

Car and bike show celebrates 10th anniversary

On Saturday, May 8, the streets around Sawhill Park, downtown St. Francis, and some of the adjoining streets will be lined with classic vehicles. This year is special as the Cheyenne County Cruisers will be celebrating their 10th year anniversary at the Saturday In The Park Car and Bike Show.

Ten years ago in 2000, a few local people who had a love for the classic vehicles decided to see if there was any interest in organizing a club.

"We picked a Saturday for a get together and 33 vehicles came to the show," said Scott Schultz, one of the organizers.

All of the vehicles were local except for two that owners brought from other towns.

In 2001, the first annual Saturday In The Park Car Show was held. With a zero balance in the bank account, three club members stepped forward and paid for the dash plaques and trophies for the show.

There were 69 entries that year.

"Before 8 a.m., we could hear the rumble of the cars coming down College Street," Mr. Schultz said.

When they turned the corner onto Washington Street, Carol Ross, member, yelled, "They're coming to our party!"

The largest show had 169 vehicles participating. Five blocks were filled with classic cars, British cars, trucks, pickups, street rods, antique vehicles, motorcycles, a bicycle and even a boat.

Members start planning the next year's show at least six months ahead of time.

"The members work hard at putting the show together," Mr. Schultz said.

Membership has grown from

about 10 members to 28 members this year.

The show is held rain or shine. In the 10 years, there have been eight years of good weather. One year, it was cold and drizzled rain all day and the other year, it just plain rained all day. However, 67 vehicles still came to the show.

Today, the show has become a community event. Vendors come to the park and other locations in town to sell their goods. Entries come from as far away as Cedar Bluffs, Neb., and Rocky Ford, Colo. There has also been a participant from Collierville, Tenn.

"We always receive positive comments from the people who come to St. Francis," Mr. Schultz said. "They talk about how clean the town is and how beautiful the park is. They also enjoy the friendly people who live here."

As a club, members have worked hard to give back to the community. Some of the things done over the last 10 years are: 22 scholarships have been given to graduating seniors; they helped purchase the Chamber of Commerce's tent and gave money to the Bird City tornado victims several years ago. Donations were given to the band shell renovation project, helped the local VFW buy a new flag pole and contributed to the city of St. Francis Flag Fund. A donation was also given to a person traveling for cancer treatments. Other donations have been made which vary from year to year.

During the year

During the year, the club members get together for a potluck, go on cruises and travel together to other car shows. New members are always welcome, Mr. Schultz said.

Dues are \$10 a year per family.

"You don't even have to have



ANNUAL CAR SHOW— Members of the Cheyenne County Cruisers gather in the park to get ready for the 2010 Car Show in the Park.

Herald photos courtesy of Kent Kechter

a classic vehicle or motorcycle to join," he said, "just a love for them!"

"We live in a very generous community. Without the support of the business community from St. Francis, Bird City, Goodland and Burlington, our show would not be as successful."

This year's show

Everyone is encouraged to come

to the park and enjoy the show. They can vote for their favorite vehicle. The one with the most votes will be awarded the People's Choice Trophy.

This year, there will also be a Kid's Choice Trophy presented. Anyone 15 and younger can vote for their favorite entry.

There will be vendors in the park

serving breakfast and lunch. The senior citizens will be serving breakfast from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the senior citizens center on the west end of Washington St.

Other vendors will have a dessert bar, Monty's Smoked Jerky, Mary Kay Products, Scentsy Candles, hand-embroidery linens, the Shriners' Wagon, United Methodist Thrift Store, the Mountain Man candy and popcorn and a huge garage sale on South Benton street.

"This year, we are expecting our best turnout yet," Mr. Schultz said.

There are new entries that have

never been to the show before and members are hoping more of the local vehicles will turn out for the big celebration.

Any entry to the show will be eligible to win a 1950s restored 505 Wayne gas pump.

Some of the activities of the day will include the kids pedal tractor pull. The Kansas Highway Patrol will also have a drunk driving simulator that people can participate in.

"Be sure to come to the park and enjoy the activities," Mr. Schultz said. "Talk to the people about their vehicles — there is always a story to go with each one!"



CLASSIC CARS line the street on Sunday and owners are getting ready for the May 8 show.

St. Francis Public Library

BOOK SALE

Thursday, April 22th
thru Wednesday May 26th

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for **Tiffany Anderson**
Bride-elect of Robert W. Ochsner

Saturday, May 1
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Bob & Tiffany are registered at: Schultz's Ltd., Owens True-value, bedbathandbeyond.com and jcpenny.com

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Thurs., May 20
Atwood (a.m.) • 626-3211
Colby (p.m.)
CSMC, 175 S. Range
462-3332
CMC, 100 E. College Dr.
462-7511
Fri., May 21
CSMC at 9 a.m.

Wedding Registry

Meghan Priest & Tanner Kinen
Shower, May 1
Wedding, June 5

Tiffany Anderson & Robert Ochsner
Wedding, May 22

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Front Porch Sale

Saturday, May 8, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
(Mother's Day & Car Show Weekend)

We'll feature fresh fruits and veggies, potted flowers, hanging baskets, bake sale (by Kathy Vandike and Barb Holzwarth) and more. We'll also introduce our new line of Colorado Country Kitchen canned items (over 35 products) and Colorado Cider from Loveland.

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