



# Cruisin' News

September 2009

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## Hot Rods on Cool Nights

By Clay Seachris  
President's message

This month is the summer '09 finale. We've had lots of fun, made new friends, strengthened current friendships and increased our list of cruising tales to share over the off season. But it ain't over yet. Together we'll be having fun with our hotrods until it's too cold or the streets get too scary to drive on.

Great Plains had over 60 members gather for a rainy picnic at the Roes' place for the annual club weinie roast. As usual there was lots of food and fun. Ken and Vicki got there later, so the mysterious materialization of a pecan pie caused rumors of hidden treasure on the dessert table. In between the showers, we spent quality time around the fire roasting weinies and then later marshmallows. When the showers became heavy, we brought the chairs inside and enjoyed fellowship around the food and fresh popcorn. Most drove daily drivers, but we still had plenty of hotrods show up. It was great to see Eric and Patt as they drove their '56 Chevy "Rock-n-Roll" wagon from Spirit Lake, IA. Jim and Jayne's '56 Chevy, also. Morris drove in with his '69 RS SS Camaro. This was a great time and prompted the gathering on September 19 for a car club group photo.



I heard Kool Deadwood Nights was a fun cruise as over a half dozen couples headed to the hills for the weekend. The cruise details from this adventure are still surfacing as cruise tales are shared. It seems this cruise was filled with great sights and good food, and interestingly funny tales of bad batteries, flat tires, typical unfamiliar territory, and rustic bathroom choices. See Betty Heidebrink's notes in this issue and ask those that were there to get some good chuckles from the latest cruise to the hills.

A belated recognition to all the drivers at the Saturday night classic car parade in Canton. A number of you chauffeured pageant girls and other celebrities in the parade. There are lots of pictures and a couple YouTube videos of the parade floating around on the internet. Don and Betty in the Austin Healy with the current Miss South Dakota USA were one of many cars, along with Don and Helen, Roger and Jan, Ron and Karen, Derrick and Sarah, Rich and Glenna, Ken and Vicki, and others.

It's been another great summer together and it's not over yet. On October 7, the Great Plains Street Rodders will begin our off-season socials as the Meet-n-Eat Committee coordinates our restaurant stops throughout the Sioux Empire. Our group has many regular hang-outs but we're always open to new places to meet, so share your ideas if you want to try a new location.



See [www.siouxlandcouncil.info](http://www.siouxlandcouncil.info) for a schedule and [www.greatplainsstreetrodders.com](http://www.greatplainsstreetrodders.com) for club updates.

## *Better Than the Original*

When Don Mertons decided to get a 1969 Chevy Chevelle like the one of his youth, his wife LaDell thought he could do better. And they ended up being the second owners of the 1971 Chevelle they own today.

They bought their Chevelle about 5 years ago out of the Davenport, Iowa area.

“Actually, I was looking for a ’69 Chevelle, but LaDell, she wanted a ’71,” Don explained.

LaDell likes the styling of the front end and the taillights in 1971 better than what was worn by the 1969 models.

When they found this car for sale in Davenport, it appeared to be the right one. They found it on the Internet, offered by a broker who was selling it for an estate. The original owner had apparently purchased it new in Davenport and kept it to the day he died. It still has the original 350 c.i. V-8, plus factory air conditioning and the original AM/FM 8-track stereo. The car was gold, but the paint was very dull and oxidized, so Don had it painted black.

He was drawn towards this generation of Chevelles because he had enjoyed his 1969 Chevelle so much.

“I used to race my ’69 back in the ’70s and I thought, oh, I’d like to get another 350 with 300 horse (Chevelle),” he said. “I didn’t win a lot of races, but had a lot of fun.”

The one he has now isn’t quite as stout, being two-bolt instead of the four-bolt 350 his ’69 Chevelle had. And by 1971 Chevrolet was putting a few less horses under the hood, especially with the two-barrel carburetor. But that’s OK, because he didn’t buy it to race anyway. He bought it for the memories, and this car not only brings back memories, it’s making new ones.

“We had it in our daughter’s wedding,” Don said. “A lot of friends of ours have classic cars so we had a classic car wedding.”

It helped that their daughter Brianna was marrying a car guy who had his own 1968 Camaro. As part of the wedding ceremony, they cruised in their classic cars with Brianna riding with her parents in the ’71 Chevelle until they got to a point where she was transferred to the Camaro of her husband-to-be.

Memories like that will likely last longer than races not won anyway. And the Mertons’ plan to take good care of this Chevelle so there’ll be many more memories made.



## *Sympathy Goes Out*

The Great Plains Street Rodders extend their sympathy to Doug and Laurie Van Noort on the death of Laurie's mother Verna Larson.

## *Thanks Given*

It's hard to lose someone you love so much, but our grief has been eased by the outreach of friends like you. The gift you gave will be donated to Dougherty Hospice in Verna Larson's memory.  
Doug and Laurie VanNoort

## *Sympathy Goes Out*

The Great Plains Street Rodders offer sympathy to Rich and Melania Barnes in the death of Rich's father, Kenneth Eugene Barnes, age 78, who passed away at home on September 7, 2009.

## *Hotrod Webmaster*

Cyberspace information and scheduling for the Car Council and our club website are both managed by the same volunteer. He's the webmaster, but we know him as Derrick Stokes, "the guy with the '63 Bonneville."

The internet Siouxland Car Council cruise events schedule is constantly updated. Car clubs, show coordinators and individuals email event dates, information, web links, and digital flyer scans to be included on the schedule page. The goal of the Siouxland Car Council's internet event schedule is to be a comprehensive one-stop place for local and

regional car-related events. The schedule has really grown and still relies upon information received via email. Pass the word to individuals and coordinators to check that website and email event information to the webmaster. If an event isn't on the council schedule, they only have themselves to blame.

Our own website is another fun site filled with off-season meet-n-eat schedules, old newsletters, feature car stories, pictures, membership information and other club items. Derrick is also the Great Plains Street Rodders webmaster, and regularly updates prior newsletters, feature car articles and event pictures.

As the internet, digital age grows, so does the popularity of these sites. The car club receives email requests for hotrods at events, photo opportunities and to participate in parades and shows. These people found us on the web and became familiar with the Great Plains Street Rodders. The volunteer hotrod webmaster and all who contribute information, pictures and ideas make these sites helpful and more popular.

## *September Birthdays*

Jayne DeBoer	1
Chuck Kellogg	2
Jeannine Ogle	4
David Frock	6
Fred Snyder	7
Marilyn Meyers	7
Linda Elliott	11
Dianne Corkill	12
Sheila Miller	14
Audrey Remme	20
Kris Golden	21
Sherrey Kellogg	25
Dale Kiebach	26
Bill Kullander	30

## *September Anniversaries*

Kevin & Cheri Kappenman	6
Kirk & Michelle Lee	7
Bones & Candi Hanson	11
Keith & Darla Schmuck	11
Jason & Christine Jellis	15
Terry & Kathy Koch	16
Garry & Audrey Remme	19
Tom & Linda Elliott	26
Jerry & Robin Miller	29

## *October Birthdays*

Jerry Miller	7
Rick Munce	8
Melania Barnes	11
Lori Paulson	11
Doug Walker	13
Allen Alby	22
Fred Gorwill	23
Judy Miller	25
Tom Olsen	28

## *October Anniversaries*

Roger & Jan Malcomb	5
Marlo & Shirley Jones	9
Doug & Karen Walker	13
Fred & Donna Gorwill	16
John & Sonja Lynch	16
Dwight & Ruby Johnson	20
Bob & Sandy Schmeichel	20
Wayne & Roxie Ebright	31

## *40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

Kevin & Cheri Kappenman,  
40 years of cruising together.



## *Notes from Kool Deadwood Nights*

Submitted by Betty Heidebrink, and shared unedited so nothing was lost in translation.

We left on Thursday morn at 730 and stopped at Ditty's restaurant in Kimball. Do wah ditty right!!! I asked for a menu for my photo album. The nice, thoughtful girl said they were expensive and she gave me one from the old copies they aren't using anymore.

We stayed in Sturgis at Super 8, Levenes went to Spearfish to Super 8, Jones's, Snyders, Schraders, and Deboers went to Deadwood to Super 8. The Bones (aka Hanson's) went to a cabin in the nearby hills. I heard Dick and Judy were there also.

The Heidebrinks' entered the truck in the show. There were 42 trucks in our class and we didn't place. No biggy, better to be with the group just hanging out each day having lots of laughs along the way. Laughs, chats and chews.

Ken and Vicki joined us to see many of the sights for their first time as we all cruised to Pactola Lake and of course, Boondocks. Bucky got an inkling to buy some headlights that rotate and you laugh at them. Ask him about them.

The first night's music was Davey Jones of the Monkees. He still sings really well and was on stage for an hour and a half. "Man he looks old". At Kool Deadwood Nights all the seating is on Main Street and it's hard to get a good seat. So, Darwin and Jane Sletten (what

friends we have) went early and carried all of our chairs and placed them in the street for the concert that night. We were by a big screen and saw the best of it on the screen. The music was LOUD, so Heidebrink and Jim put paper napkins in their ears to drown out. Denny had to save what hearing he has so he left and met us later as we all hung out at Deadwood 8. We had parked there at the 8 and took a shuttle downtown and back as it's easier that way.

Jones' took off on Friday from us and went to Rapid to find a junk yard, but couldn't find it. No one would answer. A "phone a friend" maybe not, got hold of the man at the junkyard but the man there didn't know where the interstate was. Imagine that. So Don couldn't find it that way. He was on a mission for work but it didn't pan out for him.

On Saturday, we took off for Devils Tower in Wyoming. If anyone goes to Devils Tower be sure to stop in Huwett, WY at the local bar-restaurant, they had the most wonderful great hamburgers there. Yuuuuuum!!! One town we shopped in had 15 people living there and there was the outhouse out back. Not sure if it was a one-holer or two-holer, but you can ask JAYNE!! And even if it was a two-holer, WHY would anyone want to sit side by side and listen to each others music unless they are trying out for one of the bands and trying to figure out which one would make the best rhythms - Yuck yuck.

Four of the girls walked around the mountain (not so bad) chewed gum for saliva

for the uphill climb. We didn't want to show anyone up and climb it faster than young snot could so we just did the walk. Saturday night Sletten's, DeBoers and Schraeders enjoyed the Archie's. (Sugar Sugar) remember?

On Sunday morning we all took off on our own as each of had other plans at home so couldn't wait for all to catch up. Jonesie was on a "RIBBED" road and felt his car acting funny. Thought he was in the groove of things. Turned out, as he got out of it the car felt really funny in the front. Getting out and checking his tires he found that passenger side tire laid down on him. He LIMPED to a business asking if there was a gas station around (this is in chamberlain by now) and to his lady luck day, there was. He was able to get a new tire with purchase and tire mount for (get this) \$47.00. Ask Betty what SHE thought it was going to be!!! Before leaving Sioux Falls, she wanted him to have a spare. (You ask why) well none of us think we are going to be airless, so everyone had a spare BUT JONESIE!!!! So anyway, Don laughed aaaaaaaall the way home because he got it so cheap.



## Upcoming Cruises & Events

See additional events, verify info and registrations at [siouxlandcouncil.info](http://siouxlandcouncil.info)

**Sept. 19** – Club Photo at Roe’s

**Sept. 20** – Estherville Drags

**Sept. 19-20** – Last Fling ‘til  
Spring, West Point NE

**Sept. 23** – Cruise Night TBA

**Sept. 25-27** – Outkasts’ Cruise  
In and Car Show in Mitchell

**Sept. 30** – Cruise Night TBA

**Oct. 3** – Festival of Bands

**Oct. 17-18** – Wild About  
Wheels in Sioux City, IA

*October GPSR Meet-n-Eat  
Wednesday nights are currently  
being planned. Stay tuned ☺*

## Newsletter Submissions

To submit something for the  
**Cruisin’ News**, contact Brian  
Lee at 605-498-0178,  
[bg4given@gmail.com](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com) or look  
for him around his 1961 Ford  
Thunderbird. *Anything will be  
considered for addition to the  
newsletter.*



## *Classified Ads*

**WANTED -- 1968 Buick Skylark** with good body parts, need not run. Also need a set of 15-inch, 5-spoke mags to fit a Chevy and a set of 15-inch wire wheels with 4 ½ inch pattern. Call Eric Anderson at 712 380 4969

**FOR SALE – Rocker panel side trim**, stainless steel for 1948-52 Chevy, driver's side. \$10. Call 498-0178 or email [bg4given@gmail.com](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com)

**FOR SALE – Chevy 15-inch steel rims** with hub caps from a 1951 Chevy, four for \$50 OBO. Call 498-0178 or email [bg4given@gmail.com](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com)

**FOR SALE – 1996 Saturn SC-2** sports car, lovely deep purple color, five-speed, four cylinder, runs good but needs brakes. 111,000 miles. Asking \$1,095, well below Kelly blue book value. Call 498-0178.

**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

**FOR SALE – 1957 Chevy chassis.** Call Ron Roe at 605-332-4543.

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

**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), 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. \$600.00, 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 – Ford shop manual** for 1952-1953-1954 passenger cars. **1976 Ford Torino Elite** two-door hardtop, 351 c.i., auto transmission. Contact Ken Buchanan

**WANTED – Classified ads**, FREE to members. To place your ad, call Brian at 498-0178 or email [bg4given@gmail.com](mailto:bg4given@gmail.com)

**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 ¾" 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 Sioux Falls.