

ROAD CHATTER

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

Volume 49 Issue 6

P.O. Box 803

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

June 2015

www.nirgv8.org

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

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

June 16 Monthly Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm.

June 27 Duals Night, Culver's, Buffalo Grove, 6:30. See page 3 for details.



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

June 8-11 Eastern National Meet, Concord, NC.

June 14 Flag Day; fly yours proudly.

June 21 47th Annual Father's Day Car Show, Oakbrook Shopping Center, 11:00 - 6.

June 28 38th Gears & Ears Car Show & Swap Meet, Kendall County Fairgrounds, 8 am - 1 pm, Admission \$20 to show/\$5 spectator.

In this Issue

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Page 2 – Important news about National Meets and the 2015 National Driving Tour.

Page 3 – Ron Blum is hosting another “Duals Night” at Culver's in Buffalo Grove. Details here.

Page 3 – Your club is planning several fun tours and events this summer. Please see summaries here and make plans to attend the events of your choice. If you are attending the 5th Annual Joint Tour with NORG, July 8 is the deadline to make your reservations.

Page 4 – On May 31 we held our first Spring Driving Tour to the Illinois Veterans' Home in Manteno and showed our cars for the residents. Read about it here.

Page 6 – Over the Memorial Day weekend, Ken & Carolyn Bounds and Rick & Marisa Claybaugh, with daughter Kim, represented the NIRG at the 41st Annual Spring Fling. Story and pictures here.

Page 8 – Minutes of the May 19 Monthly Meeting.

Page 9 – A few words from your editors.

Page 10 – This month's Tech Corner is all about members' Early V-8s.

Page 11 – Rearview Mirror – information about club events over the past 40 years, plus a Flathead Flashback.

Page 12 – Our V-8 Gals page provides some fun facts about strawberries.

Back Cover – Photo of the Month: Our Early V-8s arriving at the Illinois Veterans' Home on our Spring Driving Tour.

HAPPY
FATHER'S
Day!

Attention Members

Be sure to attend the June 16th monthly meeting. After some pre-meeting tire kicking, Joe Serritella will be presenting a tech talk on Early Ford V-8 distributors.

2015 OFFICERS**President**

Scott Gilday

Vice President

Frank Madrigali

Secretary

John Emmering

Treasurer

Joe Serritella

Membership Chairman

Ken Bounds

Health & Welfare

Phyllis Madrigali

Tour Chairman

Ron Steck

Newsletter

Ken and Carolyn Bounds

Board of Directors

Ron Blum

Ken Bounds

Joe Dispensa

Gary Osborne

Stan Stack

MEETINGS

7:30 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 published 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 again,

I hope you all had a wonderful Memorial Day weekend and not only got a chance to spend some time with family and friends, but also took the time to remember those who gave their lives serving our country. With the nice weather finally here, get your V-8s out; I look forward to seeing you at this month's club functions.



First, I would like to thank Ken Bounds for hosting our driving tour to the Illinois Veterans Home in Manteno, IL on the 31st. This was a great event where club members were able to honor our veterans and show them our Early V-8s. After this, the participants enjoyed a late lunch at White Fence Farm. It was a great time for both the veterans and our members.

During our monthly meeting, Paul Levine hosted a very informative collector car insurance tech talk with Mike Maslowski from Hagerty Insurance. Paul and Mike shared a lot of good information on what to think about when choosing insurance for your Early V-8 and also answered a number of questions from the group.

As we look to June, Ron Blum will be hosting another Duals Night at Culver's in Buffalo Grove on June 27th. Last year we had a fantastic time, so hopefully many of you can join us again. In addition to this, we have an exciting tech talk planned during our monthly meeting, where Joe Serritella will be talking about how to restore your distributor. Be sure to get there early so you can kick the tires and check out members' V-8s. We'll be out there at 7PM if the weather's nice.

Scott Gilday, NIRG President

National Meet/Tour Update

Great news: there will be a 2016 Eastern National Meet. The National Board has just approved a bid submitted by the National Capital Group to hold the 2016 ENM in Gettysburg, PA, August 8-11, 2016.

The 2015 Eastern National Meet in Concord, NC, begins June 8. There is still time to sign up for the 2015 Central National Meet in Brainerd, MN, July 12-16. At least 7 NIRG members are already registered.

As previously reported, the 2016 Central National Meet will be in Tulsa, OK, June 12-16, 2016.

Finally, it has been reported that the Tour of the Hills National Tour in the Black Hills has been sold out. Be sure to check the [National website](#) for the most current updates.

UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

Fire Up Your Early V-8 and Join Your Friends “Duals Night” at Culver’s



When: Saturday, June 27 - 6:30 pm—8:30 pm
Where: Culver’s, 450 McHenry Road, Buffalo Grove
Hosted By: Ron & Arlene Blum



Culver’s is located on the west side of Route 83 (McHenry Rd) 1/4 mile SE of Buffalo Grove Rd, .6 miles north of Lake-Cook Rd. Enter via Cherbourg Drive just north of Culver’s.

You can come early if you like. Bring your V-8, but modern iron is welcome. Be sure to bring your lawn chairs - there will be plenty of time for tire kicking and conversation in the parking lot. At some point we will go inside for food and maybe some ice cream. Who knows: Ron may even bring some coupons.

What the heck is Duals Night, you may ask? Just an informal way to get the Early V-8s out and enjoy a meal and each-others’ company. Many years ago, a few phone calls were made on a Saturday with the message - “How would you like to get the cars out and meet for pizza and beer?” This happened several times, with no advanced planning, and the group grew. One night someone said “Hey - did you notice all of us have duals?” ...and Duals Night was born. Today you don’t need to have duals to participate and all vehicles are welcome - just plan to have a good time.

Date to be Determined: Plans are being made for our Annual Picnic to be held once again at Timmermann’s Ranch in Island Lake. We are working with the Timmermanns to select a date that works for them and does not conflict with other NIRG tours or events. More details soon.

July 12 - 16, 2014 - Central National Meet in Brainerd, MN: Ken Bounds is arranging the tour to the meet. Plans are to drive up over two days, July 11-12, staying in St. Croix Falls, WI, Saturday night. Registrations forms and a link to on-line registration are available on our website. Please let Ken know if you want to join the caravan. We intend to have a planning meeting before the tour.

July 30 - August 2 - Joint Tour to Dayton with the Northern Ohio Regional Group: Please see the flyer included with the April Road Chatter and on our website for all the details about our Joint Tour to Dayton at the end of July. If you are going on the tour, please make your hotel reservations now - the deadline is July 8. Also, please send your payment to Jack Bukszar for the Saturday night dinner. Please contact Ken Bounds if you need more information.

August 23 - 7th Annual LaSalle Street Auto Row Show: Come out with your Early V-8 for the show, hosted by Joe Dispensa. All proceeds of this event will go to Veterans’ groups. More details to come.

August 26 - 29 - MotorFest 6: Please refer to page 12 of the January Road Chatter for details. Information and revised registration forms are also available on our website. Update: a swap meet has been added to the event! If you would like to go, please contact Tom O’Donnell who is coordinating the tour.

September 12 - Hines VA Hospital Show: Mark this date on your calendar. Joe Dispensa would like to get 20 Early V-8s for a car show he is sponsoring for the veterans at Hines VA. Watch the Road Chatter for more details.

Our Tour to the Illinois Veterans' Home – Manteno, Illinois

By Ken Bounds

After a week of bright sunshine and temperatures in the 80s, we welcomed the prediction of cooler temperatures that would allow the veterans to stay outside a little longer to view our cars. Unfortunately, the predictions were overly optimistic. By the morning of May 31, we awoke to temperatures in the 40s, overcast skies, and even a little unpredicted mist. Sadly, the high temperature for the day at our destination, the Illinois Veterans' Home in Manteno, IL, was barely in the 50s.

The unexpectedly chilly, damp weather did not dissuade several hardy V-8ers from bringing out their gorgeous Early V-8s for our first spring driving tour to display our cars to some American heroes. Meeting early in the morning at White Fence Farm in Romeoville were: Ron Blum - '40 Ford Fordor, Ken Bounds - '50 Ford Convertible, Tom & Judy Buscaglia - '51 Ford Tudor, John Emmering - '49 Ford Fordor, Frank Koeder - '39 Ford Standard Tudor, Kathy Larson - modern, Joey Novak & Millie Olds - '53 Mercury Hardtop, Roger Obecný - '40 Ford Tudor, Tom O'Donnell - '53 Lincoln Sport Coupe, John Slobodnik - '54 Ford Fordor, Stan Stack with nephew Steve - '53 Ford Tudor, and Ron Steck – modern. This was the first time any of us had seen Frank's newly acquired '39. See more information about it on **Page 10**.

Just after 8:30 am our little caravan headed out toward Manteno. Jim Larson had that pesky work thing and his '39 Tudor is not quite ready to go, but his wife Kathy was able to participate and rode along with me. It was chilly, but dry, as we made our way over secondary roads, bypassing most congested areas. After a pleasant one-hour drive, we arrived at the Veterans' Home and drove up the flag-lined entrance road where we were greeted by Sam Van Bruggen who had arrived just before us in his '41 Pickup.

We parked in the grass along a curved sidewalk where the veterans, mostly wheel-chair bound, were able to get a close look at our vehicles. We gave each veteran that we encountered an American flag pin and thanked them for their service. The temperatures didn't cooperate much and the wind aggravated the chill, but that didn't stop quite a few of the men and women who live in the home from admiring our cars, even if only for a short time.

While some of our members stayed outside greeting the veterans, looking at the cars, and evaluating Frank's new find as well as Sam's pickup, others sought refuge from the cold wind inside. It really was rewarding talking with the veterans about our cars and we hope they brought back memories for most of them. After what seemed like an all-too-short stay, it was time to leave. Around 11:15 we began our drive back to the White Fence Farm,



Our cars arriving at the Veterans' Home



Ken provides a flag pin to a veteran



Our cars parked along the circular sidewalk

arriving at 12:45. There to meet us were Robin Emmering and Dan & Diane Pudelek; later James Larson was able to join us.



The guys check out Sam's '41 Pickup

The restaurant, a true Route 66 landmark, gave us great service and seated our group together at a long table. The food was great, the price was right, and the conversations were enjoyable. After an hour or so, everyone began to make their way home after a nice outing, hopefully with some wonderful memories. Thanks to everyone who participated.



Enjoying lunch at White Fence Farm



Anniversary couple John & Robin

41st Annual Spring Fling May 22-25 • Newton, Kansas By Ken Bounds

The center of the USA has been the home to the Spring Fling on Memorial Day weekend since 1974. This year the fling was sponsored by the Wichita Regional Group in Newton, Kansas. Because of the distance, about 700 miles one way, only Ken & Carolyn Bounds decided to make the trip. This would be the first long trip for our '50 Convertible since our accident last year and the engine rebuild in January.

We decided to start our trip on Thursday, spending the first night in Overland Park, KS. This 548-mile leg of the journey was uneventful; it was really nice to have to car on the road again and it ran great. After cleaning the blanket of bugs off the front end, we enjoyed some KC barbeque and turned in to rest for the remaining part of the trip. We completed the remaining 179 miles with the only inconvenience being a few hours of rain. Carolyn was busy sopping up the water seeping in through the header.

In Newton we had a great time renewing old friendships. There were V-8 Club members from all over the Midwest along with a large contingent from Texas. It was great to see our good friend Jimmy Gibson. He has a super attitude after his cancer surgery and will be undergoing facial surgery in June. Jimmy and Connie drove their '53 Mercury and participated in all the fun Spring Fling events.

We were also happy to visit again with our long-distance Tulsa members Rick & Marisa Claybaugh with their daughter Kim and her boyfriend Chase. Rick's brother Earl and his wife Marguerite also participated for the first time, driving their '35 Coupe.

After a hot dog roast Friday night and lots of visiting, we were treated to a fantastic tour on Saturday. The large group was split in half; our group visited a very nice collection in the morning, including some of the huge gasoline tractors from the turn of the century, similar to those we are familiar with in George Schaff's collection. Our host told us that he knows George very well. His informative presentation told us how these gasoline-powered behemoths ruled the plains only a few short years until Henry Ford revolutionized farming with his much smaller, less expensive, easily repairable Fordson tractor.

Both touring groups met for a delicious buffet lunch in McPherson, KS, before we split again and headed to our second stop. We were treated to an incredible tour of the Automotive Restoration Program at McPherson College. This is the only known 4-year bachelor's program in auto restoration technology. I could fill an entire Road Chatter with what we saw and learned on this tour, but will need to keep it brief. One of the instructors showed and explained to us the various "shops" in the program, including the paint shop, the engine shop, the interior and top shop, the metal fabrication shop, the wood shop, a foundry, and much more. If you are ever in this part of the country, arranging a tour is a must.

Our final stop was the fully restored McPherson Opera House built 1888-1889. What a terrific old building. Our tour guide was knowledgeable and interesting. The building is being used for many events and meetings and looks better than ever.



1919 Fordson Tractor



McPherson students fabricated this replica of the car that won the 1935 Indy 500

Although we had a lot of rain Saturday, Sunday morning gave us a welcome respite and we were able to get in the car games and people games without a drop of rain. The big hit was the new balance ramp brought by the Wichita group. Although balancing a big V-8 is tricky, most drivers were able to do it and the winner had to be chosen by a random draw.

Carolyn and I tried out all the games, and like all the participants had a great time. Although we did not bring games this year, we were happy that Marissa and Rick Claybaugh adopted our “blind tollbooth” game and had a lot of fun with it. Kim Claybaugh’s people game, flipping a cup onto a root beer bottle, was also a big hit.

We had a good time at the banquet Sunday evening. Past National Director Doug Keener’s son Michael said a few words about his dad who is in the hospital, but was moved that day out of intensive care and into a regular room. Our prayers and best wishes go out to Doug and Carolyn. When all the trophies were presented, Carolyn and I were surprised 2nd place winners in the “Oklahoma Toll Booth.” The evening ended with many goodbyes and wishes to meet again next year in Oklahoma City.

Our trip back home was again uneventful. Although many of our friends heading south into Oklahoma and Texas had terrible storms and flooding, we were treated to sunny skies all the way home. We made the trip in one day, arriving just after 6:30 pm. It was a wonderful weekend.



The students are restoring this '42 Ford Sedan Coupe



Ken tries out the balance ramp



Carolyn poses with the Claybaughs

MAY 19 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by John Emmering

Our May meeting opened at 7:47 pm when President Scott Gilday called the meeting to order. Scott introduced a first time visitor, Martin Cobb from Northbrook. Martin shared with the group that he has an appreciation for flathead Fords and currently owns a classic hotrod described as a Model "A" body sitting on a 1932 Ford frame powered by a Mercury flathead engine. Paul Levine introduced his guest Mike Maslowski, Regional Territory Manager for Hagerty Insurance, who was on hand to give a tech talk on collector car insurance later in the meeting.



Membership Chairman Ken Bounds reported that membership remains at 85 this month. Ken then went into his update on national Early Ford V-8 Club of America news, beginning with a report on the meeting held by telephone on Saturday May 16. Ken said that the club's new legal advisor was present. Ken thought the highlight of the meeting was the treasurer's report which revealed that after the recent audit the auditors gave an "unqualified opinion" that the financial records were accurate and in order. Further The 1949-51 Mercury Book and The Flathead V-8 Book are making progress and should be ready for printing next year. Also the club has begun successfully selling books on Amazon. Ken added that on the web a new national club Facebook page is up and being maintained and the national website is being made mobile device friendly.

Ken concluded his remarks with a summary of upcoming national events, including the Eastern National Meet June 8-11 in Concord, NC, and Central National Meet in Brainerd, MN July 12-16. Seven members indicated they would be going to Brainerd by a show of hands and about four cars from our regional group are set to participate. Ken can give information on the group drive to the Brainerd Meet and he has a packet of information for anyone planning to attend. Ken also made mention of the Black Hills National Driving Tour Sept. 13-19, and announced that plans are being made for a 2016 Central National Meet in Tulsa, OK.

Joe Serritella was back from Arizona and delivered his treasurer's report. Joe reported income of \$41 from the 50/50 raffle and \$15 received for dues. Expenses consisted of normal Road Chatter expense and meeting room rent. Also a \$100 memorial gift was sent in honor of Jerry Webb and \$288 had been expended to support the Pizza Meeting and Night at the Races activities.

Phyllis Madrigali did not have any health and welfare needs to share, however Joe Serritella shared an account of the miraculous progress his daughter Kathey has made from cancer.

Our tech talk for the evening involved Collector Car insurance available from Hagerty Insurance. Our own Paul Levine began the talk explaining some of Hagerty's criteria for a collector car to receive coverage, being that the car is at least 25 years old and not used for daily transportation. Paul explained that there is liberal vehicle use policy. Mike Maslowski continued the talk explaining the importance of the agreed value of the car being guaranteed by Hagerty. Mike explained the company's coverage for vehicles under restoration, their concierge service for assisting clients with finding parts and the trip interruption coverage for those delayed en route to a meet. As the coffee break was called, members were able to chat with and get more information from Paul and Mike.

After the break the tour reports began and Ken Bounds started the reports with information about the tour he is sponsoring to the Illinois Veterans' home in Manteno, IL on Sunday May 31. Ken passed around a sign-up sheet once again and shared the details. Ken again invited participation in the Joint Tour to Dayton, Ohio with the Northern Ohio Regional Group July 30-August 2, and gave members the opportunity to sign up. Ken emphasized that the deadline to make hotel reservations is July 8. Ken added

MAY 19 MEETING MINUTES - CONTINUED

that our annual summer picnic will be held at Timmerman's ranch once again; however a date has not been set.

Ron Blum announced he will sponsor a "Duals Night" on Saturday June 27 at 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm at the Culver's Restaurant at 450 McHenry Rd. in Buffalo Grove. Tom O'Donnell once again gave details on "Motor Fest" August 26-29, sponsored by the Early Ford V-8 Foundation and held in Auburn, IN.

Joe Dispensa addressed the group about two exciting events he has been putting lots of work into to honor our U.S. Military veterans coming up this summer. The first event Joe described is the 7th Annual Historic LaSalle Street Auto Show Auto Row show which will be held Sunday August 23. This year the Aurora American Legion Post will be involved and the theme will be "Honoring our Local Veterans" Joe circulated a sign-up sheet for those who plan to enter a car and those who would be willing to provide short demonstration rides for veterans. The second event Joe described is the Hines Veterans Appreciation Car Show to be held Saturday September 12th from 11:30 to 3:30 pm. Joe said he has space for 10 to 12 cars and a number of participants signed up. The show will target a group of veterans who are confined to the hospital. Joe passed out detailed information sheets about both events.

Before closing the meeting the 50/50 raffle drawing was held with Scott Gilday winning \$28.00. In an additional raffle draw Ken Bounds won a \$35.00 gift certificate toward an antique car battery. Members in attendance were: Ron Blum, Ken Bounds, Joe Dispensa, John Emmering, Scott Gilday, Mark Hume, Paul Jensen, John Judge, Frank Koeder, Paul Levine, Paul Linzer, Frank & Phyllis Madrigali, Pete McManus, Joe Novak, Tom O'Donnell, Dan Pudelek, John Scheve, Joe Serritella, Russ Shmerl, John Slobodnik, Ron Steck, Jeff Trilling, and Alan & Lois Wall.

FROM THE EDITORS

How time flies when you are having fun! We apologize for getting this issue out so late. With the Spring Fling over Memorial Day and leaving the 6th for the Eastern National Meet, there was barely time to host our first driving tour of the spring to the Veterans' Home. But we definitely wanted to get that story in this issue.

With housework, yard work, and getting some maintenance done on the Convertible, time has just melted away.

It is always nice to hear from our members. During the past month we received a very nice note from Diane Wrobel about recent honors for the Road Chatter. Much appreciated.

We received the photo on the right from Stan Stack showing a beautiful bride, his daughter Darcy, as he drove her to her May 1 wedding in his '53 Ford.

Keep those letters and e-mails coming. We'll see you down the road.

Ken & Carolyn



Ken & Carolyn Bounds



May 1, 2015 drove my daughter Darcy in my 53 to Church for her 5PM Wedding



TECH CORNER



Frank Koeder's New Toy

Let's face it. When you think of Frank Koeder and Early V-8s, you don't think of bone-stock cars. No, you think of over-the-top performance enhancements, Ardun heads, and '32 Fords screaming across the Bonneville Salt Flats. You can almost hear his pipes racking on his '39 Convertible as he leaves an event.

It has been a long time since Frank has presented a Dearborn-quality Early V-8 for point judging, but it seems he is ready to do it again. At our May monthly meeting and again on our spring driving tour, Frank presented his latest find - a gorgeous '39 Standard Coupe. Frank is anxious to enter it in Concourse Class at a National Meet, but didn't have time to get it ready for the Eastern Meet and has a conflict with the timing of the Central Meet. At least he has two more chances in 2016.



James Larson's '39 Tudor

Our newest club members, James and Kathy Larson, have already attended several events and are anxious to get their '39 Tudor on the road. Some months ago, James' brother Gary helped take the radiator out for some needed repairs, but moved away and took the secret of some missing fasteners with him. Unfortunately Gary also removed the grille and James needed some help getting everything back together.

A couple of weeks ago Joey Novak, Dan Pudelek and Ken Bounds went over to give James a hand. We were able to get the radiator installed and the grill back together. Sadly, when we poured in the coolant, the "repaired" radiator had a serious leak. Since then, James has had the radiator problem corrected and is ready to try again. We hope to see the car on the road very soon!





10 Years Ago This Month – June 2005

The June Road Chatter informed us that editor Diane Wrobel and the Road Chatter had been awarded 3rd Place in the 2004 newsletter competition. On June 8 several members toured to a B-17 restoration project in Marengo. At the June 21 monthly meeting, new member John Bauer was introduced. On June 20-26, five members toured to the Eastern National Meet in Hiawasse, GA. Everyone who drove a car came back with a 1st Place trophy.

20 Years Ago This Month – June 1995

On June 10-11, four members took part in a Route 66 Tour, including Marty Duling who had come up from Kentucky. The group spent the night in Springfield and ate at one of Marty's favorite restaurants. At the June 21 monthly meeting it was reported that former NIRG President John Witthoeft had passed away. There was discussion at the meeting about the upcoming early July tour to the Central National Meet in Nashville. Between 9 and 12 members indicated they planned to attend.

30 Years Ago This Month – June 1985

Much of the business at the June 11 monthly meeting involved plans for trailering the 1986 Central Meet swap car to various events. On June 15 Earl Heintz hosted a car show at the Springbrook Shopping Center in Bloomingdale. Jimmy Pope arranged a June 23 tour to the Chicago Water Filtration Plant, but unfortunately was unable to attend. Seven members plus their families attended a very interesting tour on a rainy day. There were two Early Ford V-8s on the tour, along with a few "off-brands".

40 Years Ago This Month – June 1975

Eleven Early V-8s were shown at the Rolling Meadows Shopping Center Show June 8. The June 10 monthly meeting was well-attended by 31 members, spouses, and guests; ten of those 31 are still members today! Alan Wall reported that 25 of the 30 rooms blocked for the Peoria Central National Meet in August had been booked.

Flathead Flashback

Our group heading out for the 2005 Eastern National Meet in Hiawasse, GA June 20, 2005.



V-8 Gals

This time of year the fruit and produce are looking so fresh at the grocery store. You want to wash the winter blues away with blueberries, raspberries, grapes and strawberries. Oh Strawberries! Even our cat goes nuts for them. Here are 14 things you might not know about strawberries.

14 Things you Didn't Know about Strawberries

1. **Strawberries are the only fruit that wear their seeds on the outside.** The average berry is adorned with some 200 of them. No wonder it only takes one bite to get seeds stuck in your teeth.
2. **Strawberries aren't true berries, like blueberries or even grapes.** Technically, a berry has its seeds on the inside. And, to be über technical, each seed on a strawberry is considered by botanists to be its own separate fruit.
3. **Strawberries are members of the rose family.** Should you come upon a bush of them growing, you'll see: they smell as sweet as they taste.
4. **The strawberry plant is a perennial.** This means if you plant one now, it will come back next year and the following and the year after that. It may not bear fruit immediately, but once it does, it will remain productive for about five years.
5. **Americans eat an average of three-and-a-half pounds of fresh strawberries each per year.** It's closer to five pounds if you count frozen ones. In a study, more than half of nine-year-olds picked strawberries as their favorite fruit. They're nature's candy!
6. **Belgium has a museum dedicated to strawberries.** In the gift shop at Le Musée de la Fraise (The Strawberry Museum), you can buy everything from strawberry jam to strawberry beer.
7. **Native Americans ate strawberries long before European settlers arrived.** As spring's first fruit, they were a treat, eaten freshly picked or baked into cornbread.
8. **The ancient Romans thought strawberries had medicinal powers.** They used them to treat everything from depression to fainting to fever, kidney stones, bad breath and sore throats.
9. **Sex & Strawberries?** In France, where they're believed to be an aphrodisiac, strawberries are served to newlyweds at traditional wedding breakfasts in the form of a creamy sweet soup.
10. **Strawberries are believed to help reduce the risk of heart disease and certain cancers.** They are low in calories and high in vitamins C, B6, K, fiber, folic acid, potassium and amino acids.
11. **Strawberries contain high levels of nitrate.** This has been shown to increase blood and oxygen flow to the muscles. Research suggests that people who load up on strawberries before exercising have greater endurance and burn more calories.
12. **California produces some 80% of the strawberries in the U.S.** They grow about 2 billion pounds of the heart-shaped fruits per year. Every state in the U.S. and every province in Canada grows their own.
13. **To store fresh strawberries, wash them and cut the stem away.** However, if you plan to keep them in the fridge for a few days, wait until before you eat them to clean them. Rinsing them speeds up spoiling.
14. **Strawberries can also be pickled.** Especially when picked green or unripe. If your berries are overripe, make jam!



Source: <http://www.foodrepublic.com/2013/05/20/14-things-you-didnt-know-about-strawberries>

NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR

May 14 Board Meeting 19 Member Meeting 22-25 Spring Fling, Wichita 31 Tour to Illinois Vet- eran's Home, Manteno	June 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting 27 Duals Night, Culver's Buffalo Grove	July 9 Board Meeting 12-16 CNM, Brainerd 21 Member Meeting 30-31 Joint Tour to Day- ton, OH with NORG	August 1-2 Joint Tour to Day- ton, OH with NORG 13 Board Meeting 18 Member Meeting 23 LaSalle St Car Show 26-29 Motorfest 6
September 10 Board Meeting 12 Hines VA Car Show 15 Member Meeting 25-27 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	October 8 Board Meeting 20 Member Meeting	November 7 Veterans Day Lunch, Sam's of Arlington 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting	December No Meetings

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO**

**GAIL LEICHT (6/1), JAMES LARSON (6/2), JUNE YOUNG (6/2), THOMAS MYERS (6/4),
 JOHN SLOBODNIK (6/4), THOMAS ANZELMO (6/5), BOB MILLER (6/5),
 DELICE SERRITELLA (6/7), JUDY BUSCAGLIA (6/10), RON STECK (6/10),
 SANDRA KUBIK (6/11), JEAN NIKOLICH (6/12), MARISA CLAYBAUGH (6/19),
 CORINNE BELLER (6/22), SAM BARONE (6/27), SAM DIX (6/28), ELAINE BRAUN (6/30)
 & JANET LEVINE (6/30)**

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

**PAUL & CARA LUNECKI (6/3), ROBERT & GINNY MAGNUSSON (6/5),
 THOMAS & JUDY MYERS (6/8), LIN & PAT STACEY (6/14),
 RICK & MARISA CLAYBAUGH (6/15), GERALD & JOAN KELLY (6/15),
 SAM & JANIS DIX (6/18), DON & VICKIE HENLEY (6/19),
 PAUL & JANET LEVINE (6/22), THOMAS & FLORENCE PINN (6/22),
 RON & COLLEEN STECK (6/24) & ALAN & LOIS WALL (6/27)**

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





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Pair E&J Headlights, \$2,700.00; **Rebuilt S. C. O. T. Blower**, \$11,500.00; **1939 NOS trunk handle** \$175.00. **Lincoln-Zephyr transmission gears** NOS, USA-made, not China \$500. **Book, Ford Golden Fifties** signed Lorin Sorensen \$75.00. Contact Frank Koeder, 847-840-7557.

Front door hinges '37 to '40 new from Bob Drake \$150.00. **Rear accessory gravel guard** supposedly fits '40 or '41 Ford, from Bob Drake \$150.00. Call Roger Obecnay at 798-772-1925.

Jim Beam Car Bottles –many bottles all cars, Police Tow Truck, full aged liquor, (except one) 21 in factory boxes, (7 or 8 duplicates). Porcelain signs; original and repro globes, \$100 - \$2,000. Call Alan Wall 847-927-1932.

1936 LB Motor; 1933-34 rear axle and housings (nice); Standard 4" stroke crank and Rods & Pistons; #59 Canadian block with 4 1/8 crank & Rods & pistons. Call Paul Jensen, 847-678-0123.

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Your stories and photos about your Early V-8s! We would love to see a few more 75th-Anniversary articles about your 1940 vehicle, but will be glad to receive one from any year.

Putting together an article is not that difficult - just tell us a story. How did you acquire your car? What have you done with it since you owned it? Have you restored it? Trips and tours, meets and shows, your favorite memories. As always, you can provide us the complete article or we will be more than happy to help you put it together. We can use digital photos or we can scan your existing photos.



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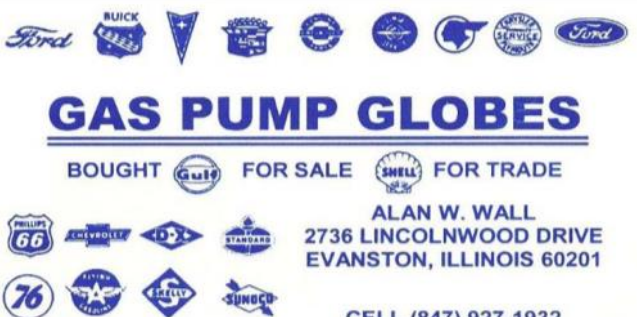


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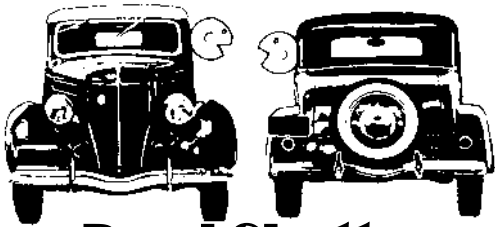


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Photo of the Month
Our Cars Arriving at the Illinois Veterans' Home