

ROAD CHATTER

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

Volume 43 Issue 12

P.O. Box 0803
Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

December 2009

www.nirgv8.org

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

December 6 Christmas Brunch. See Page 3 for details.

January 1 Deadline to RSVP for Installation Dinner.

January 9 Installation Dinner. See Page 2 for details.

No regular meetings in December



Happy Holidays



In this Issue

Page 2 – President Dan Pudelek talks about the upcoming holiday season and looks forward to 2010.

Page 2 – Make plans now to attend the January 9 Installation Dinner. Details here and on the enclosed flyer.

Page 3 - Complete information and driving directions for the December 6 Christmas Brunch at Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace.

Page 4 – We had a great time at the November 7 Veterans Day Luncheon and tour to the Braun Museum. Read all about it here.

Page 6 – Joe Dispensa sent us an article about his new garage/shop and details plans for restoring a 1951 Pickup with a bit of history.

Page 8 – Minutes of the November 17 monthly meeting.

Page 10 – Last month the Rearview Mirror mentioned a letter we received 30 years ago about CB radios. Our Tech Corner this month is that letter as published in the Road Chatter. Now you know why we always use Channel 8!

Page 11 – Rearview Mirror – information about club events over the past 40 years – and Flathead Flashback featuring Don Braun.

Page 12 – Our V-8 Gals page provides a delicious cookie recipe plus a fresh idea for a holiday decoration.

Back Cover - Our Photo of the Month: All the gang at the Braun garage tour on Veterans Day.

Just a reminder that 2010 dues are due. If you have not already renewed, please submit your renewal form and payment to the Membership Chairman by the end of the year so you don't miss an issue of the Road Chatter and to ensure that your information is published in the 2010 roster. A reminder appears to the left of your name on the back cover if we have not received your renewal.



2009 OFFICERS**President**

Dan Pudelek

Vice President

Frank Madrigali

Secretary

Don Drews

Treasurer

Joe Serritella

Membership Chairman

Ken Bounds

Health & Welfare

Stan Stack

Tour Chairman

Ron Blum

Newsletter

Ken and Carolyn Bounds

Board of Directors

Ron Blum

Joe Novak

Tom O'Donnell

Stan Stack

Alan Wall

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.

FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT

Hello to All,

At the November meeting we had our elections. I would like to thank all the members that volunteered their services and were elected and wish them good luck in the upcoming year. I hope that everyone had a good Thanksgiving. I know that my pants are a little tighter - how does that happen?



As you all know there will not be a regular December meeting. We will have an informal meeting sometime during the Christmas brunch; I will keep it short so you can enjoy your meal. Most of you that have been to the Christmas Brunch know it's impossible to leave hungry or unsatisfied. I like to call it our Christmas eatathon.

Diane and I would like to take this opportunity to wish the members and their families all the best in this upcoming Holiday Season. I know a lot of you will be traveling to all points of the country in the next month, so just be careful. We have a lot of fun V-8 functions coming up in 2010 and we would like all the members to be around for the good times.

So take care, be well, and we'll see you next year.

President, Dan Pudelek

2010 Installation Dinner**January 9, 2010**

Place: [Wellington of Arlington](#)

Time: 6:30-7:30 PM Open Bar & Hors d'oeuvres
7:30-8:30 PM Dinner & Cash Bar
8:30-????? Program & Awards

Cost: \$35.00 per person includes dinner, 1 hour
open bar and gratuity.

See inserted flyer for more information.

RSVP with dinner choice and payment to

Frank Madrigali by January 1.

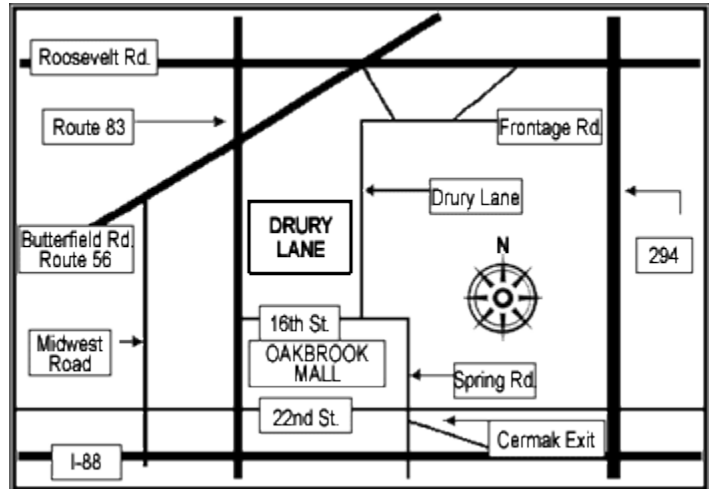


ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Date: Sunday, December 6, 2009

Time: 10:30 a.m.

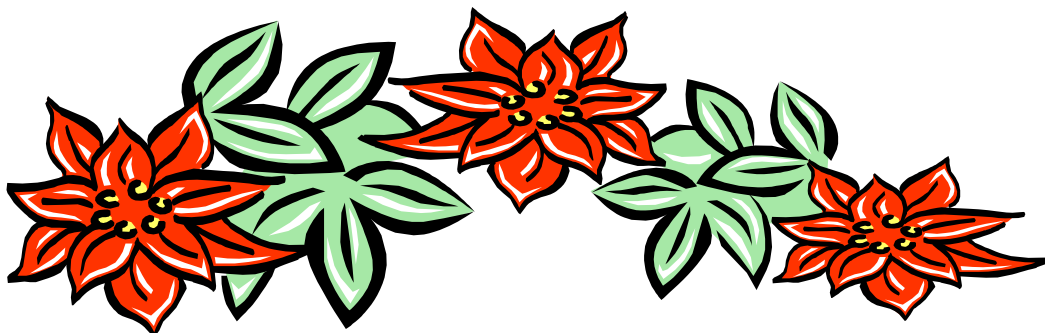
**Place: Drury Lane
100 Drury Lane
Oakbrook Terrace
630-530-8300**



Cost: \$33 per person, including tax & tip. Includes a fabulous all you can eat Champagne brunch buffet. At the end of the brunch, each table will receive a check that will be settled with the server.

For more information, contact Stan Stack at 847-382-4223.

Come join us for a morning of good cheer and great food.



V-8's & Veterans – Luncheon and Tour

By Ken Bounds

We held our fourth annual Veterans Day luncheon and tour on Saturday, November 7, to honor our members who have served in the armed forces. We had a terrific turnout, with 34 members in attendance, including our President Dan Pudelek, Dave Arnswald, Ben & Ginny Ashley, Ron & Arlene Blum, Ken & Carolyn Bounds, Don & Elaine Braun, Tom & Judy Buscaglia, George & Betty Cech, Joe & Marie Dispensa, Lloyd & Gladys Duzell, Ed Fontana, Earl & Gene Heintz, Joe & Nell Kozmic, Paul & Joanne Linzer, Joey Novak, Tom & Madeleine O'Donnell, Joe Serritella, John & Barbara Slobodnik, Len & Irene Vinyard, and Alan Wall.

The unseasonably warm weather even allowed several Early V-8's and other classic cars to make a final 2009 appearance. Dan brought out his '53 Victoria, Dave & Ed came in Dave's '72 Electra, Ken & Carolyn drove the '50 Crestliner, Tom and Judy had their '51 Tudor, George & Betty arrived in their '36 Phaeton, Earl and Gene brought the '63 Convertible (great to see it running right again!), Len & Irene sported the '57 T-Bird, and Alan Wall drove a '62 Pontiac.

As always the food, drinks, and service at Sam's of Arlington were excellent once again. Our thanks go out again this year to Earl Heintz for making the arrangements. We had hoped to have



a short program to say “Thank You” to those who have served their country in the military, but because of the large crowd we had to save that until later in the afternoon.

After a terrific luncheon, we jumped into our cars and made our way over to Don & Elaine’s residence where we had the great pleasure of checking out Don’s new “V-8 Museum.” It was nice to see all of our cars parked on the lawn, as they had been at so many picnics hosted by the Brauns over the years.

Don proudly showed us what he had done to his garage this year to convert it to a place of honor to display his ‘36 Five-Window Coupe and his ‘56 Pickup. The brightly-lit garage sports freshly painted walls and floor and is decorated with all sorts of V-8 memorabilia including books, photographs, trophies received at various meets and more. We all got a kick out of digging through a box of old photographs. It was surprising to see how some of us had changed over the years - somehow we just didn’t see that happening! As we posed for a group photo, we finally got the chance to say “Thank You” to all our members who served our country in the armed forces.

The incredibly warm early-November weather allowed us to spend the afternoon on the adjacent deck, soaking up the sunshine and grazing on the spread that Elaine had provided. There was a large variety of veggies, cookies, chips, and beverages for everyone to enjoy. (One of the cookie recipes just had to make it to the Road Chatter - see page 12). As a great afternoon of V-8 fellowship had to come to an end, everyone made their way safely home. It was a real treat to get those V-8’s on the road one more time. We thank all the members who made this just a great event and especially thank Don & Elaine Braun for opening up their home and the “Braun Museum” to us.



Don’s ‘36 Coupe in the new garage



We never get enough to eat



Can this really be November?

Joe Dispensa's Trucks

By Joe Dispensa

Joe Dispensa and his wife Marie have been members of the Early Ford V-8 Club and the Northern Illinois Region Group for several years, but his attraction to pickups and Early Ford V-8's started much earlier. Joe loved old pickup trucks most of his life, but being born into a family business, he never had the time to restore any vehicle. Fifteen years ago when Joe retired from being a high school industrial arts teacher, one of his retirement goals was to restore a pickup to driver quality. Fourteen years ago he bought a '52 Ford F1 pickup in a rusty, non-running condition from a neighbor. He started out taking classes from DAVEA in Addison under the direction of Sam Iusi, who also introduced him to Northern Illinois Group #8. Joe decided to start out on the two rear fenders. Sam explained that they were not worth repairing. But Joe wanted to learn the hard way and after working a whole year of night class he finally completed the fenders to Sam's standards.

After a slow start Joe converted his old horse barn (20' x 30') into an auto shop with everything you would need, including a car lift. To make the lift workable he had to raise the second floor of his barn five feet. Finally completed, he decided that he needed more space because he now had two '52 Ford F1 pickups to disassemble. After fighting with the DuPage County Conservation Department for 9 months, he was able to start on a 24' x 30' addition to his barn. This three car addition has finally given him the working



Garage addition behind barn



One of the donor trucks parked at the lift

space to work on his trucks. If you were at the LaSalle Street Auto Row Car show in Aurora on October 4th, you might have seen a '51 Ford pickup cab, box and frame with a sign on the door stating you were looking at a Supply Service Maintaining Vehicle for the United States Air Force. It also stated "Look for me in 2010". You can still see the blue body and white top colors. This will be Joe's first truck to work on. The two other trucks will be donors for the '51. In addition, Joe has been going to swap meets for years collecting parts.

Joe's plans are to work on the truck two days a week (maybe half days) till the truck is completed. Hopefully the remaining parts may be another truck. The reason for this article is because Joe needs a goal to keep on track. We will see how far he gets in the coming months.

Editor's Follow Up

We thank Joe for sending in his story and pictures and wanted to follow up with some developments after he submitted the story. In late October, a number of NIRG members dropped in on Joe to check out his new shop and the progress on his trucks. Joe gave a guided tour to Joe Kozmic, Joey Novak, Dan Pudelek, Ken Bounds, John Judge, Frank Madrigali, and John Slobodnik (hope I didn't miss anyone). We all agreed that Joe has put together a really neat shop and garage to work on his trucks. He has a terrific lift, so crawling around under the vehicles is not a concern. Joe has assembled a lot of tools and has a sound plan for restoring the very solid Air Force truck to its former glory. Joe welcomes club members to come over and assist in the restoration. What a great chance to not only help a fellow club member, but also to take advantage of a terrific learning opportunity. Since our visit we know that John Slobodnik and Don Drews have been working with Joe.

Unfortunately, unexpected shoulder surgery in mid-November has thrown Joe a curve, but he assures us that the restoration project is continuing. Don Drews has offered to submit periodic updates on the progress. We anxiously await future reports and look forward to seeing the results as they occur.



Joe , Dan & Joey in front of project truck and donor truck



Joe shows the smooth-running donor engine to Ken & Joey



Glove box door with plate attached by Air Force

NOVEMBER 17 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by Stan Stack

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Pudelek at 8:19 pm.

Treasurer's report, from Joe Serritella:

Opening balance:	\$2,034
Net income and expenses since the last report:	+979
Ending balance:	\$3,013



Health & Welfare report, from Stan Stack:

Jean Nikolich had some cancer procedures and is now recovering. I am sure she would appreciate some cards. Jimmy Pope is not doing well. Joe Dispensa had shoulder surgery. Dick Alfini had to have additional stint procedures.

Membership report, from Ken Bounds:

We have 85 members. Renewals to date 59 and 26 to pay. Please pay your dues now so we can complete the new roster.

Upcoming events:

- Dec 6 Christmas Brunch at Drury Lane is totally sold out. Stan Stack was able to get last minute members added. We will now have 46 total. Cash \$33 each, payment collection at table, 10:15 am arrival for 10:30 seating
- Jan 9 Installation Dinner at The Wellington, \$35 per person.
On sign up sheet members did not specify Chicken or Beef. Frank Madrigali should be contacted (708-344-8063). We need more members to attend.
- June 24-26 Eastern National meet in Charlotte, NC. Ken Bounds organizer for the run.

Reports on recent club events:

Earl Heintz, thank you for arranging the Veterans Day Luncheon Nov.7th - 34 attended. Most members and their wives then proceeded to Don Braun's to view his garage restoration, museum. Elaine served snacks and cookies. Thank you so much.

Election Proceedings for NIRG Officers:

Dan Pudelek was nominated for president.
Ron Blum declined running for Treasurer. Joe Serritella agreed to run again and was nominated.
Stan Stack was nominated for Secretary.
Nominated for Board Members were Dave Arnsward, Ron Blum, Ed Fontana, Neil McManus, and Alan Wall.

Ken Bounds made a motion that the above slate be elected by acclamation. Seconded by Joe Kozmic. By unanimous acclaim the above members were elected.

We now exchange newsletters with 21 regional groups. Ken Bounds suggests that at the meetings our members check them out to see what other Ford V-8 groups are doing.

Information about the Western National Meet in St. George Utah Meet next October is available on the National Club's [website](#).

NOVEMBER 17 MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)**Meeting Program:**

Ed Fontana showed and explained an invention he developed and made for holding up trunk lids on 1941 to 48 Ford Coupes and Convertibles. Price is \$20. It is a very creative and helpful product for these cars. Good luck Ed, we all think you have something unique.

Club Drawings.

Joe Serritella won \$20 in the 50/50 Drawing.

Jerry Gunderson \$25 Jewel Gift Card.

Dave Arnswald \$25 Jewel Gift Card.

Dan thanked June Young for baking cake for the meeting and Carolyn Bounds for baking cookies.

23 members were present:

Dave Arnswald, Ron Blum, Ken Bounds, Tom Buscaglia, George Cech, Lloyd Duzell, Ed Fontana, Jerry Gundersen, Mike Heatherly, Roger Hunz, John Judge, Joe Kozmic, Neil McManus, Frank Madrigali, Tom O'Donnell, Bob Paladino, Dan Pudelek, Joe Serritella, John Slobodnick, Stan Stack, Len Vinyard, Alan Wall, and Tom Young.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Our National Director John McBurney has provided us the results of the National Elections. The new National President for 2010 will be Arel Brown of New York. Bob York of Texas will serve as Vice-President while our current President, Jerry Reichel, will be Secretary/Treasurer. National Directors elected were Steve Lemmons of Washington, Brian Derickson of California, Dave Collette of Pennsylvania, and Bob York of Texas. Congratulations to all!

Congratulations to the newly elected NIRG Officers for 2010

President:	Dan Pudelek
Secretary:	Stan Stack
Treasurer:	Joe Serritella
Board of Directors:	Dave Arnswald, Ron Blum, Ed Fontana, Neil McManus and Alan Wall





TECH CORNER



ENTIRE CONTENTS OF LETTER RECEIVED FROM

PAUL FRARY OF THE MISSION TRAILS (CA.) R. G.

DATED DECEMBER 5, 1979 RE: CLUB CB'S

"Dear V-8ers: As I am the box cleaner for our club, I was reading your ROAD CHATTER tonight and decided to write to you about the #1 topic on page 3 in the question and answer section. You talked about CB's on tours to help in case of emergency. Think positive, why have an emergency or at least why wait for an emergency before using a CB. The group we tour with are almost all equipped with CB's. My wife, Bonnie (Vivian of Vintage Vogues by - V-8 TIMES) and I usually make long tours with a group from 5 or 6 R.G.'s in Northern Calif. Like Tulsa 3700 miles, Bend, Oregon and on to Wash. 2900 miles and we find the CB is great from start to finish. With every car equipped we are a group all day long and have a ball. On long runs just 2 to a car can be tiresome after 3 or 4 days on the road but on the CB's as a group the fun goes on. Even on 1 day tours they are handy in calling turning points, warning of upcoming traffic problems, wild drivers coming by or anything that comes to mind. Our feeling is that now that we've made the tours with a CB we don't want to go without it. We've had our emergencies too and as soon as some one hollers we all look for a place to pull off and then start finding out what the problem is and how long it will take then whether some will go on and find a place to stand by or even go to a motel and make sure we can get rooms for all. Our strongest hold out finally got a hand set and then a couple weeks ago we were returning from our Napa Wine Tour and get separated and he could hear me but didn't have power enough to reach me. We were close to home and went on and the next time I talked to him he said "I'm not going on another damn tour til I get a decent CB hooked up."

There are inverters that work. I have one on my '36 Cabriolet that I got from Roger Graham, 2031 Lulu, Wichita, Kansas 97211 for \$23.80 or 2 for \$45.00 shipped to one address. I have also found, at some electric supply stores, a unit made by Clifford Industries under the name of Vista P612. In looking for a unit be sure it not only inverts from 6 to 12 volt but also from Positive to Negative ground so everything can be bolted in with no worry about shorting out. These 2 really work even with the engine off which is important because if the engine or generator quits you need it then. I had one that would not work with the generator shut down. Anyway I'm sure you have someone back there that knows as much as I do about it.

Just a little more and I'll shut up. We are trying out here to get all V-8'ers to either run channel 8 or at least if you are another V-8 on the road go to 8 for contact instead of hunting around the channels for him. We are going to try to get the National to go for this and get it into the TIMES. Use Channel 8 for your V-8.

I enjoy your newsletter and hope to see some of your group at Claremont in July '80. I think they have a real good meet planned.

Sorry about the rambling but it seems that once I start I don't know when to stop."

/s/Happy V-Sing,
Paul H. Frary

Editor's Note: Many thanks, Paul, for taking the time to give us your insight on the subject of CB's. Your letter offers much food for thought. How about it, Good Buddies?? Maybe a note to the National re: "USE CHANNEL 8 FOR YOUR V-8" showing support will encourage them to "go for this."



10 Years Ago This Month – December 1999

The December Road Chatter contained a profile of Frank Koeder's '39 Ford Convertible. The December 5 Christmas Brunch, hosted by Norm & Dolly Collins in Long Grove, was attended by over 50 members, family, and friends. The first snowfall of the season came down while everyone was eating.

20 Years Ago This Month – December 1989

At the December 12 monthly meeting, Joey Novak was elected NIRG President for 1990. Bob Paladino agreed to take another year as Secretary and Earl Heintz remained as Treasurer. Outgoing President Lloyd Duzell announced that the Wheeling Township Hall had requested that we move our meeting dates because of conflicts. The motion passed unanimously to move the monthly meeting date from the 2nd Tuesday of the month to the 3rd Tuesday.

30 Years Ago This Month – December 1979

At the December 11 monthly meeting, new member Ron Ek joined the club. President Chester Lawrence gave a detailed tech talk on Flathead cooling. This talk is the reason that all members' Flatheads run cool to this day ☺. In the November/December V-8 Times, Editor Roger Neiss thanked members of the Northern Illinois Regional Group for their hospitality at a tailgate party during the Central National Meet in the Twin Cities.

40 Years Ago This Month – December 1969

21 members and their wives attended the 2nd annual NIRG Christmas party December 12. Norm Collins won the door prize – an artist's drawing of his car – a 1940 Standard Tudor. By show of hands at the party, dues were set at \$3 for new members and \$5 for renewals.

Flathead Flashback

Yes, that is Don Braun, some 22 years ago. No, that is not Elaine with him. She says it is Don's girlfriend, but she is really Elaine's friend.



V-8 Gals

If you missed the V-8s & Veteran's Luncheon you missed quite an event. After the lunch, we went over to Don & Elaine Braun's to check out Don's garage. Elaine put out quite a spread including these delicious cookies. I found this recipe at www.oceanspray.com. While I was at that web site, I came across a neat idea for your holiday table. Happy Holidays!!

Oatmeal Cranberry White Chocolate Chunk Cookies

2/3 cup butter or margarine, softened	1 teaspoon baking soda
2/3 cup brown sugar	1/2 teaspoon salt
2 large eggs	1 6-oz package Ocean Spray Craisins
1 1/2 cups old-fashioned oats	2/3 cup white chocolate chunks or chips
1 1/2 cups flour	



Preheat oven to 375

Using an electric mixer, beat butter or margarine and sugar together in a medium mixing bowl until light and fluffy. Add eggs, mixing well. Combine oats, flour, baking soda and salt in a separate mixing bowl. Add to butter mixture in several additions, mixing well after each addition. Stir in dried cranberries and white chocolate chunks.

Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake for 10 - 12 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on wire rack.

Makes approximately 2 1/2 dozen cookies.

Cranberry Candle Cups

4-6 clear martini glasses or wine goblets
 1 12-oz. bag Ocean Spray® Fresh Cranberries
 4-6 votive candles*
 Greenery or flowers, if desired



Fill glasses 2/3 full with fresh cranberries. Nestle a votive candle on top of the cranberries. If desired, add a few blossoms or sprigs of greenery.

Be careful to keep lit flames from directly touching the cranberries; the heat of the flame could cause the berries to burst. Do not leave lit candles unattended. Discard berries when they become soft, which can range from a few days to about a week.

* Variation: To use taper candles, start with empty glasses. Use candle putty to secure candle to the bottom of the glass (glasses with a flat bottom work best). Add fresh cranberries around the sides of the candle, filling 2/3 full.

NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR

September	October	November	December
10 Board Meeting 15 Member Meeting 25 - 27 NIRG Poker Run, Lake Geneva, WI	4 LaSalle Street Auto Row Car Show 8 Board Meeting 20 Member Meeting - Officer Nominations	7 Veteran's Day Lunch 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting - Officer Elections	No Meetings 6 Christmas Brunch
January	February	March	April
9 Installation Banquet at the Wellington 14 Board Meeting 19 Member Meeting	11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting	11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting	8 Board Meeting 20 Member Meeting

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

**KATHY SPRAU (12/2), FRANK NAGODE (12/3), MARY ANDERSON (12/4),
LEAH DULING (12/10), DAN PUDELEK (12/10), GERALD KELLY (12/11),
JANIS DIX (12/15), DICK ALFINI (12/21), CAROLYN GRAMS (12/23),
MARGARET KOEDER (12/25), KEN BOUNDS (12/26), DON BRAUN (12/26),
& RICH ANDERSON (12/31)**

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

**KEN & CAROLYN BOUNDS (12/6), BOB & ANGIE PALADINO (12/11),
GORDON & CHRIS COLDITZ (12/13), MARTY & LEAH DULING (12/21),
JERRY & ALEXANDRIA GUNDERSEN (12/22) &
TOM & MADELEINE O'DONNELL (12/27)**



**AND ALL THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND
ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH.**



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For Sale

A pair of Inner Fenders for a 1942-46 1/2 ton pickup for sale. The price is \$300 for both the right and left fenders. They are in pretty good shape with just a little rust. Contact Tom Myers, 847-398-6022.

Restored 1932 V-8 Chassis #18-6511 (very early) including front end, rear end, torque tube, steering column, rear spare tire carrier, front fender braces and headlight bar. For more information call Alan Wall, 847-869-4181 or cell 847-927-1932.

2 Unity Spotlights 6" Dia., 46-48 Ford-Mercury Heater, new parts for 53 Ford Pickup (Glove Box-Hood Trim-Visor Brackets) contact Jerry Gundersen, 847-395-2370.

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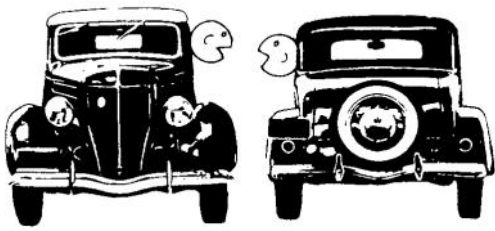
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Photo of the Month
Veterans Day Garage Tour at Don & Elaine's