

# ROAD CHATTER

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

P.O. Box 803

Volume 59 Issue 1

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

January 2025

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

## UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

**January 9** - Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom 7:30 pm.

**January 11** - Installation Dinner. See Page 3 for details.

**January 21** - Monthly Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm.



**January 1** - Happy New Year!

**January 12** - 50th Annual VCCA Swap Meet, Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone. 7 am - 1 pm. \$7 admission.

## In this Issue

**Page 2** – President Scott Gilday looks back on 2024 and forward to 2025. Scott also comments on a fun trip to downtown Chicago.

**Page 3** – Jay Hinshaw has arranged our Annual Installation Dinner for January 11 - details here.

**Page 4** – See Este Scheve’s report on our Christmas Brunch.

**Page 5** – A few words from your editors.

**Page 6** – This month’s Tech Corner says “Happy Birthday” to the 1950 Ford, listing interesting specifications and technical facts.

**Page 7** – V-8 Gals – The New Year is here – looking for diet inspiration?

**Page 8** – Rearview Mirror – information about club events over the past 50 years, plus a Flathead Flashback.

**Page 9** – Remember to review the Events Calendar each month; also, see who has a birthday or anniversary this month.

**Page 10** – Check out the for sale and wanted ads.

**Back Cover** – Our Christmas Brunch hosts, John and Este Scheve.



### Monthly Meeting - January 21

We hope to see many of you at the January meeting. We plan to kick off the new year with an open discussion about our Early V-8s and any projects you have in the works for them over the winter months. Plus some Carolyn Cookies!

A reminder that 2025 dues are due. If you have not already renewed, please submit your renewal form and payment to the Membership Chairman now so you don’t miss an issue of the Road Chatter and to ensure that your information is published in the 2025 roster. And Thank You to the 43 members who have already renewed.



**2025 OFFICERS**

**President**

Scott Gilday

**Vice President**

Jay Hinshaw

**Secretary**

Gary Osborne

**Treasurer**

Ron Blum

**Membership Chairman**

Ken Bounds

**Health & Welfare**

Dawn Zulas

**Newsletter**

Ken and Carolyn Bounds

**Tour Chairman**

Open

**Board of Directors**

Ken Bounds

Ciena Gilday

Mike Heatherly

Rusty Medlin

Este Scheve

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](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**

Hello again,

Welcome to 2025. With 2024 in our rearview mirror, it's time to savor those last few sips of egg nog and champagne as we welcome in the New Year. I am honored to serve again as your president and very excited about the year ahead.



First, I would like to thank Este and John Scheve for planning our annual Christmas Luncheon at the Granite City Brewery in Naperville. We had a great turnout, and very good food and drink. What a wonderful way to kick off the holidays!

With our V-8s now in the garage getting ready for winter, my family decided to head to downtown Chicago to catch a really nice play about Neil Diamond, *A Beautiful Noise*, and to get a preview of the Christmas market and holiday decorations. It was a great experience!



This year's activities will start on January 11th with our annual Installation Dinner planned by Jay Hinshaw and we will be returning to Cooper's Corner in Winfield. In addition to all the fun we'll have kicking off the new year, we'll get to meet our new officers and honor those who served the club last year. If you have not done so already, please get your RSVP and check to Jay.



As you are considering your new year's resolutions for 2025, do not forget the NIRG. We are always looking for folks to step up and get more involved, so if you have any ideas for club activities or Tech Talks, just let me or any of our officers know.

I look forward to seeing you this month! And please don't forget to check us out on the web at [nirgv8.org](http://nirgv8.org).

## UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

*2025 Installation Dinner**January 11, 2025*

Place: Cooper's Corner  
Winfield, Illinois  
Time: Social Hour begins at 6:00 PM  
Cost: \$40.00 per person includes dinner  
and gratuity.



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

- ◆ **Social Hour/Dinner**
- ◆ **Swearing In of NIRG Officers for 2025**
- ◆ **Recognition of Service to the NIRG**

Menu: You will provide your waiter your choice of:

- ◆ **Homemade Pot Roast.** Served with mashed potatoes. Topped with celery, onions, and carrots in a natural gravy.
- ◆ **Chicken Marsala.** Sauteed with onions and fresh mushrooms. Deglazed with Marsala wine and finished with demi glaze and sweet butter.
- ◆ **Fresh Atlantic Salmon.** Sauteed in a lemon butter white wine sauce.

Each entree served with fresh garden salad and warm bread, unlimited soda, ice tea or coffee, and ice cream for dessert.

**RSVP with payment were due to Jay Hinshaw by January 3**  
**If you have not gotten your RSVP in to Jay and want to attend, please call him at**  
**773-791-6494**

*Happy New Year*



## Annual Christmas Brunch By Este Scheve

The Annual Christmas Brunch, held on December 15 at the Granite City Food and Brewery in Naperville was attended by 23 members, family, and guests. We were treated to their famous warm cinnamon rolls at the table, along with all the breakfast food you would want, including fruit, custom omelets, a variety of potatoes, sausage and bacon, and, to top it off, delicious prime rib. Needless to say, we ate our fill and it appeared there were no disappointments!



Ron, Gary, Dawn, and Colleen



Audrey, Arlene, Ron, and John S



Mike, Joe, Maureen, and Tom



Irene, Len, Yolanda, and John J



Scott, Nicole, Ken, and Carolyn



Kitty and Terry



## Annual Christmas Brunch Continued

Those attending were Ron and Arlene Blum with their friend Audrey Rohlinger, Ken and Carolyn Bounds, Terry and Kitty Freihage, Scott and Nicole Gilday, Mike Heatherly, John Judge and his guest Yolanda Rojas, Tom O'Donnell with his daughter Maureen Joos with her husband Joe, Gary and Dawn Osborne, John and Este Scheve, Ron and Colleen Steck, and Len and Irene Vinyard. We parted by everyone wishing Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to each other.

### FROM THE EDITORS

Ken & Carolyn Bounds

What a year we have in front of us. Planning is still going strong for the Central National Meet, which is only (gulp) 25 weeks away. While whale-watching in Hawaii, we actually made quite a bit of progress in completing arrangements to get the full registration package prepared. In the past month, we have finalized the round logo that will be used on medallions and for our embroidered logo for hats and clothing, ordered a sample hat with a "sew-out" of the logo, and worked with Tracy, our t-shirt person, on the designs for our meet t-shirts. Don't ask how many sleepless nights Carolyn had before the t-shirt art was finished on January 1. We have made arrangements to use the Lake Springfield Beach House for a catered luncheon after our Route 66 driving tour and selected a menu and made arrangements with the caterer. We have worked with the Visitors Bureau to finalize our tour arrangements and selected a motor coach company.



We have worked with the Crown Plaza to make selections for all meals at the hotel. Unfortunately, the meals are going to be quite expensive with the costs these days. In addition to the quoted meal prices, we have to add 9.75% sales tax plus the new 2025 gratuity of 25%! In other words, 37.2% has to be added to the cost of every meal.

We got the good news that Michael Driskell talked Daniel Carpenter into providing gearshift knobs for the meet – we will be using the 1937 model. Thanks Michael! We have also settled on three large raffle items.



We just have a few more loose ends that need to be worked out and want to see the sew-out of our logo. We are also having some trouble finalizing Welcome Party entertainment. With all that, we truly hope to get the full registration package out in the next couple of weeks.

Finally, Ken is excited about the 75th anniversary of the 1950 Ford. That is his first one, on the left. Since then Ken has owned his '50 Business Coupe, the "Black Rat" formerly owned by Dick Alfini, the '50 Ford Convertible, and the '50 Crestliner. Maybe he can put something together this year about all five of them. Stay tuned.

*Ken to Carolyn*



## TECH CORNER



2025 is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1950 Ford! Here are some technical information and historical facts about the car Ford advertised as “50 Ways New...50 Ways Finer the ‘50 Ford!”

### New

- Push-button door locks
- Concealed gas tank filler
- Magic-Air Heater System
- The Ford “Crest” logo appeared for the first time
- First use of “Custom Deluxe” model specification, in addition to “Custom”
- Introduction of the Crestliner model

### Technical Specifications

- Price – starting at \$1,333 for the Business Coupe “Six” to \$2,107 for the V-8 Station Wagon
- Weight – ranged from 2,933 lbs for the Business Coupe “Six” to 3,531 lbs for the V-8 Wagon
- Engines –239 ci Flathead V-8 rated at 100 horsepower and 226 ci 95 hp Flathead Six
- Engine production – V-8, 897,463; 6-cylinder, 289,659
- Production totals: 1,187,120 – Fewest-Crestliner, 17,601; Most-Custom Deluxe Tudor Sedan, 396,060
- Introduced – Mid-November 1949

### Accomplishments

- Named “Fashion Car of the Year” by New York’s famed Fashion Academy
- Sales outpaced the 17-month production run of the 1949 Ford
- A special 1950 Mercury Convertible paced the 1950 Indy 500 (OK, not actually a Ford)

### World Events

- North Korean troops burst across the 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel to invade South Korea
- Americans were buying 100,000 TV sets per week. On TV they were shocked to watch a parade of top crime bosses invoking the 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment at the Kefauver Hearings
- The 1950 Chicago Auto Show, the nation’s first auto show after World War II, was held at the International Amphitheatre
- Elizabeth Taylor married for the first time – to Conrad “Nicky” Hilton Jr.
- 13 courageous women founded the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA)
- *All About Eve* won six Oscars, including Best Picture, while James Stewart was nominated for Best Actor as Elwood P. Dowd in *Harvey*



# V-8 Gals

T'was the month after Christmas, and all through the house,  
nothing would fit me, not even a blouse;  
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I had to taste,  
at the holiday parties had gone to my waist;

When I got on the scales there arose such a number!  
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber),  
I'd remember the marvelous meals I'd prepared,  
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared;

The wine and the rum balls; the bread and the cheese,  
and the way I'd never said, "No thank you, please."  
As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt,  
and prepared once again to do battle with dirt,  
I said to myself, as only I can,  
"You can't spend a winter disguised as a man!"

So, away with the last of the sour cream dip.  
Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip.  
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished,  
'til all the additional ounces have vanished.

I won't have a cookie--not even a lick.  
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.  
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie,  
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore,  
But isn't that what January is for?  
Unable to giggle, no longer a riot.  
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet!

Author Unknown







#### 10 Years Ago This Month – January 2015

On January 10, 35 members plus a few guests attended the Annual Installation Dinner at Rockwood Tap House, hosted by Frank and Phyllis Madrigali. Everyone enjoyed a great dinner with great service, accompanied by the piano stylings of our own Ron Vaughan. After the meal, service awards and door prizes were presented.

#### 20 Years Ago This Month – January 2005

On January 15, Earl & Gene Heintz hosted the Annual Installation Dinner at the Wellington in Arlington Heights. The large crowd enjoyed a great meal and the piano stylings of Ron Vaughan. The January Road Chatter included a flyer for the Auburn Motorfest to be held in July. At the January 18 monthly meeting, new President Ron Dopke discussed the history of the Club and the upcoming calendar of events.

#### 30 Years Ago This Month – January 1995

On January 14, Dick & Dot Alfini hosted the installation dinner at Café 59 in Warrenville. It was very cold outside, but everyone had a good time. On January 17, new President Dick Alfini presided over the monthly meeting with Marty Duling traveling all the way from Kentucky to attend. One item on the agenda was a lot of interest in attending the Central National Meet in Nashville in July.

#### 40 Years Ago This Month – January 1985

On a cold and snowy January 12, Bob & Angie Paladino hosted the Annual Installation Dinner at Mr. Dukes in Wooddale. Sixty-two members and guests enjoyed a delicious family-style meal and drinks and danced to the tunes of the Ralph Goray combo. The ladies were given carnation corsages and many door prizes were awarded. At the January 14 monthly meeting, Chester Lawrence presented a tech talk on steering wheel restoration.

#### 50 Years Ago This Month – January 1975

The January newsletter featured an interesting and humorous article from Jack Groot about how he had acquired his 1941 Sedan Delivery, which he restored as a 1940. New members Earl & Gene Heintz were introduced at the January 14 monthly meeting. Despite harsh weather, the meeting was well attended by 24 members.

#### Flathead Flashback

**Ron Vaughan entertains the participants at the 2015 Installation Dinner.**





**NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR**

<p><b>January</b>                  9 Board Meeting                  11 Installation Dinner,                  Cooper's Corner,                  Winfield                  21 Member Meeting</p>	<p><b>February</b>                  13 Board Meeting                  18 Member Meeting</p>	<p><b>March</b>                  13 Board Meeting                  18 Member Meeting</p>	<p><b>April</b>                  10 Board Meeting                  15 Pizza Meeting                  (Tentative)</p>
<p><b>May</b>                  8 Board Meeting                  20 Member Meeting</p>	<p><b>June</b>                  12 Board Meeting                  17 Member Meeting                  22-26 Central National                  Meet -                  Springfield</p>	<p><b>July</b>                  10 Board Meeting                  15 Member Meeting</p>	<p><b>August</b>                  14 Board Meeting                  19 Member Meeting</p>
<p><b>September</b>                  11 Board Meeting                  16 Member Meeting                  26-28 Lake Geneva                  Poker Rally</p>	<p><b>October</b>                  9 Board Meeting                  21 Member Meeting</p>	<p><b>November</b>                  13 Board Meeting                  18 Member Meeting</p>	<p><b>December</b>                  No Meetings</p>

*See meet updates on page 5.*

*Watch for full registration packages coming soon!*



**2025 Central National Meet  
 Springfield, Illinois**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO  
 GENE HEINTZ (1/3), MELISSA NOLAN (1/10),  
 GEORGE ZULAS (1/13), RON DOPKE (1/14),  
 DAWN OSBORNE (1/16), TIM NOLAN (1/17),  
 RON BLUM (1/23), & JO ANNE STACK (1/23)**

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



## Vehicles For Sale



This 1940 Ford 1/2 ton pickup is a full restoration. The engine is a 1951 Mercury flathead, 3 speed transmission, Columbia two speed rear end. Frame is powder coated along with many suspension parts. New wire harness and many other items. Have all the records of the restoration and list of parts. **Asking \$40,000. Contact Ron Steck at 630-777-4001.**



### 1940 Ford Deluxe Tudor Sedan

- Starts, Stops, Runs
- This is a Preservation not a Restoration
- Available after October 14

**Contact Roger Obecnny at 708-772-1925 to discuss price.**



### 1936 Ford 5 Window Coupe for Sale

- Museum quality
- Third owner
- Asking \$40,000 or best offer

**Call Bob Miller at 847-651-7207 or by email at [roberthmiller2@comcast.net](mailto:roberthmiller2@comcast.net) for more info.**



**Totally restored 48" round original "Mr. Speedee" McDonald's neon sign. Mint condition, new neon tubes, all neon colors work. Asking \$600. Call Bob Miller at 847-651-7207 or by email at [roberthmiller2@comcast.net](mailto:roberthmiller2@comcast.net)**

## Wanted

**Wanted: 2-speed 6-volt blower motor for 1940 Ford hot water heater. Contact George Zulas at 630-460-0095.**



## Other Items For Sale

Traffic signal; - sits on a standard with base, stands approximately 6'6" tall. 120 volts, cycles through red, yellow, green. Great garage display. \$600.00 **Contact Ron Dopke at 815-344-1335.**

1940-1948 Ford 16" wheels. Three new at \$60 each; two used at \$30 each. **Contact Ron Dopke at 815-344-1335.**

Three 16" pickup rims. **Contact Tom Myers at 847-308-1495.**

### The Items Below are Offered by Ray McMahon

Professionally rebuilt 1936 LB engine. The rebuild was done by Speed Performance Engineering and Dyno tested. I have documentation on all components that were used as well as video of the engine on the Dyno. Includes rolling stand. Price **\$11,750.** Good set of original 36 cast iron heads, **\$175.** Original 36 Cam in good used condition, **\$85.** Original Ford 8 Day Clock Mirror (pull string) with Mounting Bracket. Very Rare. Mint condition, **\$1,275.** Heart shape Vacuum Windshield Wiper Motor Chrome plated in mint condition, **\$1,050.** Generator restored and tested by Joe Serritella, **\$275.** Original voltage regulator restored and tested by Joe S. tested together with the generator above, **\$100.** 1936 Ford Tool Set includes wrenches, jack, tire pump, tire irons, grease gun, screw driver, tool pouch and Reference Book 1936 Ford V-8, **\$500.**

**Call Ray McMahon at 630-853-6832.**

### What Happened to the Classified Ads?

For over 40 years we have run business card-size ads from members and other advertisers. Over the past several years the requests to run ads have dwindled from very few to none. We have decided that it is no longer practical to run ads, so they are gone. For now. We may re-explore running ads in the future.

Meanwhile, we are considering replacing the ads with a page showing sources of vendors and shops that may be useful to our members in restoring or maintaining their Early V-8s.

## Wanted

Your stories and photos about your Early V-8s! January kicks off the 75th Anniversary of the 1950 Ford. We know that several of you own 1950 Fords and what better way to celebrate this milestone than by sending us an article about yours!

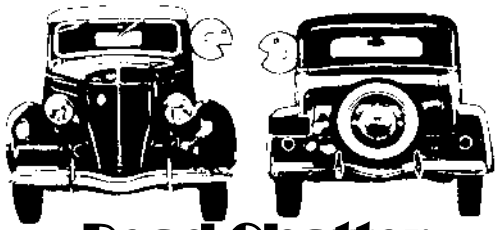
For 53 years, the *Road Chatter* and its predecessor "newsletter" have been featuring articles about members' vehicles. These have always been very popular with our readers. We know that you, our fellow NIRG members, own well over 85 Early V-8 Fords, Lincolns, and Mercury cars and trucks. If you have a vehicle that has not been featured in the *Road Chatter*, maybe this is the year!

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

We would love to see a few 75th-Anniversary articles about your 1950 vehicle, but will be glad to receive one from any year.



*Ken & Carolyn*



## **Road Chatter**

1N410 Forest Ave  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137



**Photo of the Month**  
**Our Christmas Brunch hosts, John and Este Scheve**