



Cruisin' News

January, 2007

President - Clay Seachris
Vice President - Kevin Kappenman
Secretary - Helen Jensen
Treasurer - LeAnne Phillips
Newsletter Editor - Brian Lee

We're Going To Have Some Fun

The President's Message

By Clay Seachris

Thank you for allowing me to be your new president. Susan and I have enjoyed the friendships we have gained with such a wonderful group of people. I look forward to growing those friendships as well as making new ones.

We had been active for many years in the Sioux Falls area, cruising and showing cars, but never imagined how much fun my car enthusiasm could be for both of us until we joined the Great Plains Streetrodders.

I jokingly shared that my campaign platform consisted of some simple things. They are: have fun, be organized, and the last one -- keep my wife happy, because without her feeling so comfortable with club activities we would not be such active participants.

I feel the success of the club can be attributed to the fact that all members feel comfortable having fun together. One of my best friends shared a piece of advice with me in the beginning of my married cruising days. He said something similar to, "Enjoy your cars, but never at the expense of neglecting your wife or marriage." During some of the days and nights in my garage, when I'm focused on a project, this piece of advice may be in question. But when it comes to cruising and car shows, the Great Plains Streetrodders club and the friends we have through the club allow me to enjoy my passion for cars and be able to share the social side of that passion with Susan by my side, or at least around somewhere talking to the other ladies.

I look forward to managing the business of the club successfully, but the social, cruising, car show side, as well as having fun with friends and making new ones, continues to be my goal.



It's Pontiac Through And Through

There's no question Ron Hammerschmidt is a Pontiac man. In addition to being a member of the Great Plains Streetrodders, he's also a member of the local chapter of the Pontiac Oakland Club International.

So, when he decided he wanted to build a street rod, he went specifically looking for a Pontiac. He already had a 1967 Pontiac Firebird, so he said when he decided to look for a old coupe, he also decided it was going to have to be another Pontiac.

"I kind of always wanted to do a 30s coupe," he said.

He purchased his 1939 Pontiac business coupe in 1999 in Watertown. It was original, with the straight-six-cylinder engine and three-speed transmission on the column. The body had a little rust, but was pretty straight. It ran well enough that he tried to drive it home after purchasing it, but it quit near Madison. He was able to get it running again, but he had something bigger and better in mind for this coupe.

"I think they look cooler when they're a little bit lower," Ron said of his decision to modify his coupe.

"I tore it apart and subframed it with a Firebird front end," Ron said. "It took me a long time to chop the front end off of that (original) frame. I was a little worried because I'd never done it before."

He already had a spare 400 c.i. Pontiac engine and a spare 1979 Trans Am rear end, which was part of the reason he decided to look for an old Pontiac that could provide a home for them.

In addition, he installed a Pontiac Turbo 400 transmission and a B&M Hammer shifter. Since the rear end had disc brakes, he installed disc brakes from a Nova on the front. OK, a Nova is not a Pontiac, but it is from the GM family.

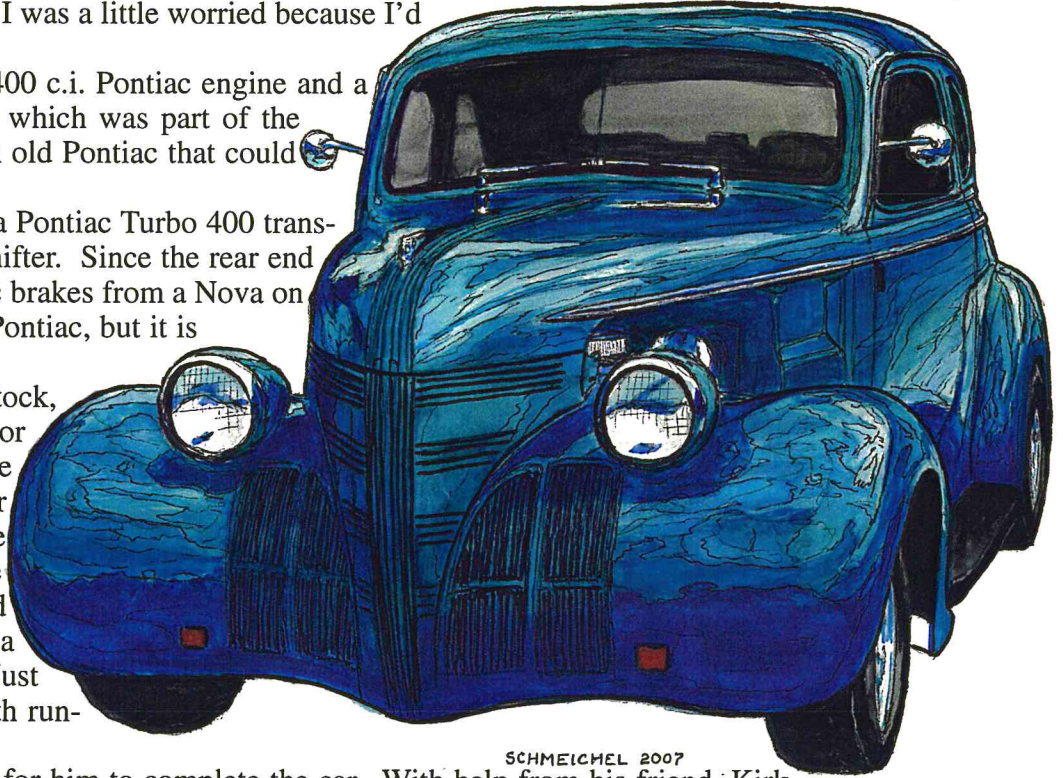
The body is mostly stock, although he did shave off the door handles and removed the bumpers, filling in the bumper holes on the body. He left the sides of the hood off to reveal the big motor. It originally only had one tail-light, but he installed a second one with turn signals. Just this past year he installed smooth running-boards.

It took about three years for him to complete the car. With help from his friend, Kirk Lee, he said he did all the work, including painting it, in his garage. The only work he hired out was the upholstery.

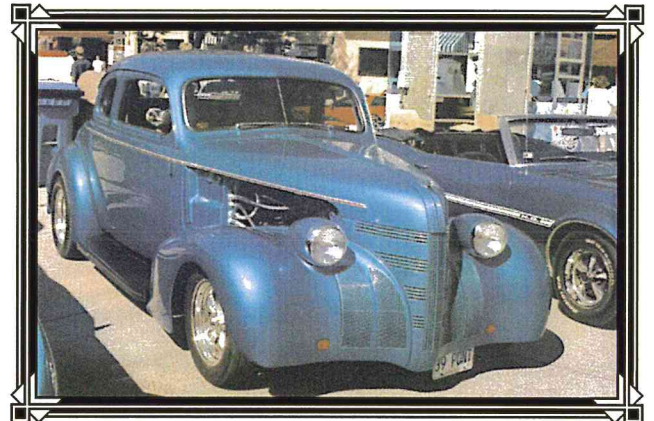
The car is built to cruise. And he confesses he prefers to drive it over his Firebird, now.

"I kind of like the coupe more," Ron said. "The wife drives the '67 (Firebird). She kind of likes that more."

What's next? Ron pulled a 1949 Chevy pickup out of a grove of trees on his in-laws' property. It's an old farm truck that is pretty beat up. But if his '39 Pontiac is an example of his abilities, that pickup will look a lot better once he's finished with it.



SCHMEICHEL 2007



January Birthdays

Ike Wiese-1/5
Bob Schriever-1/8
Jean Tlustos-1/10
Michelle Lee-1/14
Randy Ludwig-1/16
Doreen -1/21
Marilyn Haper-1/24
Mary Thoen-1/27

January Anniversaries

Allen & Shirley Alby-1-20
Bob & Mary Thoen-1/23

February Birthdays

Don Jones-1/2
Jim Hansen- Feb. 2
Sandra (Sam) Schmeichel-2/14
Ken Buchanan-2/18
Joyce Gough-2/23
Ron Roe-2/23
Denny Muchow-2/26
Harold Fiferlick-2/27

February Anniversaries

Roger & Cheryl Van Noort-2/3
Terry & Sandy Peterson-2/11
Buckie & Virgene Schrader-2/23
Rich and Melania Barnes-2/26

Thanks To The Streetrodders

Thank you everyone for thinking of us at the passing of Dean's mother. Thank you for the big, beautiful plant sent by the Great Plains Streetrodders, and also for being there with us.
The Gough Family
Dean & Joyce Gough

(Editor's note – this was mistakenly left out of the December issue.)

Have A Fun Time

One day, a man came home and was greeted by his wife dressed in a very sexy nightie. "Tie me up," she purred, "and you can do anything you want." So he tied her up and went golfing.

Classified ads

FOR SALE -- Streetrod wheels with tires, mounted & balanced. Wheels are chrome directionals with Goodyear Decathlon Tires (4000 miles on tires). Sizes are: front - Mirage 14"x 7 41/2", 5 hole, rear - Mirage 15" x 7 41/2", 5 hole, all with lug nuts & center caps with chrome valve stems. Tire sizes are:
Front - 195 75R 14", rear - 235 75R 15", all for \$300.00 OBO. Call 361-8494 or 351-1166.

FOR SALE -- 2005 DCT car trailer (Dressen Custom Trailer), includes 2 chains and 2 chain binders. It is model # C18-BT which is an 18 ft (16' flat & 2' beavertail) auto hauler, dual 3500 lb. axles, with a beaver tail and self-storing ramps. I bought in June '05 and have only used this trailer about 5 times. \$1,600. Call daytime 605-366-2235 or evenings at 605-336-0273.

FOR SALE – 1971 "402" Chevy big block, apart for inspection in boxes, 427 steel crank machine work done on crank, TRW 11 to 1 427 pistons, new chrome valve covers and air cleaner, other miscellaneous parts. Contact Bob at 361-1932.

FOR SALE – 1963 Corvette rear end. Make a reasonable offer. Call Fred Snyder at 605-359-0423 or 605-275-0460.

FOR SALE – 1946 Chevy 1 Ton Truck, all chrome is very nice, was ex -city truck, runs but clutch won't disengage. \$700.00. Call Ric Anderson at 712-336-4498, Spirit Lake, IA.

FOR SALE - 1970 Monte Carlo, ivory white, mechanically excellent, interior and body needs restoration. 350/350 automatic. May sell the street and strip engine with dart heads separate since it was originally built to go in another rod. Total package \$3,600. Call Eugene (712) 338-9036.

FOR SALE – 1942 Packard parts, including a grill, trim pieces, windows and more. Call Gary Ebright at 339-4571.

WANTED – Chevy engine, 305 or 350 c.i. in running condition. Call Kenny Buchanan at 334-6668 or 376-7264

WANTED – Classified ads for the Great Plains Streetrodders newsletter. If you are a member of the club, it'll cost you nothing. But it can help you sell something, or find something. The very first time that classified ads were included in the newsletter, they worked. Brian Lee sold a Johnny Lightening diecast car. To place your ad, call Brian at 498-0178 or email him at bg4given@gmail.com



Dues Go Up And Down

The dues for members of the Great Plains Streetrodders went up, but not for everyone.

During a meeting held Jan. 6 a motion was passed to raise the annual dues to \$20 per family. However, as part of an effort to allow husbands and wives to both vote on matters of club business, it was then changed to \$10 per adult individual.

As a result, husbands and wives will pay \$20 and their membership will allow non-adult members of the immediate family to also participate in events. But those who are not married will only have to pay \$10 annually for dues.

Previously dues were \$10 per family or individual, but club funds were not keeping up with costs that included sending flowers to members who had close family members die. That cost has been increasing as the average age of members also increased. In addition, the majority of members expressed interest in paying for a website to be exclusive to the club.

Dues for the active members of the club are payable to the club treasurer at the first meeting after the election of officers. If not paid by the end of February, a notice will be sent. If membership is not paid by April 1, the membership will expire and the member will be dropped from the club roles.

Women Gain the Right to Vote

In a club where past history is often part of what makes members' cars interesting, an important part of our nation's history suddenly repeated itself with the return of an issue that had been decided by our nation over 80 years ago.

In 1920 the United States passed a constitutional amendment and had it ratified by the states to extend the right to vote to women. In 2007 the Great Plains Streetrodders finally followed that example and granted the right to vote to the women in the club.

As various issues came up during a meeting held Jan. 6, 2007 in conjunction with the club's Christmas party, women in the club grew restless about wanting to vote separate from their husbands. Voting had to be done by the husband OR wife, but could not be done by both.

President Kevin Kappenman tried to put that issue off to another meeting so concentration could be placed on other pressing issues, but many of the women wouldn't settle for that.

The policy up until then was that a membership in the club included an entire family and each family was granted one vote on business matters. But as business was discussed at the Jan. 6 meeting, some of the women challenged their husbands for the family's vote on the issue. In some instances, a woman voted against an issue her husband voted for, insisting that her vote canceled her husband's vote because there was only one vote allowed between them and hers was the latest vote.

A motion was made by Cathy Walker that membership be separated between husbands and wives so that each could be considered a voting

member. It was seconded by a male club member who shall remain anonymous for his own safety and the motion passed. That means dues will be \$10 per person or \$20 per couple instead of \$20 per family, and each adult member has the right to vote on business.

Submissions For The Newsletter

If you have anything to submit for the Great Plains Streetrodders newsletter, the deadline is the second Wednesday of each month. Anything will be considered for addition to the newsletter.

To submit something, contact Brian Lee at 605-498-0178, email bg4given@gmail.com or look for him around his 1961 Ford Thunderbird or 1951 Chevy sedan delivery.

New Officers Elected

The Great Plains Streetrodders has new officers, with Clay Seachris being the new leader.

At a meeting held Jan. 6 in conjunction with the Christmas party, members voted to make the term of officers start in January instead of April, beginning with this year.

In addition to Seachris being the new president, former president Kevin Kappenman became vice president, LeAnne Phillips was chosen as treasurer and Helen Jensen was picked for secretary.

There were no other nominations for any of the offices other than those who were voted in.



Deciding Where To Eat

If it weren't for the work of a small number of Great Plains Streetrodders, the membership at large wouldn't know where to go each Wednesday night.

Newly elected President Clay Seachris would like to recognize the "Wednesday Meet-n-Eat Committee" for their efforts to organize which restaurants can handle our large group. For any questions or suggestions regarding our Wednesday night gatherings, please contact a member of the Wednesday Meet-n-Eat Committee.

The Wednesday Meet-n-Eat Committee is made up of Jane DeBoer, Candi Hanson, Marilyn Haper and Audrey Remme.

We're On The Web

The Great Plains Streetrodders now has a website, of sorts.

It is a page on the website Motortopia.com, and lists information about the club. The club's page also lists upcoming events, and notifies members who have their own pages when the club's page is up-dated. In addition, members of the Great Plains Streetrodders can create their own webpage and list themselves with the club if they join Motortopia.

There is a wide variety of vehicles and car enthusiasts using Motortopia, and it is worth visiting for those who cruise the Internet for stuff about cars. Those who want to be listed with Motortopia and show their own cars there have to sign up, but there is no charge. One does not have to sign up to cruise through the Motortopia webpages.

Nonetheless, the club is still working on creating it's own website that is not dependent on other websites.

Upcoming Cruises & Events

Jan. 17 -- Brandon Pizza Ranch

Jan. 24 -- Coyote Canyon

Jan. 31 -- Uncle Angelo's (not confirmed)

Feb. 3 -- "The All Get Outs" perform 8:30 p.m. – midnight at The River Walk Café. For more information check out www.theriverwalkrestaurant.com on the Internet.

Feb 7 – Skelly's

Feb. 14 -- Brandon Steak House (Valentines Day)

Feb. 21 -- Roll'n Pin

Feb. 28 -- Valentinos



