

SPECIAL SECTION!

STREET ROD PICKUPS

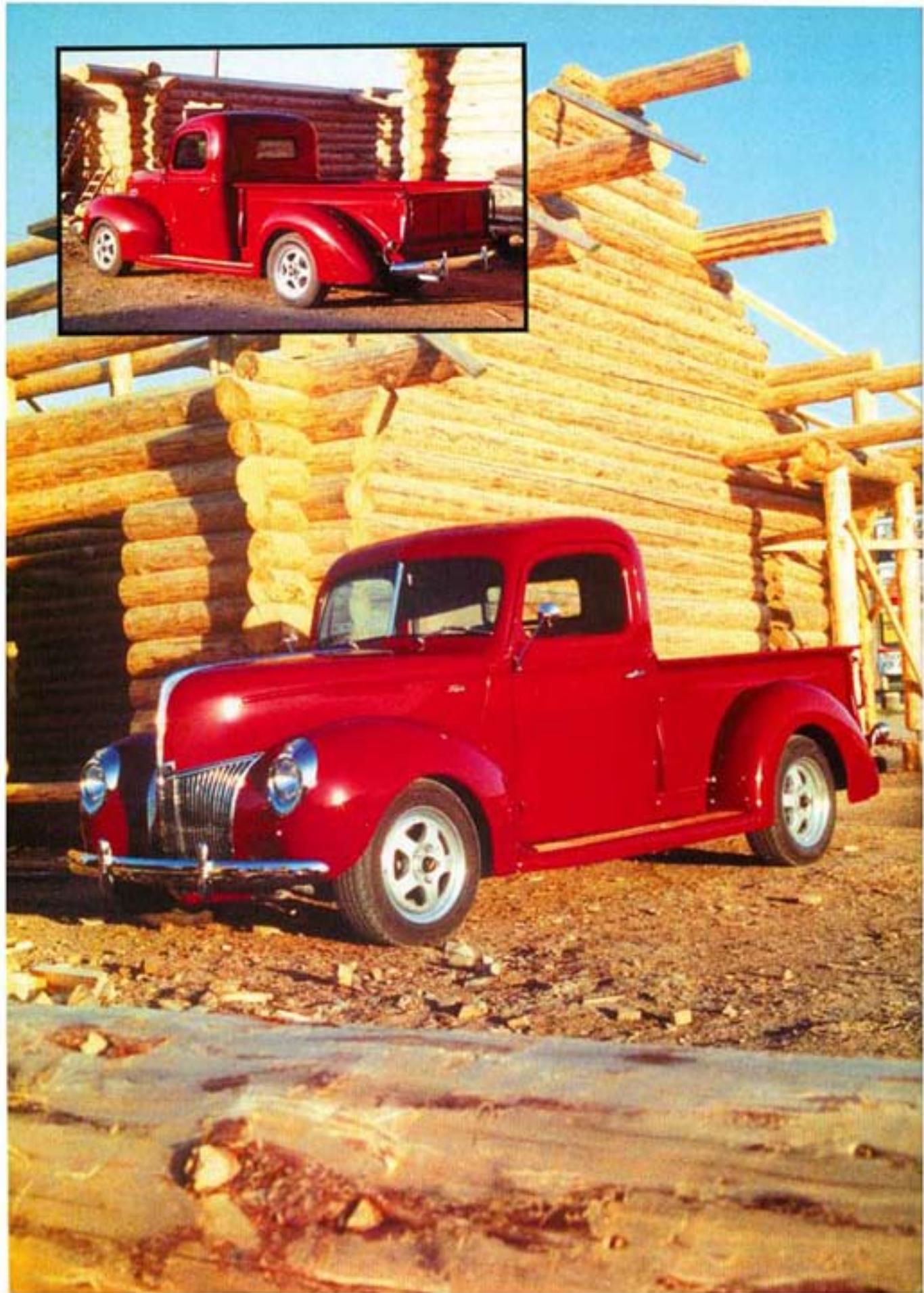


• **BIG SKY 4X4**

• **ENCORE ENCORE: A '35 PANEL**

• **NASCAR'S HOT ROD PICKUPS**

• **ONE VERY YELLOW '32**



No you're not reading Off Roader or 4 x 4 magazine! This is *Street Rod Action* and this story began two years ago with what I thought was a wrong phone number or somebody's (Ron Martinez name came to mind) practical joke.

"Hi. My name is Gerry Carlson of Carlson Classics, I live in Kalispell, Montana, and restore Jaguars. I was reading *Street Rod Pickups* ..."

I think to myself: Did I hear right? He does what? And he reads hot rod magazines, too?

"I'm going to build a truck for my out-of-town clients, John and Ellie Kane," Gerry begins. "This truck must meet John's unique criteria as the Kanes live in both Montana and Florida. First, it must look like a hot rod. Next, it must perform on



BIG SKY 4x4

A WHOLE NEW LOOK IN SPORT UTILITIES!

Written by Jon Gobetti,
photographed by Trese
Maloney



command, on- and off-road. I'm considering an S-10 chassis with a 400-cubic inch Ford engine."

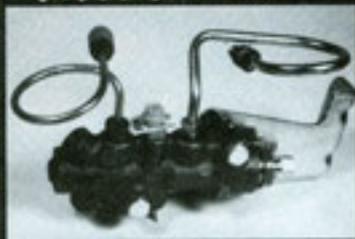
Now Gerry has my full attention.

While there have been several additional phone calls since then regarding the Kane's pickup, the restorer and the hot rodder continue to talk about the Big Sky 4 x 4. If you were to eavesdrop, you'd be hard-pressed to tell the restorer from the rodder. The rodder gets lots of photos and progress reports. Readers of the old *Street Rod Pickups* magazine (May/June '94 issue) will remember Part I documenting the construction of this hot rod 4 x 4.

This '40 Ford pickup, wrapped around an '85 Chevrolet S-10 Blazer four-wheel-drive chassis, is the result of 2500 hours of labor. Stretching the S-10 frame 12 inches, and narrowing it a bit, just behind the front wheels, accommodates the '40 pickup cab. This stretch required the front torsion bars to be extended at the point where they connect to the lower A-arms. Another of John's requirements: on-the-fly four wheel drive allows the transition from two- to four-wheel drive from the cab while cruising.

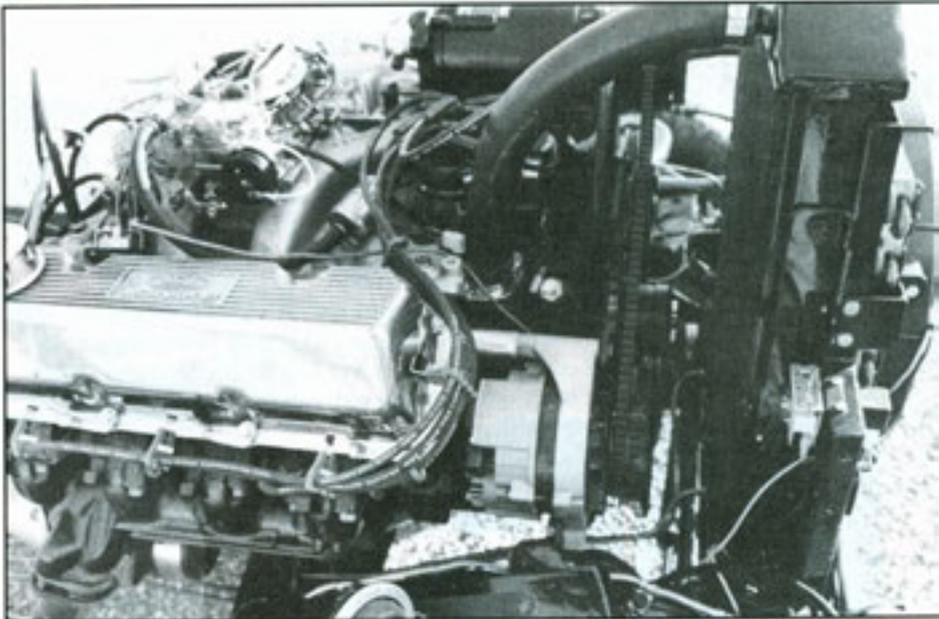


MP MASTER POWER DISC BRAKE Proportioning Valve Kits



- You need a proportioning valve anytime you convert an older car to disc brakes. This kit includes a special proportioning valve with brake warning light switch, bracket that bolts to master cylinder, lines and hardware. Available for disc/drum or 4 wheel discs. Also available separately
- Custom proportioning valve, caliper, booster, master cylinder rebuilding
- 1995 catalog-\$5.00

TO ORDER CALL: (704) 664-8866
 Fax (704) 664-8862
MASTER POWER BRAKES
 254-1 ROLLING HILLS RD.
 MOORESVILLE, NC 28115



STEERING GEARS

REBUILT VEGA STEERING BOXES

55 - 57 CHEVYS

65 ..70 MUSTANGS

AND G.M. SAGINAW BOXES

Additional Quality Related Components Available ...

*Aluminum Steering CDlumsns, Plttma" Arms, U Joints,
 Pittman Nuts, Tie Rods, Brackets, Couplers, Shafting,
 and many more.*

INFORMATION & ORDERS

CALL: 1-510-685-5664

328 OAK GLEN CT. MARTINEZ, CA 94553

GMI Certified Technicians



In keeping with the hot rod theme, Gerry replaced the S10's V-6 with a mighty 400-inch Ford big-block stuffed full of horsepower at B & M Machine Shop in South Dakota. The block was square-bored to the crankshaft, and balanced to within 1/10th of a gram. Internals include a lumpy Comp Cam topped by ported and polished heads. Fuel and oxygen feeds through a 750 dm Carter four-barrel and a Weiland manifold. This mixture is ignited via a Mallory ignition. Everything not turned into massive amounts of horsepower exits the block through Jet Hot-coated homemade headers. The new compression: 8.7:1. The dyno indicates 458 pounds at 3000 rpm. A '76 C-6 transmission, the work of Flathead Transmissions in Kalispell, backs up the mighty big-block. The radiator fabricated at Joe's Radiator, also of Kalispell,

maintains the engine's proper operating temperatures, both on- and off-road.

Gerry coated the flawless pickup body with PPG Regency Red acrylic urethane. Interior ergonomics: reconfigured bucket seats pirated from an '85-'87 Dodge Daytona. The six-way power seat tracks: a '69 Caddy and the recliners from a Datsun. The gray cloth seats, sculptured panels, headliner and wool carpet were stitched by talented hands at Valley Upholstery in Kalispell.

I've seen several great examples of four-wheel-drive hot rods over the past few years. What sets this one off from all the rest? The rest all look like 4 x 4s!

Now John and Ellie are equally at home climbing mountains in Montana or cruising the coast of Florida. In the mountains or by the sea shore, this forty most definitely creates a new look in sport utilities.

SIA