



# The Autograf.

A Publication of the Mississippi Valley Region of the AACA



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

**November 2024**

**2024 MVR Members of the Year award presented by outgoing Club President Mary Bartemeyer to Scott and Jennifer Johnson.**



*Jennifer and I are honored and humbled to be named Members of the Year. We greatly enjoy hosting our "old car" friends as a way to bring people together. It is particularly meaningful for me because as some of you know, my parents were long-time MVR AACA members and my dad Wilbur hosted many similar gatherings in Geneseo over the years. We hope to carry on this tradition for years to come.*

Thanks, Scott

## President's Column Nov 24

Well finally this is my last column as President of the Mississippi Valley Region. After 16 years and approximately 176 of these monthly diatribes you will get a new look and lots of new ideas. No one could have sustained a position like this without the help of lots of people but I think the hardest job probably gets the least attention. Our 'Autograf' Editors that grind this newsletter out every month with new and innovate stories. They need to be thanked and praised more than the Board and all our members. My Presidency started out with Jim and Kay Scott. Not only did they put the newsletter together they printed, folded, addressed, and mailed it out to all members. I know how much work they went through because I did it before I took the Presidency. Now Mark Lousberg and Emily put this creation together and for the most part email it every 15<sup>th</sup> of the Month without fail. We still have about 12 that are mailed but not like the 75 or so of the past. **WITHOUT THE NEWSLETTER WE WOULD NOT KNOW THE LAY OF THE LAND.** Many thanks to our Editors.

During my time, we have maintained 90 to a peak of 150 members. Membership varies every time we have a National Meet. Everyone likes to have one but no one wants the responsibility of doing the planning. We have travelled by bus to Dearborn, Michigan, Auburn, Indiana, Springfield, Illinois and caravanned to so many places I've lost track. We have solved breakdown problems on the road, and laughed at the outcome of many of our trials and tribulations. I have enjoyed and again with the help of so many that could not be named in my one space, the Presidency. I hope that you have enjoyed our galivanting here there and everywhere and help the new Board when asked to make the Mississippi Valley Region be **NOT the best kept secret** in the Quad Cities. See you on the road soon.

Mary B



## 2024 Mississippi Valley Region Banquet

On Saturday November 9th, 56 members of the MVR and two guests gathered for the Annual Banquet. It was a chance for old and new members to mingle, to get updates on the direction of the club and to dine *very well*.

This year's dinner had several highlights. Scott and Jennifer Johnson were named MVR Members of the Year for their support of the club. They have hosted an annual post-Geneseo Car Show event for club members 6 years in a row. They consistently contribute a lot to the club and to the members.

After 16 years Mary Bartemeyer handed off the baton of Presidency to John Brewer. We all owe Mary a great deal for her untiring efforts in support of the Mississippi Valley Region.

Next, Gary Gleason retired as treasurer. Gary served in this position for 12 years. Not only was Gary the treasurer, he served on the board multiple times and took a turn as club president. Again, this club owes a lot to Gary for all of his efforts.



This page is devoted to sharing a little background regarding the two retiring members. I reached out to both of them asking about their years of service to this club. Gary threw together the following synopsis. Reading his notes reminded me of the Rotary International motto, "Service Above Self". -Mark

We are both AACA Senior Master Judges. I have 53 Judging Credits and I am sure Mary has that many or more. I have attended around 30 National Meets not including 15 to 20 times at Hershey. Since Mary is an AACA National Board Member, she has probably attended at least twice that many.

Next June I will finish my 50th year with the Region. There is much more that involves the Buick, Oldsmobile and Classic Car Club as far as working on and attending National and Regional meets and being an officer in those clubs.

Gary's service includes:

**Region**

Secretary/Treasurer 4 yrs 1979,1981-1983  
President 1 yr 1980  
Board Member 5 yrs 1986,2012-2015  
Treasurer 8 yrs 2017-2024  
Historian 37 yrs 1987-2024 (He will continue as Historian)

**National Meets**

1989 Spring Chairman  
1993 Spring Co-Registration  
1995 Grand National Registration  
2010 Fall Meet Assistant Chief Judge  
2013 Grand National Chief Judge  
2017 Fall Meet Treasurer  
2022 Fall Meet Treasurer & Trophies  
2023 Grand National Treasurer & Trophies

Mary's Service includes:

**Region**

Secretary 2 yrs 2003-2004  
Autograf Editor 3 yrs 2005-2007  
President 17 yrs 2008-2024

**National Meets**

2010 Fall Meet Publicity  
2013 Grand National Publicity  
2017 Fall Meet Co-Chairman  
2022 Fall Meet Registration  
2023 Grand National Registration

Mary added that she was President of Buttons and Bows for 2 years. Buttons and Bows was the ladies organization because ladies were not allowed to participate in the Region meetings. That changed during my time in office.

I will always continue to Preserve, Restore and Educate to support Antique Autos and their history. -Mary

## New Member Spotlight MVR Members welcome

Jeff & Julie Morrissey of Blue Grass, IA  
1935 Ford Roadster

Tim & Jennifer Chen of Davenport, IA

Their collection includes:

1973 International Scout

1998 BMW Z3

2003 Corvette Convertible Anniversary Edition

In case you haven't heard, **Great Race** will be heading through the Quad Cities in 2025!

... See more

**2025 GREAT RACE ROUTE**  
June 21-29, 2025

Starts At The Iconic Back To The Fifties Weekend In Minnesota To Lake Murray In South Carolina!

<b>SATURDAY, JUNE 21</b> START: St. Paul, MN OVERNIGHT: Rochester, MN	<b>TUESDAY, JUNE 24</b> LUNCH: Elmhurst, IL OVERNIGHT: Owensboro, KY	<b>FRIDAY, JUNE 27</b> LUNCH: Lewisburg, WV OVERNIGHT: Roanoke, VA
<b>SUNDAY, JUNE 22</b> LUNCH: Waterloo, IA OVERNIGHT: Moline, IL	<b>WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25</b> LUNCH: Elizabethtown, KY OVERNIGHT: Frankfort, KY	<b>SATURDAY, JUNE 28</b> LUNCH: Galax, VA OVERNIGHT: Mooreville, NC
<b>MONDAY, JUNE 23</b> LUNCH: Pontiac, IL OVERNIGHT: Springfield, IL	<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 26</b> LUNCH: Ashland, KY OVERNIGHT: Charleston, WV	<b>SUNDAY, JUNE 29</b> FINISH: Lake Murray, SC

### **2025 MVR Dues are due.**

They can be paid with reservations for the Banquet. The following members have paid ahead and do not need to send dues for 2025:

James Hitch	Joint
Paul Inman	Single
Verle Jacobs	Joint
Ed Leahy	Joint
Jim Smith	Joint
Craig Sommers	Joint

### **Eric L. Smith Antique Autos**



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# A Morning at Mohr's Standard



At the Bettendorf, Iowa corner of State and 35th Streets sits the iconic Mohr's Standard service station. On the morning of October 20th the members of the MVR were treated to a tour of the third generation family-owned treasure.

Built in 1932 as a Standard station, the operation sat on the busy US 67 Highway making it a key stop for travelers heading North and South through Iowa. Mohr's station provided fuel, maintenance and repairs for their customers. Through the years it has worn Union 76 colors, and been a John Deere dealership then a Ford tractor dealership both while still operating as a service station.

Operations as a gas station and dealership ended in the mid-1980s. Now the station has a life as a repair shop for the Mohr's excavating business equipment and occasional hobby shop for Pat Mohr and his son Charlie to work on their muscle car collection.



Dan Mathies  
49 Chevrolet







Third generation owner Pat Mohr, (standing in the doorway) begins the tour by detailing the history of the station.

Pat Mohr has spent years collecting memorabilia of the era to decorate the station. His finds compliment the original equipment still in the office and the service bays.





**Charlie Mohr, Fourth Generation**

During the MVR visit, Pat mentioned how excited he was to see the members' old cars. His father was a big Ford man and loved old convertibles. Pat grew up around several to include a 1928, 36, 38, 39, 49 and 53.

Pat still has his father's 1936 Ford Phaeton and 1953 Ford Indy Pace Car.



# MVR Cookout at Devil's Glenn



After leaving Mohr's, the group travelled the short distance to Bettendorf's Devils Glenn Park for a cookout and car activities.

Mother Nature could not have offered a better day for such an activity.



**We made new member Tim Chen wait for his lunch.**



## *Lugging the Hill*

MVR members love a good car game. While the grills were warming the "Slowest Climb Up The Hill" challenge ensued. Participants were timed climbing a section of the hill in Devil's Glen Park. The cars had to keep moving forward or would be disqualified.

First Place in a manual transmission car went to Stu & Kathy Etheridge in their 1928 R&V Knight while the O'Neill's took first in the automatic transmission category.

Special Mention to John Brewer who climbed the hill backwards in his 1928 Nash.



***They're old cars and occasionally things go wrong.***



Eric Smith's 1928 Studebaker gets towed home from the cookout by John Brewer.

John's 1928 Nash made a great tow-vehicle.

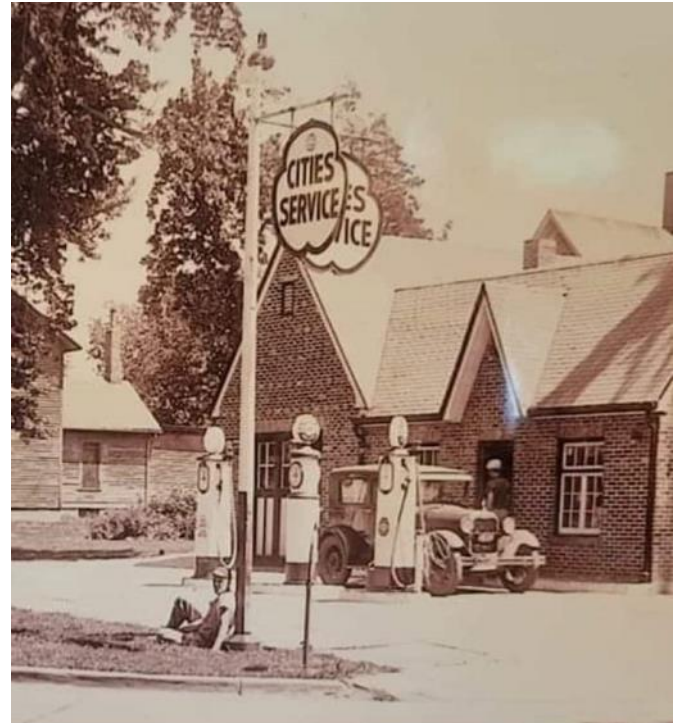
# The Old Gas Station Page

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

-Mark

This month's old gas station was sent to me by MVR member Justin Landwehr.

Located in Galva, Illinois this station is now and Air B&B! Features include two bedrooms, a full bath and a kitchen.



## MVR Members Out and About

On Saturday October 12, 2024 the Concourse D'Quad Cities was held at Hidden Hills Golf Course 3400 block of Indiana Avenue, Bettendorf, Iowa. Proceeds were slated to go to support the Bettendorf Friends of Parks and Recreation programs.

The car show highlighted Velie automobiles, with a 1917, a 1918, a 1919, and a 1920 being displayed. The 1920 had been used in Sweden and was also recently displayed at the Butterworth Deere-Wiman Porch Party. The light blue 1917 was previously owned by Perrine and Neil West. There were approximately 135 entries.

The MVR was represented by Cheryl and Bob Chambers \*1956 brown and white Mercury Custom; Jim Conrad 1975 blue Nova; Deanna and Joe Creek 1952 green Chevrolet 3100 pickup; Pat Flaherty \*1930 black Dodge Brothers; Julie and Joe Grant \*1961 white Chevrolet bubble top and 1970 red Oldsmobile 442; Jean and Lou Haas 1956 aqua and white Chevrolet; Kathy and Dave Huff \*1978 caramel Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme Brougham; Verle Jacobs 1970 red Chevelle SS396; and Ed York \*1985 blue Fiero Pace Car. The above cars with an asterisk received an award. Congratulations to all the winners. Members spotted among the spectators were Dave Husted, Justin Landwehr, also Michelle and Ed Vize.

Reported by Jim Conrad

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Autograf submissions should be sent to Mark Lousberg, (mplousberg@hotmail.com) by the twelfth of the month to be included in the next publication.