

ROAD CHATTER

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

P.O. Box 803

Volume 59 Issue 9

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

September 2025

www.nirgv8.org

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

September 11 Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom 7:30 pm.

September 16 Monthly Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm.

September 26-28 17th Annual Lake Geneva Poker Rally. See Page 3 for details.



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

September 1 Happy Labor Day.

September 22 Fall begins at 11:19 pm CDT.

September 27 Annual Orphan Car Show (open to discontinued brands) sponsored by Illinois Valley Olds Club, 1503 Clement St., Joliet, 10am - 3pm, \$15 show cars.

In this Issue

Page 2 – President Scott Gilday talks about past and upcoming club events.

Page 3 – It is almost time for the first event of fall - the Annual Poker Rally. See details here.

Page 4 – Our annual picnic was held August 16 - see the report and photos here.

Page 5 – We welcome new members!

Page 6 – A report on our own Randy Yockey's annual customer appreciation car show.

Page 8 – Minutes of the August 19 monthly meeting.

Page 9 – A few words from your editors.

Page 10 – Gary Osborne presents an interesting story about Randy Yockey's Yockeytown "Streets of Yesterday" Museum.

Page 12 – Rearview Mirror – information about club events over the past 50 years, plus a Flathead Flashback.

Page 13 – Remember to review the Events Calendar each month; also, see who has a birthday or anniversary this month.

Page 14 – Check out the for sale and wanted ads.

Back Cover – Our group enjoying the annual picnic.



What is fall without football fun?

****Ssshh - don't tell anyone****

On August 23 the Board of Directors approved a bid from Garden State RG#38 for a 2026 Eastern National Meet. Chairman Jack Diana is meeting with a venue in Princeton, New Jersey, early in September. If he comes to an agreement with the venue, this meet will happen in late September 2026. We will keep you updated.

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.

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 September. Hopefully you had a great Labor Day weekend and got a chance to drive your V-8.

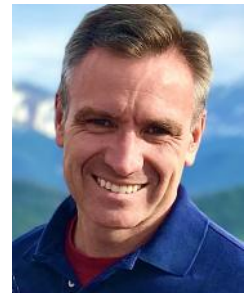
I would like to start by welcoming new members Tim and Dawn Ricordati and their beautiful 51 Ford convertible to the club. We look forward to seeing them at our upcoming club events.

We had a busy August. First, I'd like to thank Ron Blum for organizing our annual picnic at Timmerman's Ranch on August 10th. Despite the ominous clouds and threat of thunderstorms in the forecast, we had great weather and a good turnout of members and their V-8s. A special thanks too to Este Scheve for getting us a fabulous cake for dessert.

On August 23rd, a few NIRG members brought their V-8's to Randy Yockey's Friendly Ford Car Show at the Boomer's Baseball Team parking lot in Schaumburg. Unfortunately, I couldn't make it as I was busy helping my daughter, Ciena, get her 1962 Fiat 500 ready for the

Geneva Concours d'Elégance that Sunday. We were happy that a number of V-8'rs (Gary and Dawn Osborne, Ron and Colleen Steck, and Pat and Dee Maroney) were there to wish Ciena good luck (even though she had a Fiat). Below is a picture of Ciena and me with her Carl Benz award.

Looking ahead to next month – a number of us plan to attend the club's annual Poker Rally event in Delavan, Wisconsin on September 26-28th. This is a really fun event, and if you haven't done it before, please join us. It will be a great time!

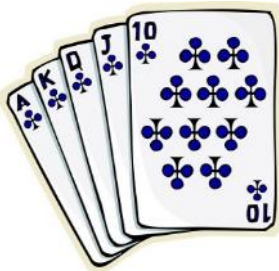


UPCOMING EVENTS



The time is almost here for our first event of the fall! You are invited to join your Northern Illinois Group friends for a driving tour to the Lake Geneva area for our fifteenth annual poker rally Friday, September 26 through Sunday, September 28.

We will gather at 9:00 am at the Town and Country Mall at the corner of Palatine and Arlington Heights Roads Friday morning September 26, **leaving at 10:30 am** for the tour to the Lake Geneva area. There will be a lunch stop about noon at a restaurant somewhere between Arlington Heights and Delavan - you never know how we will get there.



We are staying at the Delavan Comfort Suites. If you had a room last year, your room is already reserved for this year. Although the deadline for reserving rooms has passed, if you do not have a room and want to attend, please contact Ken Bounds to see if we can find you accommodations.

We have planned a fun, relaxing weekend with some leisurely drives over scenic back roads, some visits to nice restaurants and plenty of time for shopping or just relaxing. We will be playing our traditional poker game with prizes awarded for the best poker hand and the worst hand. Weather permitting, we will be playing car games Friday afternoon.

Our Saturday driving tour will take us to an old favorite, New Glarus, where Oktoberfest will be in full swing. This is always a fun time. Prizes will be awarded at dinner Saturday evening.



Please confirm with Ken Bounds at 630-858-9474 or at ken@boundshome.com to let him know if you plan to participate in this event. There will be a final confirmation at the September meeting so we can get a good count for reservations at various restaurants and tour stops.

Annual Picnic – August 16, 2025

By Ken Bounds

A group of 17 members and family gathered once again at Timmermann's Ranch in Island Lake for our annual picnic. This year there were *no injuries* in setting up the club tent. This was primarily because we made the executive decision to not put it up because of the beautiful weather. Instead we just gathered in lawn chairs under the huge shade trees.

Driving Early V-8s were Ken & Carolyn Bounds - 1950 Convertible, Scott, Nicole, Reese, & Ciena Gilday - 1941 Convertible, Jay Hinshaw - 1940 Sedan, and Dan Pudelek - 1950 Crestliner. Arriving in modern iron were Ron Blum, Elaine Braun, Ed & Jeanne Garman, Mike Heatherly, Gary & Dawn Osborne, and John & Este Scheve. Our Early V-8s were joined by a 1959 Ford Convertible driven by a Timmermann family friend.

We spent the morning just enjoying each other's company, but keeping an eye on the weather radar. Although the morning forecast was for almost no chance of rain, storms started popping up to our west. What looked like almost certain thunderstorms on the radar were approaching; somehow the bad weather went both north and south of us. Even with Scott's open car just taunting the skies.

It was especially nice to see Elaine Braun again. She has been friends with the Timmermann's for eons. Owner Carol Timmermann visited with us for a while and even brought out her dog



Anniversary cake and "Tiny Wheel"



John, Mike , Gary & Dawn, Ed & Jeanne



Some outstanding Early V-8s



Dan' freshly repainted '50 Crestliner

Gunnar to do a few tricks for us. We were pleased that Ed and Jeanne were there for their first picnic with us.

Everyone brought their own food again this year. Ron Blum brought his coffin-sized cooler and ice and Este brought bottled water for everyone. More importantly, Este brought a beautiful, yummy cake to celebrate our groups' 58th Anniversary! Do you think that any of the small group of guys who started this club in 1967 would think that we would still be kicking?

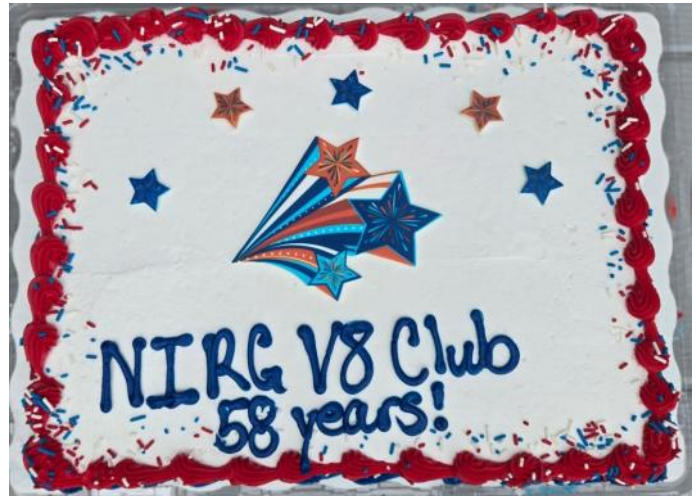
After lunch the only real task we had to do was clean up the area and stack the rented tables and chairs. This gave us plenty of time for more visiting and to observe some horses being trained.

Several of us took a few minutes to go examine Dan's beautiful Crestliner. He had already had the quarter panel professionally repainted after the fuel overflow mishap at the CNM had caused considerable damage. It looked perfect.

One of the stars of the 2025 CNM, Tiny Wheel, just had to make an appearance. Everyone had a great time spinning the wheel for a chance at extra 50-50 tickets. In the end, both Ron Blum and the club were the lucky winners of \$75 each.

We continued to keep an eye on the radar and marvel how lucky we were that the storms missed us. With more showers predicted in a couple of hours, everyone decided it was time to load up and head home.

Special thanks to Ron Blum for making most of the arrangements and to the Timmermanns for their hospitality. It was a really fun day.



Dan, Carolyn, and Elaine

Welcome New Members

The Northern Illinois Regional Group extends a warm welcome to Tim and Dawn Ricordati of Elmhurst. Tim just purchased this beautiful 1951 Ford Custom Convertible a few weeks ago and joined the Early Ford V-8 Club as well as our regional group. We hope to meet them at upcoming meetings and events. Welcome!



Yockey's Friendly Ford Customer Appreciation Car Show

By Gary Osborne • Photos by Gary and Dawn Osborne

The 12th Annual Friendly Ford Car Show was held on Saturday, August 23. Randy and Debbie Yockey have been hosting this show all these years to support the car clubs in the area. It was always held at their Friendly Ford Dealership until last year when it was moved to the Winfield Trust Stadium in Schaumburg. This is a great venue because it has allowed the show to host many more vehicles.

This year was no exception as there were nearly 300 vehicles in attendance. All types of cars and trucks were there on display for all the attendees to enjoy. Initially rain was in the area, but then it cleared out and the sun came out for the rest of the day.

Of course, some of our members came out with their beautiful Flathead Fords, and went to the spots that Randy had set aside for us as a group. You'll notice in the pictures some of our cars. We all gathered around and talked about all the varieties of cars that were there. So many different types, there was a style for everyone to enjoy their favorites. Present from our group were Gary & Dawn and Joyanna Osborne - 1932 Cabriolet, Andy & Tracy Zasadny - 1936 3 Window Coupe, John Scheve - 1937 Standard Tudor, Jay Hinshaw - 1940 Standard Tudor, Roger Obecný - 1940 DeLuxe Tudor, Tom O'Donnell and family - 1940 Mercury Sedan Coupe, George & Dawn Zulas - 1940 Standard Tudor, John Judge - 1947 Lincoln, Pat Maroney, 1950 Custom Deluxe Convertible, and, of course, our hosts Randy and Debbie Yockey.

There was music, lots of food, lots of shop talk, and of course lots of trophies. Unfortunately, none of our members won this time around, but we all still had a great time. It was great to see all the people bring out their cars and trucks to support the Yockeys in this wonderful appreciation for those who enjoy all things automotive.



Joyanna and Dawn Osborne with the '32



George Zulas' 1940 Ford Standard Tudor



Pat Maroney's 1950 Ford Custom Deluxe Convertible

As if it wasn't enough for Randy to put all this on free of charge, he also made a very generous donation to our regional group. Thank you Randy!



Our members' 1936-3 Window, 1937 Standard Tudor, 1932 Cabriolet, 1940 Standard Tudor, 1940 Mercury



Gary Osborne, Jay, Hinshaw and John Scheve sitting with the cars



John Judge chats with Gary



This '32 Ford looks different than Gary's



Just a few of the many Ford products at the show

AUGUST 19 MEETING MINUTES**Submitted by Gary Osborne**

It was a beautiful evening for the meeting, so the members stayed outside a little longer doing some “tire kicking.” Eventually we all went inside to start the Meeting. President Scott Gilday welcomed everyone including one visitor, Nick Pruc, who was looking into the Club for help with his 1941 Sedan.

Membership Report

Ken Bounds reported that we now have 55 members with the addition of a new couple, Tim and Dawn Ricordati.

**National Club Report**

Ken Bounds reported that there might be a 2026 Eastern National Meet in New Jersey.

The National Club is looking into doing an all-member survey soon.

The National Club is also looking to fill positions for some much-needed Advisors. If you are interested contact the National Chief Judge.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Blum reported revenues of \$28.50 from dues, and the 50/50 raffle. There were expenses of \$170 for the Road Chatter and the Meeting Room rent through November.

Health and Welfare Report

Dawn Zulas reported that Ron Dopke is doing better with therapy. Sam Van Bruggen's 9-year-old granddaughter was seriously injured from a dog bite.

Past Events

Gary Osborne reported that the Duals Night at Culvers was a very fun evening for all that attended and even included some free custard from the management.

The annual picnic was also a lot of fun for the 18 that showed up. It was a great time even without setting up the Club tent!

Future Events

- September 26-28 - Lake Geneva Poker Rally
- October - Fall Colors Tour-TBD
- November 11 - Veteran's Luncheon at The Patio in Lombard

Additional Items

After a short break featuring Carolyn Bounds' wonderful cookies, we launched into a discussion about future National Meets. After that we had a short discussion with our visitor about his 1941 Sedan.

Then the 50/50 raffle was drawn, and George Zulas was the happy winner of \$19. (Dawn was also quite pleased).

Attendance

Ron Blum, Ken Bounds, Sam Dix, Scott Gilday, Mike Heatherly, Jay Hinshaw, Rusty Medlin, Gary Osborne, George Zulas, Dawn Zulas, and visitor Nick Pruc.

FROM THE EDITORS

Ken & Carolyn Bounds

We once again had a lot of content for this month's Road Chatter - sometimes it is hard just to squeeze it all in. Thanks to Gary Osborne for all the contributions, including the neat story about Yockeyville. We are also quite grateful to Gary as he has volunteered to pre-drive our routes for the Annual Poker Rally at the end of the month.



We will not be able to test out the routes ourselves because we will be on our first-ever trip to Northern Ireland to visit with family. We are super excited about this trip and thank Gary for helping out. Ken is likely to come back with some good stories about Irish Pubs. We won't be here for the September meeting, so you will have to survive without Carolyn's cookies. But we will make it back just in time for the Poker Rally.

On page one we have sort of let the cat out of the bag about the possibility of a 2026 Eastern National Meet. As stated, the national club has approved a bid from our good friend Jack Diana and his New Jersey regional group. Nothing is official, though, until Jack meets with the venue and executes a contract. We are working closely to support Jack and have volunteered to come out of retirement and handle registration. The venue Jack has selected looks like it meets the all needs of a national meet and he has a number of group members that he is counting on for support. If the meet happens, it will likely mean we will not be able to attend the Poker Rally next year.

There are currently no other national meets on the books for 2026 or 2027, so we hope Jack is successful in setting this one up. It is just over 800 miles to the proposed venue; we hope a few of our members can plan to attend the meet and help Jack.

And now for something completely different. For the front page graphic, it just seemed the right season to show the classic image of Lucy pulling the football away from Charlie Brown. In searching for such an image, we found that most of the existing ones are copyrighted. What to do? Ken had the idea of using an AI generated image. So he fired up ChatGPT and typed in: "generate a color image of lucy pulling the football away from charlie brown and charlie falling down." Seconds later the image you see on page 1 was created and is in the public domain.

Is AI good or bad? It seems AI can be *used* for good or *used* for bad, Either way, it is here to stay and somewhat frightening. If you want to be really impressed (or frightened) research the singer "[Sadie Winters](#)." She was recently created by AI in just a few minutes, along with songs she us singing. She soon had a back story, showed emotions, and created an entire album of actually quite good music. And she doesn't exist, except in the AI world.

AI is going to make us all have to be very vigilant about what we see, read, or hear. Be very wary of accepting AI responses to questions about our Early V-8s, for example. Try this experiment: Google what is the correct gear oil for a 1950 Ford transmission? (Ken did). An AI response will likely tell you to use any good quality ATF fluid. Of course, there were no automatic transmissions in 1950 Fords. As they said in Hill Street Blues, be careful out there!

Back to the real world. Our Poker Rally is real, not AI generated. We always have a great time, plus have a few new participants this year. We are really looking forward to it.

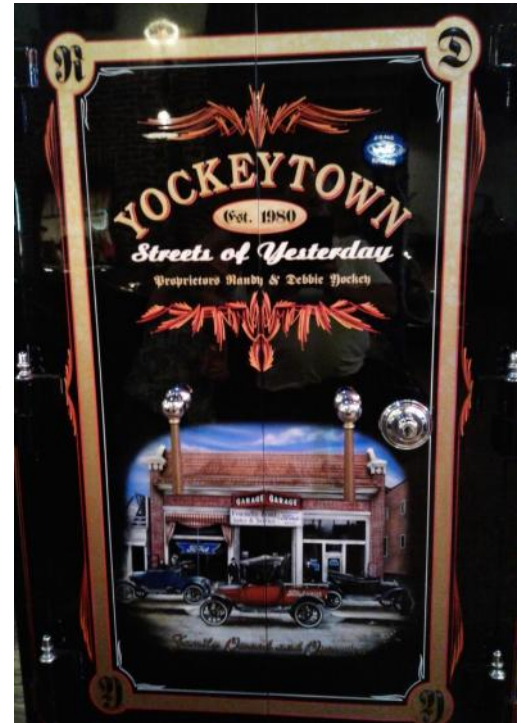
The Story of Yockeytown “Streets of Yesterday” Museum By Gary Osborne

Over the years many of our members have had the opportunity to visit the Yockeytown Museum owned by members Randy and Debbie Yockey. This year they made the difficult decision to temporarily close the museum. In lieu of visiting the museum, I thought it would be interesting to find out about its history. I contacted Randy, and here is a synopsis of what he wrote.

It really began when Randy was about 14 years old when he got a job at the local Ford Dealership. He started collecting some of the items that were being thrown out. Even at that age he was beginning to see the value of preserving history. As he continued in his career, he also met and married Debbie, who began collecting right alongside of him. They eventually bought property in St. Charles and built a couple of small buildings to house his John Deere collection. You see, Randy is also a very avid John Deere tractor enthusiast. When they had completed that project, they decided to build a replica Ford dealership. It was dedicated to Randy's father-in-law, who had started a used car dealership in Cascade, Iowa.

In 2004 there was a large fire at Friendly Ford where Randy was now a junior partner. Much of the showroom windows and parts of the building were repurposed at the museum. It was all shaping up to look like a real dealership. Once that portion was completed, they knew that they needed to add some displays that would complement the history they were looking to highlight. I will only write about two of the main displays here.

First, there was a desire to construct an exact replica of the Sinclair Gas Station that Randy's Grandfather had owned and operated in Sioux City, Iowa. A lot of searching went into locating the tooling, equipment, and period correct items to go into the station. Even the bricks that were



Outside and inside of Sinclair Station replica - hmmm, maybe a moonshine runner out there

used for its construction were from Sioux City Iowa Brick Company, which would have been the exact bricks his Grandfather would have used.

Second, when one walks into the museum, the first thing to notice is the large old classic bar. It is what Randy calls the Hamm's Beer Saloon. The bar is actually a recreation of a Chicago style bar from the 1940s. Believe it or not, it really began its life as a display cabinet they found at a flea market in Wisconsin. It looks pretty amazing!

There is so much more to see in the museum that it kind of takes your breath away. There is a diner, barber shop, post office, movie theater, library, the Sinclair Station, the bar, lots of automotive memorabilia, and dozens of neon signs. Of course, there are several tractors and Ford vehicles. A 1940 Ford, 1957 Ranchero, Model T, Mustang Mach 1, Grand Torino Sport, and a couple of pickups.

The Yockeys have done a wonderful job of preserving a little bit of history for us all to enjoy. If they do ever decide to reestablish a new and improved museum to help us walk back in time, let's hope we will get to enjoy that little walk through history with them. And for those who were privileged to see this museum I hope the photos will bring back fond memories.



1914 Model T Ford



Model A Ford Roadster Pickup



1940 Ford Convertible



1949 Ford Pickup



10 Years Ago This Month – September 2015

On September 12, Joe Dispensa organized a vintage car show for Veterans at Hines Hospital. Seven members showed five Early and two early-ish V-8's. Nineteen members with seven Early V-8's participated in the 8th Annual NIRG Poker Rally in the Lake Geneva area. The driving tour was to Janesville, Wisconsin. Joe Serritella was the grand prize winner of the poker run. Larry Webb was presented the inaugural "Jerry Webb Memorial Stop and Smell the Roses" award.

20 Years Ago This Month – September 2005

Ken Bounds drove his '50 Convertible to the Western National Meet in Keystone, Colorado the second week in September and brought home a trophy. Ken & Carolyn Bounds hosted a trip to the 28th Annual Lake Geneva Classic Car Rally the weekend of September 23-25. Carolyn Bounds won two crisp \$100 bills for lowest hand. Ken Bounds won 9th Place in the poker rally and Joe Kozmic won 10th. This was the 26th year that NIRG members participated.

30 Years Ago This Month – September 1995

The NIRG had a swap space at the Kane County swap meet on September 10. On September 17, Larry & Jerry Webb hosted a mini-golf outing in Algonquin with lunch following at the Old Country Buffet. Ken Bounds arranged for a tour to the 18th Annual Lake Geneva Classic Car Rally September 23-24. Marty Duling led a group of 14 vehicles starting at the Duzell home with a destination of the Super 8 in Delavan.

40 Years Ago This Month – September 1985

On the weekend of September 21-22, Joe & Nancy Novak hosted a fall weekender to Lake Geneva in conjunction with the 8th Annual Lake Geneva Classic Car Rally. The September Road Chatter contained a letter from new Central National Meet Chairman Marty Duling, attempting to alleviate concerns about the meet after the sudden death of Chairman Barry Jacksier. Members were busy transporting the raffle car to various shows and ticket sales were brisk.

50 Years Ago This Month – September 1975

At the September 9 monthly meeting President Bob Hanselman announced that Barrett McGregor's '47 Sportsman placed 3rd at the Eastern National Meet in Charlotte. Members brought out 12 Early V-8s to the NIRG car show held September 20 at Brementowne Mall in Tinley Park.

Flathead Flashback

Snow on Ken's '50 Convertible at the 2005 Western National Meet concourse at Keystone, Colorado.



NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR

September 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting 26-28 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	October 9 Board Meeting 21 Member Meeting	November 8 Veterans Luncheon 11 Member Meeting <i>Note Special Date</i> 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

**ARLENE BLUM (9/5), RON VLASIC (9/13), LINDA LIVINGSTON (9/14),
DAWN RICORDATI (9/16), SCOTT GILDAY (9/17), & MELANIE MEDLIN (9/23)**

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

**GARY & DAWN OSBORNE (9/8), BOB & RHONDA MILLER (9/11),
RON & ARLENE BLUM (9/12), TIM & DAWN RICORDATI (9/22),
RUSSELL & MELANIE MEDLIN (9/23), & DAN & DIANE PUDELEK (9/30)**

**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

- Starts, Stops, Runs
 - This is a Preservation not a Restoration
- Contact Roger Obecný at 708-772-1925 to discuss price.**

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.**



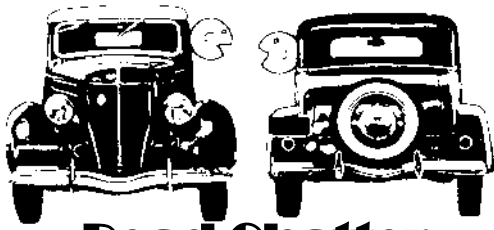
Starting Saturday, March 8, 2025



– 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 Picnic