



# SIDE LIGHTS



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



March 2026

Volume 78 Number 3

## COMING SOON.....

**Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> is the Fox Valley PIZZA PARTY & MODEL CAR SHOW** at Lou Malnati's, 8515 Redtail Dr., Lakewood, IL. 12:30pm-3pm.  
See page 10 for details.

**Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> - Region Board Meeting**  
@ 10:30am. The location will be the Carpentersville Public Works - 1075 Tamarac Drive, Carpentersville, IL 60110. Members are encouraged to attend. (Note date change)

**Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> - Waukegan-North Shore ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY** - @ 4:30pm in the Victory Room at Hackney's on Lake in Glenview.  
See pages 11 & 12 for details.

# Upcoming EVENTS

**March 14 - Fox Valley PIZZA PARTY & MODEL CAR SHOW.** 12:30-3:00pm. Lou Malnati's, Lakewood, IL \$35/person. **See page 10.**

**March 21 -REGION BOARD MEETING @ 10:30am** at the Carpentersville Public Works, 1075 Tamarac Drive, Carpentersville, IL. All are welcomed. **(Please note date change)**

**March 22 - Waukegan-North Shore - ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY** at Hackneys on Lake. **See pages 11 & 12.**

**April 2 - Waukegan North Shore LADIES LUNCH- Noon,** McAlister's Deli, Gurnee, IL **See page 13.**

**April 25 - Fox Valley BRUNCH - 11:30-2:30PM.** Sunrise Social, Algonquin, IL. **\$30/person. More information to come**

**May 3 - Waukegan-North Shore DUST OFF TOUR.** More information to come.

**May 16 - Fox Valley DUST OFF TOUR** to St. Charles Motorcycle Museum, Bellar Museum and lunch @ Doc Watson Smokehouse.

**May 24 - Silver Springs Chapter 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CAR SHOW AND SWAP MEET.**

**May 28-31 (TENTATIVE) - Region SPRING TOUR** hosted by Waukegan North Shore.

**June 13 -REGION BOARD MEETING**

**July 19 -ILLINOIS REGION CAR SHOW.** Carpentersville, IL. **See pages 14 & 15.**

**August 2 - Waukegan-North Shore ILLINOIS RR MUSEUM TRASPORTATION EXTRAVAGANZA TOUR & SHOW,** Union, Il.

**August 9 - Waukegan-North Shore SUMMER PICNIC.**

**Sept 12 -REGION BOARD MEETING**

**Sept TBD - Illinois Region Fall Tour.**

**November 1 - Waukegan-North Shore RUN TO Briahton.**

## NATIONAL NEWS

For more information on National and other events see [aaca.org](http://aaca.org)

### 2026 Nationals & Tours

#### March

**26-28 – Winter Nationals – Cartersville, GA – hosted by Lake Allatoona Region**

#### April

**9-11 – Southeastern Spring Nationals – Charlotte, NC – hosted by Hornets Nest Region**

**23-25 – Annual Grand Nationals/Western Spring Nationals – Las Vegas, NV – hosted by Las Vegas Region**

#### May

**28-30 – Eastern Spring Nationals – Indiana, PA – hosted by Shannock Valley Region**

#### June

**11-13 – Southeastern Fall Nationals – Oak Ridge, TN – hosted by Volunteer Region**

**15-19 – Sentimental Tour – Mechanicsburg, PA – hosted by Oakland-Pontiac Worldwide Region**

**July 23-25 – Central Spring Nationals – Green Bay, WI**



## 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  
245 E. Willow Ave. Apt.518  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
Cell 630-605-8392  
Email: [andyjanevoss@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:dansobczyk@yahoo.com)

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

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3720 Rolling Hills Rd.  
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#### SECRETARY

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Email: [aaca.sidelights@gmail.com](mailto:aaca.sidelights@gmail.com)  
All materials should be submitted by the 20th of the month or sooner.

### BOARD MEMBERS:

**Through 2026**  
Chris Schurrer  
Rick Shaw  
Dale Woosley

**Through 2027**  
Humberto Garcia  
Rose O'Halloran  
Richard Nelson

**Through 2028**  
Dan Sobczyk  
Anna Nelson  
Bibiana Garcia

## CHAPTER CONTACTS

**Des Plaines Valley** President: Lee Nelson  
815-729-0366 [l-n522@juno.com](mailto:l-n522@juno.com)

**Fox Valley** President: Dan Sobczyk  
847-428-0247 [dansobczyk@yahoo.com](mailto:dansobczyk@yahoo.com)

**Silver Springs** President: Jim Olson  
815-786-4646 [GrandmasterJ65@gmail.com](mailto:GrandmasterJ65@gmail.com)

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

**Waukegan-North Shore** President: Richard Nelson  
773-914-8576 [RNELSON2701@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:RNELSON2701@SBCGLOBAL.NET)

*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,

As I wrote about last month, the Illinois Region will be hosting a National Meet in 2027.

I feel this is a very exciting development for the region, not only for the recognition in getting our name out to the public but also the possibility of recruiting new members.

The group undertaking this project should be commended for stepping up and graciously volunteering their time to ensure the meet is a success.

It is going to be a massive undertaking for all the club as a whole. That is why, we as a club and being a club event, we should step up to support the club in this endeavor.

It will be a multi-day event, so help will be needed for all the days we will be hosting it.

You can volunteer for several hours, for a day or if you feel really energetic, you can offer to help all the days the meet is going on. The choice is yours. Any amount of time would be appreciated.

There are going to be a number of positions available during the meet.

Some will require physical effort and some will be a desk job. Some will be indoors and some positions will be outdoors. You can volunteer for any

(continued on next page)

# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued from previous page)

amount of time you feel comfortable, be it several hours or longer. Any amount of time you can spare would be appreciated by all involved.

Volunteer early and secure the position you would enjoy doing.

Many hands make light work.

The 2027 AACA Mid America National meet group has been busy at work securing hotel rooms and planning for this event.

If you care to assist them in any way, please contact Humberto Garcia. He will lead you to the right person.

Let us get involved to make this meet a great experience for not only the AACA participants but for us as a region.

With the help of all of us, we can do it.

Until next month,

Dan

*Happy  
St. Paddy's Day!*



## Region News:

### Car Show 2026!

A week ago, at the Waukegan/North Shore monthly meeting someone asked me how things were going with preparation for "my car show." While this inquiry was well-intended, those three words have been burned in my brain for the last week and troubled me a bit. This is not "MY" show, this is "OUR" show. It belongs to all members of the Illinois Region of AACA, it represents all of us and our best efforts. This will be our 75<sup>th</sup> annual show and highlights members' cars. Please bring your cars out to the show whether you want to have your car judged or just on display, the more cars we have onsite the more successful our event becomes. Come to visit with members, to show your car or to volunteer. As you might be beginning to realize the theme here comes out to OUR car show. This is YOUR event and your moment to shine (wax optional)

Thank you.

Jim Sikora, Show Manager

(708) 691-9854 or [jamessikora@att.net](mailto:jamessikora@att.net)

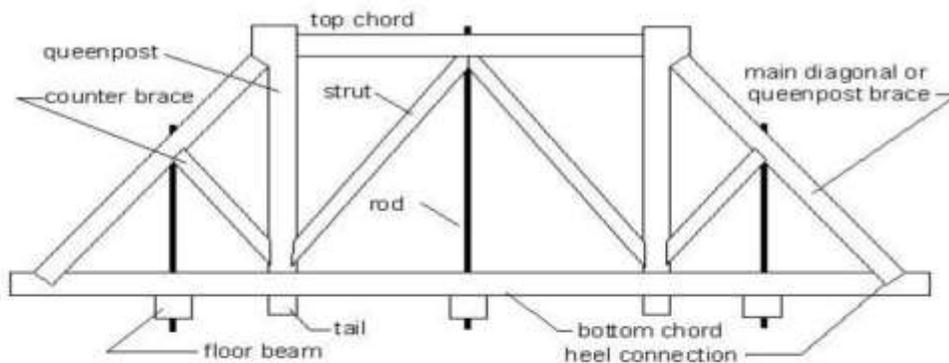
# COVERED BRIDGE DESIGNS

by Jenny Risley

Covered bridges are kind of like snowflakes - each one is unique, unlike any other one. The bridges may have the same design but they can be different from one another because of several components that go into building that bridge. The waters that the bridge crosses will give you the difference in length due to crossing a creek vs a stream vs a river, which can also dictate how many spans are needed. The wood used for building the bridge will depend on what is available in and around the location of the bridge. Even bridges built by the same builder using the same design in the same general area using the same material can be like no other bridge.

You will see/hear the word 'Truss' a lot - Truss bridges have a framework of trusses or beams, in the case of covered bridges they are wood. There are three components in the building of a bridge: vertical, horizontal and diagonal members which form triangles. These triangles cannot be distorted by stress and can withstand considerable load, thus requiring less material relative to the weight they support. Another words trusses are the bones or skeleton of the bridge, which applies to wood covered bridges and metal bridges which came later as they replaced many covered bridges.

Early bridge designs were quite simple and small such as QueenPost and KingPost. They were used mostly for short distances, single span bridges.

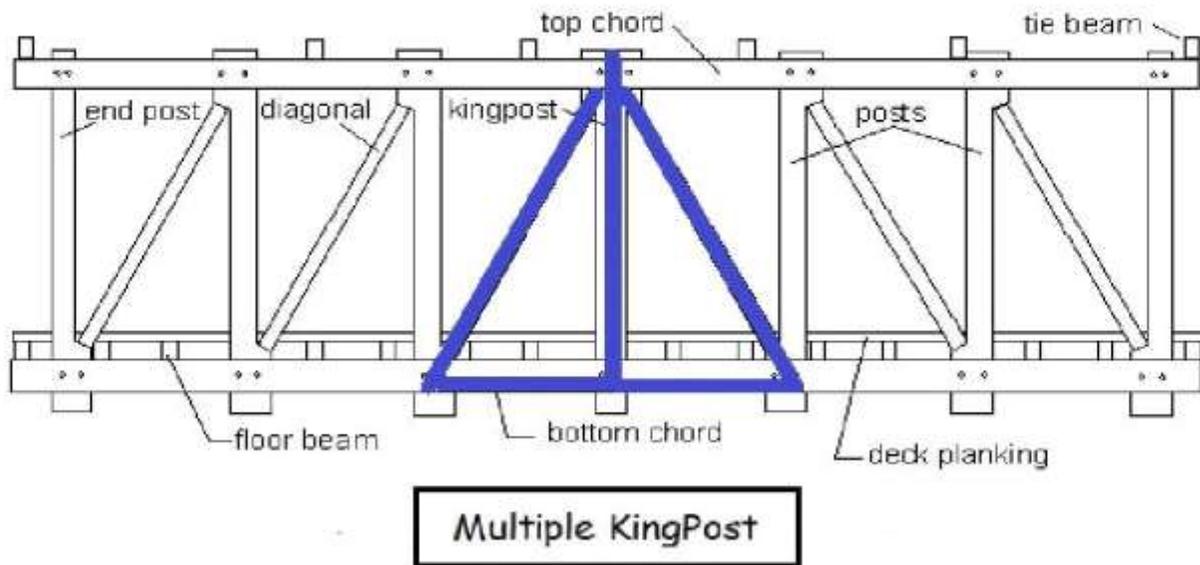


QueenPost

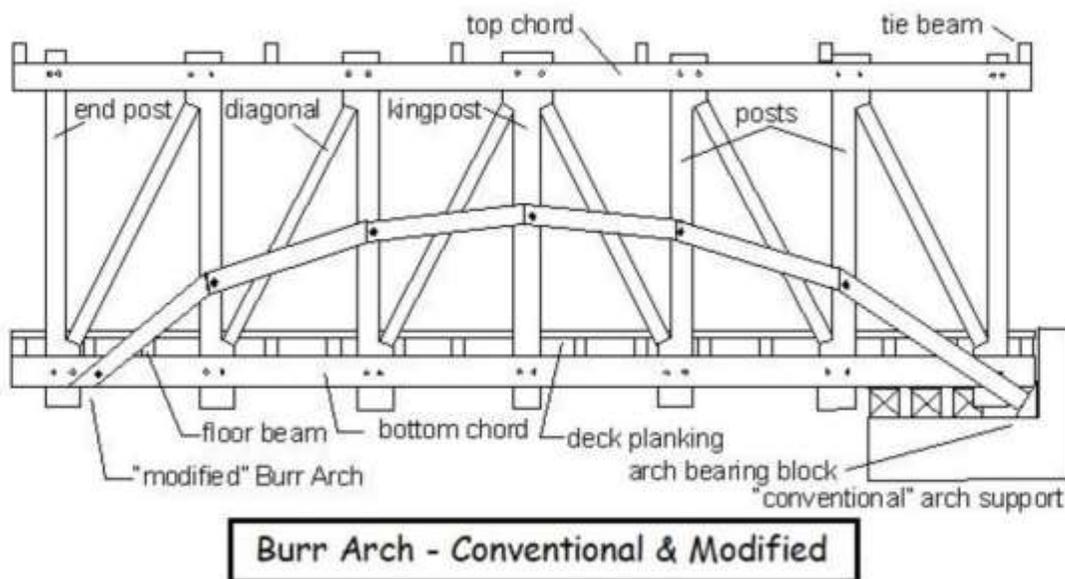
Irishman Covered Bridge  
in Vigo County, Indiana  
over arm of Ruble Lake.  
Built 1845 by C. W. Bishop.  
QueenPost Truss, 1 span,  
84ft long.



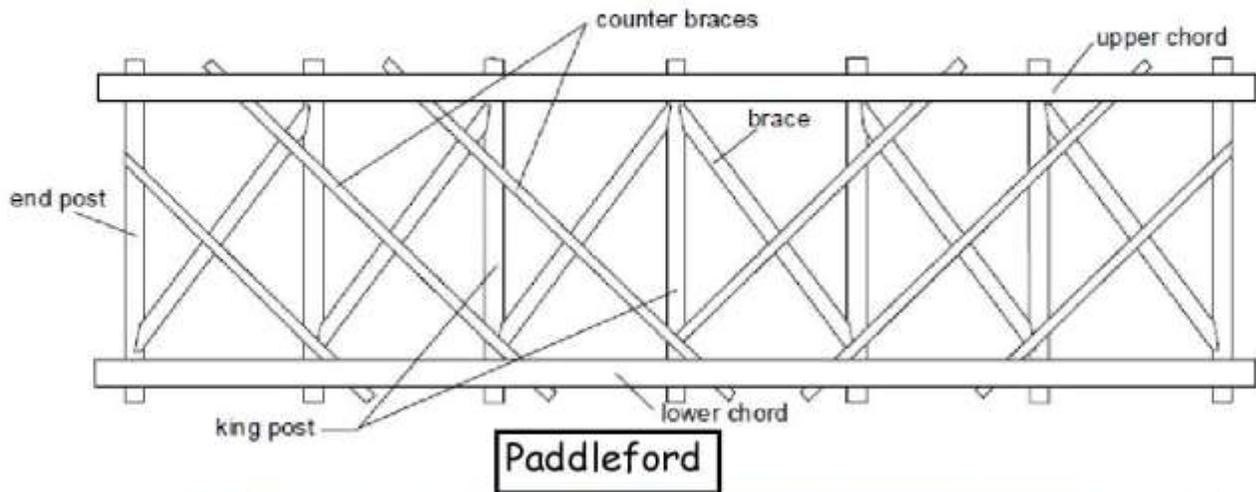
The basic KingPost configuration is colored in blue. Later additional bracing were put in place when more length was needed for over wider waterways. This "new" design is called Multiple KingPost.



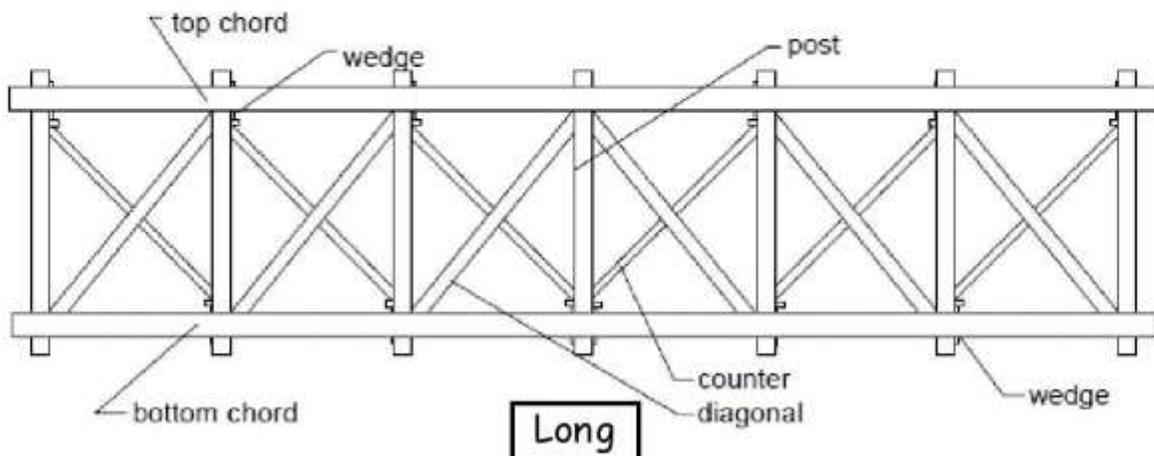
The Burr Arch design consists of a Multiple KingPost truss with arches added for more support and stability. Bridges of two or more spans would contain an arch per span resting each on it's own pier. You may also find a Double Burr Arch Design or sometimes called a Dual Arch. This looks like two separate arches, one above the other but not necessarily "connected" to each other. The Burr Arch was a very popular design favored by many builders, Indiana has an abundance of them.



Just to show you how different covered bridge designs can be, here are a couple that are found more in the Northeast. New Hampshire has many Paddleford designed bridges with some having the bottom half "enclosed" while the top is open and the framework is exposed.



In New York and Pennsylvania you will find covered bridges designed by Colonel H. Stephen Long . It looks very similar to the Paddleford but see how the bracing extends further and at a slightly different angle on the Paddleford.



**Join us for the Fox Valley  
Pizza Party  
&  
Model Car Show**

**Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>  
12:30 - 3:00pm**

**Lou Malnati's  
8515 Redtail Dr.  
Lakewood, IL 60014**

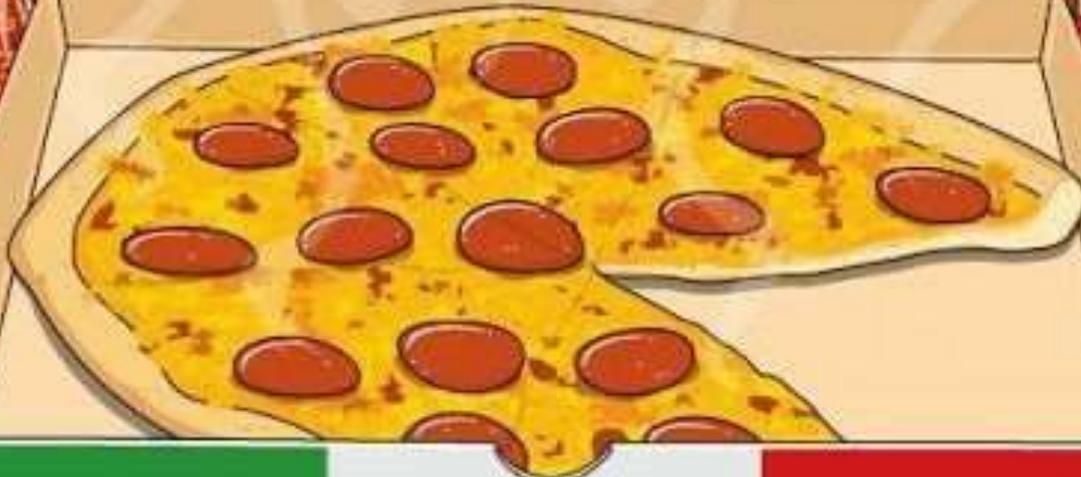


**Bring your model cars to show.**

**Cost is \$35.00/person**

**Make check payable to AACCA.** (Payment can be made that day.)

**Please R.S.V.P. to Humberto Garcia  
847-800-5124.**



**PIZZA**

# Waukegan/ North Shore AACA St. Patrick's Day Party

Sunday, March 22, 2026

4:30 PM Dinner @ 5:00 PM



The Victoria Room At Hackney's on Lake  
1514 E. Lake Ave.  
Glenview, IL 60025  
Phone 847-724-7171



Your Hosts: Dan and Lizzy Helgren

- \$30.00 per person for members, \$35.00 for guests
- All tables will have Hackney's Original Fried Onion Rings as Appetizers
- The room is handicap accessible.
- Menu Choices:

**Corned Beef and Cabbage**

**Fish and Chips with Cole Slaw**

**The Famous Hackney Burger with Fries and Cole Slaw**

**Reuben Sandwich with Fries and Cole Slaw**

**Spinach and Berry Salad with Chicken**

- A special St Patrick's Sundae for dessert
- Meal includes unlimited non-alcoholic beverages (Soda, Coffee, Tea, etc.)
- Cash Bar



RSVP by March 13

To: Dan Helgren 435 S. O'Plaine Rd. Gurnee, IL 60031-3415

Questions ? Email : danhelegan@aol.com phone: 847-533-0349

Names of Members \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Guests \_\_\_\_\_

Members & Spouse/SO @ \$30.00/person and guest @ \$35.00/ person \*

Total Amount \_\_\_\_\_

All dinners will be chosen from the menu with the choices listed above. Meal choices do not need to be made in advance.

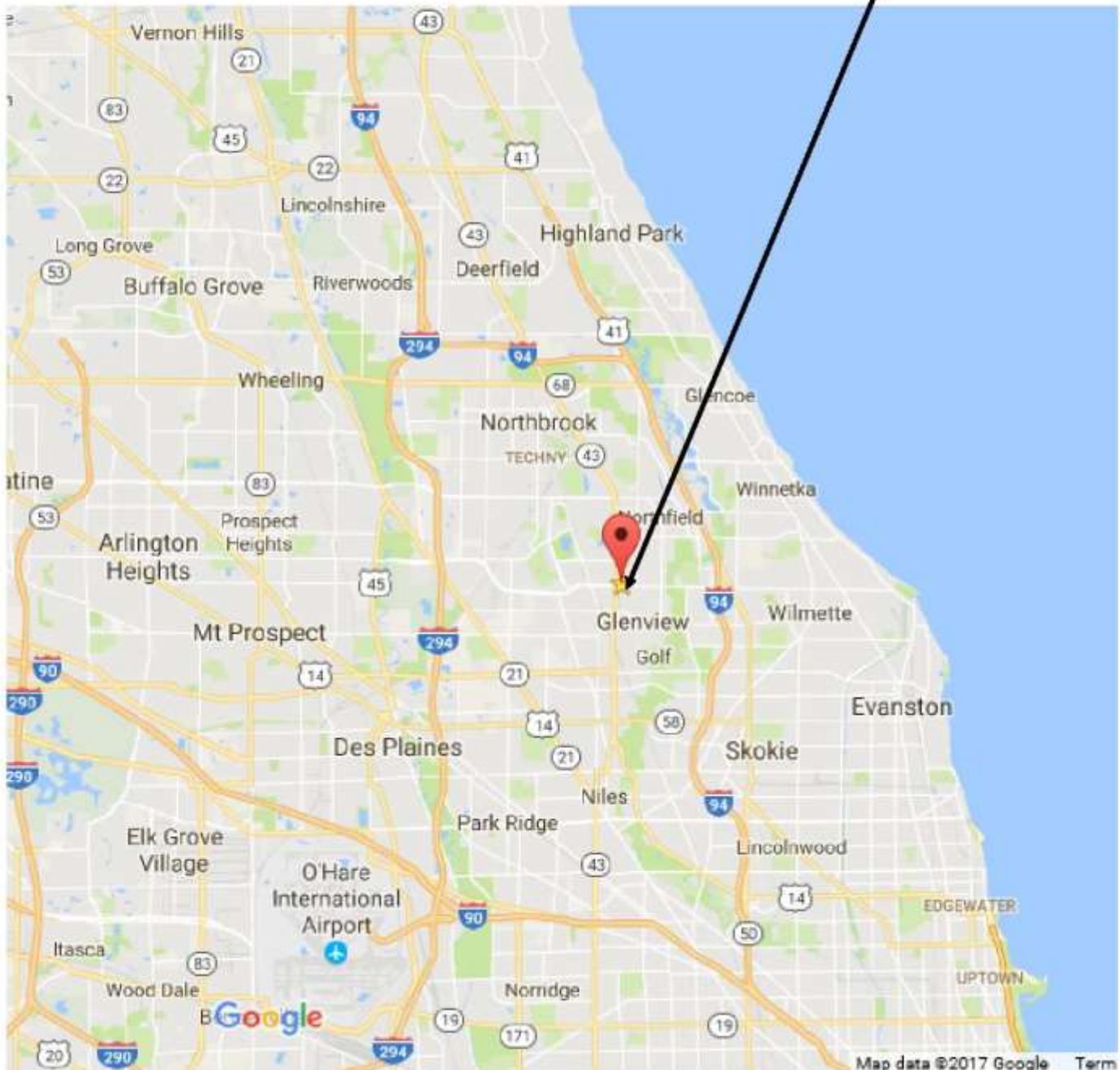
Please make check out to Waukegan/ North Shore AACA

**Note: Please call or email if you are coming by March 13 if you can't send the form in by that date. The restaurant needs to have the total to plan the room.**



# Waukegan/ North Shore AACA St. Patrick's Day Party

**The Victoria Room At Hackneys's on Lake**  
**1514 E. Lake Ave.(Just East of Rte 43)**  
**Glenview, IL 60025**  
**Phone 847-724-7171**





Spring is right around the corner and its time to try something new!  
 Let's get together and share what we love - other than old cars!  
 A collection or a hobby or a special interest.

## Waukegan North Shore Chapter AACA

### Ladies Lunch "Show and Tell"



Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 12pm

McAlister's Deli

6557 Grand Ave.. Gurnee, IL

(Rt 132 and Hunt Club Road, Kitty-corner from Gurnee Mills)

Lunch is on your own and can be ordered at the counter. It will be brought to us in our own room. If you haven't been to McAlister's, their food is yummy. Bring something that represents your interest. One of your collectibles or one of your crafts or a favorite book series or..... You get the idea! You can tell us all a bit about it.

RSVP to [joannflynn28@gmail.com](mailto:joannflynn28@gmail.com) by March 27th.  
Seating is limited. Reply soon!

We're looking forward to seeing you!

Jenny Risley, Hostess and Jo Ann Flynn, Reservations  
 Cell 224-214-2111 Cell 847-636-0501

P.S. All the Ladies of the Region are invited to join in the fun!



# The Illinois Region

of the Antique Automobile Club of America



## 75th Annual Car Show

July 19, 2026 \* Carpenters Park

300 Carpenter Blvd. Carpentersville

**JUDGED CARS:** Must be 25 years or older (2001)

**DISPLAY ONLY:** cars through 2023 and slightly modified are welcome

Open 9 am to 2 pm

Awards given out at 1 pm.

### FEATURE CAR: 75 YEARS OF OUR MEMBER CARS



See our beautiful venue at Carpenters Park in Carpentersville at 300 Carpenter Blvd.

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



**RAIN OR SHINE THE SHOW WILL GO ON**

# 75th ILLINOIS REGION AUTO SHOW MEMBERS

<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Class #</td> <td style="width: 70%;">Description</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Production Vehicles 1890's thru 1939</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Production Vehicles 1940—1949</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Production Vehicles 1950-1959</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Production Vehicles 1960-1964</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Production Vehicles 1965-1969</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Production Vehicles 1970-1979</td> </tr> </table>	Class #	Description	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	6	Production Vehicles 1970-1979	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">7</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Production Vehicles</td> <td style="width: 30%;">1980-1989</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>Production vehicles</td> <td>1990-2001</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>Sports Cars (including Corvettes and Thunderbirds)</td> <td>thru 2001</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>Imports</td> <td>thru 2001</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>Trucks &amp; Military Vehicles</td> <td>thru 2001</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>Display Only (non-judged)</td> <td>thru 2023</td> </tr> </table>	7	Production Vehicles	1980-1989	8	Production vehicles	1990-2001	9	Sports Cars (including Corvettes and Thunderbirds)	thru 2001	10	Imports	thru 2001	11	Trucks & Military Vehicles	thru 2001	12	Display Only (non-judged)	thru 2023
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Judging starts at 10:30 am.  
 Cars must be registered and parked in their **correct** class prior to that time.  
 Slightly modified, customized, concept and newer cars are FOR DISPLAY ONLY.

## Advance Registration Form

Advance Registration Deadline: **July 14, 2026**

Please PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Auto Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Body Style \_\_\_\_\_ Colors \_\_\_\_\_ Class # \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees:** All judged vehicles must be 25 years old (2001) and older.

Check one only:

Pre-Registered

Day of Show

	Judged	Display Only		Judged	Display Only
MEMBERS	\$15.00 _____	\$10.00 _____		\$30.00 _____	\$20.00 _____
WORKERS	\$10.00 _____	\$8.00 _____			

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

Make checks payable to: Illinois Region  
 Sign below 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. The form MUST be signed and dated.  
 No alcoholic beverages allowed \* All fees are nonrefundable. \* **No FOR SALE signs**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

=====

# 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](mailto:twjbrunner@aol.com)

1966 Chrysler 300 Convertible. Silver/Black top and interior. Low miles. Newer Top and tires. Auto, A/C, Buckets. Nice Driver quality. \$10,500. Need to sell. Contact: Dan Sobczyk 847-977-0595 or [dansobczyk@yahoo.com](mailto:dansobczyk@yahoo.com) Pictures on request.

1914 Ford model T Touring. Strong, dependable runner. Straight body, wheels, top, boot, I timer, no theft steering wheel. Temco shocks, electric starter. Hood, paint and upholstery are tired. \$17,000 or reasonable offer. (847) 251-2603. No texts.

For Sale Soft fabric Car Cover - \$20 - Located in Niles, IL. Contact Steve Kolish (847) 848 - 7013