SUN RUNNER
MIDNIGHT SUN
STREET ROD ASSOCIATION
VOL 20 NO. 4 April 1997 $1.00 Cheap!

VP Al Gore rides in local street rod

It's not unusual for any of our nations leaders to stop at Elmendorf Air Force Base when traveling to or from the Far East. Elmendorf, near Anchorage, Alaska, is an official refueling stop. Almost every President, Vice President and head of state has stopped over since our leaders started traveling by airplane.

But a March 29th stop over would be different. Vice President Al Gore was returning from his recent trip to Korea and other Far East countries when he made his scheduled refueling stop with a one hour layover. No speeches or other formal ceremonies were planned, in fact, he wasn't even going to get off the plane. It was a beautiful Alaska day so he decided to take a short drive around the base. This put the Secret Service in a frenzy but they managed to accommodate him on such short notice.

NEXT Meeting
Tuesday
April 22nd 7 P.M.
at Warning Lites of Alaska, 591 W. 67th off Arctic Blvd. ***As always, the fourth Tuesday of the month. Meet us for dinner at the Royal Fork, 5:30 P.M. on meeting days.***

It was during that drive when the Vice President spotted a Pearl White '34 Ford four door with a chopped top, belonging to Bernie Edwards, a heavy equipment mechanic on Elmendorf. The Vice President just had stop and see it. All commotion around the shop got everyone's attention. Bernie, along with others, went out see what was going on. Within minutes, Secret Service agents with sunglasses and that funny plug in their ear were asking, "Who owns that hot rod!"

Not understanding what's going on, Bernie reluctantly admitted to owning it. "The Vice President wants a ride!" commanded the Secret Service agent. Well, when the Vice President wants a ride, what do you do. "You clean up and give him ride," Bernie said, "Besides, this is not only on government time, it's over time. How many street rodders can say they gave the Vice President a ride in a street rod much less being on the clock and giving the Vice President a ride."

So, with Bernie behind the wheel, the Vice President in the front seat, Tipper Gore in the back seat and Secret Service agents on the running boards, they went for a ride. According to Barnie, "I didn't have to decide where to go, all I did was follow the lead car in the motorcade."

The Vice President, obviously impressed, talked about the President's '67 Mustang. "I don't understand why he is so proud of that hot water six Mustang. Bill just doesn't know a real car when he sees one, wouldn't impress the hell out of him if I came home with this thing?"

After the short drive, Bernie delivered the Vice President to his airplane, Air Force 2. He was given a tour of the famous airplane and given the unusual souvenirs. As the plane took off, Bernie said to his boss, "I raced top fuel dragsters in the '60s, drove wheel standers and owned more street rods than the law should allow, but this is the biggest thrill of my life!"

Lo Oflir Pa, a Korean Airlines Pilot who frequently vacations in Alaska this time of year overheard Bernie's comment and said, "That's nothing. While in Korea, the Vice President fell in love with my flamed 1960 Toyota with a hot rod Datsun engine. He bought it and a C-141 will be picking it up on April 1."

Something To Do

May 2 ***Back to the 50's Concert, a MSSRA event. Contact Joe Piccione, 346-3371.***
May 3 ***Spring Auto Parts Swap Meet, a MSSRA event. Call Victor Knott, 349-7226.***
May 3-4 Mayday Mayday, contact Rally Productions at 243-2122.
May 9-11 Arctic Wheels Car Show, sponsored by the Arctic Wheel in Fairbanks. Call 455-WHLS (9457).
May 17 KOOL Radio Cruz
Jun 7-8 Alaska Antiquer's Meet at the Museum of Transportation & Industry in Wasilla. Sponsored by Antique Auto Musher of Anchorage and Veron Nash Antique Club of Fairbanks.
Jun 7-8 Wasilla Air Show sponsored by the Museum of Transportation & Industry in Wasilla. Exciting aerobatic routine by Delmar Benjamin, vintage airplanes, food & entertainment. For details call 376-1211.
Jun 8 ***Hot Rod's 6th Annual Fun Run. Poker run, games, food and trivia contest. Call Ray Elleven at 337-5860.***
Jun 14 Palmer Colony Days Parade
Jun 14-15 Mustang Roundup at the Northway Mall sponsored by the Classic Mustang Club of Anchorage.
Jun 14-15 Rally in the Valley, Palmer Fair Grounds. A fun motorcycle and car event. Music, food and fun. Contact Ron Harvey, Alaska Classic Cycles, 746-1903 in Palmer.
July 4 Homer Fourth of July Parade
July 11 Bear Paw Car Show, Eagle River, 5 to 9 P.M.. Contact Rally Productions at 243-2122.
Drag Racing every Sunday, May 24 through September 1, at Alaska Raceway Park, Mile 10.4 Old Glenn Highway, Palmer. Call 272-0790 or 277-7223 or 746-7223 for this weekends activities.
Paved Oval Track Racing every Wednesday night and Saturday afternoon starting Memorial day weekend at North Star Raceway, Mile 36, Parks Highway. Call 746-OVAL for details.
Dirt Track Racing every weekend at Capitol Raceway in Willow, on the Parks Highway. Call for details.

Lower 48 Events

Apr 27	Pomona Swap Meet, Pomona, CA - 714 544-7004
May 1-4	NHRA Lone Star Nationals, Ennis, TX
May 4	All Mopar Spring Roundup & Swap Meet, Bellevue Community College, Seattle, WA - 206-233-8657
May 17-18	Portland Swap Meet, Portland, OR - 503 684-3391
May 24-25	Waco Street Machine Mini Nationals, Fort Fisher Park, Waco, TX 713 932-8806
Jun 8	Pomona Swap Meet, Pomona, CA - 714 544-7004

Want a new club jacket?

They're available at Jacket Junction in the University Center. Pick out your favorite jacket and they'll stitch it. Six or more jackets and there's a discount. Call Nat Gardner for details.
344-4541

SUN RUNNER STAFF
Ray Elleven, Editor
Tom Stuart, Assistant
Tom Dewhirst, Circulation

The *SUN RUNNER* is the official publication of the Midnight Sun Street Rod Association of Anchorage Alaska and is published monthly by the *SUN RUNNER'S* Elite Staff. Unless other wise noted, all articles are written by the editor, Ray Elleven.

DISCLAIMER: We print just enough of the truth to support interesting articles. Most quotes are what should have been said.

All material contained herein may be ripped off, reprinted or published in another publication provided appropriate credit is given.

Subscriptions are available for $10.00 per year. Any inquires should be sent to the address below.

SUN RUNNER
Subscription Department
P.O. Box 92061

Thought - for the Day

"Hair will get you so far, but it won't get you everything."

Arctic Wheels
of Alaska
Presents
The 1997
Auto Show

May 9, 10 & 11
Carlson Center
Fairbanks, Alaska
call 455-WHLS
for details

Wasilla Air Show
June 7 & 8, 1997
at
the Wasilla Airport

Featuring
aerobatic routines
by
Delmar Benjamin,
flying his Gee Bee R2

Military and Vintage Airplanes

Food booths and Entertainment

Sponsored by the
Museum of Alaska Transportation and Industry

New North Star Speedway

On Memorial Day weekend, a new race track will bring an asphalt oval racing to Alaska. North Star Speedway is being built in Palmer by owner A.J. Swchwichtenberg. Racing is planned for Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons all summer. A.J. is the owner of the Speed Shop and an ex-drag racer who has shown cars in the Midnight Sun Rod and Custom Car Show.

The track is based on the design of the Spanaway Speedway, one of the West Coast's premier facilities. There will be seating for 3,000 spectators and a huge fenced-in sand playground for the kids. Spectator comfort will also be emphasized at the new track. Plans call for a variety of racing from go-carts, dwarf and sprint cars, motorcycles to the ever popular Legend cars. Winter snowmobile racing will also be promoted. One of the unique features of the track is that mufflers will be required on all race cars. This is to help keep the noise down and not upset the neighbors.

The project is not without controversy. About 30 people in the area have spoke in opposition to the facility at the Gateway Community Council, which represents the area. A.J. has not let that stop him from building the track. He contends that with mufflers and the track being built into a depression will minimize noise.

The track is located at the end of Jensen Road which intersects the Parks Highway at mile 36. For additional information, call A.J. at 746-OVAL.

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor
I noticed mention in a previous issue of the Sun Runner That you stated you could not cover all car events due to ever present space conflicts.

Space conflicts are the worst. First there was *Star Wars,* then *Independence Day,* and now aliens have infiltrated the editorial staff of the *Sun Runner* and are making editorial decisions. Is this a good idea? I'll bet aliens were behind the canceling of this years car show!

If those extraterrestrials take over the *Sun Runner,* I'm canceling my membership. Until now thought, I have enjoyed my membership with MSSRA. Just keep it's management in the hands of the earthlings.

Jimbob Rednib

P.S. Do you know of any source of Street Rod Parts for my 1958 Edsel?

Think about it
Why do they put braille on the number pads of drive-through bank machines?

Maaco Auto Painting and Body Works

Located at 4973 Eagel Street off International or call 561-2090

The Darwin Awards

These are nearly always granted posthumously. This citation is bestowed upon (the remains of) that individual, who though single-minded self-sacrifice, has done the most to remove undesirable elements from the human gene pool.

Mississauga, Ontario - A man cleaning a bird feeder on his balcony of his condominium apartment in this Toronto suburb slipped and fell 23 stories to his death. Stefan Macko, 55, was standing on a wheeled chair when the accident occurred. "It appears the chair moved and he went over the balcony," Inspector D'Arcy Horner of the Peel Regional Police said. "IT's one of those freak accidents. No foul play is suspected."

Fact is stranger than truth!

The Fairlane automobile was named after Henry Ford's personal estate.

Dooley makes the big time!

MSSRA member Tom "Dooley" Dewhirst traveled with seven other drag racers to the 4th Annual Alaska Vs Hawaii drags held on February 15 & 16. The race, shootout style, pairs Alaska racers with Hawaii racers who race four rounds each day. Each racers runs a different racer on the opposite team each round. At the end of the two days, the team with the most wins is declared the winner. Dooley won two out of his eight rounds with his yellow '34 Ford coupe but that wasn't enough to give Alaska a win.

The popularity of the event grows each year. This years event filled the 8,000 capacity race track and spectators were turned away at the gate. "We were very popular with the locals. I must have signed over 100 autographs," Dooley later bragged. The event was popular enough to featured on TNN's NHRA Today March 23, they showed Dooley's '34 Ford coupe making a pass.

The annual event would not be possible without the events sponsor, Sea Land freight Service Inc. The company donated and shipped to and from Hawaii seven vans to transport the race cars. Next years event is scheduled for February 1998. Make plans to be there.

Ron Webb to be featured at selected NHRA events

Ron Webb of Anchorage will be one of four Top Fuel Bikes racing in a showcase exhibition eliminator at four NHRA Winston national events in 1977. The six second, 230 mph bikes will be featured at MAC Tools Gatornationals at Gainseville Raceway, the Pennzoil Nationals at Virginia Motorsports Park, the Mopar Parts Nationals at Old Bridge Township Raceway Park and the U.S. Nationals at Indianapolis Raceway Park.

The other riders scheduled to entertain spectators are former record holder Tony Lang, Larry "Spiderman" McBride and Chris Hand. Each will make two "qualifying " runs alongside one another the Saturday of each event, then will return during Sunday's final elimination for two round-robin exhibition runs.

After an 11 year absence, Top Fuel Bikes returned as exhibition vehicles at NHRA events in 1995 when Lange road at the Pontiac Excitement Nationals in Columbus. In 1996 the future of the class was put in jeopardy when Top Fuel Bike pioneer and Ron Webb's friend Elmer Trett was killed while making an exhibition run at the U.S. Nationals.

Swap Shop

Swap Shop ads are a service of the Sun Runner and the Midnight Sun Street Rod Association for it's members and other individuals who wish to advertise an item or vehicle for sale. Advertisements are printed on a space available basis. Contact Ray Elleven, Editor of the SUN RUNNER at the address located elseplace in this newsletter or call him at 337-5860. All phone numbers listed are area code 907 unless otherwise noted.

Engine - '71 Ford 351c, four bolt, all the goodies including a Holly 4150 DP Carburetor, only $4,500. Installed in a '69 Mustang, only $8,000. Call Joe at 892-8622. (4/97)

1956 DeSoto - Hemi Powered 4 door sedan. Only $2,500 obo. Call Matt at 746-5953. (6/97)

1957 Buick Riviera Special - 2dr hardtop. Complete rolling chassis and motor restored with new or rebuilt parts. Boxes of new and n.o.s. parts. Over $9,000 invested. Needs some assembly and body work. Was offered at $5,000. Let's make a deal. All trades or cash offers considered. Call Otto at 745-4670. (6/97)

1984 Camaro - Parting out. Have most body parts. Call Matt at 745-4670. (6/97)

1989 S10 Blazer - 4.3 V6, automatic, loaded, nearly new tires. Cherry. $7,000 obo. Call Victor at 349-7228. (6/97)

1994 Cougar - Parting out with 5.0 HO motor and independent rear suspension. Low miles. Have complete drive train and most body parts. Call Otto at 745-4670. (6/97)

Miller Arc Welder - 220 volt, 200 amps. Complete set up for only $100. Call Victor at 349-7228. (6/97)

Cruising to the Oldies

A concert sponsored by Cream Puff Auto, Hot Rods

Scheduled to appear

The Platters The Coasters The Shirelles

The Marvelettes Tony Shondell

and *Elvis*

Club members will be picking up the entertainers at the airport and will have cars at the show. For more information, call Joe Piccione at 346-3371.

Ramblins

Did you see the Monday, April 7 Anchorage Daily News Tom Fink advertisement? It's true, the '57 Bird in the background belongs to the Wilson's of Warning Lites of Alaska. Is this one of those contributions in kind?

Latest Bumper Stickers

"The older I get, the better I was."

Special for a limited time

Deal #1

Order an EL-1 power window kit for 2 windows and receive 3 window switches free, Only $249, a savings of $30.

Deal #2

Complete Kit for only $289, you receive an EL-1 Power window kit for 2 windows along with a BK-2 Switch Kit, which includes Premium Black Rocker Switches, all mounting hardware, switches bezels and easy to install wiring harness with plugs and circuit protector. A savings of $30.

Deal #3

Same as #2 except it comes with chrome GM switches with OEM plugs and bezels. Only $329, a savings of $35.

JLM Enterprises

745-4670

Sandi Sumner's

Ad Specialties & Wearables

for great ideas

Call 688-0349

1997 ELECTED OFFICERS		
President	**Dave Welch**	**337-0029**
Vice President	**Nat Gardner**	**344-4541**
Secretary	**George Buhite**	**745-2872**
Treasurer	**Shirley Parrish**	**243-3200**
Board of Directors		
Sun Runner	**Ray Elleven**	**337-5860**

Dead line for the next "SUN RUNNER" is May 9, 1997

Auto Parts Swap Meet
Saturday May 3rd

MIDNIGHT SUN STREET ROD ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 92061
Anchorage, AK 99509

IF THERE IS A RED MARK ON YOUR MAILING LABEL, THIS IS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER

Try "PERFORMANCE PRINTING" **for all your printing needs**