

CrazyJerry's

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January 2021

- HIGH-OCTANE -

Edition - Feature



Serving the automotive community from:

Northern NY



-HIGH-OCTANE-

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*Brought to you from the
"Pump House" located in
sunny Colton, NY*



Enjoy the Ride!

~Crazy Jerry~

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This Editon's Bumper Music:

[Johnny Cash - One Piece At A Time](#)

From the album - One Piece At A Time - 1976

Setting the Stage: What is a Rat Rod?

What a great question! Ask a few different people and you might get a few different answers!

A basic description is something like this: Rat Rods are somewhat of a progression of the early Hot Rod and/or a later Street Rod. They typically share the old/traditional look of the Hot Rods, and can incorporate the non-original newer drivetrains like many Street Rods do (although neither is a requirement). The big distinction is that Rat Rods will generally wear some type of "patina" which might be worn/weathered paint (original or customized to a desired result), or other age-related finishes such as oxidation/rust (as ravaged by the elements or created by the builder). Here's a few quick comparisons of the Hot Rod/Street Rod look and the Rat Rod look... More about Rat Rods in the main article in this edition!



Sources:
Syracuse Nationals
Happy Days Car & Cycle Show - Massena, NY
Brasher Super-CruiseIn - Brasher Falls, NY
Seaway Festival Car Show - Ogdensburg, NY

- HIGH-OCTANE -
PRESENTS:

More RatRods!



HaPpY New Year and welcome back to another edition of everyone's favorite newsletter: High-Octane!

To bring in the new year with some fun, we're going to take a look at the Rat Rod category and find out why this genre continues to expand like there's no tomorrow!

Let's begin!



If one was to organize a car show on a grand scale, it might look like the Syracuse Nationals in Syracuse, NY.

And, if areas were setup for specific groups, and one was called the "Rat Rod Barn", you'd also find yourself at Syracuse Nationals. And this barn is where a sea of people are going to - it's crazy!

The Rat Rods generally rule the "anything goes" category. Wrought with endless combinations of sheet metal, drivetrains, and themes, they display and inspire the most creative assembled vessels that adorn the highways!

While it's possible to see an early inline flathead six cylinder under the hood (if it has one!), you shouldn't be at all surprised to see an LS swap, Cummins Turbo, or even a Hit-N-Miss as the engine of choice - no limits!

Transmissions and suspensions may be, or contain parts of, the originals that came with the vehicle. It's also possible to see a mix-n-match where a vintage International straight axle might have a disc brake conversion, and then slid into place under a 40's Chevy pickup, tied in with suspension bags and a compressor - powered by twin turbo LS & 6 speed transmission - wow!

Gone are the worries about rare hard-to-find numbers-matching this-n-that! And that expensive impossible to match paint - use whatever paint you want, or don't use any at all!

Did you just say paint isn't necessary? Yes! Some Rat Rods go full-naked bare metal, and some even sport a very appealing rust patina. The aged look is quite sought after and if done correctly become superb works-of-art!

Due to the unique nature of each and every Rat Rod build, it's very unlikely any two are the same, so you'll never meet yourself driving down the road.

Interiors are not immune in the world of the Rats. Seating can be conventional or full out custom which may or may not include any fabrics. Like the exterior panels, one may expect to see hand-built interior items that have been chopped, sectioned, channelled, bent and welded - and it all works in a wonderful symphony of pure, salt-of-the-earth craftsmanship unique to the builder.

Many of the Rat Rods that are out there were left for dead. The emergence of the Rat Rod has given many of them another lease at life and brought many a smile to the faces of those who marvel at their wildest features.

Rat Rods are here to stay and if society falls apart the Rat Rods of "Mad Max" might actually become a reality.

We have Rat Rods here in St, Lawrence County and when the weather breaks and we are allowed to get out and about, High-Octane's camera will find them. You know who you are, you can't get away, the reader's demand it!

High-Octane wishes everyone a safe and Happy New Year!
~CrazyJerry~





- RAT ROD FEATURES -
(THINGS TO LOOK FOR)

EXTERIOR
Rust Patina
Aged or Worn Appearing Paint
Vintage items

Evidence of:
Chopping
Channeling
Lowering
Sectioning

ENGINE
Any engine possible
Unique items like air cleaners



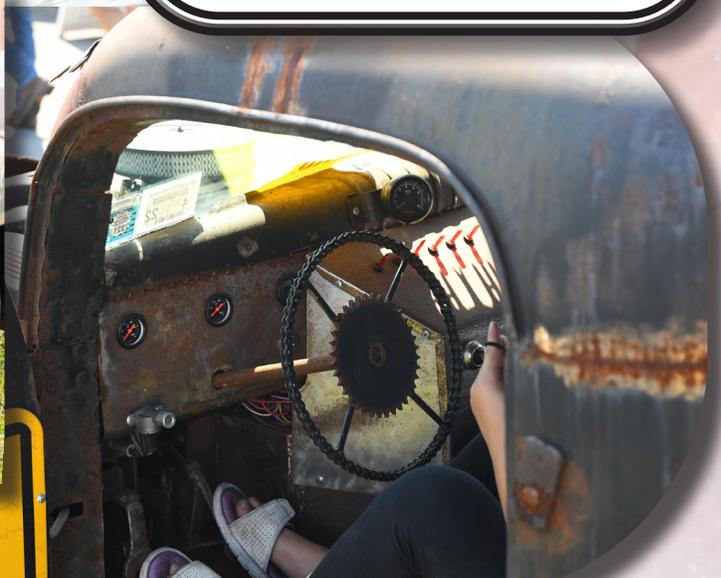
LEFT TO BE RECLAIMED BY THE ELEMENTS, SOME REFUSE TO DIE AND COME BACK AS RAT RODS!

AS SEEN IN THIS COLLECTION, THERE ARE FEW RULES OR LIMITS THAT MAKE UP THE RATS!

DON'T BE FOOLED INTO THINKING THAT THESE MACHINES AREN'T WORTHY OF THE TIME PUT INTO THEM. ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN AROUND TO EXPERIENCE A RAT ROD, WILL TELL YOU THAT THEY CAN BE A VERY-SERIOUS ROAD MACHINE!

BANG-FOR-THE-BUCK CAN BE ASTRONOMICAL ALONG WITH RESALE VALUE. A WELL PUT TOGETHER RAT ROD WILL INDEED FETCH A VERY HIGH SELLING PRICE!!

AS A SIDE-NOTE:
RAT'S EXTEND TO CAR, TRUCKS, BIKES, ETC!



2021 Calendar of Events

None!

The winter has set in and we're just trying to stay warm!

~SUPERCHARGED TRUCK SPOTTED IN PLATTSBURGH, NY~



~"DRAGONFLY" SEEN AT SYRACUSE NATIONALS 2018~



About High-Octane Magazine

Brought to you by CrazyJerry's off-grid "Pump-House" located in Colton, NY
(a small town nestled in St. Lawrence County)



THE "PUMP-HOUSE" IS HOME TO THE "[CHANGZUKI](#)" DIESEL MOTORCYCLE", WHITE "TRIMAGNUM", A VERY SLICK "[GO-ONE3](#) LITHIUM POWERED ROCKET TRIKE", "[BON APPETIT](#)", THREE OF FOUR KNOWN "[URBA CENTURIONS](#)", A "[SUPERCHARGED 1978 GL1000 GOLDWING](#)" (AUGUST 2020 [HIGH-OCTANE](#) FEATURE!), AND NOW, THE 1950 PLYMOUTH COUNTY HIGHWAY PATROL!



Editor's note:

High-Octane celebrates / highlights St. Lawrence County's Automobile & Motorcyclist community!

The newsletter is available online at:
<https://www.diesel-bike.com/High-Octane>
Enjoy the ride!

~ **CRAZYJERRY** ~



Facebook: CrazyJerry



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In the next issue of:

-HIGH-OCTANE-

**Who knows!
We're frozen and locked down but some-
thing will be pulled out of the archives!**

**-
Stay Tuned!**

**A friendly reminder to make sure your rides are
winterized and don't forget your battery(s)!**

email: high-octane@diesel-bike.com
Newsletter Archives:
<https://www.diesel-bike.com/High-Octane/>

Although Hi-Octane Newsletter is focusing locally within St Lawrence County, we offer the following huge resource for those outside of the area:

NorthEastWheelsEvents.com

[\(Click to visit website\)](#)

[NorthEastWheelsEvents - Facebook](#)

[\(Click to visit facebook page\)](#)

The above website and facebook page are continually updated with out-of-the-area show info, photos, and [exclusive youtube videos](#).

I had the privilege of personally meeting:

“Pam Hirschhorn, Proud Site Manager and Gearhead”
at the 2015 Green Grand Prix.

Pam is seen in the photo below (red jacket) and was a passenger in the Kubota Turbo Diesel MG Midget that is parked alongside Centurion. Pam covered that event and so much more! You wanna talk cars - be ready - she’s really, really, good, and a fantastic person too!

Love ya Pam!

~CrazyJerry~



-HIGH-OCTANE-



***High-Octane Applauds those who will rescue a piece of automotive history
and give it a renewed lease on life!***

Enjoy the ride!

CrazyJerry Editor/High-Octane

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