



SIDE LIGHTS



The Official Publication of the Illinois Region
AACA's Oldest Region—established 1946



May 2021

Volume 73 Number 5



COMING SOON.....



Silver Springs Annual Car Show and Flea Market - Sunday, May 30th. Sandwich Fair Grounds, Sandwich. See pages 15 & 16.

Also back this year is The Tour to the Car Show. See page 17 for details.



Upcoming EVENTS

NATIONAL NEWS

For more information on National and other events
see aaca.org

May 30 - REGION TOUR TO SANDWICH CAR SHOW. Hosted by Chris Schurrer. See page 17 For more information.

May 30 - Silver Springs Chapter Annual CAR SHOW AND FLEA MARKET. See pages 15 & 16.

July 3 - Fourth of July Celebration Car Show, Carpenters Park, Carpentersville, IL.

August 1 - Waukegan-North Shore ILLINOIS RR MUSEUM TRANSPORTATION EXTRAVAGANZA SHOW, Union, IL. More information to come.

2021 Nationals & Tours

July 1-3 - Central Spring Nationals - AACA National - Auburn, IN

July 22-24 - Annual Grand Nationals - Minnesota Region - New Ulm, MN

October 6-9 - Eastern Fall Nationals - Hershey Region - Hershey, PA



Other Events of Interest

June 4-6th - CCCA's THE GRAND EXPERIENCE and Michigan Grand Classic at the Gilmore Museum. Featuring GM cars from 1915-1970. - **CANCELLED**

June 5th - Glen Ellyn Auto Fest. Glen Ellyn, IL.

June 13-19th - Packard Automobile Classics 55th National meet. It will take place in Brookfield WI. **CANCELLED**

June 26th - Classic Collector Car Show, Downtown Barrington. **More information @ www.barringtonchamber.com.**

July 13-17th Nash Nationals, Frankenmuth, MI.

August 22nd - Geneva Concours, Geneva, IL.



ILLINOIS REGION

The Illinois Region serves northeastern Illinois. Meetings are held on the second Saturday of odd numbered months at various locations.

MEMBERSHIP:

Andy Voss
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Please contact Andy with questions about membership and/or address corrections. Annual dues are \$23 for both individual and joint memberships. Membership in the National AACA is an absolute prerequisite for membership in the Illinois Region.

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All materials should be submitted by the 20th of the month or sooner.

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Through 2020

Jerry Bodden
Jim Sikora
Joanna Vroman

Through 2021

John Otto
Dan Sobczyk
Dale Woosley

Through 2022

Bill Vroman
Jo Ann Flynn
Chris Schurrer

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Silver Springs President: John Medgyesi
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Chapter meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at member homes.

Waukegan-North Shore President: Harold Flood
847-223-4186 car4464@aol.com

Chapter meetings are held the second Friday of the month September through May (excepting December) at State Bank of the Lakes, 50 Commerce Dr., Grayslake, IL 60030

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members,

There is light at the end of the tunnel and it's getting brighter by the day. Hopefully, happy days are here again.

The activities in the old car calendar are increasing at a rapid pace. It's going to be a summer of pick and choose with so many events going on.

I couldn't be more excited about some of the upcoming events.

This past weekend we went to the show in Jefferson, WI. I could not remember the show being as crowded as it was. People are anxious to be out and about.

To me, one of the great events of the year is going to happen; the 30th Annual Vintage Transport Extravaganza at Union, IL will be on Sunday, August 1. Chris Schurrer always does a great driving tour to get us to Union and hopefully he will do it this year.

This summer, there will be a Classic

(...continued on page 5)

Monthly Recipe



Cinco de Mayo side dish. Also good along side a Steak & Potato

Pinto Beans



Ingredients:

- 1 lb. Pinto Beans
- $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. bacon cut in $\frac{1}{2}$ inch pieces
- 2 tbsp. Chili powder
- 1 large onion chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Salt and Pepper to taste

Instructions

Wash Pinto Beans and pick out any stones or bad beans. Put all ingredients in an open pot. Add 3 times the amount of water. Cook in open pot for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 3 hours. Make sure beans are covered w/water.

After 3 hours cookout water and serve plain or with chopped onions and cheese.

Recipe Notes

Pinto Beans can also be frozen. Just thaw and heat on stove or microwave. If too thick just add a bit of water.

Pinto Beans can also be mashed to make Refried Beans.



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued...)



Collectors Car show in downtown Barrington on Saturday, June 26. You must pre-register for this show. You can get more information at www.barringtonchamber.com.

It looks like a number of cruise nights will begin operation. If you hear of a cruise night or a car show that would be of interest, let us know and we can share it with our members.

Also, we will begin holding our AACA Board meetings again. As always, all members are invited to the board meetings. The Board would appreciate hearing from you at the meetings. We are always looking for member input. This is your club, let us know what you are thinking. We appreciate any input, positive or negative.

So let's go out to the garage and get them wonderful old cars ready for a great summer of touring and fun!!!

Don't forget about the Sandwich car show, Sunday, May 30. Let's show support for our chapters.

Until next month. Be safe and enjoy the day.

Dan Sobczyk

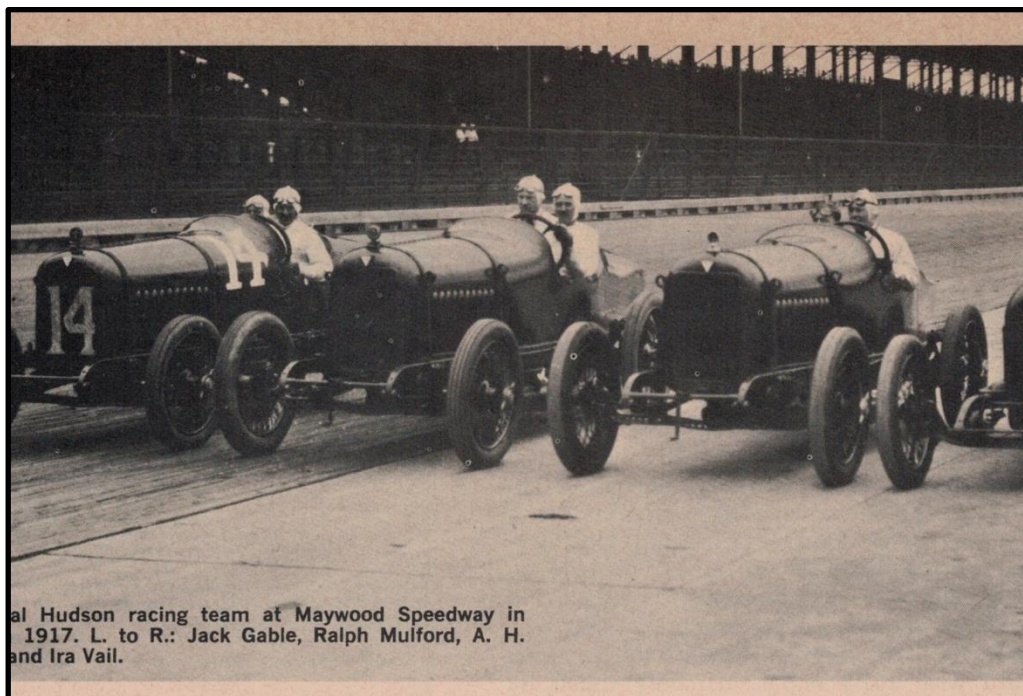
President of the Illinois Region AACA

Region News: Did you Know?

The Maywood Speedway - by John Halleran

Did you know that there was a Maywood Speedway?

The Maywood Speedway was a mile board track at Roosevelt and First Avenue, now the site of Hines VA Hospital. Nothing remains of the track except the administration building. They have little info on the race track days except a bulletin board with a few photos. I started our last Hudson Club John Dillinger Memorial Escape Run from this location in 2013. This photo is from Auto Topics magazine, March 1966. The photo is miscaptioned, the drivers are Right to Left rather than left to right. After the track folded, the Hines family, who likely had a huge investment in the lumber, donated the land to the government. I understand a Hines boy was killed in the war. Before it became Hines VA Hospital, the land was used as an Army airfield. A few of the red brick Army buildings remain at the south end, last I knew they were the motor pool for the hospital. Local lore says a lot of the houses in Maywood and Broadview were built from the reclaimed board track lumber.



al Hudson racing team at Maywood Speedway in 1917. L. to R.: Jack Gable, Ralph Mulford, A. H. and Ira Vail.

Region News: Member Stories

They call me 'Lucy'. I'm a 1953 Chrysler New Yorker Deluxe Convertible Coupe!

by Bill & Joanna Vroman

The first time I saw my new family, Bill & Joanna Vroman, they were looking to add a 50's cruiser to their family but they walked right by me, assuming that I was out of their price range. They even started the paperwork to purchase a 55' Chevy 4 door, but when a friendly staff member (not involved in sales) pointed out that my asking price was virtually identical, they saw the error of their ways and took me home. They knew that when the top goes down, the fun factor goes up! Being long time Chrysler fans, they also recognized the significance of my 331 CID 'Hemi' engine, and were thrilled to see that I had other desirable drive-ability features including full time power steering, power brakes and semi-automatic Fluid Drive.

When they first brought me home, it didn't take long for them to realize I needed some immediate TLC, so off to work they went. New tires, fresh brakes and a rebuilt carb put a real smile on my lightly pitted grill because I knew I was headed for the road.

After a little research, they found out that I am somewhat rare. I was the top end convertible for Chrysler that year, competing, albeit unfairly with the likes of the Eldorado, Skylark and Caribbean. I came out of the factory in early February 1953, and I have only 950 New Yorker siblings. They've been told that only 17 remain today.

Like all members of the AACA they are proud of their car and were excited about taking me out and showing me off. My first judged car show was a local event in Wonder Lake, IL and was quite an eye opener. Although the spectators showed far more interest in me than the recently restored 1955 Sunliner, it was the Sunliner that took first place, and I was just an also-ran. The judges said that my paint and chrome were just too tired to compete.

Region News: Member Stories (continued...)

With limited financial resources, but unlimited enthusiasm, each of the next few winters they rolled up their sleeves, greased their elbows and every year I got a little closer to my original beauteous assembly line fresh glow.

The first year, they removed and cleaned my gas tank and I got a new fuel line. They also removed all of the original undercoating from my undercarriage and repaired some very minor floor rust. Followed by a careful cleaning and repaint of my undercarriage and re-application of an asphalt undercoating that matched what the factory had provided. It took a week for Joanna to get the paint out of her hair. I also got my seat belts at this time, and my first set of new carpeting.

The next year, I got my engine detailed. Bill even duplicated several engine compartment decals that he couldn't find offered for sale using his PC and a special decal paper made for use with ink-jet printers. He made digital photos of what remained of my original decals and diligently matched the lettering and color then filled in the areas that had gone missing.

With my freshly detailed engine, I had a fairly good year showing off and even won a few trophies at participant judged shows. I'm particularly popular with the Mopar crowd, but even at the multi-marque shows I got a lot of attention. Unfortunately, (or perhaps fortunately) near the end of the season, my previously repaired left side top pillar gave way and they decided it was time to replace my convertible top, so off I went to the local upholstery shop. They arranged for my pillar to be re-welded by a local specialist in non-ferrous welding. With my new top in place, Bill began trying to determine what the fluid was in my top pump since it had begun to get very slow going up and was making gurgling sounds. Bill knew from his shop manual that when I came out of the factory they used brake fluid in my top pump, but he wasn't sure what was in there now, so they disconnected the cylinders and I went manual. It was another year before they made a new friend at a club meeting who had been a hydraulic engineer and he offered to have the fluid tested by a friend of his. When Bill extracted a sample, he was aghast! What he saw was an ugly gray emulsion that after sitting for a couple of days separated into more water than oil. After testing, based on the additives present, it was determined that the top pump had been filled with 10W non-detergent motor oil. Bill cleaned out the old fluid, filled me up and now my top goes up quicker, and quietly.

Region News: Member Stories (continued...)

With my new top, it became more obvious that my paint & chrome needed attention, and at Joanna's insistence, off to the painter I went. My friends at Rainbow Auto in Volo removed all of my chrome & exterior trim, as well as my interior. We women of the 50's are fairly modest, and I was blushing the first time Bill came by the shop and saw me naked inside and out. I was stripped to bare metal without anything covering my few but not insignificant rust blemishes. Within a short time, my rust issues had been addressed with new hand fabricated patch panels and I was back on my way to being a beautiful 50's babe again. I can't be prouder of my fresh chrome & dent free stainless and my new Dupont Rangoon Red. Although it's a period color, it's not a factory color. They chose to keep me dressed in it since I've previously posed in this color for some glamour photos that are featured in several coffee table books.

With my new chrome & paint face-lift, it became painfully obvious that my original Kelsey Hayes wire wheels also had to be dealt with. They considered the option of rebuilding them but instead chose reproductions made for tubeless tires and added wide white wall radials for my new dancing shoes.

And dance I did! Now Bill & Joanna started taking me on longer trips. I got to see the Wisconsin Dells and New Glarus. It was on one of these trips that I let them know they weren't finished with me yet (will they ever be?). A few snaps and pops from under the dash along with a dancing amp gauge was my way of telling them that it was time to put Bills 30 years in electronics to work and replace my wiring harness. Bill found out the Rhode Island Wiring service had my under-dash harness and a few other items, but they didn't have everything. He ordered the dash harness and the correct cloth covered wire and connectors and proceeded to fabricate my new wiring harness. Removing my kick panels to replace the harness made them beyond the point of re-use, so they made them too. Shortly after I got my new wiring harness, I got my second set of new carpeting after Bill's purchase of his first fluorescent drop light.

Since my electrical system was getting attention, they sent out my clock for repair, and gave my generator to their friends at Olson Electric in Pell Lake, WI for a preventative rebuild. To improve my nighttime drive ability, Bill went to work on my eyes. He proceeded to convert a set of OEM Auto-light 'Bulls Eye' seal beam headlights to halogen and more recently to LED. Boy, can I see in the dark now!

Region News: Member Stories (continued...)

Now I was really ready for the road. In the last 20 years I've traveled under my own power over 30,000 miles covering ground from our home in North Eastern Illinois to Minneapolis MN, Door County WI and Springfield IL. My 180 HP may seem a little weak for my 4350 lbs, but boy do I perform for them. I may not be the quickest off the line, but I have no problem cruising at 70 or even 80 mph on the freeway. I even get 18 mpg at highway speeds. I bet most two-ton SUVs can't say that! Thankfully, my family prefers the scenic routes on the roads less traveled.

If you're in Northern Illinois or Southern Wisconsin, you're in my stomping grounds and you may see me around since they take me out frequently. Over the years, they've been good to me, and I've been good for them. With the care and love they've given me I know I'll be around for many years to come.

See you down the road .



Region News:

Silver Springs Cruise to the Picturesque Starved Rock Area By Andy Voss

Saturday, April 24, 2021 saw eleven antique car lovers embark on a 70-mile tour to celebrate springtime along the southern bank of the Illinois River. We left Sandwich, Illinois and traveled country back-roads to Morris, Illinois and then headed west to Ottawa, Illinois and then to Starved Rock State Park. We meandered through lovely, wooded ravines along curvy country roads along the way overlooking the river.

We enjoyed a nice lunch in downtown Utica before heading to Troy Grove, Illinois to see an Eagle's nest in the city park opposite the Wild Bill Hickok monument. From there, some of the group headed home. Others stopped at Al Matison's home in Earlville to view his car collection before driving back to Sandwich.

This trip was a nice way to break the Covid drought and get back out on the road again. Hopefully, this will be the start of many more activities in 2021.



Jack & Mary Weymouth and Terri & Rick Shaw Enjoy Lunch in Downtown Utica



John Palka, Jeff DeZetter, and Chris Schurrer

Region News: Silver Springs Cruise (continued...)



Ray & Rose Hubbard



Ooops! Someone is Locked Out



Al Matison Telling Rick Shaw and Mary Weymouth about the Eagle's Nest



Terri Shaw at the Wild Bill Hickok Memorial in Troy Grove

Region News:

Waukegan/North Shore's First Meeting of 2021!

By Jo Ann Flynn

It's been a very long time since the members of the Waukegan/North Shore chapter have been able to get together. But that all changed on Friday, April 9th when we gathered at member Mike and Nancy Roach's home for our first meeting since last September (which also was at the Roach home). Mike has a wonderful garage that was the envy of every car buff there! The board updated membership on the upcoming events. Dan Helgren stumped almost everyone with a Show and Tell of vintage car parts. Carroll Flood also teased us with some vintage kitchen gear. It was great to see old friends and welcome a few new members.



Nancy & Mike Roach, our hosts.



An appropriate sign in Mike's garage!

Region News: W.N.S. Meeting (continued...)



Chris Schurrer, Harold Flood, Don Schreiber and Dan Helgren giving an update from the board.



Members listening intently to info on our first tour of the year.



Dan Helgren stumping the audience with vintage antique parts.



Dan didn't stump everyone. Al Moody and Nancy Roach were prize winners!



A Friendly Reminder

REV UP YOUR ENGINES AND SHINE UP YOUR CARS!

IT'S ON! The Silver Springs Car Show returns! The Silver Springs Chapter is breaking the drought of car shows by presenting the **50th Annual Car Show and Swap Meet** on Sunday, May 30, 2021 at the Sandwich Fairgrounds.

The show will again feature show and antique cars, a parts swap and a flea market with food vendors. This will be one of the first of the large car shows in the Chicagoland area and we are anticipating a large turnout.

Since the fairgrounds have approved this show, we will be following the COVID protocols in place at the time of the show. Masks are highly recommended.

All AACA Illinois Region members are cordially invited. Bring your family and friends and spend the day in the fresh air and beautiful surroundings of this fairground. Start your 2021 car show season with us!

See the attached car show flyer for further information. See you there.

Bob Markert

Note: See Page 17 for the Tour to the Car Show Information.



AUTO SHOW

At the Sandwich Fairgrounds

1401 Suydam Road
Sandwich, Illinois 60548

— SUNDAY —
May 30, 2021

8am - 3pm



SPONSORED BY

Antique • Classic • Special Interest Cars & Trucks

Flea Market • Parts Swap

CARS FOR SALE **CORRAL**

First 200 Cars Receive Collector Plate & Dash Plaque

Breakfast & Lunch On Grounds

Breakfast by the Somonauk Haymakers 4-H Club

Show Cars \$15.00 Car Corral \$20.00 Swap Spaces \$25.00

No Pre-Registration

Cars for sale in show area \$30.00

DONATION

Adults \$5.00 Under 12 Free

— No Pets Allowed —

AL MATISON 815-414-1239 or RICK SHAW 815-405-3656

IT'S BACK !!!

THE TOUR TO THE



AUTO SHOW

At the Sandwich Fairgrounds

1401 Suydam Road
Sandwich, Illinois 60548

**— SUNDAY —
May 30, 2021**

8 am - 3 pm



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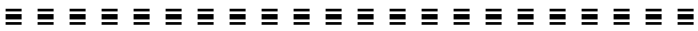
AL MATISON 815-414-1239 or RICK SHAW 815-405-3656

Tour is Free! RSVP to Christopher Schurrer (815) 382 - 0238

Meet at 7:30 A.M. at McDonald's. 453 Rendington Dr. South Elgin, ILL

Departing South Elgin at 8:00 A.M. SHARP!!!

**Pickup Point at 8:30 AM (Traffic Dependent, will wait 5 mins before depart)
at McDonald's. 523 N. ILL Rt. 47, Sugar Grove, ILL**



FOR SALE!



1989 Cadillac Sedan DeVille 75,700 miles

4 door, Beautiful cameo ivory (yellow), Newer tires, alternator, a/c compressor, dryer (converted to R/34), Runs well, very nice tour car. \$6,500 Call: Ken Lauridsen: 847-226-5202

