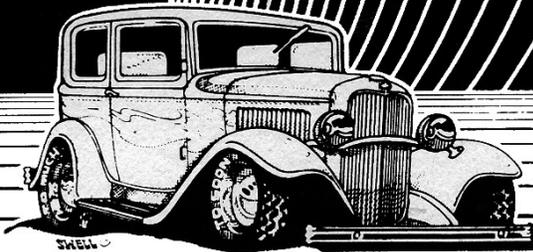


SUN RUNNER



MIDNIGHT SUN
STREET ROD ASSOCIATION

VOL 35 NO 9

Sep 2013

Cheep!

Former Marines take on a mission in a Model A

By Frank Grejevic, Anchorage Daily News

Under any circumstances, this would be a classic, crazy road trip.

Former Marines Lenny Cestaro and Aaron Showalter leave Anchorage at 5 a.m. Thursday morning to drive a hot-rod, Ford Model A 5-window coupe to Arizona. It's a rig to behold and one Cestaro spoke of with love and laughter Tuesday, the specs rolling off his tongue like military designations: 292 Ford Y-block engine from a 1956 Ford F-100, a 1958 2-speed Fordomatic transmission ("And there's a reason why they stopped produc'in' 'em," Cestaro says), two three-barrel Holley carburetors. The "Rat" is a low-slung road warrior "custom fabricated through trial and error" that hits its sweet spot between 70 and 80 mph.



Former Marine Leonard "Lenny" Cestaro will be leaving Thursday to drive this 1930 Ford Model A 5-window coupe from Anchorage to Arizona.



Photo by Troy Wayrynen

Aaron Showalter, 6-foot-4 and 250 pounds, squeezes into a 1935 Ford hot rod Tuesday in Vancouver. Showalter and fellow Marine veteran Lenny Cestaro, who owns the hot rod, are traveling from Alaska to Arizona to raise money for a Marine wounded in Afghanistan.

Cestaro, a federal firearms instructor, and Showalter, a certified diesel mechanic, are having fun, but fun isn't why they're strapping in for 3600 miles and change.

They're on a mission.

Cestaro recently discovered that Capt. Derek Herrera, one of his old unit commanders, was shot and paralyzed while commanding a Special Forces operation in Afghanistan's Helmand Province. Cestaro learned that Herrera is trying to remain active duty and to that end is experimenting with a high-tech medical device called an exoskeleton that allows him to walk.

MSSRA Monthly Board Meeting will be held at the Anchorage Senior Center Sep 26, 2013

Exoskeletons are cutting edge and expensive at \$700,000. Cestaro began by contributing and encouraging fellow Marines to do so. Then he and Showalter began to imagine more and the road trip was born.



Photo by Troy Wayrynen
Aaron Showalter, left, and Lenny Cestaro stand next to a chopped 1935 Ford on Tuesday in Vancouver.

It's swiftly taken on a life of its own, drawing donors and sponsors for everything from customizing to gas to the artwork on the back. Cestaro has tripled the goal. He wants to raise enough money for three exoskeletons, so more paralyzed Marines will walk. And if he and Showalter make it to Arizona, they just might try to cross the country to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.

Herrera's determination to remain on active duty, to keep serving, amazes Cestaro, who said he already had plenty of respect for the captain. "That motivates the hell out of me," he said.

"Just helpin' out a brother in need," Showalter says. They'll pay a price in pain -- both men have service disabilities and the hot-rod isn't like traveling in a camper. Cestaro suffers a chronic bad back and Showalter (nicknamed "Manbearpig") will have to manage his 6-4 frame and 250 pounds into a tight space. Cestaro said they'd have caribou skins for the spartan interior, to "Alaskanize" it.

"This is home for me," Cestaro said. A former East High student and graduate of the Alaska Military Youth Academy, he splits his time now between Alaska and Arizona. He and Showalter will be taking a Byron Glacier rock from an ice-climbing trip to Herrera in California, where he's due for hip surgery. The Model A will definitely attract attention. Cestaro wants to "yell out enough for people to hear" about his old commander. He shouldn't have to yell much.

Just drive.



Photo by Troy Wayrynen
A Jack Daniel's bottle catches radiator overflow. The 292-cubic-inch engine came from a 1956 Ford

Kool Car Registry

Every now and then we get request for a car with driver for weddings or other special event. The problem is, we do not who's interested making a couple of hundred bucks with their car. If interested, I'm starting a registry of who's interested.

So, if you are interested send us the following information: name, phone number, email address, type of car, and a picture of the car. Send it to info@MidnightSunSRA, mail it to the MSSRA snail mail box, or call Ray Elleven at 337-5860. When we get a request, we'll refer them to you and all negotiations are up to you.

Thursday Night Cruise

We meet at the Sears parking lot at the corner of Northern Lights & the Seward Highway at 6 PM departing at 6:45 PM. Don't have a street rod or cool car? Bring out the regular family car. The objective is to have fun cruising the streets and roads of Alaska.

Sept. 19 - Tastee Freez **26** - Meetings start at Senior Center

Members Meeting at Senior Ctr.

Sept 26	Thursday 7 pm
Oct 24	Thursday 7 pm
Nov 26	Tuesday (Thurs is Thanksgiving)
Dec	Christmas Party
Jan 23	Thurs
Feb 27	Thurs
Mar 27	Thurs
April 24	Thurs

Breakfast Bunch—Meet at 9am, MSSRA event.

Sep 21, 2013	Denny's Restaurant, 2900 Denali Street
Sep 28, 2013	Kay's Family Restaurant, 3002 Spenard Road
Oct 5, 2013	Piper's Restaurant, 3450 Aviation Avenue
Oct 12, 2013	Kay's Family Restaurant, 3002 Spenard Road
Oct 19, 2013	Kava's Pancake House, 3001 Penland PrkWy
Oct 26, 2013	Gwennies Old Alaska Restaurant, Spenard Rd

Three Million Reasons



Gordon purchased his Volvo P1800 in 1966. Forty-seven years and nearly three million miles later, Irv and his P1800 finally arrive in Alaska, one of two U.S. states Irv has never visited. Gordon plans to reach his three million mile moment on Sept. 17, driving through a majestic stretch of the Seward Highway.

“I’m realizing this will be a record that no one will surpass,” Gordon said. “So, these last few miles in beautiful Alaska will be special and sentimental for me.”

Gordon’s P1800 has the same engine, same radio, same axels and same transmission that it was equipped with when he drove it off the Volvoville parking lot in 1966. Gordon is the only person who has ever driven his P1800.

To learn more about Gordon’s journey please visit www.3MillionReasons.com

Swap Shop! Advertisements are printed on a space available basis. Contact the Sun Runner editor pol500ak@hotmail.com or 907-632-6756.

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Space Limited Located in South Anchorage
\$125 per car per month Call Victor Knott at 529-5996

1986 El Camino—brand new crate 350 Ramjet with 7,000 miles. Contact Rick at rdoggie23@gci.net or call 907-982 7852

Two 1950 Chevy Trucks - One is a Stake Bed 3600, all original, 215 six. You can be the third owner. All steel in good shape, very little rust, some surface rust. New voltage reg. and battery and it runs. Call Carey at 229-2010 or 746-4645

The second is a 1950 Chevy Pickup with a 350 with 4 speed transmission, '68 Nova front suspension. Have some extra new parts in the boxes. Asking \$3000 for both trucks but will entertain offers!
Call Carey at 229-2010 or 746-4645 in Fishhook area.

1924 Ford Roadster—350 Chevy w/400TH tranns, edelbrock Highrise w/2 Edelbrock 500CFM carbs. Asking \$15000

Call 283 -6006 or e-mail n.d.leigh@alaska.net Serious Inquiries

1975 Ford U-Haul Van— Big 20 foot box, outfitted with "D" type rings & ramps for cars. Man door on the side. Good for storage and transport. Only \$5000 o.b.o. Call Kurt at 344-5554

Lots of Engines—Ten Small Block Chevy Engines, 283, 327 and 350 complete Chevy engines all or some *free* to a good home. Call Bernie at 907-688-2362 or 283-6006

1958 Buick Special 4door Sedan - Rebuilt 364 nailhead engine, amazingly, this thing gets close to 18 mpg! Google it! This is a great running motor with about 4000 miles on it, over 4 grand in motor alone, desirable old school hotrod motor. Second owner car, garaged most of its life and partial restoration finished when purchased. Car was shipped to Alaska in 1962, and forgotten in a garage up on hillside. Purchased after death in family. This car drives awesome! Cruises comfortably and gets up when needed! The car has newer tires with painted wheels and beauty rings and caps, satin black/gloss red paint job done professionally 2 years ago. This thing can't go ANYWHERE without getting thumbs up at every light! Summer is coming, get your fun ride right Quick walk around video: <http://youtu.be/OMH8pcSrnIw> Priced for sale at \$6,500 Call Joe at 306-6931

1953 Special - 2 door hardtop (Riviera style) with straight 8 and 3 speed tranny. \$1000 for it as well. Reason I'm selling both cars is I bought the 38 Buick Special. Call John at 907-350-4891 or email at johnross@gci.net

Boot Hill Auto - Owner Ron Felman, The Frenchman, is selling off his inventory. He has titles to several complete vehicles such as a 59 El Camino with a Buick 401 V-8, a 51 Caddy, a 49 Caddy series 60, & others. Plus he has a boat load of donor cars. Call 745-1027 or check out Boot Hill Auto on the Old Glenn in Butte

1969 Chevrolet Pickup Truck - 4wd, 400ci motor with a 700R4 tranny (Auto), fuel tank has been removed from cab area, electric fan with new radiator & aluminum shroud, CALL 223-0455 \$25,000.00 OBO

1995 Chevy Astro Van - Low 78k miles, great condition, runs great, loaded with custom work from Tommy's Custom Classics - Custom paint, silver with custom black and silver scheme pin-striped flames - Customized with 02' Cadillac Escalade front end - Custom Quad exhaust by Muffler City - Diamo 20-inch chrome wheels w/ Ventus 20-inch-low profile tires - After-market Xenon Python body kit - Shaved door handles all around with two remotes for door poppers - Shaved gas tank, custom tail lights, power windows, power door locks, cruise control - Front and rear air conditioning and heating - Rear Dutch doors, tinted windows, tow package, 3rd row seating - Factory 4 speed automatic transmission, Call: 907-248-4295

1957 Porsche Speedster Replica - Beck Factory Built Speedster built on a 3 inch tube frame. Most speedster replicas use a VW bug frame, this frame does not flex like the VW. This impeccable award winning Speedster replica comes in the Merlot exterior with Whiskey Tan full leather interior and tan canvas top. Options include a "hidden" Pioneer AM/FM/CD, tan canvas 1/4 and full tonneau covers, fully carpeted trunk, Coco mats, Nardi wood steering wheel and wood shift knob, new radial tires, including spare, power windows, and Porsche badging. Titled in Alaska. CB Performance balanced the 1915cc with a custom exhaust, dual Weber carbs that bless it with almost 130hp. This power plant is mated to a 3:88 silky smooth freeway flyer trans-axle for effortless touring in all gears. The car comes with all original Beck factory books, maintenance records, and lots of spare parts, and 2 custom car covers. call Pat at 862-4385.

1938 Buick Special – Straight 8 engine, restored in Idaho by Glenn Vaughn .Restorations and Maintenance records available. Asking \$38,000, call 360-1363 for details.

1960 Corvette – A car guaranteed to bring a smile and a thumbs-up from all. This classic 1960 Corvette has the grill teeth, the rounded back design, dual headlights and the most popular color of Roman Red with White Ermine Coves
Serious inquiries only please: 907-229-3861

1957 Ford Fairlane - 2 Door Sedan, 312 V8 engine, automatic, runs good, new interior, and the tires are fair. Extra parts including patch panels. \$6,995 obo. Call Herb at 338-0095

1955 Ford Pickup - on 1978 4x4 frame, off frame restoration, 390 high performance engine with automatic, all new chrome but needs painting. Only \$8,000.00! Call 906 362-800

Approximately 300 Cars – A facility in Tok is parting out approximately 300 cars. Some would make good project cars. Call Norma at 907-505-0361

Pictures for each add can be seen on the MSSRA web site,
www.MidnightSunSRA.org

<p>Welcome new members!</p> <p>Kyle Eickholt '11 Shelby GI 500 Linda & Mike Janousek '57 Chevy Pickup Kirt & Wendy Hudson '61 Oldsmobile Patrick & Susan Ross '23 Ford T-Bucket</p> <p>Prospective Member Issac & Patricia Ballot '11 Dodge Challenger</p>	<p>Membership Report</p> <table> <tr> <td>Total Members as of December 31, 2012</td> <td style="text-align: right;">*183</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Members dropped</td> <td style="text-align: right;">30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reinstated</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Members this year</td> <td style="text-align: right;">22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Member since last month</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <hr/> <p>Total Members as of Aug 31, 2013 *175 * Includes 10 Life Members</p>	Total Members as of December 31, 2012	*183	Members dropped	30	Reinstated	0	New Members this year	22	New Member since last month	
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The MSSRA Board of Directors is looking for volunteers for these MSSRA activities.

Ray will be moving next year and there are several MSSRA duties he has handled that needs to be picked up by the club officer positions or other members. All of the following activities will be passed on or stop by November 1st.

Archives – Ed Park gave Ray two boxes of mostly car show documents that he has gone through them and identified most of the important documents to maintain.

Database – The database is Microsoft Access 2010, whoever picks this up must have Access 2010 or newer as older versions will crash the forms or queries but not the data.

- This program used for address labels; dues management including dues status and dues billing; new member welcome letters; membership reports; and status of members including new members, and dropped members.
- Member records include names, address, phone numbers, e-mail address, top four cars owned, dues history, and NSRA information of members.
- Non-member records include prospective members, other car clubs we exchange newsletters with, and business and individuals who receive complimentary copies of the newsletter.
- This data base is critical to our recordkeeping and should be maintained by the Membership Chair.

E-Mail Box – This is pretty simple and can be handled by anyone. It entails answering emails and updating the address book.

Events Coordinator – We don't know if this has ever been an official activity, but in order to keep the newsletter and web site calendar current. I've been watching the other clubs' events for any conflicts.

Files – Our files are setup on Microsoft SkyDrive, a web based file storage. Up to four people can access the files. Files include our Charter, by-laws, past events, the web site files, etc. At this point, Neil and Ray are the only two people who have signed up to access these files.

Folding Party –Ray has been hosting the newsletter folding party for some time. Since all activities will be passed on by November 1st and he will not be here in October, September will be the last time Ray will host the Folding Party.

Membership Chair – This task is pretty simple and goes hand in hand with the database management. Duties include having applications available; sending welcome letters to new members; and maintain the membership list.

Officer's Handbook – I don't know if this has been used by anyone but its intent is to provide officers guidance with what needs to be done, how to do it, and our history.

Sun Spam - This is pretty simple and should go hand-in-hand with the e-mail box. The ideal is notifying members of the week's events and news items that can't wait for the next newsletter.

Web Site and Fees – The MSSRA Board thinks the web site is the way of the future. There is a lot more that can be done with the web site and we are only limited by our own imagination as to what to include. Right now the web site is billed to my Ray's VISA card. Pay Pal maybe the answer; it can be the third party between Yahoo! and the MSSRA checking account.

Eddy's 11th Annual Car Show employs 'The Force'

Awards

Guess This Car—Jay Pitzer from Bird Creek with a Panda Geeley manufactured in China

Best Daily Driver—Jay and Yvonne Pitzer from Bird Creek with a 2003 slate Ford Thunderbird



Best Bicycle—Breanne Sledge from Seward with a 1956 Schwinn Black Phantom



Best Use of the Science Fiction Theme—Chris Blankenship from Anchorage with a "Minimum Overdrive" VW Thing

Trophies

Best Motorcycle—Eddy Shittenhelm from Seward with a 2009 gold Polaris Sportsman four wheeler



Best Import—Ned Entwisle from Wasilla with a 1929 grey Mercedes-Benz Gazelle

Best Corvette—Mark Smith from Anchorage with a 2003 burgundy 50th Anniversary Corvette



Best Ford—Tim Reed from Soldotna with a 1969 red Mustang Mach One



Best Mopar—Richard Cartkraf from Soldotna with a 1972 black Dodge Dart Swinger

Best Chevy or GM—John Egan from Big Lake with a 1967 black Pontiac GTO



Best Lowrider—Mike Morena from Anchorage with a 1954 grey Chevy Bel Air



Best Truck—Eddy Shittenhelm from Seward with a 1977 plum crazy purple Chevy Stepside

Kelly's Choice—Skip White from Kenai with a 1971 brown Buick Skylark



Eddy's Choice—David Nichols from Soldotna with a 1956 black Chevy Bel Air

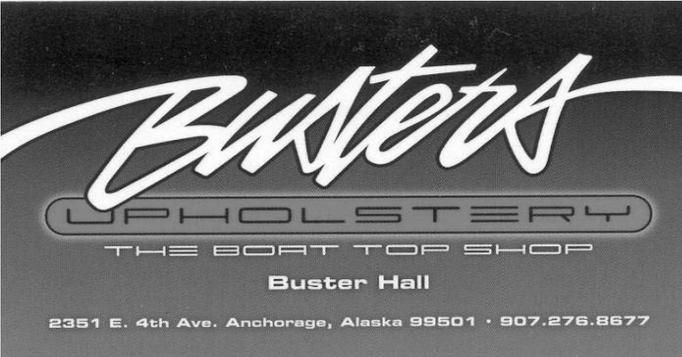


Eddy presents Bill and Susan Holm from Anchorage with the trophy for the epitome of excellence, Best in Show, for their 1972 Blue Dodge Charger



Advertising Policy The same ad (except business cards) running multiple issues receives a 10% discount per month. No charge for MSSRA events, *Swap Shop* automotive related classified ads from individuals, non MSSRA events.

Full page \$100 per issue / Half page \$50 per issue
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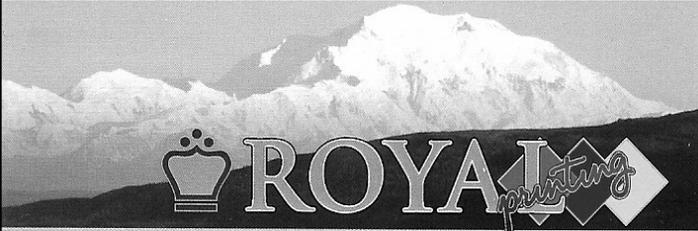
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Electronic Newsletter Delivery is here! Reply to: info@Midnight-SunSRA.org and ask to sign up now!

If there is a red mark on your mailing label, This is your last newsletter