



# Cruisin' News

April, 2008

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

## *Our Cars to Regain The Focus*

By Clay Seachris  
Club president

Cruising season is here! With the many shows and cruises planned for the summer, I look forward to spending cruisin' time with everyone.

In comparison to the cruise season, the winter gatherings are simple and all social. Our summer focus changes to car detailing, cruise location mapping, show schedule deadlines, weather, spectator etiquette and all the other fun little elements of our car-loving hobby. I'm hoping with all our busy schedules, the Great Plains Street Rodders still take the opportunities to have some fun Saturday and Sunday cruises. For club communication, our website has untapped email network capabilities that may be expanded this summer. We've tossed around the idea of a cruise to Inwood and little picnics are always great. A current club photo of us with all of our cars would be nice, also.

Once again, all the clubs of the Siouland Car Council have come together and planned some great Wednesday evening cruises. Many of the clubs and a number of other organizations have also coordinated numerous local car shows. Please continue checking the car council website schedule at [www.sioulandcouncil.info](http://www.sioulandcouncil.info) to keep informed on all current summer activities and changes that may occur due to weather, road construction, etc.

We are hosting three of the Wednesday evenings and I'm sure we'll have fun coordinating those nights. I have a list of volunteers already, but enjoy having many hands to spread the fun of organizing these events, so let me know if you would like to be involved. Also, the Great Plains Street Rodders always do a wonderful job of supporting other club's cruises and car shows. The friendship, support and camaraderie between the clubs of the council are beneficial to all. The sharing is outstanding; we attend and support their events and in turn they attend and support ours. Together we build friendships, have fun summer shows, cruises and all kinds of car events and socials.

A current commercial catch-phrase is "When you turn your car on does it return the favor?" When I started mine this spring, it definitely did. I hope all of you got the same feeling with the first start of spring. Congratulations to the members whose spring turn-of-the-key was a fresh start to a finished project car or new purchase. We all enjoy spring and the debut of new hot rods.

Also, over the summer think about getting involved in our winter planning as a member of the Meet-N-Eat Committee. This fall I'll be looking for three new volunteers for the 2008-2009 winter schedule. The list of prior locations and contact people has been established through the years. We just need some fresh faces and ideas to continue our strong winter tradition.

Again, this summer I look forward to spending cruisin' time with everyone. Continue to check [www.greatplainsstreetrodders.com](http://www.greatplainsstreetrodders.com) to see what feature car updates and added photo memories Derrick has made to our site. Also, look for Betty at summer events because she often brings the photo album archives of the Great Plains Street Rodders.



## *The Millers '59 Chevrolet Biscayne*

By Mike Miller

This 1959 Chevrolet Biscayne two-door sedan is another Roy Dyce "rescue," originally built by Roy's son, Jeff. The first time I saw the car at one of the Easter car shows, I loved it. Sedan car (I like posts), BLACK (and straight), big block (no other sound like 'em) -- what else is there?

Sheila and I decided we wanted a street rod approximately four years ago and this car was for sale. I watched it in and out of a local auto sales publication for about 9 months. The night of the first Sioux Falls Automania, we purchased it. It wasn't there, but we went and picked it up before the show on that Wednesday evening.

It was equipped with a 396 big block, sucking Dino' extract through a Holley double pumper and Edelbrock manifold, putting it to a 350 turbo trans, 9-inch Ford rear, with GM disc brakes up front, and Hooker Super Comp "stereo."

Since we acquired the rig, we've added a full set of front and rear seat belt/shoulder harnesses for safety.

We wear our belts religiously. The bumpers came off and received a new bling job,

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SCHMECHEL 2008

a new Strange Pro "S" center, outfitted with 3:75 gears, Detroit Tru Trac posi, Daytona pinion support, Moser 31 spline axles followed by

a new Moser 9-inch housing, fitted with a set of Wilwood 12.125-inch disc brakes out back and

now Wilwood "11" discs up front. The suspension has been beefed up with the rear control arms boxed for strength and new polygraphite suspension bushings for the front and rear.

Driveline Specialists built a complete new rear drive shaft. Then came a front sway bar from Hotchkis Performance.

If anyone wants to make one of these big old rollers handle nice, go the Hotchkis route, the only one that fits the 605 steering box conversion.

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I've added the Auto Meter gauges and had the heater core/valve assembly completely rebuilt. If anyone needs information on a guy in California that rebuilds that era control valve, I've got the information.

I've avoided destroying the dash, as the looks are classic, as are the rear tail light/wing configuration.

I have to give special thanks to my high school buddy, Bob Schmeichel, for the "sand and shine" help last year as well as other valued assistance.

Oh yeah, I can't forget the great help from "Big Brother" Bruce. He came all the way home from New York City to help me sort out the wiring the first year. It was a mess. He's a wizard when it comes to wiring a hot rod. The addition of an Ididit tilt steering column corrected the final turn signal malfunctions.

We really enjoy the car. Sheila has an '89 Camaro convertible, but she prefers to drive this one -- mostly because it's an auto, while the Camaro's a 5-speed.

The greatest thing about the car has been the really great new people (friends) we've met in the car clubs and local runs. What great hospitality we've experienced from area rodders in South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota. You folks are great! I wish that more of the younger crowd would join us and experience the "car-mor-rod-ery".

### *March Birthdays*

Randy DeBoer	2
Kevin Kappenman	4
Norma Krouse	6
Lynn Hammerschmidt	8
Les Ramstad	14
Don Jensen	15
Rick Johnson	17
Mike Miller	17
Kathy Koch	20
Dick Gaddis	21
Bob Schmeichel	22
Lea Yorsky	23
Sam Britt	24
Jules Haper	25
Pat Kiebach	27
Rich Barnes	30

### *March Anniversaries*

Tommy & Lola Little	3
Diego & Lea Yorsky	19
Chuck & Sherrey Kellogg	28

### *April Birthdays*

Jim DeBoer	10
Junie Herschberger	15
Patt Anderson	16
Lana Kullander	16
Christina Jellis	18
Gary Jorgenson	21
Sandy Christians	22
Roger Malcomb	24
Sandy Peterson	26

### *April Anniversaries*

Don & Betty Jones	2
Dean & Joyce Gough	17
Don & Helen Jensen	21
Les & Mary Ramstad	24
Jim & Jayne DeBoer	25
Bob & Barb Schriever	26



### *Classified ads*

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](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com)

FOR SALE -- 1984 454 c.i. engine with 400 transmission, engine rebuilt 2,000 miles ago. Can hear it run. \$2,500. Call Red Duerksen at 772-4850.

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. 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](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Cruises & Events

- April 19 – El Riad Shrine Beatles Tribute
- April 23 – cruise to Dareo's on Minnesota Ave.
- April 30 -- Cruise to Sioux Valley Energy, N. Heritage Rd. Brandon, SD
- May 7 -- Cruise to Lone Star Steakhouse, 41st St., Sioux Falls
- May 10 – El Riad Shrine Rockin' 50s Party
- May 14 -- Cruise to Pizza Ranch, 41st St., Sioux Falls
- May 21 – ABS Show and Shine, 4710 N. Westport Ave, Sioux Falls
- May 28 -- Cruise to Falls Park For Council Grill Out
- June 4 – Executive Touch cruise, 1011 S. Minnesota Ave., Sioux Falls
- June 6-8 -- Luverne's Buffalo Days Cruise Nite and car show.
- June 8 – Sioux Empire Ford Car Show
- June 11 -- Cruise to Terry Koch Race Shop, 26846 469 Ave, Sioux Falls
- June 13 – Hills Poker Run, starting in Brandon, SD
- June 15 – Cars in the Park show in Mitchell
- June 18 – Automania in Sioux Falls
- June 20-22 – Back to the 50s in St. Paul, MN
- June 21 – Marion Car Show
- June 21 – Mighty Mo Car Show at Harry K's in Oacoma
- June 25 -- Cruise to Handy-Man, 910 E. 10th St., Sioux Falls
- June 27-29 – Quarry Days in Del Rapids
- July 2 -- Cruise to Premier Motor Cars, 2220 W 5th St., Sioux Falls
- Falls
- July 8-12 – POCI Nationals in Spearfish
- July 9 -- Great Plains St. Rodders Poker Run, meet at Dareo's 2920 S. Minnesota Ave., Sioux Falls
- July 11-13 – Black Hills Rod Run at Hill City, SD
- July 12-13 – River City Racin' Show and Shine at Cedar Shore in Oacoma
- July 16 -- Cruise to Sherman Park, 805 S Kiwanis, for potluck supper
- July 23 -- Cruise to VA, 2501 W 22nd St., Sioux Falls
- July 26-27 – Canton Area Cruise Nite and Car Show
- July 30 -- Cruise to Sherman Park, hosted by Empire Pontiac Chapter
- August 6 -- Cruise to Citi Car Show, 701 E. 60St N., Sioux Falls
- Aug. 8-10 – Old Iron Co. Rod Run in Spencer
- Aug. 10 – Madison Car Show
- August 15 -- Cruise to Bethany Meadows, 3008 E. Aspen Blvd, Brandon
- Aug. 15-17 – Yankton River Boat Days
- August 20 -- Cook Out Wall Lake, hosted by the Sioux Empire Ford Club
- Aug. 21-24 – Kool Deadwood Nights
- August 27 -- Cruise to Executive Touch /Subaru, 1011 S. Minnesota Ave., Sioux Falls
- Aug. 29-31 – Labor Day Rod Run in Sioux Falls
- Aug. 29-31 – Good Guys Car Show in Kansas City
- Sept. 3 -- Cruise to Ice Cream Social at Children's Home Society, 801 N. Sycamore Ave. Sioux Falls

Sept. 5-7 – 29th Annual Vintiques Rod Run in Watertown

## Garage Tour in Spirit Lake Iowa

By Gary Jorgenson

Several members from the Great Plains Streetrodders car club traveled to Spirit Lake on March 1 to view vintage autos in that area. Eric Anderson of Anderson Construction hosted us and took us to three garages in the area.

We had a great time and met several of the local car enthusiasts. Eric had recently purchased a 1941 two-door Hudson that was totally rust free and in very good original condition.

The highlight of the tour was at Olsen's Landscaping garage. I was trying to take notes and hope I got the info correct. He had a 1917



Pierce Arrow. He purchased this auto in Palm Springs and it was in mint original condition, except for being repainted in the 60's. Only a very small number of these remarkable cars were hand made in Buffalo NY. Some of the features were an



all-aluminum body, sterling silver door handles, gold radiator cap, silk pull-down curtains in the rear seat and an amazing engine. The engine was a 6-cylinder, 825-cubic-inch motor — reportedly the largest production auto motor ever made. It had a 22-quart aluminum oil pan and a 36-gallon gas tank. It is a very rare car and should be in a museum. He also had an original 1934 Ford Phaeton in mint condition. One of the more interesting cars was a 1927 Chevy. This car was also in mint condition and had been purchased by a husband and wife who drove this car as their only driver until 1964. It was fun seeing several rare autos in original condition.

Eric suggested doing the tour again in the fall with additional garages for viewing.



### *A Loving But Religious Driver*

Grandma is 88 years old and still drives her own car. She recently wrote a letter about one of her drives.

She wrote:

Dear Granddaughter,

The other day I went up to our local Christian book store and saw a “Honk if you love Jesus” bumper sticker. I was feeling particularly sassy that day because I had just come from a thrilling choir performance, followed by a thunderous prayer meeting. So, I bought the sticker and put it on my bumper.

Boy, am I glad I did; what an uplifting experience that followed.

I was stopped at a red light at a busy intersection, just lost in thought about the Lord and how good he is, and I didn't notice that the light had changed. It is a good thing someone else loves Jesus because if he hadn't honked, I'd never have noticed. I found that lots of people love Jesus! While I was sitting there, the guy behind started honking like crazy, and then he leaned out of his window and screamed, “For the love of God! Go! Go! Go! Jesus Christ, GO!” What an exuberant cheerleader he was for Jesus!

Soon everyone started honking! I just leaned out my window and started waving and smiling at all those loving people. I even honked my horn a few times to share in the love! There must have been a man from Florida back there because I heard him yelling something about a sunny beach.

I saw another guy waving in a funny way with only his middle finger stuck up in the air. I asked my young teenage grandson in the back seat what that meant. He said it was probably a Hawaiian good luck sign or something. Well, I have never met anyone from Hawaii, so I leaned out the window and gave him the good

luck sign right back. My grandson burst out laughing. Why, even he was enjoying this religious experience!!

A couple of the people were so caught up in the joy of the moment that they got out of their cars and started walking towards me. I bet they wanted to pray or ask what church I attended, but this is when I noticed the light had changed. So, I waved at all my brothers and sisters, grinning, and drove on through the intersection. I noticed that I was the only car that got through the intersection before the light changed again and felt kind of sad that I had to leave them after all the love we had shared. So I slowed the car down, leaned out the window and gave them all the Hawaiian good luck sign one last time as I drove away.

Praise the Lord for such wonderful folks!

I will write again soon.

Love, Grandma

### *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](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com) or look for him around his 1961 Ford Thunderbird or 1951 Chevy sedan delivery.



## *Use Your Old Car To Teach*

Mike and Lori Paulson need some classic cars to teach elementary school students about the history of old cars and how much fun the hobby can be.

The cars are to be displayed for Discovery Day at Driveline Service, 1820 W. Burnside, in Sioux Falls on Friday, April 25. There will be two sessions, one at 11:30 a.m. and the other at 1 p.m., with 15-20 students at each session. About 6 cars will be needed for each session.

Discovery Day is a day set aside for students at Discovery Elementary School in Sioux Falls to learn new interests or occupations within the community and outside of their school. Classic car session is the first choice for many students. Mike has hosted this for three years, and provides answers to many questions.

The students will enjoy ice cream before their trip back to school. A Great Plains Streetrodder can't have them learn about old cars without learning the Great Plains Streetrodders way of eating too.

Lunch will be provided for volunteers in addition to ice cream. Car owners can participate in one or both sessions.

If interested, contact Lori at 335-6143 or 351-0416.



## *What Is A Poker Run?*

By Clay Seachris

A good cruise for you and your hotrod is to join in on a local "poker run." Poker runs can be a lot of fun, and most are held for some charity or cause.

Entry amounts are low as \$1 per hand. They are great fund raisers, but many times all the proceeds go back to the participants. It is not a race, but instead a fun game of chance and a nice few hours for cruising with stops for socializing and meeting other car enthusiasts. Poker runs have existed for years. These rallies are well known in the car, bike and boat world.

Just what is a poker run? These events consist of all kinds of cruisers and hotrods who all begin at a certain point. There is a list of check points along the predetermined route, at which the participants stop. Normally there are five stops to equal the hands of a poker card game. There may be up to seven stops with discards, so you have the choice of five cards making up a hand of poker. The participant draws a card from a normal deck of playing cards and the volunteer attendant at that stop writes down your card and participant number.

The "rally" is not timed, therefore, the driver and passengers can take their time to visit along the way, see the sites and enjoy the ride. It is best for a driver to have at least one "co-pilot or navigator" to direct them to the next stop. Usually local car club poker runs begin in the afternoon or following a car show or "show-n-shine."

The completion time is set so the final destination is usually at an eating establishment. In the evening at the final destination, everyone gets together to check their "hands." The

best five out of seven or the five-card poker hand that the car participants drew is recorded as that car's hand. Just like in poker, the best hand wins.

There are many variations, with prizes, buying additional cards, drawing envelopes instead of cards, giving clues instead of exact stop locations, etc.



## *Gratitude Expressed*

Our thanks to everyone for your support, prayers and cards as well as your attendance at our father Kermit Sletten's prayer service and funeral. Thank you so much for the very generous Memorial gift. The Great Plains Streetrodders truly are family.

Darwin and Jane Sletten and family

