

# ROAD CHATTER

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

Volume 46 Issue 4

P.O. Box 803

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

April 2012

[www.nirgv8.org](http://www.nirgv8.org)

## UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

**April 12** Board of Directors Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm.

**April 17** Monthly Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 8:00 pm.

**April 20** A Night at the Races - See Page 3.

**May 19-20** Joint tour with Rockford Group to Pontiac, IL - see Page 4.

**June 1-3** Joint tour with Northern Ohio Group to Kokomo, IN - see Page 4.



## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

**April 15** 36th Annual Corvette Show & Swap, Bill Jacobs Chevrolet, Joliet.

**April 27-29** 35th Annual Spring Jefferson Car Show & Swap Meet, Jefferson Fairgrounds, Jefferson, WI, Admission \$7, Parking \$3.

## In this Issue

**Page 2** – President Tom O'Donnell talks about recent and upcoming events and tells an interesting maintenance story about his Mercury.

**Page 3** – There is still time to sign up for our popular Night at the Races event. Read about it here and contact Ron Blum to attend.

**Pages 4-5** – The Club has many exciting events planned for you; some of them require reservations soon - read about four of them here.

**Page 6** – A report on our March 25 Eggs & Eights event, along with some historical perspective from host Tom Buscaglia.

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**Page 14** – A summary of the February Board Meeting of the Early Ford V-8 Club of America.

**Pages 16** – Our V-8 Gals page presents a top-10 list of spring cleaning tips. They may even work for guys too!

**Back Cover** – Our Photo of the Month: New member Gary Osborne's 1932 Ford Cabriolet.



## Anniversary Logo

New member Sam Van Bruggen wasted no time rolling up his sleeves and getting involved. Sam created the special logo commemorating our 45th Anniversary that you see on this page. We will use the logo for the rest of this year; thanks Sam!

**2012 OFFICERS****President**

Tom O'Donnell

**Vice President**

Frank Madrigali

**Secretary**

Stan Stack

**Treasurer**

Joe Serritella

**Membership Chairman**

Ken Bounds

**Health & Welfare**

Joe Serritella

**Tour Chairman**

Scott Gilday

**Newsletter**

Ken and Carolyn Bounds

**Board of Directors**

Ron Blum

Scott Gilday

Dan Pudelek

John Scheve

John Slobodnik

**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](mailto: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 my V-8 Friends.

Welcome to our newest member, Gary Osborne. When you see him at a meeting, step up and introduce yourself to him. It will be easier for him to remember your name if you wear your name tag.



I was glad to see the great turnout at the 3 events in March: Pioneer Turners Luncheon, Pizza Meeting and Eggs and Eights. The events calendar is being filled in and there are many good events being planned for the year. Your fellow Club members are working hard on tours and other events, so support them by signing up and participating in the events.

The Central National Meet in Branson will be here before you know it, so if you plan to go, get on the web and sign up before all of the rooms are gone. If you do not have web access, contact Ken Bounds or one of your friends for printout of the forms.

March weather was the warmest in history and it encouraged me to get out my Mercury and fix some of the minor things that have been bothering me. I started with fixing the seat so that I could adjust it. It had been stuck in one place since I brought it home from the upholstery shop. I found out that the tracks had been bent, so I disassembled them, straightened them and re-installed them. While I was wrestling with the bottom cushion to get it in position to install the seat backs, I heard a clink. Looking around, I saw this washer like object on the floor. Here is a photo of what I found.



Thanks to Sam Van Bruggen for our 45th Anniversary Logo. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the Memorabilia Night meeting and the Night at the races this month.

*Tom*

Tom O'Donnell  
NIRG President

**April 17 is Memorabilia Night!**

Be sure to attend the April 17 monthly meeting. What is Memorabilia Night? Members are encouraged to bring and display for the enjoyment of their fellow members anything they collect. This might be Ford parts, Ford literature, or just about anything else for that matter. It doesn't even have to be car-related. There will be time for you to briefly describe or explain your collection if you would like to. We just ask that everyone have a good time and share the experience of their collectibles.

**UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS****A Night at the Races – Friday Evening, April 20**

Ron Blum has once again arranged one heck of a deal for one of our most popular events. This year we will experience the thrill of harness racing at Maywood Park, 8600 W. North Avenue in Melrose Park. Even valet parking is included. The fun begins with the gourmet buffet at 6:30 pm – first race at 7:10.

**Grand Gourmet Buffet**

*Buffet served from 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm*

*Dessert served until 10:00 pm*

- ◆ Chef's Choice Carving Station with 2 Meats
- ◆ Chef's Pasta Station with Pasta Made to Order
- ◆ All-You-Can Eat Shrimp
- ◆ Chicken and Fish Entrée
- ◆ Salad Bar with Chilled Salads and Garden Fresh Green Salads
- ◆ Hot Soup
- ◆ Chef's Choice of Potato and Vegetable
- ◆ Rolls and Butter
- ◆ Dessert Table
- ◆ Coffee and Hot Tea



Our special NIRG package includes: free valet parking, fabulous buffet, racetrack admission, race program, NIRG race dedication, photo in winners circle, tax, and gratuity. And four lucky people even get a chance to ride in the Starter Car. Forty-seven V-8ers have already signed up!

**All of the above is only \$20.00 per person. Make your checks payable to Ronald Blum and send them to him at 3 Belaire Ct., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. The signup deadline has been extended to April 10 - contact Ron at 847-650-7059.**

## MORE UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

### Joint Pontiac-Oakland Museum Driving Tour Sat – Sun May 19 & 20, 2012

The Northern Illinois Regional Group will join the Greater Rockford Group Saturday May 19 - Sunday May 20 for a driving tour to Pontiac, IL. John Emmering is hosting the tour for the NIRG.

We will meet Saturday at 8:30 am at the White Fence Farm in Romeoville, then proceed about 70 miles down historic Route 66 to Pontiac, where we will visit the new Pontiac-Oakland Auto Museum, the Route 66 Hall of Fame and Museum, and more. An Italian dinner and a concert are planned for Saturday evening. An optional tour of a large private vintage Ford automobile collection will be offered Sunday May 20 before departing for home for those who stay over in Pontiac.



[Pontiac](http://www.visitpontiac.org) has many attractions and things to do - visit their website at [www.visitpontiac.org](http://www.visitpontiac.org). Drive your Early V-8 if you can, but remember that modern iron is always welcome!

You may just spend the day or stay overnight Saturday, May 19, at the Comfort Inn, Pontiac, IL. **To book a room call 815-842-2777 before April 19.** Mention Rockford V-8 Club to get the special room rate of \$76.49 a night plus tax. Please let John Emmering know if you are going; he will have a sign-up sheet at the April 17 meeting. For further information call John at 331-425-1187.

More details will be provided in the May Road Chatter, but make your hotel reservation now.



### Joint Driving Tour to Kokomo Area June 1-3, 2012

The Early Ford V-8 Club of America's Northern Illinois and Northern Ohio Regional Groups will once again join in a tour, this year to Kokomo, Indiana, Friday June 1 - Sunday June 3. Len & Irene Vinyard are hosting the tour for the NIRG.



Friday we will gather at the Lincoln Oasis, then tour to our first stop, the Grissom Air Museum, near Peru, IN (about 130 miles). From there it is on to Kokomo to the Elwood Haynes Museum. (Haynes designed one of the first gasoline-powered automobiles in the United States). Our evening event will be a dinner party and tour of the Monroe Seiberling Mansion. **The cost of the evening event is \$35 per person and must be paid in advance.**

On Saturday, after complimentary continental breakfast at the hotel, we will visit the Kokomo Automotive Museum in the morning and the James Dean Gallery in Fairmont in the afternoon. Evening dinner plans are pending.

Sunday, after continental breakfast and visiting, you can head home or, time permitting, visit downtown Kokomo for their famous art fair.

We will stay at the Hampton Inn & Suites at 2920 South Reed Road, Kokomo. When you call for reservations (765-455-2900) identify yourself as being with the V-8 Car Group to receive the contracted rate of \$89 per night. **The reservation deadline is May 10.** Please let Len & Irene know when you make your reservation and send them the fee for the mansion dinner party and tour.

Please watch the Road Chatter in coming months for more details.



## MORE UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

### Northern Illinois Regional Group 45th Anniversary Cruise July 29, 2012

July 29 will mark our Northern Illinois Regional V-8 Club's 45th Anniversary! The plan is to make this celebration not only the most attended event by our members but also one that everyone will enjoy. We will celebrate the event with a cruise on beautiful Lake Michigan. We are all looking forward to everyone enjoying the day of wonderful sights and events. What a great chance to visit and see our city!

This trip is designed for the whole family to enjoy. Our boat, the Mystic Blue, has 4 decks and we will have access to all decks during the cruise. Our own deck is called the Escapade Deck where we will have our brunch, entertainment and spectacular view of the lake. All decks are air conditioned except for the top open deck. Our brunch will include omelets, sirloin beef, chicken and a variety of salads. This boat is large and all cruises are in complete comfort. The Mystic blue is one of the nicest boats in the Chicago harbor.



Our deck has seating for all of us in one area. There will be tables for 8 to 10 chairs. The people that run the boat and cruise company know of our club and are looking forward to meeting us. Because seating on our deck will be limited we need everyone signed up as soon as possible. Boarding will begin at 12:30 pm; the cruise will take us from Navy Pier around to Oak St. Beach. The views of our city from this vantage point are wonderful. Bring your camera.

We will then cruise around the inner harbor to the Museum campus. Here we will see Shedd Aquarium, Field Museum and Buckingham Fountain. The sights are breathtaking. Most importantly all of our club members will be there to honor our anniversary.

If you have not been down to Navy Pier or the lakefront in a couple of years, now is the best time to explore. For those not wishing to drive, the club is arranging for a bus, departing from the Wheeling Township Center. This will make it much easier for everyone to attend the event. The bus will arrive at Navy Pier at cruise time and depart immediately after our cruise.

The deadline for signing up is the June meeting. The cost is only \$55 a person and includes the buffet brunch as well as all soft drinks and coffee; there will be a cash bar on our deck. Please make your checks out to the NIRG and send them to Tom O'Donnell, 651 E. Meadow Lane, Palatine, IL 60074. Over 40 people have already signed up; please sign up right away to ensure there is space for you on the bus.

### Barrington Concours d'Elegance

This year's Concours will be held Sunday, July 15th at the Makray Memorial Golf Club in Barrington. Although the March 31st deadline to nominate vehicles for the showfield has passed, you may still be able to show your car in the "Car Club Court." Participating clubs will have their own "Corral" with reserved spots for club members' cars. Club members displaying their cars will receive one general admission ticket to the Concours (worth \$20). If you're interested in participating in the Corral with your fellow NIRG members, please contact Scott Gilday at [sgilday@msn.com](mailto:sgilday@msn.com) or 847-277-0695.



## Eggs & Eights Breakfast

By Ken Bounds with Historical Footnote from Tom Buscaglia

With our incredible March weather continuing on the 25<sup>th</sup> our hosts Tom & Judy Buscaglia could not have picked a nicer day for our Eggs & Eights breakfast at Egg Harbor Restaurant in Geneva. After an incredible string of eight March days in the 80s, this day would top out at 74 degrees, yet only four Early V-8s were seen in the parking lot.

A crowd of 34 V-8ers enjoyed a terrific breakfast and excellent service, along with a large dose of camaraderie. We all got the chance to meet our newest member, Gary Osborne.

Attendance included our hosts Tom & Judy Buscaglia, Ron & Arlene Blum, Ken Bounds, Joe & Marie Dispensa, Lloyd & Gladys Duzell, John Emmering, Scott Gilday, Earl & Gene Heintz, Roger Hunz, John Judge, Joe & Nell Kozmic, Frank & Phyllis Madrigali, Joey Novak with Millie Olds, Tom & Madeleine O'Donnell, Gary Osborne, Dan & Diane Pudelek, Joe & Delice Serritella, John & Barbara Slobodnik, Larry & Jerry Webb, and George & Dawn Zulas.

After breakfast a number of us went outside to kick a few tires, and to check out the neat original seat covers on John Emmering's '49. Those who brought Early V-8s were Ken Bounds, 50 Convertible (top down!); Tom Buscaglia, 51 Tudor; Roger Hunz, 51 Tudor; and John Emmering, 49 Fordor. Scott Gilday drove his '69 Mustang, also topless, while the Madrigalis had their '57 Chevy. Thanks to Tom & Judy for once again arranging a great get-together and for having the foresight to schedule the event on such a beautiful day!

### A Wee Bit of History About Eggs & Eights, by Tom Buscaglia

I was just finishing up the '51 around 1991 and was thinking about how nice it would be to start driving it around. So after a few phone calls were made, we decided on a Sunday in early May as the date for our first get together. We met for breakfast at Egg Harbor in Hinsdale at York Rd. and Ogden Ave., and that became the unofficial start of our own cruisin' season. This was a time when Dick & Dotty Alfini ('51 convertible), Larry & Jerry Webb ('49), Dan & Diane Pudelek ('49), and Judy & I were known as "those Shoebox guys." Later on Rich & Judy Doligale ('53 pick 'em up), Wally Anderson ('50), and John & Phyllis Witthoeft ('50) came aboard.

We were not quite as well known in the club at that time, so we kinda did our own thing with the "Newer Ford Products," instead of hangin' with those "Ol' Guys" and their even older cars! However, we four were the original "Those Shoebox Guys."

There were years when it was just Dan, Diane, Judy and I having breakfast at Egg Harbor in Wheaton. We had moved it to Wheaton hoping to spur interest. I could be mistaken, but I do believe Ken (pre-Carolyn) showed up once! Even threw in the Naperville Model A guys one year!



Above & below, part of the large group awaits breakfast



Tom O'Donnell used to call it Bacon and 8's, but us young whipper-snappers changed it to Eggs & Eights. (Catchy, huh?)

Around 2000, when the Sutton Place complex was completed, we started having Eggs and Eights at the new Egg Harbor in Geneva. I believe we hit a club milestone this year with 34 people in attendance for breakfast. (Maybe Egg Harbor is becoming too small for us now?)

So, what started out as a "Shoebox Thing" has blossomed into a nice social gathering for a nice spring morning, with a lot of nice people, as an easy way to start the new touring season for everyone. How nice is that?



Shoebboxes dominated the parking lot



The guys really enjoyed John's vintage seat covers



Northern Illinois Regional Group logo clothing vendor  
for polo shirts, denim shirts, sweatshirts, jackets:  
EmbroidMe, 905 E Rand Rd, Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
(847) 577-1240 <http://nirfordv-8club.promoshop.com>



## TECH CORNER



### Illinois Legislative Update - Expanded Use Antique Vehicle Plates

One year ago we told you about a pending bill in the Illinois legislature to provide for expanded use Antique Vehicle license plates that would allow full use of the vehicle from April 1 through October 31, rather than the extremely limited use requirements currently imposed on vehicles with antique plates. The new plates will cost \$45 per year.

The good news is that the law passed the legislature last year and was signed into law by Governor Quinn, effective January 1, 2012. Unfortunately, neither the Secretary of State license offices nor the Secretary's "[Cyberdrive Illinois](#)" website have any information about obtaining these plates. At the Chicago Auto Show in February, I discussed the new plates with an administrator from the Special Plates Division in the Secretary of State's office who assured me that the website would be updated in March. She has just responded to my recent inquiry stating that the website will be updated April 4.



## 150<sup>th</sup> Pioneer Turners Lunch

### By Ken Bounds

On March 10, the President of the Pioneers group of the American Turners – Northwest Chicago, our own Charles Kaiser, hosted the 150<sup>th</sup> Pioneers Luncheon at the Northwest Turners facility in Schiller Park. The luncheon was open to all Pioneer Turners members and featured a special invitation to our group. Over 25 NIRG members, family, and friends enjoyed a nice meal and an afternoon of V-8 camaraderie. On a sunny, 60-degree late winter day you might expect to see several Early V-8s in the parking lot. Sadly, there was only one – your editor's '50 Crestliner, kept company by Len Vinyard's '57 T-Bird.

Before the luncheon, the emcee introduced President Kaiser, our own President Tom O'Donnell, and yours truly as National V-8 Club President. We were then served a scrumptious lunch featuring an absolutely delicious corned-beef sandwich. The beers were so inexpensive that some of us thought we should hang out there more often.

After lunch Charles presented a series of videos, beginning with the Century of Progress exhibition in Chicago, followed by very early V-8 Club picnics at the Groot farm in St. Charles and the Braun home in Prairie View. We thank Charles and co-organizer Ron Dopke for setting up a nice event and for presenting the interesting videos.



Organizer Ron Dopke and Host Charles Kaiser

If you are not familiar with the American Turners society, they have a long history in the US, going back to pre-Civil War days. You can learn much more about the local group at [www.northwestturners.org](http://www.northwestturners.org).



Participants included: our host Charles Kaiser, Ron & Arlene Blum, Ken Bounds, Norm Collins and family, Joe & Marie Dispensa, Ron Dopke with Norm Lang, John Judge, Joe Kozmic, Paul Linzer, Frank & Phyllis Madrigali, Tom O'Donnell, Dan Pudelek, John & Este Scheve, Joe Serritella, John & Barb Slobodnik, Stan & JoAnne Stack, and Len Vinyard.



The Prez gets caught sipping a beer



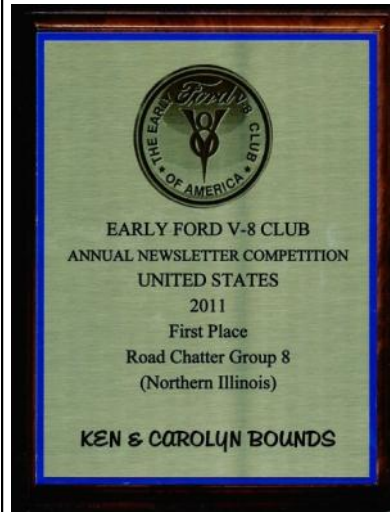
It was nice to see Norm Collins, with his granddaughter



## FROM THE EDITORS

Ken & Carolyn Bounds

Well, it happened again. We just have so many activities planned, so many to report on, and so much news we had to expand again to 20 pages - for the third month in a row!



In the February Road Chatter we mentioned that we were planning a series of articles called *Where Are They Now?*, reprinting stories about members' cars previously published in the newsletter, along with updates. In last month's Rearview Mirror column, we told you that the first story about a member's car appeared 40 years ago in the March 1972 newsletter. Who would have thought that exactly 40 years after that newsletter was published we would receive a membership inquiry from the person who owns that very car? Talk about serendipity! For the rest of the story, please read about new member Gary Osborne, below, then we hope you enjoy our first *Where Are They Now*, beginning on Page 10.

*Ken & Carolyn*

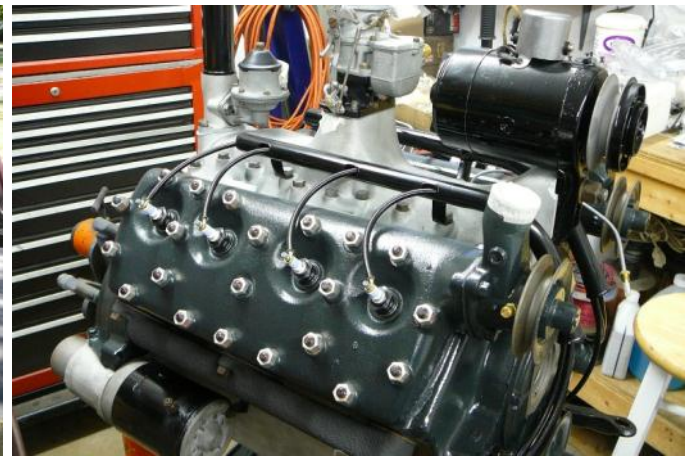
## Welcome New NIRG Member

The Northern Illinois Regional Group welcomes yet another new member, Gary Osborne. Gary and wife Dawn live in St. Charles; their contact information should be on a label included with this issue that you can add to your 2012 Roster.

Gary is a member of the National V-8 Club and has a very special connection to the NIRG. Gary was a neighbor of the late Len O'Connor, NIRG President from 1970 - 1974. Gary even owns the '32 Cabriolet that Len wrote about in the newsletter 40 years ago in March 1972. Gary said that he could use some advice from the members in completing restoration of the '32 - see photos below. We are also featuring Gary's car as our Photo of the Month. He said that the fenders are not yet installed - just there for a test fitting.



Gary attended the Eggs & Eights breakfast March 25; we hope to see Gary and Dawn at upcoming meetings and events. Welcome!



## Where Are They Now?

This is the first in our series of articles about members' Early V-8s that have been featured in past editions of the newsletter. What follows is the very first article about a member vehicle as published 40 years ago in the March 1972 newsletter. The introduction was written by Newsletter Editor Ron Dopke.

Here is the first of our new features regarding club members cars. As might have been expected, President Len O'Connor was the first to respond. Our sincere thanks to Len and his pioneering spirit. Let's hope his example will stir others to action. There must be some good stories on the subject. Won't you have share yours with us? But now, on to the saga of Len O'Connor's 1932 DeLuxe Convertible Coupe.

### My 1932 V-8 Cabriolet

I acquired my first '32 convertible through an ad in Hemmings Motor News. It was in Bethesda, Maryland. I called the fellow on the phone and got a complete description of the car. It sounded too good to be true, everything I asked about had the right answer. Only one drawback, a fellow in Windsor, Canada had tentatively agreed to buy the car but wanted to come look at it first. I hung up and the wife and I talked it over. I called him back about an hour later and tried to persuade him to sell me the car sight unseen.

He finally agreed that if he had the money by the following morning, he would close the deal. He would have to phone the man in Windsor to tell him it was sold, before he made plans to fly in and see it.

The next morning the wife was at the bank when it opened and had the money sent via Western Union. He had agreed that as soon as he received the money, he would wire me a receipt in return showing the title number, etc. I thought this would assure me the car was mine and couldn't be sold to someone else, as it would be about 6 weeks before I could pick the car up. I received the receipt the same day and about a week later I received some color photos of the car, inside and out. After looking at the pictures, I was even more elated over the purchase I had made.

We started making plans for the trip to get the car. I decided to tow bar it home, as I had done with several other cars in the past. I borrowed a couple of 1932 wheels with good rubber, in case of any tire trouble. He said he had just installed a new Sears battery and all lights were in good working order. He also had the transmission and rear end checked for fluid and new anti-freeze put in the radiator. About the middle of February we started for Maryland, hoping for good weather. We were going and returning on the tollways so we thought even if it did snow we wouldn't be too bad off. We picked Cleveland, Ohio as the halfway point and stayed there overnight. The next morning we started for Bethesda getting in to town late in the afternoon. I called and made arrangements to see the car the following morning. The fellow had told us of a nice motel that was convenient to everything and also not too far from him.

The next morning we were there at the prescribed time anxious to see what we had bought, sight unseen. He opened the garage door and there she sat, I walked around her once and was sure I had made a great buy. His first words were, "If you aren't satisfied, I'll be glad to give you your money back." I said, "No, I had bought it for better or for worse."



The response to his ad had been more than his expectations. Some had offered considerably more money for the car than he had asked for in the ad. I asked him if I could leave the car there for a couple more days and he agreed.

We thought we would mix business and pleasure as long as we were surrounded by so many historical sights.

For the next couple of days we took in as much as we could see, mostly on tours. We thought we would see more in this fashion than on our own. Some of the highlights were the Embassy Row, Capital Building, Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Institute and the U.S. Mint where the paper money and stamps are printed. (We couldn't get out with any samples though).

Then, early one morning, we hooked the tow bar to our new purchase and started home. Again, staying in Cleveland over night and on home the next day. Not one bit of trouble and dry pavement all the way! It was cold though, -10 degrees in Cleveland.

I didn't do much that summer except dispose of the four (4) 1939 Fords that I had. The following summer I started disassembling the 1932 down to the bare frame and started from there. The engine was rebuilt by Surburban Auto Parts in Maywood. Mains were poured and align bored, new camshaft, rebored .030 and all new component parts. The number of the motor matches the number on the frame so I know it is the original motor.

As of now, the chassis is almost complete except for a few minor things such as brake rods and adjustments. Then it will be ready for the body.

I am anxiously awaiting warm weather to get some paint on the body, so it can be set back on the chassis. The upholstery is being done by LeBerron Bonney, so that leaves only the top to deal with. I'm hoping to have it on the road later in the summer. As many of you know, I have since acquired another 1932 Ford Convertible but that will have to be in another letter later.

I have repurchased a 1939 Deluxe Coupe that I sold a few years ago, to use in our outings this summer, and hope to see more of you at some of the Club functions come warm weather. Happy motoring with the Early V-8's.

Sincerely,

Len O'Connor

OK - this is the first in our *Where Are They Now?* series. And if you read Page 9, you already know part of the answer! Although Len predicted the '32 would be on the road that summer, it was not.

When Gary Osborne sent us an inquiry about joining the NIRG he said: ***"I am in the process of restoring my first car and could probably use a little help and advise from some of your members. The car that I own also has a connection to your club. It was one of the cars that Len O'Connor (charter member and past president) owned a long time ago. He disassembled it in 1963 and never put it back together."*** We forwarded Gary a copy of the story reprinted above and received the following response: ***"I just read your e-mail, and I sure was surprised to find out that the story that Len wrote was about the car that I have. He never did finish the chassis completely or paint and install the body. The other 32 that he purchased was the one that he finally finished. As a matter of fact I think that he put the engine that he rebuilt into the other car and not mine (#s don't match, so my engine must be out of his second car, too bad)."*** Now we know where the car is - let's hope Gary finally gets it on the road!



## MARCH 20 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by Stan Stack

The Pizza Meeting was a great success with 61 members, family, and friends in attendance. Thanks to John & Barb Slobodnik for collecting the \$12 per person and providing a sign-in sheet. With the great weather, club cars were driven to the meeting by President Tom O'Donnell – '40 Mercury, Stan Stack – '53 Tudor, and Ken & Carolyn Bounds – '50 Convertible.



President Tom O'Donnell opened with a short meeting prior to pizza being served at our new location, Lou Malnati's in Elk Grove Village.

Treasurer Joe Serritella reported an ending balance of \$4,358. Joe also presented two "Health and Welfare" items: Neil and Julie McManus have a new grandchild, and Earl and Gene Heintz have a new great-grandchild.

Tour Chairman Scott Gilday talked briefly about upcoming tours. Signup sheets were passed around for Sunday's Eggs & Eights breakfast, the April 20 Night at the Races event, the July 1-3 joint overnighter to Kokomo with the Northern Ohio Regional Group, and the July 29 45th Anniversary Cruise on Lake Michigan.

President Tom O'Donnell sends his apologies to all in attendance for the crowded conditions. The great weather and possibly change of location contributed to a much larger than expected crowd.

Diane Pudelek took home \$57 from the 50/50 raffle. Sue (Alfini) Morrison had the winning bid of \$15 for two VIP Packages at Maywood Park.

Attendance: Dottie Alfini with daughter Sue, Ben & Ginny Ashley, Ron & Arlene Blum, Ken & Carolyn Bounds, Don & Elaine Braun, Tom & Judy Buscaglia, Ron & Sue Dopke, Joe & Marie Dispensa, Marty & Leah Duling & son Paul, Lloyd & Gladys Duzell, John & Robin Emmering, Terry & Kitty Freihage, Scott Gilday, Mike Heatherly, Earl & Gene Heintz, Gary & Joan Kelly, Frank Koeder, Joe & Nell Kozmic, Frank & Phyllis Madrigali, Joe Novak with Millie Olds, Roger Obecný, Tom O'Donnell, Bob Paladino, Dan & Diane Pudelek, John & Este Scheve, Joe & Delice Serritella, John & Barbara Slobodnik, Stan & JoAnne Stack, Sam Van Bruggen, Ron Vaughan, Len & Irene Vinyard, Alan Wall, Larry & Jerry Webb, and George & Dawn Zulas with son George.



President O'Donnell attempts to conduct the meeting—  
new member Sam Van Bruggen shown on right



Just a portion of the huge crowd



It was nice to see Sue Dopke, with Ron



### 10 Years Ago This Month – April 2002

The April 16 Pizza Meeting at John's Pizza in Addison, hosted by Bob & Angie Paladino, was attended by 37 members and spouses. The April Road Chatter contained a photo of long-distance member Norm Miller posing with Marilyn Monroe. We suspect that one of the two in the photo may have been a cutout.

### 20 Years Ago This Month – April 1992

Sixty-two members and guests attended the Annual Pizza Meeting at John's Pizza April 21. On a cold April 26 morning, over 25 NIRG volunteers manned Checkpoint One in the March of Dimes Walk (Drive) America event. Although we had committed to raising \$500 in donations, our NIRG turned over almost \$2,600 to the March of Dimes. Sixteen Early V-8s and two other classics were displayed. Our write-up even appeared in the V-8 Times.

### 30 Years Ago This Month – April 1982

A crowd of 69 attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pizza Meeting April 13. New member Barry Jacksier (who was the original Chairman of the 1986 Central National Meet) was welcomed. Seventeen members and family participated in an April 25 Tour in Time in Rockford, hosted by Chuck & Diane Wrobel. The tour included stops at the Time Museum at the Clock Tower Inn and the Rockford Museum-Midway Village.

### 40 Years Ago This Month – April 1972

The March newsletter welcomed new member George Cech, along with his '36 Phaeton. The newsletter published its second story about a member's car, Bob Blackmore's '41 Convertible (41-48 Fords had just been accepted into the V-8 Club). Plans were being made for a large Club turnout at the May AACA Grayslake meet.

### Flathead Flashback

**This 1944 Ford Transit Bus, owned by the Illinois Railway Museum, was featured 30 years ago in the March-April V-8 Times. Curator Jeff Wein, a member of NIRG, was in charge of restoration. Neil McManus had encouraged Jeff to submit his story to the V-8 Times.**





## Summary of the Early Ford V-8 Club Board of Directors Meeting February 2012 - San Diego, CA

Prepared by Midwest Director Ken Bounds

The annual “face-to-face” meeting of the National Board of Directors of the Early Ford V-8 Club of America was held February 22 -23, 2012 in San Diego, CA. The Board thanks the San Diego Regional Group and especially V-8 Times Editor Jerry Windle, for their work in setting up and hosting the meeting. At a reception the night before the meeting, plaques were presented to outgoing President Bob York and Northeast Director Arel Brown for their service (outgoing CA/Southwest Director John Connelly was not present). We also had the ceremonial passing of the gavel from Bob to incoming President Ken Bounds.

As the official meeting got underway, 2010 President Arel Brown swore in the 2012 officers, including President Ken Bounds, returning Vice President Don Singleterry and Secretary Steve Lemmons, along with new Directors Tom Gormley of Connecticut and Tom Johnston of California and re-elected Directors Lynn Stringer of Michigan and Lou Mraz of Colorado.



The swearing in ceremony - “So Help Me Henry”

National Chief Judge and Deputies – The Board confirmed the appointment to three-year terms of National Chief Judge John McBurney, Deputy National Chief Judges Scot Kohler (West), Jerry Vincentini (Central) and Ray Beebe (East), and Alternate Deputy National Chief Judge Craig Gorris.

Annual Roster Submission – The By-Laws were clarified to state that each Regional Group will forward their roster as of June 1 to their respective Director by July 1 annually.

Club Book Sales – Sales of club books and accessories are ahead of projections, but because of the significant stock of certain books, the Board voted to provide copies of the V-8 Cookbook for the goody bags of each registrant for 2012 National Meets, and copies of the V-8 Cookbook, the Grease Pit Poet, and the “old” 1932 Ford Book to registrants for the 2013 Grand National Meet. The Board also voted to make a package of one set of the entire library of Club books available to each Regional Group at a steeply discounted price of \$300 per set, shipping included.

Club Website – Outgoing Director John Connelly, who along with his wife Margaret were instrumental in the significant improvements in the [Club website](#), have turned over management to new Director Tom Johnston. Bruce Nelson, who was named by Board in 2011 as the website administrator, has completed his training by the Connellys and has taken over daily administration. The Club is indebted to the Connellys for their accomplishments.

Technical Books – Progress continues on the 1940 Ford Book, the 1952-1953 Ford Book, and the 1949-1951 Mercury Book. Development has begun on the Flathead Engine Book. North-Central Director Lou Mraz presented the latest revisions to the Technical Book Guidelines.

National Meets - The Eastern National meet in Hiawassee, Georgia, is on track with 145 registrations.

The Central National meet August 20-23 in Branson, Missouri, is being put on by the National Board of



Directors; John McBurney and Bruce Nelson co-chairmen. The board of directors is experimenting with Cornerstone Registration, which handles V-8 Club membership, to handle the meet registration. This is a new concept that has the potential to be adapted for future meets. It may ease the registration process and remove that burden from the hosting regional group.

The Western National meet in Redmond, Oregon, is moving along smoothly with over 130 registrations.

The Grand National meet, June 16-20, 2013, in Lake Tahoe, California, is progressing on schedule. The Golden Gate Regional Group #1 is working hard on this meet. The hotels of Harrah's (host hotel) and Harvey's will be the two main hotels.

The Board approved a bid from the National Capital Regional Group to host the 2014 Eastern National meet June 1-4, 2014, in Aberdeen, Maryland.

National Tour Program – Director Lou Mraz presented a proposal to test a National Tour Program in 2012 with the inaugural tour being along the Great River Road in the upper Midwest.

Judging Standards Committee – Ken Bounds reported the JSC has determined that Rouge Class judging sheets will be reviewed with and signed by car owners. Due to safety concerns replacement wiring will be allowed as needed in Rouge Class.

75th Anniversary Program – This program will continue with the owner of each 1937 Ford shown at a 2012 National Meet being presented with a certificate and commemorative license tab. A prototype of the tab was shown to the board and the order of tabs approved. No tabs will be available for sale until after the Eastern National Meet.



Driving Certificate - The Board clarified the intention to present a certificate to any member who drives their Early V-8 to all National Meets in a year, except for Grand National Years. Eligibility will be determined by reviewing the sheets of attendees requesting mileage bars.

Club Advertising – The Board is looking for a volunteer who has marketing experience to help advertise the V-8 Club and its events. An article will be placed in upcoming issues of the *V-8 Times* requesting volunteer members with marketing experience to assist with club promotion.

Directors and Officers Liability Insurance – Northeast Director Tom Gormley reported that about 40 Regional Groups applied for the insurance.

Financial Statements – The Board approved a proposal to publish a summary financial statement annually in the *V-8 Times*. The first statement should appear in the March-April issue.

V-8 Club 50th Anniversary – Arel Brown reported on various plans to commemorate the Club's 50th anniversary. Special clothing items, commemorative license toppers and related memorabilia will be available. Bob York reported on plans for a raffle car. Steve Lemmons presented an outline of an anniversary book; Henry Dominguez is willing to be the author. Arel discussed the planned National Tour across the Lincoln Highway to the Grand National Meet.

V-8 Times Archive Scanning – Dan Wittern reported that scanning of the *V-8 Times* is nearly completed. The board will now look for ways to promote the availability of scanned material.

Upcoming Board Meetings – The next meeting, May 19, will be a second face-to-face in Houston. Conference calls are tentatively scheduled for August 11 and November 17. The Board tentatively plans to hold the 2013 face-to-face meeting February 12-13 in the Santa Rosa/Napa, CA, area.

# V-8 Gals

It's that time of year again. It's time for spring cleaning! I'm not a fan but I always feel a great sense of satisfaction when I have cleaned the house from top to bottom. I'm always on the lookout for new tips and tricks. I came across this list from the people at Readers Digest. I plan on giving some of these a try. Hope they work out for you too!

## Top 10 Cleaning Tips You've Never Tried!

### 1. Blinds

The best way to dust blinds is to close them and then wipe up and down with an old dryer sheet. This not only captures the dust, but also leaves an antistatic barrier that helps prevent dust from forming.

### 2. Walls

Use a Mr. Clean Magic Eraser to get those scuff marks off your walls.

### 3. Glass and mirrors

Use coffee filters, not paper towels, to clean glass and mirrors because they leave no streaks or lint.



### 4. Bathroom shower

Combine half white distilled vinegar and half water in a spray bottle and spray the shower as you're getting out and the shower walls are still wet. The vinegar absorbs the odors of a musty bathroom, and the vinegar odor disappears in an hour or so.

### 5. Oven

Clean your oven with a wet pumice stone. It will do the job much faster than a spray-on product.

### 6. Wood floors

When damp-mopping wood floors use only tap water or a water-based floor cleaner. Never use vinegar on wood floors! It contains acid, which will pit the polyurethane finish and may reduce shine over time. (If you have a new wood floor, using vinegar on it could void the warranty.)

### 7. Microwave oven

To clean the microwave oven, mix one tablespoon of baking soda with one cup of water. Microwave for two minutes or until it is boiling. This will not only eliminate odors, but also makes it very easy to wipe away stuck-on food.

### 8. Getting rid of cobwebs

To clean cobwebs in hard-to-reach spots, tie a tube sock to the end of a yardstick. This also works for cleaning under the stove and refrigerator.

### 9. Bathroom tiles

Lemon oil will not only shine dull bathroom tiles, but also help prevent mold and mildew.

### 10. Toilet bowls

Eliminate the unsightly ring in the toilet by dropping a bubbling denture tablet into the bowl. Let it sit for at least 30 minutes or overnight. A few swishes of a toilet brush will wipe off the stain.



**NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR**

<b>January</b> 12 Board Meeting 14 Installation Dinner 17 Member Meeting	<b>February</b> 9 Board Meeting 12 Ladies Night Out 21 Member Meeting	<b>March</b> 8 Board Meeting 10 Turners Luncheon 20 Pizza Meeting	<b>April</b> 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting 20 A Night at the Races Maywood Pk
<b>May</b> 10 Board Meeting 15 Member Meeting 19-20 Joint Tour to Pontiac, IL	<b>June</b> 1-3 Joint Tour to Kokomo, IN 14 Board Meeting 16 Duals Night 19 Member Meeting 19-22 Eastern National Meet Hiawassee, GA	<b>July</b> 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting 23 NIRG 45th Anniversary 29 NIRG 45th Anniversary Cruise, Lake Michigan	<b>August</b> 5 Annual Picnic 9 Board Meeting 21 Member Meeting 20-23 Central National Meet, Branson, MO
<b>September</b> 8 Duals Night 13 Board Meeting 18 Member Meeting 28-30 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	<b>October</b> 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting - Officer Nominations	<b>November</b> 8 Board Meeting 10 Veteran's Day Lunch 20 Member Meeting - Officer Elections	<b>December</b> No Meetings TBD Christmas Brunch

## Happy Easter and Passover

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

**JOE DISPENSA (4/2), ARLENE HAYDEN (4/2), JUDY MYERS (4/7),  
 NORM MILLER (4/11), RON EK (4/21), MARTY DULING (4/22),  
 RON VAUGHAN (4/23), ROBIN EMMERING (4/28), & JOHN JUDGE (4/29)**

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

**TOM & JUDY BUSCAGLIA (4/8), ERNIE & TERRY HERZOG (4/10),  
 BEN & GINNY ASHLEY (4/11), ERIC & CHERYL KOZMIC (4/20),  
 JOE & DELICE SERRITELLA (4/25), COLLIN & KATHY SPRAU (4/29),  
 FRANK & CAROLYN NAGODE (4/30), & LEN & IRENE VINYARD (4/30)**

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





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**1937, 90 hp motor**, total rebuild, runs perfect, 50 lbs oil pressure. \$1,250. Call Paul Jensen 847-678-0123.

**1973 Ford F-350 Ranger XLT pickup**, Super Camper Special, 4-speed, 4bbl, 3.56 rear, no leaks, interior good, AM/FM/Cassette, CB, tach, sliding rear window, custom rear bumper, frame-mounted trailer hitch, good tires on custom wheels, excellent body - red/white, diamond-plate bed rails, tool box & running boards, new battery. Must sell—\$10,000 or best offer. Contact Elaine Braun, 847-634-3161.



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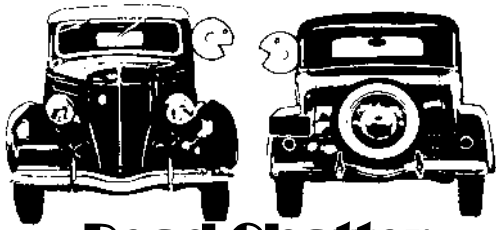
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**Photo of the Month**  
**Gary Osborne's 1932 Cabriolet**