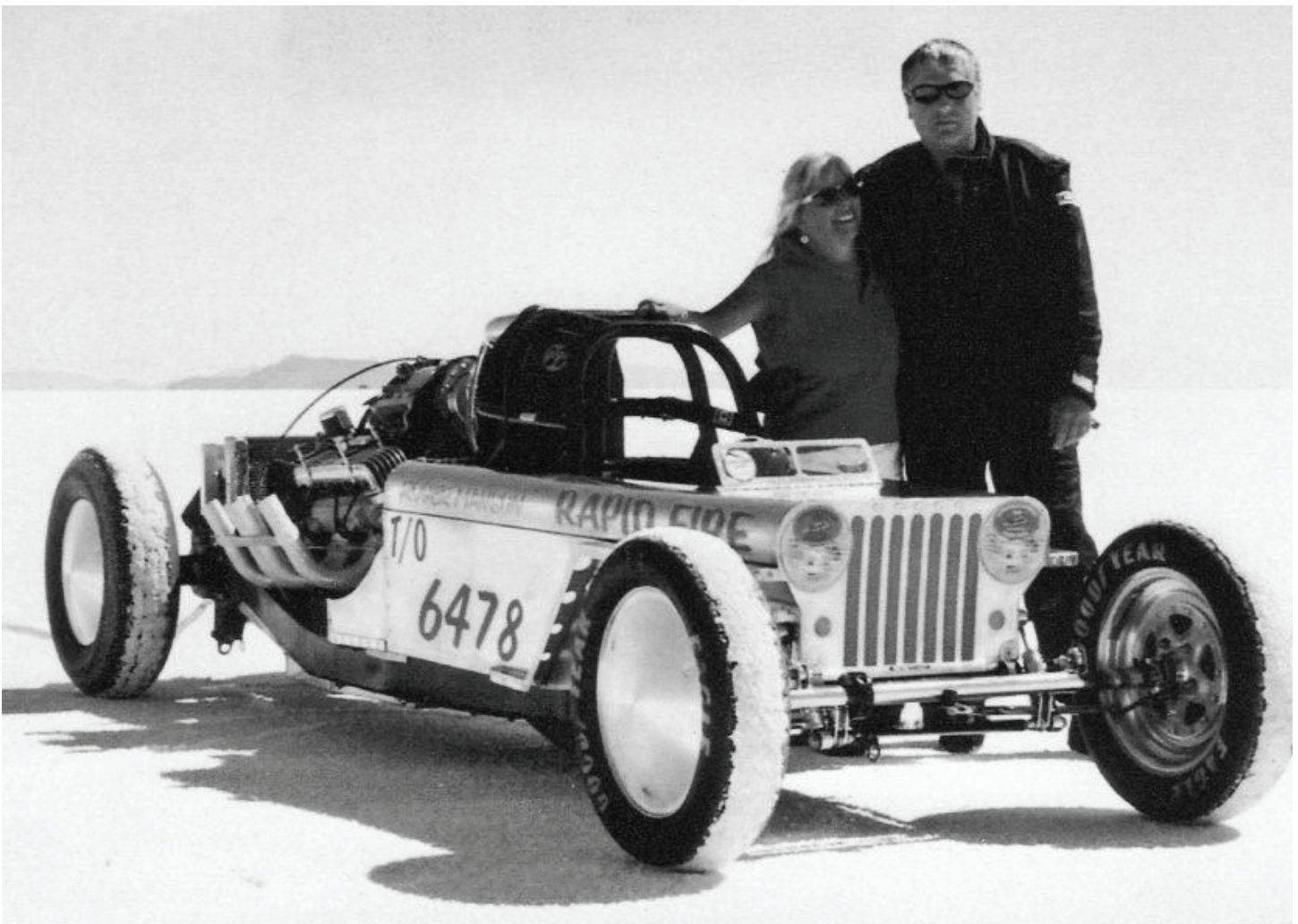




Dirt (*Bob Olson collection*)



Bonneville 2009 189.34 mph (*Roger Manson collection*)

ROGER MANSON

Hot Rod, Drag Racing, Land speed

By Bob Olson, edited by Tom Johnston, 2011

Roger's early experiments with hot rodding started in 1960 in his high school days with a 1950 Hillman with a Vauxhall six cylinder and the addition of a three carb manifold that he and friend Dave King created in the shop at Lester Pearson high school in New Westminster.

Roger and friends Bob McDonald and Dave King formed a car club called the *INJECTORS*, that club still exists and those original members still have unscheduled meetings.

In 1962, his next creation was a '41 Ford convertible in which he installed a 276 ci. DeSoto hemi that received a six carb manifold that he created, he drove that car until 1969 and sold it when he and Marlene got married.

The new team decided to concentrate on off road racing with their 4x4 army Jeep with four cylinder Pontiac motor, blown and injected on alcohol which proved to be a reliable combination as they campaigned it for 28 years, making 16 trips across the continent and racking up over a million miles on their various tow vehicles. For those efforts they have garnered two wins ('80 and '81) at the sand nationals in Olympia, Washington and six hill climb wins at Gravelramia in Ohio .

The next phase of racing took them into drag racing and they put together a rear engine super comp dragster and Roger got his competition licence at the age of 50. Again they utilized the four cylinder Pontiac that has run a best time of 8.72 sec et. at 150 mph at Mission, Bremerton, Seattle. and Nashville, Tennessee.

In the new millennium, they decided to try the salt flats. After some modifications to the dragster they were away to Bonneville in 2009, where the car ran 175 mph on his learners licence with the four cylinder Pontiac, engine and crankshaft combination number 48. In 2010, the car ran 189 mph, so engine number 49 is being assembled in preparation for their next run.

Between trips to the various race facilities the Mansons have appeared at a few car shows and have been awarded Innovative racer of the year at Mission

raceway in 1995 and the Engineering trophy at Motorama, with, as Roger says, "the same car and same wife".



1941 Ford (Roger Manson collection)



Jeep Off Road Racer (Bob Olson collection)



Drag Racing at Mission Raceway (Roger Manson collection)