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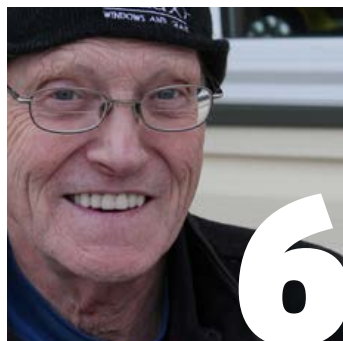


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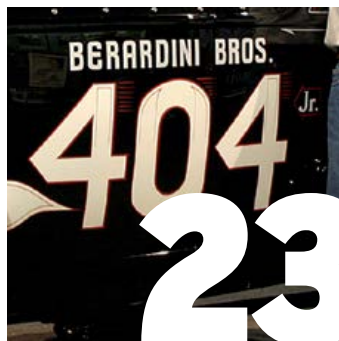
Bruce "Brewster" Frost helps Randy with some body work on his '66 Cuda.



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ON THE COVER:

Alex Gavinchuk took this photo at Rock'n August in St. Albert. Read more about it on page 10.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

You may notice a change in the presentation of our magazine this issue. In our constant effort to upgrade Alberta Rides we have enlisted the help of Teak Sato. The SVAA Board of Directors welcome Teak and thank him for allowing us to benefit from his knowledge and experience. We, the SVAA Board, would appreciate your feedback on this new look.

The results of the Alberta Government's Climate Leadership Discussion Document were revealed in the fall of 2015 with no reference to older vehicles. I like to think this is in part due to your efforts in filling out the website survey they asked for and for that I thank you. I also thank our director and treasurer Jim Herbert for his efforts in attending meetings and submitting a written presentation on behalf of the collector car hobby.

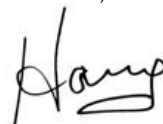
The National Association of Car Clubs (NAACC) has asked the provincial associations to declare July as National Collector Car month and to have each province make a proclamation to this effect. A number of the provincial

associations have been successful in having their governments do this. The Alberta government does not have a provision for this and it would require legislation to accomplish such a proclamation. To get such legislation brought before the government a petition would have to be presented. My question to you is "are you wanting this proclamation and are you willing to help prepare a petition towards this goal?"

Once again members have come up with a very interesting read and I always look forward to the stories and informative articles. Thank you for your submissions and keep them coming.

Your support is the reason we have a strong association,

Thank You,

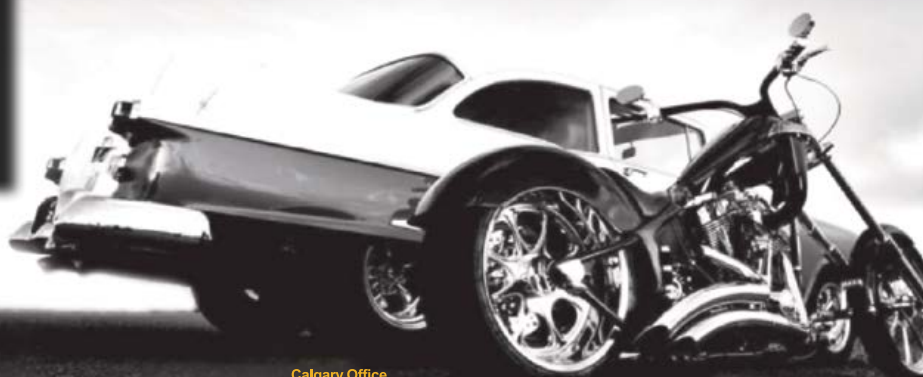


Harry Bullock



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GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

No Vehicle Restrictions in Alberta Government Climate Leadership Report

By **Jim Herbert**
SVAA Government Relations Director

Alberta's Climate Change Advisory Panel presented the "Climate Leadership Report" to Environment and Parks Minister Phillips on November 21, 2015. The focus of the report was on the reduction of carbon emissions as noted in the following quote from the Executive Summary.

"The Panel recommends that the Government of Alberta broaden and improve its existing carbon pricing regime, and complement carbon pricing with additional policies to reduce the emissions intensity of our electricity supply and our oil and gas production, to promote energy efficiency, and to add value to our resources through investments in technological

innovation. To ensure this policy is progressive and protects the competitiveness of Alberta's core industries, we have recommended a consumer credit which will offset the impact of this policy package for households and allocations of emissions credits for industrial emitters."

No banning of older, less fuel efficient vehicles is mentioned in the report and can maybe better explained by a quote from a reply from the Minister Shannon Phillips to one of our members submissions.

"The reference to banning older, less-efficient vehicles is simply an example of standards used in other jurisdictions - it is not a statement of our government's policy (emphasis added). If a similar policy were

to be considered in Alberta, input from all affected stakeholders would be sought to ensure all views were represented before the implementation of any policy was considered"

I would like to thank all members and clubs that took part in the survey and submitted additional proposals to the panel. We need to continue to keep our Specialty Vehicle Hobby in the forefront of all our elected officials. One of the best ways to do this is to invite them to take part in our club events to show them first-hand the benefits that our hobby has to our local communities. Also, along with this, we need to ensure that our older special vehicles maintained to a high level of safety and we remember that we are all ambassadors for the hobby.

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YOU & YOUR CAR have a chance TO BE ON TELEVISION!!



By **Stephan Gabiriele**
Senior Producer, Joe Media TV, Calgary

Joe Media, a Calgary-based television producer, is searching for owners of vintage cars and trucks used between 1905 and 1995. The car or truck can be restored or original.

The storyline for the series is to profile these vehicles and have the host of the show talk about the history of the car and any "back-story"

about the vehicle that might be interesting to people who love cars and trucks and want to know more about them! Each episode will last 30 minutes.

This new television series is going to be shot during the summer of 2016 in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C. and is intended for a national Canadian broadcaster.

Joe Media is searching for enthusiastic vehicle owners eager to tell their story and show their passion for their car or truck. The producers know that behind every classic vehicle there is a great story to be shared with television viewers!

This series is a unique opportunity for classic vehicle owners to demonstrate all the hard work, devotion and time invested over the years in a car or truck. The producers are looking for a great variety of classic cars and trucks in order to show that Western Canadians are the most enthusiastic classic car owners of the country.

PLEASE APPLY!

No matter where your vehicle originates, we are interested to learn about the vehicle and their owner's passion for it. Specifically, why you

bought or have come to own or restore the vehicle of your dreams!

For example:

- If you found and restored the car your father drove when you were a kid?
- If you now drive the same car as when you turned 18?
- If you are someone who likes to rebuild cars? What satisfaction do you get from doing this?
- If you own an imported or special class of car?
- If you are a Tuner of an imported Japanese car?

Joe Media is a full service production company engaging in broadcast content in both of Canada's official languages English and French. We produce innovative content for television, corporate videos and commercials.

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Helping Preserve the Hobby Bruce "Brewster" Frost

By **Randy Poch**

If anyone has been involved in the Collector Car Hobby they probably had to deal with "Rust" and the need for a good body man. Times have changed and finding that person has become very difficult. Back in the day when our cars were new, every dealership had a body shop. One that took pride in the art of true body repair. Dents were repaired by pick and body hammer, and fill was with lead. The less lead used the better the result. But like the song says "That Was Yesterday and Yesterday's Gone". With the arrival of Bondo and the plastic car, the true art of body shop repair began to disappear.

Try to find a body man today that can work with metal, and if you are lucky enough to find that man, be prepared to hand him over a blank check. So this is where my story and dilemma starts. About four years ago I purchased a 1966 Barracuda, Formula S 4 speed numbered matching car. A true survivor but one that needed some work. Rear quarters and floors had rust problems but I wasn't going

to pass on this numbered matching beauty. Once I got it home I discovered that my new project needed a lot more work than I first thought "Does this sound familiar to a lot of you"? The most important part of the restoration of my 1966 Barracuda would be its rear quarters, because of its large back window all attention and focus is the back end of the car. Having the rear quarters done "straight" was of utmost importance.

I began contacting local body shops telling them what I needed done, but every time got the same answer, not interested in cutting out rear quarters and welding new ones in. They were more interested in insurance claim repairs and plastic



body part replacement jobs. This type of work was easier and they got paid. There were some people out there that were willing to take on the project but a blank check was required. Finally a car buddy told me about someone that might be interested in helping me out. A coffee meeting was set up and this is when I came in contact with a gentleman by the name of Bruce Frost. Bruce who goes by "Brewster" has been in the body shop business for 35 years and is what you would call "Old School". Bruce understood my situation, looked at my project and said the words I wanted to hear, no Problem, a piece of cake. He told me that he has seen worse and was willing to work with me and my budget.

Bruce entered the body shop profession in 1984 working for Nesbett Restorations and spent 4 years there learning the trade from Nesbett Patfield. Later on Bruce went to work for Don Zawaski and spent another 3 years at Don's Wheels of Time. As Bruce puts it, Nesbett and Don were like Michelangelo and taught him the fine art of being a body mechanic.



Love it or don't do it they cautioned, never do a half-assed job, do it as if it was your own, prepare it as if it was going to be painted black (which means it has to be "STRAIGHT". They taught him how to weld, how to pick and hammer, how to shape and make panels, in other words taught him how to do it right.

Bruce tackled my car as if it was his own, it was a thrill to watch him cut and shape metal. It was like a jig saw puzzle to him, making every piece fit perfectly. He would cut lines with his 41/2" grinder and zip cut blades like

a surgeon. The deal was that I would help Bruce with the restoration, stripping paint, taking doors and fenders off, keeping the work area clean for him and more or less do what I was told. The one thing I learned about Bruce is that he doesn't like flapper wheels for removing paint, to many sparks means metal is being removed. With him its paint remover and then wire brush time to remove the rest of the paint. It's harder work but turns out way better. If you don't have to remove doors, fenders or hood that's great in Bruce's world. Factory gaps

are always effected when they have to be removed. Bruce prefers to butt weld, it takes more time but does a better job with no later rust problems. Bondo is a swear word in Bruce's world and as he says, any monkey can fill with Bondo. Bondo absorbs moisture and eventually will show cracks. Bruce prefers to use thin hair fiberglass when filling. Long boarding is where Bruce shines, he will long board for hours and his feel is perfect. Like Bruce says with a smile it's all in the hands. After all the long boarding there seems to be very little body fill left on the car and a magnet will hold on every inch of his work.

After working side by side with Bruce everyday it gave me a new appreciation of what it takes to be a true professional in the art of body mechanics. Bruce is a true artist and his love of what he does will help preserve our hobby for a little longer. My car still has a long way to go, but one thing that I know for sure is that I have straight rear quarters. So if you want a great job done, save money, and willing to roll up your sleeves and do a little work, then Bruce is your man. You may be seeing Bruce and his unbelievable 1954 Chev Bel Air 2 door semi-custom hard top next summer, so be sure to say hi.

Bruce will be opening up a small shop in Crossfield this spring and can be reached at 587-284-0994.

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By **Carol Sebastien**
For Adrien and Madeleine Lallier of the
Alberta Pioneer Auto Club

Most drivers can recall one special vehicle in their lifetime – maybe it's their first, maybe it's their dream car or truck. Sometimes the specialness a vehicle attains is a result of the process involved in acquiring it. Waiting, saving, fixing, negotiating ... all part of the making the dream a reality. Vehicles of this import often carry memories as well as people and things. What secrets does the lifetime of a single vehicle hold? What stories live in the upholstery? What journeys have the tires traveled? What has the windshield seen? Vehicles can hold a lifetime of memories – some reveal themselves easily and to many, others are hidden and revealed reluctantly if at all.

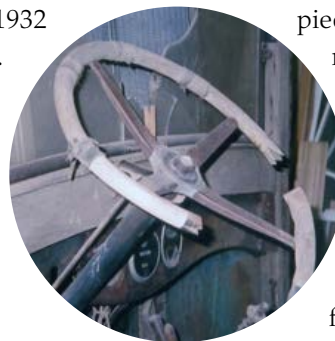
Adrien Lallier has spent the past decade unlocking the secrets of a 1928 Chevrolet one-ton truck – the first new vehicle his father ever purchased. Originally army green with a wood box, the truck cost \$580. It was the vehicle in which Adrien, born in

1936, learned to drive – at age 10. A farm boy of French heritage, Adrien remembers working with his father and brother to cultivate their homestead near Ponteix, Saskatchewan. His father, mechanically inclined, encouraged the boys to learn about vehicles. He recalls his Dad telling him that if he fixed the axle on a 1932 Pontiac he could drive it. That was motivation enough for Adrien to tackle the project. As he took things apart, he learned, and eventually he drove that Pontiac.

Adrien, who loved working with his hands, became a finishing carpenter and moved to Calgary to pursue work and raise a family. The 1928 Chev truck stayed on the farm through his father's farming days and then as part of his brother's operation. In 1980, when his brother decided to sell the farm, Adrien salvaged and transported the 1928 Chev to his garage in Calgary. There it lived until Adrien retired in 2005. Consulting

with a buddy who had restored a car, Adrien formulated a plan. He would attempt to restore the '28 Chev to its original condition. It would be his first restoration project and a learning process.

With loving and painstaking patience he took the truck apart piece by piece, recording and mapping each item for reassembly. He bought two other '28 Chevs as donors to assemble the parts needed to complete the restoration. He had the original frame and all large metal pieces sandblasted and then painted black, when possible doing the work himself. The wooden box was beyond repair so Adrien made a blueprint from the pieces and recreated each piece to precision, his carpentry skills coming in handy. He recreated the wooden steering wheel, reconditioned the wooden wheel spokes by sanding them and then soaking them in linseed oil for a couple months preparing them for



reassembly. Matching spoke, bolt and hole was a process of trial and error despite an alphabetic labeling system.

Asked what part of the process was most challenging, Adrien responds, "everything". The clutch was filled with mice, the transmission clogged with oil, the cab needed to be rebuilt, the frame reassembled, appropriate tires located and purchased, the motor restored and reassembled. Rebuilding the cab alone was a three to four month project – old mattress springs form the seat. His father's advice to, "leave [a project] alone if things aren't going good, and come back later... you'll figure it out" kept him from getting discouraged. "It's true," says Adrien, "the answer is always there, somewhere."

Adrien got advice from friends and professionals including members of the Alberta Pioneer Auto Club throughout the nine-year restoration

process but preferred to do the work himself; a labor of love so much so that his wife, Madeleine refers to the truck as "The Mistress". For the past decade, the garage has been his office, the truck his work but his loyalty remains – the first ride is promised to Madeleine.

Rewards of the time spent are now visible. The cab painted green – not army green but Saskatchewan green and restored to the comfort of 1928 with mattress springs forming the vinyl covered seat, tires mounted on refurbished wood spoked wheels and the truck box wooden as per the original, the Chev is looking "new" again. By the spring of 2015, Adrien hopes to drive it out of the garage into the

air for the first time in two decades. The restoration process documented in photos, assembly and reconstruction blueprints stored, the dream has become reality.

And what secrets were revealed? Well, as he was deconstructing the cab, Adrien happened upon a St. Christopher medal tucked out of sight. A treasure to be sure. It's inscription in French, "Regarde St. Chris-

tophe, puis va t'en rassure" translates to "Look at St. Christopher and go forth reassured." Dreams and faith ever intertwined.

Editor's Note: Adrian completed his truck and took it out during the driving season. Look for the truck and Adrian at Calgary and area shows this year.

“...leave [a project] alone if things aren't going good, and come back later... you'll figure it out”

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If the sun shines, they will come



By **Bob Fisher**
St. Albert

Photos by: **Alex Gavinchuk**

Yet again, St. Albert has had another amazing year for at the 19th Annual Rock'n August (RnA).

The event ran from Tuesday August 4th to Saturday the 8th, 2015. Most days started with a pancake breakfast, included a lunch event and at least one evening show and shine. RnA 2015 expanded with two new events - A Poker Run, and a BBQ lunch sponsored by the fraternal order of Eagles. Also new for the 2015 show was the option to register online which was well received. With the assistance of the City

of St. Albert, additional street parking was provided for the always popular Todd's Fountain Tire Show and Shine on Thursday night and directional signage for the Friday night Cruise. For 2015, to identified car club contacts, a special clubs information package and dedicated Saturday show and shine parking option was added with very positive response. And while the sun didn't shine all the time, the Friday night Cruise/ street dance and Saturday show & shine in the park couldn't have asked for better weather.

Rock'n August broke the previous record by having 811 show vehicles registered for the event, as well as numbers were up for spectator attendance, 50/50 draws, vendors and overall St. Albert business and community volunteer support.

The proceeds of the RnA five day show go to support the Alberta Diabetes Foundation and while the numbers aren't finalized for this year, the RnA committee is confident they will beat last year's donation of \$80,000.

The St. Albert Cruises host car club would like to thank the Alberta Iron Indians, Alberta AMC, Edmonton Classic Sports Car Club and Edmonton Mainstreet Cruisers for their help

Rock'n August is already preparing for the 20th anniversary on August 2 through August 6, 2016. For more information check out their Facebook page (RocknAugust) or visit them online at www.RockNAugust.com.



Barnyard Cruisers

AKA REALLY FAST MODEL T SPEEDSTERS

By **Trev & Janet Landage**
Calgary

2016 marks the 75th anniversary of the first Model T Racing in Alberta. In 1941 the local Lions Club decided to promote Model T Racing as a way to help the War Effort and the displaced kids by using it as a fund raiser.

Recently a newly formed group has decided to promote the 75th Anniversary by hosting events at local dirt race tracks. The group has chosen June 18 as its first event holding it at High River on the 1/2 mile dirt track as a fund raiser for the new Agricultural Museum Society. The museum is hosting a Car Show, pancake breakfast, vintage tractor pulls along with a group of Model T Barnyard Cruisers (Speedsters). It is our hope to rekindle an interest in Model T Racing. The details are posted in the Western Canada Cruise Calendar for 2016. We also want it to be made clear that although some cars are purpose built barnyard cruisers along with a few original

1940s racers this is not a racing event but an "Exhibition" including time trails and heat events.

Last June (2015) while attending the event in High River, I had the opportunity to drive Robb Wolf's Barnyard Cruiser. Peter Anderson was on the outside in the original Gordon Rasmussen car #14 and I was having a blast. I "had the bug" and by the following week I had purchased a chassis in pretty rough condition with the intention of having it ready to run in six weeks for the next event in Rimby on the 3/8 mile dirt track. With only six weeks to prepare it meant a lot of 12 hour days, hence the number 6 and Six Week Special was born. The car consists of an un-restored 1914 engine, partly rebuilt 1925 transmission, 1919 frame, rebuilt 1918 front end and rear axle assembly including new wire wheels and hubs. The frame has been lowered 6" in the front and 6½" in the rear. The front and rear springs have been flattened with the addition of 1927 front spindles. The

steering has been lowered 7" by use of a frame wedge and a modified 1919 firewall. The seat consists of a new 10 gallon barrel with a three point harness; the fuel cell is an original 1923 gas tank cut down to 13". Robb Wolf supplied a new set of coils for the event in Rimby and the car ran great it's first time out. A new "GO" engine fully pressurize is in the works.

We plan on having the car at the Lethbridge Swap in February. Stop by and, if you are interested in building a speedster, talk to us as we have additional chassis and parts so that you too can get into the action and help celebrate a little piece of our racing heritage.



Iron Indians Club Adopt a Family for 2015

By **Shawn Genge**
Alberta Iron Indians Pontiac Club (Edmonton)

For the second year in a row the Alberta Iron Indians Pontiac Club and Torch Industries sponsored a number of families for Christmas. After a meeting with Mike Launer, AIIPC Special Events Lead, we decided to spread our giving to more families this year. We decided we could comfortably adopt four families – two large and two small.

I once again contacted JC Edmonton and signed up our organization to sponsor four families. We took the challenge to our members and they responded in true Pontiac fashion. The Club donated cash from our general fund, some of our members donated extra money and toys. This year be-

tween the club funds,, member donations, Torch Industries and Friends of Torch we donated over \$2,300 in toys, food and Christmas gift cards.

Once Edmonton JC gives the club the ages of the children and the number of adults and teenagers we are able to purchase toys, warm clothing and food products. Prior to the December 19th delivery day, toys and gifts were wrapped by Amber Langton and gift boxes were made for the families.

All food products were purchased a day before the delivery and neatly packed in boxes and laundry baskets to take to the needy families.

Our crew of elves arrived at Torch Industries and loaded up vans, trucks and SUVs full of toys, presents and

food and headed to Northlands. At Northlands we were given the address of our families. We remained in the North East area of Edmonton and were met by families who appreciated the help from JC Edmonton and AIIPC/Torch Elves. We finished delivering about 11:30 am and the joy in the kids' eyes seeing gifts under the tree and from the parents of these children touched all of our elves. Special thanks to all our volunteers, Amber Langton (wrapping of all the gifts), Mike Launer, Cliff Riles, Lance Briggs, Denise Briggs, Devan Launer, Lorrie Baker, Kathy Dugauy, Ken Yost, John Dampf, Ed Harrison, Bev Harrison and Shawn Genge.

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**TWO DAYS OF
ANTIQUE, CLASSIC AND HOT ROD
CARS, PARTS AND AUTOMOBILIA!**

I know what we did last summer

By **George Stringam**

Coaldale, AB

Member of Southern Alberta Antique and Classic Auto Club

Photos by: **George Stringam, Ernie Lukacs, and Ritchie Whitehead**

I may not know what you did last summer but I sure know what we did. We, that is, the Southern Alberta Antique and Classic Auto Club (SAACAC) hosted the 54th International Antique Auto Meet this year. For four days in early July, 165 antique car enthusiasts gathered to renew old friendships, forge new ones, kick tires, share stories and tour the sights of Southwestern Alberta.



From the host town of Pincher Creek we toured into the Crowsnest Pass to see how coal mining was done over a century ago. We also took in the town site of Frank, the scene of one of the worst avalanches in Canadian history. We also toured local museums like the Kootenay Brown and Heritage Acres to get some insight to local history. We even introduced participants to a Hutterite colony where they were able to get a glimpse into a culture that has been around Southern Alberta for close to a century but little was known about it.

To say that it was a challenge would be an understatement, but then, looking after 165 people and organizing them into various tour groups in one weekend was a task not for the weak.

It was decided that, instead of

holding the event in Lethbridge, we would follow the example of those good folks in Regina and run the event outside the city. Pincher Creek was chosen for its close proximity to both the Crowsnest Pass and Waterton Park. The town also offered some good venues itself, which in turn were incorporated into the meet's activities.

Planning got underway about five years ago. After hosting the event in Lethbridge in 2005, we gave ourselves some time to recover before venturing back into

the proverbial snake pit. My wife, Mikenzie, and I were driving home from Calgary after attending the 49th International in 2010. We got talking about when it would once again be SAACAC's turn to host and thought that Lethbridge was running out of venues. Pincher Creek could offer a whole new world of things to see. I approached the club with that idea

To say that it
was a challenge
would be an
understatement...

at the September meeting and was rewarded with a favorable vote to do just that. I might add that, not surprisingly, I, along with Mikenzie got unanimously elected (read: railroad-ed?) into being the co-chairs for the event.

And that part is interesting in itself. Back in 2005, at the conclusion of the 44th, when the International Committee meeting adjourned, Richard Ferguson, the chairman of the 44th, told me that I'd be chairing it ten years down the road.

He would be half right.

Thus began the massive preparations. We started holding meetings, first investigating where we would/could go then elaborated from there. Committees were organized and the planning began.

Like so many major events, the time was upon us almost before we had everything completely planned out. It turned out that there were still a lot of small details that were being addressed, even while things were being set up at the host hotel, but fortunately to the visitors, everything seemed to run like a well-oiled old car.

Under sunny Southern Alberta skies the cars started arriving and the event was underway. Strangely enough we were able to relax somewhat and enjoy the event ourselves to a certain extent.



About the only problem we encountered was some room keys losing their codes and had to be continually re-flashed. The front desk finally issued new key cards and the problem was solved.

But there was a lot of work to be done. Cars had to be lined up for the tours, guides had to take their places, and preparations for following events had to be made. I might add that a late night trip to the grocery store to buy bottled water for the participants also went into play. Then there was the work that went on behind the scenes.

Mikenzie made preparations to be the MC at the banquet while I assembled pictures from the tours into a slide presentation at the banquet.

Elsewhere, votes were being compiled for the various awards; while still elsewhere club members mingled with participants to see that their needs were met.

One thing that can never be overlooked: it takes an entire team of dedicated people to put on an event like this. The Tours and Events Committee, the Awards

Committee, the Silent Auction Team, those involved with traffic and parking, the registrars, and all the extras who chipped in to make this event the success it was.

Lastly we cannot forget the management and staff of the host hotel, the Pincher Creek Heritage Inn. They truly went the extra mile to look after all of us.

So where do we go from here? Well, 2025 seems like a long way down the road, but then, 2005 was still vividly

in my memory when 2015 was in full swing. For the time being, we'll let the good people from the Edmonton Antique Car Club worry about how to Be Seen in '16.

See you there...



EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

● -Show & Shine
 ● -Swap Meet
 ● -Events/Meetups
 ● -Touring
 ● -Auction & Other

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 1 2
♥ 14	15	16	17	18	19 3 4	20 3 4
21 3 4	22	23	24	25	26 5 6 7	27 5 6 7
28 5 6 7	29	1	2	3	4	5

1 February 13	SAACAC Early Bird Swap Meet – Lethbridge, AB Lethbridge Exhibition Park www.saacac.com/early-bird-swap-meet/
2 February 13	SVAA Meeting – Lethbridge, AB Lethbridge Exhibition Park SVAA Information Meeting at 12.30 pm, during the Early Bird Swap Meet. For more information, visit www.svaalberta.com
3 February 19-21	50th Annual Auto Value World of Wheels – Calgary, AB BMO Centre, Stampede Park Canada's Premier Custom Show Car Series. www.autorama.com/attend/calgary/
4 February 19-21	54th Annual O'Reilly World of Wheels – Milwaukee, WI Wisconsin State Fair Park www.autorama.com/attend/milwaukee/
5 February 26-28	Lone Star Throwdown – Conroe, TX Lone Star Expo Center Bringing back that old school swing of just hanging out with good friends and showing off our rides! Email lonestarthrowdown@yahoo.com or visit our website: www.lonestarthrowdown.com
6 February 26-28	46th Annual O'Reilly Auto Parts World Of Wheels – New Orleans, LA Mercedes Benz Superdome www.autorama.com/attend/neworleans/
7 February 26-28	64th Annual Meguiar's Autorama – Detroit, MI Cobo Center www.autorama.com/attend/detroit/

MARCH

●-Show & Shine ●-Swap Meet ●-Events/Meetups ●-Touring ●-Auction & Other

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	1	2	3	4 1 2 3	5 1 2 3
6 1 2 3	7	8	9	10	11 4	12 4
13 4	14	15	16	17	18 5 6	19 5 6 7 8 9
20 5 6 7	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 🥚	28	29	30	31	1	2


1	March 4-6	42nd Annual O'Reilly Autorama – Salt Lake City, UT South Towne Exhibition Center www.autorama.com/attend/saltlakecity/
2	March 4-6	54th Annual O'Reilly World of Wheels – Chicago, IL Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont www.autorama.com/attend/chicago/
3	March 4-6	Goodguys 7th Spring Nationals – Scottsdale, AZ WestWorld of Scottsdale www.good-guys.com/sn-2016
4	March 11-13	Goodguys 6th Spring Lone Star Nationals – Fort Worth, TX Texas Motor Speedway www.good-guys.com/slsn-2016
5	March 18-20	61st Annual O'Reilly World of Wheels – Omaha, NE Century Link Center www.autorama.com/attend/omaha/
6	March 18-20	42nd Annual World of Wheels – Winnipeg, MB RBC Convention Centre www.autorama.com/attend/winnipeg/
7	March 19-20	Goodguys 34th All American GetTogether – Pleasanton, CA Alameda County Fairgrounds www.good-guys.com/aagt-2016
8	March 19	Quicktimes Red Deer Spring Swap Meet – Red Deer, AB Westerner Park <i>Set up Friday night. Perfect time to clear out those unnecessary items and a great place to find those things you need for your project.</i>
9	March 19	SVAA Meeting at Quicktimes Red Deer Spring Swap Meet – Red Deer, AB Westerner Park <i>SVAA Information Meeting.</i>

EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL

● -Show & Shine ● -Swap Meet ● -Events/Meetups ● -Touring ● -Auction & Other

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	 1   	2   
3   	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 	16  
17  	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 	25	26	27	28	29 	30  

 Apr 1 - 3

Portland Swap Meet - Portland, OR Expo Center


Largest auto parts swap meet on the west coast with approximately 3,500 vendor stalls and over 50,000 shoppers.

www.portlandswapmeet.com

 April 1-3

42nd Annual World of Wheels - Boston, MA Seaport Hotel & World Trade Center

www.autorama.com/attend/boston/

 April 1-3


Goodguys/Meguiar's 16th Del Mar Nationals - Del Mar, CA Del Mar Fairgrounds

www.good-guys.com/dmn-2016

 April 15-17

Goodguys 2nd North Carolina Nationals - Raleigh, NC North Carolina State Fairgrounds

www.good-guys.com/hcn-2016

 April 16-17

Majestics Car Club, 50th Annual Show - Regina, SK Evraz Place, Regina Exhibition Grounds

www.majesticscarclub.com/events/car-show-2016

 April 24

Spring Thaw - Calgary, AB Sunridge Mall

Organized by the Nifty Fifty's Ford Club. Rain day May 1.

7 April 29-30

Central Alberta Vintage Auto Club Swap Meet - Red Deer, AB

Westerner Park

Biggest swap meet in Alberta. Buy or sell any hard to find classic automobilia, from antique parts and tools to license plates to gas & oil memorabilia. People come from across Alberta for this. Friday 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Saturday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. General Admission: \$5 (children 12 and under free). www.vintageautoclub.ca/events/swap-meet

8 April 30

SVAA Annual General Meeting - Red Deer, AB

Westerner Park

Specialty Vehicle Association of Alberta Annual General Meeting at 12:30 pm at the 47th Annual Central Alberta Vintage Auto Club Swap Meet.

EVENTS CALENDAR LOOKAHEAD

May 13 - 15

Goodguys 11th Nashville Nationals
Nashville, TN. www.goodguys.com

May 21

Leduc West Antique Society Country Swap Meet, held in conjunction with May Tractor Pull.
www.leducwestantique.com

May 27 - 29

Okotoks Collector Car Auction
www.okotokscarauction.com
info@okotokscarauction.com
(403) 938-4139

May 29

Calgary Firebird Charity Show'n'Shine
Dave Holmes: (403) 686-6048
bandit77@shaw.ca
George Ferris: (403) 660-6462
georgef@shaw.ca

May 29

Autorama
St Albert.
Ron Trettler: (780) 945-7329
Bob Fisher: (780) 718-2257.

Jun 4 - 5

Goodguys 23rd Summer GetTogether
Pleasanton, CA. www.goodguys.com

Jun 4

Elk Point Auto Club Car Show
Ed Smith: (780) 724-2527
Bill Cochrane: (780) 727-2644

Jun 10 -12

Goodguys 24th Grundy Worldwide Insurance East Coast Nationals
Rhinebeck, NY. www.goodguys.com

Jun 17 - 18

Banff Rod Run
Tunnel Mountain
Lionel Corrigan: (780) 446-9618
Darryl Tricker: (780) 662-4409

Jun 18

Mountain View Pistons 11th Annual Show and Shine
Olds, AB

Jun 18

Barnyard Racer Demonstration
High River Fairgrounds.
(403) 982-5984
landage@shaw.ca

Jun 18

BritsBest
Radium Hot Springs.
Terrence Walters: (403) 607-1914
Events@CalgaryMGClub.org

Jun 25

Goodguys/Speedway Motors 2nd Day at the Hay Show'n'Shine
Lincoln, NE. www.goodguys.com

Jun 26

Pacemaker Classic and Performance Auto Show
Galarneau Place, St Albert
www.ronhodgson.com
Coordinated by the Alberta Iron Indians Pontiac Club (Edmonton).
www.ironindiansedmonton.com
Mike: events.aiipcedmonton@outlook.com

Jul 1 - 3

Goodguys 25th Heartland Nationals
Des Moines, IA. www.goodguys.com

Goodguys 19th PPG Nationals
Columbus, OH. www.goodguys.com

Jul 8

Hog Root Run
Ponoka Stampede Grounds.
Presented by Ponoka Piston Poppers
grandctoys@telus.net

Jul 9

Sylvan Lake Customs & Classics Show'n'Shine

Meadowlands Golf Course
Gord Bredo: (403) 887-7047
gordbred@gmail.com
Greg Garson: (403) 887- 5465
gtgarson@telus.net

Jul 12 - 16

POCI Convention
Bettendorf, IA. www.poci.org

Jul 13 17

2016 GTOAA Nationals Convention
Bellevue, WA. www.gtoaa.org

Jul 23 - 24

Leduc West Antique Society 25th Annual Exposition
www.leducwestantique.com

Jul 23

Hooked on Classics
Sponsored by Western Wheels
Rocky Mountain House
Dick Edwards: (403) 845-2383
Bill Kronen: (403) 844-4203
billpat@telusplanet.net

Jul 29 - 31

Super Run 2016
Brandon, MB.
www.provincialexhibition.com/events-page/super-run-2016/

Jul 29 - 31

Goodguys 29th Wesco Autobody Supply Pacific Northwest Nationals
Puyallup, WA. www.goodguys.com

Jul 30

Main Street Crowsnest Show'n'Shine
Hillcrest, AB
Brian MacFarlane: (403) 563-3844
brian.macfar@gmail.com
John Salus: (403) 563-4181
johnsalus@mc.com



T-birds For Teddy Bears

By **Marie Knipelberg**
Edmonton Thunderbird Club, Spruce Grove

Back in March of 2000, my late husband Ken and I, along with Fred and Natalie Hay rejuvenated the Edmonton Thunderbird Club as a not-for-profit organization and we have been going strong ever since.

Our Club is proud sponsors of the City of Edmonton Police Victim Services where we collect soft and squishy, new or slightly used 6"-15" Teddy Bears full of TLC at all our Thunderbird Club events. Since our

inception, we have collected over 8,000 Teddy Bears which have been given to comfort sick, injured or traumatized children, teens, adults and seniors that have been victims of family disputes or involved in other such frightening situations. We are one of the main suppliers of the Police Victim Services as they require anywhere from 800 – 1,200 Teddy Bears per year. This past September when we held our Annual Show & Shine at the A&W, Gateway Village in St. Albert, we collected 1,050 Teddy

Bears which were donated to Victim Services and we received a heart-felt, huge thanks of appreciation from Wes Armstrong, the Police Victim Services representative.

For more information on our "T-Birds for Teddy Bears" event or if you would like to find out more about our Edmonton Thunderbird Club, and our Annual Show & Shine for all Antiques, Classics and Special Interest Cars, please check out our web site at: www.edmontonthunderbirdclub.com You Will Be Glad You Did!



Foothills Street Rod Association Supports Many Charities

By **Al Hardstaff**,
Foothills Street Rod Association, Calgary

Members of the Foothills Street Rod Association have been supporting a variety of charities over the last 23 years. In 2015, we have been volunteering at KMS Tools & Equipment – retailer of everything a car guy could want – has provided the opportunity to raise funds for charity through barbecuing Smokies, selling drinks, coffee and popcorn at their store at 6311 Center Street SW in Calgary. Many of our club members contributed their time and energy resulting our being able to donate \$6,000 to the Agape Hospice and the Veteran's Food Bank.

Over the last 23 years, our total donated is approaching \$70,000. Not bad for a car club whose mandate was to simply get together, drive our cars and have fun. We began donating the money we had left at the end of each year and are amazed at what a little effort, careful management and dedication can produce.



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Berardini Brothers Racing Team—Part One: 1950-1955

32 Highboy-404



By **Susan Foshee and Moe Putney**
Calgary

This story begins several years ago when Vern Scholz and I took time off from work to attend The California Hot Rod Reunion VIII at Famoso Raceway, just a short drive from Bakersfield, California.

Even before we got to the track, we had to look up a model hobby shop just off Beach Boulevard in Los Angeles. Here is where our adventure begins. While Vern and I were browsing through the model and hot rod books, I found a book called "Hot Rods of the 50s" and just next to us was a very quiet father and son reading the same book.

It turns out that the father had recognized a picture of his Highboy race car including a short history of the car. The father/owner turned out to be Pat Berardini. We got talking about the

50s drag racing years and before we knew it we were invited over to Pat's home to view all the memorabilia of his racing career.

The 32 Ford Highboy Roadster #404 was the creation of Pat and his brother Tony. They also built an almost identical roadster for Tony. It was a 29 Ford - #7. In this part 1 of the "Berardini Brothers Racing Team" we go over some of the history from 1950 to 1955.

Pat's daughter, Susan, supplied me with several years of history and here it is with some small changes, thanks to Susan.

In 1950, Pat and Tony took their roadsters to the Santa Ana drag strip. Pat's 32 Highboy started out with a

40 Mercury V8 flathead engine bored out to 3 3/8" x 4 1/8" stroke. Nothing too fancy! The car was built to run in the "Street Gas Roadster" class as well as "Street Open Gas" class (#3) with pit crew Russ and Dick Lenarez. Pat and Tony say, "Thanks Fellas."

Pat and Tony ran two almost identical Highboys, #7 in the gas open altered roadster class and #3 in the gas street roadster class.

In 1954 they rebuilt the engine and installed Ed Iskenderian's "404" Isky cam...

Isky cam with a 0.400 lift and topped it off with a 310 cubic inch flathead 1940 Mercury engine sporting four Stromberg 97s, a ported and relieved block with oversized valves, lightweight pistons, a vertex magneto, and

In 1954 they rebuilt the engine and installed Ed Iskenderian's "404" Isky cam...

Harrell high compression heads. This power was hooked up to a 39 Ford transmission and rear end. All these modifications proved to be a winning combination.

Pat did the white flames, while the pin striping was done by none other than Von Dutch of Los Angeles. Now you know where the white "404" on the side of Pat's Highboy came from!

Both cars held records at several quarter mile drag strips, Santa Ana, Saugus, Pomona and Bakersfield. Pat's roadster held every track record in Southern California and won more first place wins in the gas roadster class #3 than any other roadsters in the early 50s.

The Berardini brothers held records at Lodi, San Jose and Salinas, plus holding the fastest time at San Jose with 111.66 mph on pump gas with an elapsed time of 12.75 seconds.

Tony's car ran open gas. The 1929 roadster was built extra lite, weighing in at some 1,550 pounds, sporting a similar 310 cubic inch flathead Ford V8 engine. Tony's superfast car captured many track records with elapsed times in the low 12s on the quarter mile tracks averaging between 112 to 116.9 mph on pump gas!

In late 1954, because of its black paint with white flames, the "404" was chosen for a small part in the motion picture "Blackboard Jungle" starring Glen Ford, Anne Francis and Sidney Poitier. The black and white classic film was set to Bill Haley and His Comet's "Rock Around the Clock". I gotta go buy that movie!

The 32 was sold in July of 1955 to Jean LaCosts. Records are meant to be broken. Jeano had watched the "404" blast the Gas Roadster record by the

Berardini Brothers Racing Team. That was all it took for Jeano to buy the "404" for the tidy sum of \$975.

For years Jeano hardly changed a thing on the 32 and even kept the name "404" alive. The "404" continued winning and breaking records at many of the Northern California drag strips. The "404" racing legend gained the title of "The Racing Man's Deuce" for Jeano.

In the early 60s, Jeano put a blown 55 Chrysler 354 Hemi in the Highboy after trying an Olds V8. The Hemi and Jeano held the world's record in his A/Street Roadster class at

136.36 mph. After owning the "404" for several years, Jeano sold it to Rudy Perez for \$1,000.

Rudy, the proud owner, painted the "404" a bright yellow, removed the blown Hemi and installed a Corvette engine along with several other changes including new personalized "404" license plates.

Now the "404" was not only a street rod, but a show car as well.

Rudy's street rod was no trailer queen, as he would log well over 185,000 miles during the 37 years he owned it. During those years the car won several awards. In 2003 the car won the Brizio Family Award as the Best Street Driven Hot Rod at the Grand National Roadster Show in San Mateo, California. Rudy kept the "404" in great shape for all those 37 years.

After some 50 years Rudy drove from just outside San Francisco to Pat's home in Garden Grove in order to reunite Pat with the new version of the "404". These two hot rodders talked for hours and then took the "reunion ride" of the half-century!

Once a hot rodder, always a hot rodder! The "404" has had an awesome history and it's only going to get better.

This has been part one on the early history of a roadster -- the "404" that still lives on!

Part 2, in the Spring edition of Alberta Rides deals with some history and technical details on what has happened since Rudy sold the roadster to a new owner. The new owner's plan took off and reached the pinnacle of the "404" life span.

... the pin striping was done by none other than Von Dutch of Los Angeles.






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MEMBER CLUBS

Alberta Iron Indians Pontiac Club (Calgary)

☎ (403) 650-2009
 📅 1st Wednesday 7 pm
 📍 ABC Country Restaurant
 11520 24 Street SE, Calgary

Alberta Iron Indians Pontiac Club (Edmonton)

☎ (780) 288-7835
 📅 Last Monday 7:00 pm
 📍 Ricky's All Day Grill
 12707 140th Ave NW, Edmonton

Alberta Pioneer Auto Club

☎ (403) 247-8638
 📅 2nd Tuesday 7:30 pm Sept - June
 📍 Aero Space Museum
 4629 McCall Way NE, Calgary

Alberta Post War Car Club

☎ (780) 454-8148
 📅 2nd Monday, 7:30 pm
 📍 Memories Funeral Chapel
 13403 St Albert Trail NW, Edmonton

Alberta Region of Packards International Motor Car Club

☎ (403) 652-7806
 📅 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 pm except July & August
 📍 Various locations, Calgary

Alberta Super Run Association Car Show

☎ (403) 250-7046
 📅 1st Sunday Noon
 📍 Westerner Park
 4847A 19 Street, Red Deer

Bonnyville Gear Grabbers Car Club

☎ (780) 815-1980
 📅 Irregular
 📍 Agricultural Society
 5211 47 Street, Bonnyville

Calgary Firebird Club

☎ (403) 686-6048
 📅 Last Tuesday 7 pm
 📍 Calgary Motor Products
 1313 36 Street NE, Calgary

Calgary MG Club

☎ (403) 281-0363
 📅 2nd Tuesday 7:30 pm
 📍 606 - 38 Avenue NE, Calgary

Calgary Plymouth & Friends Car Club

📅 Varies
 📍 Denny's on 16 Avenue NE
 1804 19 Street NE

Calgary Thunderbird Club

☎ (403) 254-5360
 📅 1st Thursday, 7:30 pm
 📍 Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 285
 9202 Horton Road SW

Canadian Vintage Motor Cycle Group: Rocky Mountain Section

☎ (403) 293-4105
 📅 3rd Tuesday, 7 pm
 📍 Chapelhow Legion #284
 606 - 38 Avenue NE, Calgary

Central Alberta Mopar Association

☎ (403) 748-2185
 📅 2nd Tuesday 7 pm
 📍 Humpty's Classic Café
 Gasoline Alley, Red Deer

Central Alberta Vintage Auto Club

☎ (780) 352-6949
 📅 2nd Tuesday 7 pm
 📍 Golden Circle
 4620 47 Ave, Red Deer

Chipman Car Crafters Car Club

☎ (780) 363-2324
 📅 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 pm
 📍 Chipman Town Office
 4816 50 St, Chipman

Coaldale Custom Cruisers

☎ (403) 330-4598
 📅 2nd Wednesday 7:30 pm
 📍 The Hub
 2107 - 13 Street North, Coaldale

Cochrane Classics Car Club

☎ (403) 585-9887
 📅 4th Thursday 6 pm
 📍 A&W
 23 Westside Dr, Cochrane

Cold Lake Cruisers Car Club

☎ (780) 639-3084
 📅 2nd Monday 7:00 pm
 📍 A&W
 5002 55th Street, Cold Lake

Crowsnest Pass Wheel Nuts

☎ (403) 563-3844
 📍 Hillcrest

Cypress Rod & Custom Car Club

☎ (403) 526-0545
 📅 1st Wednesday, 7 pm
 📍 Member garages, Medicine Hat

Diablo's Car Club

☎ (403) 512-5896
 📅 Every Thursday, 7:30 pm
 📍 Member garages, Airdrie

Didsbury Car Club

☎ (403) 994-0845
 📅 First Wed, 7 pm
 📍 Didsbury Museum
 2118 21 Ave, Didsbury

Dropsicles

☎ (780) 709-0093
 📅 Last Wednesday 8 pm
 📍 Tim Horton's
 7508 Gateway Blvd., Edmonton

Edmonton Antique Car Club

☎ (780) 465-4041
 📅 1st Wednesday 7:30 pm
 📍 Northern Alberta Pioneers & Descendents Association
 9430 - 99 Street, Edmonton

Edmonton Thunderbird Club

☎ (780) 988-5506
 📅 Last Thursday 7:00 pm, Sep-Jun
 📍 Chateau Louis Conference Centre
 11727 Kingsway NW, Edmonton

Elk Point Auto Club

☎ (780) 724-2527
 📅 2nd Wednesday 7:30 pm
 📍 Magic Pizza
 4904 50 Street, Elk Point

Foothills Model T Ford Club

☎ (403) 540-2093
 📅 4th Wednesday 7:30 pm Sep - May excluding Dec
 📍 Aero Space Museum
 4629 McCall Way NE, Calgary

Foothills Street Rod Association

☎ (403) 259-4764
 📅 2nd Monday 7 pm
 📍 Calgary
 📍 FoothillsSRA

Ford Central Club

☎ (403) 505-9811
 📅 1st Wednesday 7:00 pm
 📍 MGM Ford Lincoln
 3010 50 Ave, Red Deer

GTO Association of Alberta

📅 S2nd Wednesday 7:30 pm

📍 Classic Performance
Bay #27, 1410 - 40 AVE. NE, Calgary

Just Kruzin' Specialty Vehicle Club

📞 (780) 205-2154

📅 Second Tuesday, 7:30 pm

📍 Lloydminster Exhibition Grounds
5521 49 Ave, Lloydminster

Lebarons Car Club

📞 (403) 328-2923

📅 Last Tuesday 6:00 pm

📍 Member garages, Lethbridge

Lloydminster Auto Club

📞 (780) 871-2553

📅 1st Wednesday 7:30 pm

📍 Heritage Bldg. Weaver Park
4515 44 Street, Lloydminster

Medicine Hat Vintage Vehicle Club

📞 (403) 527-3678

📅 1st Wednesday 7:30 pm

📍 Veiner Centre
225 Woodman Avenue SE,
Medicine Hat

Mountain View Pistons Vehicle Club

📞 (403) 559-7140

📅 1st Wednesday, 7 pm

📍 Smitty's Restaurant
4513 52 Ave, Olds

Nifty Fifty's Ford Club of Calgary

📞 (403) 374-0653

📅 2nd Tuesday 7 pm

📍 Advantage Ford
12800 Macleod Trail SE, Calgary

Peace Classic Wheels

📞 (780) 835-0544

📅 3rd Wednesday at 7:30 pm

📍 Dunvegan Motor Inn
9812 113 Street, Fairview

Ponoka Piston Poppers

📞 (403) 782-9390

📅 1st Tuesday, 8:00 pm

📍 Member garages, Ponoka

Porcupine Hills Classic Cruisers Club

📞 (403) 625-6023

📅 6 pm Sunday, April to Sept

📍 Klein Auto Sales
4322 1 Street W, Claresholm

Prairie Motor Brigade

📞 (403) 823-0333

📅 Second Saturday at 9:30 am

📍 Smitty's
191 East Lake Crescent NE, Airdrie

River City Classics Car Club

📞 (403) 652-7226

📅 1st Wednesday 7 pm, Feb - Dec

📍 High River Agricultural Museum
64137 Hwy 498 E (543 for GPS),
EXIT 197, north of High River

Southern Alberta Antique & Classic Auto Club

📞 (403) 380-4825

📅 1st Tuesday 7:30 pm

📍 Atco Gas Office Auditorium
410 Stafford Dr N, Lethbridge

Southern Alberta Drag Racing Association

📞 (403) 320-7272

📅 1st Wednesday 7 :30 pm

📍 1610 - 31 Street N, Lethbridge

St. Albert Cruisers

📞 (780) 499-5546

📅 2nd Wednesday 7:30 pm

📍 St. Albert Inn
156 St Albert Trail

Stampede City Model A Ford Club

📞 (403) 282-9655

📅 2nd Wednesday 7:30 pm

📍 Club Garage, Calgary

Studebaker Drivers Club, Edmonton Chapter

(780) 471-6993

📍 Edmonton

Studebaker Drivers Club, Foothills Chapter

📞 (403) 247-0581

📅 First Tuesday, 7:30 pm

📍 Austrian Canadian Club
3112 11 Street NE, Calgary

Sylvan Lake Customs & Classics

📞 (403) 887-7047

📅 1st Wednesday 7 pm

📍 Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 212
4916 50 Avenue, Sylvan Lake

Taber Corn Country Cruisers Club

📞 (403) 223-1581

📅 2nd Tuesday 7:30 pm

📍 Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 20
5205 48 Ave, Taber

The Cruisers Club of Red Deer

📞 (403) 886-4016

📅 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 pm

📍 Burger Baron
Gasoline Alley, Red Deer

Time Travellers Car Club of Airdrie

📞 (403) 921-5053

📅 First Friday

📍 85 Eastlake Circle, Airdrie

Touring Tin Car Club

📞 (780) 862-4748

📅 2nd Monday, 7:30 pm

📍 Member's homes, Edmonton

V8less

📞 (780) 910-6266

📍 Edmonton

Vegreville Iron Runners Auto Club

📞 (780) 632-4279

📅 1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm except Jan
& Aug

📍 Vegreville Historical Society Museum
5029 45b Ave, Vegreville

Vintage Sports Car Club of Calgary

📅 2nd Wednesday 7 pm

📍 Austrian-Canadian Club
3112 11 Street NE, Calgary

West Central Alberta Classic Club

📞 (780) 223-0974

📅 1st Thursday 8:30 pm

📍 Athabasca Valley Hotel
124 Athabasca Ave, Hinton

Western Wheels Classic Auto Club

📞 (403) 845-2335

📅 1st Wednesday at 7:00 pm
March to October

📍 Tamarach Inn
4904 45 Street, Rocky Mountain House

Wildrose Rod & Custom Car Club

📞 (403) 540-2486

📅 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 pm

📍 Shagannapi Community Hall
2516 - 14 Avenue SW, Calgary

DIDJA EVER WANNA KICK YER OWN SELF?

By **Malcolm Fischer**

Yep, turns out The Old Editor would like ta have done that so many, many times. An' one of'em came ta mind this summer when he saw a nicely restored '39 Chevy two-door sedan go a-cruisin' by. Drool, drool, drool for what might have been.

When he wuz about 14 and in the lifelong habit o' spottin' ol' iron in bushes an' everywhere else, so's his Dear Daddy said, the then-young Ol' Boy knew the whereabouts of a '39 Chevy Master DeLuxe two-door thet a neighbour farmer had used ta go back an' forth ta fields an' so on, and now she lay deserted 'longside a bush over there at his place. Well, we cain't be having deserted Chevis jes' lyin' about, now can we? Not now, and not then! So, the Young Feller saved up his paper route change an' went an' bought the ol' two door for 50 bucks. Massive money in them days, right? We dragged'er home and she looked sumthin' like the pic below. Ragged, but complete (grille was in the trunk).



An' did we mention SEIZED up tighter'n a piano string? So the Ol' Editor's patient Dad poured diesel fuel an' other concoctions into the cylinders an' after a few weeks, a BIG socket an' snipe on the crankshaft pulley nut did the trick. She broke loose. Excitement? Why, it don't come any greater when yer 14!

Well then, we jes' had ta start'er up. After all, there wuz still gas in the tank! An' believe it er don't, it didn't take much ta git'er goin'. She knocked a bit, but she ran. An' the knock? Why, ain't them je's so's ya know when she's runnin'?

The tires held air, an' away we went fer a cruise around – good thing we lived in a very small village in the country! An' lo an' behold if she didn't have a vacuum shift an' it worked! Miracles do come in bunches. An' right away, the Young Editor wuz dreamin' of how he'd modify arrrrgh, there's that bad word, but keep in mind the Young One wuz only 14!!! the '39 an' have a real sweet cruisin' rod, sumthin' like this is what he had in mind



With a white naugahyde tuck an' roll interior an' a sweet purrin' 327? Why, what could be sweeter?

But then, when yer only 14, an' you come from modest means, an' parents don't have the means or the desire ta spend all thet loot for ya, well, the realities of bein' a 14 year-old with a paper route do set right in. But any-hoo, she ran, an' she was drivable, an' what more could ya want with a 15th birthday looming?

Drove thet ol' girl, aroun' town an' out in the country endlessly, knock-in' away the whole time. Got a job summerfallowin' an' balin' fer 5 bucks a day, an' life wuz sweet crusin' aroun' with my buddies. Didn't even make 'em sign a legal-speegal legal waver like ya'd hafta do nowadays!

Jes' before he turned 16, the Young Editor landed a job at the Chevy dealer, a job he relishes to this day. Three and a half years he worked there, an' of course, other cars started to appeal. Cars what didn't need much at all ta git drivin'. So, he put down the massive sum of a hundred bucks, an' drove away in a '52 Chevy coupe, the '39's aspirations all but forgotten.

An' if ya c'n git this, he drove the '39 into the auto wreckers, took out the battery, an' sold'er fer 10 bucks. Oooooooo. THIS is where the butt kickin' part comes in! Many, many, many times. An' fer years an' years!

Any other butts out there been likewise kicked in the ol' car world?



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