

DAKOTA CRUISERS



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

May 2018

“SHIFT’N GEARS FOR OVER 20 YEARS”



So, this month I was given the opportunity to write the President's message. When trying to figure out what to write about, I figured the best starting point is to share a little about myself, as I am a relative newcomer to the club as a member and even more so as a part of the executive council.

As a kid, I got my love of cars from my dad. My first memory of a car is riding in my dad's 1978 Trans Am, when I was 4 years old and seeing it on Smoky and the Bandit. Those memories are what make that one of my favorite cars of all time. Both my parents were in the Army, and in 1981, a decision was made to have me and my sister move to Beaumont, TX to live with my great-grandparents rather than move around all the time. During those next 11 years, I didn't get the opportunity to grow up around cars but watching shows like Dukes of Hazzard and Knight Rider (another reason why I love Trans Am's) really solidified that I would have my own fast cars when I grew up.

After joining the Air Force, I bought my first vehicle, a 1989 Suzuki Sidekick (a far cry from a fast car). But, as you realize when you grow up, you have to make decisions out of necessity instead of desire. That still doesn't mean I left it alone. That was my first time learning how to work on a vehicle and modify a vehicle. After a few years and building a family, I bought my first new car, a 1999 Ford Escort ZX2. Again, not what you think of when it comes to having a fast car, but when you make 400 bucks every two weeks and have to support a family at 22 years old, you take what you can get. That car is really what got me pumped about working on cars, though. I put a ton of time, money, and sweat turning it into a great performer and got a lot of respect for it as well. I still have that car to this day.

Now that I'm much older and wiser today, I still have that same drive and passion. Because of my experiences, I have found that I am much more open to the different auto hobby genres and while I may not fancy all of them, I still respect and appreciate that they are keeping the hobby alive. That is why I was excited about being a part of the Cruisers; my goal is to help bring in a new generation of people pumped about cars. And as the cruising season has officially begun, I look forward to seeing your cars back coming out and what you all have been working on over the winter.

Happy Cruising!

Detrick

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Please pay patronage to our supporters.

Beauty is how you feel inside and it reflects in your eyes. It is not

Something physical. Sophia Lauren



40 rooms have been set aside at the Sleep Inn in Minot for the Season Finale—September 14 & 15. Price will be \$69.95 Per night with shuttle service for the guests to The Vegas for the event. Room block must be reserved by Sept 1 for this price...30 rooms at The Grand and 25 at The Hampton. Rate for our guests at The Grand are \$72.00 and The Hampton are \$85.00. Both offer shuttle services to The Vegas as needed.

Minot Ribfest is June 15,16, and 17th Father's Day Weekend

Friday 5-7pm Soul Shine

7:30-9pm Front Fender (**classic car display**)

Saturday 5-7pm TBD

7:30-9 pm Tribute Band Doobie Brothers and Santana

Sunday 11am Pursuit Church

7pm World of Outlaws

Additional activities:

Bounce Houses

Escape Room

4 Professional Ribbers

2 additional food booths

1 Corn hole Tournament

2 *Go Carts*

3 *Basketball hoop Shooting*

The Kissel Car Motor Company

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kissel_Motor_Car_Company ; kisselsandclashsiccars.com

The Kissel Motor Car Company was an American automobile and truck manufacturing company founded by Louis Kissel and his sons, George and William, on June 5, 1906 in Hartford, Wisconsin. The company custom built high-quality automobiles, hearses, fire trucks, taxicabs, and trucks from their plant at 123 Kissel Avenue, Hartford. Kissel manufactured trucks of 3/4, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 tons, and maintained a sales office at 2515 Michigan Avenue in Chicago, Illinois in early 1913.

In 1915 the company (542 Kissel Ave.) advertised in the National Lumberman the new models that included a 1000 lb. and 6 ton replaced the 5 ton.

During World War I the company produced trucks for the US military as well as the allies. In June 1915 Kissel shipped 30 ambulances and 50 heavy service trucks to the Kingdom of Serbia. By 1918 Kissel was producing the Standard B "Liberty" Truck for the military Kissel prospered after the war but with stiff competition and the Great Depression, mounting losses, and an attempted hostile take-over by New Era Motors' president Archie Andrews forced Kissel to file for receivership protection in November, 1930.

Conrad Kissel (b.1812, d. 1872) emigrated from Prussia to Addison in Washington County, Wisconsin in 1857. His son, Ludwig "Louis" Kissel, moved to Hartford, Wisconsin, in 1883 and in 1890, in a partnership with his four sons Adolph P., Otto P., William L. and George A., opened Kissel Hardware Store the Hartford Plow Company that manufactured and distributed farm machinery, Kissel Manufacturing Company, and the Hartford Electric Company. They distributed engines for various manufacturers (Through Kissel Manufacturing Company) and developed their own gasoline engines including out board boat motors. The partnership was also involved in home building and sales through, a stone quarry, sand pit, and facilities for milling their own finished lumber in 1906 Otto formed the First National Bank of Hartford as a principal shareholder and became Vice-President. In 1925 Otto was elected president and held that position until retiring in January 1933.

In 1906 the Kissel Motor Car Company was incorporated by Louis, his four sons, and US District Attorney H. K. Butterfield. The company began production in 1907 and lasted until 1931.

Advertised as "KisselKar," of the 35,000 automobiles the company produced, only 150 are known to exist today. The Wisconsin Automotive Museum of Hartford has several of these remaining cars on display. The most famous car was one the company donated to Hollywood actress Anita King for her transcontinental trip in 1915 that marked the first-ever such trip by a female driving alone. The most popular Kissel model was the 1919 thru 1927 Speedster, nicknamed the Gold Bug. The two passenger (sometimes four-passenger) Gold Bug was owned by famous personalities of the time such as actor Fatty Arbuckle and aviator Amelia Earhart. Beginning in 1927, Kissel also produced the sporty White Eagle Speedster.

Gold Bug

1921 Kissel Gold Bug

The car Kissel referred to as a "speedster" was widely known as the Gold Bug. The car was popular with many other celebrities including Amelia Earhart, Bebe Daniels, Jack Dempsey, Ralph DePalma, Eddie Duchin, Douglas Fairbanks, Greta Garbo, Gladys George, Ruby Keeler, William S. Hart, Al Jolson, Mabel Normand, Mary Pickford, and Rudy Vallee. A 1923 Gold Bug (model 6-45), one of four survivors from that model and year, was owned by Andrew Kissel and William Ruger. The 1927 Kissel Gold Bug Coupe Roadster was used in the movie "The Eddy Duchin Story" in 1956.



Kissel used Mercury as its logo. In the late 1930s, Henry Ford requested use of the logo for a new marque the Ford Motor Company was planning to introduce, and permission was granted.



Ron Hausmann's 1923 Kissel Model 6-45 Gold Bug Speedster is an original, fully restored example of the fine old-world craftsmanship which the Kissel Motor Car company of Hartford, Wisconsin put into its beautiful, rare Wisconsin vehicles.

This 1923 Gold Bug is one of 3 complete Model 6-45 Speedsters which survive. Rakish in its correct Kissel Chrome yellow, it was sold originally in Hollywood, California, and is equipped with the Kissel "Hollywood Option" package of nicked bar bumpers, exhaust cutout, and E & J Headlamps. It also has the signature Kissel "outrigger seats" which Kissel used in its first 4 years of Speedsters. (Imagine going 70 miles an hour on a gravel road, sitting in one of these!)

This actual Kissel Gold Bug was selected and pictured by Dennis Adler and Comedian Jay Leno's book "The Art of the Automobile – The 100 Greatest Cars"! This is the actual car as pictured!

It was once owned by Firearms tycoon William Ruger Sr. (Ruger Firearms) who had it restored and drove it one time before his death. The car was later acquired by murdered New York criminal Andrew Kissel ("milkshake murder" family fame) who thankfully was no relation to the Kissel Car family. Hausmann acquired it after Kissel's murder after the Feds seized Kissel's assets.

Besides being selected as one of the 100 most beautiful cars ever produced, a list of this car's recent honors includes a "First Place" at the 2011 Milwaukee Masterpiece Concours, participation in the "Meadowbrook Concours de' Elegance" in 2007, Receiving the top "Spirit of Concours" Trophy at the Willistead Canadian National Concours in 2009, First Place awards at the Marysville AACA meets in 2009 and 2010, and one of the top Class Awards in the annual 2010 Henry Ford Antique Car Festival.

This car sports a freshly overhauled "Kissel Custom 6 Engine", cast in Hartford Wisconsin in 1922, and will go 70 miles an hour if you are crazy enough to take it up to speed. It is a breathtakingly beautiful, home grown "American Classic".

In 1923, Kissel changed from the use of its big Model 6-45 engine to the slightly smaller 6-55 engine, with better forced bearing oil systems. While most parts interchange, the Model 6-55 6-cylinder engine proved to be very dependable and was continued to be used until 1928.



This car is one of 2 remaining 1923 Kissel Model 6-55 Brougham Opera Sedans which have survived. The other remaining 1923 Model 6-55 Sedan is housed in the Wisconsin Automotive Museum in Hartford, Wisconsin. A complete concours level restoration of this vehicle is underway in 2011 and is expected to be complete in 2012. This original vehicle with low mileage was located in Ft. Meyers, Florida in 2010 and had been in dry storage since 1976. While the original car was mechanically and internally complete, the superstructure wood was deteriorated and housed no less than 30 hornet's nests. The car was disassembled completely and all roof

woodwork and windows rebuilt. All new pistons and connecting rods were installed in newly overhauled Kissel 6-55 engine.

May 2018

May 2	Meeting at Vegas Motel-7:30 p.m. - Board Meeting
May 4	Noon luncheon at Mi Mexico
May 4	Moose Club Show 5:00 p.m.
May 9	Wednesday night cruise to Club House - steak fry - leave Hardees at 6:30 p.m.
May 11	Noon Luncheon at Sammy's Pizza
May 12	BLT Day at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch , Minot - car show is from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
May 12	85th Annual Band Day , Williston, ND
May 16	Wednesday night cruise TBA - leave Hardees at 6:30 p.m.
May 18	Noon Luncheon at Bones
May 23	Wednesday night cruise to Somerset Court - leave Hardees at 6:30 p.m.
May 25	Noon Luncheon at Hacienda
May 26	Home of Economy Show - more info to come
May 30	Wednesday night cruise to Pioneer Bar in Velva - leave Hardees at 6:30 p.m.

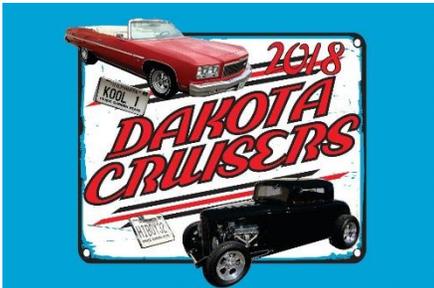
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**Next General Meetings
at the Vegas:
May 2 & June 6, 2018**

