

CRUZ NEWS

DECEMBER 2025

The Official Newsletter of the
Southern Cruzers



**I THINK
SANTA NEEDS
A GPS!**



Cruzer Merchandise

License Plate Plaques - \$30.00

Ron Willson 952-892-6081

Club Window Stickers

Jim Neher 952-435-3180

2025 Officers

Duane Barclay	President	952-894-3165
Steve Brehm	V. President	952-457-1333
Rose Barclay	Secretary	952-894-3165
Chell & Karen Craigie	Treasurer	952-447-4919
Jim Neher	Membership	952-435-3180

CRUZ NEWS INFO

The Cruz News is published monthly by the Southern Cruzers Car Club of Minnesota for the distribution to its members. The views expressed are those of the editor & members supplying articles & do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Southern Cruzers Car Club as a whole. **Deadline:** The Cruz News is usually published on the website during the last week of the month for the next month. Items to be published should be received no later than the 20th of the month. Photographs may be color or black and white and must be accompanied with a description and photographer's name. Every effort will be made to return submitted photos. Photos and/or articles can be e-mailed. Note: not all articles and pictures may be used due to space limitations.

SHOW OFF YOUR CAR HOW?

If you contribute an article that is used, a small picture of your car may be published with it. If your car is not on the website, then I don't have a picture of it. (Pics will be used if room allows.)

Mail articles and photos to:

Duane Barclay
c/o Southern Cruzers
13018 Girard Ave. So.
Burnsville, MN 55337

MEETING INFO

***2025 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE ***

January 2	July 10
February 13	August 14
March (No meeting)	September 11
April 10	October 9
May 1	November 13
June 12	December (No meeting)



**COVER IMAGE TAKEN FROM
THE EDITOR'S COLLECTION**

Southern Cruzers platinum "Summer Spectacular" sponsor



*** CHECK OUT THE CRUZERS' WEBSITES ***

There is an Application Form on the MAIN website. If someone wants to join, they can just print it, fill it out, & mail it in with their check.

Main site: www.SouthernCruzers.com

Event Site: www.TheSummerSpectacular.com

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

LADIES' LUNCH OUT: Thurs., Dec. 4, 11:30 a.m. at the Apple Valley Legion Post, 14521 Grenada Drive. If you have questions, contact Karen Keenan @ 952-758-9754.

SOUTHERN CRUZERS CHRISTMAS PARTY: Friday, December 5 (See the article below for details.)

CLUB MEETING: Because of the holidays, there is no meeting in December. See you Thursday, January 8, 2026, 7 p.m. at the Apple Valley Legion Post, 14521 Grenada Drive.

UPCOMING CLUB MINI-SHOWS

I'm sad to report that the ship has sailed for the 2025 mini-show season.

OTHER SHOWS AND EVENTS

(Watch this area next spring. It will fill up fast!)

CRUISE NIGHTS

I'm also sad to report that the ship has sailed on this event as well!

**SOUTHERN CRUZER
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Friday, December 5, 2025 at the Apple Valley American Legion
Social hour begins 4:00; Club video introduced at 5:00; Buffet dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Cash bar with free pop provided

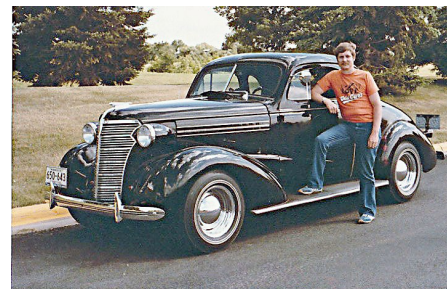
Bring an unwrapped white elephant gift.

For reservations bring \$15.00 per person to the November meeting or mail a non-refundable check (made to Southern Cruzers) by December 1st to:

**Karen Keenan
24275 East Cedar Lake Drive
New Prague, MN 56071**



DUANE'S WORLD



First of all, I hope I didn't offend anyone with my selection for the cover of this issue. The Santa & reindeer image has been in my collection for years. I think I may have used it before in the Cruz News. In years to come, if I'm still doing this, I may use it again. It hits my warped funny bone!

As I sit here composing this article, it is one week away from Thanksgiving. Our Linden tree in the back has just 347 leaves left to fall, and I can start the final cleanup. Also, at this very moment, a worker is installing a Leaf Filter system on our gutters, after Rose made the mandate that because of my age, I will no longer be allowed on the roof or on a ladder cleaning the gutters! At our last visit to Branson for Veteran's week, we were at the Veteran's Village looking over all the displays, which included a demo of the Leaf Filter system. What the salesperson said and what we saw made sense. After comparing other companies and their claims, we made the decision to go with the company we found in Branson. We'll let you know how this all works out.

I realize you may get tired of me talking about our annual trip to Branson every year, but it is a very pleasurable experience hanging out with all the other gray or white haired Vets that swarm there for the week. One of the white haired guys is my friend Dave from the U.P. who I have known for 75 years! Of course, we took in quite a few shows and went to our usual spots to heavily indulge in the food experience. If you are ever interested in a trip to Branson, talk to us first. We are experts on the place and know all the back ways to avoid traffic.

By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will be a pleasant memory. Our daughter & family are scheduled to be here from California, and we are very much looking forward to it. For a time while our country was shut down, it was iffy if they could make it or not, because of the airlines' situation. But, it looks as it will be just fine for them to get here. Just a couple short weeks after that will find us flying out to the coast to spend Christmas with them. For the first time in our married life, we don't have plans to put up a tree or decorate the exterior of our house with lights. And you know what? I think the change will be sort of nice. Plus, it keeps me off that ladder!

There is still time to sign up for the Christmas party, and it would be great to see you there. Otherwise, we will see you out there, somewhere. (Now where did I put my favorite Christmas party tie?)

RESULTS OF THE MEETING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

At our annual meeting in October, the positions of Membership Coordinator, Vice President, Secretary, and President were filled by a white ballot vote. Since there was more than one person running for Treasurer, nominations and a paper ballot vote were taken at the meeting in November.

Two members were nominated and a paper ballot handed out to each member. Anne Thorsen was elected the new Southern Cruzer Treasurer. We know she will do a fine job for the Club!

Also, the attending members decided to give \$6000 to charities this year. A discussion was held and a motion was made and passed that since we are a Car Club, it would be nice to give all \$6,000 to the auto programs at Dakota County Technical College to support the education of the auto technicians enrolled at DCTC. (With all the new technology, we can't call them mechanics anymore.)

An idea was presented that because of our generous offering to DCTC, why couldn't we come up with a banner advertising our Club to be hung in the auto section of the school. Several ideas were brought up, and it was decided to see if that would be fine with the school, and what size banner could be used. More to come on this issue.

**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – Thursday, November 13, 2025 - Submitted by Rose Barclay**

President: Duane Barclay called the membership meeting of the Southern Cruzers to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Pat Gansmoe and seconded by Karen Keenan to accept the minutes of the October 9, 2025, meeting as printed in the November Cruz News. The motion passed.

Vice President's Report: Steve Brehm reported that he sent out 2 hard copies of the last Cruz News.

Treasurer's Report: Chell Craigie read the Treasurer's report. Ray Valdovinos made a motion to approve the report, and it was seconded by Jerry Forness. The motion passed. A call for bills was made. None were submitted. New income was given to Chell: from Karen Keenan for Christmas party reservations; from Jim Neher for membership renewals.

Membership Chairperson: Jim Neher reported Club membership is 80 (136 total). He had up to date Club rosters.

Activities: None reported

Events: Karen Keenan reported that the next Ladies Get Together is Thursday, December 4, at 11:30 a.m. at the Apple Valley American Legion. January's Get Together will be canceled because it falls on New Year's Day.

Announcements: Duane Barclay reminded members that Club plaques are available from Ron Willson for \$30. Jerry Forness reported that the Club Facebook page has had 1000+ followers, with 260 views in one day. Duane Barclay read a thank you note from Judy Kemper. Judy Kemper reported that Sue Justen was hospitalized, and Renae Borowski had a cornea transplant.

Old Business: (1) Mark Peterson reported that web site visits are down. (2) Bill Larson made a motion that the Southern Cruzers Car Club donate \$6000 to charity. Jerry Forness seconded the motion, and it passed. There was discussion on contributing to one charity or several. Karen Craigie made a motion to give the \$6000 to the automotive department at DCTC. Rick Delmonico seconded the motion, and it passed. There was discussion about having the DCTC automotive department display a Southern Cruiser banner. It would not only serve as identifying the Club as a charitable sponsor but also encourage younger people to be active in the automotive industry.

New Business: (1) Ray Valdovinos has offered to take individual portrait photos at the Christmas party. He will share them with the individuals and the Cruz News. (2) By ballot, Anne Thoreson was elected the new Southern Cruzers Treasurer for 2026-2027.

TSS Business: Ray Valdovinos reported that Sunday, August 23, 2026, is the date for next year's TSS.

The next meeting will be at the Apple Valley American Legion Post 1776, on Thursday, January 8, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. Jerry Forness made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Keith Biers, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.



SOUTHERN CRUZERS CURRENTLY IN THE HOSPITAL, OR CONVALESCING AT HOME



Sue Justin was recently hospitalized. Renae Borowski is recovering from eye surgery.

There may be members we don't know of who have been hospitalized or ill. We wish them a speedy recovery.

Judy Kemper is the club "Sunshine Lady." Please let her know of any member in the hospital, or suffering the loss of an immediate family member. Judy's phone number is: 952-322-5819.



BIRTHDAYS



December 2, Karen Acevedo
 December 2, Diane Swanson
 December 5, Larry Aus
 December 6, Laurie Sanders
 December 11, Susan Sieleni
 December 12, Patricia Baumann
 December 14, Jim Olson
 December 17, Jerry Larsen
 December 17, Anne Thoresen
 December 18, Jan Guerber

December 22, Jan Pedersen

December 24, Larry Bennett

December 26, Carol Korzan

December 27, Mark Peterson



ANNIVERSARIES



Keith & Susan Biers, December 9, 1972, 53 years

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL ON
YOUR SPECIAL DAY!**

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

No new members for this month

There are 80 (136) paid members so far this year.

Just a reminder that Jim Neher has up to date membership rosters and Car Club window stickers.

LADIES' LUNCH OUT, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025



On Thursday, November 6, the ladies were back at the Legion Club for their monthly gathering. The next Ladies' Lunch Out will be Thursday, December 4, 11:30 a.m., at the Legion Club in Apple Valley. If you are interested in joining this fun group and have any questions about this event, contact: Karen Keenan @ 952-758-9754. They would love to have you!

Photo submitted by Fran Stade



CHECK OUT APPLE AUTO'S WEBSITE TO FIND THE LATEST SPECIALS, OR ACCESS THEIR SITE FROM THE SOUTHERN CRUZER WEBSITE. REMEMBER, IF YOU BUY A CAR, TIRES, PARTS, OR HAVE SERVICING DONE, DON'T FORGET TO TELL THEM YOU ARE A SOUTHERN CRUZER.



Cruzer Calendar, December, 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 LADIES' LUNCH OUT (See p.3 for info.)	5 CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY (See page 3 for de- tails)	6
7	8	9 MSRA BOARD MEETING 7 p.m. Hampton Inn I-694 & Lexington Shoreview, MN	10	11 NO MEETING IN DECEMBER Happy Holidays!	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 WINTER BEGINS	22	23 BAKE A BATCH OF COOKIES FOR SANTA	24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS HO, HO, HO!	26	27
28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE (Be careful out there if you are partying)			

CLUB EVENTS

CONTACT PEOPLE

Karen Keenan (Ladies' Night Out) 952-758-9754
 Judy Kemper (Sunshine Lady) 952-322-5819
 Ron Willson (Savage Culver's information) 952-892-6081

OTHER EVENTS

CRUISE NIGHTS