



SIDE LIGHTS



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



June 2024

Volume 76 Number 6



COMING SOON.....

Saturday, June 8th Region Board Meeting - Somonauk Library, 700 LaSalle St. Somonauk, IL. 10:30am. See page 19.

Saturday, June 22nd - Fox Valley Model Show Party - Tour starts at 8am and ends with Pizza party and model show. See pages 20 & 21.

Sunday, June 30th - Happy Birthday America Classic Car Show - Carpenter Park, Carpentersville, IL. See page 22.



Upcoming EVENTS

NATIONAL NEWS

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

June 8 -REGION BOARD MEETING -
Somonauk Library, Somonauk, IL. 10:30am. See page 19.

June 22 - Fox Valley MODEL CAR SHOW event. See page 20 & 21.

June 30 - HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA CLASSIC CAR SHOW, Carpenters Park, Carpentersville, IL. See page 22.

July 21 -ILLINOIS REGION CAR SHOW. Carpentersville, IL. See page 23-25.

August 4 - Waukegan-North Shore ILLINOIS RR MUSEUM TRASPORTATION EXTRAVAGANZA SHOW, Union, Il. More information to come.

August 18 - Waukegan-North Shore SUMMER PICNIC. More information to come.

September 4-8 - Illinois Region Fall Tour.

September 14 -REGION BOARD MEETING

November 3 - Waukegan-North Shore RUN TO Brighton.

November 9 -REGION BOARD MEETING

2024 Nationals & Tours

June

9 -13 - 2024 Eastern Divisional Tour
Fredericksburg, VA

20-22 - 2024 Eastern Spring Nationals
Saratoga Springs State Park

September

12-14 - Loveland, Colorado - Western Fall Nationals

October

8-11 - Hershey, Pennsylvania - Eastern Fall Nationals



Other Events of Interest

June 16 - 54th Annual Father's Day Classic Car Show - Oak Brook Center, Oak Brook, IL.

June 26-29th - NASHIONAL MEET in Oregon, IL. Contact Bob Grutza for additional information.



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
2588-B Rock Creek Rd.
Plano, IL 60545
Cell 630-605-8392
Email: andyjanevoss@aol.com

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.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Dan Sobczyk
822 Bannock Road
East Dundee, IL 60118
(H) 847-428-0247
Email: dansobczyk@yahoo.com

VICE-PRESIDENT & ACTIVITIES

Chris Schurrer
5502 W. Chasefield Circle
McHenry, IL 60050-5133
(H) 815-344-3775.
Email: hpdog259962@gmail.com

SECRETARY:

Pat Markert
4600 Stonewall
Downers Grove, IL 60515
(H) 630-852-9893
Email: aacapat@aol.com

TREASURER:

Bob Wenderski
265 N. Waukegan Rd.
Lake Forest, IL 60045
(H) 847-234-2394
Email: bsw60045@comcast.net

ARCHIVIST:

Chris Schurrer
Email: hpdog259962@gmail.com
(H) 815-344-3775.

WEBMASTER:

Bill Vroman
Email: joannanbill@yahoo.com
(H) 847-587-9468

EDITOR OF SIDELIGHTS:

Laura Cielenski
316 Forest Trail
Oak Brook, IL 60523
(H) 630-941-8812
Email: aaca.sidelights@gmail.com

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

BOARD MEMBERS:

Through 2024

Ed Flynn
Rose O'Halloran
Nancy Nelson

Through 2025

Dan Sobczyk
Jerry Bodden
Bibiana Garcia

Through 2026

Chris Schurrer
Rick Shaw
Dale Woosley

CHAPTER CONTACTS

Des Plaines Valley President: Lee Nelson
815-729-0366 l-n522@juno.com

Fox Valley President: Dan Sobczyk
847-428-0247 dansobczyk@yahoo.com

Silver Springs President: Al Matison
815-414-1239 almatison@hotmail.com

Chapter meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at member homes.

Waukegan-North Shore President: Dan Helgren
847-533-0349 danhelegan@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,

The official start of summer is upon us. The time for cruise nights, car shows and barbecue. From what I have seen, it is going to be an active summer. The number of flyers for car show events has been overwhelming. We will have to pick and choose the events we plan to attend.

One car show you need to place on your calendar is the Region car show. It will take place in Carpenters Park on Sunday, July 21. Jim Sikora and Bob Markert have been busy planning for this show. We need to offer them a hand to ensure the show will be a success. If you can, contact either Bob or Jim and let them know you are available to lend a hand at the show.

As you probably know, Illinois is the only state to require a person over 75 years of age to take an annual driving test. AARP is backing a bill that would remove this blatant age discrimination. If you would, please contact your State Legislator to vote yes on HB 4431 to end this practice.

Also, this month we are having our Region board meeting, The meeting will take place on June Saturday, June 8. If you are interested in attending, please contact Pat Markert and advise her of your attendance.

If you are looking for an interesting outing in June, the NASH Club will be holding their NASHIONAL MEET in Oregon, IL. from June 26 through June 29. Contact Bob Grutza for additional information.

That's all for this month,

Dan



SIDELIGHTS

4th of July is the BIG holiday of the summer. Lots of families have gatherings for this holiday. Of course, if there are families and there are friends, there are also lots of stories that happen.



Tell us your best 4th of July story. It could be a nostalgic story, a hilarious incident or just a happy memory. It doesn't have to be a loooooong story; just a few sentences to share with the rest of us.

Send them in to Laura before June 30 and see them in the July issue of Sidelights. Come on people, make the Fourth special for all of us.

BobMarkert



**The Illinois Region Board
wishes you a happy and
healthy 4th of July**

Monthly Recipe



Asparagus Casserole

Submitted by Laura Cielenski

Ingredients:

- 1 stack crushed Ritz Crackers
- 2 15oz. can asparagus pieces (drained) or
- 2 Frzn drained asparagus pieces
- 3 hard-boiled eggs, sliced
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 small can evaporated milk (6oz)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ stick butter (4oz)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. shredded cheddar cheese

Directions:

Spread $\frac{3}{4}$ of the crackers on bottom of casserole dish. Layer asparagus and then sliced eggs. In a saucepan combine and heat soup, milk, butter & $\frac{3}{4}$ cheese. Pour over eggs & asparagus. (Make sure it goes to bottom a bit.) Top with rest of cheese & cracker crumbs.

Bake @ 400 degrees for 30 minutes.



In Memoriam

Frank Reiss

It is with deepest sympathy that we announce the passing of long-time member Frank Reiss on Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

Frank was a ball of energy and an inveterate collector of antique automobiles. He will be missed.

Our condolences go out to the Reiss family and friends.

Visitation will be on June 2 from 1 to 5 pm at Slater-Buttala Funeral Home at 132 W. Main St. Genoa, IL 60135.



Frank Reiss

Some thoughts from a friend

By

Rose O'Halloran



Rose O'Halloran

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Frank Reiss went in for something two weeks ago, stents, I think. By accounts his health was good with positive prognosis from his doc. Friend Jeff phoned this afternoon to inform of Frank's passing around 3:00 AM today. It was our understanding that Frank was going to live forever. He and I flew out to San Diego, November 2022; Frank bought this coupe sight unseen and we drove it back to Illinois. I was a passenger in Frank's 1923 Overland when the crank blew last summer. He had it apart, rebuilt with a new crank a few weeks later. Indefatigable. That was how I described him. Frank was early to mid-eighties, retired from owning a blow moulding shop, and in retirement continued on as a racing mechanic. He leaves kids, grandkids, one or two great grandkids; a house that looks like a prop in a horror film, Willys-Knights and Overlands, a passel of Corvairs, some post-war Continentals, this coupe and a tudor, and more friends than you can count on your digits.



AACA Illinois Region, Spring Tour Galena territory, hosted by Waukegan North Shore Chapter, May 2-4, 2024

Written by Anna Nelson

The tour forecast was for intermittent storms throughout several days, this caused a dilemma: Do we take our beautiful antique cars out in the rain for this historic replica tour from the 1975 AACA Illinois Region Fall tour to Galena? This tour has been planned as closely as possible with the original instructions provided on the backside of our driving instruction sheets. For those that were up to the challenge of following the original instructions.

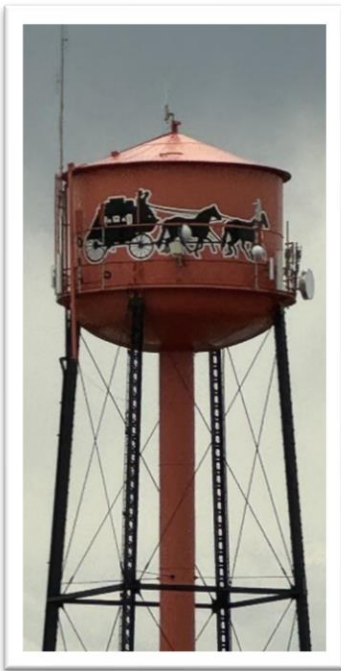
May 2

The first participating members started the tour on an overcast morning in Libertyville, IL. with the threat of rain. We headed to Rockton IL for our first stop where several more members joined us. The Rockton Mayor, John Peterson, came to greet us with Tricia Dudich who is the Planning and Development administrator for the village. Tricia provided us with a guided tour of Rockton history. The Tour explained the meaning behind their murals, the age of their buildings, how the river affected the growth of their town, and an interesting place for lunch followed by some free time to explore the town.



Region Spring Tour - Galena (cont...)

Leaving Rockton and continuing on our route we followed the winding and hilly stagecoach trail into Galena. Posing the question of "How did the horse drawn carriages make it through these roads?" Our first tour day ended at the Chestnut Mountain Resort in Galena, where several more members joined us in the hospitality room. The hospitality room's view of the Mississippi showed our day ending with only a few raindrops and no major storms.



May 3

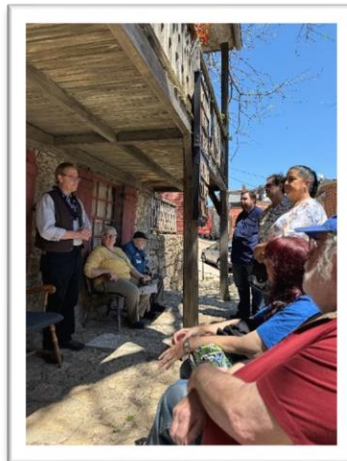
9:00 AM getting ready for our driver's meeting. We experienced a wonderful, beautiful sunny morning with the evidence that it had rained at night. We started with a short drive to Ulysses S. Grant's home, for a group photo opportunity and then to explore the grounds and a tour of the interior of the house.

Region Spring Tour - Galena (cont...)



After visiting US Grant's home, we drove into the town of Galena where Chris Schurrer had arranged admission to the Galena Historical US Grant Museum and the Dowling House to tour on our own time. The Dowling House is the oldest home in Galena built in 1826. Following the tour, many of our travelers participated in exploring the fine shops, historical buildings, trolley tour, blacksmith, Galena Winery, and the challenge of the stairs on their own time.

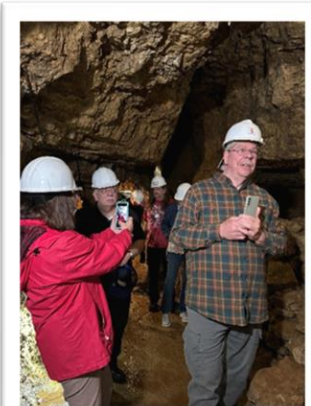
Our day ended in the hospitality room sharing wonderful stories of the day in Galena.



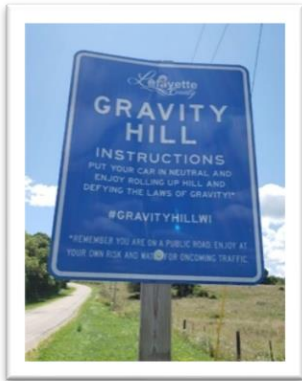
Region Spring Tour - Galena (cont...)

May 4

The tour route was to cover a little less than 100 miles. It was full of activities and the threat of severe thunderstorms! First stop, Badger mine, a museum in Shullsburg, WI. It is a lead mine that travels 5 miles underneath the town and is no longer in use. Visitors, after a safety briefing, were able to go into the mine with a guide to explore. What a great opportunity!

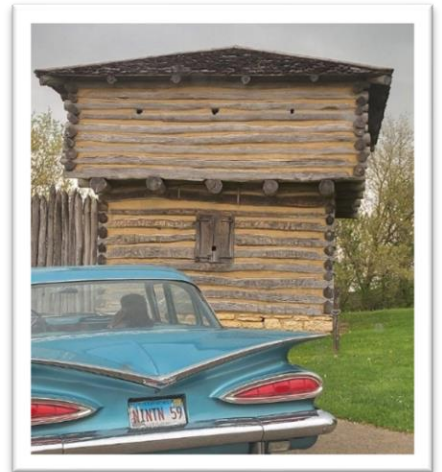


Region Spring Tour - Galena (cont...)



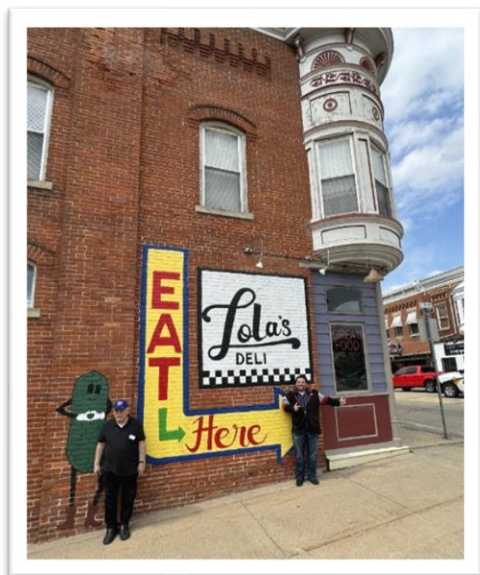
On the way to the second stop in Elizabeth, IL, we encountered the historical marker "Gravity Hill". If a car stops on the roadway at the road sign, puts their vehicle in neutral, the car will ascend backwards, cresting the top of the gravity hill at about 20 mph. However, due to time restraints, only a few of us were able to attempt this feat. Many of us suggested to put this on a future tour to come back and try it.

Arriving at Apple River Fort, we were greeted by a speaker explaining how they found the location of the original fort, its significance in history, and where the replica was built. We were able to walk up the road or drive our cars to view the replica of the fort.



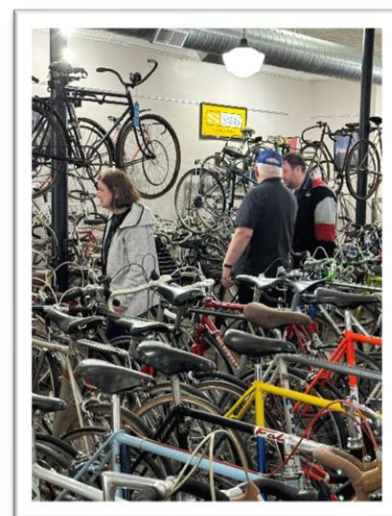
Next was the Chicago Great Western Depot Museum, and then lunch was on the list. The Depot Museum discussed the many trains that used to be in the area and were shut down. At the Depot Museum we were able to walk through a train car. Inside the depot they had replicas of model trains running on tracks. There were many different kinds of railroad memorabilia from books, dining car menus, track schedules, posters, and equipment.

Region Spring Tour - Galena (cont...)



Lola's Deli was our lunch stop. In 1975 this was the original stop for lunch. Same building, but back then it was called. Corral Restaurant.

The rest of the time was spent exploring the town of Elizabeth on our own with the many antique shops and a bike museum. The bike museum covered three floors. There were bikes from all different manufacturers and different time periods on display.



Region Spring Tour - Galena (cont...)



Returning on the road tour back to Chestnut Mountain, we stopped at the Mississippi Palisades State Park at Lookout Point. The view was spectacular. Many of us took the opportunity for a photo in front of the view. Some were lucky enough to see the eagles soaring across the Mississippi river.



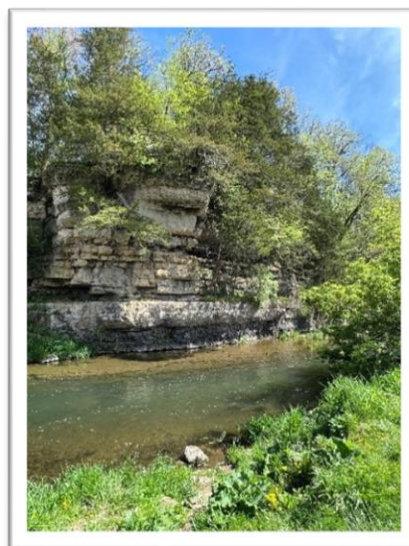
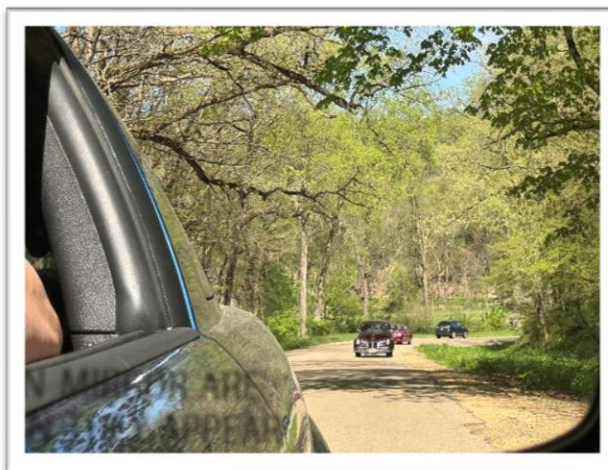
After a fun packed day, and thankful for no thunderstorms, we attended the banquet at the Chestnut Mountain Resort. It was nice to not have to travel to another destination. This was a wonderful opportunity to socialize again and talk about our day's activities. Dan Helgren, WNS Chapter President, thanked everyone for participating in this event. Chris Schurrer mentioned the tour was created based off the 1975 Galena tour and tried to stay as close to the Itinerary of the original tour.



Region Spring Tour - Galena (cont...)



May 5 (optional on return trip)
Our homeward bound Road Tour led us through beautiful winding scenic back roads of farms and country. We had a rest stop at Canyon Park to take a break and stretch our legs.



We finally hit the Beloit boundaries, back to civilization, where we could gas up our cars before heading to our final stop at the DC Winery for lunch and wine tasting. Enjoying our final moments outside at the beautiful winery we recapped a wonderful adventure together. Exchanging our farewells and heading in our own direction home.

Region Spring Tour - Galena (cont...)

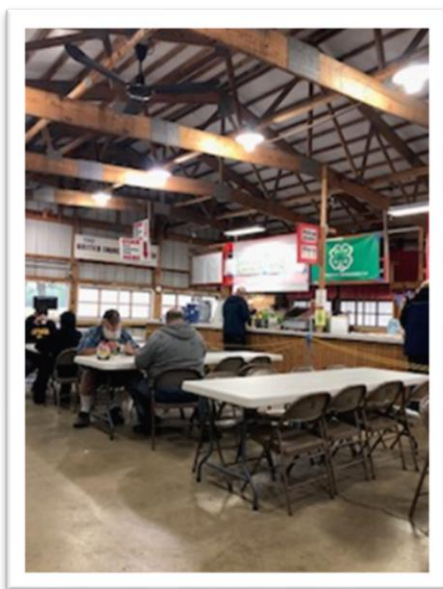


Looking forward to enjoying everyone's company on the fall tour.

52nd Annual Silver Springs Car Show & Swap Meet

A Very Short Story by Andy Voss

The much-anticipated May 26, 2024 Silver Springs Car Show & Swap Meet turned out to be much smaller than expected because of an all-morning rain event. There were hopes of a large turnout of classic Corvettes, which were the featured car this year. That did not happen. But we did have a small number of remarkable cars and trucks whose owners braved the inclement weather to show their vehicles, some of which are pictured below.



The number of Swap Meet vendors and the number of show attendees were much reduced as well. However, the yearly 4-H Breakfast of pancakes and sausage was fairly well attended, partially because show personnel and vendors needed a dry place to get out of the storm.

Region Chapter Event – Swap Meet / Show (cont...)



The spirit of Silver Springs Club remains high as they already look forward to next year when conditions will hopefully be better.

The "Show Must Go On!"



Hi All,

I know you are all looking for fun and interesting things to do. I have an idea. Come to the next Illinois Region Board meeting!

The meeting is on June 8th at the Somonauk Library. We will be gathering at 10:30 am at 700 E Lasalle St, Somonauk, IL 60552.

I know you are all interested in how the Board works and what we do. So, please feel free to come and see us at work.

Thanks,

Pat Markert

Secretary

WELCOME FOX VALLEY FAMILY:

WE'RE HAVING A PARTY

A Model Show party



I know you have been waiting anxiously for our next Fox Valley Family event. Sooooo here it is:

June 22, 2024

*Meeting at 8 am at our favorite place for breakfast, McDonalds at 1019 Maple Ave., Lisle, IL. Drivers meeting at 8:15 am and we are leaving **promptly** at 8:30 am.*



*Our first stop will be the Lederman Science Center at Fermilab for a quick tour of the center and a chance to look around and to ask questions. Because we are visiting Fermilab, you need to be sure to have ID with you. You need either a **gold star driver's license or a passport.***

Our next stop will be a drive to see the Bison. We will be making a brief stop to admire these beautiful beasts. These animals used to roam the prairies by the thousands and this is part of a plan to save them from extinction.



From there we will be making our way through some of the near western suburbs with a final stop at a quaint Russian Curio Shoppe. Like many businesses, this one was almost done in by Covid. Come and look around at this unique gift shop.

We are hoping to have a big turnout for this tour. Come!

We end our Saturday tour by stopping at Paisano's Pizza, 2901 Ogden Ave., Lisle for a yummy lunch and the model show.

There will be a short meeting before the model show award.

PLEASE bring a model to show. It can be one you built or one you purchased. We will have a secret ballot and the winner will be receiving a PRIZE!



Name _____

Cost:

Registration fee / per vehicle \$ 5.00

Pizza and drinks/ per person \$15.00 X _____ \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Make check payable to the Fox Valley Chapter and mail to:

Bob Markert, 4600 Stonewall Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515

by June 15.

Because we are going on the grounds of the Fermilab, we need to bring ID. Please be sure you have a gold star driving license or a passport. Let us know which you have by checking a box for each attendee.

Name: _____ License? ___ Passport ? ___

Name: _____ License? ___ Passport ? ___

If you have neither, please still come. We will give you a location and time to meet us after the Fermilab stop. For info call Pat at 630-852-9893.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA



CAR SHOW

JUNE 30, 2024



9:00AM-3:00PM

REGISTRATION 9:00AM- 11:00AM

AWARDS AT 2:30PM

REGISTRATION FEE \$20.00

DONATIONS ACCEPTED TO SUPPORT THE CARPENTERSVILLE

MOOSE LODGE AND DUNDEE LIONS CLUB

BEST OF SHOW, POLICE & FIRE CHIEF AWARDS, AND MORE

**The Illinois Region
of the Antique Automobile Club of America**



73rd Annual Car Show

July 21, 2024 * Carpenters Park

300 Carpenter Blvd. Carpentersville

JUDGED CARS: Must be 25 years or older (1999)

**DISPLAY ONLY: cars through 2021 and slightly modified
are welcome**

FEATURING: FULL SIZE 2 DOOR AND 4 DOOR



SEDANS 1950—1970

Hours 8 am to 3 pm



Come explore our new venue at Carpenters Park in Carpentersville. From the south: Take Route 25 north to L.W. Besinger Dr. (which is .7 miles north of Route 68) Turn left on L.W. Besinger Dr. Go .4 mile to Maple turn west and follow Maple to the park.

From the north: Take Route 25 south to L.W. Besinger Dr. (which is about .7 miles south of Lake Marian Rd.) Turn Right on L.W. Besinger Dr. Go .4 mile to Maple turn west and follow Maple to the park.

There is no entrance fee for visitors.

Questions? Contact Jim Sikora (Show Manager) 708-691-9854 jamessikora@att.net or Bob Wenderski (Registrar) 847-226-7591 bsw60045@comcast.net

73rd ANNUAL ILLINOIS REGION AUTO SHOW MEMBERS

Class #	Description	Year Range
1	Production Vehicles	1890's thru 1939
2	Production Vehicles	1940-1949
3	Production Vehicles	1950-1959
4	Production Vehicles	1960-1964
5	Production Vehicles	1965-1969
7	Production Vehicles	1980-1999
8	Sports Cars including Corvettes and Thunderbirds	thru 1999
9	Imports	thru 1999
10	Trucks/ Military Vehicles	thru 1999

Slightly modified, customized, concept and newer cars, are FOR DISPLAY ONLY.
Judging starts at 10:30 am. Cars must be registered and parked prior to that time.

Advance Registration Form

Please Fill Out Completely. Please print.
Registration Deadline: **July 16, 2024**

Name _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Auto Make _____ Year _____ Model _____ Class # _____

Body Style _____ Colors _____

Insurance Carrier _____ Policy # _____

Registration Fees: All judged vehicles must be 25 years old (1999) and older.

Check one only:

Pre-Registered

	Judged	Display Only
MEMBERS	\$15.00 _____	\$10.00 _____
WORKERS	\$10.00 _____	\$8.00 _____

Day of Show

	Judged	Display Only
	\$30.00 _____	\$20.00 _____

**All workers must be pre-registered to receive the discounted price.
NO EXCEPTIONS**

Make check payable to: Illinois Region
Please sign and mail to: Bob Wenderski, 265 N. Waukegan Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045

NOTE: A current auto insurance card and a working fire extinguisher are MANDATORY in all vehicles.

I, the undersigned, release the Illinois Region AACA, the National AACA and their officers and members from liability, damage and injury, personal or otherwise that might be incurred in connection with this show. I have purchased liability and property damage insurance for all vehicles I bring to this show. This is a commitment on my part to participate in the Annual Auto Show of the Illinois Region AACA. The Judges' decisions are final and not subject to review. I have read and agree to this disclaimer. This form MUST be signed and dated. No alcoholic beverages allowed * All fees are nonrefundable. * **No FOR SALE signs**

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The Disappearing Cars

I am sure you have heard about amphibian cars, flying cars, 'funny' cars, and self-driving cars. But have you ever heard of disappearing cars! These are cars that have owners but are almost never taken out for a pleasure ride, to a show, or other car club activity. In fact, these cars are so rarely seen that many club members have forgotten they are still owned by club members.

So, what do these disappearing cars have to do with the Illinois Region? Well, if you have not forgotten, we are having a Region Car Show on July 21st. at Carpenters Park in Carpentersville, Il. This is the place where we can show off member cars to the public, have them judged or on display for everyone to see. This feature is also offered to the public if it meets AACA guidelines. Owners can enter their cars for judging or display along with member cars. Awards will be given to car-class winners and a best of show award will also be awarded. So, what am I getting at? At the time of this article being written we only have ONE car pre-registered, and it is my car!

What is the problem? The cost was less than at our last show. Awards and dash plaques will be given to participants. We are also working on some type of food vendor and a D.J. Carpenters Park is a convenient location for our car show. It should benefit our members in the northern suburbs. Where have all the cars disappeared to?

This is OUR show, YOUR show, and we need YOU and your car to make this show work. I investigated the 2024 roster, we have approximately 134 members, these members collectively are owners of almost 650 cars! And we have only one car signed up for the show so far. What a shame! If the Region cannot get enough member participation at this show, future shows could be in jeopardy. A member wrote last year that we (the board and show managers) denied Illinois Region members of their annual car show by cancelling the show because of issues with our last venue. If we cannot get enough member participation, then who would be denying members of this show?

But fortunately, there is still time to register your car, volunteer to help, or both. You can always call, text me at 708-691-9854 or send an email to jamessikora@att.net.

Thank you,

Jim Sikora



FOR SALE!

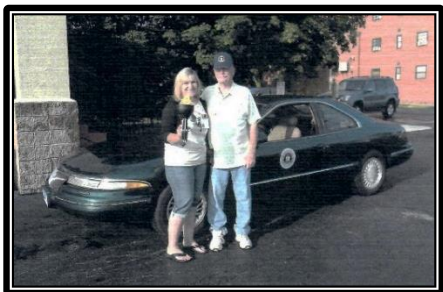
1940 Ford Cnvt. DeLuxe Street Rod Dark Green, fuel injection Chevy engine, original steel body, auto trans, interior has been redone and new seat frame sand springs. 1940 original engine. Paul had this car done. \$45,000 obo. Call Jean Marcotte 815-472-3403



Two (2)1928-1929 Fenders. Asking \$150 for the pair. Pickup in Yorkville, IL. Please contact: Tom Baumgartner 630-209-0287 twjbrunner@aol.com

Wanted brass sidelights, stationary farm engines, gambling machines, Dave Kolzow 815 246 4545.

1978 Mark V Lincoln Continental Coupe. 400-V8 with under 25K original miles. Great Barn Find. Beautiful Metallic Midnight Blue with Chamois Landau top. Looks, starts, and runs well. Good rubber. Recent oil change. Has been on Rt. 66 "The Mother Road" tour recently. Needs TLC. If interested ask all your Questions thru email: opt2222@gmail.com. No Calls Please. Jim Wiltse



1994 Mark VIII Lincoln Continental Coupe. Less than 49K miles. Always starts and easily drives. Deep Metallic Emerald Green with Fawn interior. A great car being fuel injected, never in an accident. It's time for another proud owner. The picture shows the car on the Lincoln #1 Highway Centennial Tour with the official magnetic Circular sign on door. This car is not only fun to drive but

has never let us down. If interested ask all your Questions thru email: opt2222@gmail.com. No Calls Please. Jim Wiltse

1966 Chrysler 300 Convertible. Silver/Black top and interior. Low miles. Newer Top and tires. Auto, A/C, Buckets. Nice Driver quality. \$18,500 OBO. Contact: Dan Sobczyk 847-977-0595 or dansobczyk@yahoo.com Pictures on request.