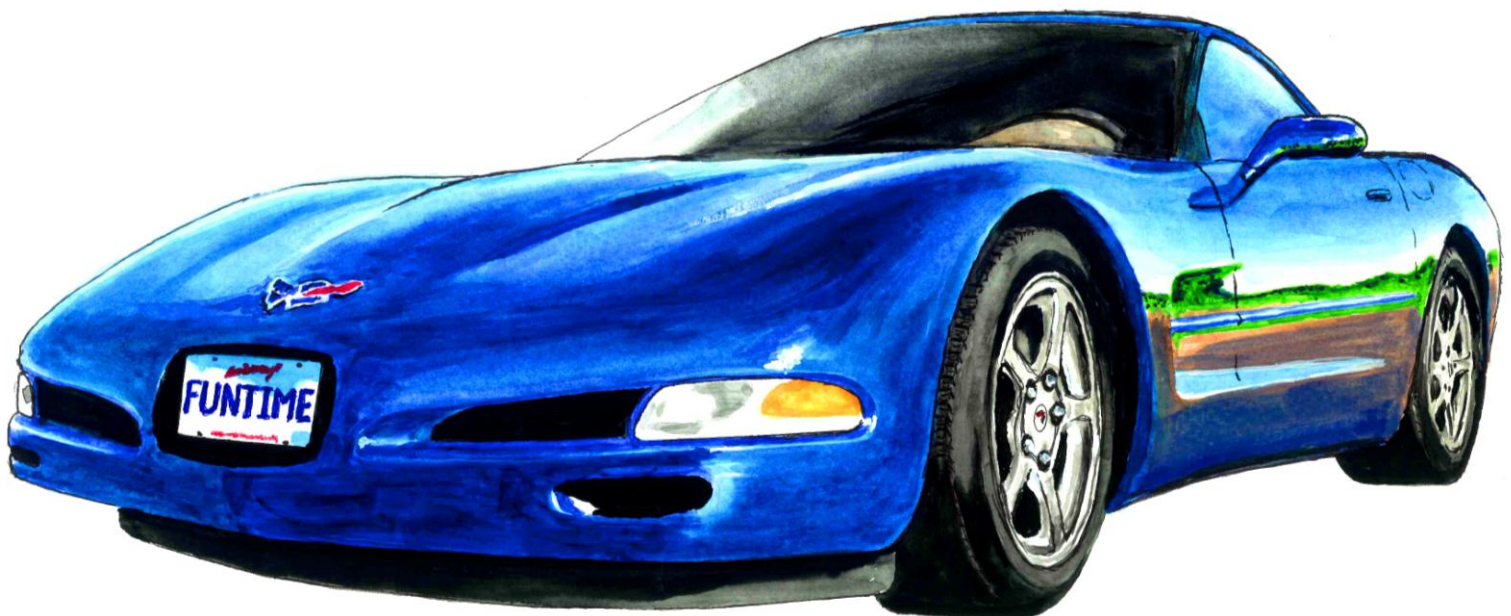
Dakota Digital
Ellen VanNoort's ©
'62 Chevy C10

Pushing Fun

By Bob Schmeichel

In 1959, at the very young age of 12, Tom Cain bought a 1945 Willy's jeep. Wanting to understand how everything worked, he took the engine out and disassembled it in the basement of his parents' home. It took him the next one and one-half years to rebuild the engine and reinstall it back into the jeep. He taught himself well as he drove that jeep without a problem until 1980 when he sold it. With that beginning interest in engines, Tom recalls that the 60s were the most fun time of his young life with everything being new and understandable then, unlike new cars today. During those early years, Tom got into drag racing and having '55, '56 and '57 Chevys to do it with. If he could only have some of those cars back

now that he played with then. He even was the second owner of a perfect 1934 Ford Tudor that he was intending on street rodding with all the parts he could get to complete it. But one day he was offered really good money for it from a guy from Missouri, and the car went away. Today Tom deals with "Why did I do that?" Tom started drag racing in Sioux City, Pierre, and Hanesworth, Nebraska. His love for engines and drag racing eventually led to starting a speed shop in 1967 in Mitchell, along with owning three other auto-related businesses at the same time. His success with what he did and desire led him to some serious drag racing with putting a dragster together starting in 1969. His wife, Judy, and daughters became his pit crew as they went around the country on the weekends racing persistently until he placed himself tenth in ranking in the nation in his class for a couple years. That is something to be proud of for a self-taught guy by any standard back then. Tom and his family eventually moved to Sioux Falls in 1987 because of a business venture he decided to manage. In 1988, Tom talked Glenn Rapp into leasing Thunder Valley Raceway to him so he could run the operation and did so until 1999. Tom's drag racing career slowed because of all he was involved with, and he eventually sold his dragster in 2006. After selling his dragster, Judy and he had a discussion about what to spend the sale money on. She wanted an RV camper and he said he wanted something fun. So they bought a 2004 limited production "Commemorative Edition" Corvette. Besides the special tan interior, the car is loaded with all the options and more only for this special car. Because of the Corvette, today Tom and Judy have been heavily involved with the Corvette Classic Rally, personally checking all the roads and laying out four to six cruise tours through the Black Hills for each future season. The up-to-200-miles-plus cruise tours always go in different directions to maximize the sites, with all ending back in Spearfish at the same evening time, which takes a ton of planning and coordination. Tom has never sat still very long with whatever he does, and the license plate on the Corvette says it all.



Sympathy Offered

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Scott Brady. His mother, Beverly Brady, passed away June 26. The club sent a memorial to Scott and Bunny on behalf of all fellow Great Plains Street Rodders.

Thanks Given

Thank you for thinking of us at the loss of our mother and for your memorial gift. We really appreciate your caring thoughts, prayers and kind words.

It is so awesome to belong to such a great group of friends. We love you all and feel so blessed. Scott and Bunny Brady

Thanks Given

On behalf of Dow Rummel residents and staff, I want to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who brought a vehicle, and/or came and joined us for another Dow Rummel Drive Inn evening! We sincerely appreciate your participation! It provides our community with many interesting conversations for days and even weeks after this event! What a great opportunity for reminiscing, which many of us enjoy doing!
Tracey Hughes, Executive Director

Thanks Given

We really appreciate all the years that you have shown up to give our kids and staff both visual and tasty treats! This special night is such a big hit. I wish I could have adjusted the outdoor thermostat for you a little more, but somehow we all made it through in one piece. Our best to all the club members, and we'll see you in the fall for a tour. Deb Moritz, Community Relations Director, Children's Home Foundation

Email Network

June had a number of last-minute weather-related cruise changes. Using our email network, members received last-minute messages, which allowed us to have great attendance at events with very short notice. The Handyman Cruise notification was just 90 minutes prior to cruise time and we packed the alternate location. Thank you for checking during questionable weather. Also, thank you for calling those who may not have quick access to email.

Newsletter Focus

The club's officers recently declined a couple inquiries from local businesses wanting to purchase ad space in our GPSR newsletter. Our intent in declining was, and is, to allow our club's focus to stay free of marketing and organizations that may create additional volunteer and friendship stresses. It is nice to be noticed in the community, however, at this time, our membership fees cover our annual expenses and member majority (you all) continue to be the only people we aim to please.

Great Plains Poker Run

Our Annual Wednesday Night Poker Run is July 18. As usual: \$5 to play, 50% to best hand, 25% to 2nd and 25% to worst hand. See the summer cruise page for more details.

July Birthdays

Karen Roe	3
Dianne Boatright	4
Eric Anderson	8
Jan Malcomb	10
John Moore	11
Karen Walker	12
Nancy Snyder	15
Betty Jones	17
Roger VanNoort	20
Bones Hanson	21
Kirk Lee	23
Janet Gannon	24

Terry Peterson	25
Barb Buchanan	29
Gary Bockorny	30
Melvin Holmbeck	30
Art Slumskie	31

July Anniversaries

Butch and Debbie Yesda	1
Terry and Nancy Jellis	10
Roger and Dianne Corkill	11
Tom and Joyce Olsen	19
Dustin and Shanda Gronseth	24
Rick and Chris Johnson	28
Dale and Pat Kiebach	29
Art and Julie Slumskie	31

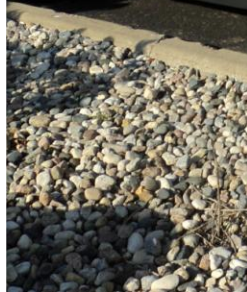
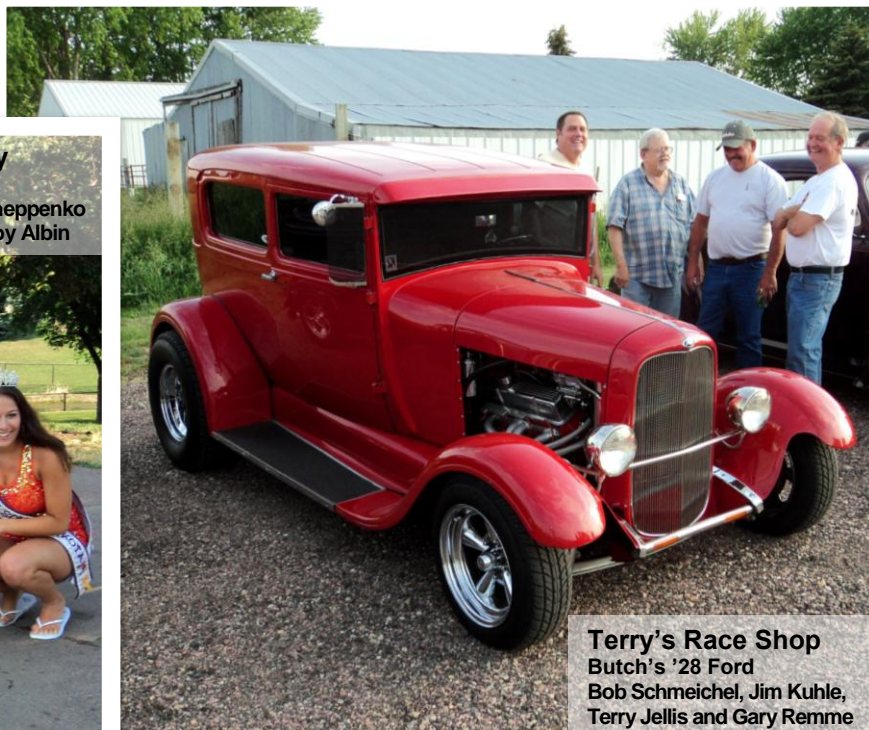
August Birthdays

Vicky Levene	2
Joyce Olsen	5
Owen McKittrick	6
Cheri Kappenman	6
Brian Lee	7
Darla Goebel	7
Terry Jellis	9
Laurie Van Noort	12
Joshua Frock	13
Dale Aurit	17
Deb Bowman	17
Betty Heidebrink	17
Judy Bentson	18
Jean Knowlton	18
Jeff Knowlton	19
Shirley Alby	19
Glenn Walker	20
Robin Miller	22
LaNette Munce	27
Terry Koch	28
Gary Remme	28
Laurie Nussbaum	28
Shirley Cummings	28
Mike Tlustos	29
Buck Schrader	31

August Anniversaries

Joshua and Lisa Frock	4
Mike and Jean Tlustos	7
Darwin and Jane Sletten	8
Ron and Jackie Heemstra	14
Jules and Marilyn Haper	15
Doug and Laurie Van Noort	15
Ron and Karen Roe	23
Craig and Laurie Nussbaum	27
Don and Carolyn Hood	29

Recent Snapshots



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.



Pete's Patriot

This is the "Pete's Patriot" 1969 AMX being raced at Thunder Valley in 1969 or 1970. This is one of 50 or 51 (depending on what you read) special-purpose built AMX's put together just to compete in the NHRA Super Stock D class. All had 390-cubic-inch engines with dual Holley carbs on an Edelbrock cross-ram intake manifold, headers, Borg Warner T-10 4-speed trans, Hurst Super Shifter and many other performance modifications by Hurst Performance for American Motors. This car was campaigned by Peterson Motors out of Kearney, Nebraska, and was driven by Lou Downing. The car was the 1969 Super Stock points champion in Division 5 (which includes South Dakota) and went on to win many major events around the country. The wheels-up launch you see here was how this car performed on every single pass; it was always a crowd pleaser!



Car Council Schedule

Every May we join with everyone at the Wednesday Night Cruises coordinated as a member club of the Siouxland Car Council. Schedule on siouxlandcarcouncil.info

2012 Summer Cruises

Jul 18 – Poker Run, We are hosting and need your help, so contact Clay if you'd like to host a Poker Run Stop. We have 2 couples per stop and you can design it however you like. ☺

Jul 25 – Wall Lake – Ford Club
Aug 1 – Pontiac Club
Aug 8 – Harris Burgers
 (formerly Snook's Drive-In)
Aug 15 – Executive Touch/Subaru
Aug 22 – VA Car-n-Shine
Aug 29 – Bethany Meadows
Sep 5 – The Keg on W. 57th
Sep 12 – First Reformed Church
Sep 19 – The Cracker Barrel

Special Events

Mel Holmbeck's 75th Birthday Party
 July 28, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
 2408 S. Larch Ave., Sioux Falls

Vintage Garage Photo Cruise
 August 4, Colton (details to follow)

Annual Weinie Roast
 August 11, 5:00 p.m.
 Ron & Karen's, N. of Rowena

Ron Heemstra's 60th Birthday Party
 August 18, 5:00 p.m. to ??
 Ron & Jackie's, W. of Sx. Falls

Classified Ads
(FREE to All Members)



FOR SALE – Three Rooms Left, Kool Deadwood Nights, Aces's and Eight's Lodge. 1.5 paved miles from Deadwood. Approx. \$360 for the 3-day weekend. Other club members are going. Garage available. Large deck, gas grill, views of Boulder Canyon and city of Deadwood. Call Mike DeBoer 351-7434



FOR SALE – 1976 Ford Torino Elite two-door hardtop, 351 c.i., auto transmission. Call Ken Buchanan 212-2821

FOR SALE – Qwick Lift Style Drive-on car lift, portable, easy to set-up and use. Ron 332-4543

FOR SALE – Garage/Shop Equipment, Parts Washer, Sioux Valve Grinding Machine, Sioux Valve Seat Grinder, R12 Air-conditioning Reclaimer, R134 Air-conditioning Reclaimer, A.C. Manifold Gauges, A.C. Vacuum Pump, Baer Wheel Balncer (spin on car), Metal Shaper, Niehoff Cabinets, Sunnen Rod Reconditioning Machine, Auto Repair Manuals. I need the space, Call 351-5599

FOR SALE – 1946 Ford Deluxe Coupe, Street Rod, 350ci, Auto, A/C, Pwr Windows, Remote Doors, Awesome Driver, Former GPSR Feature Car, \$25,000 Call Buck 351-2019



FOR SALE – 1974 VW Karmann Ghia, 4-cylinder, 4-spd manual, nice driver ('74 was the last production year of this car) Priced to sell, \$3,800 Call Jules 361-1127



FOR SALE – 1987 Corvette, 93K, owned for 14 yrs, new tires, new brakes, \$15,000, C4 White Call Virgene 351-2019

FOR SALE – (2) Garage Doors w/ hardware and opener. 7'x8', 3 yrs old & 4 yrs old. Call Faye Gallagher 338- 2774

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



2012 Back to the Fifties

Ken Levene, Lori Paulson, Gary and Audrey Remme, Jason Jellis, Bones Hanson, Mike Paulson, Nancy Jellis, Candi Hanson, Terry Jellis, Kristina Jellis and a bunch of others were at the Summit Racing's Simulator.