



# The Autograf.

A Publication of the Mississippi Valley Region of the AACA



[www.mvr.aaca.com](http://www.mvr.aaca.com)

**May 2024**

## President's Column May 2024

What a beautiful day for a Spring Drive. Who ever arranged for the perfect weather has to be put in charge of all our events for the year. It was great to get out for fresh air and looks at an emerging Spring countryside. Passing the Warner Castle, driving on to buffalo grazing on the green grass, and ending up in a great little park in Cambridge, IL. I must admit that I had not seen the Henry County Courthouse since its' renovation and it was done exceedingly well. Glad to see my property tax dollars going for a good cause. It's the place that put me on wheels with my first driver's license. From there on to the "American Graffiti" look-a-like cars and other collectables. A big thanks to the Etheridge's for their efforts and a great day.

Our editor let my column slide last month with the great pictures of our April Potluck and trip down Memory Lane. Although somewhat of a youngster, I got to know most of our 50 year pin holders when they were the mainstay of the club. They devoted their time and effort to make us one of the best in AACA. What good times they had in restoring, driving, and teaching others what it meant to be a preserver of automotive history. It was at a time when the Region/Club was the main source of parts that each had found, mechanical fixes that they could share with others, and cars that were saved from the scrap yards that are essential to our automotive progression. Of interest to me was that my dad appears to be one of the members listed on the original application to become a Region. It is the hope of all us old timers that this Region will continue to preserve, restore, and educate the public on our historical automotive heritage. Thanks to Gary Gleason, our club historian, for all the work he did to put this program on. Any questions on our history? Ask Gary.

Sharon Hoaglund was our last inductee into the 50-year club. Sharon and Chuck started out as yearly members of AACA but had the foresight to become Life Members which paid off in lots of dollar savings considering the dues increases of later years. They gathered history and restored autos, especially those made in the Quad Cities and if there was a Mississippi Valley Region or National Event they were there.

See you at our Family Day (Pancake Breakfast) June 1st.

Mary B



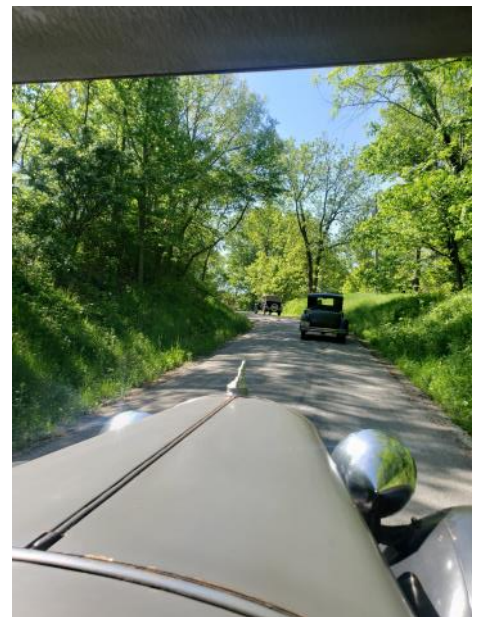
## **First MVR Drive of 2024!**

Saturday May 11th saw the first MVR drive of the year and what an event it was!

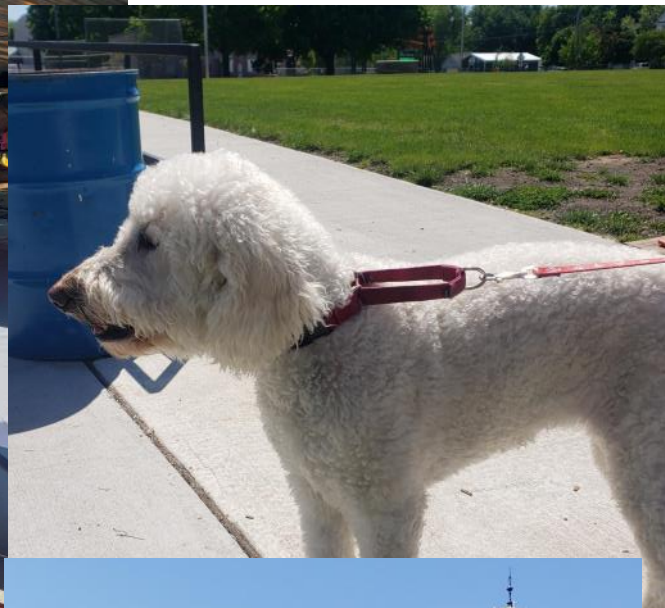
Kathy and Stu Etheridge organized a route and planned for a bring your own lunch event at the Cambridge town park. Thirty-eight members took advantage of the excellent Saturday weather driving in 20 cars along backroads to Cambridge where everyone opened their picnic lunches.

Following the meal and socializing the caravan of cars headed out to see the American Graffiti Collection of Jim Larson. Jim is a major fan of the movie and created one of each of the main cars seen in the movie.

Hats off to Kathy and Stu for arranging a great event!











**1956  
T BIRD**  
American Graffiti Recreation  
Driven by Actor Suzanne Somers  
Known as "The Hot Blonde in the T BIRD"  
in the Movie  
Owned By:  
**JIM & NEIL LARSON**



**1962 VESPA**  
American Graffiti Recreation  
Driven by Actor CHARLES MARTIN SMITH  
Known as "Terry The Toad" in the Movie  
Restoration By:  
**JIM LARSON**  
Owned By:  
**JIM & NEIL LARSON**





# 2024 MVR Family Day

## June 1, Saturday

West Lake Park 14910 110<sup>th</sup> Ave. Enter gate #1 to Lake View Shelter following AACA signs

<https://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/conservation/west-lake>

Breakfast (pancakes, sausages, coffee, juice) will be served from 8:30 to 10:30  
**FREE** event for club members.

(Cost for non-members: \$5.00) *everyone please check in with Gary Gleason when arriving.*

Lake View Shelter capacity is 200.

Electricity, Parking, Picnicking, Playground, Restrooms, Fresh Water with scenic Lake View.

**Please invite your families**

Club meeting at 10:45 with updates on upcoming events.

Country drive is planned starting around 11:00 and will last about an hour.

If you don't have an antique car that day, ask to ride along with someone.

We may also have some car games in the large parking lot so give us your ideas.

There are new concrete hiking trails available at West Lake. Lake is full so boating is available!

This event is put on by your board members but we can always use help!



# Upcoming MVR Events

**May 18th: Armed Forces Day Car Show Rock Island Arsenal. Meet 7:30 at the Vibrant Arena parking lot and drive in the Moline gate.**

**June 1st: MVR AACA Family Day, West Lake Park**

**June 7th: As part of the Lincoln Highway 100th anniversary tour from the sponsors at the Museum of American Speed in Lincoln, NE. the 1,000,000th Model T will be going through Clinton. (see below)**

**June 14th: 2PM Friendship Manor Car Show**



## 2024 Preliminary Routes

### New York to San Francisco (Lincoln Highway) Itinerary

- Day 1, June 2 – New York, NY to Lancaster, PA = 178 miles
- Day 2, June 3 – Lancaster, PA to Greensburg, PA = 212 miles
- Day 3, June 4 – Greensburg, PA to Mansfield, OH = 199 miles
- Day 4, June 5 – Mansfield, OH to Plymouth, IN = 220 miles
- Day 5, June 6 – Plymouth, IN to Sterling, IL = 212 miles
- Day 6, June 7 – Sterling, IL to Cedar Rapids, IA = 247 miles
- Day 7, June 8 – Cedar Rapids, IA to Denison, IA = 199 miles
- Day 8, June 9 – Denison, IA to Lincoln, NE = 194 miles
- Day 9, June 10 – Lincoln, NE = 0 Miles
- Day 10, June 11 – Lincoln, NE to Kearney, NE = 130 miles
- Day 11, June 12 – Kearney, NE to Ogallala, NE = 150 miles
- Day 12, June 13 – Ogallala, NE to Laramie, WY = 221 miles
- Day 13, June 14 – Laramie, WY to Steamboat Springs, CO = 124 miles
- Day 14, June 15 – Steamboat Springs, CO to Vernal, UT = 161 miles
- Day 15, June 16 – Vernal Utah to Provo, UT = 160 miles
- Day 16, June 17 – Provo, UT to Ely, NV = 246 miles
- Day 17, June 18 – Ely, NV to Fallon, NV = 257 miles
- Day 18, June 19 – Fallon, NV to Sacramento, CA = 192 miles
- Day 19, June 20 – Sacramento, CA to San Francisco, CA 87 miles

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# Fact or Fiction???

In this hobby I come across many thoughts and opinions that as an engineer I find puzzling. First you must listen to the statement and if it makes no logical sense, it at least requires a study of facts as if it could be true.

One, what I call "old men's tales", is the theory that you can't put radial tires on old rims designed in the times of bias ply tires because the radial puts more pressure on the rims causing failure... Ok, features the radial has over a bias ply is that it has a more flexible compliant sidewall than the bias ply to aid in keeping the tread in traction with the roadway. With a bias ply as you go around a corner that is bumpy, the tire tread will lose traction and vehicle will skip across the roadway due to the rigid sidewall. (The way I drive anyway.) This exerts a lot of shock loading to the rim area as the tire is skipping across the road surface.

Now with the flexible sidewall the tread in the bias ply loses grip and starts skipping where the radial will maintain traction with the side wall flexing and the pressure on the rim remains the same without shock loading. I am sure that rim failure has happened but not because of the radial tire, but rather because of a poor, rusty, failing rim in the first place so the radial is blamed and fear is passed down.

Another "old men's tale": Leaded gas preventing burning your valves and valve seat recession. Why Tri Ethel Lead was added to gas by the gas companies after trying many other compounds was because it was found to boost the octane of gas the most while reducing pre detonation with Chryslers along with increasing compression ratios. The first year's production of this compound found many of the workers passing away... Once that got under control it proved a great addition and allowed compressions to increase along with octane. Remember how people after traveling down the interstate would look at that grey color inside the tail pipe and claim the motor is running great? Well we were blasting this burned lead compound into the air and ingesting it. Now this burned lead compound is what we have to look at being of any benefit to valve surfaces. It cannot lubricate any surface and when burned and once produced can only affect surfaces on its way existing the engine bore. It has no possible cooling effects and the coating in all the scientific studies found that as it exists the valve seat area it could leave a debris coating but does not reduce any seat recession in an auto engine. Only did they find a minor benefit in a piston airplane motor exhaust seat only with a duty cycle of 90% all day long.

So how did we get duped into this? When the government did away with leaded fuel, the oil industry suddenly had lots of this compound around as they produced it. So they pushed the fear that if you had an old motor you had to add this compound or your motor would be wrecked. The machine shops also pushed that the other cure was to install hardened intake and exhaust seats. Ok, again if this was a fact the intake seat is never exposed to this burned compound so why do intake seats? Well in most things you just have to follow the money.

Hardened seats purpose is for race motors running very high return spring rates and aggressive cams causing closing of the hard valves slamming into the cast iron seat area that can only typically wear harden with use.

Also today this compound is difficult to find anywhere because it is not being commonly produced as before. You just have to question some of these things because there is typically someone that is going to benefit by misinformation or try to limit their own liability by not throwing out an old fear.

John B.

## Summers End

**Former MVR Member Tom Oliver passed on April 28th. Tom was a life-long member of the AACA and very active in all aspects of the local and national club. He was MVR Club President in 1974 and participated as a judge for AACA shows across the country.**

**Tom was the reason I am in the club. I grew up with his sons Tom Jr. and Chris and I was included in many Oliver family activities. Many of those were MVR related.**

**I recall one bright fall day I was over at the Oliver's and Tom announced a country ride in the 1940 LaSalle convertible coupe. I was invited to ride along and sat in the back seat. The influence on me was unquestionable.**

**Mark**

The **Quad City Mopar Club** and **Crabby's Bar & Grill**

2024 monthly Cruise-Ins Schedule

**This is open to all Makes & Models**

May 28, 2024 5:30PM

June 25, 2024 5:30PM

July 30, 2024 5:30PM

August 27, 2024 5:30PM

September 24, 2024 5:30PM



# The Old Gas Station Page

**Focusing on Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, look out for such relics while driving and send in a photo along with the location.**

This photo is not from our local area but rather from my trip to Miami, OK. It's wonderful to see how they've preserved their Route 66 history.

Thanks -Mark



**OUR COMMUNITY  
IS OUR PASSION**

At IHMVCU, we're actively involved in the communities we serve, and we make a difference by giving back and helping to improve the quality of life for others. **We understand that we only truly thrive as individuals, as neighbors and as communities when we work together.**

SOME OF THE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT



**B** Big Brothers Big Sisters  
OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY



Learn more by visiting [IHMVCU.org](http://IHMVCU.org)





**FOR SALE 1930 Ford Model A Deluxe Coupe. Rumble Seat with Twin Side Mounts. Light engine overhaul in 2023.**

**Call: Wayne Scherer 309-320-2126**





**FOR SALE**



**Many of you knew former MVR member Bob Bennet. Bob passed in January and his 1940 Cadillac Series 60 Special is for sale.**

**Bob drove this regularly so he converted it to 12 volt, added air conditioning, power steering and power brakes. Everything works great.**

**Contact Brandon or Mike at A & A Muffler 309-797-3991  
Asking \$20,000.00**

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