



# Cruisin' News

April 2005

## *Don't Throw This in the Old Magazine Pile*

(a message from the editor)

This is it! Your first edition of the Great Plains Streetrodder Newsletter.

Make sure you read all of it, because there's bound to be some worthwhile information in it. Maybe that won't include this column, but don't judge the newsletter by this column. This is just the newsletter editor, spouting off. But you never know, I may say something worthwhile, too.

If you are a member of the Great Plains Streetrodders, then this is your newsletter. So, if there's something missing that you think should be included, let me know or pass it on to me. There's always the next edition, and if you submit it, it will likely make it. The best way to make sure it gets in is to type it into your computer and email it to me, or simply write it up on a piece of paper and hand it to me. It doesn't have to pass the criteria of Time magazine. It doesn't even have to have complete sentences. That's what I'm here for, to make a note look like an article.

Of course there are a few things that may not be suitable for in the newsletter, like some of Kenny's jokes, but most likely any lack of suitability will be for obvious reasons, like some of Kenny's jokes. But it would have to be pretty bad to not be included, like some of Kenny's jokes. And then, some things are just better presented in person, like some of Kenny's jokes. If you don't know about Kenny's jokes, then you need to come to more cruises; or maybe keep watching the newsletter, as you never know what may show up.

The point is, this is your newsletter, so if you want something in it, submit it.

Think of this first edition as an old Model A that you just purchased. It's going to get a lot of upgrades, even though it may have been acquired with some upgrades already present (I hope you will like this edition as if it has some upgrades already). Everyone wants to personalize their car, and as a club we can personalize this newsletter. Watch it get souped up and customized as we go. And I hope you like the way it grows, because it's almost guaranteed to grow.

## *New Committees in Place*

The Great Plains Streetrodders have organized three committees to help organize events. The Social Committee will help organize the weekly social gatherings and plan the annual Christmas party. Marilyn Haper is the chairperson of this committee. The Events Committee will plan special events, such as a garage tour, poker run, various games and assist the Siouland Street Rodders with the Labor Day Rod Run. Candi Hanson has been selected to chair this committee. The Newsletter Committee will work on a monthly newsletter to help get information and events schedules out to club members. Brian Lee will be the newsletter editor.

## *It's The Law*

The Great Plains Streetrodders have put by-laws into place to help govern the club's business. It was decided to keep the by-laws simple, so they basically consist of three rules, covering club officers and club dues. One law establishes an annual date for the selection of officers. It states officers are to be elected at the first Wednesday night social supper gathering in March, and the new officers will take office that night. The second by-law establishes that officers are limited to serving two consecutive one-year terms. The final by-law sets a date when dues are due. The date is the same date as that established for elections, and they are to be paid to the club secretary. The by-laws were approved by the officers and members attending the April 5 business meeting.

## *Laying Rubber in Ink*

The Great Plains Streetrodders now has a newsletter, which is to be published monthly. Brian Lee has been named editor of the newsletter, and he encourages anyone who has information to submit it to him for inclusion in the newsletter. The deadline for submitting material for the upcoming edition is the second Wednesday of each month.

Some of the articles planned for future newsletters include recipes, features on members' cars, information about upcoming car shows and other events, plus announcements of new members and more. The club hopes to issue the newsletter to members via emails, but a limited number of hard copies will also be made available. To submit material for the newsletter, call Brian at 362-1047, email him at [bg4given@yahoo.com](mailto:bg4given@yahoo.com) or look for him around his '61 T-Bird or "Heaven Bound" Chevy sedan delivery.

## *Did you see it before it was gone?*

If you've been in the Great Plains Street Rodders Association for very long, you've seen this 1950 Mercury coupe. But you aren't likely to see it much longer.

Dale and Pat Bruining are in the process of selling their old Merc in preparation for a lifestyle change. After having been in the club since the beginning, Dale will be retiring in November after which they plan to sell their Sioux Falls home and most of their belongings and become nomads (not the Chevy kind). They will be hauling a camping trailer behind their new hotrod, a late model Ford truck with dual rear wheels and a fifth wheel bed as they travel the country to see the sights and visit family.

"We'll probably live in a travel trailer," he said. "We're going to see a little of the U.S."

That doesn't leave room for a show car, after the house and garage are gone. He built it to be driven, and he wants it to continue to be driven.

"I'm not a person that trailers cars, and I'm not a person to let them sit," Dale said.

His new lifestyle won't leave room for an occasional cruise in the old Merc. But selling it wasn't an easy decision, either. The car has been a part of the family since 1990, and a part of his life since 1963.

It was in 1963 or 1964 that Dale bought his second car, which was a 1950 Mercury, not much unlike the one in which he's been seen cruising around in recent years. But he was 16 years old then, and like many things of the teen years, he eventually let it go.

But his desire for 1950 Mercurys never waned, and on Christmas Day in 1990 he was able to purchase another one, albeit in much poorer condition.

"I dug it out of a grove of trees up in Brookings," Dale said.

He then spent three years on a frame-off restoration. While most of the car is stock, he included a few upgrades to make it a cruiser to be driven. They ranged from something as simple as painting the Mercury emblem gold instead of black to installing a brand new engine and transmission. He bought a Chevrolet 350 c.i. crate motor and an automatic transmission for this car. However, he did not bother with power steering or air conditioning, feeling no need for such things.

When asked why he went for a Chevrolet motor in a Mercury, he said his interests do not hold to any particular marquee or make. He once had Chevrolets, but now has mainly Fords, but that always had more to do with availability of what he required than anything else. But he makes no apologies for putting a Chevy motor in a Ford product, noting the Chevy 350's reputation.

"I wanted something I could drive and depend on," he said.

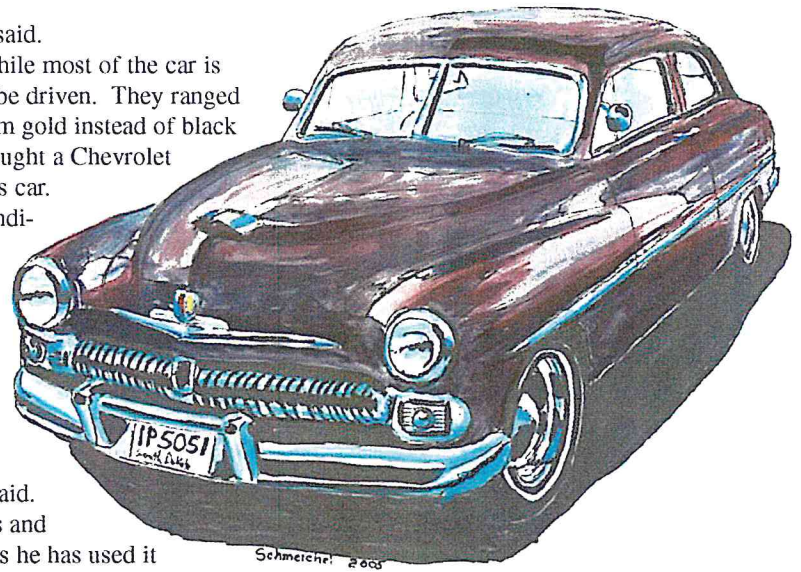
After completing the car, it won its fair share of trophies and awards at various car shows. But in the more recent years he has used it to participate in the Great Plains Street Rod Wednesday evening cruises more than anything. Having been a member of the club since it was founded, his Mercury has been a fixture of the weekly events.

"I used to go to a lot of car shows, but kind of got tired of them," he said. "I kind of got tired of trophies hanging around."

But he never tires of his friends from the club hanging around. Until the membership got too large, he and Pat often hosted the annual Christmas party.

"I appreciate all the fun we had over the years," he said.

A sale on the Mercury is presently pending, and while it would not be to a club member, it will remain in the Sioux Falls area if the deal is completed. But while Dale and Pat will not be remaining in the Sioux Falls area, they will come back during the summer months to visit their street rod friends. And most would probably agree that they're more interested in seeing Dale and Pat, with or without that nice 1950 Mercury.



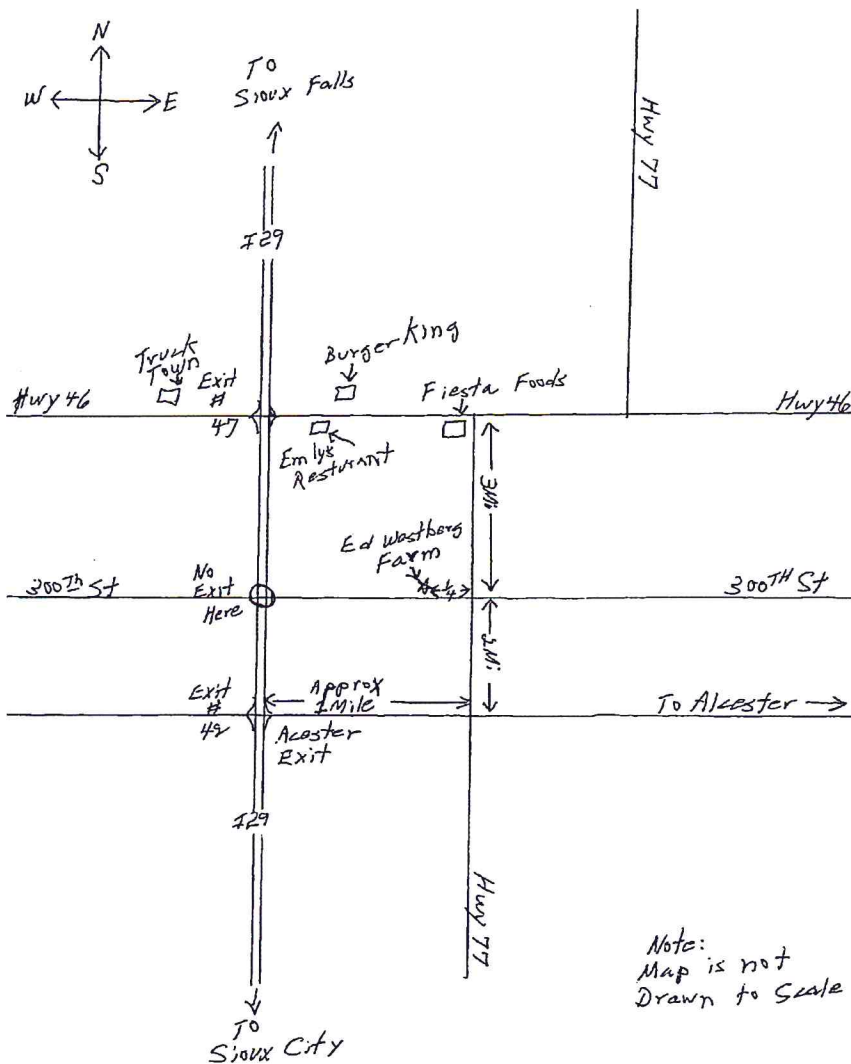
## Head For Beresford

On May 14 we're cruisin' to a cookout at Beresford, SD.

The Beresford Rendezvous is being planned as the first of what is hoped will be an annual event. Great Plains Streetrodders will meet at the Western Mall parking lot by Graham Tire on 41st and Western streets in Sioux Falls for a 1 p.m. departure. We will then cruise as a group to Ed Westberg's place at Beresford.

There will be a cookout around 4 p.m., and the proceeds generated from a small fee for the meal will go to the Great Plains Streetrodders club for future philanthropic use. In addition, Ed Westberg will open his personal museum for us to peruse.

Meeting us there will be members of the Old Iron car club of Spencer, Iowa and the Sioux City, Iowa, car club.



## - Recipe -

### Tuna Chesapeake Style

For a spicier tuna salad sandwich, try this recipe from Brian Lee. It's an easy recipe, or it didn't come from Brian.

Mix together a can of tuna fish after the water is drained with one-half stalk of celery chopped in very small pieces and a teaspoon of onion flakes. Spread mayonnaise or whipped salad dressing on two pieces of bread (or mix the mayo with the tuna). Spread the tuna mix on one piece of bread. Then sprinkle Chesapeake Old Bay seasoning generously on the tuna mix before placing the other piece of bread on top. Finally, bite, chew and enjoy!

