

ROAD CHATTER

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

P.O. Box 803

Volume 60 Issue 2

Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

February 2026

www.nirgv8.org

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

February 7 - Valentine's Luncheon. See Page 3.

February 12 - Board of Directors Meeting 7:30 pm.

February 17 - Monthly Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm.



February 14 Happy Valentine's Day. Remember your special person.

Feb 7-16 118th Annual Chicago Auto Show, McCormick Place, \$20 adult, \$15 seniors 62 and older.

Feb 15 34th Annual BOPC Swap Meet & Car Corral, Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles. 8am - 2pm. \$8 admission.

March 1 MARC Winter Parts Swap, Friendly Ford, Roselle. Please see details on Page 11.

In this Issue

Page 2 – President Scott Gilday talks about recent and upcoming events and briefly discusses his January tech talk on the restoration of his 1969 Mustang.

Page 3 – Dawn Zulas is hosting our annual Valentine's Luncheon on February 7. Please see details and contact Dawn right away if you plan to attend.

Page 4 – Jay Hinshaw hosted our Annual Installation Dinner on January 17 - see story and photos here.

Page 6 – Minutes of our January 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 10 – Check out the for sale and wanted ads.

Page 11 – Details about the MARC winter swap, March 1.

Back Cover – Rick Claybaugh swears in the 2026 Officers.

Monthly Meeting - February 17

We hope many of you attend the February meeting. Gary Osborne is going to discuss the valuable Bolt Buster heat induction tool.



Important Note

Due to travel, the March Road Chatter may be a few days late. You don't want to miss the annual Model A Restorer's Club Winter Swap at our own Randy Yockey's Friendly Ford. Sunday, March 1, 8 am to 1 pm. See full details on Page 11.

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

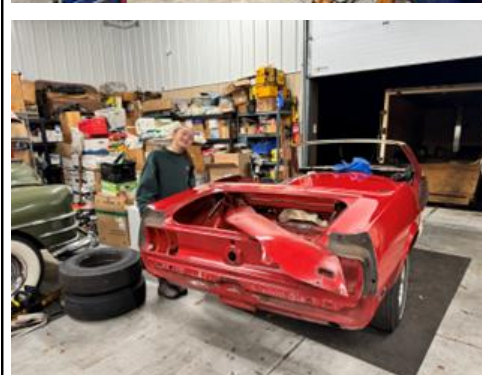
Hello V-8ers,

Welcome to February and Happy Valentine's Day to everyone. With all the cold and snow we've had over the last month, it's hard to believe the beginning of spring is less than two months away. So, you had better finish the last of that egg nog and get moving on your Early V-8 projects so you're ready for all the events we have planned this year.



I would like to thank Jay Hinshaw for again hosting our annual Installation Dinner. We had a great time and great food at Cooper's Corner in Winfield. We even got the chance to spend time with our long-distance members, Rick and Marisa Claybaugh, who were in town and able to join us.

During our January monthly meeting, I took a few minutes to talk about the latest Ford project my daughter Ciena and I have taken on, the restoration of my '69 Mustang that I've owned for 40 years. While the '69 is a bit different from my '41 and '47 Fords, it still rolled off the same assembly line in Dearborn, and also under Henry Ford (well Henry Ford II, Hank the Deuce). To ensure the audience stayed interested, we had Carolyn's wonderful homemade cookies on hand. We were also happy to have our newest member, Nick Pruc, in attendance. I welcome him and Elizabeth and their 41 Tudor Sedan to the club!



This month, Dawn and George Zulas are hosting our Valentine's Day lunch on February 7th, at the Makray Oak Terrace Grille in Barrington. Please be sure to join us!

I look forward to seeing you this month. In the meantime, stay warm!

UPCOMING EVENTS**2026 Valentine's Luncheon**

Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026
Time: Noon
Place: Makray Memorial Golf Club, 1010 S. Northwest Hwy, Barrington
Cost: \$45.40 per person including tax and gratuity. Coffee/iced tea/soft drinks are included; other beverages are additional; attendees will pay their server directly.

Dawn and George Zulas invite you and your sweetheart to join them at Makray Memorial Golf Club for the club's annual Valentine's Luncheon.

Menu**House Salad**

with choice of dressing

Your Choice of Entrée Selections:

served with fresh rolls and butter

Petite Filet

*4oz petite filet served with cabernet garlic demi,
roasted garlic mashed potatoes & seasonal vegetables*

Chicken Piccata

*lightly breaded and seared, served with angel hair pasta,
lemon caper butter and seasonal vegetables*

Grilled Salmon

Smoked tomato butter, jasmine rice blend and braised spinach

Dessert

Mixed dessert plate

**Please RSVP to Dawn Zulas with your headcount via phone/text (630-362-4120)
or email dawnzulas@yahoo.com NO LATER THAN February 2.**

Annual Installation Dinner By Ken Bounds

On a cold mid-winter day with some light snow flurries, 21 members and friends gathered on January 17 at Cooper's Corner in Winfield for our annual installation dinner, hosted by Jay Hinshaw. If you take a look at the "In the Rearview Mirror" column on Page 8 you will see that our club voted 50 years ago to change the Christmas party to a January Installation Dinner because of the difficulty in booking good dates. We are glad to carry on this long tradition.

The food and service were excellent again this year. We started out with appetizers, maybe a cocktail, and plenty of time to visit with fellow members.

We had a very special treat this year as Rick and Marisa Claybaugh joined us all the way from Oklahoma. Rick and Marisa joined our regional group way back in 2007 at the Central National Meet in Winona, Minnesota. They told us they figured since Rick has now retired, it was about time they attended a local event. We are thrilled that they did.

After our meal, returning President Scott got up and said a few words to thank officers and club members for their service and participation the past year and to introduce the new officers for 2026. Ken also said a few words thanking each member who had made contributions to the success of the 2025 Central National Meet.



President Scott addresses the group



The 2026 officers



Part of the large group in attendance to kick off the new year



We were honored that past National President Rick was here to swear in the officers with the traditional "So Help Me Henry" pledge while Carolyn documented it all for the history books.

This year everyone stayed around visiting quite a while. A great time was had by all. Special thanks to Jay for once again making all the arrangements.

In attendance were President and First Lady Scott & Nicole Gilday, event organizer VP Jay Hinshaw, Ron & Arlene Blum, Ken & Carolyn Bounds, Rick & Marisa Claybaugh, Mike Heatherly, John Judge with friend Yolanda Rojas, Rusty Medlin, Gary & Dawn Osborne, Dan & Diane Pudelek, John & Este Scheve, and George & Dawn Zulas.



Scott & Nicole



Marisa & Rick



Jay



Dan & Diane



George & Dawn



Rusty



Ron & Arlene



Gary & Dawn



John & Este



Yolanda & John



Mike



Ken & Carolyn

JANUARY 21 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by Gary Osborne

Our newly installed Club President Scott Gilday opened the meeting with a hearty welcome to all. Along with the members in attendance was new member Nick Pruc. He had visited our meeting in August and decided to join this evening. He is the owner of a 1941 Sedan Resto-mod. We hope to see him at some of our events this year.

**Membership Report**

Newly installed Membership Chairman Ken Bounds reported that we currently have 55 members. 46 have paid their dues and we still need the others to pay theirs. Please get it to Ken A.S.A.P. or you will miss out with being included in the Roster.

National Club Report

Ken Bounds reported that the Eastern National Meet planned for September in New Jersey has been cancelled. National Club President Dave Gunnarson is attempting to get one going in Pennsylvania. He will keep us informed if that becomes a reality. There is also a National Driving Tour on August 2-7 in Montana/Wyoming.

Treasurer's Report

Newly installed Treasurer Ron Blum gave his report about the Club's finances: there was no meeting in December, so this is November/December. Revenues of \$110 from dues, CNM shirt sale, and 50/50 raffle. Expenses of \$95 from Road Chatter and the Turkey Raffle.

Health and Welfare

Ron Blum's sister Susan passed away recently. There are many members in our Club that have serious health concerns. Please keep them in your prayers this year as they walk through these difficulties. Many of you know who they are, and I'm sure they would appreciate a card or phone call.

Previous Events

- Newly installed Director George Zulas reported that the Christmas luncheon held on December 14th at Spavone's was a success and all those that attended had a wonderful time.
- Newly installed Vice President Jay Hinshaw reported on the Installation dinner that he hosted on January 17th at Cooper's Corners. He said it was a good group, lots of good food, and everyone appeared to have a great time.

Upcoming Events

- February 7 - Valentines Day Brunch - 12:00 pm at Makray's in Barrington
- March 17 - Pizza Meeting - 7:00 pm at Pal Joey's in Batavia
- April 11 - Eggs and Eights - 9:30 am at Mr A's in Roselle
- April 25 - Van Bruggen Signs Tour- 9:15 am
- May 16 - Duals Night at Culvers in Buffalo Grove - 5:00 pm
- June 20 - Route 66 Tour

JANUARY 21 MEETING MINUTES- CONTINUED**Submitted by Gary Osborne**

- July 25 - Duals Night in St. Charles - 5:00 pm

Additional Items

There was a short break to enjoy some of the world-famous Carolyn Bounds cookies, and then it was on to a presentation of Scott Gilday's latest project. This project involves a restoration of his 1969 Mustang Convertible. He went into great detail with photos of the whole process of disassembling the car, and getting the body sent to be dipped to remove all paint and corrosion. We look forward to seeing how this project progresses.

Last on the agenda was the 50/50 Raffle which Ken Bounds won and took home an extra \$20.

Attendance

Ron Blum, Ken Bounds, Scott Gilday, Mike Heatherly, Jay Hinshaw, Pat Maroney, Rusty Medlin, Gary Osborne, Nick Pruc, Sam Van Bruggen, and George Zulas.

FROM THE EDITORS**Ken & Carolyn Bounds**

What a fun time we had in January visiting with great friends who also happen to be long-distance NIRG members. Rick and Marisa Claybaugh flew in from Oklahoma for their first visit to Chicago. We had a great dinner with them on Friday, January 16. On Saturday we took them on a drive to various Chicago sites including Wrigley Field, Lakeshore Drive, Cloud Gate (The Bean), Buckingham Fountain, and many buildings and museums along the lakefront. We had lunch at a Chicago classic, Millers Pub on Wabash – it has been there since 1935. That evening they joined everyone at the Installation Dinner. On Sunday we enjoyed Chicago-style pizza with a family friend who is a Brother at Lewis University. We had a great time.



This past weekend we were visited by Eric Kozmic along with wife Cheryl and daughter Erica. Eric was here to wrap up some items involving his dad's estate. This included a final visit to "Joe's Garage" where many members have spent a lot of good times. We had some super meals and may have even raised a glass (or two) in Joe's memory. An absolute must was pizza at Barone's in Glen Ellyn. Erica declared she would drive all the way here from South Carolina just for Barone's pizza.

We want to remind everyone that the Valentine's Luncheon is this coming Saturday, February 7. If you plan to go and have not contacted Dawn Zulas, please see the information on Page 3 and contact Dawn right away. We hope to see you there.

We hope that many of you are able to attend the February 17 monthly meeting. Gary Osborne is going to show you a tool that has become extremely valuable to people who are tearing down Early V-8 engines. Unfortunately we will miss the meeting because we will be vacationing about 4,200 miles west of here, watching the whales. We want to warn you that the March Road Chatter will be a little late since we do not get back until the end of February. Meanwhile, stay warm.

Ken & Carolyn



10 Years Ago This Month – February 2016

The February Road Chatter welcomed new members Pat & Dee Maroney. At the February 16 monthly meeting, John Emering showed a video about the introduction of the new 1951 Fords.

20 Years Ago This Month – February 2006

The February Road Chatter welcomed new member Joe Dispensa. That issue included an article from Neil McManus' brother Pete about his 1935 Brewster. At the February 21 monthly meeting, Joe Serritella from Vintage Voltage presented a tech talk on Flathead distributors.

30 Years Ago This Month – February 1996

At the February 20 monthly meeting, members were informed that our National Director had sent the group a letter including the news that Jerry Windle was the new V-8 Times editor. There was a huge turnout of over 50 NIRG members and guests at a February 24 tour of the Warshawsky collection in Chicago. The tour was arranged and hosted by John Judge and Lloyd Duzell and was also attended by the Buick club. Everyone thought it was a great tour and a super collection.

40 Years Ago This Month – February 1986

The February Road Chatter contained an article written by Marty Duling about his 1936 Ford Club Cabriolet as well as his monthly update on the upcoming 1986 Central National Meet. On February 8, Terry & Kitty Freihage hosted the annual Installation Dinner/Dance at Mr. Peters in Mt. Prospect. After a prime rib dinner and a program of service awards and door prizes, the crowd danced to the music of *Sound Effects II*. New member John Witthoeft attended the February 11 monthly meeting.

50 Years Ago This Month – February 1976

At the February 10 monthly meeting, the members discussed the difficulty of booking good dates for the annual Christmas Party; they voted 18 to 4 to change the event to an annual Installation Dinner in January. At the meeting, Chester Lawrence gave a very informative tech talk on rebuilding Flathead distributors. There was more talk about the group hosting a Central National Meet. On February 21, 14 brave souls attended a roller skating party at the Axle rink at Golf Mill.

Flathead Flashback

Joe Serritella presents a tech talk on distributors to a large crowd in attendance 20 years ago.



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 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



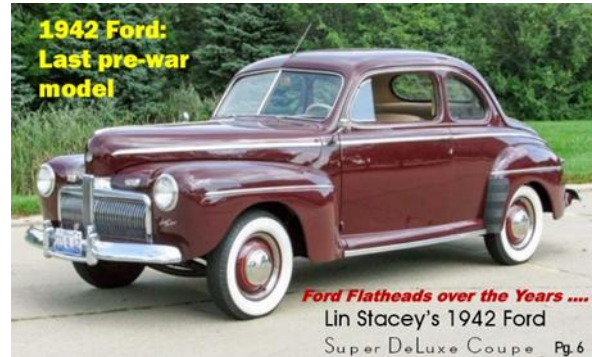
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
VICKI BECK (2/3), PAT STACEY (2/12),
LEN VINYARD (2/14), & CHERYL KOZMIC (2/28)**

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO
STAN & JO ANNE STACK (2/14)**

**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.



Winter Parts Swap

Hosted by the Illinois Region MARC

**All Makes and Models are welcome
Clean out your garage and attic
Admission \$6 Plenty of free parking**

**Friendly Ford in Roselle Illinois
333 E. Irving Park Road
Sunday March 1st, 2026
8AM until 1 PM**

For Swap spaces Contact:
Nick Clancy PH: 224-
500-1720
nick.clancy@yahoo.com

**Coffee, Donuts
and Lunch will
be available**

For Swap Spaces Contact:
Gene Levin PH: 847-754-
7224
EZL3517@comcast.net

Do you need
parts for your
project?

FRIENDLY


Do you need to
sell that stuff in
your garage?

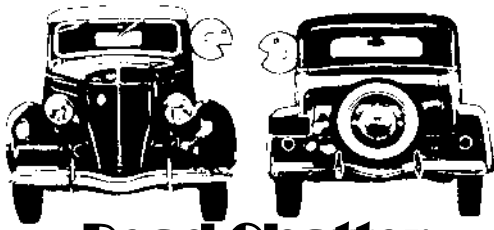


**To all Vendors - We are offering selling spaces at \$20.00!
Please call Nick or Gene for a reservation so we know you are coming! Thank you!
Spaces are 10x10 - bring your own tables and chairs**

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. Contact Mike Heatherly at 630-234-5384.



Road Chatter

1N410 Forest Ave
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137



Photo of the Month
Swearing in of Officers for 2026