

MAY 1994

Volume 28, Number 5



Pat Ganahl shopped around Southern California for a new everyday driver, and here are some of the more affordable cars that were available.



Gray Baskerville shows how, with a little imagination, you can personalize your car's wheels for added detail.



Kirk White returned a pair of recordsetting dry lake racers to their original '50s condition for a historical look at how hot rodding started.

ROD & CUSTOM, MAY 1994, VOL. 28, No. 5 ROD & CUSTOM (ISSN 1053-2064) Copyright© 1994. Published monthly by Petersen Publishing Company, 6420 Wishine Bivd., Los Angeles, CA 90048, Phone (213) 782-2000. Sec-ond class postage paid at Los Angeles, CA 90052 and at additional mailing Offices. Subscription rates for 1 year (12 issues): U.S., APO, FPO, and U.S. Possessions \$21.94, Canada \$30.97 (price includes sufface mail postage to Canada and GST—Reg. #R1246838655); all other countres \$29.94, For sub-scription inquiries within the U.S. plase call 1-(600)-800-7637. For subscrip-tion inquiries outside the U.S. call: 1-(303)-447-9330. For a change of address, p.O. Box 54800, Boulder, CO 80322-4800. All rights reserved. No part of this book is purchased without written permission. Printed in the U.S. A. This book may be reproduced without written permission. Printed in the U.S. A. This trom varied sources for which there can be no warranty or responsibility by the enditores changes to Rod & Custom, P.O. Box 54800, Boulder, CO Box 54800, Boulder, S. P. Box 54800, Boulder State and P. Box States and P. Box Box States and P. Box States an from varied sources for which there can be no warrany or responsibility by the Publisher as to accuracy or completeness. **POSTMASTER:** Please send address changes to Rod & Custom, P.O. Box 54800, Boulder, CO 80322-4800. e send

FEATURES	
Lead East If you are looking for '50s-style fun, "It's A Party" will give you a look at New Jersey's biggest event.	26
Buying A '50s Car Do you want a '50s car? Pat Ganahl will show you how the dealing is done.	31
Affordable Custom Styling Ideas Thom Taylor and Steve Stanford provide some ideas for your next custom in our "Sketchpad" series.	42
Hot Rod Reunion "Smokersfest" will take you back to a time when racing was really fun for everyone.	56
Andy's Picnic This rod run, which never changes, was filled with nice folks and great cars.	69
RODS & CUSTOMS	
Attitude Adjustment Cruising in this '56 Mercury will put a smile on your face.	40
The Company Custom	42
Al Kopecky drives this award-winning '51 Merc custom every day, rain or sh Just A Dream Sam Wilczac wanted a '54 Chevy like the one he purchased brand new, and now he has one that's even better.	ine. 63
Willy World This '33 Willys Model 77 inspired Ida Automotive to begin manufacturing	66
	72
Kirk White returned two historic dry lakes roadsters to their original glory. Lil' Looker Here's a Model A coupe that looks like it rolled right out of the '50s.	87
A Pair Of Eights You can't help but like this '50s style Ot i	96
A raif Of Eights You can't help but like this '50s-style Olds 88 Torpedo Back Sedanette. A slammed and sexy '36 three-window that's right out of the '50s.	98
TECH/HOW-TO	1

TECH/HOW-TO

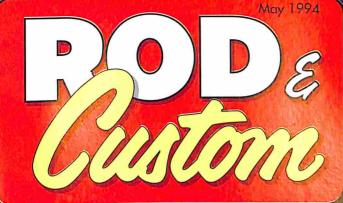
Personalizing Wheels "Color Wheel" shows you how to brighten up an overlooked area on your rod. 50 Solid Axle & Front Suspension Buyer's Guide In "Droppped Axle Basics" you will learn the proper component selection and installation for a nice-riding straight axle rod. 79 **Bitchin' Firewall Installation** "The Great Wall" shows how easy it is to install a Model A firewall. **g**() **Up** Front Rappin'/Our Readers Write 8 20 **Passing The Torch** Roddin' Around 100 Rod Shop

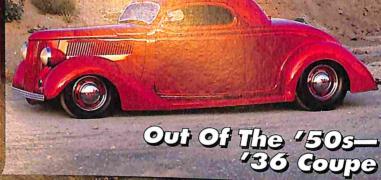
Bench Session 10 **Little Pages** 22

ON THE COVER: Peter Vincent snapped the photos of the awesome '36 Ford three-window in Deer Island. Oregon. Mark Ehlen photographed the blue '51 and red '56 Mercury in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Tara Baukus captured the red '54 Chevy in New Castle, Pennsylvania. The neat '50 Olds was shot by Jim McGowan in Camarillo, California

108

Solid Axle & Front Suspension Buyers' Guide

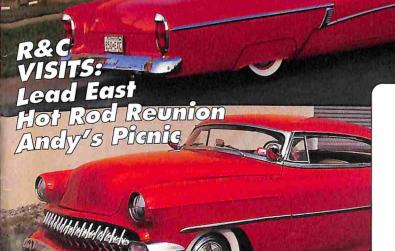






Affordable
Custom Styling
Ideas

HOW TO: • Bitchin' Firewall Installation • Personalizing Wheels



U.S. \$2.95 • CANADA \$3.75

#BXBBKFQ****** 5-DIGIT 55343 #SHR1417C099 6#490496 U8P53

Lilililililililililililililililili TOM SCHREINER 05RC 1417 CAMBRIDGE ST HDPKINS MN . 55343-1903