



The Autograf.

A Publication of the Mississippi Valley Region of the AACA



www.mvr.aaca.com

November 2020

President's Message

For me this has started off as a busy month. Since Hershey could not be held due to Covid concerns at the normal location, an alternate site was arranged in Gettysburg, PA. It was beautiful weather with 617 vehicles present. Fred and I drove out, but he dropped me off in Gettysburg and continued on to Greensboro, NC for an auction. On Friday there were Judging and CJE (Continuing Judges Education) classes. I worked the membership table most of the afternoon and was busy with renewals all the time I was there.

In the evening the Board of Directors were invited to tour the new headquarters and library building in Hershey. I caught a ride with VP Tuck. The building is not quite finished, but has proceeded enough to allow move in. We are officially out of 501 West Governor Rd and now have a new address of 800 Hershey Park Drive. It is ultra-modern with led lighting, lots of glass that will show off the display cars in the lobby from the street in front. On the first floor in addition to the cars, there are offices, a merchandise area, shipping and receiving. The second floor is the library, with banks of files, lockers for those doing research, a classroom, and meeting room. There were still lots of boxes to unpack and contractor paraphernalia strewn all over but the core building is beautiful and will fit our needs for years to come. Although it will be open to the public in a few weeks, the dedication is slated for 2021 Hershey.

Yes there is a new 88 Pontiac Fiero in Iowa. It is the last Pontiac produced in Pontiac, MI and is signed by all the line workers on its way through production. It was given to an employee working in the factory by lottery. That employee owned it until just a few months ago. It is a very low mileage vehicle with the factory plastic on the seats and steering wheel. It is flawless under the hood and the engine compartment looks brand new. For a change, no restoration needed.

It seems weird not to end the year with a banquet. Let's hope that 2021 brings a healthier year.

Mary B



Upcoming Events

A.A.C.A. – CENTRAL DIVISION NATIONAL MEET hosted by MVR Region: August 11-13, 2022.



Have you Seen the Website Recently?

Check out the changes!
Dwayne has done a nice job but he still needs your car pictures.
Send your car photo along with the car's description (year, make & model) to dwaynec48@gmail.com

Did you know you belong to a VERY active club when it comes to hosting meets?

June 1965 Moline
June 1989 Moline Deere Headquarters
June 1993 Moline Deere Headquarters
July 1995 Moline Deere Headquarters
Grand National
Aug 2001 Moline Deere Commons
Grand National
Aug 2007 Moline Deere Commons
Aug 2010 Moline Deere Commons
June 2013 Moline Deere Commons
Grand National
Aug 2017 Bettendorf



Why the Fuzzy Dice?

During World War II a squadron of British pilots referred to particularly dangerous missions as "Dicey". American pilots heard of the practice but being, well... Americans... they took the odds of success a bit differently.

In Craps 7 & 11 are the lucky numbers, so the American pilots started putting pairs of dice in the cockpits of their planes with the 7 & 11 showing for good luck!

After the war they continued the practice on the dashboards of their cars with real dice. Ed Heinrich, a felt maker from California noticed this trend and since he had a ton of felt he sewed together some oversized felt dice, adding dots and the string. The rest is history.

From a Facebook post by Jeff Serritella



Open Hours
Monday - Friday : 9am-6pm
Saturday by appointment only

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Triangle Inn
1650 1st Ave.
Silvis, Illinois

Cars and Ice Cream!



Sunday October 25th was the last Cars & Ice Cream for 2020 and 13 dedicated car enthusiasts (or ice cream lovers) showed up at COUNTRY STYLE to talk cars and enjoy a treat. It was a good time and the group hung out for well over an hour.



As told by Jim Conrad,

On Sunday October 25, 2020 a chilly, breezy autumn afternoon, a 1979 Dodge Power wagon, a 1977 Lincoln Town Car, a 1976 Corvette, and a 1975 Nova, guided respectively by Mark Louseberg, Gary Smith, Rick & Darla Lemke, and Jim Conrad ventured out for Country Style ice cream treats on Davenport's Utica Ridge Road. Additionally huddled around were Emily Kuhn, Mary Bartemeyer, Dwayne Cederblom, LaVonne & Gary Gleason, Jean & Lou Haas, and Sharon Hoaglund to lend warm support.



Hamerlinck Construction



1-309-732-6291

Highland Park Ford Model T Plant ‘not a priority’ for preservation

WWJ NEWSRADIO 950

The old Ford Model T plant in Highland Park has stood at Woodward and Manchester as the world battled two World Wars and two major pandemics. It witnessed the inauguration of nearly 20 presidents.

Still, time has ravaged the second plant ever to produce the iconic Model T. Ford Community Outreach director, Brad Simmons, said restoring the 110-year-old building is not a high priority for the company. “There are so many opportunities like that to preserve in Detroit, and it’s a matter of priorities,”

The Ford Highland Park Plant opened on New Year’s Day, 1910. It was “the birthplace of the moving assembly line” in 1913; and the first Ford plant to pay a five dollar a day wage for an eight-hour workday. According to The Detroit Historical Society the glass wall and walls of windows, long since broken, earned the building the nickname “Crystal Palace.” The 855-foot long plant was home to factories, offices, and a foundry.



The Ford Highland Park Plant played a critical part in the war effort; manufacturing tanks and aircraft engines during World War II. The building was named a National Historic Landmark in 1978.

Simmons told **WWJ** the Ford Motor Company will pitch in to preserve the plant in some way, but did not give any further details.

The Ford Motor Company told **WWJ** a group of volunteers are hard at work to try to restore the building to its former

glory.

The Detroit Free Press reported a group of Ford retirees dedicated themselves to fixing up the another historic plant, Piquette Avenue Plant in Detroit, the first to produce the Model T in 1904.

MY FIRST CAR *a monthly feature*

When I was 17, working for a carpenter in Reynolds, IL, my dad found this car for me. It was a 1959 Ford Galaxy 500, 6 cylinder with 3 speed on the tree (column), full of chrome and in beautiful condition. I paid \$500 for this car. I was going with now wife Kathy at the time and she lived about 4 miles on gravel roads, we are talking white gravel dust here. I didn't have a lot of time between work and picking her up for our date so sometimes the interior was pretty dusty and she says now that she hated riding with black slacks because of the dust. But she never said anything back then at the time. (Oh, how much quieter she was back then! Not the car, my wife. And much more meek as well.)

She also lived a total of 13 miles from my hometown of Aledo. She was in Hamlet. So it was a goodly distance to pick her up and take her home.

I drove that car until I was drafted November 1966 and had to sell it for \$350 to a fellow worker at Farmall where I worked at the time I was drafted.

One of our favorite memories was coming home from the movies and probably Deb's Drive In in Milan which we always stopped at and it had begun to snow quite enthusiastically. By the time we got to the turn-off at Hamlet, the snow was heavy and I should have had both hands on the wheel instead of one arm around Kathy who was able to sit close to me before the age of consoles. You guessed it, I slid into the ditch. I walked to a neighbor's home, their lights were on, and I called Kathy's dad who was not a happy camper. He had to drive the tractor the 3 miles to pull me out of the ditch. He had his revenge when he insisted on me riding on the back of his tractor with Kathy at the wheel of the car.

We did see a duplicate of my car at Hershey one year and it brought back really fond memories.

-Stu Etheridge



They did what? A NOVEMBER DRIVE!

-As reported by Jim Conrad

On Saturday November 7, 2020 a clear and warm autumn day, a 1925 Willis Knight (Kathleen & Stu Etheridge), 1930 Ford Model A (Wayne Scherer), 1957 Oldsmobile 88 (LaVonne & Gary Gleason), 1963 Studebaker Gran Turismo (Sandy & Richard Perry), 1975 Nova (Jim Conrad & Sharon Hoaglund), 1978 Lincoln (Gary Smith), and 1983 Buick Riviera (Steve Sabbe) could be seen parading from Veterans Park in Orion over Illinois county roads to Johnson-Sauk Park just south of Annawan. We were escorted by Angela & Robert Kerr, Kay & Jim Scott, and Perrine & Neil West, and we all enjoyed our picnic lunches overlooking the lake.

Thank you to the Kathleen and Stu Etheridge for organizing and guiding the tour.



20 Years Ago in the Mississippi Valley Region.

By Gary Gleason

MVR AACA November 2000

The Oktoberfest was attended by 66 people at Craig Beek's Model T Garage in Moline. This year they had grilled pork chops instead of brats. Grilling was done by Mike & Donna Feidler.

The annual banquet will be held at the Abbey Station in Rock Island with a silent auction.

The club mourned the passing of member Stewart Blaser.

The Perry's were still looking for some one to replace them as Autograf editors.

New officers for 2001 were:

President-Buck Wendt, Vice President-Craig Beek, Treasurer-Cy Galley, Secretary-Dick Perry

New Board Members, Cal Frets, Jim Scott, Larry Tschappat

Carry Over Board Members, Mike Radford, Mike Fiedler, Alan Lee



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