

ROAD CHATTER

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

P.O. Box 803

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

www.nirgv8.org

Volume 59 Issue 10

October 2025

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

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

October - 18 Fall colors driving tour. See Page 3 for details.

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



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

October 5 - All Wheels Car Show, Dirt Oval 66, 3200 S. Chicago St., Joliet. \$10 admission, \$25 show car.

October 8-11 - Hershey! AACA fall meet, monster swap meet. Hershey, PA.

October 31 - Speaking of monsters, Happy Halloween!

In this Issue

Page 2 – President Scott Gilday talks about the poker rally, progress on his '65 Mustang engine, and upcoming events.

Page 3 – Ron Blum has arranged a fall colors tour of the north shore and several attractions. See details here.

Page 3 – October means that dues are due for 2026.

Page 4 – We had a great time at our annual poker rally. See details and photos.

Page 7 – Minutes of the September 16 monthly meeting.

Page 10 – Rearview Mirror – information about club events over the past 50 years, plus a Flathead Flashback.

Page 11 – Remember to review the Events Calendar each month; also, see who has a birthday or anniversary this month.

Page 12 – Check out the for sale and wanted ads.

Back Cover – Our group at the annual poker rally.



It's Official!

2026 Eastern National Meet

Princeton, New Jersey • September 20-24, 2026

Hosted by: Garden State Regional Group # 38

For More Info: 2026enminfo@gmail.com



Do you want to make a difference and have some fun too?

Time to raise your hand!

Nominations for 2026 Officers (President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and five Board of Directors positions will be held at the October member meeting. Elections will be held in November. Your participation is important!

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
or call
630-858-9474
Publishing deadline is the
25th of the month.

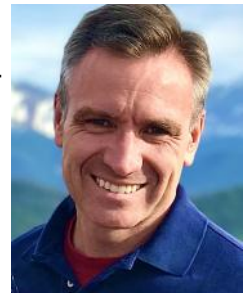
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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Hello again,

Welcome to October. I hope you had a great September and are ready for the cooler weather.

First, I would like to thank Ken and Carolyn Bounds for hosting our 17th Annual Lake Geneva Poker Rally. With the help of Gary Osborne, Ken and Carolyn were able to run this event right after their return from Ireland. We had great weather and a wonderful time, and took a fantastic tour to scenic New Glarus, Wisconsin. I was not the big winner, but my joker card draw (and the amazing "tiny wheel") got me some cool prizes! But, I obviously did not have as much fun as Ron Steck and Gary Osborne.



For those of you following our car projects, Ciena and I are happy to say that our 65 Mustang's engine rebuild and re-install is now complete. After a week of troubleshooting a rough idle we found a simple carburetor vacuum leak and now it runs great. Now all of our focus is on the 41 Ford engine.



Looking forward to October, on the 18th Ron Blum is hosting a Fall Colors Tour along Sheridan Road in the northern suburbs of Chicago. In doing this, we plan to see the historic Baha'i temple and some beautiful homes along the lake. We certainly hope you can join us!



On a last note, nominations for 2026 club officers will be held at our October meeting. If you have any interest in serving, please consider running for a position. Actual voting takes place in November.

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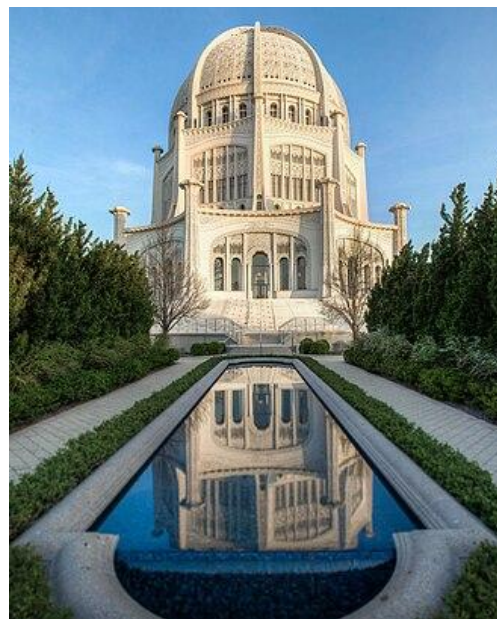
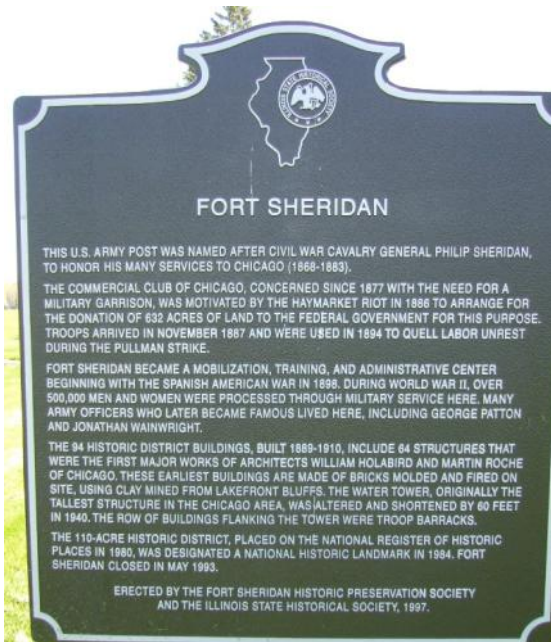
UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Colors Driving Tour of the North Suburbs

Saturday, October 18

Hosted by Ron and Arlene Blum

Meet at 9:30 am at McDonalds at 894 Sheridan Rd in Highwood. We will leave at 9:45 am for nearby Fort Sheridan.



Come join your fellow V-8er's in this gentle tour of the north shore. After Fort Sheridan we will proceed south along Lake Michigan with a stop at Gilson Park and a visit to the historic Bahá'í House of Worship in Wilmette.

Lunch will be at Dengeos Restaurant in Skokie. Driving directions and a map will be provided. Drive your Early V-8 if you can, but all vehicles are welcome. The fall colors and the sights we see promise to be spectacular. Please text or call Ron at 847-650-7059 if you plan to attend.

2026 Dues are Due



It is time to renew your membership for 2026. For those who are "grandfathered in" to receive the printed edition of the *Road Chatter* by mail, dues remain at \$25 per year. Members who receive the *Road Chatter* through e-mail only (no paper copy) pay \$15 per year.

Those of you receiving the printed copy of the newsletter should find a renewal form included in this issue. Those of you receiving the newsletter by e-mail will receive the renewal form attached to an e-mail. The renewals have been filled out for you. Please check them for any errors or additions and return them, with your payment, to membership chairman Ken Bounds. The address is shown on the form.

17th Annual Lake Geneva Area Poker Rally

By Ken Bounds

What a great time we all had on the annual poker rally! In the 41 years the Northern Illinois Regional Group has been traveling to the Geneva Lakes area the last weekend of September, no one could remember such a perfect weekend of great weather. The temperature was around 80 each day and the nights were seasonably cool. Not a hint of rain in the gorgeous sunny skies. Ken and Carolyn were just back from a fabulous trip to Ireland and we are grateful to Gary for driving the routes before the trip to check for construction and other pitfalls.

On a Friday, September 26, nine members gathered in Arlington Heights to begin the drive to Wisconsin. Ken Bounds drove his 1950 Ford Convertible and Dan & Diane Pudelek arrived in their 1950 Ford Crestliner. First timers Rusty and Melanie Medlin planned to bring their 1949 Mercury, but it decided to not cooperate. Also arriving in modern iron were Gary & Dawn Osborne, John & Este Scheve, and George Zulas with son Tom and Denise Brussels.

We had a leisurely drive up some interesting back roads toward our destination. Scott Gilday caught up with us at the Don Schuh memorial intersection of death; Dick & Linda Livingston with daughter Sarah and Ron & Colleen Steck joined at a new lunch stop, Ol' Wisco Bar & Grille in Delavan, where we drew our first poker card. Carolyn Bounds would escape work to join us later in the afternoon.

We made the short drive to the Comfort Suites and checked in - our 19th time there! Shortly we gathered in the parking lot for car games. This year we only got two games completed, but they sure were fun!

We started out with a bang with a new game – slalom. It was pretty easy, just drive around a few cones. Almost forgot – the driver was blindfolded. No one was hurt, but the cones took a grotesque beating. The real credit goes to the skills of the passenger attempting to get the driver to follow simple directions. The surprise winner was Ken, in spite of Scott attempting to grab the steering wheel. Next was blindfolded toll booth. No one actually dropped the toll in the basket, but rookie Tom Zulas won with a “leaner.”

Dan pulled out his diabolical washers game and another rookie, Rusty took first place. We then went into the hotel for more people games. Sarah, who should be disqualified for being too young and agile, embarrassed us all with only one “buzz” in the V-8 Buzzer game. Dawn was right behind her with just two. Dick easily won the Lugnut Stacking game with a time of about 22 seconds – no one else came



Ken gets ready for blindfolded slalom



Dawn shows her skill at washers

close. Finally, the Mercury Assembly game was also Dick's with a time of 1 minute, 45 seconds. Gary, however, took the "most improved" trophy.

Friday evening was a special treat because it was our first time back in six years to an old favorite restaurant after it had been sold, torn down, and rebuilt – the Village Supper Club. Before dinner we had a few minutes to gather outside for a beautiful view over Delavan Lake. We had a delicious meal and drew our second card.

Saturday morning, we were all up bright and early for breakfast, where we drew our third card. It was a fantastic, sunny morning as we gathered to begin a 71-mile route over twisting, hilly roads to New Glarus and were fortunate to arrive early enough to find our regular parking spots. Thanks to Gary, we were able to avoid a long construction area by taking the Osborne Cutoff. We drew our fourth poker card then set off to enjoy Oktoberfest with lots of vendors, music, New Glarus beers, and a few thousand of our closest friends. It was a terrific day.

Dan and Diane took off early, but were soon back because a failing voltage regulator was starting to cook his battery. After being unable to find a regulator locally, the decision was made to disconnect the generator and run back to Delavan on the battery. Carolyn and I drove with Dan and Diane while the others were able to stay behind and continue enjoying the festivities. During the return trip, Carolyn was able to find a regulator at O'Reilly's and have it sent to their store across the street from our hotel!

The voltage regulator arrived, Dan installed it, and all was well. ...until the generator started to self-destruct. Maybe that was why the regulator failed? The Crestliner could not be safely driven, so we developed a plan. More to come.

Knowing the route, Gary led everyone over a different, but interesting, route back to Delavan. After a little time for visiting, it was time to begin preparing the hotel conference room for dinner. For the 7th year, our Saturday dinner was catered by Greenie's Clubhouse. By the time Carolyn returned with the food, the room was ready to go and everyone started gathering.

Gary led with a prayer, then our old friend "tiny wheel" made a surprise appearance to send cou-



Dinner at Village Supper Club



On the road to New Glarus



Este chats with a horse in New Glarus that was pulling a wagon giving rides to visitors

ples up to the buffet. The dinner was delicious and as usual was far more food than we could eat. Carolyn provided everyone some beautifully decorated cookies with a fall theme. We finally drew the 5th poker card.

Ken said a few words about the history of this annual event and welcomed the new participants. Then it was time to get right to the prizes. The overall winner of the car games, and rookie of the year, was Tom and the overall winner of the people games was Dick. Each received \$10 – they got their money back for the poker hands.

Finally, it was time to present the awards to the winners of the poker rally. Ron took home the \$20 prize for low hand with a queen high. The big winner was Dawn who had drawn three Kings - her second win. She was awarded the grand prize of \$100 plus the coveted Dick Alfini Memorial Winning Hand trophy.

We took some time to discuss the fun we had over the weekend and to talk about next year's event. We made the big decision to delay the weekend into October for the first time because of the conflict with the 2026 Eastern National Meet. We already have our hotel rooms booked. We also talked about various fun things to do on Sunday in case anyone wanted to stay a little longer.

With the planned events over, it was time to say goodbyes. We thank everyone who participated and made this a memorable weekend. Thanks also go to the Comfort Suites who set up our rooms for the 19th year and to Greenie's Clubhouse for catering our Saturday dinner for the 7th time. It is nice to be able to use the conference room for our dinner and program.

Sunday morning we had a plan to get Dan's Crestliner home. Early in the morning, Diane rode with Carolyn and Dan rode with me as we made the run home. There we grabbed a spare generator and Dan and I headed back to Delavan. We swapped out the bad generator and all was well with Dan's car. We even had time to have coffee and spend a few minutes with most of the group who were still at the hotel. The Crestliner ran great and we were home by noon! We are ready for another adventure next year.



More horses: Carolyn ran into a team of local Clydesdales in the O'Reilly's parking lot



The Poker Rally Winners: Dawn won first place with 3 Kings, Ron took low with a Queen high

SEPTEMBER 16 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by Gary Osborne

President Scott Gilday opened up the meeting at 7:30 pm. He welcomed everyone that showed up including Mike Heatherly's brother Rob, who was visiting. He got right into the reports which are as follows:

Membership Report

Ken Bounds reported that we are holding steady at 55 members.

National Club Updates

Ken Bounds reported that we are still waiting for confirmation on the venue for an Eastern National meet in September of 2026. There are no other meets scheduled for 2026 or 2027. Also, the National Board has sent out a survey to some of the members to get their feedback.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Blum reported that the Club had revenues of \$306.50 from dues, 50/50 raffle, and a donation from the Yockeys. There were expenses of \$299.48 for the Road Chatter and the annual picnic.

Health and Welfare Report

No updates.

Past Events

Multiple people in attendance gave a report that they had a great time at the Friendly Ford Show last month. Great weather, lots of cars, lots of people, lots of food, and a lot of fun.

Future Events

September 26-28 - Lake Geneva Poker Rally

October 18 - Fall Colors Tour on Sheridan Road and to the Bahai Temple.

November 8 - Veteran's Day Luncheon at the Patio in Lombard

December - Christmas Brunch-TBD

Additional Items

We took a short break to enjoy the fabulous cookies made by Carolyn Bounds. Then we began discussions about several member's cars: Mike Heatherly's door handles, John Scheve's progress on the '47, Tom O'Donnell's power steering pump and generator on the Lincoln, and then a little talk on dual exhausts.

Last was the 50/50 drawing. Scott Gilday was able to have the lucky numbers, and he won \$24.

Attendance

Ron Blum, Ken Bounds, Scott Gilday, Mike Heatherly, Jay Hinshaw, Rusty Medlin, Tom O'Donnell, Gary Osborne, Dan Pudelek, John Scheve, Este Scheve, George Zulas, Dawn Zulas, and visitor Rob Heatherly.





10 Years Ago This Month – October 2015

On October 11, 25 members drove 8 Early V-8s and other vehicles to a tour of the Mayslake Peabody Estate in Oak Brook organized by Tom O'Donnell. The October Road Chatter contained some comments from editors Carolyn and Ken Bounds about their trip to England. Hmmm. Do they go to the UK every ten years?

20 Years Ago This Month – October 2005

At the October 18 monthly meeting, nominations were held for officers and board members for 2006. Ken Bounds talked about participation in the Lake Geneva Classic Car Rally. Frank Koeder talked about his speed runs at the Bonneville Salt Flats. He said that wetter than normal weather curtailed some of the activities. President Ron Dopke talked about his experiences attending the recent wedding of Jack & Jean Nikolich. Ron Dopke and Tom O'Donnell encouraged members to consider joining the Early Ford V-8 Foundation.

30 Years Ago This Month – October 1995

The October Road Chatter included an article about Bill Grams of the Volo Auto Museum and his plans to begin selling cars on the Internet! Members were reminded that dues for 1996 were due. At the October 17 monthly meeting, Bud Guzzo showed a slide show of photos he had taken at the Hershey meet two weeks earlier.

40 Years Ago This Month – October 1985

The October Road Chatter contained a detailed update, an organization chart, and the first tentative schedule for the planned 1986 Central National Meet from new Chairman Marty Duling. At the October 8 monthly meeting, Membership Chairman Joe Novak introduced new members Jerry Corcoran and Ron Vaughan. On October 26, Joe & Nancy Novak hosted 24 V-8ers in an informal get-together including dinner at the Rosewood Inn followed by cocktails at their home.

50 Years Ago This Month – October 1975

At the October 14 monthly meeting there were several stories from the 14 members who had attended "the muddy mess" at Hershey. On October 19, 13 members and family showed Early V-8s and other classics at the Yorktown Mall. Four cars were displayed inside while those displayed outside got a police escort around the center with sirens blaring.

Flathead Flashback

Our group at the tour of the Peabody Mansion ten years ago.



NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR

September 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting 26-28 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	October 9 Board Meeting 18 Fall Colors Driving Tour 21 Member Meeting	November 8 Veterans Luncheon 11 Member Meeting Note Special Date 13 Board Meeting	December No Meetings
January 8 Board Meeting 17 Installation Dinner, (Tentative) 20 Member Meeting	February 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting	March 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting	April 9 Board Meeting 21 Member Meeting



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
COLLEEN STECK (10/2), SUE ADAMS (10/5), JOHN EMMERING (10/5),
JOE SERRITELLA (10/9), DIANE PUDELEK (10/11), MICHAEL MOHAWK (10/15),
MARSHAL ADAMS (10/24), & TOM BUSCAGLIA (10/28)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO
TOM & XIAOYIN BRECHEISEN (10/7),
& FRANK & MARGARET KOEDER (10/30)

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

- New transmission, needs engine
- \$11,000 or best offer

Contact Roger Obecný at 708-772-1925

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

Three 16" 1945 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.

Pressure pot for sandblaster, no holes. **Contact George Zulas at 630-362-4120.**

Wanted

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



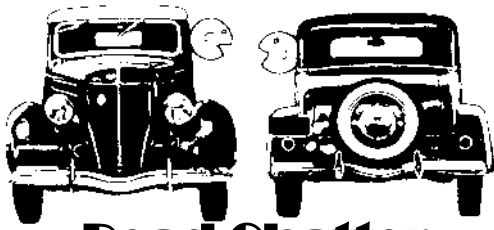
Starting Saturday, March 8, 2025



– Service/Parts Department Hours –
7:00am – 3:00pm
All Makes & Models are Welcome!

<https://www.friendlyford.com>

Sales & Service: (630) 924-8686



Road Chatter

1N410 Forest Ave
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137



Photo of the Month
Our Group at the Annual Poker Rally