



# The Autograf.

A Publication of the Mississippi Valley Region of the AACA



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

**August 2025**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### 8-2025 Notes of Interest

BIX weekend gravesite services each year feature a band playing, along with period cars near the Bix Biederbecke gravesite at Oakdale Cemetery in Davenport. This year, MVR members attending with their cars were Mike Flaherty, Wayne Scherer and John Brewer, and John Pischke joined us from The Ford Club.

Last weekend MVR members participated in Mike Flaherty's "Velie Endurance" event drive to Geneseo. We met at the site of the Velie Factory, then off to try to find Geneseo thru all the road closures. We arrived at Geneseo's fantastic museum which is in an elaborate house that was involved with the Underground Railroad. From there we headed back west and stopped in East Moline at the former RV Knight auto test track for pictures, then across the Government Bridge and west through Davenport's Motor Row on Second Street. Heading west, we arrived at the site of the Independent Truck Company plant at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Howell which now is Sunderbruch Clinic. Across the street we ended up eating ice cream at Sweet Delights! We had 11 cars with 15 members, thanks Mike for a great event!

On Sunday, August 24th we will be the visiting the Alpaca Farm, an event hosted by Eric Smith that was originally scheduled in July but was postponed due to storm weather. Look for details in this issue.

As a reminder, your board meets the first Tuesday of the month and any member is welcome at any time. We are skipping the month of September so next meeting will be in October. Thoughts or ideas for **your** club, please contact me or any of our board members.

Thanks, John



MVR Region AACA  
Monthly Board Meeting  
August 5, 2025

**Call to order: 7 PM**

**Attendance:**

**Officers**

President: John Brewer

Vice President: Scott Johnson

Michael Flaherty      Eric Smith

Secretary: Clair Pearson

Other Members: Tim Drain

**Board Members**

Jan Brewer

Mark Lousberg

Stu Etheridge

Justin Landwehr

Kathy Etheridge

**Minutes of Past Meeting:** Approved as in newsletter

**Treasurer's Report:** Approved as emailed

**Other Reports: Membership:** New members, Dave and Collett Bishop from Muscatine , approved

**Old Business:** Bix gravesite event. 3 cars from MVR and 1 from the Ford club.

**July event** cancelled due to rain. Will reschedule in August.

**Fejervary Park shelter** is reserved by the club in October. Open for suggestion for an event. Perhaps a picnic.

**Antique car hill climb:** No new info.

**Great Race:** Thanks to all that helped and showed their cars.

**2027 AACA Tour:** Sept. 2027

**New Business:**

**Monthly Activities:**

August. Velie tour Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>, Mike coordinating event.

September 7<sup>th</sup>: Geneseo car show followed by gathering at Scott Johnson's home. Food provided.

October. Mark. Sept. 27th

November. Banquet, Scott

**No meeting in Sept.**

**Next Meeting** October 14th, 7 PM

**Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM**

	A	B	C
1	MVR TREASURER REPORT 7/31/25		
2			
3	BEGINNING CHECKBOOK BALANCE 6/30/25		\$2,426.20
4			
5			
6	DEPOSITS		
7	No Deposits		
8			
9			
10	TOTAL DEPOSITS:		\$0.00
11			
12			
13	CHECKS		
14	No checks		
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21	TOTAL CHECKS:		\$0.00
22			
23			
24	<u>ENDING CHECKBOOK BALANCE 7/31/25</u>		<u>\$2,426.20</u>
25			
26			
27	SAVINGS BEGINNING BALANCE IHMVCU		\$5.00
28	SAVINGS ENDING BALANCE IHMVCU		\$5.00
29			
30	SAVINGS BEGINNING BALANCE FAMILY CU		\$25.00
31	SAVINGS ENDING BALANCE FAMILY CU		\$25.00
32			
33	CURRENT CD FAMILY CU #113060 24 mo. APY 4.50%		
34	12/5/24 - 12/4/26 Current Balance 6/30/25:	\$10,443.03	
35	6/30/25 \$115.19 earned for quarter		
36			
37	Current CD IHMVCU Cert. #3004 9 mo. APY 4.40%	\$10,827.68	
38	Renewed 2/11/25		
39	7/31/25 \$38.25 earned		
40	TOTAL CD'S	\$21,270.71	
41			
42	<u>CHECKING, SAVINGS, CD'S TOTAL 7/31/25</u>		<u>\$23,726.91</u>

## Summers End

**Long time MVR member Jan Patting passed away on July 28, 2025**

### New Member Spotlight

The MVR welcomes new members Dave and Colette Bishop of Muscatine, IA.

Their cars include a 1955 Pontiac Starchief, A 1976 Chevrolet C10 and a 1978 Chevrolet Corvette



1970s Photo Streiter Lincoln Mercury, courtesy Mike Flaherty

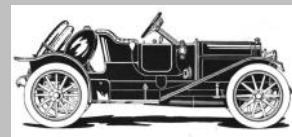
**Do you Facebook?**

**MVR member Justin Landwehr has done an excellent job with our club's Facebook page.**

**Check it out!**



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# Mike Flaherty's Reliability Shakedown Tour



*Photo by Craig Sommers*



On Saturday August 9th members of the MVR and two guests from Saint Louis met at the site of the Velie factory to begin a planned tour of historic Quad Cities Auto sites.



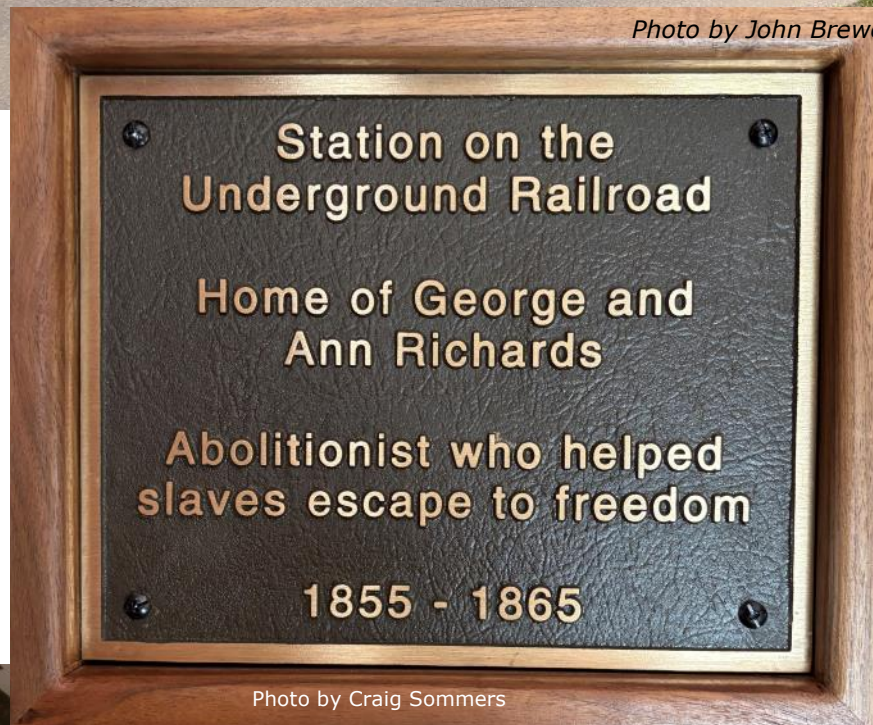
*Photo by John Brewer*





*Photo by John Brewer*

*Photo by John Brewer*



*Photo by Craig Sommers*

Museum stop in  
Geneseo, IL.



*Photos by John Brewer*



Mike planned a stop at the former RV Knight auto factory site  
test track in East Moline.

A great photo opportunity for the tour group!



*Photo by Craig Sommers*



# MVR Members Out and About

HOMEcoming 2025

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE** Mike Flaherty of Davenport, IA, brought "Miss Lydia", a 1925 Model T Touring car that was converted to a panel truck by the previous owner. Flaherty is an engaging Model T enthusiast and club member who enjoys sharing his love of old books, old maps, and old cars. He became the third owner of "Miss Lydia" in April 2024 and began restoring it as a bookmobile in October. Flaherty displays his personal collection of out-of-print and current books as well as periodicals, including *The Vintage Ford*, on custom shelves.

Flaherty says, "It has both a Warford gearbox and Ruckstell axle as well as disc brakes which make managing the weight of the cargo more manageable. The paint scheme reflects the first book caravan in



Iowa as shown in period photographs." It is, in fact, named after that vehicle; called "The Lydia" because of Miss Lydia Barrette, city librarian at Mason City, IA, who envisioned the project to get "three books to every man, woman, and child in Iowa." Flaherty plans to have his restoration completed early next year in time for the 100th anniversary of "The Lydia".



MVR Member Mike Flaherty and his 1925 Model T were prominently mentioned in the Vintage Ford Magazine.



**ESMARELDA** is a 1915 Touring with bright brass and shiny paint. She is flashy but he give her a run! Vech says "I'm Richard and he drive Stumpy\*. it at all and Ela 'We should get the local club t found a car in! California that I'd like. I got it working on it a stopped." Vech several custom including a str apparatus to ac

on starting "so you don't have to run." A trans transmission wrench, luggage rack, a custom g handle with an embedded 1915 Lincoln penny, of plaques are the more noticeable of Vech's un to Esmarelda.

\*Stumpy: Richard Poole's 1927 Touring featured in *The Vintage Ford* June 2025 issue, was also at Homecoming.

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**THE HAMILTON FAMILY** is relatively new to the Model T community. Tyler and his wife Courtney bought their first T only six months ago. Tyler says of his 1927, "It's a truck in progress". I don't intend to do much to it; just keep it running and use it whenever I can."



**CAR SHOW** Saturday's festivities included a car show for Model Ts and other vintage vehicles. Visitors cast votes in three categories. The following prizes were awarded:  
Best Model T - Rosemary Roorda, 1912 Runabout "Rawleigh's Products" Pickup  
People's Choice - Mike Flaherty, 1925 Touring "Bookmobile"  
Most Unique Car - Rosemary Roorda, 1912 Runabout "Rawleigh's Products" Pickup



**THE #5** Matthew Jacob was taking questions from onlookers that were coming faster than he, or his 1918 Speedster, could manage. The car was turning heads so fast some people might have minor whiplash - and the car was sitting still! Jacob started the Speedster project a couple of years ago and he's already taken it to Greenfield Village. With plans to continue building, touring with, and showing it, Jacob said, "I'm not done yet." We hope to catch up with him another time to get more of this fascinating story.





## MVR Members Out and About (Continued)

The annual Bix Beiderbecke gravesite jazz service always puts out the call for period cars. MVR members Wayne Scherer, Mike Flaherty and John Brewer answered the call. They were joined by John Pischke from the Ford Club.



*Photos by John Brewer*

## UPCOMING MVR EVENTS

### August 24th

Pack your picnic lunch.

Tour of McCarty's Alpaca Farm. Meet 10:00 AM at 3615 West Kimberly Road, Davenport. We will tour out to the farm at 10:15. Address of McCarty's Corner Farm is 21060 240th Street, Eldridge. Following the farm event we will tour to Walnut Grove Pioneer Village for the picnic.

### September 6th

Planes Trains and Automobiles in Geneseo followed by gathering at Scott Johnson's home.

### September 21st

Butterworth Porch Party 12-5.

Help us celebrate the semi quinentennial of our nation at the Porch Party on September 21 from noon to 5 pm. This year's theme is: It's a Family Thing. Guests will learn more about The Deere family and how to preserve their own unique family heritage through heirlooms, including photography.

### September 27th

Fall MVR Cruise and Picnic

Meet in Port Byron at Sandstrom 218 South Hight Street at 9:00 for coffee and donuts before cruising on Old Route 2 to visit the private car and memorabilia collection of Keith Stratlow in Morrison, IL. Following the tour we will cruise to Rockwood Morrison State Park for a cookout at the Lakeview North Shelter.

This is a 34 mile trip one-way. We will cruise at 40 MPH.

**RSVP for this event is required by September 19th .** Send all RSVP notices to Mark at [mplousberg@hotmail.com](mailto:mplousberg@hotmail.com) or 309-373-2169.





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***The MVR newsletter is published on the  
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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.***