



SIDE LIGHTS



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



August 2020

Volume 72 Number 8

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER



Coming Soon - AACA Region Driving Tour on Sunday, August 9th. Please see page 14 for more information!

Upcoming EVENTS

August 2 - Waukegan North-Shore - Illinois Railway Museum Transportation Extraveganza Tour & Show - CANCELLED
August 9 - Waukegan North-Shore - Picnic & Tour - CANCELLED
August 9 - AACA Region Driving Tour (see page 14 for information)
August - Silver Springs - Picnic - CANCELLED
August 15 - Waukegan North-Shore - Grayslake Days Parade - CANCELLED
August 16 - Waukegan North-Shore - Don Henry Memorial Car Show - CANCELLED
August 29 - Waukegan North-Shore - Fox River Valley Tour - CANCELLED
September 5 (?) - Fox Valley R/C Fly-In Show
September 12 - Silver Springs Iron Gate Motor Condos Open House.
September TBA - Region Board Meeting hosted by Waukegan North-Shore
September 27 - Waukegan North-Shore - Lake County Heritage Show.
October 3 or 4 - Waukegan North-Shore - Pre-War Tour.
October 15-18 - Region Fall Tour hosted by Silver Springs, Yorkville Area. CANCELLED
October 26 - Fox Valley Color Tour.

FULL CALENADAR ON PAGE 15.

NATIONAL NEWS

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

2020 Nationals & Tours

Aug 12-15 • East Div. Tour • East Shore of MD
CANCELLED

Aug 20-22 • SE Fall • Elizabeth, IN. **CANCELLED**

Aug 21-22 • Grand Nationals • Gettysburg, PA

Sept 13-18 • Glidden Tour (VMCCA Sponored) • Saratoga Springs, NY

Oct 7-10 • Eastern Fall • Hershey, PA -Swap Meet
CANCELLED - Car Show **PENDING**

Oct 19-23 • Central Div Tour • Broken Arrow, OK

Other Events of Interest

Summer Nights Classic Car Show - Downers Grove. **CANCELLED (Facebook Post below)**

We are sorry to announce that the remainder of the 2020 Summer Nights Classic Car Show downtown Downers Grove has been cancelled. Due to COVID-19 restrictions in combination with modifications in outdoor dining and parking spaces throughout the downtown, the atmosphere is not conducive for a safe Friday Night Car Show. We will miss this weekly summer tradition but our priority continues to be the health and safety of our staff, volunteers, car show supporters and community. We look forward to a great 2021 season!

ShadowView Brewery in Woodstock are having Cruise Nights starting on Wed. July 29th. Bring your wonderful cars out for a fun evening of great beer, great food and great cars. **Please share with your friends in other car clubs.** Questions? Email Cindy at shadowviewbrewing.contact@gmail.com Or check out their FB page at ShadowViewBrewing!

**Aug 23 - Geneva Concours - Geneva, IL
CANCELLED**





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
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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,

Well this virus keeps dragging on and keeping us from doing the things we enjoy, getting together and driving our old cars.

There are several cruise nights that have been going on. We went to a cruise night on Friday at the VFW in Roselle. It was packed and some of the people at the show were not as conscious of "Social Distancing" as they should have been.

Also, Joann Flynn mentioned there is a cruise night in Woodstock that we will try and attend. Also, a cruise night in McHenry on Tuesdays at the Moose lodge.

It felt great to drive the Caddy to the Roselle Cruise night. I clay barred the Caddy and the car looked great. Just a note about the clay barring, it wasn't difficult to do in fact much easier than I thought it would be and I was told you can use Plumber's putty and it works as

(continued on page 5...)

Monthly Recipe



Strawberry Banana Salad is the perfect addition to any party. Packed with fruit this dish is sweet, creamy and takes just minutes to make.

Strawberry Banana Salad

Ingredients

- 3 ripe bananas
- $\frac{1}{2}$ lemon *juiced*
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup sugar
- 14 ounces crushed pineapple *drained*
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups strawberries *diced*
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup maraschino cherries *chopped*
- 1 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 1 tub whipped topping 8 ounces



Instructions

1. Place bananas in a large bowl and mash. Stir in juice from $\frac{1}{2}$ of a lemon.
2. Add sugar, pineapple and greek yogurt. Stir until smooth. Stir in cherries and strawberries.
3. Fold in whipped topping. Refrigerate until serving.

President's Message (continued...)

well as the Mothers brand and a lot less expensive.

More sad news this past month, we had another member pass on. Jim Rudnick, great guy and he was always ready with a joke or two. Jim had a body shop in Palatine and did great work.

Also, Jim Houtari passed away. Those of us who belong to the West of the Lake Cadillac Club region will miss Jim. He was one of the founding members of that region. Always a joy to be around with his sweet wife Carol.

Some good news, the region is planning a driving tour on Sunday, August 9. There will be more about it in this month's newsletter.

If you were planning on attending the AACA Grand National scheduled to be in Allentown, PA, plans have changed. The show was moved to Gettysburg, PA. on the rescheduled date at the end of August.

I recently asked for your input about doing tours. The results were strongly against any overnight tour and in favor of a one-day tour. The October overnight fall tour will be delayed until October 2021. There will be some type of one day tour in the fall depending on future conditions.

Til next month, be safe and hope to see you on the August 9th driving tour.



Region News

In Memoriam

James Rudnick

Jim Rudnick 1939-2020 West of the Lake Region member, Jim Rudnick passed away in June. Jim was a regular at club meetings and events, his infectious laugh and wry smile lit up our gatherings. Jim got hooked on the car hobby as a young boy. At age 9, Jim started drawing cars, eventually being published in a book of dream cars. Photo credit: My Car Story, Lou Costabile Jim



Jim Rudnick with Darlene Sobczyk.

was noted for self-restoring his beautiful 1960 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz convertible. Jim's car and life story were featured in Lou Costabile's "My Car Story" YouTube series. Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/wYNJNQVXu4w> Photo credit: My Car Story, Lou Costabile It's hard to imagine our events without Jim, but we know that top is going down permanently, because it never rains in Cadillac Heaven. We'll miss you good friend.

Cruise Night at ShadowView Brewing



**Come Show Off Your
Vintage Ride**

**Wednesday Evenings
at 5PM**

www.ShadowViewBrewing.com 2400 LakeShore Drive, Woodstock IL (815)308-5600

Region News - What's Up?

Our Mini-Vacation to Port Washington, Cedarburg, and Germantown, Wisconsin - June 24, 2020. By Joan Murray



Having more than enough with all this "stay-at-home business" due to the corona virus, we decided we could safely take a one-day trip up to Wisconsin since they "reopened" and return home without any over-night stays. Wearing a mask and keeping distance from others was workable - sleeping in motels was another whole level. Thinking about past tours we had taken with North Shore-Waukegan Car Clubs over the years, we decided that one trip in particular was close enough that we could attempt doing it, and it stood out in our minds probably because it was our very first multiple-day trip with AACA. We were both still working - we've now been retired 23 years, having taken 50 long road trips covering almost 200,000 miles in those years. This summer we had already cancelled a month-long trip west for a granddaughter's graduation, and a trip to Minneapolis with some of our daughters to visit with our son who resides there. We were "itching" to get on the road. So.....

Yesterday, about 9:00 a.m. we packed up the small cooler with a couple of beverages and drove off. We were moving quickly along on I-43 in northern Milwaukee when traffic began to slow down. The problem was actually occurring in the southbound lanes where police had a suspect pulled over. There were somewhere between 10-15 police vehicles all finding their way through the crowded traffic. We probably lost a good half hour just due to the commotion it caused, but never did learn anything else about it.



We arrived in Port Washington, our first destination for the day, and spent a couple of hours driving around to all the scenic spots in town, taking photographs. It is a very scenic place with beautiful old buildings right on Lake Michigan. Finally, around 12:30 we decided we had found all we wanted to see in Port

Region News - What's Up?

Washington, and we headed out of town, stopping at a Culver's for lunch and a rest stop. Culver's "social-distanced" the tables, did not allow patrons to re-fill on drinks, but instead the employees brought us new cups as we stayed in our seats.

Back on the road again we headed in a southwesterly direction to search for the last remaining covered bridge in the state. We had driven over the bridge many years ago with an antique car tour. When we finally located the bridge just north of Cedarburg, we discovered it was now alongside a new road sitting at the outer edge of a park. It was in a very pretty picturesque position, so we were happy to see its resting place.



We went on to the town of Cedarburg and drove around. It was not as bustling as Port Washington had been, but that was to be expected for a weekday. After driving around through all the business part of town, we stopped along the river and took a photo of the dam. Cedarburg had once been a town with many woolen mills (all powered by the dam). Many of the beautiful old buildings were constructed out of local limestone in the late 1800s. Something we hadn't seen on an earlier visit was a lot of wineries.

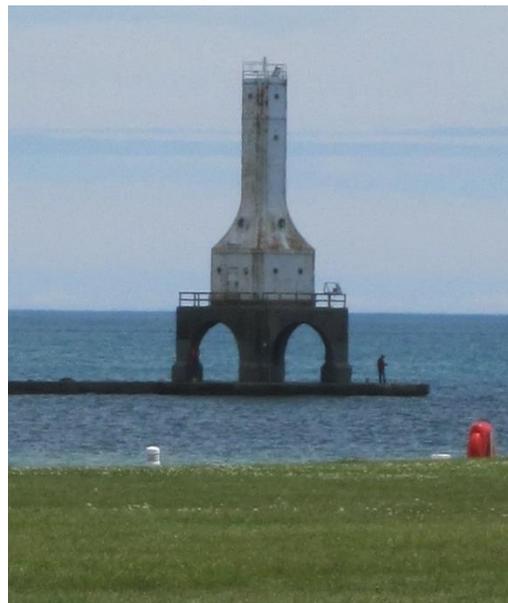
Back on the main road we went onward again in a southwesterly direction to try and locate Germantown. Our intentions were to have a good German dinner, but we still felt full from lunch as we drove along. We encountered so many blocked roads due to construction that it seemed we zigzagged our way along. I began to feel we should just forget the whole thing, when we finally arrived after many more turns than we would have had to make had there been no construction. It took two different people to finally tell us how to find the "German" part of German town. Fortunately, at that point we were not too far from our intended destination. As we turned the last corner of their directions, we could see we were in the right place as two very German-looking buildings stood on our left - both were restaurants. The first was closed. Whether it was because of corona virus or because it was a weekday evening, we did not know.

Region News - What's Up?

The second restaurant was the Von Ruthenburg Bier Stube. They had two large tents set up in the rear next to the parking lot. One was full and the other was beginning to fill. We went indoors and realized that almost all their patrons were outside. I didn't want to go outside because of mosquitoes, and because there were so many people all very close together and I didn't think it was a good idea due to the virus.

We ordered inside, and both had chicken schnitzel. It was very good. Before we finished eating, it had started pouring outside, and a number of people came in doors. Fortunately, tables were spaced apart as they should be during this pandemic.

As we headed home, we encountered some of the same road blocks as well as additional ones, and we were already almost through Milwaukee before we made our way to the expressway. We arrived home about 9:00 p.m, having driven a total of 220 miles. When we got home, I said to Dick "well, where are we going next?"



Region News - What's Up?

A 57year love affair...

By Jack Bowser

From its star-like hood ornament to the rear mount which houses the spare tire, the Continental Mark II reflects the precept that underlies its design and construction. An ultra-luxury coupe, the Continental Mark II was touted as a motor car as fine as America had ever seen.....



It all started when Ford decided that they needed to make a statement and enhance the image of the company.

A special division was set up just to make Mark II Continentals. Since the Mark II's were built in this division and not by the Lincoln Division, they are NOT Lincolns but are Continentals.

I remember seeing one of these when I was living in Lake Forest when I was 20 years old. I assumed I would never be able to afford one because they cost \$10,000.00 which was the price of the average house back then.

Fast forward to 1962 when I was a Second Lieutenant in the Army.

While I was driving into town one day in my white 1957 Thunderbird, I noticed a Mark II Continental in a used car lot on the other side of the divided highway. I could not wait to be on my way back to the Army base on the correct side of the road so I could stop to look at the car.

While I was admiring the car the owner of the lot came over and asked if I was interested in it. I told him I had dreamed of owning one but knew I could never afford one. He told me that his girlfriend had been bothering him to get her a White 57 Thunderbird which was exactly what I had. He said he would make me a great deal so he could have the white T-Bird for his girlfriend and that is the story of how I was able to buy my first Mark II.

Region News - What's Up? - A 57year love affair...

When I got out of the Army a year later, I met Ann, who is my wife of 56 years now. I had the car while we were dating but sold it the night before we got married. I still remember serial # C56B1991 and am trying to locate it. The Mark II registry shows all the serial numbers and who the dealer was that sold them when new. Some of the original owners are also listed in the registry as well as some of the current owners but 1991 is not mentioned since 2012 when it was still in the San Francisco at that time.



My second one (C56H3206) was sold new in Ft. Wayne and it was converted into a convertible. Only one Mark II convertible is considered to be an original because Mr. Ford had it sent out to have the top cut off and made into a convertible for his wife. My third one C56A1763 was sold new in Dixon, Illinois. After I bought it and had it totally restored,



I discovered it was previously owned by my good friend Chuck Klingler who many of you probably know. My current one (C56B2198) was sold new in Denver, Colorado to a Doctor. Sometime after buying the car he was killed riding his motorcycle. His widow kept the car for a while before selling it after which it ended up in a museum for several years.

A couple of years ago I thinned out my car collection and realized that I no longer owned an Antique car so I decided I should have another Mark II to solve that problem. Because of the cost to restore one I wanted to find one that was in good condition so restoration would not be necessary. When I found this one it had some issues due to poor workmanship over the years, but the car was extremely sound otherwise. It looked like it was never driven in the rain let alone any bad weather. Since most Mark II's were bought by wealthy people who only used them to drive to the country club on nice days some like mine survived with low mileage and no rust or corrosion.



In the Paint Booth.

My car had been painted in the past in the original color, but it was not a great paint job, so I had the car re-painted by McCabe Restorations here in Mundelein. Cars painted by McCabe continue to win top awards at Pebble Beach and Amelia Island. You can't get a better paint job anywhere else in my opinion. The 14 on the second line of my serial number plate stands for Starmist White. This was the second most popular color. Black (color 01) was the most popular. 1/3 of the Mark II's were black.

Region News - What's Up? - A 57year love affair...

The interior shows very little wear so I did not need to replace any of the original Bridge of Weir upholstery or any of the Wilton Carpet. The steering wheels were cast with a yellow resin and then painted blue. This caused a chemical reaction from the yellow resin and the blue paint causing the steering wheel to turn green as well as the 2 door handles and the gear shift and turn signal plastic pieces. This is why there are a lot of Mark II's running around with ugly green steering wheels.



Here is the before and after pictures of my steering wheel.

Air-conditioning was the only option and was offered for about \$700.00. Everything else was standard equipment. Power windows to include the little wing windows, power seat, power steering and brakes, vacuum operated antenna, windshield wipers, and washers. The air-conditioning air intakes can be



seen at the top front edge of the rear fenders. The air conditioning vents are in the ceiling like the air vents in airplanes but are much larger. The air condition evaporator is located behind the rear seat at the front of the trunk. This window in the front of the trunk shows the level of the refrigerant. There are



2 heaters. A vent for each heater is located in the kick panels that directs heat to the driver and front passenger, and another vent at the rear of each door that directs heat to the rear passengers. Channels in the doors deliver the heat to these vents.



Each Hub Cap was hand assembled with over 170 parts. Each of the 44 veins had to be mounted with 3 pieces of mounting hardware.

Region News - What's Up? - A 57year love affair...

The drive train consists of a 368 Cubic inch Y block engine with a 4-barrel carburetor and a 3-speed automatic transmission.



The engines were run on a test stand before being installed in the car. The transmissions were installed in a test car and driven before being installed. The left taillight swings over to gain access to the gas filler.



Mark II's are wonderful road cars because the seats are almost like sitting on the couch in your living room and the 5,000-pound car just floats down the road with almost no noise because of all the extra sound deadening that was done. I am looking forward to showing up at AACA events with my latest Mark II.



Jack Bowser and his Mark II as the sun sets.



The End!

AACA Region Driving Tour

DATE: _ Sunday August 9

TIME: 9 AM departing at 9:45

LOCATION: MPG AUTOBODY, INC

2050 E. Algonquin Road

Algonquin, IL 60102

PHONE # 847-786-0037

Owner: Humberto Garcia

The tour is being done by Chris Schurrer. It should be an interesting tour travelling the back roads of Kane and McHenry Counties. Due to the uncertainty of the times, there will only be one stop on the tour. This will be a Potty stop at the Walmart in Harvard.

The tour will last about 2 - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

The last stop will be at the DOG & SUDS located on RT 31 in Richmond for Lunch.

Please advise if you plan to attend.

Email: dansobczyk@yahoo.com

Advise with number of people attending. (We want to get an accurate count for the donuts.)

2020 AACA Illinois Region Calendar of Events

August 2 - Waukegan North-Shore - Illinois Railway Museum Transportation Extraveganza Tour & Show - **CANCELLED**

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September 5 - Fox Valley - R/C Fly - In Show

September 12 - Silver Springs - Iron Gate Condos Show

September TBA - Region Board Meeting - Hosted by Waukegan-North Shore

September 27 - Waukegan North-Shore - Lake County Heritage Show

October 3 and . or 4 - Waukegan North-Shore - Pre-War Tour

October 15 - 18 - Illinois Region Fall Tour - Yorkville, IL. Hosted by Silver Springs - **CANCELLED**

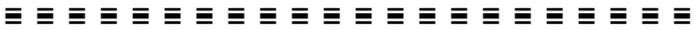
October 26 - Fox Valley - Oktober Fall Color Tour

November 1 - Waukegan North-Shore - Brighton Run

November 14 - Region Board Meeting - hosted by Des Plaines Valley

November 21 or 22 - Des Plaines Valley 0 Take South Shore to Studebaker Event (Tentative)





FOR SALE!

New in the box: Torin Big Red 3.5 Gallon Model#T-10035 Bench Top Parts Washer. w/110v electric pump. Approved for use with mineral spirits or biodegradable cleaner. \$60.00 or best offer. John at 847-370-6902. Email: palka@att.net.

One, new in the box Menards Performax Air Filtration system, table or ceiling mount 3 speeds w/remote control. perfect for woodworking area, traps 1 micro inner, 5 microns outer filters, w/timer. \$125.00 OBO Contact John Palka cell 847-370-6902 or e mail palka@att.net



The following two for sale ads are Warren Lauridsen's Cars.

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. \$9,000 Call: Ken Lauridsen: 847-226-5202



FOR SALE! (continued...)

1978 Cadillac Seville 47,200 miles

4 door, Bronze repaint (original color), matching vinyl top, Chrome removed, repaired, replated, like new leather interior, new starter, battery, fuel pumps, belts, a/c compressor, dryer, Cadillac C/B radio, like new condition! \$14,950 Call: Ken Lauridsen 847-226-5202

