



# Cruisin' News

November, 2008  
President - Clay Seachris  
Vice President - Bob Schmeichel  
Secretary - Helen Jensen  
Treasurer - LeAnne Phillips  
Newsletter Editor - Brian Lee

## *President's Message*

Clay Seachris

Once again winter in South Dakota tries to hamper our fun and once again, together, we are taking advantage of this slower car event time. The club is doing it's best to create social events and take advantage of our close friendships, diverse hobbies and interests. Members are sharing their interests and coordinating socials which grow friendships and experiences beyond just our car enthusiasm. I love cruising, meeting new car enthusiasts and displaying my cars, however I also love our time together away from the hustle and bustle of the car show season. We grow and expand our friendships and rely upon the closeness of the group to share and try new things.

The club holiday bus tour to Pierre is on again this year and Ken has been busy coordinating all the details of renting the whole tour bus. Similar tours cost twice the price if you were to go on your own. The group tour has room for 48 members with stops at Al's Oasis, The Cultural Heritage Museum and the grand finale at the Capitol to view Christmas trees decorated by many state organizations. The big tree in the capitol rotunda is a show by itself, but the many other trees and decorations makes for an awesome show of holiday spirit. The Cultural Heritage Museum is the headquarters for the South Dakota State Historical Society and houses many prominent, historical items.

The recent Strawbale Winery tour and wine tasting event was a hit and allowed many members to learn and try something new. We were amazed that so many wines could be made from products grown in South Dakota. The owners even gave tips for making wine from backyard berries. We thank Bob for sharing his homemade fermentation. Thanks also goes out to Sandy for bringing cheese and crackers and a big thank you goes to Susan for coordinating the event.

Wednesday's meet-n-eat at Champ's was a great evening with "Mr. Twister", the balloon artist entertaining and making corsages, poodles and flowers for the women and funny hats for the guys. This night was also a send-off for a number of members heading to Vegas for this year's SEMA Show. We'll be waiting to hear stories regarding what's new in the automotive specialty products market and which national car enthusiast celebrities they visited.

I hope to see you all at the Annual Christmas Party at the Sioux Valley Energy building in Brandon. We are planning another enjoyable pot-luck and gift exchange. The food is always great and the give and take of the gift exchange is a blast. I hope you've all had fun trying to find special gifts. Susan and I bought some things last year on clearance and had a hard time finding where we put the gifts a year ago.

The second year of my term as club president is coming to a close. I've been so proud to represent such an awesome group of people. Business management of memberships, income, expenses, newsletters, the website etc can be trying, but I have enjoyed working with and for you all. It's been fun receiving emails and phone calls from the public wanting member's cars for special occasions and asking if the club will attend and support their events.

The public is noticing our website. I've forwarded numerous calls and emails for graduation photos, wedding arrangements and other special occasions. Derrick updates the site, so keep checking the web to see pictures, information and prior feature cars.

## *This Coupe Has Some Remarkable Details*

You have to look close at Dwight and Ruby Johnson's 1927 Ford coupe. It's not just another Model T hotrod.

It doesn't have air conditioning, or a fancy stereo. It doesn't have a blower or a Ford flathead engine. But it is an accurate rendition of what someone built in 1959 or 1960 for their hotrod.

Probably the most unusual thing about this hotrod is the 1954 Studebaker 232 C.I. V-8 that powers it. The engine remains mostly stock, with a few dress-up items, and won't turn in any single-digit 0-60 times. But when was the last time you saw a hotrod powered by Studebaker?

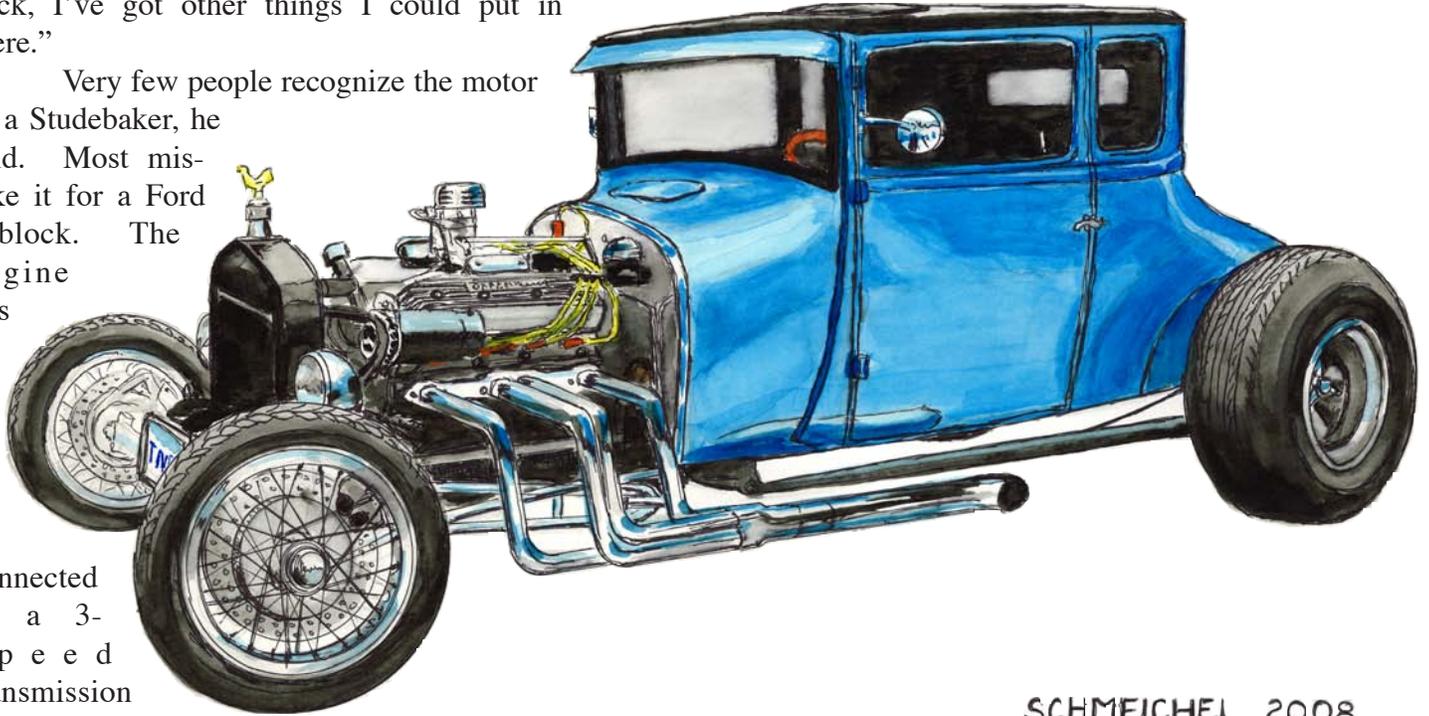
"It's only rated at 130 hp, but it's enough for me," Dwight said. "If I wanted something that'll break my neck, I've got other things I could put in there."

Very few people recognize the motor as a Studebaker, he said. Most mistake it for a Ford Y-block. The engine is

connected to a 3-speed transmission with overdrive.

"It's a conversation piece, if nothing else," Dwight said.

The car was built almost 50 years ago and wasn't driven much, he said. That was probably because it was not an easy car to drive around, he said.



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Oh, it looked good, with that Studebaker engine in it and the Mediteranean blue paint. The interior was done nice, and someone somewhere along the line even put a sunroof in it.

When Dwight got it about 5 years ago, he knew there would have to be some changes before he would use it.

For one thing, the brakes weren't sufficient.

"When I bought the car it only had brakes on the rear, and they were 7-inch," he said. "It took two blocks to get it stopped."

But the things that caused a poor ride quality the most were the 12-degree castor in the front and buggy springs in the rear. The rear springs had almost no room to soften the bumps.

So, the first thing Dwight did was rebuild the front-end and replace the rear springs and axle. He swapped out the Studebaker rear-end for a '54 Oldsmobile nine-inch rear.

Part of the reason Dwight wanted this car was because he had a Model T coupe in high school, powered by an Oldsmobile V-8. It was a very basic hotrod, he said, and he sold it for \$75 not long after

he built it.

Then in 2003 or 2004 he saw a sign advertising this car while at Cool Deadwood Nights, and was taken with the looks. But when he found out the owner was a widow who needed the money to help put her daughter through college, he decided it was an excellent opportunity to help someone else out while gaining a cool hotrod in the process.

"It was probably a little more than it was worth, but I thought it was a good cause, so I bought it."

The top is chopped seven inches, and Dwight said he had to raise the header 3 inches in order to be able to see traffic lights. It also is channeled four inches, leaving the interior with about 30 inches of clearance between the floor and the roof. It's not built for tall people.

"It has no creature comforts at all. It doesn't even have a radio," he added.

In spite of the many upgrades Dwight has done, he said he tried to keep the car's overall appearance much like it was when it was originally built. That means it still presents some challenges for him to drive it.

"It's not suitable for long trips, but for cruising around town, it's just fine," he said.

## *Sympathy Offered*

We would like to send our heartfelt sympathy to Diane and Roger Corkill. Diane's brother, Harlan Dubs, passed away on Wednesday.

Harlan Dubs, age 72, died Wednesday at the Freeman Hospital.



## *Family Gathering*

A man in Dallas calls his son in Atlanta , the day before Thanksgiving and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but, I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough."

"Pop, what are you talking about?," the son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer, " the father says. "We're sick of each other and I'm sick of talking about this, so you can call your sister in Denver and tell her!"

Frantic, the son calls his sister in Denver who explodes on the phone, "Like heck they're getting divorced," she shouts. "I'll take care of this."

She calls their father immediately and screams at him, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then don't do a thing. DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "they're coming for Thanksgiving and paying their own way!"

## *You Don't Have To Wait For Christmas*

The Great Plains Streetrodders will be celebrating Christmas Saturday, December 6, with a social event beginning at 5 p.m. and dinner to follow.

The dinner will be a potluck, but the club will provide plates, utensils, soda pop and coffee.

There will also be a gift exchange game. All attending are asked to bring man's gift and woman's gift of an approximate value of \$10. "Feature Car" recipients are asked to bring their feature car painting, but are assured the artwork will be displayed only and will not be given away with the gifts. The club photo albums and Cruisin' DVD will be displayed also.

The party will be held at the Sioux Valley Energy Building , 108 N. Heritage Rd, Brandon , SD.

## *Go See The Trees*

Plans are being made to take a bus trip to Pierre on Saturday, December 13th to see the Christmas Trees at the Capitol and the

Heritage Museum.

The cost is \$45 per person, which includes the cost of the bus, noon meal at the Pizza Ranch, admission to the museum and refreshments on the bus. The evening meal will be at your own expense. The plan is to leave at 7:00 am (departure location to be determined) and to return at approx-

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imately 9:30 pm.

There is room for 48 people on the bus.

If you would like to go on this trip to Pierre, please contact Ken Buchanan at 334-6668 or 212-2821 to make your reservation.

### *Who Knew This?*

I found this interesting item of advice on the Internet. Is it true? You can check your car and decide for yourself.

I would think I should have noticed the little secret on my dashboard that was staring me in the face the whole time. I didn't...and I bet you didn't either.

Have you ever rented or borrowed a car and when arriving at the gas station wondered..."hmmm, on which side is the gas filler cap?" My normal solution was to stick my head out the window, strain my neck and look, trying to see in the side mirrors, or even get out of the car to look.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to share with you my little secret so you will no longer look like Ace Ventura on your way to the gas station or put your neck at risk of discomfort or injury.

If you look at your gas gauge, you will see a small icon of a gas pump. The handle of the gas pump will extend out on either the left or right side of the gas pump? If your tank is on the left, the handle will be on the left. If your tank is on the right, the handle will be on the right. It is that simple!

### *November Birthdays*

Susan Seachris	1
Clay Seachris	2
Diego Yorsky	7

Dean Gough	11
Rich Burns	15
Doug VanNoort	22
Dwight Johnson	28
Tom Elliott	28
Jane Sletten	29
Keith Schmuck	29

### *November Anniversaries*

Rich & Glenna Burns	4
Doug & Norma Krouse	14
Denny & Betty Heidebrink	16
Sam & Bonnie Britt	16
Gerry & LeAnn Phillips	30

### *December Birthdays*

Ron Hammerschmidt	2
Bill Miller	3
Marlo Jones	7
Gary Ebright	11
Cathy Walker	13
Leonard Rhoades	15
Barb Schriever	17
Heather (Hanson)	19
Julie Hansen	20
LeAnn Phillips	20
Helen Jensen	21
Roger Corkill	24
Ellen VanNoort	30
Chris Johnson	31

### *December Anniversaries*

Morris & Beth Fick	1
Glenn & Cathy Walker	19
Eric & Patt Anderson	20
Bill & Lana Kullander	20
Fred & Nancy Snyder	31

### *More New Members!*

We would like to welcome the following new members to the Great Plains Street Rodders:

Bill & Judy Miller, 121 S.E. Park St., Luverne, MN 56156; home

phone number is 507-283-2567 and cell phones are 507-676-0374 and 507-676-0162. Hbirthday is 12/03 and her birthday is 10/25; their wedding Anniversary is 06/22. Their email is www.bjmillier@iw.net and their cars are a 1965 Ford Galaxie 500 XL Convertible, 1996 Chevy Corvette Convertible and a 2009 Ford Mustang Convertible.

### *Thanks Offered*

Thank you so much for the memorial gift in honor of my father, Norman King. It was greatly appreciated.

I think my dad would really like it, if we put the money to good use. So would it be possible to put the money towards Christmas gifts for children in need of support. I think that would have made him happy.

Thank you.  
Wayne King

### *Upcoming Cruises & Events*

Oct. 30 -- Halloween Party, pot-luck at electric coop building in Brandon

Nov. 1 -- Halloween Bash featuring The Rumbles at El Riad Shrine, call 336-1117 for more details

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Nov. 5 -- Champps  
 Nov. 12 -- Granny's Golden Oven, 41st St across from Western Mall  
 Nov. 19 -- Pizza Ranch - East 10th St.  
 Nov. 22 -- Abbey Road (the Beatles Tribute Band) to perform at the El Riad Shrine, doors open at 8 pm. The "East Terrace" at the Shrine is being reserved that evening for the area car clubs.  
 Nov. 26 -- Ming Wah's  
 Dec. 3 -- Shrivvers Square - Hemmer Brother's Hamburgers  
 Dec. 10 -- Rookies - South Louise Ave (by Granite City)  
 Dec. 17 -- Shenanigans  
 Dec. 24 -- Christmas Eve  
 Dec. 31 -- New Years Eve  
 Jan. 7 -- China Star  
 Jan. 14 -- Pizza Ranch, W. 41st St.  
 Jan. 21 -- Hy-Vee, Minnesota Ave.  
 Jan. 28 -- Cracker Barrel  
 Feb. 4 -- Royal Fork  
 Feb. 11 -- Brandon Steakhouse  
 Feb. 18 -- Skelly's  
 Feb. 25 -- Valentino's  
 Feb- 28-March 1 -- Counts Car Show, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, Rapid City  
 March 4 -- Roll'n Pin  
 March 11 -- Ramkota Inn  
 March 18 -- Tea Steakhouse  
 March 25 -- Main Street, Larchwood  
 April 1 -- Keg, E. 26th St.  
 April 8 -- Pizza Ranch, Tea  
 April 15 -- Ruby Tuesday's, E. 10th St.  
 April 22 -- Tailgators, Brandon  
 April 29 -- Ming Wah's

### *Classified ads*

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 fas-

teners 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 ?" 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 5x41/2" bolt pattern \$30.00. For more information call Mike Miller @ 605-360-8546 Sx. 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. Wired with lights and highway tires. \$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 at 368-2418 for more 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

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

