

ROAD CHATTER

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

P.O. Box 803

Volume 60 Issue 4

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

April 2026

www.nirgv8.org

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

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

April 11 - Eggs & Eights Breakfast, Roselle. See page 2 for details.

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

April 25 - Tour to Van Bruggen Signs. See page 3 For details.

May 2 - Tour to United Remanufacturing. See page 4.



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

April 5 - Happy Easter!

April 24-25 - 49th Annual Spring Jefferson Car Show & Swap Meet, Jefferson Fairgrounds, Jefferson, WI. Admission \$15.

In this Issue

Page 2 – President Scott Gilday talks about recent and upcoming events and encourages us to wrap up winter projects so we can get our Early V-8's on the road soon.

Page 3 – Dawn Zulas has arranged an Eggs & Eights breakfast at Mr. A's in Roselle, followed by a visit to nearby Lynfred Winery. See details here.

Page 3 – Gary Osborne has arranged a tour to visit Sam Van Bruggen's family sign company in Orland Park. Details here.

Page 4 – Tom O'Donnell has arranged a May 2 joint tour with the Lincoln Continental Owners Club to United Remanufacturing in Schiller Park. Details and RSVP request here.

Page 4 – We welcome a new member.

Page 5 – Este Scheve hosted our annual pizza meeting at Pay Joey's in Batavia. See her report and photos here.

Page 7 – Our V-8 Gals seemed a little stressed. See what they have to say.

Page 7 – A few words from your editors.

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, 11 – Check out the for sale and wanted ads.

Back Cover – Our group at the Annual Pizza Meeting.



Attention Members

Be sure to attend the April 21 monthly meeting. Scott Gilday is going to update us on the status of his 1969 Mustang restoration. The body is back from the stripper and progress is being made.

2026 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

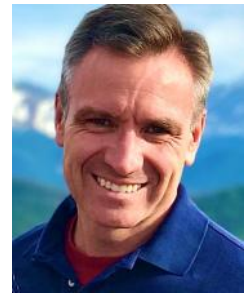
630-858-9474

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

Welcome to April. According to the calendar, spring has already started, so hopefully we've seen the last of the snow and salt and we can get our V-8s out on the road soon.



First, I'd like to thank Este Scheve for hosting our Pizza Meeting on March 17th. We went again to Pal Joey's in Batavia where he had great pizza and a great time! John Scheve couldn't make it because he had some back surgery this month, so I wish him a speedy recovery.

This will be a busy month. In addition to our regular member meeting on Apr 21st, Dawn and George Zulas will be hosting an Eggs and Eights on April 11th at Mr. A's in Roselle, and on April 25th Gary Osborne will be hosting a tour to member Sam Van Bruggen's business, Van Bruggen Signs. I hope you can make it to these events!

The "little" winter project Ciena and I took on with my 69 Mustang continues to keep us busy. Here are a couple of pictures. I'll share more at this month's member meeting.



Removing some spotwelds



Back from Redi Strip



A fresh coat of paint



Some rear frame rail issues



Frame rail, trunk floor problems solved

UPCOMING EVENTS

Eggs & Eights - Saturday, April 11

Welcome Spring with a visit to Roselle for Eggs & Eights. This is just an informal, relaxed way to join your fellow NIRG V-8ers for breakfast. Also a great opportunity for newer members to come out and meet the families.

Eggs & Eights will be held Saturday, April 11 at 10:00 a.m. at Mr. A's Restaurant, 609 E Irving Park Road, Roselle.

After breakfast, those who choose to participate will proceed to a visit to Lynfred Winery at 15 S. Roselle Road in Roselle, about one mile from the restaurant. Wines are available in the tasting room and a cellar tour is available at 2:00 pm.

If you are interested in attending and have not already signed up, please call or text Dawn Zulas at 630-362-4120.



Driving Tour to Van Bruggen Sign Company Saturday, April 25

What - The Van Bruggen sign company celebrated their first 100 years in 2025. We now have a chance to visit and see the amazing things they are doing there, from commercial signs to vehicle wrapping.

Meet - 9:00am on Saturday, April 25

Where - Oakbrook Center at the west side parking lot, on the corner of Hodges and Rt 83. (Turn east at the traffic light at Hodges).

Tour - 19 miles to Van Bruggen Signs in Orland Park

Lunch - The Patio in Darien on Rt 83



MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

Tour to United Remanufacturing Company 9550 Soreng Avenue Schiller Park, Illinois 9:00 AM May 2, 2026

This tour is a great opportunity to see how carburetors are remanufactured to original standards. United Remanufacturing was started in 1948 in Chicago by Robert Portman and members of his family. They remanufactured carburetors for local and national repair shop use. As their reputation for quality spread, their business grew from their garage to a factory on Lawrence Ave. in Chicago. The business continued to grow and in 1979 they built a new factory in Schiller Park, Illinois. They now rebuild carburetors for most cars and fuel injection components for the more modern cars. They are still family owned and operated. Their quality is still a strong point and they supply rebuilt components to major automotive parts retailers. They will rebuild your core or sell you one of their rebuilt cores.

We will be touring the Schiller Park facility on **Saturday, May 2, 2026 9:00 AM**. The guided tour will last about 30 minutes. We will be shown the steps taken to rebuild carburetors and fuel injection parts. During the tour the owner has requested that all tour members stay together, no stragglers will be allowed, and no photos or videos will be allowed. We are the first antique car owners to tour this facility and the officers of the clubs want to make a good impression on the owner.

After the tour, we will drive to a local restaurant for brunch, conversation and weather permitting, some tire kicking.

This opportunity will be a joint tour with the Lake Shore Region of the LCOC and the Northern Illinois Regional Group of the EFV-8 Club. It is limited to 10 people from each organization. I will take reservations at taodonnell@yahoo.com or 847-991-6976 until **April 15, 2026** and after that any unfilled spaces will be on a first-com first-served basis. **April 24, 2026 will be the last day to reserve a spot on the tour.**

This will be a nice opportunity to give your car an outing. So go out in the garage and dust it off, check the air in the tires, make sure that you have a full tank of gas and be ready for an enjoyable spring day ride, with a bonus of meeting with fellow club members.



Welcome New Member

The Northern Illinois Regional Group extends a warm welcome to Bob & Elaine Jans of Brookfield. Elaine reached out to us in late December; she and Bob joined the National club in January and have now joined our regional group

Bob has a 1949 Ford F-1 Pickup. We hope to see Bob and Elaine and their pickup at many upcoming events.

Annual Pizza Meeting By Este Scheve

The March meeting was held on the 17th at Pal Joey's restaurant in Batavia. Our regular meeting place was a polling place for the primary election.

Although the numbers were small, we had a lovely time enjoying the pizza, pop, and cash bar adult beverages. Attending were Ken and Carolyn Bounds, Scott Gilday, Jay Hinshaw, Rusty and Melanie Medlin, Gary and Dawn Osborne, Dan and Diane Pudelek, Este Scheve, Ron Steck, and George and Dawn Zulas.

Scott thanked everyone for coming and thanked Este for setting up the event. He passed along good wishes from everyone to John Scheve who is at home after back surgery on Monday. Dawn Zulas discussed the April 11 Eggs & Eights breakfast in Roselle with a side tour to Lynfred Winery and passed around a signup sheet. Gary Osborne discussed the April 29 driving tour to Van Bruggen Signs in Orland Park and also passed around a signup sheet.



Diane & Dan and Scott



Dawn & Gary



Rusty & Melanie



Jay and Ken & Carolyn



George & Dawn and Ron

V-8 Gals

Did you know that April is Stress Awareness Month? April 16th is Stress Awareness Day. Stress Awareness Day is intentionally set for the day after taxes are due. Yeah...no stress there. I have days where it feels like my stress levels have to be off the charts. Stress and its side effects are a major problem in the U.S.

The following is taken from the article "National Stress Awareness Month, By the Numbers" found at www.fatstcompany.com.

- * STRESS BALLS, RELAXATION TAPES, and other stress-fighting products and services account for \$14 BILLION of spending in the U.S. EACH YEAR.
- * A Wake Forest University study of 42 FEMALE MONKEYS found those suffering from social stress held more ABDOMINAL FAT, a precursor of heart disease.
- * Globally, more than three out of five doctor visits are STRESS RELATED. In the U.S. alone, more than \$22.8 BILLION is spent on anxiety-related health care each year.
- * 62% of American are stressed about WORK, according to the American Psychological Association. Eating 1.4 ounces of DARK CHOCOLATE EVERY DAY for two weeks was shown to reduce stress.
(Granted, the 30-person study was done by researchers at Nestlé.)
- * According to a psychological survey done in 1938 and again in 2007, anxiety and mental-health issues are 5 TIMES more common now among high-school and college students than they were toward the end of the GREAT DEPRESSION.
- * TWO-THIRDS of spoken curse words are a result of stress. Swearing accounts for 80 of the 15,000 words typically spoken per person per day.

Housework Humor

One day a housework-challenged husband decided to wash his sweatshirt.

Seconds after he stepped into the laundry room, he shouted to his wife, "What setting do I use on the washing machine?"

"It depends," she replied. "What does it say on your shirt?"

He yelled back, "University of Oklahoma."

And they say blondes are dumb...



"You can't bring that. Cleanliness may be next to godliness, but nature abhors the sound of a vacuum."

FROM THE EDITORS**Ken & Carolyn Bounds**

Welcome to April. Over the years we have often sent out the April Road Chatter with an April Fools joke or hoax. I intended to do that again this year, but some serious discussion has come up and this may not be the appropriate time.

First, a couple of comments on the National front. Sadly, it appears that there will be no National Meets this year. Since the early days of the V-8 Club, there has been at least one national meet every year except for the Covid years of 2020 and 2021. It looks like that streak will be coming to an end after 131 meets. The good news is that there is a very real probability of a 2027 Eastern National Meet in Historic Williamsburg, Virginia.



Planning work had been done on two possible sites for an Eastern meet this year. While those plans never made it to fruition, there is a good possibility that the potential Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania meet will be converted to a driving tour this August. We hope some of our members can participate. Plus, remember that there is a Montana/Wyoming driving tour planned for August 2 - 7.

On the local front, we want to thank Este Scheve for setting up the annual pizza meeting in Batavia. The small group of 14 members had a nice time and enjoyed the evening. This brings up the elephant in the room. Attendance at our events and monthly meetings has fallen to a fraction of the numbers who used to participate. It is disheartening when someone invests their time to search out venues, set up an event, confirm reservations, and write up the event for the Road Chatter, only to experience such a small turnout. Similarly, many of our members spend hours putting together technical presentations for our monthly meetings, yet only a few members show up.

Your Board of Directors works hard to put interesting tours and tech talks together. We meet via zoom every month to plan for upcoming months. We have some really nice events coming up in the near future. Dawn Zulas has set up an Eggs & Eights breakfast followed by a tour to a beautiful local winery. Gary Osborne has set up a driving tour in April to Sam Van Bruggen's family sign company and another in June down Route 66 to celebrate its 100th anniversary. Tom O'Donnell has arranged for a May tour to a carburetor rebuilding facility. Please, think about your situation and your level of participation. This is your club and the organizers of these events really appreciate your support. We encourage everyone to take part. Remember, we all love to see those Early V-8s at these events, but they are not required.

Perhaps it is time to take stock of where we are as a regional group. Yes, we are all getting older, but we still have new members regularly joining our group. Lets show them who we really are!

If you have ideas about things we are doing wrong or could just do better, I encourage you to come to a meeting and make your feelings known. We are always open to ideas for tours and tech talks. We are always looking for members to increase their participation by becoming board members or officers. If you have ideas on why fewer and fewer members are attending meetings and events, please step up and share your ideas. This is where I usually say "April Fools." Not this time.



10 Years Ago This Month – April 2016

On a cold and rainy April 10, 25 members attended an Eggs & Eights breakfast at Egg Harbor restaurant in Geneva, hosted by John & Robin Emmering. The April Road Chatter contained an announcement of upcoming Historic Illinois Pavement tour series being organized by Gary Osborne.

20 Years Ago This Month – April 2006

Fifty members and family attended the April 18 Pizza Meeting, hosted by Bob & Angie Paladino at John's Pizza. Marty & Leah Duling came to the meeting from Springfield; Marty brought along a slideshow on his computer of the recent tornado damage in Springfield. The 50-50 raffle was a big hit, with Dick Alfini being the lucky winner of \$65. Dick generously donated his winnings back to the club.

30 Years Ago This Month – April 1996

At the April 14 monthly meeting, President Tom O'Donnell stated that all members should wear name tags at club meetings and outings. On April 28, a large group attended a garage tour hosted by Joe & Nell Kozmic and Ken Bounds. Included were tours of both garages, the Morton Arboretum, and Stacey's Tavern in Glen Ellyn. Members were shocked to learn that Stacey's Tavern is actually a museum and did not serve drinks. Lunch was in a private room at Portillo's.

40 Years Ago This Month – April 1986

The April 8 Pizza Meeting at John's Pizza in Addison, hosted by George & Betty Cech, was a big success with 58 in attendance. On a hot April 26, a group of 24 V-8ers met at Golf Mill to participate in a scavenger hunt. The winners were Terry & Kitty Freihage. The group had a lot of fun driving around looking for 20 items, had a great meal and drinks, then retired to the Wall home.

50 Years Ago This Month – April 1976

The April 13 monthly meeting was exceptionally well attended with 40 members in attendance and two new members joining. Several interesting items were discussed during the question and answer period. One was the recommendation by Marv Gunchick to change brake fluid every year. Barrett McGregor commented that his '47 Sportsman was the first "woodie" in the NIRG. Tony Verschoore gave a very well received tech talk on recovering running boards.

Flathead Flashback

April 30, 1996 - Local thugs Manny, Moe, and Jack attempt to hijack Ken Bounds' 1950 Convertible at a Pep Boys grand opening in Broadview, Illinois.



NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR

January 8 Board Meeting 17 Installation Dinner, Coopers Corner, Winfield 20 Member Meeting	February 7 Valentine's Luncheon, Makray Golf Club, Barrington. 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting	March 12 Board Meeting 17 Pizza Meeting, Pal Joey's, Batavia.	April 9 Board Meeting 11 Eggs & Eights, Mr. A's, Roselle 21 Member Meeting 25 Van Bruggen Signs Tour
May 2 Tour to United Remanufacturing, Schiller Park 14 Board Meeting 16 Duals Night, Culvers, Buffalo Grove 19 Member Meeting	June 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting 20 Drive Your V-8 Day, Route 66 Tour	July 9 Board Meeting 21 Member Meeting 25 Duals Night, Culvers, St. Charles	August 13 Board Meeting 18 Member Meeting
September 10 Board Meeting 15 Member Meeting 26-28 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	October 8 Board Meeting 20 Member Meeting	November 12 Board Meeting 17 Member Meeting	December No Meetings

Happy Easter and Passover

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
DEE MARONEY (4/2), TOM BRECHEISEN (4/7), JUDY MYERS (4/7),
RON VAUGHAN (4/23), XIAOYIN BRECHEISEN (4/25), BOB JANS (4/26),
ROBIN EMMERING (4/28), & JOHN JUDGE (4/29)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO
TOM & JUDY BUSCAGLIA (4/8), ERIC & CHERYL KOZMIC (4/20),
KIM & BENNY TAYLOR (4/25), JOE & DELICE SERRITELLA (4/25),
TONY & CAROLINE MIRELES (4/28), JORDON & JUDY BELLER (4/30),
& LEN & IRENE VINYARD (4/30)



AND ALL THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND
ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH.



Vehicles For Sale



1942 Ford Sedan Coupe Model 72B

Two Door, 5 Window, Moselle Maroon Color Dearborn Award Winner, Dearborn Medallion, & Dearborn Emeritus

Only 6,300 miles!

Rebuilt by Lin Stacey, V-8 Technical Advisor for 28 years

Asking \$28,000 (car is in Illinois)

Email: phstacey@sbcglobal.net Phone: 630-308-6081

Other Items For Sale

1928-1953 V8 Tools: Entire inventory of Lin Stacey's "Old Ford Tools" business. Over 2,500 tools for meet display. Approximately 800 are restored. Contact Pat Stacey for details and pricing of this collection. 630-308-6081 phstacey@sbcglobal.net

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

Pressure pot for sandblaster, no holes. Wood stove - not pot belly. **Contact George Zulas at 630-362-4120.**

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.

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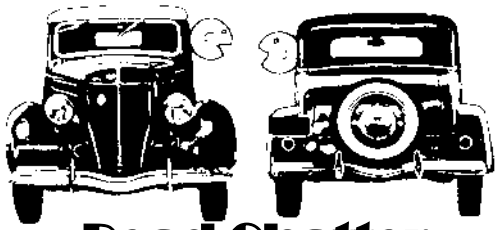
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Wanted

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

Wanted: 47 Ford Coupe interior door handles. Radio delete cover, 1941 Ford. **Contact Mike Heatherly at 630-234-5384.**



Road Chatter

1N410 Forest Ave
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137



Photo of the Month
Our Group at the Annual Pizza Meeting