

The Perfect Chopped Sedan

It was just what he wanted – a 1928 Ford two-door sedan hotrod. But he had a few minor adjustments to make on it.

It was the summer of 2006 when Butch Yesda purchased the Ford Model A.

“I was looking for a '28 or '29, I wanted a two-door sedan, and it had a chopped top. And fortunately it was my favorite color – red,” Butch said.

But it was in Florida. Well, if you want something bad enough, you figure a way to go get it. Butch hooked up a trailer to his regular vehicle, drove to Florida and was back home in South Dakota with his new hotrod in four days.

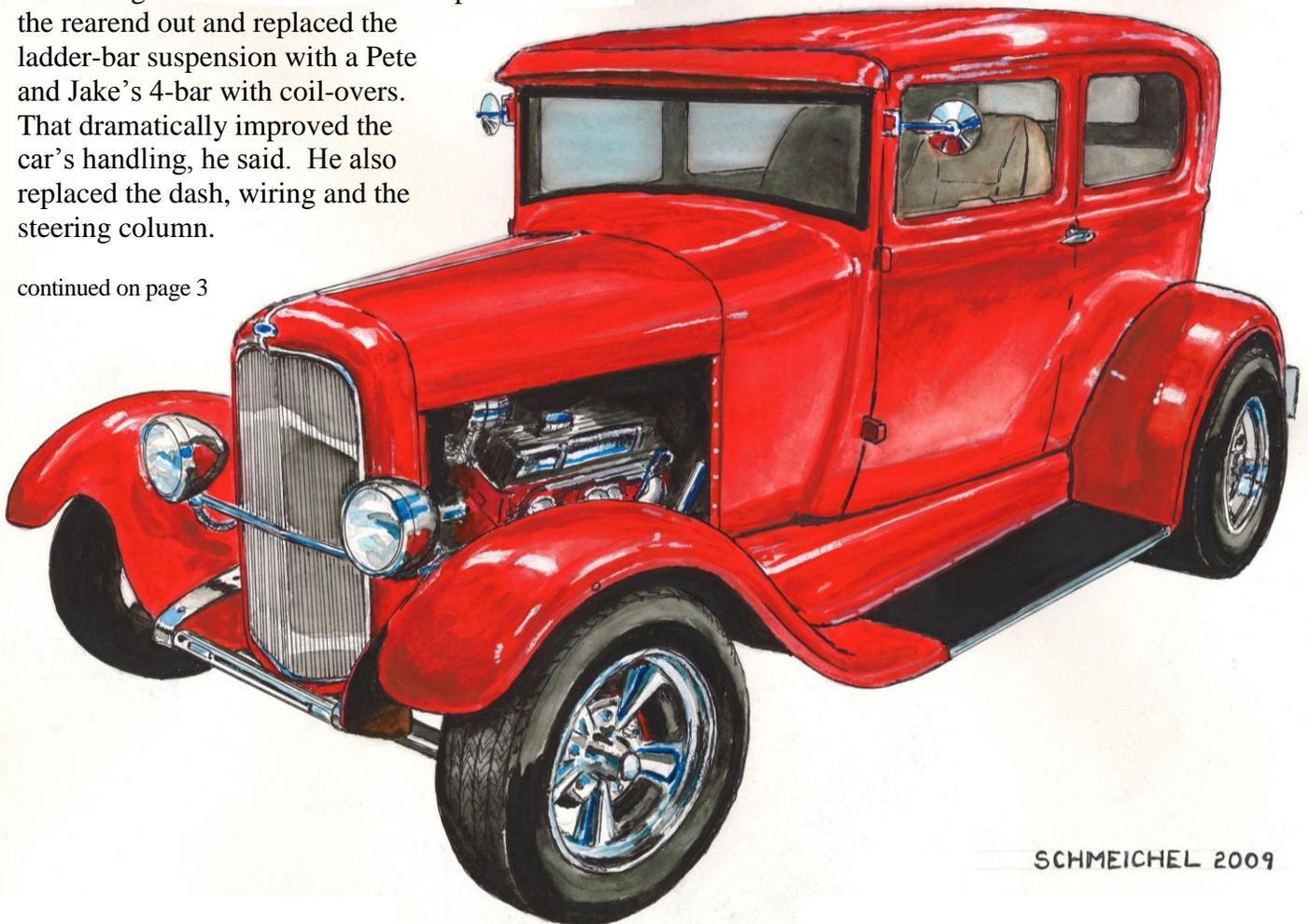
Now the car may be just what he wanted, but that didn't mean it couldn't use a little tweaking. That winter he disassembled it almost completely, other than leaving the body on the frame. He wanted to mostly inspect it, but he found a few worn bushings, bearings and other parts which he replaced. Then he dressed up the Chevy 350 motor with new valve covers, timing cover, air cleaner and other parts since some of the parts it came with had over-spray on them. And he had the front-end ceramic-coated in a silver color.

“I was really pleased with it,” he said of the improvements.

Now he had it the way he wanted it. Sort of.

During the winter of 2007-08 he pulled the rearend out and replaced the ladder-bar suspension with a Pete and Jake's 4-bar with coil-overs. That dramatically improved the car's handling, he said. He also replaced the dash, wiring and the steering column.

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The old Ford was seen all over during the summer of 2008 as he put 4,000 miles on it, visiting car shows and cruising in his perfect hotrod. Or at least, almost perfect hotrod.

He wasn't done. This past winter he installed a 1932 Ford hood, radiator and grill, plus replaced the stock 7-inch rear fenders with 10-inch fenders that would accommodate his new, larger rear wheels and tires. That necessitated new, custom running boards that tapered from the front to the wider rear fenders.

"It completely changed the front end, it looks completely different," Butch said.



So now he has his perfect hotrod just the way he wants it. Well, almost. The paint is beginning to show some wear in a few places, so he said he's considering a repaint next winter – in red, of course.

"I have a lot of people at car shows ask me, 'Did you build it?'" Butch said. "I have to be honest with them and say, no, I rebuilt it."