

# ROAD CHATTER

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

Volume 50 Issue 3

P.O. Box 803

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

March 2016

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

## UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

**March 5** Turner Pioneers Luncheon, Chicago. See Page 3.

**March 10** Board of Directors Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm.

**March 15 Pizza Meeting, Lou Malnati's, Buffalo Grove.** See page 3.

**March 26** Beller Museum Tour. See page 12.



## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

**March 13** Daylight Saving Time begins. Set your clocks forward one hour.

**March 17** Enjoy St. Patrick's Day.

**March 19** Spring Begins! Time to bring the V-8s out of hibernation.

**March 27** Happy Easter!

## In this Issue

**Page 2** – President Scott Gilday is ready for spring and anxious to get his cars on the road. He also encourages members to attend the events scheduled for this month.

**Page 3** – March is an action-packed month with three events on the schedule. On March 5, Charles Kaiser is hosting the Chicago Turner Pioneers luncheon in Chicago. March 15 brings us our annual Pizza Meeting at Lou Malnati's in Buffalo Grove. On March 26, Frank Madrigali is hosting a tour of the Beller Museum in Romeoville. Plan now to attend one, two, or all three events - details here and on Page 12.

**Page 4** – John Emmering brings us yet another story about gangsters and their connection to V-8 Fords. Read all about it here.

**Page 6** – Minutes of the February 16 monthly meeting.

**Page 8** – Summary of the face-to-face National Board meeting held in Phoenix in February.

**Page 10** – This month's Tech Corner takes a look at the classic early Mercury Station Wagons.

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

**Page 12** – Details about the Beller Museum Tour and an announcement from the Road Chatter editors.

**Page 13** – Need some spare cash? Details about a contest to find a new name for the Volo Auto Museum.

**Back Cover** – Photo of the Month: President Scott Gilday's 75th Anniversary Convertible.



## \*\*Attention Members\*\*

Do not show up at the regular meeting place this month – no one will be there! Instead, bring the family to Lou Malnati's in Buffalo Grove on March 15 – see Page 3 for details.

**2016 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

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.,  
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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,

According to the calendar, the first day of spring is about 20 days away (which I cannot forget, because it's Nicole's birthday), and based on the weather during the last couple days of February, I am hopeful we might have a few warm days coming up soon. I look forward being able to pull the V-8s out of the garage, wash off four months' worth of dust, and even get out on the road for a spin.



During our monthly meeting, John Emmering played a very nice and informative video about the "new" 51 Fords. I never realized just how different they were from the 49s and 50s. I'm ready to go out and buy one right now (but I should probably check with the wife and family first).

Looking forward to this month, I first want to point out that we will not hold our monthly meeting at our normal Arlington Heights location. Instead, we will be meeting at Lou Malnati's in Buffalo Grove where Ron Blum is hosting our annual Pizza Meeting. For only \$10, you get all the pizza and soft drinks you want. So, please be sure to join us at Lou's on Tuesday, March 15th.

In addition to our pizza meeting, Charlie Kaiser is once again hosting the annual Chicago Turners Pioneers Luncheon on Saturday the 5th, which is always a fun time. And, Frank and Phyllis Madrigali will be hosting a tour to the Beller Museum in Bolingbrook on March 26th. This is a great opportunity to break away from winter and see some neat old Fords and other cars, many of which are completely unrestored. Please let Charlie and Frank or Phyllis know if you'll be attending either of these events.

Thanks,

Scott Gilday  
NIRG President



**2016 Membership Rosters will be available at the Pizza Meeting. Please come to the meeting to pick up your Roster!!**

## UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

### Saturday, March 5 - Chicago Turner Pioneers Luncheon

Charles R. Kaiser is once again hosting the Chicago Turner Pioneers luncheon March 5 at 1:00 pm at Café Prague, 6710 West Belmont Avenue in Chicago, 2 miles north of North Ave and 4.8 miles east of Mannheim Rd.

The lunch, featuring giant corned beef sandwiches and potato pancakes is only \$12, drinks extra.

Several members signed up at the February meeting; if you plan to attend and have not signed up, **please call Charles today at 773-334-6277 and let him know if you plan to attend** so they can have adequate supplies for us.



**CHICAGO TURNER PIONEERS**

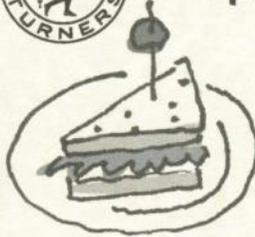
Invite You To Their  
**Spring Luncheon**

**Saturday March 5, 2016 1PM**

Reserve your plate now!  
Call Charlie Kaiser 773-334-6277

@ Cafe Prague  
6710 W Belmont Chicago IL 60634

Giant Corned Beef Sandwiches  
with all the trimmings - \$12  
Join the Fun - Bring a Friend


### Don't miss the Pizza Meeting! Tuesday, March 15 - 7:30 pm



Lou Malnati's  
85 S Buffalo Grove Rd  
Buffalo Grove, Illinois

**Note the new date!**



\$10 per person - includes ALL U CAN EAT pizza, soft drinks, tax and tip. Cash bar.

Spouses and guests are welcome!

Host Ron Blum has reserved a large room, so we will have plenty of space.

Lou Malnati's is located on the east side of Buffalo Grove Road just south of Lake-Cook Road. Those of you coming from the south or the western suburbs can take Route 53 north and exit at Dundee Rd. Go east 2.2 miles to Buffalo Grove Rd, then left (north) 1 mile to Lou Malnati's.

### Saturday, March 26 • Tour the Beller Museum

Get your motors running! Frank Madrigali has arranged lunch and a tour of the Beller Museum in Romeoville. Please turn to Page 12 for the details.



Alfred Brady

## Al Brady Named 1937 “Public Enemy #1” as He and His Gang Tried to “Out Dillinger, Dillinger” in Their Stolen Ford V-8s

By John Emmering



Clarence Lee Shaffer

**The outlaws of the 1930’s seemed a thing of the past until the Brady Gang staged a short lived crime revival. If the other gangsters were bad, these were the worst, until they were eliminated with the aid of a true FBI hero. Although they utilized several makes of automobiles, fate placed them in a Ford V-8 during their most infamous crime.**

Hunting for a new vehicle to operate in his gang’s robbery spree, Alfred Brady’s eyes fixed on a new 1936 Ford V-8 coupe parked on a dark residential street in Indianapolis, Indiana, on the evening of December 30, 1935. With the help of a few tools the Ford was entered and soon fired up and cruising away in the night with Brady behind the wheel. The Ford V-8 would soon be utilized in a frenzy of jewelry store and other robberies the gang was perpetrating throughout western Ohio, central Indiana, and east central Illinois as leader Alfred Brady, age 25, emulated the desperadoes of the lawless era of 1933-34. Brady tried to relive those anarchic days and was heard to brag that he and his gang will “make Dillinger look like a piker”.



Orphaned during his childhood in Indianapolis, Alfred Brady became a drifter with no family connections. Brady met Rhuel James Dalhover, his first recruit to the gang in Hanover Township, Indiana while he was working on a farm. After Dalhover’s bootlegging enterprise was destroyed by the Jefferson County Sheriff, Brady lured Dalhover into accompanying him on robberies starting with a movie theater and several rural stores. Before long habitual thief and delinquent Clarence Lee Shaffer, Jr., age 19 joined the group along with the older Charles Geiseking.

Believing they could be more successful robbing jewelry stores than banks, the gang planned a series of jewelry heists. On March 4, 1936, they robbed the Roy O. Wieland Jewelry Store in Greenville, Ohio, taking at least \$8,000 in jewelry. On March 19, 1936, the gang hit the Kay Jewelry Store in Lima, Ohio, departing with an estimated haul of \$6,900 in merchandise. Things turned deadly on March 21 when the gang robbed Mohler’s Grocery in Piqua, Ohio. As clerk Edward Lindsay unexpectedly emerged from the store’s cellar during the robbery, a panicked Al Brady fatally shot the 23 year old.

Heading out of Ohio to avoid capture the gang traveled to Chicago, a city they frequently visited. They came to the city to fence some of their loot and to give Al Brady the chance to rendezvous with Margaret Larson, a married woman with whom Brady had started an affair after they met earlier that year in New Orleans, Louisiana. In Chicago Al Brady and his gang had problems fencing their goods as Chicago mobsters took advantage of them and at one point robbed them.

Things went downhill fast for the Brady Gang when they repeated their robbery of the Kay Jewelry store in Lima, Ohio, on April 17, 1936. They encountered two policemen, one of whom who shot Geiseking in

the leg, but they evaded the police in a car chase. Fleeing to Indiana, the gang members brought Geiseking to the home of an Indianapolis physician for treatment. The outlaws claimed he had been shot by a jealous husband and afterward took Geiseking to stay with his family to recuperate. The gang returned to speak to the doctor to ensure his silence but he had informed the police. As Police Sergeant Richard Rivers approached the doctor's home he was shot and killed by either Dalhover or Shaffer.

The long arm of the law caught up with Al Brady when he was arrested April 29, 1936, in a Chicago hotel room he shared with Margaret Larson. Shaffer was later picked up by Chicago Police on May 15. Dalhover was soon arrested at his home in Indianapolis and Geiseking was apprehended in Kentucky September 12, 1936. All were extradited to Marion County, Indiana, for their Indianapolis area crimes. As a result of a court granted change of venue, Brady, Dalhover, and Shaffer were transferred to the Hancock County Jail in Greenfield, Indiana. The relocation to the small understaffed Hancock County jail was unfortunate. On October 11, 1936, Brady, Dalhover, and Shaffer overpowered Sheriff Clarence Watson and forced their way out of the jail. As the three fought Sheriff Watson outside of the jail, local barber Edgar Ridlen exited his Chevrolet and helped fight off the gang. The outlaws prevailed and took off in Ridlen's Chevy, having obtained a revolver from the Sheriff's office. The escape enraged FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover who designated Alfred Brady Public Enemy #1 and with evidence of interstate criminal activity launched a federal manhunt.

After the Greenfield jail break the gang drove east through Ohio and on to West Virginia, pulling robberies along the way for travel funds. The outlaws continued on to Baltimore, Maryland, where they paused and rented rooms in a boarding house. They settled in Baltimore and endeavored to live a peaceable life there, occasionally returning to the midwest for their robberies, but staying clean in Baltimore. This arrangement worked for several months and the gang members took on assumed names. Shaffer began dating a waitress named Minnie Raimondo and Dalhover took up with her sister



Mary. Soon Shaffer married Minnie and Dalhover, who already had a wife in Indiana, married Mary. The couples set up a household together in Baltimore. Al Brady remained single however. Telling the sisters that they had to travel for business the gang would return to the midwest for their crimes, now consisting mainly of bank robberies.

Driving back to Ohio May 12, 1937, the gang hunted for a new car to replace the Chevrolet taken after their escape. They observed a 1937 Ford V-8 Tudor occupied by two women driving down a rural highway near Bellefontaine and forced it off the road at gunpoint. One gang member jumped from the Chevrolet and soon both vehicles disappeared with the women left stranded on the side of the road. The Ford V-8 was used in the May 25, 1937, robbery of the Goodland Indiana State Bank. An Indiana State Police car occupied by Trooper Paul Minneman and Deputy Sheriff Elmer Craig began to track the Brady Gang's Ford V-8 after the robbery. The gang hid their Ford behind a church building and as the officers exited their police car to look for the gang the Brady gang shot them. Trooper Paul Minneman became the first Indiana State Policeman killed in the line of duty and Deputy Craig received gunshot wounds.

The gang quickly returned to their anonymity as family men in Baltimore. When they were observed by policemen moving guns from their legitimately acquired 1931 Buick to the stolen Ford V-8 in August 1937, their cover in Baltimore was blown. The Gang evaded capture but the police recovered the Buick which bore the gang's fingerprints and the Police and FBI learned of their adopted home. Brady, Shaffer,

## FEBRUARY 16 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by John Emmering

President Scott Gilday called the February 2016 members meeting of the Northern Illinois Regional Group to order at 7:45 pm. Spotting one of our newest members Jay Hinshaw in attendance, Scott gave Jay a chance to introduce himself to the group. Jay shared that his goal is to acquire a 1936-38 Ford Tudor or possibly a "Shoebox" Ford. He hoped that association with the club might help in his hunt for and enjoyment of a Ford V-8.



With Membership Chairman Ken Bounds in Phoenix, Arizona, for the national Early Ford V-8 Club board meeting, Scott filled in and gave a membership report stating that our regional group now has 79 members. Scott stated that there are 75 returning members and four new members in the total.

In national news Scott reiterated Ken's request for anyone who may be interested in running for the post of Midwest Director for the national board. Ken, who is serving on the board as President and Midwest Director will reach his term limit at the end of this year.

The treasurer's report was also given by Scott as Treasurer Joe Serritella was also away in Arizona. Joe was able to email his February report which indicated income of \$1,521.00 and expenses of \$2,759.65, with the installation dinner the major expense.

Health and Welfare chairperson Phyllis Madrigali was called upon to give her report. Phyllis told us that while she had not received any reports from members she was glad to see John Judge in the room and she called on John to explain how he is doing after his hip replacement surgery. John said that he is recovering but not fast enough to his mind.

Scott gave a reminder that in March 15th meeting that members will be required to meet in the lower level of the Wheeling Township Offices since the township will be making other use of our normal meeting area. **[Update: with the regular meeting room unavailable, the March 15 meeting has been changed to the Pizza Meeting at Lou Malnati's in Buffalo Grove.]**

With no events to recap for the month of February we went into some planned upcoming events:

- Saturday March 5, 1:00 PM – Pioneer Turners Luncheon sponsored by Charlie Kaiser at the Café Prague, 6710 W. Belmont Ave. Chicago. A sign-up sheet was passed around or you leave a message for Charlie at 773-334-6277. Charlie spoke about his event and told the group that a larger room will be provided this year.
- **Tuesday March 15th** 7:30 PM – Annual Pizza Meeting to be held at Lou Malnati's Restaurant, 85 S Buffalo Grove Rd, Buffalo Grove, IL. Ron Blum will be organizing the event. [Note new date.]
- Saturday March 26th was proposed for a trip to the Beller Museum 275 Rocbaar Dr. Romeoville, IL. Frank & Phyllis Madrigali would like to sponsor the event and said they will notify Ken Bounds for an announcement in the Road Chatter when it is finalized. Several members signed up as interested in the trip.
- Sunday April 10, 8:30 AM – Eggs and Eights annual breakfast at the Egg Harbor Café, 477 Third Street, Geneva, IL. Sponsored by John & Robin Emmering.
- Possible Safety Check at Roundheads Pizza in May.
- Sunday, May 15 – Breakfast and a visit to the Fox River Trolley Museum, 365 S. LaFox St. (Rt. 31) South Elgin, IL. George Zulas is planning the event.

## FEBRUARY 16 MEETING MINUTES - CONTINUED

- Saturday June 4 -“Historic Illinois Pavement” tour down Route 66 to Pontiac, Illinois. This event will be hosted by Gary Osborne. Gary explained that he hopes to plan several of these “H.I.P.” tours beginning with the June tour and extending into future years to explore several historic Illinois Highways.
- Saturday June 25th tour to the John Dillinger and the Lake County Museums in the old Crown Point, Indiana Court House.
- July joint tour with the Northern Ohio Regional Group to Indianapolis, sponsored by Ken and Carolyn Bounds.
- Sunday August 14th (proposed date) annual picnic at Timmerman’s Ranch.

Paul Levine shared his desire to have our regional club show our cars in an event for the Wilmette Historical Society this fall. Jeff Trilling mentioned that in our March meeting he will present a tech talk on servicing the Ford V-8 oil filled fan hub. Additionally Jeff plans to present his photo shoot of the late Lee Roy Hartung’s assembly of motorcycles, bicycles, vintage autos and other collectibles which had been stored on his property in Glenview. Jeff had a chance to photograph the collection before it was auctioned off. [Update: Jeff’s presentation will now be at the April 19 monthly meeting.]

At 8:30 pm the meeting was called into recess for a coffee and cookie break.

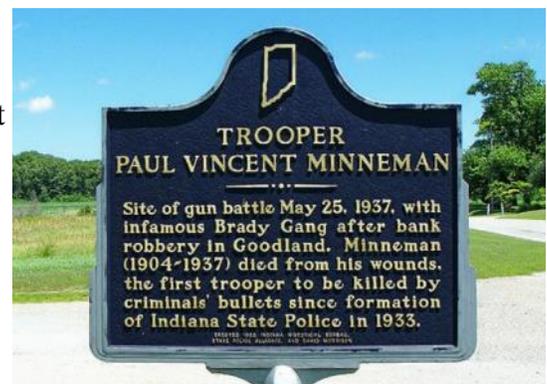
This month’s tech talk was delivered through the medium of a 1951 Ford Motor Company slide show highlighting the features of the brand new 1951 Ford models. After the presentation John Judge was lucky enough to possess the winning ticket and won \$20.00 in the 50-50 raffle.

Members in attendance: Richard Anderson, Allen Bryant, Sam Dix, John Emmering, Scott Gilday, Jay Hinshaw, Paul Jensen, John Judge, Charles Kaiser, George Kubik, Paul Levine, Frank & Phyllis Madrigali, Pat Maroney, Joe Novak, Gary Osborne, Dan Pudelek, Russ Shmerl, John Slobodnik, Jeff Trilling, Ron Vaughan, and George Zulas.

### Brady Gang - Continued from Page 5

and Dalhover quickly left Baltimore without any word to Minnie and Mary Raimondo, who came under police intense police scrutiny. The gang took off to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where they robbed the People’s Exchange Bank of \$7,000.

Returning to the east coast the Brady gang drove up to Bangor, Maine, where they understood a very open policy existed on firearm sales. The Gang purchased three .45 pistols at a gun shop and ordered two Thompson submachine guns, which then could be purchased legally, for pickup on October 12, 1937. Having been tipped by the sales clerk the FBI was waiting for the gang. As Dalhover entered the shop he was arrested by expert marksman FBI special Agent Walter Walsh, who received a gunshot wound. Shaffer and Brady died in a hail of bullets on Bangor’s main street when they refused to surrender. Dalhover was executed one year later at Michigan City, Indiana, for Trooper Minneman’s murder. Thus the gang that tried to imitate Dillinger in life also copied him and his gang in their untimely demise.





## The Early Ford Club of America

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March 1, 2016

### **Summary of the February 16-17 Face-to-Face Meeting of the Board of Directors**

#### New Officers

New officers sworn in at the meeting were President Ken Bounds, Vice President Phill Hall, and Secretary Bruce Nelson. New board members are Joe Reger (Northwest) and Dave Collette (Mid-Atlantic).

#### Midwest Director

My second three-year term as Midwest Director ends this year. Since the Club By-Laws limit Directors to two consecutive terms, this means that we need a candidate to replace me in 2017. If you or any member you know would like to serve the Club at the National level, please contact me for information about submitting a resume.



**Outgoing President Steve Lemmons passes the gavel to Ken**

#### Newsletter Competition

Congratulations to Indiana RG#56, Northern Illinois RG#8, and St. Louis RG#124 – their newsletters finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively in the newsletter competition. See full results in the March/April V-8 Times.

Milly Scheidt of New York has volunteered to serve as chair of a newsletter competition judging committee, replacing David Kelley. I encourage all newsletter editors to participate in the competition. Milly's contact information is on the national website and will be published in the next issue of the V-8 Times. Thanks to David for his five years of service.

#### Regional Group Websites

Does your Regional Group maintain a website? The National club is planning to hold a competition, similar to the newsletter competition, to recognize groups with the most outstanding websites. Watch for details in the V-8 Times. Meanwhile, if you have a website, time to make sure it is up-to-date and ready to participate.

#### National Website

A significant revision to the National Website is now in the testing phase. We think that visitors to the website will like the new look; we hope to roll it out sometime this year.

-2-

### National Roster of Members

The streamlined National Roster is on schedule to be mailed in early April, along with your membership card and free V-8 Times ad. The club is saving significant money by removing the By-Laws, Judging Manual, Judging Instructions, and List of V-8 Times Articles. The membership listing will remain the same. These removed items are available on the website and members can request a printed copy if they don't have access to the Internet. Please let me know if you hear of any complaints about these items being removed from the roster.

### National Meets

Carolyn and I hope to see you at one or both of the 2016 National Meets: the Central National Meet, hosted by the Tulsa Regional Group in Tulsa June 12-16 and the 2016 Eastern National Meet, hosted by the National Capital Regional Group in Gettysburg August 8-11.

We are fortunate that the Tulsa group has stepped up to host the Central Meet. It is now only 3½ months away and for most of us, Tulsa is not that far. If you haven't already registered, I encourage you to consider it now. It promises to be a good time.

You can find details in the V-8 Times and complete information and registration forms for the meets on the National website.

### National Tours

There is still plenty of time to register for one of the three National Tours this year. Western New York RG#3 is hosting "Fording around the Finger Lakes" July 11 – 15; Hi-Country RG#28 is hosting "The Great Southwestern National Driving Tour" September 15-21 (note the revised dates); and Georgia RG#24 is hosting "The Blue Ridge Parkway Tour" September 18-22. Details and registration forms are available on the National website and will be advertised in the V-8 Times.

### 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program

The program to honor Early Ford vehicles celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> year continues. Members bringing their '41 Ford, Mercury, or Lincoln vehicles to a National Meet or National Driving Tour will receive a collectible license medallion and certificate.

A special thank you to outgoing President Steve Lemmons and to Phoenix Regional Group #37 for hosting our face-to-face meeting. In addition to a nice meal with our hosts, after our meeting we had a very enjoyable day of touring to two super local collections.

Please share the information in this letter with your membership. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me using the information at the top of this letter.



Ken Bounds  
National President/Midwest Director



## TECH CORNER



### The Mercury “Woodie” Station Wagon Commemorates its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary By John Emmering

A new member was introduced to the Ford Family in the 1941 model year with the unveiling of the first Mercury Station Wagon. At a price of \$1,141, the 1941 Mercury Station Wagon was the most expensive Mercury and only 1,010 of these beauties were manufactured that year. The Mercury Wagon was available in a choice of birch or gum panels to contrast the maple framing, and color-harmonized leather seats. Like the Fords, the bodies were all manufactured at Iron Mountain, Michigan. The Wagons continued with minor changes in 1942 and after the wartime moratorium on production the similar looking 1946-48 models appeared on the market.



First production year 1941 Mercury Station Wagon



A similar appearing 1948 Mercury Wagon

The post war styling revolution initiated by Henry Ford II brought sweeping changes to the Mercury Station Wagon with the advent of the 1949 models. Besides new bodies and suspensions the sleek 1949-51 Mercury Wagons featured only two passenger doors. These 1949-51 wagons were true “Woodies” however with real wood incorporated into the bodies. By 1952 the Mercury station wagons again included four passenger doors and utilized wood veneer panels over steel, replacing the integrated wood bodies. The attractive Mercury “Woodie” wagons are still much sought after by collectors and admired 75 years after their introduction.



New look of the 1949 Mercury Wagon



Sharp 1951 Mercury Wagon



### 10 Years Ago This Month – March 2006

The March Road Chatter contained an article by Stan Stack about his very original 1953 Ford which he acquired from the original owner, his Great Aunt. At the March 21 monthly meeting, Membership Chairman Ken Bounds welcomed new member Joe Serritella to the club, bringing the membership total to 77.

### 20 Years Ago This Month – March 1996

The annual Pizza Meeting was held March 19 at John's Pizza with 39 members in attendance. On March 24, 35 members and family participated in a "North Shore Tour" hosted by Tom & Madeleine O'Donnell. The tour included a drive past many beautiful areas and homes, stops at Memory Lane Motors, the Chicago Car Exchange, and the Jean Butz James Museum, and lunch at Lamb's Farm. [Editor's note: the Jean Butz James Museum closed in March 2015 and the home was sold.]

### 30 Years Ago This Month – March 1986

The March Road Chatter contained a letter from national director Charles Seims, advising that the Road Chatter had won 5<sup>th</sup> place in the 1985 newsletter competition. Meet Chairman Marty Duling included a detailed update on the Central National Meet, now only 4 months away. The Road Chatter featured an article from Len Vinyard about his '39 Convertible. A Ladies Night Out planned for March 22 had to be cancelled due to lack of signups.

### 40 Years Ago This Month – March 1976

At the March 9 monthly meeting, Ray Tognarelli discussed the possibility of creating t-shirts with the group logo. "Colonel" Ray also conducted the first NIRG auction at the meeting, netting over \$72 for the club. Jack Groot presented a demonstration on woodgraining. On March 20, Tom & June Young hosted a swim party followed by a pizza party at Jake's Pizza in Arlington Heights. About 30 adults and 15 youngsters participated.

### Flathead Flashback

**March 5, 2006 - Joey Novak and Lloyd Duzell installing rebuilt engine in Joey's 1940 Pickup.**



## Saturday, March 26 • Beller Museum Tour

Frank and Phyllis Madrigali are hosting a tour to the Beller Museum in Romeoville. We will meet at noon for lunch at Stone City Saloon in Romeoville, 710 N Independence Blvd (Route 53), two miles south of I-55. If driving south on I-355, take Joliet Rd, which intersects with Route 53 one mile north of the restaurant. Driving south on Route 53, turn left at Ridgewood Ave then an immediate right in front of a car wash to the restaurant.

Stone City has a wide-ranging lunch menu including burgers, sandwiches, wraps, and salads.

After lunch we will drive 3-4 blocks to the Beller Museum at 275 Rocbaar Drive (park on the far side of the building). Those skipping lunch should plan to arrive between 1:00 and 1:30.



If you did not sign up at the February meeting, please call Frank at 708-644-8063 so he can have a count for the restaurant. Hope to see you there!

### Did you know?

That the Beller Museum is owned and operated by NIRG members Jordon and Corrine Beller?

That the Beller Museum, founded in 1993, is home to over 30 Early Fords as well as other years and makes?

of which are displayed in "as found" condition, the Beller Museum also has a large collection of literature, tools, and parts?

That prior to the building of the Early Ford V-8 Museum in Auburn, the Beller museum housed a large portion of the Foundation's memorabilia and literature?

That the Beller Museum is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization, meaning that your donations may be tax deductible?

That we have not visited the Beller Museum as a group since 2009? Isn't it about time?

## FROM THE EDITORS

Ken & Carolyn Bounds

We are happy to let you know that the Road Chatter has been awarded 3rd Place in the annual Early Ford V-8 newsletter competition. As always, we could not have received this recognition without you, the members, and the many activities, events, and tours that make this a great group. Our congratulations go out to all the other newsletters that were honored; a complete list will be published in the March-April V-8 Times.



Thanks once again to John Emmering for his interesting contributions to the Road Chatter. In addition to an interesting Tech Corner article about the beautiful Mercury Station Wagons, John has surprised us again with another in his seemingly endless stories of gangsters and their connection with Early V-8 Fords. Funny how their always seems to be a Chicago connection as well!

Articles such as John's contribute toward the Road Chatter's tradition of recognition. Can we count on more of you to help? We may sound like a stuck record, but we would love to have your contributions of Tech Corner and V-8 Gals page articles. This year is the 75th Anniversary of the '41 Ford vehicles. We have 10 of them in the group. Can we count on you for an article about your car? Of course, all years are welcome.

*Ken & Carolyn*

**NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR**

<b>January</b> 14 Board Meeting 16 Installation Dinner 19 Member Meeting	<b>February</b> 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting	<b>March</b> 5 Turners Luncheon 10 Board Meeting 15 Pizza Meeting 26 Beller Museum Tour	<b>April</b> 10 Eggs & Eights, Egg Harbor, Geneva 14 Board Meeting 19 Member Meeting
<b>May</b> 12 Board Meeting 15 Breakfast and Trolley Museum Tour 17 Member Meeting	<b>June</b> 4 Tour to Pontiac 5 Board Meeting 12-16 CNM, Tulsa 21 Member Meeting 25 Crown Point Tour	<b>July</b> 14 Board Meeting 19 Member Meeting	<b>August</b> 8-11 Eastern National Meet, Gettysburg 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting
<b>September</b> 8 Board Meeting 20 Member Meeting 23-25 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	<b>October</b> 13 Board Meeting 18 Member Meeting	<b>November</b> 12 Veterans Day Lunch, Sam's of Arlington 10 Board Meeting 15 Member Meeting	<b>December</b> No Meetings

Our friends at the Volo Auto Museum are thinking about something big - a change in their name. And that name change can mean \$\$\$ in your pocket. Brian Grams has announced a contest



to try to find a new name for the 56-year-old museum, which features much more than cars. If you are the first person to suggest a name that is used, you will be awarded \$5000!

For all the details and an entry form, go to [www.volocars.com/name\\_change\\_contest](http://www.volocars.com/name_change_contest).

Volo Auto Museum, 27582 Volo Village Rd, Volo, is open from 10 am to 5 pm daily. Admission is \$14.95 for adults and \$8.95 for children 5-12.

*Thanks to Diane Wrobel for letting us know about the contest.*

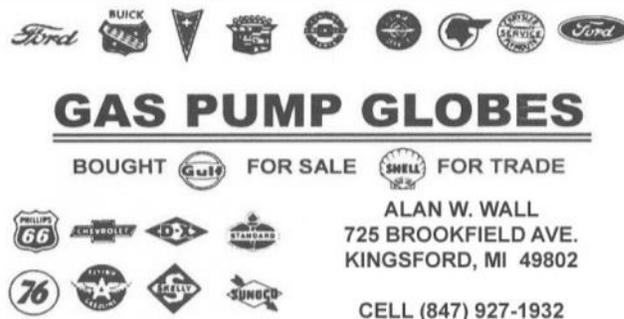
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO  
 MIKE SARGIS, JR (3/10), CHARLES R. KAISER (3/17),  
 NICOLE GILDAY (3/20), & MADELEINE O'DONNELL (3/26)**

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO  
 JOE & PAULA BAUGHN (3/9)**

**AND ALL THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND  
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**1946 Deluxe Ford Coupe** (right), less than 5,000 miles on rebuilt engine. New brake lines & cylinders. Asking \$16,000 - would like to see it stay in the Club. Contact Cliff Dixon at 630-629-2104.

**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.

**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.

**Bias ply 600 x 16 B.F. Goodrich 3 1/2" White Wall tire** \$50. **Bias ply 600 x 16 Goodyear black wall tire** - \$50. **16" cooling fan** - \$50. Call Ron Steck at 630-983-0543.

**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 Obecnny at 708-772-1925.

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

**1949 Engine** - came out of a running car, needs rebuilding, \$300 or offer; **1949 to 1953 Ford overdrive transmission** \$250 or offer. Contact Roger Obecnny at 708-772-1925.



## Wanted

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



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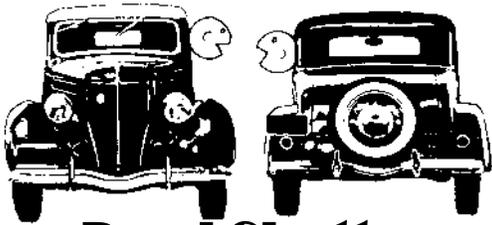
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**Photo of the Month**  
**President Scott Gilday's 1941 Ford Convertible**  
**75th Anniversary of the 1941 Ford**