

ROAD CHATTER

Early Ford V-8 Club—Northern Illinois Regional Group #8

P.O. Box 0803

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

www.nirgv8.org

Volume 41 Issue 10

October 2007

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

October 7 Ladies Night Out
(See Page 3)

October 11 Board of Directors Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm

October 16 Member Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 8 pm - Officer Nominations



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

October 10-13 AACA Eastern Division National Fall Meet, Hershey, PA

October 14 Annual Morris Lions Fall Classic Car Show & Swap Meet, Morris, IL, Equistar Park Rte 6 East, 8am- 4pm

October 14 6th Annual Toys For Tots Classic Car Cruise to Volo Auto Museum. Bring an unwrapped toy. Contact Volo Museum or go to www.volocars.com/pdfs/volo-toysfortots-2007.pdf for more information.

In this Issue

Page 2 – Minutes of the September monthly meeting.

Page 3 – Don't forget the Ladies Night Out event coming up October 7. Details and driving directions are provided for those who have signed up for this event.

Page 4 – Our feature story this month is about Don & Elaine Braun and some of the cars Don has owned and restored. Happy 35th NIRG anniversary to the Brauns!

Page 6 – A write-up of our tour to the 30th Annual Lake Geneva Classic Car Rally. This was a well-attended event with some unbelievable early fall weather.

Page 9 – A welcome to another new NIRG member. Please read the note about the upcoming National V-8 Club director election. Also, mark your calendar for the 2nd Annual NIRG V-8's and Veterans Day Luncheon.

Page 10 – Our tech corner this month gives some great examples of putting safety first when working on those V-8's. Required reading for everyone.

Page 11 – Rearview Mirror – some blasts from the past.

Page 12 – Our V-8 Gals page is all about pumpkins. I mean, all about pumpkins.

Back Cover – Our Photo of the Month: Don Braun with his '36.



It is time once again to renew your membership for the upcoming year. We have included a renewal form in this issue. Please review the form and make any changes, correct any errors, or add any missing information. You can return the form with your \$35 dues to the membership chairman at the address shown on the form or bring them to the next meeting.

2007 OFFICERS**President**

Dan Pudelek

Vice President

Tom Buscaglia

Secretary

Mike Heatherly

Treasurer

George Zulas

Membership Chairman

Ken Bounds

Health & Welfare

Stan Stack

Tour Chairman

Joe Novak

Newsletter

Ken and Carolyn Bounds

Board of Directors

Ron Blum

Ron Dopke

Tom O'Donnell

Joe Serritella

MEETINGS

8:00 pm on the third
Tuesday of the month at
the Wheeling Township
Service Center, 1616 N.
Arlington Heights Road,
Arlington Heights, IL

NEWSLETTER

Send submissions to
Editor, 1N410 Forest Ave.,
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
or e-mail
editor@nirgv8.org
or call

630-858-9474

Publishing deadline is the
25th of the month.

The Road Chatter is pub-
lished monthly by NIRG.

Other Early Ford V-8
Regional newsletters are
welcome to use material
from the Road Chatter
provided the Road Chatter
is credited as the source.

SEPTEMBER 19TH MEETING MINUTES**Submitted by Secretary Mike Heatherly**

President Dan Pudelek called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

Treasurer George Zulas reported a balance of \$1,061.80. The picnic auction and raffles brought in \$852 while the expenses were \$584.

Membership chairman Ken Bounds reported that the club membership now stands at 82 members.

Stan Stack announced that Gene Heintz has been ill recently. Dick Alfini was happy to report that Dotti Alfini is cancer free.

The following upcoming outings were discussed:

- Lake Geneva Cancer Rally - September 28 - 30
- Ladies Night Out - Sunday October 7 at Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace. It's a noon brunch followed by a 2:00 pm play, "The Odd Couple". Cost is \$48.00 per person.
- Veterans Day Observation Luncheon - Saturday, November 10
- Christmas Brunch - Sunday, December 9 at Drury Lane in Oakbrook
- Installation Dinner - Saturday, January 12. To be held at the Finley Grille in Downers Grove.

Look for more details in the Road Chatter

Mike Heatherly presented a video slide show documenting the dismantling and restoration of 1934 Ford 4 Dr Sedan.

Ernie Herzog won the 50/50 raffle. Dan thanked Judy Buscaglia for providing the cookies.

In Attendance: Dick Alfini, Rich Anderson, Sam Barone, Ron Blum, Ken Bounds, Tom Buscaglia, George Cech, Norm Collins, Ron Dopke, Don Drews, Lloyd Duzell, Mike Heatherly, Earl Heintz, Ernie Herzog, Roger Hunz, Paul Jensen, John Judge, Charles R. Kaiser, Joe Kozmic, Neil McManus, Frank Nagode, Joe Novak, Tom O'Donnell, Bob Paladino, Dan Pudelek, Collin Sprau, Joe Serritella, Stan Stack and George Zulas.

Do you want to make a difference and have some fun too?

NIRG is looking for you!

2008 Nominations for Officers and Board of Directors will be held at the October member meeting.

Your participation is important!

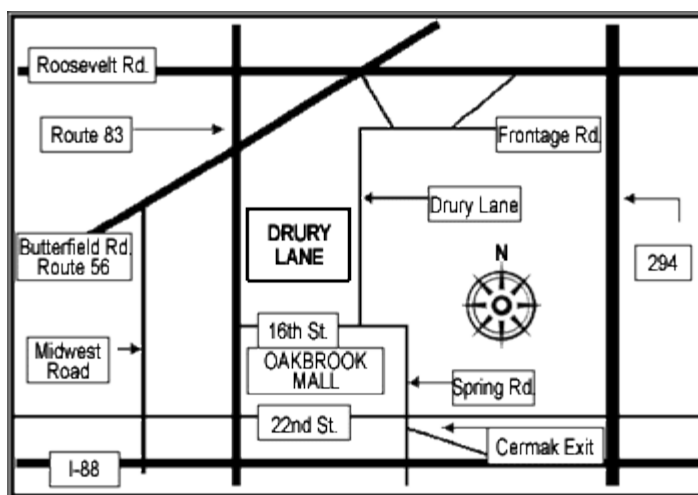


UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

Ladies Night Out - Sunday, October 7th



On our Ladies Night Out event we will see the critically recommended play, THE ODD COUPLE, on Sunday, October 7th at Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace. Everyone who has signed up should have received tickets from Stan Stack. Please arrive on time for the noon brunch which will be followed by the 2 pm show.



DRIVING DIRECTIONS

When Approaching From The North Or South On Route 83:

Exit at Roosevelt Road/Butterfield Road East, follow signs to Drury Lane.

When Approaching From The East Or West On Roosevelt Road:

Exit Route 83 south. On Route 83 south take the Roosevelt Road/Butterfield Road East Exit, follow signs to Drury Lane.

When Approaching From Downtown Chicago:

Take the Eisenhower Expressway/I-290 West to I-88 West. Pay toll and exit at Cermak Road. Proceed through the stoplight so you are heading north. Continue on Spring Road and bear right onto Drury Lane Street. Drury Lane will be on your left at the end of the road.

When Approaching From The West On I-88:

Exit at Midwest Road, turn right, proceed to Butterfield Road and turn right. Proceed to Drury Lane exit.

When Approaching From I-294:

Exit I-88 West. Pay toll, exit at Cermak Road. Proceed through the stoplight so you are heading north. Continue on Spring Road and bear right onto Drury Lane Street. Drury Lane will be on your left at the end of the road.

Happy V-8 Anniversary to Don & Elaine Braun

Thirty-five years ago this month, Don & Elaine Braun joined the Northern Illinois Regional Group. Over the years Don & Elaine have been valued members of the club, serving in many ways. They have hosted the annual club picnic many times at their home in Prairie View and for that the club will always be grateful. Don & Elaine are “regulars” at club events and have driven their V-8’s to quite a number of Early Ford V-8 Club national meets, beginning with the first Grand National Meet in Dearborn in 1973.

We sat down with Don recently and discussed his V-8 Fords and other antique cars, as well as his experiences with the club. We are grateful for the following narrative that Don provided, as well as access to several photo albums that helped illustrate his many years with the club.

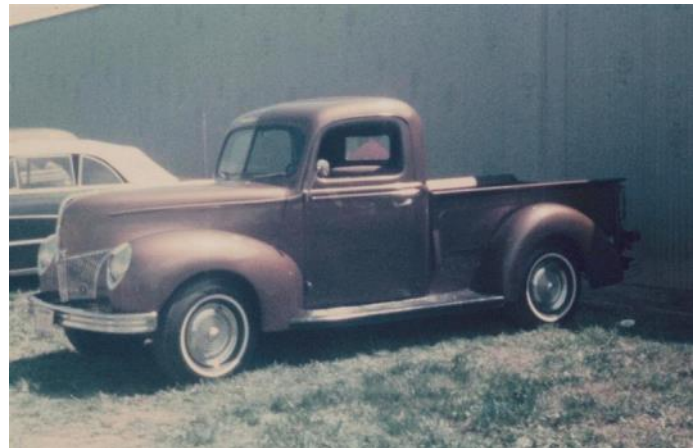
Back in 1972, I met Jack Groot at a car show where he was giving out applications to join the V-8 club. I went to my first meeting at a Ford dealership where Chester Lawrence worked. I had a 1940 Ford Pickup that I had bought for \$100 that I was working on at the time.

After going to a couple of meetings, I joined the club in October. I was appointed to help club President Len O’Connor with some of the tours. Our first club tour was to the first Grand National Meet in Dearborn in June 1973.

Over the years I restored my 1941 Lincoln Zephyr, I bought a 1940 Tudor Deluxe Sedan from George Anderton, which I later used as a partial trade for my 1936 5 Window Coupe. Now I have a 1956 Pickup I restored to go along with my ’36.

After 35 years in the club, we have come to feel this club is like family. Don

Don bought his ’40 pickup in December 1969. The picture above left is the truck as it existed in August 1970. The picture on the right is after



restoration – the color is brown. Don drove the ’40 to the first Grand National Meet in Dearborn in 1973. We aren’t sure if Don will admit to what was under the hood at the time – you’ll need to ask him.

On the right is Don's 1941 Lincoln Zephyr Club Coupe. Don bought the Lincoln in 1968 and restored it over the years. He sold it in 1983. This picture was taken in July 1982. Check out those gas prices!



Of course, the car we most associate with Don in recent years is the '36 Five Window Coupe. Don told us that he was after this car for some time. He finally was able to buy it in 1987 or 1988 and had to trade a '40 Ford, a Lincoln, and a truck for it. This beautiful '36 with its built engine has won trophies at many V-8 Club National Meets.

Below are before and after pictures of Don's



'56 pickup. This was a work truck that Don bought from a young man in Libertyville for \$1,000 back in 1985. (Who is that kid standing by the truck?) Don completed restoration of the truck around 2000 and drives it to various car shows and other events. Just this July it captured a trophy at the American Legion car show in Arlington Heights.



Lake Geneva Classic Car Rally

By Ken Bounds

The Lake Geneva Classic Car Rally was different this year. It was not the weather, which was fantastic – maybe the best ever. It was not the participants, and there were many. It was not the route, or the restaurants, or the entertainment. Something was missing. That something was the man who was the face and the heart of the Rally for the previous 29 years. We were shocked to learn this past April that George Kreissl had died suddenly, not long after being diagnosed with cancer. George and Jan Kreissl started the Rally 30 years ago in the name of their infant daughter Corrine and have raised nearly \$700,000 in the fight against childhood cancer.

The Rally has been a regular event on the NIRG calendar for many years and is one of the last driving tours each year. George, his family, and many volunteers have put on a premier event with self-guided driving tours around the lakes, various events and entertainment over the weekend, highlighted by a large classic car and antique airplane show on Sunday. We will always remember George working tirelessly as the emcee of the Sunday program which capped off the weekend with awards for the poker hands and dozens of donated door prizes. This year after a moving opening statement, Jan turned over the program to her niece, who did a terrific job. We should be pleased that by the end of the weekend, members of the NIRG had donated over \$900 to this very worthy cause.

Some members of the NIRG make this a three-day weekend event, while others join the fun on Sunday for breakfast and the car show. On Friday, September 28, Dick & Dot Alfini in their '51 Convertible, Ken & Carolyn Bounds in their '50 Convertible, Joe & Nell Kozmic in their '37 Coupe, and Joey Novak in his '40 Pickup met in Arlington Heights for a drive over scenic backroads to Delavan, WI. There we were met for lunch by Tom & Judy Buscaglia in their '51 Tudor and Marty and Leah Duling. When we checked into the hotel, we also were joined by our President and First Lady Dan & Diane Pudelek in their '53 Victoria. We had a very relaxed weekend with a little fun at the motel, some nice meals, participation in the poker run, and a lot of time for visiting with V-8 friends. Our cars got a lot of attention from others staying at the hotel and a number of curious people



Our V-8's lined up at the motel



Playing a card at Mars Resort



Enjoying the great weather

Oktoberfest lunch where we played our first card, then another at a choice of downtown locations. After some shopping and general hanging around in Lake Geneva, we headed back over the back streets toward our hotel in Delavan, playing a card at old standbys Mars Resort and Foley's. At each stop we had a good time enjoying each other's company as well as the various rally participants we encountered. Saturday evening we took it easy when we again commandeered the hotel breakfast area for a KFC feast.

Sunday morning we drove our V-8's to our traditional breakfast at Millie's Pancake House where we were met by a hoard of NIRG members who had driven up that morning. These included Ron & Arlene Blum, '40 Fordor; George & Betty Cech, '48 Plymouth Convertible; Ernie & Terry Herzog, '53 Sedan; Roger Hunz, '51 Tudor; Tom & Madeleine O'Donnell, '40 Mercury; Bob & Angie Paladino, Mercury Cougar; Stan and JoAnne Stack with their niece and her boyfriend, '53



Flathead Mechanic Ron works on tailpipe

who had to stop and visit as they were driving by. It was hard to believe that it was nearly October in Wisconsin. On Friday afternoon we sat in chairs by the cars in the parking lot, but had to go inside because it was getting too hot in the sun!

Each year we try to shake things up a bit with our route to the Lake Geneva area, with the locations of our meals and our touring associated with the poker run. This year was no exception. After Friday lunch at a new place for us, New Horizons Sports Café and an evening fish fry at Greenie's Clubhouse at a nearby golf course, we were off on Saturday to participate in the poker run. We started at Popeye's on Lake Geneva for a nice



Fun at Chuck's Lakeshore

Tudor; Len & Irene Vinyard, '39 Convertible; and Larry & Jerry Webb in modern iron. While most of these folks made a dash around the area playing their poker hands, those of us who had spent the weekend took a leisurely drive over backroads to Fontana where we played our final card at Chuck's Lakeshore Inn. While there we ran into NIRG member Frank Koeder in his '39 Convertible. As we were leaving Chuck's, we ran into the "mad dash" group who had just

arrived after spending some time touring the area testing some GPS units.

With our hands complete, we drove to the Lodge at Geneva Ridge to join the car show. We arrived in time to see the antique plane flyover, with a special missing man formation to honor George Kreissl. We were joined there by Alan Wall who had driven up in a Pontiac. Part of the great fun at the Rally is going through your poker hands accumulated at spots all over the area to see if you have a good hand. Typically, you need at the very least a full house to even be able to turn in your hands. As we had sat at Chuck's reviewing our cards, the consensus was that of the 235 hands we played, everyone had "garbage". But sometimes garbage is good! Carolyn decided to keep her jokers, playing for the worst hand. We were pleased to learn that when we arrived at the event, Carolyn's hand of two jokers with an ace, a three, and a five was the lowest hand. When the awards program started, the first prize awarded was for the lowest poker hand. Carolyn's hand had held up – she beat out another person who had two jokers with two queens. The prize was \$200 cash, which Carolyn promptly handed back to Jan as a donation. Now that is class!

We want to thank the large group of over 30 NIRG members and family for their participation and their generosity in contributions to this worthy cause – and for bringing out at least a dozen Ford V-8's. Although no NIRG members had any of the 20 "winning" hands, we were the recipients of several door prizes. As the day's festivities wound down, various groups of NIRG members split up and went their separate way home. To our knowledge, all those great V-8's made the trip with no problems. Several of us already have our hotel reservations for the Rally next year and can't wait to do it again. Mark your calendars for September 26-28, 2008. You don't want to miss it!



Enjoying more good weather



Those oppressive local laws



Wrapping up the weekend

Welcome New NIRG Member



The Northern Illinois Regional Group welcomes Scott Gilday, Jr. and his wife Nicole to the club. Scott recently acquired a 1941 Super Deluxe Convertible and learned of our group through our web site. Scott also owns a '69 Mustang Convertible. Please add Scott's information to your roster: 240 Oxford Rd., North Barrington, IL 60010-2073. Phone (847)277-0695.

We hope to meet Scott and Nicole in person at upcoming NIRG events!



V-8's and Veterans

**A LUNCHEON TO HONOR OUR MEMBERS WHO
HAVE SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES**

November 10, 2007 – 12:00 noon

Sam's of Arlington

1863 W Central Rd, Arlington Heights



National V-8 Club Director's Election

As some of you may already know, I have decided to make a run for National Director for the V-8 Club's Midwest Region. This region includes 14 regional groups in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas. Ballots will be included with your September/October issue of the *V-8 Times*. Be sure to participate and return your ballot. Of course, I would appreciate your support!

Ken

It's Road Chatter Ad renewal time again.

Do you have an ad in the Road Chatter? Would you like to have an ad in the Road Chatter?

It's easy to advertise in the Road Chatter. Just send \$25, plus a business card to

Ken Bounds
1N410 Forest Ave.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137



Please make checks payable to NIRG. Renewals must be received prior to December 22 to be in the January Road Chatter.



TECH CORNER



Our technical tip this month is all about safety.

Always remember safety precautions when working under a car. In the illustration below, we see how our safety-conscious flathead mechanic has cautiously placed a wheel chock behind the right-rear wheel while welding his gas tank, preventing any chance that the truck will roll away, causing it to fall off the supports. It just goes to show that you can never be too careful.



In our next illustration, we see how our mechanic has carefully supported the flathead with two bricks under the water pumps before firing it up. Again, note the wheel chock which prevents any sort of dangerous mishap.



We are always looking for your input for future tech articles. Please send your submissions to the Road Chatter editor – see page 2 for the address or the e-mail address.



10 Years Ago This Month – October 1997

At the October 21 meeting, nominations were held for officers for 1998. The October newsletter contained articles submitted by three different members and several pictures from our “roving reporter” Norm Miller. Members were reminded that it is time to start submitting dues renewals for next year.

20 Years Ago This Month – October 1987

A hardy group of V-8'ers joined the Model A club on a chilly Fall Color Tour overnighter to Reedsburg, WI, hosted by Bill & Sue Simms. They were met by below-normal temperatures and blustery winds as they left from the Volo Museum. Even though the Friday night temperature dropped to 26 degrees, the large group of 15 NIRG members driving 8 V-8's and some other antique cars had a great time.

30 Years Ago This Month – October 1977

The October newsletter published the official ballot for election of 1978 officers. The newsletter reported that the tension was so thick on the October 11 election night that you could cut it with a knife. The large crowd of 39 members elected Chuck Wrobel President, Bill Simms Vice President, and Larry Maas Secretary/Treasurer. A “pumpkin rally” was held on October 16, leaving from Woodfield Mall. Sadly, we do not have the results of the rally.

35 Years Ago This Month – October 1972

The October 16 meeting, held at Jack Loftus Ford (now known as Willowbrook Ford), was attended by 10 members. Chester Lawrence gave an interesting demonstration on rebuilding an early V-8 distributor. He was asked to do more demonstrations in the future. There was much discussion and excitement about the upcoming inaugural Grand National Meet in Dearborn in 1973. A call went out for more stories for the newsletter about members and their V-8's. Some things never change!

Editors Note: We still need your articles about you and your cars! Submit to address on page 2.



Auctioneers Lenny and Chester at '87 NIRG Picnic

V-8 Gals



Halloween is my favorite holiday. Ken will argue with me that Halloween is not a holiday, but I disagree. As part of the holiday festivities, I enjoy carving pumpkins. By the fourth day my pumpkin is looking pretty sad. It is all shriveled up and parts of it have become squirrel food. This year I vowed to do something about it. I went on-line looking for tips on how to make my carved pumpkins last longer. Here are some tips that I hope help will help you too.

- Washing the inside of your pumpkin with a mild bleach solution will slow the process of decay. Any time you have a wet pumpkin you want to display, you should immediately dry it off to prevent mold from growing.
- Coat all of the exposed flesh of the pumpkin with petroleum jelly immediately after carving, including a light coating of the entire inside of the pumpkin. The most important thing is to coat the design that you've carved. You can use a Q-tip to rub the petroleum jelly on all of the cut parts to make your creation last much longer.
- You can usually restore a shrunk pumpkin back to its original condition by soaking it in cold water overnight. If the pumpkin is carved, put the carved part face-down. Let the pumpkin float, and let the insides fill with water. After 8 hours or so, the pumpkin will absorb the water and become very firm.

I didn't find too much to keep the squirrels away. The best tips were to rub red pepper flakes inside the pumpkin, put something noisy, like aluminum foil near your pumpkin to annoy the squirrels or put a decoy pumpkin out in the yard closer to the squirrels for them to munch on.

FABULOUS PUMPKIN CHEESE CAKE BARS

1 (16 oz.) pkg. pound cake mix	3 eggs
2 tbsp. butter, melted	4 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, soft	1 (14 oz.) can Eagle Brand condensed milk (not evaporated)
1 (16 oz.) can pumpkin	1 c. chopped nuts
1/2 tsp. salt	

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In large bowl on low, combine cake mix, 1 egg, butter, 2 teaspoons pumpkin spice, until crumbly. Press onto bottom of 15 x 10 inch jelly roll pan. Set aside. In large bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Gradually beat in condensed milk, then remaining 2 eggs, 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice and salt. Mix well. Pour over crust and sprinkle with nuts on top. Bake 30-35 minutes or until set. Cut into bars. Store in refrigerator.

Makes 48 bars.

NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR

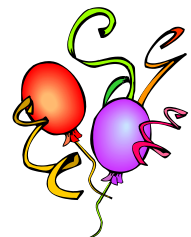
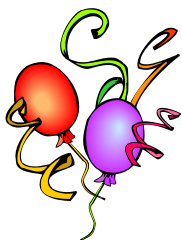
September 5 - 8 Auburn Motorfest 13 Board Meeting 18 Member Meeting 28 - 30 Lake Geneva Cancer Rally	October 7 Ladies Night Out 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting— Officer Nominations	November 8 Board Meeting 10 Veteran's Day Luncheon 20 Member Meeting— Officer Elections	December No Meetings 9 Christmas Luncheon
January 10 Board Meeting 12 Installation Dinner 15 Member Meeting	February 14 Board Meeting 19 Member Meeting	March 13 Board Meeting 18 Member Meeting	April 10 Board Meeting 15 Member Meeting



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
JOE SERRITELLA (10/9), JOE KOZMIC (10/11),
JULIE McMANUS (10/11), DIANE PUDELEK (10/11),
JOAN DIXON (10/14), STEVE O'NEILL (10/17),
CHESTER LAWRENCE (10/26), TOM BUSCAGLIA (10/28)
& LIN STACEY (10/29)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO
RICH & JUDY DOLIGALE (10/3), BILL & CAROLYN GRAMS (10/3), JACK &
JEAN NIKOLICH (10/8) &
FRANK & MARGARET KOEDER (10/30)

AND ALL THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS
AND
ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH.



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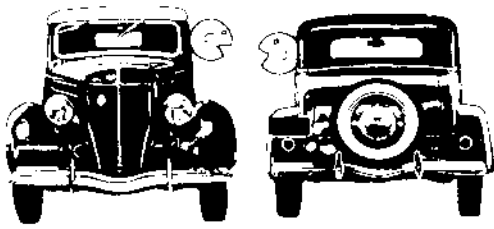
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Photo of the Month
Don Braun with his 1936 Coupe at the 2003 Grand National Meet