

# ROAD CHATTER

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

P.O. Box 803

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

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

Volume 51 Issue 1

January 2017

## UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

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

**January 14** Installation Dinner. See Page 3 for details.

**January 17** Monthly Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm

**CHARTERED  
JULY 23, 1967**

*Northern Illinois*



*Regional Group*

**OUR 50TH  
YEAR**

## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

**January 10** 25th Annual Swap Meet, Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone; 8 am - 2 pm. Admission \$5.

## In this Issue

**Page 2** – Incoming 2017 President John Emmering looks back 50 years to what was going on in the world as a group of men got together to start planning a club that became the Northern Illinois Regional Group.

**Page 3** – Please join your fellow V-8ers on January 14 as we kick off our Golden Anniversary year with our annual Installation Dinner. RSVP required to host Joe Novak by January 2.

**Page 4** – Frank & Phyllis Madrigali hosted the Christmas Brunch in a beautiful setting December 11 - read John Emmering's report here.

**Page 6** - Ken Bounds presents the fifth entry in our series "My First Car." This time it was not a car but a truck; at least it was an Early Ford.

**Page 7** - A few words from your editors.

**Page 7** - Information about an important new law that affects Illinois drivers in 2017.

**Page 7** - The NIRG welcomes a new member.

**Page 7** - Proud grandpa Ron Steck in his '40 Pickup introduces us to a potential future member.

**Page 8** – Rearview Mirror – information about club events over the past 40 years, plus a Flathead Flashback.

**Back Cover** – Photo of the Month:  
Our group at the Christmas Brunch at Cantigny golf club in Wheaton.



If your dues have not been received by the end of January, this will be your last issue of the Road Chatter and your name will be omitted from the 2017 Roster.

If we have not received your dues, there will be a red notice on the back cover of your Road Chatter saying "Last issue if dues not paid." A membership renewal form is included if you receive the print version of the Road Chatter.

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

**2017 OFFICERS****President**

John Emmering

**Vice President**

Pending

**Secretary**

Gary Osborne

**Treasurer**

Joe Serritella

**Membership Chairman**

Ken Bounds

**Health & Welfare**

Pending

**Tour Chairman**

Pending

**Newsletter**

Ken and Carolyn Bounds

**Board of Directors**

Ron Blum

Ken Bounds

Scott Gilday

Tom O'Donnell

Ron Steck

**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](mailto: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 THE PRESIDENT**

“All you need is Love” was the new release by the Beatles and the #1 song was “Light my Fire” by the Doors. Lyndon B. Johnson was our President, in command of 464,000 troops fighting in Vietnam. The average family had an income of \$6,155.00 and they could purchase a new Ford Mustang Coupe for \$2,461.00. In this era a group of young men in the Chicago area with Ford Cars that were between 27-35 years old got together to form the Northern Illinois Regional Group of the early Ford V-8 Club of America, the 8<sup>th</sup> regional group of the national club which was at the time only four years old.



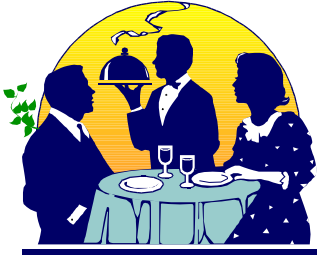
When the Northern Illinois Regional Group was chartered on July 23, 1967 it was the summer before I started the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and my interests were in comic books, listening to pop music on WCFL and riding my Schwinn five speed bicycle. Now five decades have flown by. I am involved in more adult pursuits and the Northern Illinois Regional Group of the Early Ford V-8 Club of America is celebrating its Fiftieth Anniversary. When the club was formed some of us were not even born. Others of us were well along but at whatever age we all share a love for Ford V-8 cars and enjoy a special camaraderie with other Ford V-8 aficionados.

In light of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year it is exciting to anticipate serving as Regional Group president for 2017. My goal this year is to keep our regional group's wheels rolling along and hopefully pick up a little steam in attracting new members and facilitating a closer bond between those in our ranks. This milestone year will be a great time to evaluate where we are going and how we might improve our group.

Fifty years have gone by and we are now a club with cars 64-85 years old, all relatively valuable. Our hobby is more expensive than it was in 1967 and with the Digital Revolution people are moving into their own private worlds. Our challenge will be to get V-8 enthusiasts out to face to face meetings and to join into activities. The most fun any of us will have with our Ford V-8's is when we are out together driving or exhibiting our cars and seeing the thrill that members of the public show at viewing a piece of automotive history.

Thanks for your confidence in allowing me to serve as president during our “Golden Anniversary Year”. With so many members contributing their time, talents and ideas I am sure it will be a great year.

## UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

*2017 Installation Dinner**January 14, 2017*

Place: Carriage Greens Golf Course  
8700 Carriage Greens Drive  
Darien, IL



Time: 6:00 - 7:00 PM Social Hour, Open Bar  
7:00 - 8:00 PM Dinner & Cash Bar  
8:00 - ????? Program, Door Prizes

Cost: \$35.00 per person includes dinner, 1 hour open bar and gratuity.

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

- ◆ Entertainment by our own Ron Vaughan!
- ◆ Swearing In of NIRG Officers for 2017!
- ◆ Recognition of Service to the NIRG!
- ◆ Door Prizes!



**RSVP date was January 2nd, but if you want to attend and did not make your reservation, call Joe Novak at 708-923-9953 today to see if he can get you in.**

Note: We have received some really nice door prizes this year! All attending are welcome to donate items for door prizes to add to those received from various vendors and friends of the NIRG.

## The Wonderful White World of Winter Provided the Backdrop for the Christmas Bruch at Cantigny Golf Club

By John Emmering

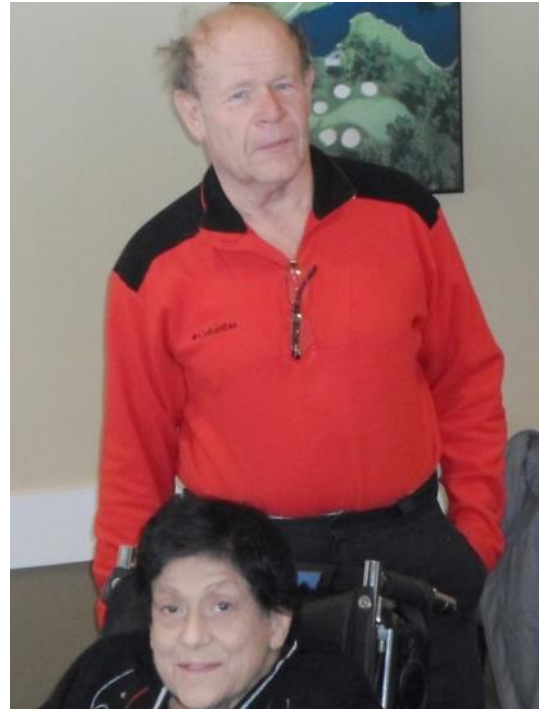
A fresh coat of snow covered the links of the Cantigny Golf Club Sunday morning December 11<sup>th</sup> setting a beautiful backdrop for the NIRG Christmas Brunch. After brushing off snow, members hung up their warm winter coats and proceeded to an exquisite private area with tables set and prepared for our meal. Those arriving were treated to a delightful view of the snow covered golf course and had a great time greeting each other and discussing topics related to the Ford V-8 hobby.

When all twenty-one participants were gathered, a little past 10:00 am, they made their way to the buffet tables where an appealing choice of breakfast cuisine was presented. Many chose the omelet line where cooks prepared omelets made to order with a variety of ingredient choices. Other tables offered fruit, biscuits and gravy, bacon, sausage, and other breakfast favorites. A table of some delicious dessert items was also offered.

Back at the group's tables partakers enjoyed the cuisine they had selected and received great service from the wait staff who kept coffee cups warm and full. All those involved appreciated the work of Frank and Phyllis Madrigali, event sponsors, in selecting the venue and setting up the event.

Members who gathered for the brunch were Tom & Judy Buscaglia, John & Robin Emmering, John Judge, Frank & Phyllis Madrigali, Pat & Dee Maroney, Dan & Diane Pudelek, John & Este Scheve, John & Barbara Slobodnik, Stan & JoAnne Stack, Ron & Colleen Steck and George & Dawn Zulas. Unfortunately poor driving conditions caused by the snowy weather did cause a few members to miss the brunch.

As the group parted with holiday greetings after a great event, many expressed the feeling that the venue was a very nice location and should be considered for future events.



Hosts Phyllis and Frank



John & Robin



John & Frank



More Photos from the Christmas Brunch



Dee & Pat



Diane & Dan



Este & John



John & Barb



Stan & JoAnne



Dawn & George

## My First Car By Ken Bounds

For the past several months, we have been running a series featuring members' first cars. Although we call it *My First Car*, this one really should be titled "My" "First" "Car". It wasn't totally mine – my dad and I were partners. It sort of wasn't my first; I had beaten around in a '56 Chevy, then a '57 Chevy. I don't even remember if they were titled in my name or my parents. And it wasn't a car – it was a 1950 Ford Pickup. Heck, it wasn't even a V-8 - it was a Flathead 6.

My dad started working for A&P in Hannibal, MO in 1928 when he was 14 years old. After a brief vacation as a B-17 turret specialist in England during WW-II, he returned to work. In 1949 he was promoted to manage the A&P in my hometown, Kirksville, MO.

In 1970, just before my dad was able to retire, A&P abruptly announced that the store was to be closed. After 21 years in Kirksville, my family had no desire to move to another town, so my dad decided to stay and seek a job with another company. But he received an interesting offer. A&P offered to sell him the fixtures in the store for a bargain price. Since I had the entire summer before starting my senior year and was also out of a job, my dad and I agreed that we should become partners and make some money selling the fixtures. We were allowed three months to clear the store.

We needed a truck. Somewhere in town we spotted a 1950 Ford F-1 Pickup and bought it for \$100. They certainly weren't collectors' items then – it was just an old beat-up, well-used truck. The tires were shot and we knew we would be hauling some very heavy loads, so we went to Montgomery Ward and had a set of 6-ply blackwalls mounted for another \$100.

Boy, did we use that truck that summer. We hauled dozens of loads from delivering classic items such as A&P coffee grinders all the way to hauling scrap metal to sell to the junkyard. I remember when we hired a local guy to help us load and unload really heavy items. He would not ride in the truck, but wanted to ride on the running board so he could wave at his buddies and look like a big-shot since he had a job.

We made a lot of money that summer. We sold the safe, scales, refrigeration units, ceiling fans, and lots more. Some of the wooden shelving was sold to a tavern that was relocating a couple of doors down from us. That wood was used to build a bar that is still in use today.

After the project was complete, I was able to buy my dad out on the truck. That pickup became my mode of transportation during my senior year. I kept trying to fix things up on it and once bought a '48 Pickup for parts. Returning that '48 to a junkyard is another story and one that scared my poor mother half to death.

I had a lot of fun with that truck and many memories. One that sticks with me is that I could never get the top off the oil filter canister and was afraid to break something. So I never changed the filter. Also, I have no memory of what I may have used off that '48 parts truck.

After graduation in May 1971, it was time to leave small-town Kirksville and begin my career in the big city. I bought a brand-new Buick and eventually the truck had to go. I sold it to my best friend, Richard, for \$200. (Richard is the person who years later told me about the Crestliner for sale in Kirksville which I bought and still have today). Richard eventually sold the truck to someone else. I saw it on a trip to Kirksville a few years later - painted yellow; haven't seen it since. It was a good old truck.



Yep, that's me in about 1971 - before tire cleaner and Armor-All were invented



## FROM THE EDITORS

Ken & Carolyn Bounds

With travel and all the distractions of the holidays, we have reduced the Road Chatter to 12 pages this month. We plan to be back to the standard 16 next month.

Once again, we ask you, our members, for articles for the Road Chatter. We love articles about your cars, whether it is your new Early V-8, one you have had for years, or even your first car. We also need your input for Tech Corner articles as well as articles for the V-8 Gals page.



On a sad note, just before going to print we learned this morning (the 30th) of the passing of Millie Olds' mother after battling a long illness. Our condolences to Millie and her family.

Like incoming President John Emmering, we are excited about the celebration of our Golden Anniversary Year. The officers and board are exploring ways that we can appropriately recognize our group and the members who have helped keep it together for 50 years! If you have any ideas about ways to celebrate our accomplishments, please let us know. The fun begins with our Annual Installation Dinner on January 14 - we hope to see you there!

*Ken & Carolyn*

## New Illinois Laws

We planned to have a Tech Corner on new Illinois laws for 2017, but there were not that many that have a significant effect on Illinois drivers. However, there is one very important change that you need to be aware of. For many years, Scott's Law, also referred to as the "move over" law, requires drivers to slow down or change lanes when driving by a stopped emergency vehicle. Beginning January 1, 2017, the law also will include **any vehicle** on the side of the road with hazard lights flashing. Car, truck, whatever. The penalties for not moving over can be severe, including up to a \$10,000 fine. Just this week, a driver was cited for violating "Scott's Law" after he struck an Illinois state trooper's squad car near Peoria.

## Welcome New Member

The Northern Illinois Regional Group extends a warm welcome to Jim & Harriet Taylor of Johnsburg, Illinois. Scott Gilday recommended the Taylors for membership. They recently joined the National Club and we are happy to have them in our Regional Group. They own a 1949 Ford Convertible along with a 1972 Cadillac Eldorado Convertible.

We hope to see Jim and Harriet (and their cars) at many upcoming Club meetings and events. Their contact information will be included in the 2017 Roster, which should be available at the February monthly meeting.

## Future V-8er



Proud Grandpa Ron Steck with granddaughter Kaelyn



### 10 Years Ago This Month – January 2007

Editors Ken & Carolyn Bounds introduced several format changes for the Road Chatter, including the new “In The Rearview Mirror” column. The January Road Chatter included a feature story about Doug Leicht’s original 1937 Ford Tudor. On January 6, outgoing President Ron Dopke hosted 53 members and guests at the annual Installation Dinner at the Wellington of Arlington Heights where he passed the gavel to incoming President Dan Pudelek.

### 20 Years Ago This Month – January 1997

The NIRG Installation dinner was held at the Atrium restaurant in Arlington Heights January 11, with Tom O’Donnell turning over the gavel to Dick Alfini as the new president. On this same date, portions of Chicago started using the new “773” area code. Lin Stacey presented a tech talk on tools at the January 21 meeting.

### 30 Years Ago This Month – January 1987

The NIRG Installation Dinner was held January 10 at Alice’s Moravia Bohemian Restaurant in Berwyn. Officers: President – Alan Wall; Vice-President – Dave French; Treasurer – Earl Heintz; Membership Chairman – Neil McManus; Secretary – Terry Freihage; Newsletter editor – Diane Wrobel.

### 40 Years Ago This Month – January 1977

Outgoing club officers: President – Marty Duling; Vice-President – George Cech; Secretary-Treasurer – Jack Groot; Tour Chairmen – Sam Iusi & Len Vinyard; Newsletter Editor – Ron Dopke. The installation dinner was held January 22 at Daniels Restaurant on old 53 in Addison. Mentioned in the newsletter was the 4<sup>th</sup> annual swap meet at Bill Jacobs Chevrolet in Joliet (29 years later Joey Novak found his new flathead block there and Ken Bounds found his new flathead engine). Treasurer Jack Groot announced that 1977 dues were due: \$5.00.

### **Flathead Flashback**

**Ron Vaughan entertains the crowd at the Installation Dinner ten years ago, January 6, 2007.**





**NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR**

<b>January</b> 12 Board Meeting 14 Installation Dinner, Carriage Greens, Darien 17 Member Meeting	<b>February</b> 9 Board Meeting 21 Member Meeting	<b>March</b> 9 Board Meeting 21 Member Meeting	<b>April</b> 13 Board Meeting 18 Pizza Meeting
<b>May</b> 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting	<b>June</b> 8 Board Meeting 7-11 Eastern National Meet, Chantilly, VA 20 Member Meeting	<b>July</b> 13 Board Meeting 18 Member Meeting	<b>August</b> 10 Board Meeting 15 Member Meeting
<b>September</b> 14 Board Meeting 19 Member Meeting 22-24 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	<b>October</b> 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting	<b>November</b> 9 Board Meeting 11 Veterans Day Lunch, Sam's of Arlington 21 Member Meeting	<b>December</b> No Meetings



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO**  
**GENE HEINTZ (1/3), JACK FRANK (1/4),**  
**KATHY LARSON (1/8), THOMAS PINN (1/8), JUDY BARONE (1/9),**  
**JOE NOVAK (1/11), GEORGE ZULAS (1/13), RON DOPKE (1/14),**  
**DAWN OSBORNE (1/16), SUSAN FREUND (1/21), RON BLUM (1/23),**  
**JO ANNE STACK (1/23), EARL HEINTZ (1/28) & LARRY WEBB (1/31)**

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

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





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## For Sale

**1930 Ford Model A Light Stake Truck, #3+, \$18,500.** Contact Paul Levine at 847-962-2431.

**New Mallory electronic three bolt distributor, never on car \$200.00. Two rebuilt 97's \$150.00 each.** Call Joe Novak at 708-923-9953.

**Rebuilt S. C. O. T. Blower, \$11,000.00; 1939 NOS trunk handle \$175.00. 1940 Ford Transmission with original 3 speed Hurst Floor shifter, \$950.00.** Contact Frank Koeder, 847-840-7557.

**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. Asking \$37,500. Contact Tom Anzelmo or Nicole at 708-562-5695.

**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 Obecny at 708-772-1925.

**1940 Mercury Fordor Sedan** (right). Our good friend Gilbert Adams from the Wichita group reports that this is a nice car and that the owner, Tina O'Conner, is asking \$13,000. Wichita group members Ron and Tina purchased it in June 2009 from long-time Kansas City owners George and Betty Pulliam. Ron and Tina enjoyed it by going to Spring Flings and Central Meets. Ron passed away February 22, 2016 at the age of 71 from Parkinson's. Gilbert is helping Tina sell the car; he has more pictures and can provide more information. Contact Gilbert at 316-838-8420 or [adamsgl@earthlink.net](mailto:adamsgl@earthlink.net).

**1940 Ford bumper cores**, originals with bad chrome, good cores for re-chroming, 1 pair. Free to club members. Contact Jay Hinshaw at 773-791-6494.

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



## Wanted

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

**1936 Ford Right Rear Shock.** Contact Patrick Maroney at 847-490-3543.

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



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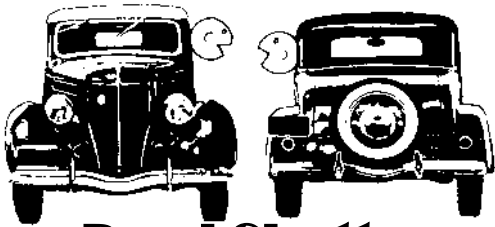


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## **Road Chatter**

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**Photo of the Month  
Part of our Group at the  
Christmas Brunch**