

ROAD CHATTER

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

P.O. Box 803

Volume 50 Issue 8

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

August 2016

www.nirgv8.org

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

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

August 13 - Duals Night at Culvers, Buffalo Grove - see page 2 for details

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

August 21 - Annual NIRG Picnic, Island Lake - see Page 3 for details.



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

August 7 26th Annual Vintage Transportation Extravaganza, Union. Adults \$15.

August 8-11 Eastern National Meet - Gettysburg, PA. Good luck to our members attending - bring back some trophies!

August 21 7th Annual LaSalle Street Auto Row Show, Aurora. See Page 3 for details.

In this Issue

Page 2 – Plan to attend one or more of the many events planned for you. Always a good time is the Duals Night, hosted again this year by Ron Blum on August 13 at Culver’s in Buffalo Grove. Also, mark your calendars for the fun events scheduled for September.

Page 3 – One of our biggest events of the year is here! Our Annual Picnic will once again be held at Timmermann’s Ranch in Island Lake. Also, unfortunately on the same date because of a scheduling conflict, Joe Dispensa is hosting his annual LaSalle Street Historic Auto Row Show in Aurora. Details about both events here.

Page 4 – Ron Blum hosted a fun Night at the Races this month - read about it here.

Page 5 – Sad news about a member’s car.

Page 6 – Several members had a great time at the Central National Meet in Tulsa in June. Detailed story and photos here.

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Page 14 – Tech Corner - how to test your headlight circuit - with a punch line you won’t see coming,

Page 15 – Rearview Mirror – information about club events over the past 40 years, plus a Flathead Flashback.

Page 16 – August is cocktail month! Our V-8 Gals present the 10th Annual Cocktail article. Plus, a timely, refreshing recipe.

Back Cover – Photo of the Month: Our group in the Winners Circle at the Night at the Races.



Attention Members

Remember to drive your Early V-8 to the August 16 monthly meeting and arrive early for some tire kicking. Tonight’s tech talk will be all about vintage voltage regulators and cutouts, presented by Joe Serritella.

2016 OFFICERS**President**

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Newsletter

Ken and Carolyn Bounds

Board of Directors

Ron Blum

Ken Bounds

Gary Osborne

Stan Stack

George Zulas

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.

UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS**Fire Up Your Early V-8 and Join Your Friends
“Duals Night” at Culver’s**

When: Saturday, August 13 - 6:00 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.

**9th Annual Lake Geneva Poker Rally
September 23 - 25**

Mark your calendars for the 9th Annual NIRG Lake Geneva Poker Rally. If you attended last year, you already have a hotel reservation.

If you would like to participate, please contact Ken Bounds for details and how to make your hotel reservation.

**Hines Veterans Appreciation Hospital Car Show
Date to be Determined**

Joe Dispensa is going to repeat the event he held last year, a car show for the Veterans confined to the Hines VA Hospital Extended Care Center. Joe had intended to host the event in August, but no dates were available. The event will be held in September, possibly the 25th.

Watch for details and the exact date in the September Road Chatter.



UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

Annual NIRG Picnic - Sunday, August 21

This year's picnic will again be held at Timmermann's Ranch & Saddle Shop, 29550 W. Roberts Rd, Island Lake.

Hosted by Don & Elaine Braun and their friends, Art & Carol Timmermann. The fun begins at 10:00 a.m.

Food - Drinks - 50-50 Raffle - Fun

The club provides: Hot dogs, brats, burgers, plates, napkins, utensils, charcoal.

You provide: Your entrée if you don't want hot dogs, brats or burgers, one pass-around dish to share, your Early V-8 (other cars welcome), lawn chairs. Please consider bringing a side dish; last year we had plenty of desserts but very few sides.

Beverages: The club will provide burgers and brats, soft drinks, water, ice, and coolers. If you want adult beverages you'll need to bring your own.

Auction and Raffle: There will be no auction or raffle this year, but there will be a chance to take home some \$\$\$ in the 50-50 Raffle.

Driving directions: Timmermann's Ranch is at 29550 W. Roberts Road in Island Lake. You can take Route 12 to Route 176, then go west about 2½ miles to Roberts Road. Timmermann's is about ¼ mile south on Roberts Road. From the west take Route 176 to Roberts Road, then go south ¼ mile.

This is one of the biggest events of the year and a chance to see many great V-8s and friends. You don't want to miss it! Guests are welcome!



Alternate Event - Sunday, August 21

The Friends of LaSalle St and The American Legion Post 84 Present

The 8th Annual Historic LaSalle Street Auto Row Show

Show Hours 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

In Aurora on LaSalle Street between Benton Street and Downers Place • Registration \$15

If you cannot attend the picnic, bring your classic car to the Auto Row Show, hosted by our own Joe Dispensa. There will be BBQ available and plaques to class winners. Proceeds benefit American Legion Post #84.

The Northern Illinois Regional Group regrets that a scheduling conflict required the Club to host the Annual Picnic on the same date as this show.

A Night at the Races Saturday, July 16 - Hawthorne Race Course By Ken Bounds

On a beautiful July evening, Ron & Arlene Blum once again hosted a perennial favorite - A Night at the Races. This year we were treated to harness racing at Hawthorne Race Course in Cicero.

Around 6:00 pm, the enthusiastic crowd of 25 NIRG members and family began arriving in the Gold Cup Room to begin the night's festivities. Little did we realize that there was also a craft beer fest going on as well as a special night of wiener dog racing!

At 6:30 everyone enjoyed the great selection at the delicious buffet. While we were eating and visiting, most of us went over the race program making our selections for the first and second races. The favorite won the first race and a few of us were off to a great start. Since the second race was named for the Northern Illinois Regional Group, we were soon herded down to the winner's circle for a group photo. Irene Vinyard and Denise were the lucky two who got to ride in the starter car. This is always a thrill!



Our hosts Arlene & Ron

As the evening went on and the races went on, you could hear the shrieks of the lucky few who picked winners and the groaning of the "not-so-lucky" as they tore up their tickets in disgust. Several of us took advantage of the craft beer offerings and everyone got a kick out of watching the wiener dog races.

When the evening began coming to an end and participants made their way to the exits for the ride home, there were winners (Dawn Zulas did particularly well!) and there were losers, but everyone had a great time and did not leave hungry. Our thanks go out to Ron and Arlene for a terrific evening of fun and good friends.

Joining in the fun were our hosts Ron & Arlene Blum and Ron's sister Susan Pestine, Ken & Carolyn Bounds, Joe & Nell Kozmic, Joey Novak & Millie Olds, Dan & Diane Pudelek, John & Este Scheve, Joe & Delice Serritella, John & Barb Slobodnik, Stan & JoAnne Stack, Len & Irene Vinyard, and George & Dawn Zulas with son Tom and his girlfriend Denise.



Clockwise - Dan & Diane; Joey & Millie



Clockwise - Carolyn; Nell & Joe

More Photos from A Night at the Races



Clockwise - Susan, JoAnne & Stan; Arlene



Clockwise - Denise & Tom; Dawn & George



Clockwise - Joe & Delice; Este & John



Clockwise - Len, Barb & John; Irene

What a Trouper!

Joe Serritella is smiling in the picture above. But it is hard to believe most people would be smiling if they had the day Joe had just experienced. We are very happy that he and Delice were able to attend the Night at the Races.

Saturday morning Joe fired up his 1941 Coupe and headed out to participate in a car show at a church in Melrose Park. Just a block from his destination, Joe was t-boned by a young driver with two kids who had run a stop sign. Fortunately, no one was hurt, but the car was significantly damaged. Joe had intended to have the car judged at the Eastern National Meet in Gettysburg, but will instead be working with a restoration shop.





Our Tour to the 2016 Central National Meet By Ken Bounds

Last month we gave you a very brief summary of the fun we had attending the 2016 Central National Meet in Tulsa; this month we wanted to give you more details and show more photos.

On Saturday, June 11, a group of us met at a McDonald's along I-55 to caravan to Tulsa. This included Jeff Trilling driving his '52 Pickup and Ken & Carolyn Bounds driving their '51 Mercury. Frank Koeder trailered his '39 Coupe, John & Este Scheve trailered their '47 Coupe, and John Slobodnik with son John drove a modern pickup. A day earlier, George & Dawn Zulas had begun their trip over secondary roads in their '40 Tudor. On Sunday, Ron Steck started his trip trailering his '41 Station Wagon.

The trip down I-55 to our relaxing lunch stop in Litchfield was uneventful. The same could not be said about the afternoon. Before we made it into Missouri, Jeff's Pickup began overheating. After a quick stop to top off the radiator, we were back on the road; but not for long. The overheating was back. We soon learned that the truck was losing coolant. We continued our trip at a reduced speed, but the coolant loss and overheating became epidemic. Attempts by the side of the road to diagnose the cause were fruitless, including one stop to remove the thermostats in case they had failed. Jeff resigned himself to simply driving the remaining 300+ miles to Tulsa at a reduced speed, stopping frequently to refill the radiator. As we reported last month, the diagnosis in Tulsa was a blown head gasket which Jeff was able to get repaired. Although he missed the concourse, Jeff was able to drive his truck on a driving tour the following day.



Lunch in Litchfield

Meanwhile, back to the trip. That first day we all made it to our evening stop in Lebanon, Missouri, where we enjoyed dinner at a local barbeque establishment. We even had time to enjoy a few beverages in the parking lot where we fretted over Jeff's mechanical issues.

On day two, Jeff got a very early start; the rest of us left the hotel before 7:00 am to complete the remaining 218 miles to Tulsa. When we arrived at the huge Hard Rock Hotel and Casino complex in the blazing heat, we found places to park our vehicles and then went inside to register and begin the best part of any National Meet: meeting old friends and finding new ones. Fortunately, we soon learned one of the nicer features of this meet – plenty of reserved space in the parking garage to house our vehicles out of the sun for the week.

As you probably know, we have several "long distance" members of our group from Tulsa that we claim as our own. It turns out that they also just happened to play significant roles at the meet. They are Rick & Marisa Claybaugh, their daughter Kim Claybaugh, and Joe & Paula Baughn (Paula is Rick's sister). Marisa was in charge of registration and did an outstanding job; she was also in charge



Rick observes Marisa and part of her registration crew

of the tabulation room on Concourse day. Rick was the Concourse Chairman and did a great job of assembling the judging teams and hosting the Owners/Judges meeting. He also ran the Operational Check. Kim was the lead meet photographer and arranged the slide presentations for the awards banquet. Joe was in charge of the swap meet and worked with Marisa in registration. The family involvement did not end there: Rick's brother Earl provided logistical support and tents on the concourse and wife Marguerite also worked in registration.

Carolyn and I had a fantastic time at the meet. On Sunday, we worked with Marisa in registration and I got to spend some time with Rick and Kim at the Operational Check. At the registration desk we met our Peoria members Marshal and Sue Adams, who had trailered their nice '40 Pickup. By Sunday night Ron had arrived with his '41 and George & Dawn arrived in their '40. Unfortunately, the generator quit and they were without headlights Sunday night. George was able to find repairs at the meet.

On Monday most of us made it through the Operational Check and checked out the swap meet. Jeff got some contacts from Rick and Joe and set out to get his truck repaired. First it was thought that the radiator could be the problem. Evidence soon pointed to the head gasket. Jeff, who was met by his wife Mondira Bhattacharya at the meet, spent a few days back and forth to the repair shop until the truck was back in tip-top shape. Monday came to a close with an evening Welcome Party.

Tuesday brought more meet activities and several meetings including the Foundation Meeting, Meet the President, and the Owners/Judges meeting. The highlight of the day was the "Evening of Entertainment." Following another delicious meal, I was privileged to present commemorative medallions and certificates to the '41 Ford owners, including our own Ron Steck. The good stuff came later - we were entertained by several performers including a steel guitar band, some swing music, and Country and Western. The star performer was Leona Williams, who was once married to Merle Haggard and wrote some of his songs.

Wednesday was Concourse Day. It was a beautiful day, but unbearably hot. Fortunately, the hotel provided water stations on the concourse. After the Judges Breakfast, everyone scurried to get their cars ready on the show field. As Marissa and Carolyn verified vehicles on the concourse, I enlisted Kim for a little pranking. You see, that day, June 15, was Rick and Marisa's 25th Anniversary! The night be-



Ron Steck goes through Operational Check



Ron receives his '41 Medallion and certificate



Marisa and Carolyn get a ride from Rick

fore, Carolyn had made an appropriate sign and Kim assisted me in putting the sign and balloons on Rick's '34 Tudor Sedan.

As judging progressed, the meet staff provided rides to and from the hotel. The concourse was filled with fantastic examples of our Early V-8s and everyone seemed to enjoy the cars in spite of the heat. Back in the tabulation room everyone was working hard to make sure all the results were properly recorded.

That evening a few of us had dinner with the Claybaughs to celebrate their anniversary. While Rick gave Marisa a beautiful ring, V-8 guys will think Rick was the big winner as Marisa gave him a Lebaron-Bonney interior for his '39 Fordor!

On Friday some members participated in some super driving tours. A few took the "long tour" to Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve in Bartlesville; Jeff and Mondira went on the Gilcrease Museum tour. Carolyn and I stayed behind at the Hardrock and worked with Marisa on trophy staging for the Awards Banquet.

Everyone had a great time at the banquet - see photos of awards received by our members on the next page. As an incentive to attend the meet, the organizers had arranged a special drawing for any attendee who had also attended the aborted Brainerd Meet last year. Although several of us had our fingers crossed, the look on Rich Grieve's face was priceless as it was announced that he had won the \$500 prize. Rich is President of the Central Iowa group.

The banquet was a relaxing evening with a very nice meal as we wrapped up a wonderful week of V-8 cam-



The '34 - appropriately decorated



Frank in his '39 on the Concourse



Our "long-distance" members from Tulsa
Joe & Paula, Kim, and Rick & Marisa

raderie. Once the presentations are over, it is time to start saying goodbyes. Or, “see you at the next meet!”

All of us who participated want to say “Thank You” to Meet Chairman Gary Strode, Co-Chair Wayne Blackmon, and the great group of volunteers from the Tulsa Regional Group for a fabulous meet.

Friday morning we all began our trip home. George & Dawn went on their own as they planned to spend some time visiting friends in Missouri. Jeff got an early start as he wanted to drive at his own pace over a two-day trip. The rest of us left around 6:45 am with the intention of making it back in one day. Although we never encountered Jeff along the road, we did hear from him and he spent the night just north of St. Louis. Our Mercury was running great and the guys following in the modern vehicles seemed to be handling the heat OK, so we pressed on toward home. We made the 680-mile trip in 12 hours. As I write this, it is already time to do it again!

Awards Banquet

At the Awards Banquet, Carolyn and I were honored to receive gifts from Meet Chairman Gary Strode. In the next photo, Jeff Trilling receives the well-deserved Hard Luck Award from Co-Chair Wayne Blackmon. Concourse awards for NIRG members were: Frank Koeder, Dearborn; Ken Bounds, Dearborn Medallion; Ron Steck, Concourse 2nd Place; Kim Claybaugh, Touring 1st Place; Marshal Adams, Touring 1st Place; Joe Baughn, Touring A 1st Place; and John Scheve, Touring A 2nd Place. Photos by Kim Claybaugh.



Park Ridge Cruise Night

Paul Levine invited NIRG members to bring their cars out and join him at the July 1 Park Ridge Cruise Night. A few members took him up on the offer and reported they had a good time. Paul brought his '35 Pickup, Paul Jensen brought his '32 Roadster, Paul Linzer brought his '34 3-Window, Paul Lunecki brought his '51 Tudor, Tom O'Donnell brought his '53 Lincoln, and Joe & Delice Serritella brought their '41 Coupe.

We need to check the roster to see if we have any more Pauls!

Thanks to Joe Serritella for the photos.



Host Paul Levine's '35 Pickup



Delice with their '41 Coupe



Delice and Tom with his '53 Lincoln



"Pauls Row" - Paul Lunecki's '51, Paul Jensen's '32, Paul Linzer's '34 and Paul Levine's Pickup

Calling All Members

Each of you should have received a ballot for the National Director election with your July-August V-8 Times. These elections are important. Please note that one of our members, Jeff Trilling, is running for Midwest Director. We urge you to carefully read the resumes, make your selection, and send in your ballot. Your vote does count!

Riverview Ford Show - Oswego By Ron Steck

On Saturday, July 16, River View Ford of Oswego hosted a Support the Troops & USO event to help raise money for troops that are on leave or going from airport to airport in the event that they have a lay-over or emergency. I was asked by the owner if we could bring a few old Fords. Ken Bounds and I were the only ones to show up along with a Model A and a 1957 Thunderbird. Ken drove the 1950 convertible and I drove the 1941 Woodie.

The owner of the Model A was a representative of the USO. He made a very nice presentation about the services the USO provides and some of the symbolic props they use in their presentations.

The weather turned out to be a nice day. There were a lot of people looking at the cars with good comments about them. Lunch was provided with brats, corn on the cob and some sort of pulled-pork taco. Channel 7 was there and filmed Ken and me looking at the cars; I'm not sure if we made the cut.



Ken's '50 Convertible and Ron's '41 Station Wagon



We had plenty to eat



JULY 19 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by John Emmering

After being coaxed into the meeting room from the parking lot where he was admiring Jay Hinshaw's 1940 Ford Standard Tudor, President Scott Gilday gaveled the meeting to order at 7:51 pm. Our guest Cheryl Fisher, daughter of Ron Dopke was welcomed to the meeting.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS: Ken Bounds informed the assembly that the Northern Illinois Regional Group membership is now at 82 with the addition of our newest and youngest member, Kim Claybaugh of Tulsa, Oklahoma who turns 21 this month.

NATIONAL CLUB NEWS: In National Early Ford V-8 Club of America news, Ken Bounds, National Club President again reported that the Central National meet in Tulsa Oklahoma was a success and that he would be giving a slide presentation on the meet during the second half of the meeting. Ken reminded the group of other approaching happenings: The Eastern National Meet August 8-11 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania and the Western National Meet October 17-20 in Bakersfield, California. The upcoming driving tours were pointed out, which are the Great Southwestern Driving Tour in Colorado, September 13-19 and the Blue Ridge Parkway National Tour, September 15-21 in North Carolina. Looking forward to 2017, the Eastern National Meet sponsored by Northern Virginia Regional will be held in June, 2017, in Chantilly, Virginia. A bid has been received by the National Board for a Western National Meet September 11-14, 2017, in Salem, Oregon.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Joe Serritella informed us that our regional group added \$32.00 to the treasury from the June 50/50 raffle and \$7.50 for one half years membership dues. Expenses were \$45.00 for meeting room rental, \$79.21 for the Road Chatter newsletter and there was a \$200.00 payment toward the Night at the Races activity.

HEALTH & WELFARE REPORT: Phyllis Madrigali reported that no one had contacted her with issues to report. Ken Bounds commented on the passing of Frank Madrigali's mother Johanna Madrigali and recalled that she had attended some of our activities. Ken also mentioned the passing of John Emmering's father, John B. Emmering and the passing of Dawn Osborne's father Irving Berge.

PAST EVENTS: John Emmering reported on the tour he sponsored to Crown Point Indiana June 25th. Four Ford V-8's were in the group and the Old Lake County jail was toured as well as the John Dillinger Museum. John reported that those participating all seemed to have an enjoyable time. Those who attended the Park Ridge Cruise Night in Park Ridge said that they had a good time taking park in that event organized by Paul Levine. Ron Blum reported on the event he sponsored, "A Night at the Races" at Hawthorne Race Track on Saturday June 16. Ron said that 25 people participated and the weather was great. He added that race #2 was dedicated to the NIRG. Ron felt the participants enjoyed the buffet and recalled the excitement when the group was able to enter the winners circle for a photograph. Ron thought that everyone had a great time. Ron Steck reported on the Riverview Ford USO Benefit Car Show, Saturday July 16 which he and Ken Bounds attended along with their Ford V-8's.

FUTURE TOURS/EVENTS: In regards to a possible 2017 Central National Meet Ron Steck brought up the suggestion that members of other Illinois Regional Groups might be enlisted to supplement those able to work the meet from our regional group. In a vote, 13 members voted in favor of exploring that

JULY 19 MEETING MINUTES - CONTINUED

possibility for running a meet and 9 members indicated that they would be available to work the meet full time during the week. Ken Bounds indicated that he would give the matter of a 2017 Central National Meet in Springfield more consideration.

The annual NIRG picnic was announced for Sunday August 21st at Timmerman's Ranch 29550 W. Roberts Road, Island Lake, IL. This year Bob the cook will be back providing grilling services. Members are encouraged to bring a side dish. Due to the limited availability of open dates at the Ranch our picnic regrettably conflicts with the LaSalle Street Car Show sponsored that day by Joe Dispensa. Paul Levine's Lincolnwood Fest Classic Car show was also announced for Sunday, July 24th in Proesel Park and a sign-up sheet was passed around. Tom O'Donnell mentioned he was attending the Ford V-8 Foundation's Motorfest July 27-30 in Auburn, Indiana and invited anyone else to join him. Other events on the horizon include another Veteran's car show at Hines Hospital August 28th (see new date information on Page 2) and the NIRG Lake Geneva Poker Run September 23-25. Additional events in the planning stage; participation in the "Iron Invasion" custom Modified Car Show Saturday October 1, or a Tour of Tin Man Garage in Elburn.

A break was called for refreshments. Upon resumption of the meeting, Ken Bounds presented a slide show with narration of the Central National Meet in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Ken showed us photos of many interesting Ford V-8's and recapped much of the fun he and others experienced at the meet.

Members attending the June meeting were: Ron Blum, Ken Bounds, Ron Dopke, John Emmering, Scott Gilday, Jay Hinshaw, Paul Jensen, John Judge, Joe Kozmic, Paul Linzer, Paul Lunecki, Frank & Phyllis Madrigali, Neil McManus, Joe Novak, Tom O'Donnell, Gary Osborne, Dan Pudelek, John Scheve, Joe Serritella, Stan Stack, Ron Steck, Len Vinyard, and George Zulas.

Jay Hinshaw's New Ride

At the June monthly meeting President Scott Gilday announced that a new car had joined our fleet of Early Ford V-8's. Jay Hinshaw reported that he had acquired a 1940 Ford Standard Tudor that had been restored 29 years ago and in that time had only been driven 307 miles! At the July meeting, we got to see the "new" car. Congratulations to Jay on what appears to be a great find.





TECH CORNER



Those of us who “hang out” at tech support forums on the Early Ford V-8 Club website or the Fordbarn know that one of the more common problems or complaints has to do with dim headlights. All too often, owners of older classic cars think that the only way to have acceptable headlights (and taillights, for that matter) is to “upgrade” their car to 12 volts.

Actually, there are some relatively simple steps owners can take to ensure that their 6-volt systems are functioning correctly. Our own Tom O’Donnell is a frequent contributor on the Early Ford V-8 Club forums and recently shared his knowledge with a man who was troubled about the lack of light from the headlights on his 1938 Ford. Among the folks who tried to assist the gentleman, Tom’s input was the most detailed and shows a systematic approach to checking the circuit. Here is Tom’s posting:

The most common reason for dim lights is low voltage to the bulbs. The most common source of resistance that drops the voltage in the headlight circuit is the dimmer switch.

I have seen dimmer switches drop as much as 1.5 volts when the headlights are on.

⇒ The best way to isolate the problem is to do a voltage drop test, with the headlights on.

⇒ Connect the COM lead of a reliable volt meter to the NEG battery post and use a thin paper clip to probe inside the connector to the right headlight. You should read less than 0.5 volts on the meter. If you read more than that, operate the dimmer switch many times and re-check. The voltage that you read should decrease in value.

⇒ If it is still above 0.5 volts, move the probe back one connection at a time. If you see a reading change of more than 0.1 volt, the previous connection is bad, clean and repair and repeat the tests. If the dimmer switch is still the culprit, remove it, disassemble it and clean the contacts with an electronic cleaner. I like Radio Shack’s Tuner Cleaner and Lubricant. It works great for the bulb contacts also. You can use bulb grease to lube the switch.

⇒ If you have less than 0.5 volts and your lights are still dim, you can check the ground connection by connecting the + or POS lead of your meter to the POS terminal of the battery and probe the light bulb base. You should read less than 0.1 volts. A higher reading means a poor grounding connection.

⇒ This method gives accurate results, even with a low battery.

⇒ If you have good voltage to the wires going to the head light and a good ground, but still have dim lights, try changing the bulb and cleaning the bulb and socket contacts.

Tom

This is some very sound advice and is something that every owner of an Early V-8 Ford can use to make sure their headlights are functioning as they should.

That said, there was a humorous follow up to the story. The guy asking the original question reported back. Admitting he was a novice, he said that he didn’t realize he had his parking lights on, not the headlights. Now THAT would make a difference!





10 Years Ago This Month – August 2006

The August Road Chatter congratulated Diane Wrobel for receiving 4th Place in the newsletter competition for 2005 – her final year as editor. At the August 15 monthly meeting, Ken Bounds presented a slide show about the tour to the Eastern National Meet in Batavia, NY. On August 27, thirty-one members, family, and guests attended a tour to the B-17 restoration project in Marengo, arranged by President Ron Dopke. Eight Early V-8s and one Pontiac (guess who) were driven on the tour.

20 Years Ago This Month – August 1996

On August 11, Larry Webb hosted a mini-golf outing in Algonquin, followed by a buffet at Spring Hill Mall. Eighteen people attended and had a great time. At the August 20 monthly meeting President Tom O'Donnell gave a comprehensive and informative tech talk about fuel system headaches and cures.

30 Years Ago This Month – August 1986

The August Road Chatter contained a lot of information about the hugely successful Central National Meet hosted by the NIRG in July. Also appearing was a profile of Chuck and Diane Wrobel's '47 Tudor Sedan. At the August 12 monthly meeting, Marty Duling was surprised with the award of a Life Membership for chairing the National Meet. On August 17, Don & Elaine Braun hosted over 50 members and family and a fleet of Early V-8s at the annual club picnic at their Prairie View home.

40 Years Ago This Month – August 1976

On August 15, Jack & Jackie Groot once again hosted the annual club picnic at their home in St. Charles. The large group of members and families enjoyed a great meal, played games, hosted games for the children, and even took a driving tour through the St. Charles countryside in their Early V-8s. On August 22 a group of over 20 members, family, and friends toured an outstanding auto collection owned by Floyd Moore in Glenview.

Flathead Flashback

Ron Dopke by the B-17 fuselage, under restoration 10 years ago. Photo by Ron Blum.



V-8 Gals

It's August! That means it is cocktail month for the V-8 Gals. I can't believe this is our 10th Annual Cocktail issue. Even though it is cocktail month sometimes it is nice to have something that can serve everyone, people who drink and those that do not. This month is dedicated to the cocktails that can go both ways. These recipes are from the Aug 2016 Family Circle given to me by Nell Kozmic.

Pineapple-Jalapeño Punch

Combine 3 cups pineapple juice with 2 cups seltzer. Add a seeded sliced jalapeño. Fill pitcher with ice and garnish with a pineapple wedge or ring. To make it boozy, add 1 1/4 cups spiced rum.



Cucumber-Mint Spritzer

In a blender, combine 1 lb cucumbers with 1/3 cup each lime juice and honey. Blend until smooth and pour, pressing to remove liquid, through a fine-mesh strainer into a pitcher; discard pulp. Stir in 2 cups seltzer, 1 packed cup mint leaves and 1/2 cup cucumber slices. Fill pitcher with ice. To make it boozy, add 1 cup gin.

Watermelon Agua Fresca

In a blender, combine 8 cups seedless watermelon cubes, 1/3 cup lime juice and 3 tbsp. agave nectar. Blend until smooth and pour, pressing to remove liquid through a fine-mesh strainer into a pitcher; discard pulp. Stir in 2 sliced limes, fill with ice and garnish with a watermelon wedge. To make it boozy, add 1 1/4 cups vodka.

Strawberry Mousse Jell-O Mold

From Arlene Blum - "Our Families' Favorite"

1 large package Raspberry Jell-O

1 16 oz Daisy sour cream

2 cups boiling water

1 15 oz frozen strawberries with sugar

Allow frozen strawberries to sit on counter for 1 hour

Dissolve Jell-O in boiling water, add sour cream and strawberries with the syrup

Blend and pour into a greased mold or bowl

Place in refrigerator for 4-6 hours



NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR

May	June	July	August
12 Board Meeting 15 Breakfast and Trolley Museum Tour 17 Member Meeting	4 Tour to Pontiac 9 Board Meeting 12-16 CNM, Tulsa 21 Member Meeting 25 Crown Point Tour	1 Cruise Night, Park Ridge 14 Board Meeting 16 Riverview Ford Show 16 Night at the Races 19 Member Meeting 24 Lincolnwood Show	11 Board Meeting 13 Duals Night, Buffalo Grove 16 Member Meeting 21 Annual Picnic, Island Lake 21 LaSalle Street Auto Row Show, Aurora
September	October	November	December
8 Board Meeting 20 Member Meeting TBD Car Show, Hines Veterans Hospital 23-25 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	13 Board Meeting 18 Member Meeting	10 Board Meeting 12 Veterans Day Lunch, Sam's of Arlington 15 Member Meeting	No Meetings

Wanted

We had so many For Sale and Wanted items, we needed to expand to another page.

Gas gauge for 1935 Ford 1/2 ton pickup. Contact Paul Levine at 847-676-1593.

1941 Ford Super Deluxe Horn Ring. Contact Ron Steck at 630-983-0543.

1940 fuel pump stand. Contact George Zulas at 630-460-0095 or 630-582-2056.

1940 Ford license light bulb holder twist ring. Contact Jay Hinshaw at 773-791-6494.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
MARIE DISPENSA (8/1), ANGIE PALADINO (8/1), KIM CLAYBAUGH (8/2),
JOHN SCHEVE (8/7), ERIC KOZMIC (8/9), ALAN WALL (8/18),
ROGER OBECHNY (8/19), & CAROLYN BOUNDS (8/21)**

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO
JOE & NELL KOZMIC (8/6), FRANK & PHYLLIS MADRIGALI (8/9),
GEORGE & DAWN ZULAS (8/17), JOHN & ESTE SCHEVE (8/18) &
JEFF TRILLING & MONDIRA BHATTACHARYA (8/31)**

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



For Sale

1951 Ford Custom Deluxe Convertible - exceptional frame-off restoration, 3-speed with overdrive, detailed undercarriage, new blue top & pump, plus many new parts. Many trophies. Contact Tom Anzelmo or Nicole at 708-562-5695.

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. **1939 transmission**, rebuilt by Cotton. Contact Frank Koeder, 847-840-7557.

1939 Ford Coupe, 750 miles, Dearborn Award winner - 991 points. Contact Frank Koeder, 847-840-7557.

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.

1949 Ford F-1 Panel Truck (right), 1985 Touring class first place winner, maroon. Excellent Driver. Could use some cosmetic restoration or drive as is: \$22,000 or best offer. Contact Roger Obecnay at 708-772-1925.

1996 Corvette Convertible 37,000 miles, Price reduced to \$14,900. Call Joe Novak at 708-923-9953.

1949 to 1950 Ford overdrive transmission \$250 or offer. Contact Roger Obecnay at 708-772-1925.

1953 Ford Customline Fordor (right), 6 cylinder, 13,000 original miles. Contact Roger Obecnay at 708-772-1925.

Ron Dopke has the following items for sale: 1951 Ford Horn Ring Assembly – needs restoration \$35, 1951 Ford Left Side Exhaust Manifold – Limited run for dual exhaust conversion. New, Powder Coated \$175, 1950 Ford V-8 Oil Bath Air Cleaner - \$60.00, the book *Fords of the Fifty's* by Lorin Sorensen - mint condition - \$50 or make offer, 1964 Thunderbird dealers poster - mounted on wood frame, good condition - \$75 or make offer. Please contact Ron at 815-344-1335.

1930 Model A Fordor Sedan, belonged to Joe Prusinski (now deceased), an acquaintance of Jordon Beller. The car is in "ready to go" condition: new battery, new oil, checked fluid levels for steering-transmission-rear end. Inspected lighting and replaced a few light bulbs. Rebuilt the carburetor, drained, cleaned and refilled the gas tank. Removed brake drums, inspected shoes-drums-brake rods, etc. Adjusted and tested brakes. Spark plugs removed, cleaned, adjusted and reinserted. It does start quickly and drives nicely. **Price reduced to \$12,350** or best offer. Any questions, please contact Jordon Beller (630) 816-1932 or e-mail b1932@hotmail.com.

Craftsman garage door opener - FREE. Contact Tom O'Donnell at 847-991-6976.



Wanted Please See Page 13.



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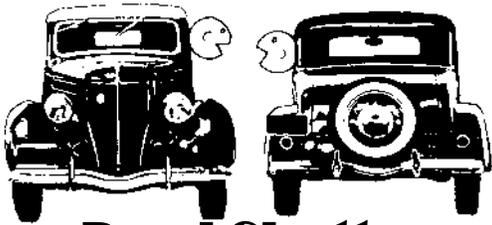
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Photo of the Month
Our Group in the Winners Circle at the Night at the Races