



# Cruisin' News

March 2009

President – Clay Seachris  
Vice President – Bob Schmeichel  
Secretary – Sheila Miller  
Treasurer – Jayne DeBoer  
Newsletter Editor – Brian Lee

## *Indoor Socials to Outdoor Cruising*

By Clay Seachris

President's message

Indoor socials will soon be outdoor cruises. As spring rolls in, the Great Plains Street Rodders begin the transition from indoor socials, parties and gatherings to outdoor hotrodding and cruising. We enjoy good food and socializing all year round, but the indoor social season tends to revolve more around club members coming together growing friendships in all aspects of our lives. Our outdoor season reflects our name as street rodders, cruising and sharing our cars and socializing with all car enthusiasts, answering car related inquiries and making people smile as we share our attention grabbing rides.



During the March and April seasonal transition we reflect upon the people that made another winter together, fun. The meet-n-eat committee; Ron & Karen Roe and Nancy & Terry Jellis did a wonderful job on the Christmas Party, the recent Valentine's Party, all the Wednesday night meetings and many other social gatherings. We averaged a little over 50 people every Wednesday night. Special parties had as many as 70 members coming together to share the occasion. We also had a number of couples invite us into their homes, shops and back-yards. We laughed and had fun with Brian Lee and his little quiz games and Roger

Malcomb with his crazy sense of humor. It was another awesome winter together.

The Annual Valentine's social packed the private meeting room of the Brandon Steakhouse. Sandy Schmeichel shared a couple birthday cakes and we did our best chorus of "Happy Birthday to you" to thank her. Shirley pointed out and I agreed that with my tone-deaf singing skills, I should not be leading any choruses. The meet-n-eat committee gave away door prizes, club logo'd mugs and panoramic Christmas Party group club photos. With attendance over 70 people for the event, we surpassed even the Christmas Party and enjoyed visiting with many of the members that we don't see often.

The Easter Car Show and spring cruising is fast approaching. Some club members have new cars to share; others have updates to existing rides. We also have new members sharing cars we've never seen before. I've talked to members showing off new rides and race cars that can't be driven on the streets legally. So the Easter show and the social should be good.

The cruise schedule on [www.siouxlandcouncilinfo](http://www.siouxlandcouncilinfo) keeps growing. The ideas, support and participation of all members make our close-knit club a great group to be with, so keep sharing.



## *Is There Such a Thing as a Practical Hotrod?*

Clay and Susan Seachris have had hotrods before, but they're getting the hobby narrowed down to where it almost makes sense.

Their latest venture is a '65 Cobra 427 Factory Five Roadster, which they purchased in May 2004 as a replica body and tubular chassis from Massachusetts.

"A 427 Cobra and the little sports car with a big engine was always a dream car," Clay said. "I knew the only way I'd ever own one would be to build one. Being a streetrodder at heart, I needed to build one just the way I wanted it."

They purchased a 1988 Mustang police interceptor that provided the 302 v-8, the transmission, 8.8 rear-end, front spindles, brakes and pedal box. After stripping the worn-out Mustang of all useable parts, the car was junked (with apologies to Fox-body Mustang fans).



"The traction-lok rear-end has 373 gears keeping both back tires locked on quick take-offs and the five-speed transmission offers a top speed beyond my comfort level," Clay said. "The total car weighs only 2100 pounds so the power to weight ratio really makes it wild when the second carburetor comes out to play."

While the Mustang provided many parts, there was still much work to be done. The motor, transmission and rear-end all had to be rebuilt. The engine was bored out, a hotter cam installed, aluminum heads and a dual-carb aluminum intake were added.

"The nice thing about this Cobra is it's all Fox-body Mustang, so it's pretty easy to work on, and pretty easy to get parts," Clay said.

continued on page 3



SCHMEICHEL 2009

continued from page 2

Clay said the work load was lighter with help from Bob Schmeichel, Nathan Brower and other friends who helped. That also made the build more fun, working together with his friends. As a result, he has stories to tell about the car even before it hit the road. Such as the time he, Nathan and Bob started preparing the car for paint one afternoon, and before they were done, the paint was applied and it was 5 a.m. the next morning.

The paint is a special mix of blue-violet pearl. However, Clay said it makes the car very difficult to photograph. It always seems to look blue in photos, but purple in person, he said.

“Susan and I both like purple and missed a plum pearl ’46 Chevy I built and sold years before,” he said. “We decided to paint the Cobra violet purple even though it is not a normal Cobra color.”

While this is not Clay’s first hotrod, it is easily his favorite. He said before he’d have a car for a little while but would then get the itch to sell it and buy something different. The Cobra seems to have cured that itch.

“I had a street rod before, and I had a numbers-matching muscle car before,” Clay said. “I didn’t want to have to mess with rust again, and I didn’t want the worries of a matching-numbers engine blowing up on me.”

But there’s always something.

“The only thing is it’s got two seats, so we’ve got two cars with two seats,” he said.

Maybe his ’98 Corvette is still causing a little bit of an itch.

## Welcome New Members

We look forward to seeing the new faces and cars, but also can’t wait to hear their stories, share laughs and get to know these people better. Welcome:

Grace Bradshaw of Sioux Falls cruising with the Schmeichel’s in their ’40 Chevy

Dave Doeringsfeld & Marge Ecker of Sioux Falls with an ’08 Ford Shelby Convertible

Ron & Jackie Heemstra of Hartford with their ’06 Ford Saleen Mustang and ’34 Pontiac

Owen & Carlotta McKittrick of Sioux Falls with a ’49 Chevy Pickup

Denny & Joyce Muchow of Hartford with a ’41 Ford Coupe and a ’64 Ford Falcon Sprint

Craig & Laurie Nussbaum of Garretson and their ’92 Chevy S10 and ’95 Pontiac Trans Am

Kent & Terri Reilly of Sioux Falls with a ’37 Dodge Coupe and ’37 Dodge Sedan

## Sympathy Offered

We would like to extend our heartfelt sympathy to members, Dale and Pat Kiebach. Dale’s brother, Arlyn, passed away on Feb. 21.

Burial was Feb. 26 at St. Catherine’s Cemetery in Luverne.



## Thanks Given

Cheri Kappenman thanks everyone for their cards, letters, and emails. She is able to walk with one leg immobilized, and will have therapy to regain range of motion in her knee. It was wonderful to see Cheri and Kevin at the Roll-N-Pin.

## Some Want it Sooner

The deadline for the Great Plains Streetrodders newsletter is being moved up a week to the first Wednesday of the month.

Some members have requested the newsletter be available earlier in the month. To accommodate the early distribution, the newsletter will be composed sooner, so the deadline to submit items for inclusion in the newsletter must be moved up. So, anyone wanting to submit something for the newsletter must have it in by the first Wednesday of the month now. Your submissions may be given to the newsletter editor Brian Lee or the club president. *Anything will be considered for addition to the newsletter.*

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



### *March Birthdays*

Randy DeBoer	2
Kevin Kappenman	4
Melanie Trites	5
Norma Krouse	6
Lynn Hammerschmidt	8
Ken Levene	8
Natalie Butler	12
Les Ramstad	14
Don Jensen	15
Mike Miller	17
Rick Johnson	17
Wayne Ebright	17
Kathy Koch	20
Dick Gaddis	21
Bob Schmeichel	22
Sam Britt	24
Amanda Mullinix	24
Jules Haper	25
Sonja Lynch	25
Jerry Meyers	26
Pat Kiebach	27
Marge Ecker	29
Rich Barnes	30

### *March Anniversaries*

Chuck & Sherrey Kellogg	28
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### *April Birthdays*

Debbie Yesda	4
James DeBoer	10
Junie Herschberger	15
Patt Anderson	16
Lana Kullander	16
Christine Jellis	18
Chuck Trites	19
Gary Jorgenson	21
Bob Van Noort	23
Roger Malcomb	24
Sandy Peterson	26
Trenten Elliott	27
Kent Reilly	27
Jackie Heemstra	28
LaDell Mertens	28

### *Belated Birthday*

Morris Fick's B-day on February 17

### *April Anniversaries*

Don & Betty Jones	2
Ken & Vicky Levene	4
Dean & Joyce Gough	17
Don & Helen Jensen	21
Les & Mary Ramstad	24
James & Jayne DeBoer	25
Matt & Natalie Butler	26
Derrick & Sarah Stokes	26

### *Juggling Law Enforcement*

An Iowa state patrolman pulled a car over for speeding about five miles from the South Dakota line on I-90. When the officer asked the driver why he was speeding, the driver answered that he was a magician and juggler and was on his way to Sioux Falls to do a show that night and didn't want to be late.

The patrolman told the driver that he was fascinated by juggling and if the driver would do a little juggling for him that he wouldn't give him a ticket. The juggler told him that he had sent all of his equipment on ahead and didn't have anything to juggle. The patrolman told him that he had some flares in the trunk of his car and asked if he could juggle them. The juggler said he could, so the patrolman got three flares and lit them, and handed them to the juggler.

While the man was doing his juggling act, a car pulled up behind the patrol car and a drunk got out and watched the show. After a minute or two, he went to the patrol car, opened the back door and got in. The patrolman saw him do this and went over to his

car, opened the door and asked the drunk what he thought he was doing.

The drunk replied, "Just take me to jail... there ain't no way I'm gonna pass that test."

### *No Coats Needed*

The South Texas Division of the Great Plains Street Rodders had a meeting on Feb 23rd at the Peterson's condo in South Padre Island. The members present were Terry and Sandy Peterson, Gary and Audrey Jorgenson, Don and Helen Jensen, and Larry and Kris Golden. Those attending brought their own drinks, but winter apparel was not necessary.

Anyone else that wanted to attend was invited by email, but they would've had to start driving at least by Feb 21 to make it there in time, and email notification was only a few days before that.

Terry Peterson reported they were cooking shrimp and a few other things to go along at the gathering. And they might have mentioned some of the northern GPSR members during conversations at the meeting, but almost certainly in positive contexts. No agenda of the meeting was provided.



## Upcoming Cruises & Event

March 11 – Ramkota Inn

March 18 – Tea Steakhouse

March 25 – Main Street,  
Larchwood

April 1 – Keg, E. 26<sup>th</sup> St.

April 8 – Pizza Ranch, Tea

April 11-12 Easter Car Show

April 15 – Ruby Tuesday's, E.  
10<sup>th</sup> St.

April 22 – Tailgators, Brandon

April 25-26 – Car Show at the  
Fairgrounds Expo Building

April 29 – Ming Wah's

May 9 – El Riad Classic Autos

Rockin' 50s Party

May 20 – ABS Show and Shine





## *Classified Ads*

**WANTED – 1950 or 1951 Studebaker.** Call Brian, 605-498-0178 or email [bg4given@gmail.com](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com)

**FOR SALE – Book full of pictures of old cars**, new, entitled “For The Love of Cars. Local cars are among the many photos. Special price of \$22 (retails for \$28.99), tax included for members of the Great Plains Streetrodders. Contact Brian, 605-498-0178

**WANTED – Front fenders** for a 1956 Chevy. Call Ron Roe at 605-332-4543.

**FOR SALE – Ford shop manual** for 1952-1953-1954 passenger cars. **1976 Ford Torino Elite** two-door hardtop, 351 c.i., auto transmission. Contact Ken Buchanan.

**FOR SALE – NOS 1973-198?** Chevrolet/GMC P/U, Suburban, Blazer rear tailgate trim molding (black insert) \$25.00; GM Aluminum Big Block “Chevrolet” logo black powder coated valve covers with fasteners and grommets new in the box, \$125.00; complete set of Big Block GM High Performance 1.7 stamped steel rocker arms, pivots and nuts new in the box \$50.00; Complete 396 CI Chevrolet Big Block date coded L-1-5 (Dec-1-

65), Holley 600 CFM double-pumper carb, Edelbrock Performer 2-O aluminum intake, GM HEI distributor, 8.5 mm ignition wires, strong performance hydraulic cam, fuel pump, needs valve guide seals, \$2000.00; Chevrolet Big Block 9 qt oil pan cleaned & painted black, \$25.00; 9” Ford rear end housing with 28 spline axles bracketed for 1958-1962 Chevrolet full size car 5 x 4 3/4” bolt pattern, \$100.00; set of 20 Stainless steel Chevrolet metric wheel lug nuts new never installed, \$20.00; new Chevrolet/GM 454 HD fan clutch new in box, \$30.00; 1993-1999 Chevrolet/ GMC P/U Suburban, Blazer rear tail lights converted to LED lamps (plug in) \$50.00, pair of John Deere lawn tractor wheels sand blasted painted JD yellow 12”x12” for 400 series tractor, \$60.00; snow mobile trailer axle with springs and tounge,\$50.00; pair of trailer tires & wheels, bias ply 205/75x14 spoked wheels 5x4 1/2” bolt pattern \$30.00. For more information call Mike Miller @ 605-360-8546 Sioux Falls.

**FOR SALE -- 1972 Buick Riviera**, 455 c.i., auto. Needs deck lid and front seat upholstery. Good straight body, vinyl top, boattail. Runs and drives. New front discs. \$1500. **1975 Buick Riviera**, 455, auto, very good body, needs some plastics and front bucket seat torn. One owner car that has the turbine wheel covers. Excellent bumpers and chrome. Runs and drives. Call Eric Anderson at 712-380-4969

**FOR SALE -- 3:92 gears for Ford 9 inch rear-end** (excellent condition), Holley 650 Double-pump four barrel carb (needs new power valve), Chrome 2-wire alternator for 1974 thru 1984 Ford 302 (New in box). Call Bill Kullander, 605 366-1158

**FOR SALE -- 5' x10' trailer** with attached loading ramp. \$775.00, call Terry Peterson, 359-5386.

**FOR SALE -- NOS 1966 Chevelle rear bumper**, still in GMs factory rubberized wrap. I've seen them listed on E-Bay in the \$450-\$500 range. The first \$375.00 cash will own it. Call Jerry 368-2418 for details.

**FOR SALE – 1959 Chevy promo model**, 1/25 scale, black and white two-tone, plastic, chassis and roof are slightly warped. \$10 or best offer. Call Brian Lee at 498-0178 or email [bg4given@gmail.com](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com)

**FOR SALE – 1952 Packard parts**, including a grill, trim pieces, windows and more. Call Gary Ebright at 339-4571.

**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. To place your ad, call Brian at 498-0178 or email him at [bg4given@gmail.com](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com)

