

SUN RUNNER

VOL 29 No. 10

OCTOBER 2007

Cheap!

All That Glitter...

by Janice Katula

Ah, duct tape. A practical and fashionable "MUST" if you aspire to be a true Alaskan.

Most people know about the gold rush days in Alaska's history and that much gold is found and remains to be found even now. Pah! Gold is great but our most precious treasure is silver. Silver duct tape, that is. It can be found in all the best and worst places.

Take Prudhoe Bay for example. It is a harsh environment populated by hardy souls wearing an odd assortment of Carharts, down filled jackets and cold weather gear in varying states of disrepair. Duct tape is the oilfield fashion statement and a tribute to man's ingenuity. It is quite common to see strips of glittering silver clinging steadfastly to sleeves or pants legs. Bunny boots or other arctic footwear is often attractively, (or not), accented with bits and pieces of the tenacious tape.

Over time, however, even the awesome holding power of duct tape can wane and the strips begin to separate from whatever they are attached to.

NEXT MEETINGS

TUESDAY OCTOBER 23, 2007 7:00 PM

University of Alaska-Anchorage

Need directions?

Call Wayne Morrison at 344-8445

always the 4th Tuesday of the month



Another fine use of duct tape, sealing the sun roof of a VW Bug. The owner of this VW asked not to be identified but we'd like to thank Vivien Noll for the picture.

To be fair, the tape has a bit of help. To say Prudhoe Bay can be windy is an understatement. The locals proudly proclaim January 1 to December 31 as the Prudhoe Bay Wind Festival. Duct tape is a prime target of these incessant winds.

Anyway, as these strips begin to loosen, they flap capriciously in the fitful breeze looking like little silver windsocks.

I have been accused, on occasion, of having a strange sense of humor; but say what you will, it is a funny sight.

My favorite is the "guess what kind of bird I am?" look. Picture what your common sense tells you is a human being covered entirely in clothing so bulky and

(see Duct Tape page 6)

Something to do

- Dec 22 – MSSRA Christmas Party
Eddie's Sports Bar

2008 Events

- May 3 – Spring Auto Parts Swap Meet, 9 am to 4 pm
Contact Victor Knott at 349-7228
a MSSRA even
- Jun 21 – Summer Solstice Rumble
5 pm to 10 pm at Mirror Lake
an All Car Club event
- Aug 2 – Pre-Show & Shine Car Show
McDonalds on Dimond at Jewel Lake
a MSSRA event
- Aug 3 – 30th Annual Jay Ofsthun Memorial Show & Shine
on the Anchorage Park Strip
a MSSRA event
- Aug 9 – Fall Auto Parts Swap Meet
Contact Victor Knott at 349-7228
a MSSRA even

Ramblins

The final Thursday Night Cruise of the season was at Ramons Restaurant and manger Nick Gialopsie started something new last year. He took a walk through the parking lot and picked a Best of Show winner. This year he picked Ray Elleven's '59 El Camino as the and presented him with a gift certificate to Romon's. This was in addition to the standard door prize that was won by KB Bettisworth. What a way to end the season. . . . Jim & Sandi Sumner are busy organizing a car club in Colorado and recently hosted a rod run to Cripple Creek to see the fall colors. Wonder where they got that ideal? . . . Ed Park went to the NSRA Golden State Nationals to spend the weekend with his brother, Wally and Glenda Graham, Paul Moll and Anita, MSSRA charter member John Spanos, and a few other friends. Oh ya, the Golden State Nations were great! . . . MSSRA member Randy Phillips' Big Bad Green AMX was in the October 2007 issue of *Muscle Car Enthusiast* magazine. He was at the American Motors Owners International meet in Denver. It stated he is from Alaska and a regular at the Midnight Sun Rod Run held the first Sunday in August. Must have meant the Show & Shine. . . Want to know where most cities and states have the speed trips? Check out the following web site and yes, Anchorage is on there!

www.speedtrap.org/speedtraps/stetlist.asp

Sun Spam

Are you receiving the Sun Spam, the weekly e-mail notice of upcoming events and other important news?

If not, send an e-mail to MidnightSunSRA@yahoo.com and ask to sign up for Sun Spam.

Positions Available

Newsletter Editor

Position available January 1, 2008. The only requirement is that you have a computer and the enthusiasm to do the job. Training is available. If interested, contact Bruce Main at 344-1947.

SUN RUNNER

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The *Sun Runner* is the official publication of the Midnight Sun Street Rod Association of Anchorage, Alaska and is published most months by the *Sun Runner's* Elite Staff. Unless otherwise noted, all articles are written by the editor, Ray Elleven. If you find a mistake in this issue, please consider it could be there for a purpose. The *Sun Runner* staff tries to print something for everyone and some people are always looking for mistakes!

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.

The *Sun Runner* is available with membership dues. Any inquires should be sent to the address below.

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Pres Sez

by Bruce Main



Imagine my surprise when I went to church Sunday. Snow on the ground! It was on the hillside but not THAT far up. Well, at least it wasn't raining. My car is parked for the duration, as I assume many of yours are as well. That is the down side of being into cars in this wonderful state.

The good side is, there is many other things out there to keep us busy, if we choose. My wife has been doing a great deal of hiking over the last few years. I have joined her on many of the hikes but all (some) things in moderation if you ask me. At a rate, there is an almost endless supply of quality hikes within the Anchorage bowl or up to an hour drive. Easy slopes, steep trails, wonderful views, deep forest. And it is all free, well most of it. Some of the areas charge a nominal fee to park. If you're not into hiking, there are downhill and cross country ski options. My point is, just because summer is over, it doesn't mean we have to stay inside and risk going stir crazy, just because we can't or won't drive our cars when the weather gets bad.

Speaking of parking the car for the winter, I went to an open house this weekend that opens options for storing vehicles in this city. The place was Garage Town. They are selling condos for cars. Pretty interesting idea and the units are pretty darn big, especially for someone like me. I can't even open the passenger side door when I park my car.

I have to squeeze around the front just to get to my work bench. I wish I had come up with the idea and the money to pull it off. I think it will fill a niche in town for sure.

I hear the last cruise of the season was fun and full of excitement, maybe a little too much for some. Ray Elleven organized and led his *Looky Here Cruise* again. They went to up to Palmer by way of the old Glenn, taking some side roads in that area as they went. After a break in Palmer, they continued up into Hatcher pass. On the way back to town, they contin-

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Life Members	11
Members	185
Total Members as of December 31, 2006	196
2007	
Life Members (2 new life members)	13
New Members	35
Members Dropped	30
Total Members as of October 15, 2007	201

New Members This Month

None

Prospects

None at this time

Want a list of all the members? A list with phone numbers, address, etc.? They are available to members only for non commercial purposes. Call Ray Elleven at 337-5860 or email him at MidnightSunSRA@yahoo.com. He can mail it to you or e-mail it in a PDF format.

ued to take back roads instead of the main drag. Taking time to *Looky Here*, instead of just high speed highway driving. The report I got is that it proved to be very enjoyable and although it took most of the day, the time flew by.

I was shocked to hear that Chris and Megan Borger had an accident on one of the back roads. A truck crossed the line and hit Megan's 1966 GTO convertible. It seems it was a glancing blow to the left rear corner and the GTO was not seriously damaged. Oh, yeah, Chris and Megan came out of it ok too. Just shows you, no matter how careful you are, no matter if you are going slow and taking your time, you ALWAYS have to be prepared for the other guy.

Last but for sure not least, it is time to nominate officers for 2008. Nominations will be taken at the meeting on October 23. They will also be accepted at the November meeting, prior to the vote. If you have someone in mind, or better yet, if you have a desire to serve the club, please make your choice know. If you can't make the meeting, you may be nominated. Just kidding, but if you can't be there, contact an officer or board member to see about putting forth a name.

Latest Bumper Sticker

Are you having phone sex or
Do you always drive that way

4th Annual Seward Car Show

A few members of MSSRA, Valley Cruzers, and the Anchorage Corvette Association made the beautiful drive to Seward for the 4th Annual Seward Car Show held at the Brown Bear Campground.

Promoters Eddy & Kelly Schittenhelm had a well organized event. There was plenty of parking for the 30 plus cars and the campground snack bar was really convenient. The local Volunteer Fire Department demonstrated the Jaws of Life on a couple of wrecked cars. It was interesting how easy it was to open a car like sardine can.

This year's show was dedicated to Terry Pollard, owner of Terry's Tire & Lube in Seward. He was always active in the community and a good friend of the whole town. He had a 1964 Le Mans and a 1975 Trans Am.

If you missed this year's show, mark you calendar for September 13, 2008, the planned date for next year's show.



Best Corvette was won by Steven Rosenfield of Anchorage and his 2007 Z06 Corvette

Haunting Questions of Life

Can you cry under water?



Best in Show went to Mike Szajbler of Soldotna and his custom 1960 Chevy Impala



Above: Best MOPAR won by Seward's Lady MOPAR, Kelly Schittenhelm, and her 1971 Dodge Charger

Right: Palmer's John Troutner won Best Ford with his 1956 Crown Victoria



Above: Seward's Tracie Williams Best Motorcycle with her 2005 Harley Davidson with side car

Right: Ray Elleven of Anchorage won Best GM with his 1959 El Camino



Janice Katula won Best Import with her 1934 Mercedes Benz



Not to be out done by his wife, Eddy Schittenhelm won Best Truck with 1977 Chevy Step side



End of Season Corvette Party

by Margo Smith

We want to thank each and every one of you who supported the End of Season Corvette Party. It was a beautiful day and we are so proud of all of you, I think the last count for Corvettes was 30 and at least 15 Midnight Sun Street Rod folks and Valley Cruzers!

Thanks to all of you who brought food to eat, I don't think anyone should have walked away hungry. Dave Smith and Don Slifer did an excellent job of smoking the delicious ribs, brisket and pulled pork. They also did the smoked beans, each with their own recipes and each with delicious results. Rowi and Don Slifer were responsible for the corn fritters and as you could all see they didn't last long.

Having all the car clubs get together and feel comfortable with one another has been a goal Dave and I hoped would occur since we became part of the club, supporting each other has to be a good thing, enjoying each others events has kept us busy during the summer and has given us all something to talk about during the winter. Car enthusiasts, no matter what they drive, all have something in common and friendships are very important to share.

We thank you all who came early and stayed late to help put it together and to put it all away. We could not have asked for a nicer turn out.

Once again, thanks to all of you. Take care, Margo and Dave.



Our chefs, Don Slifer and Dave Smith. Thanks guys the food was GREAT!



Just some of the cars on display at the End of Season Corvette Party.



A Viper could get lost in all those Corvettes.

Comments From The Cops

“You know, stop lights don't come any redder than the one you just went through.”

Things You Should Know But Probably Don't

Money isn't made out of paper;
it's made out of cotton.

Jezreel Shayna Herr

Many of you who have participated in MDA Summer camp and most recently in the Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon on Labor Day weekend will remember 9 year old Jezreel Shayna Herr.

Jez, as she was known, was a bubbly child always had a smile on her face and would race around in her powered wheel chair. At summer camp, she would frequently go for a ride in our cars and motorcycle side cars.

Jez passed away on September 14. KTUU Chanel 2 did an excellent story about her, titled *Remembering Jezreel Herr*. It's on their web site at www.ktuu.com.

MSSRA had representation at her service and sent flowers.



Duct Tape

(continued from page 1)

concealing that only the eyes are visible. This apparition is walking braced against the best the wind festival can offer with sparkling silver strips whipping crazily around it from head to toe. If that weren't enough, the force of the wind is, little by little, baring the holes in the down jacket thereby allowing small white feathers to worm their way out to freedom. Others poke their heads shyly out of tiny pinholes waiting for the one gust that will set them free. The overall appearance is of some big arctic mottled silver bird in heavy molt. It is a sight not soon forgotten.

Don't be thinking duct tape is just for repairs. If you have ever been to Anchorage's Duct Tape Ball you know how creative some people can be. Duct tape even comes in different colors now, although being a purist, silver is my favorite.

Our state treasure will stick to almost anything. How many times have you seen the familiar silver holding parts on a passing car? Apparently it's great for bumpers, moldings, convertible tops, taillights, and license plates.

Sometimes we ask too much of our old friend as car parts repaired with tape, over time, also begin to flap jauntily in the wind, creating a thrilling "I'm getting the H— out of here" experience for the observer/ possible recipient of a bumper in the windshield.

Duct tape is not an unknown entity to the rest of the

world although we would like to claim it as our very own.

Many years ago, I was taking my first trip by airplane. I must have looked very nervous as my seatmate solicitously asked if it was my first flight and if I was ok?

He then handed me a newspaper article about an airline somewhere in South America that had been shut down for making repairs with Elmer's Glue and duct tape. I wasn't amused. Some jokes just aren't that funny.

I really don't need to extol the virtues of duct tape any longer so I will leave you with this.

I am a true Alaskan.

I use the heck out of duct tape for everything.

I'm proud of it.

Long live the manufacturers of DUCT TAPE!

Reprinted with permission from "Alaska Women Speak" magazine. A special thanks to MSSRA Member Jancie Katula for contributing this article.

Life Support

Last night, Dawson and his wife were sitting in the living room and he said to her, "I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine, and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

She got up, unplugged the TV and then threw out his beer.

Looky Here Cruze



Attending this year's cruze were: Ray Elleven '85 Corvette; Daune Clausen, '06 Mustang Convertible; Roger & Janic Katula, '34 Mercedes Convertible; Mike Kesler, '66 Corvair; KB & Robin Bettisworth, '85 Fiero; Will Pintsch & Nicole Clingenpeel, Honda; Russ & Sheron Cox, '87 Fiero; Chris, Megan, Logan Borger, '66 GTO Convertible; Greg Wilkinson, '63 Right Hand Drive VW; John & Yvonne Peterson, '66 Fairlane; Butch & Liv Vonlolhoffel, '66 Mercury Cyclone.

We had 11 (a hard number for me to spell) cars for this year's cruze checking out the fall colors. We started in Eagle River and headed for the Valley by way of Birchwood Loop and the Peter's Creek end of the Old Glenn Highway. We drove by the homes of Bob Pillion and Lenny Olson who got a few pictures of us passing by.

From there we were on the New Glenn Highway to Palmer by way of the Old Glenn, around the Butte, and finally a potty stop at the Plamer Carrs. From there we were on the Palmer Wasilla Highway to Heyer Road crossing the Parks Highway to Fairview Loop and evenly Knik Goose Bay Road, through Wasilla, to Hatcher Pass where we had lunch at the Hatcher Pass Lodge. At this point it was warm enough that the tops came down on the open cars.

After lunch we took Trunk Road to the Parks Highway and eventually Eklunta Lake. It was on Trunk Road that Chris and Megan Borger along with son Logan became candidates for the Rubber Hammer Award.

Their 1966 GTO convertible was side swiped by an

on-coming pickup. It was so close the car behind them didn't think they were hit. Luckily it was minor damage.

After Eklunta Lake, everyone went their separate ways with memories of a special fall day in the Valley.



Some of the group at Hatcher Pass: Mike Kesler; Chris, Megan, Logan Borger; Greg Wilkinson; Robin & KB Bettisworth; John & Yvonne Peterson; Roger & Janic Katula; Butch & Liv Vonlolhoffel; Daune Clausen.



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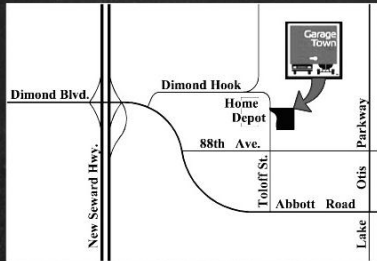
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From Lake Otis Parkway
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Right on Toloff Street.



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Why Dawson Shouldn't Write an Advice Column

Dear Dawson

I hope you can help me here. The other day I set off for work leaving my husband in the house watching the TV as usual. I hadn't gone more than a few hundred yards down the road when my engine conked out and the car shuddered to a halt. I walked back home to get my husband's help. When I got home I couldn't believe my eyes. He was parading in front of the wardrobe mirror dressed in my underwear and high-heel shoes, and he was wearing my make up.

I am 32, my husband is 34 and we have been married for twelve years. When I confronted him, he tried to make out that he had dressed in my lingerie because he couldn't find his own underwear. But when I asked him about the make up, he broke down and admitted that he'd been wearing my clothes for six months. I told him to stop or I would leave him.

He was let go from his job six months ago and he says he has been feeling increasingly depressed and

worthless. I love him very much, but ever since I gave him the ultimatum he has become increasingly distant. I don't feel I can get through to him anymore. Can you please help?

Sincerely,
Mrs. Sheila Lusk

Dear Sheila:

A car stalling after being driven a short distance can be caused by a variety of faults with the engine. Start by checking that there is no debris in the fuel line. If it is clear, check the jubilee clips holding the vacuum pipes onto the inlet manifold. If none of these approaches solves the problem, it could be that the fuel pump itself is faulty, causing low delivery pressure to the carburetor float chamber. I hope this helps.

Dawson

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.

1976 AMC Pacer – Here's something different. 6 Cylinder engine with a three speed on the floor and a posi rear end. Call KB at 276-7862 (9/06) 561-2090. (10/07)

1967 Ford F250 - 2wd long bed, all new brakes to include front disc upgrade. Rebuilt C6 transmission with newer 390 engine, lots of new parts, very reliable, safe and dependable. I am asking \$5,000.00 but will consider reasonable offers. Call Mike at 830-4789. (10/07)

1973 Ford F-250 - ¾ Ton Step side Long bed, in the same family since 1989. Call Harry at 744-666. (09/07)

1976 Dodge Tradesman 100 - custom interior, the body has a few areas of surface rust but is a very solid and cool rig. Call Harry at 744-6266 (09/07)

1966 Chevrolet El Camino – 396, TH400 12 Bolt rear end, factory a/c p/w p/b bucket seats w/console. Serious inquires only please. \$15,000.00, with the right offer Centerline Telstars rims and tires will be included- both tires and rims are brand new. Call 863-5507 call for more info. (09/07)

392 Hemi Engine - Has all the goodies. \$8,000 obo. Currently in Indiana. Call 206 833-4608 (9/07)

1925 Ford Parts - grill, fenders, and t-bucket - in great shape. Call Larry 488-5381. (09/07)

Jennifer's Extreme Make Over

Jennifer, the blonde from Warsaw who graduated from Texas A&M, had a heart attack and was taken to the hospital. While on the operating table, she had a near death experience. Seeing God she asked, "Is my time up?"

God replied, "No, you have another 43 years, 2 months and 8 days to live."

Upon recovery, Jennifer decided to stay in the hospital and have a face-lift, liposuction, breast implants, and a tummy tuck. She even had someone come in and change her hair color and brighten her teeth! Since she had so much more time to live, she figured she might as well make the most of it. After her last operation, she was released from the hospital. While crossing the street on her way home, she was run over and killed by an ambulance.

Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 43 years? Why didn't you pull me from out of the path of the ambulance?"

God replied, "I didn't recognize you."

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