

# CRUZ NEWS

## JANUARY 2026

The Official Newsletter of the  
**Southern Cruzers**



**HEY DUDE  
DRIVING ON  
FRESH SNOW IS  
OKAY...  
JUST MAKE SURE  
YOU KEEP YOUR  
NICE '55 OUT OF  
THE SALT!**



### Cruzer Merchandise

**License Plate Plaques - \$30.00**

Ron Willson 952-892-6081

**Club Window Stickers**

Jim Neher 952-435-3180

### 2026 Officers

Duane Barclay	President	952-894-3165
Steve Brehm	V. President	952-457-1333
Rose Barclay	Secretary	952-894-3165
Anne Thoresen	Treasurer	612-619-5700
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

### \*\*\*2026 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE \*\*\*

January 8	July 9
February 12	August 13
<b>March (No meeting)</b>	September 10
April 9	October 8
May 14	November 12
June 11	<b>December (No meeting)</b>



**COVER IMAGE TAKEN  
FROM THE INTERNET**

**Southern Cruzers platinum "Summer Spectacular" sponsor**



# Apple Autos

**It's different here.**

### \*\*\* 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](http://www.SouthernCruzers.com)

Event Site: [www.TheSummerSpectacular.com](http://www.TheSummerSpectacular.com)

## UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

**LADIES' LUNCH OUT:** Because of the holiday, Ladies Lunch out is cancelled for January. If you have questions, contact Karen Keenan @ 952-758-9754.

**CLUB MEETING:** 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

**TOPPERS CAR SHOW:** Feb. 13 - 15, Sioux Falls Convention Center, Sioux Falls, SD, Shane @ 721-729-5712

**O'REILLY AUTO PARTS CAR SHOW:** Feb. 21 - 22, Monticello Berndes Center, Monticello, IA, 319-465-5119

**TOPPERS CAR SHOW:** Mar. 28 - 29, Veterans Arena, West Fargo, ND, Keven @ 701-367-7762

**BACK TO THE 50'S WEEKEND:** June 19 - 21, MN State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, MN

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Just a reminder: This listing is in no way a complete one. I just list the events closer to home that may be of interest to our readers, or are favorites with our members. For a more comprehensive list, go to Events with Cars.com, or find the latest issue of the MSRA Linechaser.

## CRUISE NIGHTS

This section should be filling up in a couple of months!

## RAY VALDOVINOS IS "CRUZER OF THE YEAR!"

At the Club Christmas party, President Duane Barclay presented Ray Valdovinos with the "Cruzer of the Year Award." Historically, the C.O.Y. award is given to a member who has shown a lot of interest in our Club and has participated in a lot of Club activities over the season.

Ray fits that image to a "T!" I don't think there were many Club mini shows this past summer that Ray missed with his beautiful Pontiac Grand Prix. Ray is also a regular at our Wednesday breakfast group. We also found out that Ray is a camera aficionado, and I have relied on Ray to take some of the photo pressure off of me and my trusty Kodak Box Brownie camera. **Editor's Note:** When you wander around car events with a Box Brownie, you can't be considered an aficionado, just a "Camera Relic!" Ray did a great job taking portraits of everyone at the Christmas party and brought along a lot of photo gear and backdrops to set up and take down. Thank you, Ray, for being an asset to our Club!

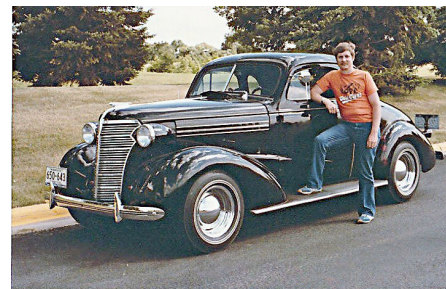


Photo by Rose Barclay





## DUANE'S WORLD



Where did the time go? Here it is, the end of December and 2025, and there are still items on my to-do list that I haven't got done yet. As I look back on my history, that condition is nothing new. I don't know about you, but I think winter came a little too early this year, leaving me with a bunch of chores undone.

Fast forward a week or so, and I am doing this article from the dining room of our family in Castro Valley, CA. Last Monday when we left Minnesota, a lot of our snow had left during the warm weather, and as you can guess, winter in this area is pretty much an unknown thing. As a matter of fact, on Christmas Eve, we went to the backyard to pick some oranges that had just ripened and squeezed them for orange juice. There is also a lemon tree in the backyard that is laden with fruit. Another thing about this area is that you see old cars & trucks sitting on



the street. Just a couple of blocks from here sits a nice '49 or so Chevy panel truck that has been street rodded. Just down the street from that is a '65 or so Chevy pickup that also looks very nice. It has been raining quite a bit here, and that doesn't seem to bother the owners of these fine vehicles to leave them out in the weather. A different lifestyle for sure!

Now that Christmas 2025 is in the record books, we hope you had a pleasant day. It was an exciting day for our about to be 4 year old granddaughter who



had to show us everything that Santa had left for her as soon as we got in the door. Another rare occurrence happened to us on Christmas Day. As we were having breakfast in the hotel dining area, a gentleman came in and announced that there was a beautiful rainbow to be seen. We all ran out to see it, and I got a pretty good

photo of it on my phone. I wonder if that was some kind of an omen to see a rainbow on Christmas Day.

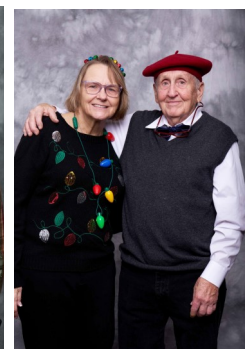
December 29 will be another big day for us as our granddaughter celebrates her 4th birthday! Yesterday, Saturday the 27th, we made a trip into San Francisco and the Fisherman's Wharf area. From Oakland we took the ferry over to Frisco which is a lot easier than trying to drive into the city. The last time we were at Fisherman's Wharf was 1982, and there were a whole lot more people there this time than years ago. Also, big on my list is to make a visit to the USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier Museum Ship in Alameda, CA. The Hornet was a sister ship to my ship, the Wasp, and it will be like old home week being aboard. Although I have never been on the Hornet before, I will not be lost as all Essex Class carriers were basically the same. Alameda is across the bay from San Francisco, and about a 30 minute drive from Castro Valley. I have been communicating with the Hornet folks and they have invited me to come on as a special guest and hang out with the ship docents sharing my memories and experiences. I'll let you know how that all turns out. Be careful out there on New Year's Eve, but I think a lot of us are pretty much the same as we'll be nodding off by 9 p.m. and pretty much oblivious that the New Year arrived. Happy New Year from the Cruz News crew, and we'll see you out there, somewhere! DB



## MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – No meeting for the month of December, see you in January!

### SOUTHERN CRUZER CHRISTMAS PARTY, DECEMBER 5, 2025

Good news! It snowed earlier in the day, but cleared up in time for a fun group of Cruzers to gather and party hearty. A number of attendees were dressed up in Christmas togs, but the award, once again has to go to Rick Delmonico for his colorful getup, even beating what he had on last year! I'm not sure where he got this one, Sesame Street or Mr. Rogers, but it was the hit of the party! As usual, Legion Club manager, Bob, and his crew did a fine job making sure no one went home hungry. Tim & Cheryl Gardner had a nice running video display of our summer activities for all to enjoy. A big thanks go out to the Cruiser ladies including: Karen Keenan, Fran Stade, & Rose Barclay who set this up. Also, thank you to our other members who helped set up the room, and for cleaning up when all was over! Thank you to Ray Valvodinos for setting up and taking portraits of everyone!



Photos by Ray Valvodinos, Jerry Baldwin, and the editor





### SOUTHERN CRUZERS CURRENTLY IN THE HOSPITAL, OR CONVALESCING AT HOME



Nothing reported to me at this time. hopefully we can start off the new year on a positive note! 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



January 1, Kati Mytty  
January 11, Cheryl Lyke  
January 15, Tom Roszak  
January 16, Keith Biers  
January 20, Karen Keenan  
January 24, Patti Brehm  
January 31, Tim Gardner  
January 31, Byron Nelson



### ANNIVERSARIES



Marvin & Jimmie Jansma, January 13, 1968, 58 years  
James & Carol Sexe, January 18, 1964, 62 years  
Mark & Patricia Baumann, January 19, 1980, 46 years  
Carl & Sandra Weiberg, January 31, 1981, 45 years

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

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Jeff & Aimee Dagen, Lakeville, MN, with a 1932 Ford 3 window coupe, and a 1965 Ford Mustang "A" code  
There are 81 (138) paid members so far this year.

### MEET YOUR NEW TREASURER



At our last meeting of the season in November, Anne Thoresen, was elected our new treasurer,

Anne is shown in this photo with her husband, Paul. We want to thank departing treasurers, Chell & Karen Craigie for their service to the Club!

Photo by  
Ray Valdovinos

### SANTA CAME EARLY TO PERKINS'



A week before Christmas, the Wednesday breakfast group had a card and took up a collection for our favorite waitress, Angie. Santa took time from his busy schedule to give her an early Christmas present.

Photo by Jerry Baldwin.



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, January, 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 PRACTICE WRITING 2026 IN YOUR CHECKBOOK	3 CALL DUANE TO SEE WHAT A CHECKBOOK IS. HE STILL USES ONE!
4	5	6 MSRA BOARD MEETING 7 p.m. Hampton Inn I-694 & Lexington Shoreview, MN	7	8 CLUB MEETING 7 p.m. Apple Valley Legion Post 1776	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	20	21	22	23	24 MSRA WINTER AWARDS BANQUET (SEE YOUR LINECHAS- ER FOR DETAILS)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### 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