

ROAD CHATTER

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

P.O. Box 803

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

www.nirgv8.org

Volume 47 Issue 1

January 2013

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

January 10 Board of Directors Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm

January 12 Installation Dinner. See Page 3 for details.

January 15 Monthly Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 8:00 pm.



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

January 13 36th Annual Illinois Region AACA Auto Parts Swap Meet, Don McCue Chevrolet, St. Charles, IL, 8am-1pm, \$5 donation

January 22 40th Annual Swap Meet, Great Lakes Vintage Chevy Club, Bill Jacobs Chevrolet, Joliet, IL, 8am-1pm, \$5 donation

In this Issue

Page 2 – Incoming President Scott Gilday introduces his new team of officers and looks forward to many exciting events in 2013.

Page 2 – Reservations needed now for our February Ladies Night Out Event. Send enclosed flyer to Joe Novak by January 10.

Page 3 – Our first big event of 2013 is our Installation Dinner January 12; we hope to see everyone there.

Page 4 – John & Este Scheve hosted our annual Christmas Luncheon December 19 - see Este's report here.

Page 5 – Rearview Mirror – information about club events over the past 40 years, plus a Flathead Flashback.

Page 6 – Way back in June, John Emmering sent us an interesting article about John Dillinger's creative use of V-8 Fords. We just haven't had space to print it - until now. Thanks John!

Page 8 – Did you receive a lot of Christmas cards? Our V-8 Gals provides a list of interesting ways to get a little more use from them.

Page 10-11 – Remember to support our advertisers.

With lots of holiday travel, we abbreviated this issue to 12 pages and gave Tech Corner the month off so we could get the Road Chatter to you timely. Reminder: we could really use your tech articles or articles about your car!

Back Cover – Photo of the Month: Our Christmas Luncheon hosts, John & Este Scheve.



If your dues have not been received by the end of January, this will be your last issue of the Road Chatter and your name will be omitted from the 2013 Roster.

If we have not received your dues, there will be a red notice on the back cover of your Road Chatter saying "Last issue if dues are not paid." There will also be another membership renewal form inside your Road Chatter.

Please review the form, make any corrections or additions, and return it to the Membership Chairman at the address shown on the form.



2013 OFFICERS**President**

Scott Gilday

Vice President

Frank Madrigali

Secretary

Stan Stack

Treasurer

Joe Serritella

Membership Chairman

Ken Bounds

Health & Welfare

Joe Serritella

Tour Chairman

Ron Steck

Newsletter

Ken and Carolyn Bounds

Board of Directors

Ron Blum

Tom O'Donnell

Dan Pudelek

John Scheve

Ron Steck

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

Happy New Year!

With 2012 in our rearview mirror, it's time to savor those few last sips of eggnog and champagne as we welcome in the New Year and our new club officers. I'm honored to serve as your new president and very excited about the year ahead. I obviously have some big shoes to fill, but I will do my best to serve you well. I'm also happy to announce that Frank Madrigali has agreed to stay on as Vice President, Ken Bounds has agreed to stay on as Membership Chairman, Joe Serritella has agreed to stay on as Health & Welfare Chairman and Ron Steck will be taking over my former role as Tour Chairman.

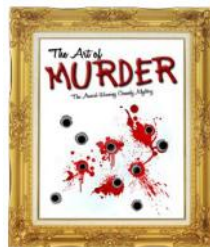


First, I want to thank Tom O'Donnell for serving as our club president this past year. I'm sure I speak for all of us when I say how much we appreciate everything he did. Also, I want to thank Este and John Scheve for all their hard work planning our annual Christmas Luncheon. Even with the busy holiday season, we were glad to see such a great turnout of our V-8 friends, many of whom we don't see as often as we'd like.

Looking ahead, we have a calendar full of exciting events on tap for this year. This month, I hope to see you at our annual Installation Banquet on Saturday, January 12th. (If you haven't already RSVP'd, please be sure to let Frank Madrigali know if you'll be attending.) We also have our Lady's Night Out coming up February 10th at the Pheasant Run Resort, which is always a good time. In addition to these events, I encourage you to attend our monthly meetings, where you can kick the tires with your fellow V-8ers and sharpen your V-8 knowledge with our Tech Talks.

As you're considering your new year's resolutions for 2013, don't forget the NIRG. We are always looking for folks to step up and get more involved, so if you have any ideas for club activities or Tech Talks, just let me know. Likewise, if you have any other thoughts you'd like to share, feel free to catch me at a meeting or email me at sgilday@msn.com.

Scott Gilday
NIRG President

Ladies Night Out: Sunday, February 10

Joe Novak has arranged our Ladies Night Out event for Valentines Day, once again at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles. The cost of only \$57 per person must be paid by January 10; see all the details in the enclosed flyer. Please contact Joe at 708-923-9953 **today** if you plan to attend.

UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

2013 Installation Dinner

January 12, 2013



Place: Casey's Restaurant
415 E North Avenue
Lombard, IL
630-932-4777



Time: 6:30 - 7:30 PM Open Bar
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.

Come and spend a fun evening with your V-8 Club friends.

- ◆ **Introduction of NIRG Officers for 2013!**
- ◆ **Presentation of Service Awards!**
- ◆ **Many Valuable Door Prizes! Note: additional door prize donations welcome.**

RSVP date was January 1st, but if you want to attend and did not make your reservation, call Frank Madrigali at 708-344-8063 today to see if he can get you in.



Christmas Luncheon By Este Scheve

On December 9, thirty-eight members, spouses, family and friends met at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant in Westmont for our annual Holiday lunch. The room was decorated for the season and everyone was festive during our meet and greet time before the meal was served.

We started with beef noodle soup, crackers and bread and then the plates of food served family style kept coming and coming. As the platters were passed around each table, there was finally no place left to put the dishes! But the food was wonderful; roast chicken, breaded port tenderloin, roast beef, mashed potatoes, dumplings, sauerkraut, cabbage, carrots and of course lots of gravy. In fact we laughed as the server came around with a large pitcher to fill up the gravy boats mid-meal. And when we wanted more, they brought more! Some belts must have been loosened after the meal!

There was a ladies grab bag exchange; 8 ladies participated. Gifts included some lovely candles and decorations and there were some bottles of holiday festivity also received.

Dessert consisted of assorted kolachkys, and apple strudel with coffee.

Those attending were:

Larry and Jerry Webb, Len and Irene Vinyard, Bill and Marty Valters, Ron and Colleen Steck, John and Barbara Slobodnik, Joe and Delice Serritella, John and Este Scheve, Dan and Diane Pudelek, Tom and Madeline O'Donnell, Joe Novak and Millie Olds, Frank and Phyllis Madrigali and family, Joe and Nell Kozmic, Charles Kaiser, John Judge and friend, Earl and Gene Heintz, Scott and Nicole Gilday, Don and Elaine Braun with Stan Gaynor and Ben and Ginny Ashley.



Phyllis & Frank Madrigali



New First Family Nicole & Scott Gilday



Colleen & Ron Steck with Charles Kaiser in background



10 Years Ago This Month – January 2003

Ken Bounds and Carolyn O'Hare hosted the installation dinner January 18 at The Terrace in Lombard. The group was entertained all evening with the keyboard stylings of our own Ron Vaughan. The delicious family-style dinner was followed by service awards, introduction of new officers, and presentation of door prizes. The January Road Chatter encouraged members to include their e-mail addresses in the new roster.

20 Years Ago This Month – January 1993

Fifty-two members and guests attended the January 16 installation dinner, hosted by Dick & Dotty Alfini at Café 59 in Naperville. At the January 19 monthly meeting, returning President Ken Bounds introduced new officers and board members and outlined the tentative 1993 events calendar. Membership Chairman Neil McManus passed out membership rosters and reported that membership now stood at 81.

30 Years Ago This Month – January 1983

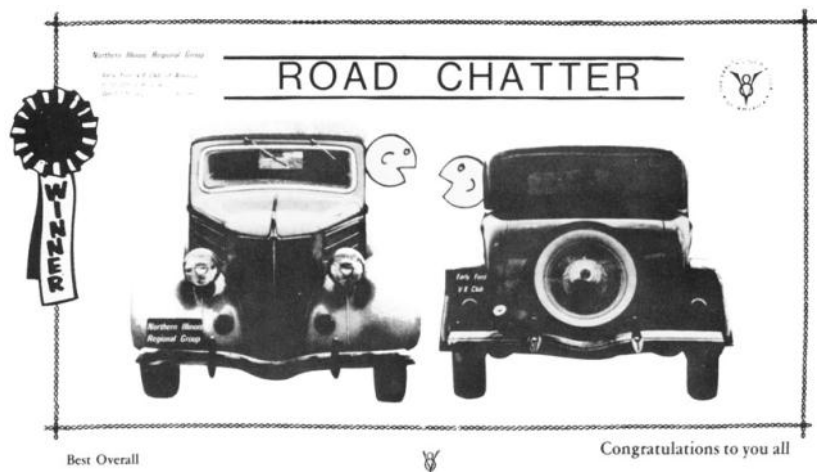
A large group braved treacherous weather to attend the January 11 meeting at member Don Roels' shop in Melrose Park. Incoming President Chester Lawrence brought along the new t-shirts that were ordered in December, thanking Lloyd Duzell for suggesting the attractive red V-8 logo. Well over 50 members and guests attended the January 22 Installation Dinner, hosted at the Mug Pub in Itasca by Tom & Madeleine O'Donnell.

40 Years Ago This Month – January 1973

The January newsletter reported that 16 members intended to attend the inaugural Grand National Meet in Dearborn in August. The January 8 meeting at Jack Loftus Ford in Willowbrook was well attended with 25 members, spouses, and guests present. The 1973 events calendar was discussed with several events already planned. It was decided that the group would start collecting the \$5 annual dues on a calendar year basis – five members anted up on the spot, including Charles Kaiser and Chester Lawrence.

Flathead Flashback

At the January 22-23, 1983 National Board Meeting, the *Road Chatter* was announced as the Best Overall in the 1982 newsletter competition. Source: *V-8 Times*.



John Dillinger's Wild V-8 Dash to Chicago & Beyond

By John Emmering

When Ford introduced its V-8 engine in 1932 it made faster cars available to the average motorist. Those early V-8 models of 1932-34 also became a favorite of many celebrated depression era gangsters. Here is another account of how the Ford V-8 fit into the history of that lawless period.

After John Dillinger's escape from the Lake County Jail on March 3, 1934, purportedly with a wooden gun, he made his way to the Main Street Garage across from the County Court House in Crown Point, Indiana. Dillinger asked Edwin Saager, the mechanic on duty "What's the fastest car you've got?" Saager replied that it was Sheriff Holley's car, the new Ford V-8. With that Dillinger, fellow escapee Herbert Youngblood, and hostages Deputy Ernest Blunt and the mechanic Edwin Saager were off on Dillinger's wild dash to Chicago, Illinois and freedom.



Photo: Universal Pictures

The getaway car was a standard 1933 Model 40 Ford V-8 Tudor, which served as Lake County Sheriff Lillian Holley's official police vehicle. Mrs. Holley assumed the office of Sheriff after her husband Roy F. "Doc" Holley, age 43, was killed in the line of duty. Deputy Ernest Blunt was forced to drive the car and was instructed to travel the speed limit. Dillinger had him stop the Ford as they headed into St. John,



Indiana and tore off the vehicle's red spotlight lens knowing the police would be on the lookout for a sheriff's car. Dillinger's escape was aided by the fact that the wrong license plate number was given out for the Sheriff's sedan.

Traveling down Indiana Route 41 Dillinger had Deputy Blunt turn west toward Illinois on 151st Ave. and continue past the state line into Illinois, near Beecher. Later this would prove to be a fatal error on Dillinger's part. Continuing on what became West Beecher Road the V-8 Tudor got stuck in the mud and Blunt and Saager worked to push it onto dry pavement. Saager installed tire chains on the Ford to make it more road worthy. At this point Dillinger released his two

hostages near rural Peotone, knowing it would be a long walk to a telephone, and continued on to Chicago with Youngblood. Police found Sheriff's Holley's 1933 Ford V-8 Tudor abandoned in front of 1057 W. Ardmore Avenue on Chicago's north side on March 7, 1934. The Ford V-8 was returned to police service and apparently went the way of any police car, used until well-worn and sold at auction.

Concluding a short stay in Chicago, Dillinger headed for St. Paul, Minnesota, joining forces with the Baby Face Nelson gang. Soon they robbed banks in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and Mason City, Iowa. The gang was



Photo: Courtesy Tony Stewart

cornered by federal agents at the Little Bohemia Lodge in Manitowish Waters, Wisconsin on April 22, 1934 in a poorly conceived raid. When the gangsters were alerted to the approach of the agents by barking dogs, Dillinger and his fellow gangsters Homer Van Meter and Jack Hamilton escaped through a rear door into the woods, unable to access their stolen 1934 Ford V-8 Fordor, parked in front. Heading through the woods the trio located Robert Johnson who lived in a cabin at nearby Mitchell's Rest Lake Resort, and forced him to drive them out of the area in his 1930 Ford Model "A" coupe. Soon they freed Johnson and drove the Model "A" toward Minnesota.



1934 Ford Dillinger left in Wisconsin



Police check Dillinger's stolen Model "A"

In an exchange of gun fire with the police south of St. Paul, Minnesota, Jack Hamilton was badly wounded. The Model "A" was ditched after the gang seized another 1934 Ford V-8 from Roy Francis, a power company executive out for a ride with his wife and baby. After being ejected from their vehicle, the Francis family walked two miles to a service station where they phoned the authorities. The use of Sheriff Holley's V-8 and the one stolen from Roy Francis were the subject of a local Ford dealer newspaper ad, which asked, "Will they catch John Dillinger? Not until they get him out his Ford V-8!"

Dillinger, Van Meter and Hamilton left St. Paul and headed for a hideout in Aurora, Illinois. There in Aurora Hamilton died of his injuries. The gangsters buried Hamilton in rural Kendall County near Oswego. The 1934 Ford V-8 obtained in Minnesota was abandoned on the north side of Chicago as a false lead as the pair headed to Ohio and lived out of a panel truck for a couple weeks. After a daring bank robbery in South Bend, Indiana where Van Meter was wounded, the pair split up. Dillinger chose to melt into the north side of Chicago using the name Jimmy Lawrence and moving in with a 26 year old waitress named Poly Hamilton and 42 year old Anna Sage, a Romanian immigrant who was known as a notorious Madame.

When Dillinger crossed the state line into Illinois after stealing Sheriff Holley's 1933 Ford, committing interstate auto theft, a federal crime, he invited the participation of J. Edgar Hoover's Bureau of Investigation who had been on his trail ever since. The bureau was contacted by Anna Sage, who thought turning over Dillinger could prevent her pending deportation. On the evening of July 22, 1934 Dillinger was killed by Federal agents as he exited the Biograph Theater on North Lincoln Avenue in Chicago.

Dillinger had really embarrassed Sheriff Lillian Holley when he escaped in her 1933 Ford V-8 leaving her emotionally crushed. She came under intense criticism, with the county board clamoring for her resignation. Whereas Dillinger's life was snuffed out at age 31, Lillian Holley regained an honored standing in her community and lived to the ripe old age of 103.

V-8 Gals

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season. January brings a time for me to recover from the last couple of months. Time to get back to a routine and time to put away the holiday decorations the wrapping paper and bows. But what do you do with the Christmas/Holiday cards? They are so pretty it is a shame just to put them in the recycle bin. Here are some ideas that I found on-line on what to do with old Christmas/Holiday cards.

Things to do with old Christmas/Holiday cards.

1. Gifts Tags for Next Year. You can cut out the front of the card (make creative shapes by following the design on the card), and then write your "To" and "From" on the back. Cut out the main picture- like Frosty the snowman, or Rudolph and then just punch a hole in it to tie on to your packages.
2. Post Cards. I am not sure if many people use postcards any more, but if you do, cut your old Christmas cards in half keeping the picture side. This is not only a pretty suggestion, but postcards are cheaper to send than regular cards so it may save you money too.
3. Gift Bags for Next Year. Cut off the front part and paste them on regular brown shopping bags (the ones with the handles) to use as gift bags for the following Christmas.
4. Scrap Booking Embellishments. Some cards are so pretty, why not save the best parts of the cards for scrap booking. Gold and scalloped borders look so nice around pictures and you can use your fancy scissors to cut out the other shapes and decorative items for your holiday scrapbooks.
5. Table Place Cards. If you either cut out strips or just use cards that will fold nicely, you can make table place cards for your next holiday dinner. Just get a paint marker to write out everyone's names on the front of each one.
6. Share a Recipe. Use cards which haven't any writing on the inside front. Cut out the fronts of the cards and write a favorite holiday recipe on the blank side. Enclose this with a letter, package, gift or card to your family and friends.
7. Bookmarks. Isolate parts of the card front which could work as a bookmark. Measure the width of your bookmark and cut out. Punch a hole near the top and loop a ribbon to the top. Use as stocking stuffers, or place inside a book you are giving as a gift. Don't forget to write a message on the back for your loved one.



8. Christmas Placemats. Select your favorite cards and cut out the picture or card front. You may make a collage with the pictures or arrange the card fronts in rows. Glue the cards/pictures onto an 11x17 sheet of paper. You may cut down the paper ahead of time to make a smaller place mat, if desired. When finished, have the place mats laminated and you're set! Don't forget to write pertinent information on the back before you laminate, such as the year and names and ages of the kids who made them.

NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR

January 10 Board Meeting 12 Installation Dinner Casey's Restaurant 15 Member Meeting	February 10 Ladies Night Out 14 Board Meeting 19 Member Meeting	March 14 Board Meeting 19 Member Meeting	April 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting
May 3-5 Joint tour with NORG to Dearborn 9 Board Meeting 21 Member Meeting	June 13 Board Meeting 18 Member Meeting	July 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting 17-21 Grand National Meet, Lake Tahoe	August 8 Board Meeting 20 Member Meeting
September 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting 27-29 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	October 10 Board Meeting 15 Member Meeting	November 9 Veterans Day Lunch 14 Board Meeting 19 Member Meeting	December No Meetings TBD Christmas Brunch

Happy New Year!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
 GENE HEINTZ (1/3), JACK FRANK (1/4), JOANNE MCMANUS (1/4),
 JUDY BARONE (1/9), JOE NOVAK (1/11), GEORGE ZULAS (1/13),
 RON DOPKE (1/14), DAWN OSBORNE (1/16), RON BLUM (1/23), JO ANNE
 STACK (1/23), EARL HEINTZ (1/28) & LARRY WEBB (1/31)**

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO
 RON & ARLENE HAYDEN (1/9) & JOE & MARIE DISPENSA (1/27)**

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



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1936 Ford LB Block. Call Paul Jensen 847-678-0123.

Rebuilt Carburetors - 1 Stromberg 97, 1 model 91-99, 2 model 59, 2 - 8BA, 2 model EAB. Call for prices and more info - Bob Paladino, 630-918-7804.

For 1951 Ford: Servicing Bulletins, 1-12, \$20; complete front end assembly - \$100; **complete rear end assembly** - \$100. Contact Ron Dopke, 815-344-1335.

Tall Coil (3 bolt) for 32 V-8. Contact Garry Kelly, 847-679-5008.

2012 Central National Meet gearshift knobs. These are the special ones that were created just for the Meet. Have Meet logo in a 1937 style knob. \$25 includes shipping. Make check out to CNM 2013 - Bruce Nelson, 2887 W. Owasso Blvd., Roseville, MN 55113-2123



2012 Central National Meet t-shirts. These are the ones that were sold at the Meet. Have sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL and XXXL. Light gray in color with corporate Ford blue lettering. \$15 for S - XL...\$17 for XXL - XXXL includes shipping -- Make check out to CNM 2013 - Bruce Nelson, 2887 W. Owasso Blvd., Roseville, MN 55113-2123

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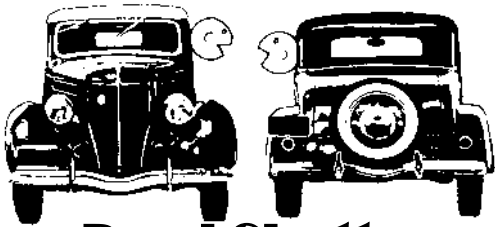
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Photo of the Month
Our Christmas Luncheon Hosts, John & Este