

# Road

# Chatter

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

Northern Illinois Regional Group #8 Volume 54 Issue #2

19  
1  
1942 Ford:  
Last pre-war  
model



***Ford Flatheads over the Years ....***

**Lin Stacey's 1942 Ford**

**Super DeLuxe Coupe Pg. 6**

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**Ford's Much Improved  
"NIFTY FIFTY" Pg. 8**

## 2020 OFFICERS

Ron Steck *President*  
John Scheve *VP*  
Gary Osborne *Secretary*  
Joe Serritella *Treasurer*

### Board of Directors

Ron Blum  
John Emmering  
Scott Gilday  
Pat Maroney  
George Zulas

### Tour Chair Persons

Gary Osborne  
Pat Maroney

### Membership Chairman

Ken Bounds

### Health & Welfare

Phyllis Madrigali

### Newsletter Printing by

Solid Impressions

### Newsletter Editors

John & Robin Emmering

## 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, 3890 Woodlake  
Drive, Hanover Park, IL  
60133  
or e-mail  
[Shoeboxford.john  
@gmail.com](mailto:Shoeboxford.john@gmail.com)  
or call  
331-425-1187

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25th of the month.

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Other Early Ford V-8 Regional  
newsletters are welcome to use  
material from the Road Chatter,  
provided that Road Chatter is  
credited as the source.

## A Word From NIRG President Ron Steck

*President's message*



We find ourselves in the throes of winter as February rolls in. While it may have been cold outside, our officers and board members along with myself, got together a couple weeks ago to plan for the time when this cold weather gives way to spring and summer.

Plans were made to get together for a visit to the Parts Swap Meet sponsored by the Illinois Region of the Model "A" Restorer's Club at Friendly Ford in Roselle on March 15 and to have a Pizza Meeting March 17. Hopefully spring weather will prevail Saturday April 25 for our Eggs & Eights breakfast. Then we have a tour to historic Rosehill Cemetery arranged for May 17. We are preparing to celebrate national "Drive Your Ford V-8 Day" June 20 by cruising up to Historic Auto Attractions in Roscoe, IL. Plans are also formulating for a weeklong joint tour of the State of Michigan the last week of August with the Northern Ohio Regional Group. If you're interested, we will have more specific information soon. Hopefully many of you will be able to participate in that event.

This month a few members will be attending an Academy Awards preview show at the Catlow Theater in Barrington. Unfortunately, the event quickly sold out so only a few got tickets in time. We are hoping to get more people involved with the club events this year and maybe get together at some car shows. I am looking forward to seeing you at the meeting next month.

Ron

*Welcome*  
to our  
**New Member**



We welcome Thomas Brecheisen and his wife Xiaoyin to membership in our Northern Illinois Regional Group. Tom has been a member of the national Early Ford V-8 Club of America for a year and has chosen to affiliate with us locally. Tom is a highly accomplished Environmental Engineer, consulting and running his own firm on Chicago's North Side, and teaches at Northeastern Univ.

Tom is the proud owner of two really interesting Ford V-8 era cars, a 1941 Mercury 8 Tudor Sedan and a 1948 Lincoln Zephyr Convertible Coupe. We look forward to seeing Tom on club activities with those great cars when the 2020 touring season starts again.



**February Northern Illinois Regional Group Events ...**

<b>UP NEXT...</b>	02/08/20	Oscar Short Films	Catlow Theater
	02/18/20	Members Meeting	Wheeling Twp. Center

Bring your Valentine to the Movies  
 Saturday, February 8th at 11:30 am

**Catlow Theater**  
 116 W. Main St., Barrington

Sorry, there are no more tickets since the event sold out quickly

**Be Sure to Attend our February Club Meeting**  
**Special Presentation on the 1939 Mercury**  
**Tuesday February 18th , 2020 7:30 pm**  
 1616 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL



†  
 In Loving Memory of  
**Samuel R. Barone**  
 Born Into Life  
 June 27, 1938  
 Born Into Eternal Life  
 January 2, 2020

*In Memoriam*

**Samuel R. Barone**

Sam Barone, member of our Northern Illinois Regional Group #8 for 12 years and a 35 year member of the Early Ford V-8 Club of America passed away on January 2nd at 81 years of age, after a sudden illness. Sam and his wife Judy participated in many V-8 Tours over the years, often in their Red 1941 Ford Pick up Truck. Sam also owned a 1946 Ford Coupe. Besides his wife Judy, Sam is survived by a son, a daughter and three grandchildren. Our membership will miss Sam and offers our deepest sympathy to the Barone family.



# Bohemian Crystal Restaurant Scene of 2020 NIRG Installation

by Este Scheve

**D**espite the weather warnings, 23 intrepid members, spouses and friends of the Northern Illinois Region met for dinner at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant in Westmont, Illinois on Saturday evening, January 11, 2020. After a short time for gathering and a prayer by Gary Osborne, we sat for our delicious meal of soup, then family style dishes of roast beef, roast chicken, breaded pork tenderloin, mashed potatoes, carrots, sweet and sour cabbage, sauerkraut, and dumplings. Gravy was refilled from a pitcher! We ate until we were stuffed and then they brought out coffee and desserts of kolachke, cake and apple strudel.

**T**he important part of the gathering was the swearing in of the new officers. Applying the oath of office was Ken Bounds to President, Ron Steck, Vice President, John Scheve, Treasurer, Joe Serritella (in absentia), Secretary, Gary Osborne, and Board of Directors Scott Gilday, John Emmering, Pat Maroney, George Zulas, and Ron Blum (in absentia). Phyllis Madrigali is the Health and Welfare chairman.

**I**n attendance were: Jordon Beller and Judy Siegel, Ken and Carolyn Bounds, John Emmering, Scott Gilday, John Judge, Frank and Phyllis Madrigali and Louise Engert, Pat and Dee Maroney, Joey and Millie Novak, Gary and Dawn Osborne, Dan and Diane Pudelek, John and Este Scheve, Ron Steck and George and Dawn Zulas.

**F**ortunately the weather wasn't as bad as predicted and we left the restaurant under a light dusting of snow, looking forward to another year of V-8 fun activities and fellowship.



**Oath of Office... "So Help Me Henry!"**



**John Emmering**



**Ron Steck & John Scheve**



**Scott Gilday**



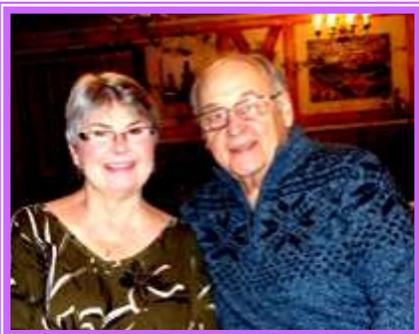
**Dawn & George Zulas**



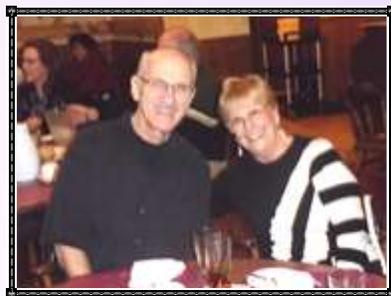
**Pat & Dee Maroney**



**John & Este Scheve**



**Millie & Joe Novak**



**Dan & Diane Pudelek**



**Ken & Carolyn Bounds**



**Jordon Beller and Judy Siegel**

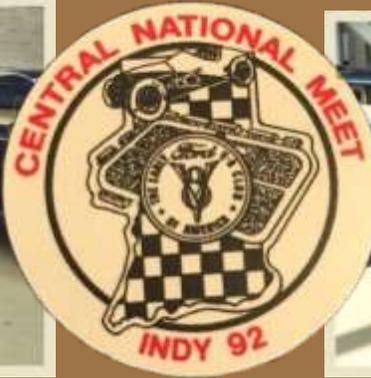


**Gary & Dawn Osborne**



**Frank & Phyllis Madrigali,  
Louise Engert,  
& John Judge**

## *Ford Flatheads Over the Years* *Surveying NIRG Member's 1932-1953 Early Ford V-8s*



### **Lin Stacey's 1942 Ford V-8 Sedan Coupe**

by Gary Osborne

In the Fall of 1941 as the new 1942 Fords were being introduced, much of the world was at war. The United States had still remained out of the conflict, but things were not looking too good. As you know, we entered the Second World War after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7<sup>th</sup>. However, Ford Motor Company and the U.S. Government had already begun turning their attention to the war effort. February of 1942 would be the last month of civilian auto production for Ford. So, it was a short run of the 1942 models for the buying public to own a new Ford.

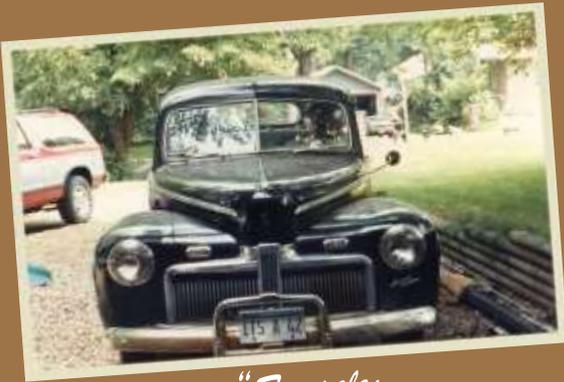
The new automobiles were now powered by two engines; the trusty 90 horsepower V-8, and the six cylinder introduced in 1941. With the addition of the six cylinder engine, Ford could now bring into their dealerships those customers that had asked for a good six cylinder powerplant. Giving potential buyers choices has always been good for sales. There were other improvements to the cars which included extending the wheelbase two inches, which began with the 1941 model year, and lowering it by about two inches in 1942, thus giving the car a lower center of gravity for an improved ride. Interior appointments were upgraded with different upholstery, plastic use on the dash, and gauges that were easier to read. These changes would be the last since Ford would not produce any more cars for the public until after the war with the introduction of the 1946 models.

Let's look at the beautiful 1942 Sedan Coupe featured in this article that is owned by our members Lin and Pat Stacey. Lin had been looking for an Early Ford V-8 back in 1987 and came across this Sedan

Coupe in a local paper. It met all his requirements, so after agreeing on the price it was towed home. This car did not run and needed a lot of mechanical work. Lin put in a new engine and made numerous other repairs to allow him to drive it for about a year. During this time, he got the "bug" to do a full frame-off restoration which began in 1990. The goal was to complete it for the 1992 Central National Meet in Indianapolis.

He had been collecting parts for two years to make this restoration possible. This was all done before the internet was available, so there were a lot of phone calls made, and lots of miles driven to locate parts and information. Several setbacks later, he finally got the painted body back from the body shop in February of 1992. The Central National Meet was in June of that year, so there was much work to be done. All the components were rebuilt and restored to their correct configurations, including the correct hardware, and a LeBaron Bonney interior. With the help of many friends, and wife Pat, the car was completed just in time for the trip to the Indianapolis meet.

Lin's goal was to earn a Dearborn Award, especially on the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of the scarce 1942 Fords, which he accomplished at the meet. Read more about the restoration of this car in an article that Lin wrote for the Sept-Oct 1992 V-8 Times. He has driven the car for several years to club functions and always enjoys talking about all the specifics of the car and it's restoration. Take a look at this car closely when the Stacey's bring it out to one of our events. It's a beautiful example, and they would love to talk to you.

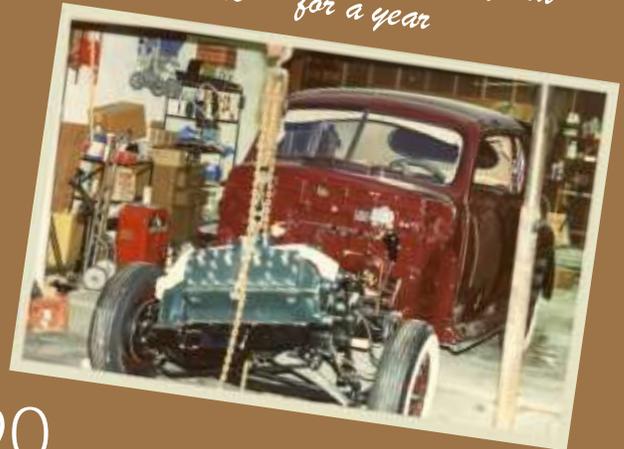


1987

*"For sale:  
'42 Ford, Not Running, \$1,700"*



*After minor repairs Lin drove his Ford  
"as is" for a year*



1990



*Parts removed, primed and painted*



*Reassembly under way*



1992

*At last the finished product*



*Lin Stacey drives onto trailer  
heading to Indianapolis*



## Ford's "Nifty Fifty" Cars for 1950 Similar to Previous Model but "Fifty Ways Finer"

by John Emmering

Tennis great Bill Tilden, once said "Never Change a Winning Game". That philosophy was behind Ford Motor Company's decision to only slightly alter the appearance of its highly successful post war Ford models of 1949 when it became time to prepare for the 1950 model year. With car sales and profits way up Ford strained to manufacture enough vehicles to fill the demand for its new popular slab-sided Ford cars with the unique center spinner grill. Although some in the styling department envisioned more ambitious changes for the 1950 models, Ford leadership vied for only a minor facelift. Additionally several mechanical and safety improvements added much to the overall quality of the new 1950 Fords.

Ford's 1949 models had seen problems with dust and water leaks and doors that occasionally flew open. Improvements had been made over the 18 months that the 1949 models were produced but more sweeping improvements in overall quality were introduced to the 1950 models. For 1950 a tighter body was produced eliminating the dust and water seepage through the seams in the body. The new Ford for 1950 had a better overall feel along with improved steering.

Obvious changes for 1950 were the new Ford Crest located on the hood and the rear deck lid. The crest was said to be inspired by an actual 17<sup>th</sup> Century English Ford Family crest. Above the new crest on the 1950 Ford's hood was a new more streamlined hood ornament. The "wishbone" door handles were replaced by the more secure push button type. Front parking lights were now placed lower on the fenders and mounted in grill extensions under the middle grill bar. The previously exposed gas filler cap was now hidden behind a small door on the left upper rear quarter panel of the car. No more leaking of gasoline onto the paint of the left rear quarter panel after a fill-up. The bumpers were more securely fastened with the use of more bolts, which is why 1949 and 1950 bumpers are not interchangeable. Differently styled chrome bumper guards were also introduced.

Inside the new 1950 Fords there were also some changes. The Custom models had a new horn ring. There were new heater controls mounted under the dash to the right of the steering column. Dashboards on the Custom models now sported two chrome end pieces and the driver's and passenger's inside door garnish moldings featured a new small futuristic car emblem replacing the long chrome plated spears and gold emblems used in 1949.





Upholstery patterns were altered, and different choices were offered. Seats were now foam rubber padded. Anyone who has done restoration work on either a 1949 or a 1950 Ford will realize that there are not all that many trim or interior parts that will fit both the 1949 and 1950 models. The exterior paint color choices were altered to some extent. Hawthorne Green Metallic was a new color along with Hawaiian Bronze Metallic offered later in the model year. Sunland Beige seems to be a new color for 1950 as well as Sportsman Green. Some of the 1949 colors were unaltered but received new names for 1950. Bayview Blue Metallic became Bimini Blue Metallic and Colony Blue became Sheridan Blue.

There were a few changes for 1950 under the hood as well. Engines were now painted bronze instead of the Ford Blue of 1949. A quieter three blade fan replaced

the 1949 Ford four blade fan which had used thicker fan belts. The 8BA V-8 engine was said to have received subtle improvements also. The 95 horsepower six was still available in 1950.

On November 18th, 1949 the new line of 1950 Fords were introduced to the public at the 6,400 Ford showrooms throughout the country. Rather than just “Ford” and “Custom” designations the new cars were dubbed “Deluxe” for the less expensive model and “Custom Deluxe” for the upscale model. There were three Deluxe models, the Business Coupe, the Tudor Sedan and Fordor Sedan. Prices began at \$1318 for Deluxe V-8 models. The Custom Deluxe models included a Tudor, Fordor, Club Coupe, Convertible and Station Wagon, beginning at \$1480 for a V-8. The Crestliner was introduced in July 1950 at \$1595.

Hitting their stride during the first half of 1950 Ford Motor Company was moving cars out of the plant at a good pace with an effective labor force and an excellent customer base. When Communist North Korea moved over 60,000 troops into South Korea on June 24th, U.S. automakers were once again utilized for war production. While production was slowed to a point in 1950, Ford Motor Company saw an increased market share and profits over 1949. Touting their 1950 line of cars as “Fifty Ways Finer”, and as the “One Fine Car in the Low Price Field” Ford accented the improvements in quality in their new model. The 1950 Ford has withstood the test of time and is valued by V-8 enthusiasts today, after 70 years.

*The Bimini Blue 1950 Custom Deluxe Fordor pictured was recently offered for sale online in West Chester, Pennsylvania. It is a V-8 with overdrive and 37,000 original miles. Notice the accessory front bumper guard made by Van Auken..*





# MEETING MINUTES

## TUESDAY JANUARY 21, 2020

Submitted by Gary Osborne

Promptly at 7:30 President Ron Steck began by welcoming everyone to the meeting, and a new Club year. There were no visitors in attendance.

### Board of Directors Report

On January 9<sup>th</sup> the Board met for their first meeting of the year. It was a lengthy meeting that focused primarily on setting up the calendar for the year. The events that we normally have each year were put on the calendar, and several new events were discussed. These will be released to the Club once they are finalized. The Board also authorized sending a check for \$100 and a card to Judy Barone because of the passing away of her husband Sam. Those in attendance were: Ron Steck, John Scheve, Gary Osborne, Pat Maroney, John Emmering, Ron Blum, George Zulas, Scott and Nicole Gilday.

### Membership Report

Ken Bounds reported that as of the meeting 62 members have renewed their membership and paid their annual dues. 25 still need to pay by January 31 in order to be included in the Annual Members Roster, and to continue to receive the Road Chatter. If you are one of those people, please send Ken a check for the proper amount. We look forward to a full Roster. The Roster should be available by the next Club Meeting.

### National Club Report

Ken Bounds reported that he and Carolyn are still working on securing the venues for our Club to host the Central National Meet in 2021.

### Treasurer's Report

Joe Serritella sent in the report as follows: Income of \$528 from the Installation dinner, and Expenses of \$891.05 from the P.O. box renewal, Road Chatter, Installation Dinner Reimbursement, and the Memorial Donation for Sam Barone.

### Health and Welfare Report

Frank Madrigali filled in for Phyllis who was in the hospital with pneumonia. It was reported that Nell Kozmic fell and was badly injured, and Joe also needs care. Sam Barone passed away. Please keep Judy Barone and these other fellow members in your thoughts and prayers as they walk through these difficulties.

### Past Events

Scott Gilday reported on the Christmas Luncheon that he and Nicole hosted. It was very well attended and everyone had a great time. John Scheve reported on the Installation Dinner that was hosted by Este and him. It was held at the Bohemian Crystal again this year. For all those that attended, it was a great time as the new officers and directors were installed.

### Future Events

- The "Oscar Shorts" at Catlow Theater- Feb 8
- Friendly Ford Swap meet- March 15
- Pizza Meeting- March 17
- Eggs and Eights- April 25

### Additional Items

After the business portion of the meeting we were to have a presentation on restorations from a local vendor, but there was a slight miscommunication, so we did not have that. Instead, we had a general discussion about our cars and some of the problems the members were having with their V-8 repairs. In other words, an indoor "tire kicking session" It was a lot of fun! There was also no 50/50 raffle due to another miscue. So, save your money for next month, and maybe bring in double.

### Attendance

Ken Bounds, Tom Buscaglia, Ed Crane, Sam Dix, Ron Dopke, Terry Elliot, John Emmering, Scott Gilday, Jay Hinshaw, John Judge, Tom Brecheisen, Paul Levine, Frank Madrigali, Pat Maroney, Tom Myers, Joe Novak, Gary Osborne, Dan Pudelek, John Scheve, Ron Steck, Sam Van Bruggen, Len Vinyard, George Zulas.



Our kind of cars, Stock Early Ford V-8s up for auction



# Phoenix Pilgrimage

By Paul Levine



For the past 20 years I have taken an annual pilgrimage to Scottsdale, near Phoenix, Arizona in mid-January to enjoy the arid climate, warm temps and most importantly, the auctions and car shows that are plentiful in and around Scottsdale for ten days. Just strolling through and among the hundreds of classic / vintage cars and trucks that will roll through the auction block, four rows abreast, tent after tent, is taking a stroll back in time, that never gets old.

Barrett Jackson IS NOT the only show in town, although it is the biggest and baddest. There are actually seven other auctions going on, all with different 'theme' and 'conditions', like 2-3 Condition Cars, Customized, Resto Mods, Muscle, True Classics & Exotics; i.e. something for every taste and pocket book.

Resto-modification, customizing and high performance is the new norm in restoration today, so not a surprise when you see a beautiful 40 Ford Coupe, with Cragar Wheels, small block Chevy engine and 400 auto trans. Unfortunately our preference for stock vehicles is getting rarer, but at least many of the resto mods are keeping the dash and body style intact.

The people watching is pretty good too.... you'll come across some celebrities from Velocity & MotorTrend on occasion, but just talking to car hobby folks is a lot of good-natured conversation, sharing our experiences, information and referrals. Forty-nine years ago, selling old cars was generally thought of as Just a 'Kooky Hobby'??

If you have ever thought about going out to Arizona for everything I mentioned above, please make your plans as early as possible.....I guarantee you will find your Nirvana!



## In The Rearview Mirror

By: Ken Bounds



### **10 years Ago This Month — February 2010**

On Sunday February 14th, 27 members and their wives enjoyed a Valentine's Dinner and a play at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles. Roger Obecnny reported that his 1940 Coupe was still in the shop after an accident last year. Stan Stack won \$25.00 in the 50/50 raffle after winning \$22.00 in January. It was announced that Joe Kozmic purchased a beautifully restored 1953 Mercury.



Joe Kozmic with his newly acquired 1953 Mercury Monterey

### **20 Years Ago This Month—February 2000**

The February Road Chatter contained the news that Editor Diane Wrobel had been awarded 3rd place in the newsletter Competition. There was also an interesting article, submitted by Joe Bronski, about Oscar V. Zerk of Kenosha who had over 3000 inventions, including of course the Zerk Grease fitting. Over 20 billion had be installed by the time of his death in 1968. At the February 15th monthly meeting Ed Fontana gave a tech talk on installing an Optima battery in a Ford Script battery case.

### **30 Years ago This Month—February 1990**

.New member Tom (Judy) Buscaglia was introduced at the February 20 monthly meeting. Tour Chairman Lloyd Duzell talked about the possibility of having a Ford Show at the Volo Museum. The February Road Chatter contained a flyer for the Eastern National Meet in Charlotte, NC - registration Chairman was Ted Wilburn.

### **40 Years Ago This Month — February 1980**

At the February 12 monthly meeting, new President Howie Bischoff first raised the idea of holding \ One of the meetings as a "Pizza Meeting". He recommended April. On February 24 Chuck & Diane Wrobel hosted the "Good Old Days Inflation Fighter Tour". Over 41 V-8ers and friends enjoyed a beautiful sunny day starting out at the White Alps restaurant in Lake Zurich, stopping for a Hayride at Wauconda Orchards, and ending at the Wauconda Moose Lodge. It was a great time.

### **45 Years Ago This Month —February 1975**

The February newsletter welcomed new members Earl & Gene Heintz. At least 24 members armed with a little more than a warm companion and a variety of anti-freeze challenged the cold weather on a sleigh ride February 8 at Prince Crossing Stables, organized by Sam Iusi.



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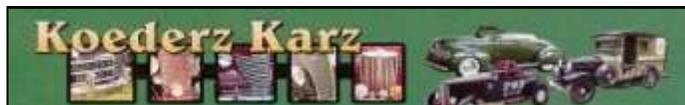
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# Used Car Lot



**1936 Ford Club Cabriolet.** Excellent restoration. Rare Body Style. \$42,000 *Call Ray McMahon at 630-853-6832.*



**1953 Ford Customline Tudor.** No rust, total mechanical rebuild. A real coast-to-coast driver. Rated #3. Price reduced to \$22,000. *Contact Stan Stack at 847-382-4223.*

**Two Stromberg 97 Rebuilt Carburetors**  
*Call Joe Novak at 708-289-2092*

**1936 Ford Fordor Sedan Hot Rod** For more information, *call Mike Gallichio at 630-858-8066.*

**Engine Stand,** holds 1,000 lbs. Three 16" Wheel rims from 1945 Ford Pickup Truck Good Condition . Best Offer *Call Tom Meyers at 847-308-1495*

**Used replacement type radiator** for 1949-51 Ford V-8. \$100 Great cooling capacity . Call John Emmering at 331-425-1187



**1936 Deluxe Ford Fordor Sedan.** 56,000 original miles. New White Wall Radial Tires, Rebuilt Distributor, Carburetor and Fuel Pump, New Water Pumps, Complete Tool Kit, Original Rear Window Shade. Paint and body in excellent condition, no rust. **\$24,000.** *Call Pat Maroney 224-489-3196*



**1950 Ford Deluxe Tudor .** Original paint and interior . Excellent condition . \$14,000 *Call Rich Anderson 847-871-7324*



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# UPCOMING

Mark Your Calendars

# EVENTS



February	March	April	May
8 Saturday Valentine's Outing, Catlow Theater, Barrington  18 Member's Meeting	15 Sunday MARC Swap Meet Friendly Ford  17 Pizza Meeting	9 Board Meeting 21 Members Meeting 25 Saturday Eggs & 8's Egg Harbor Café in Geneva, IL 9:00 am	17 Tour to Rosehill Cemetery, Chicago  19 Member's Meeting
June	July	August	September
5-8 Spring Fling KS 15-18 Eastern Nat. Meet 16 Member's Meeting 20 Drive Your V-8 Day	9 Board Meeting 21 Member's Meeting 26 Proposed date for Annual Picnic.	18 Member's Meeting 23-29 Possible Mich. Joint Tour.	15 Member's Meeting 26 Lake Geneva Poker Rally.

## Happy Birthday

- Ed Karch (2/02)
- Maurice Adam (2/08)
- Nell Kozmic (2/08)
- Paula Baughn (2/11)
- Pat Stacey (2/12)
- Len Vinyard (2/14)
- Frank Madrigali (2/21)
- Robert Paladino (2/26)
- Paul Jensen (2/26)
- Cheryl Kozmic (2/28)

## Happy Anniversary

- Ed & Gail Karch (02/10)
- Stan & Jo Anne Stack (02/14)





Road Chatter  
PO Box 803  
Arlington Heights, IL 60006



### Photo of the Month

Club leaders began new terms on January 11th during the Annual Northern Illinois Regional Group Installation Dinner. Pictured left to right, George Zulas, director, Gary Osborne, Secretary, John Scheve, Vice President, Ron Steck, President, Patrick Maroney, Scott Gilday, John Emmering; directors, and Phyllis Madrigali (center) Health & Welfare Chairperson.