

Preserving One Of America's Early Economy Cars

Glenn and Cathy Walker have a few old cars in their collection, but their favorite is their 1964 Rambler American.

"It's just a cute little car," Glenn said.

They purchased it about three years ago at the Spencer, Iowa, Swap Meet. They weren't really looking for a Rambler, but when they saw it, they felt they had to have it.

Since then, they have treated it to fresh paint very close to the original factory color and new fabric for the upholstery.

The 196 c.i. straight-six motor has proven very reliable and a good runner for them. It gets about 30 MPG on the highway, Glenn estimated. That's an important benefit in this hobby as the price of gas continues to rise.

"It's a fun car to drive, goes down the road good," Glenn said.

Being built as an economy car, it does not have much in the way of special features, which provides a uniqueness of its own. It has no power



accessories, not even power steering, and the sound system is an AM radio. Glenn and Cathy like keeping the car this way, to show how an "economy car" appeared in 1964. People don't see many old cars like this, Glenn noted.

"They say you don't see one of them every day," he said.

While Ramblers were first made in the early 1900s, Nash reintroduced it as their compact model in 1950. It became a separate automobile make in 1955, the year after the Nash-Hudson merger produced American Motors Corporation. The Rambler American hit the streets in 1958 as Rambler's compact model and continued for over 10 years. The last year for Rambler was 1969, and the American name was also shelved as AMC presented its own models in 1970.

Glenn and Cathy's American is a good representation of a time when people who didn't know the AMC

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name were very familiar with Ramblers, and saw the Rambler as a good brand to go to for an economy car. Unfortunately for Rambler, during the 1960s people began looking less at economy cars and more for bigger and fancier cars. OPEC would put a stop to that in the following decade, but after the Rambler name had been retired.

Christmas Party is Dec. 1

Don't miss the Great Plains Streetrodders Christmas Party December 1 at the American Legion in Renner, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

There will be good eatins, and it's no secret that's what our club likes. It will be a potluck dinner with tasty dishes from those who like to eat. Please bring a dish to pass. The club will provide refreshments, plates and utensils, plus soda pop, water and coffee.

The club will also be providing a DVD slideshow projection of summer cruising photos, and all members are asked to bring their photo albums to share.

We will also be doing the gift exchange. Each lady should bring a \$10 gift for a lady and each man should bring a \$10 gift for a man.

One trick-or-treater found Halloween is more hazardous when the hotrodders are out.



As in previous years, members have again requested the Christmas Party be a non-smoking/smoke-free event.

Club Shirts On The Works

This phrase has been referred to: "Visibly United." And Great Plains Streetrodders can be "visibly united" by wearing shirts with the club's name on them.

Nancy Snyder is coordinating with Brad Goebel on a group purchase for club shirts. Polling with club members determined the favored color is gold-mustard with black logo on the front chest and lettering on the back. The layout will match the existing gray club shirts. Currently we are looking at the style choices of long-sleeve Henley, short-sleeve T-shirt, ladies short sleeve and a sweatshirt.

This will be a group purchase, so the club will have a similar appearance at shows and gatherings. Cost will be minimal, and further information on details will be provided later.

It's Another Grandson

Kevin and Cheri became grandparents again on October 31st. Their daughter, Laurie, and her husband, Mike, adopted another baby boy - Bryce Micheal. Congratulations to Kevin and Cheri on the new grandson!

Classified ads

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 – 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 – '85 Fiero GT - 2M6, 2.8L V-6, 4spd., A/C, Cruise, Sun Roof, PW, PM, PL, CD, Tilt. Everything works! Excellent Condition. \$3,500.00 -- call Howard Greer - 605-334-5491

FOR SALE – 1967 GMC pickup truck, 34,000 miles, good shape. \$5,000.00. Call Allen Alby at 605-334-3472.

FOR SALE – Two new Coker white-wall tires P235/75R15 for \$300. Call Allen Alby at 605-334-3472.

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 Lightning diecast car. To place your ad, call Brian at 498-0178 or email him at bg4given@gmail.com