Technical Notes Got the Shimmies?

By Keith Clark

OK, you have completed rebuilding the steering gear box and your 'A' still gets the shakes. Jack up the front wheels. Check the wheel bearing, remove the cotter pin, tighten the bearing nut until you have a light drag of the wheel, then back off the nut two pin holes and replace the cotter pin. Next check the adjustment of the steering drag link and the tie rod ends. The drag link is easy to do, but the drag link adjustment is behind the brake backing plate. Remove the brakes and backing plate? No, simply remove the spindle arms, remove the plug ends, and check to make sure that the ball ends are not worn flat. If they are, replace them. It makes a big difference in the way your 'A' steers. Tighten the plug end and replace the arms. Whenever these adjustments are made, you will need to realign the wheels, as any adjustments made will change the toe in. Be sure and check the tire pressure. It should be 35 lbs.

Now your 'A' should no longer have the shimmy shakes.