

ROAD CHATTER

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

Volume 60 Issue 8

P.O. Box 803
Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

August 2026

www.nirgv8.org

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

August 2 Annual Picnic,
Timmermann's, Island Lake -
see page 3 for details

August 13 Board of Directors
Meeting via Zoom 7:30 pm.

August 16 Will County car
show. See details on page 3.

August 18 Monthly Meeting,
Wheeling Township Service
Center, 7:30 pm.



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

August 2 35th Annual Vin-
tage Transportation Extrava-
ganza, Union.

August 22 Cheaterama tradi-
tional hot rod and kustom car
show - noon to 5. South Mil-
waukee, \$10.

In this Issue

Page 2 – President Scott Gilday talks about past and upcoming club events and sends a shoutout to his daughter Ciena on her award at the Copshaholm Concours d'Elegance in South Bend.

Page 3 – Make plans now to attend our Annual Picnic this coming Sunday! We hope to see many of you and your Early V-8s there. Full details here.

Page 3 – Mike Heatherly is encouraging everyone to attend the 29th Annual Will County Car show, August 16. Details here.

Page 4 – Gary Osborne hosted a well-attended “Duals Night” at Culver’s in St. Charles. Details and photos here.

Page 5 – We bid a fond farewell to one of our long-time members.

Page 6 – Minutes of our July 21 monthly meeting.

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 9 – August is cocktail month! See what our V-8 Gals have mixed up.

Page 10, 11 – Check out the for sale and wanted ads.

Back Cover – Some of our Early V-8s at the “Duals Night” in St. Charles. Thanks to Culver’s for the signage!



Attention Members

With these longer, warmer days we encourage everyone to drive their Early V-8's to the monthly meeting and arrive early for some tire kicking in the parking lot.

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

Hello again,

I hope you had a great July. I would like to start by welcoming new member Chuck Mertes to the club. He has a 1939 Ford Tudor.

July started with our Monthly Meeting where the nice weather allowed us to kick the tires of some of our members' V-8s. We had a total of 7 V-8s. My daughter Ciena and I brought our 41 Ford Convertible. During the meeting, Cie and I did a presentation on the ongoing restoration of my 69 Mustang, and then Cie talked a little bit about our Formula 1 experience in Barcelona.

In addition to our member meeting, I would like to thank Gary Osborne for hosting another fun Duals Night at Culvers in St. Charles on July 25th. And, lastly, I congratulate Ciena for winning a trophy



Ciena and Nicole at the
Copshaholm Concours d'Elegance

for her 62 Fiat 500 at the Copshaholm Concours d'Elegance in South Bend, Indiana on July 11th. She won the "Tom Cotter Digs This Car Award" trophy from Tom Cotter, the automotive author and host of Barn Find Hunter on Hagerty TV.



Our '41 at the monthly meeting

This month, in addition to our Member Meeting on August 18th, please don't miss our annual picnic at Timmerman's Ranch in Island Lake on August 2nd. This is always one of our most exciting events of the year.

I look forward to seeing you at this month's events!

UPCOMING EVENTS**Annual NIRG Picnic - Sunday, August 2 - 10:00 am**

*Celebrating our
59th Anniversary!*



Timmerman's Ranch & Saddle Shop

29550 W. Roberts Rd, Island Lake

Food - Drinks - 50-50 Raffle - Fun

The club provides: Tent, tables, chairs, ice water an anniversary cake, and a great place to park your Early V-8.

You provide: **Your food and beverages**, your Early V-8 (other cars welcome) and your lawn chairs. You are welcome to contribute snacks, a pass-around dish, and desserts.

Raffle: There will be a chance to take home some \$\$\$ in the 50-50 Raffle.

Driving directions: Timmermann's Ranch is at 29550 W. Roberts Road in Island Lake. You can take Route 12 to Route 176, then go west about 2½ miles to Roberts Road. Timmermann's is about ¼ mile south on Roberts Road. From the west take Route 176 to Roberts Road, then go south ¼ mile.

This is one of the biggest events of the year and a chance to see many great V-8s and friends. You don't want to miss it! Guests are welcome!

(Note: we would appreciate a few early arrivals to help set up the tent, tables, and chairs.)

29th Annual Will County Car Show
Sunday, August 16 - 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Free to spectators • Over 700 cars expected

Show cars - \$20 registration fee - 8 am to Noon

Show is held at Dellwood Park, 199 E Woods Drive, Lockport. This is just off Illinois-171, about 5 miles southwest of Exit 7 off I-355. Drive your Early V-8 or just show up and enjoy the show.

Duals Night at the St. Charles Culver's, July 25, 2026

By Gary Osborne

What a night it was! It was overcast, in the low 70's, but no rain. Perfect for the NIRG to be out and about at Culver's. As the 26 attendees arrived, they were greeted by the Culver's sign with the message: Welcome NIRG Fords. A nice touch for our group from the management. I arrived early to reserve some parking spots for the group. I figured 10 would be enough. As it turned out we had 7 Early Fords and 2 other brands, with the rest in modern iron. Those with Early Fords were: Mike Heatherly and his brother Rob in a 1947 Coupe, Pat and Dee Maroney in a 1950 Convertible, Ken and Carolyn Bounds in a 1950 Convertible, George and Dawn Zulas in a 1950 Convertible, Dan and Diane Pudelek in a 1950 Crestliner, Rusty and Melanie Medlin in a 1949 Mercury, and Gary and Dawn Osborne in a 1932 Cabriolet. Driving something a little more modern were new member Chuck Mertes attending his first club event in a 1960 Oldsmobile Station Wagon and Phil Olson and friend Denise in a 2004 Chevy SSR. Driving in modern vehicles were John and Este Scheve, Tom and Judy Buscaglia, Ron and Colleen Steck, Ron and Arlene Blum, and Justin Osborne.



Gary's '32 Cabriolet welcomed everyone



Tom B enjoying some ice cream

After all the lawn chairs were put out many sat down to talk while others walked around the beautiful automobiles to engage in "car talk" and "tire kicking." It makes it a lot more fun when there is a good selection of cars to look at. So, tonight was a good night for that. After a short time, we all headed into the restaurant for a meal along with a token for a free custard provided by the establishment. I found the service to be efficient even though they were crowded. The



There was a nice turnout of Early V-8s on a beautiful evening

workers were also very polite to us all. After our meals most everyone continued outside to enjoy the evening air. I also noticed that there were quite a few people who came around and wanted to ask questions about our cars. I'm glad that they took an interest in them. You know, we always like talking about the cars.

I believe we all had a good time and wrapped the evening up a little after 8:00 PM. Maybe we could do it again next year.



26 members, family, and friends enjoying V-8 camaraderie on a beautiful evening

Remembering John Slobodnik ■ June 4, 1938 – July 16, 2026

We sadly had to say goodbye to a very special Club member and friend this past month. John and Barb Slobodnik joined the Northern Illinois Regional Group in August of 2009. From the start, John and Barb were regulars at many events. They especially enjoyed participating in the Annual Lake Geneva Poker Rally. John took the prize twice for the low hand and was the overall winner in 2019 and in 2023. John often told us that the poker rally was Barb's favorite event with the club. John and Barb participated in countless driving tours, Spring Flings, and National Meets. In later years John often brought his son, John, along.

John lost his beloved Barb just over five years ago. He was always by her side as she suffered through a long illness. He continued to bring her to many club events because she enjoyed them and the people in the club.

We had so many fun times with John and will always remember his sense of humor and his participation in many events. For several years, a group of members would gather in Joe Kozmic's garage after club meetings for a beverage and a lot of tire kicking. John was known for stopping on the way to pick up a couple of pizzas for us to enjoy at the gathering.

We pass along condolences to John's son John and the entire family. John was a great friend and will be missed.



John receiving 1st Place prize at 2023 Poker Rally

JULY 21 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by Gary Osborne

On this particular evening there were a few more Early Fords brought to the meeting than normal. This gave the attending members a little more time to enjoy and converse about the cars with each other in the parking lot before heading into the building for the meeting. President Scott Gilday opened the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Membership Report

Ken Bounds said we have one new member, Chuck Mertes, and that our roster is still at 56 members.

National Club Report

Ken Bounds reported that there are two national driving tours this year: Peaks and Prairies in Montana/Wyoming, August 2-7. Amish Country in Morgantown, Pennsylvania, August 24-28. George and Dawn Zulas said they planned to attend the tour in Pennsylvania.

A 2027 Eastern National Meet in Williamsburg, Virginia was approved by the Board of Directors to be held June 20-27, 2027.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Blum gave this financial report: revenues of \$21 from the 50/50 raffle, and expenses of \$25 from the Road Chatter.

Health and Welfare Report

John Slobodnik passed away, the funeral was attended by several of our members. Ken Bounds and Ron Steck are still recovering from knee surgery. John Scheve is recovering from back surgery and a neck procedure.

Previous Events

Ken Bounds gave a report on the tour to the Ford Foundation's Flatheads Forever Reunion in Auburn, Indiana on June 27 with the Northern Ohio Group. He said it was very well attended, good weather and a very fun time for everyone involved.

Upcoming Events

- July 25 – Duals Night, Culver's – St. Charles
- August 2 - Annual Picnic at Timmerman's Ranch
- September 25-27 - Lake Geneva Poker Rally

Additional Items

We took a short break where we got to enjoy some of Carolyn Bounds' fabulous cookies. Then we had an update presentation by Scott and Ciena Gilday on the



Early V-8's in the parking lot



JULY 21 MEETING MINUTES - CONTINUED

Submitted by Gary Osborne

progress of their Mustang restoration. It looks like it's coming along quite well. Ciena also gave us a report on her interest in F1 racing and attendance at an F1 race in Barcelona in June.

The 50/50 raffle was drawn and Dawn Zulas was able to take home the winnings of \$26.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Attendance

Ron Blum, Ken Bounds, Scott Gilday, Ciena Gilday, Mike Heatherly, Jay Hinshaw, Rusty Medlin, Tom O'Donnell, Phil Olson, Gary Osborne, Nick Pruc, John Scheve, Este Scheve, Ken Strysick, Cynda Strysick, George Zulas, Dawn Zulas.

Early V-8's in attendance: 1940 Standard Tudor – Jay Hinshaw; 1941 Convertible – Scott & Ciena Gilday; 1941 Tudor Sedan – Nick Pruc; 1949 F-1 Pickup – Ken & Cynda Strysick; 1949 Mercury – Rusty Medlin, 1950 Convertible – George & Dawn Zulas; and 1950 Convertible – Ken Bounds.



Ciena discussing the F1 race in Barcelona

FROM THE EDITORS

Ken & Carolyn Bounds

We are getting this issue out to you early to prepare for the annual picnic coming up this Sunday, August 2. We hope to see many of you there and some fine examples of Early V-8s.

We had an active month with seven Early V-8s being displayed at our monthly meeting and seven again being displayed at the Duals Night last Saturday. Thanks to Gary Osborne for his work in setting up a fun event. It was great to meet our newest member, Chuck Mertes there even though his '39 Sedan needed some work and didn't make it. He let us know that it is a 60 hp, so he had just the right person there in John Scheve to talk about the idiosyncrasies of that engine.

Sadly, we received the terrible news in July that John Slobodnik unexpectedly passed away after suffering a bad fall. He was truly a great, active member and will be missed.

Just a heads up that the September Road Chatter will be a little late; we are taking a couple of weeks to travel to celebrate Carolyn's retirement and her birthday. She has so much more time now to work on her cookie creations and is loving retirement.

Speaking of September, the 18th Annual Poker Rally is coming up on September 25-27. Since Ken will miss the August meeting, we are asking that anyone wanting to attend the rally who has not yet signed up, please let us know right away so we can make hotel and other arrangements. We have a new destination planned for our Saturday driving tour that we hope everyone will enjoy.



Ken & Carolyn



10 Years Ago This Month – August 2016

Nine members and friends with three Early V-8's attended a Duals Night August 13 hosted by Ron Blum. A large group of over 50 members, family, and friends with 9 Early V-8s attended the Annual Picnic at Timmermann's Ranch in Island Lake. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the food grilled by Bob & Cathy Sochacki. Diamond Joe Serritella took home \$133 from the 50-50 raffle.

20 Years Ago This Month – August 2006

The August Road Chatter congratulated Diane Wrobel for receiving 4th Place in the newsletter competition for 2005 – her final year as editor. At the August 15 monthly meeting, Ken Bounds presented a slide show about the tour to the Eastern National Meet in Batavia, NY. On August 27, thirty-one members, family, and guests attended a tour to the B-17 restoration project in Marengo, arranged by President Ron Dopke. Eight Early V-8s and one Pontiac (guess who) were driven on the tour.

30 Years Ago This Month – August 1996

On August 11, Larry Webb hosted a mini-golf outing in Algonquin, followed by a buffet at Spring Hill Mall. Eighteen people attended and had a great time. At the August 20 monthly meeting President Tom O'Donnell gave a comprehensive and informative tech talk about fuel system headaches and cures.

40 Years Ago This Month – August 1986

The August Road Chatter contained a lot of information about the hugely successful Central National Meet hosted by the NIRG in July. At the August 12 monthly meeting, Marty Duling was surprised with the award of a Life Membership for chairing the National Meet. On August 17, Don & Elaine Braun hosted over 50 members and family and a fleet of Early V-8s at the annual club picnic at their Prairie View home.

50 Years Ago This Month – August 1976

On August 15, Jack & Jackie Groot once again hosted the annual club picnic at their home in St. Charles. The large group of members and families enjoyed a great meal, played games, hosted games for the children, and even took a driving tour through the St. Charles countryside in their Early V-8s. On August 22 a group of over 20 members, family, and friends toured an outstanding auto collection owned by Floyd Moore in Glenview.

Flathead Flashback

Len Vinyard and Lin Stacey happy to be in the food line at the 2016 Annual Picnic.



NIRG EVENTS CALENDAR

May 2 Tour to United Remanufacturing 14 Board Meeting 16 Duals Night, Culvers, Buffalo Grove 19 Member Meeting	June 11 Board Meeting 16 Member Meeting 27 Flathead Reunion, Auburn, Indiana	July 9 Board Meeting 21 Member Meeting 25 Duals Night, Culvers, St. Charles	August 2 Annual Picnic 13 Board Meeting 16 29th Annual Will County Car Show 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



As most of you know by now, August is cocktail month. This gem was submitted by Erica Kozmic.

Tito's Transfusion Classic Golf-Course Cocktail

Ingredients:

2 oz Tito's Handmade Vodka
 2 oz Ginger Ale
 1 oz Grape Juice
 ¼ oz Lime Juice
 1 slice Lime

Directions:

Add all ingredients to a glass with ice, add lime garnish. Easy-peasy. Enjoy!

Erica points out that you can substitute your own vodka at your own riskJ



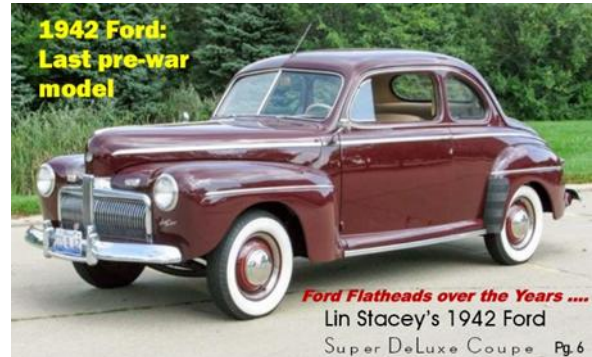
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
KIM TAYLOR (8/2), JOHN SCHEVE (8/7),
ERIC KOZMIC (8/9), ROGER OBECHNY (8/19),
CAROLYN BOUNDS (8/21) & TIM RICORDATI (8/28)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO
GEORGE & DAWN ZULAS (8/17), JOHN & ESTE SCHEVE (8/18)
& PAT & DEE MARONEY (8/29)

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 - Plus See Next Page

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

Our good friend Peter Hibbert in Australia has several items for sale. He provided many pictures and we just don't have the space to show everything, so we will be sending all members a separate file with more information and pictures of: NOS 1951 Vacu-lite cigarette lighter, antique Michelin tire gauge & fittings, 1950 Ford hood ornament with decent chrome, vintage voltmeter, and a rare Economter vacuum gauge. Email: peter_hibbert@bigpond.com.

Engine stand with V-8 adapter from Red's Headers - pick up only - **Contact Tom O'Donnell at 847-991-6976.**

Spring spreader for transverse springs \$125 or best offer. **Roger Obecny, 708-772-1926**

The Items Below are Offered by Ray McMahon 630-853-6832:

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.**



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

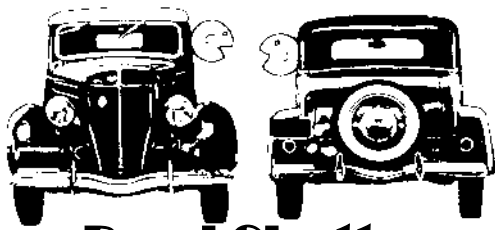
<https://www.friendlyford.com>

Sales & Service: (630) 924-8686

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, 47 Ford front bumper brackets. Radio delete cover, 1941 Ford. **Contact Mike Heatherly at 630-234-5384 or email at mikehy@raacorents.com**



Road Chatter

1N410 Forest Ave
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137



Photo of the Month
Duals Night in St. Charles