

The Autograf.

A Publication of the Mississippi Valley Region of the AACA



www.mvr.aaca.com

March 2024

President's Column March 2024

Well, my big news for the end of February was the fall my son took helping me with storm damage on my birthday. He shattered his left foot, broke his left leg, and sprained his right. What a birthday that was. Surgery has repaired the foot and plated the leg so now he's impatient about the time the recouperation will take. "I don't have time for this!" He thinks he is going to Charlotte, NC for the Grand National Meet in April. We will see.

There was a great variety to the Show 'N' Tell. From car parts, to innovative gadgets, to beautiful hobby items. It had something for everyone. Thanks to all in attendance and to Hickory Gardens for the entire room for free and decent food ordered off the menu.

The Quad City Regional Auto Show was very busy. Thanks to Jim Davies, Joe Grant, Delbert Traub, Dick and Sandy Perry, John Brewer, Eric Smith, and Mark Lousberg for bringing out their vehicles. Dick and Sandy's Dodge was shown at the 1928 Chicago Auto Show and now all these years later at this car show here in the Quad Cities. I heard that the show was bigger than the Chicago Auto Show at McCormick Place... What a great plus for the Quad Cities. Some of our cars were positioned by the Honda display. The salespeople were touting the amenities of the Hondas, especially how much seating room they contained. Not to contradict their thoughts, Mark's Plymouth was opened up showing so much room in the back seat you hardly can touch the front seat. Great teaching tools from Eric's sporty Thunderbird, to John's flashy Nash, with Joe's bubble top, and Del's 'Vette.

Up next is Mike Flaherty's map presentation at the German American Heritage Center. If you have not heard, Mike is an avid map collector and has maps from the horse and buggy days to present. He does a great presentation which changes every time I've heard it. There is a small entry fee but well worth it.

April 14th is "Remembering the Past to Navigate the Future" at Butterworth Education Center. There will be an old fashioned pot luck dinner with Gary Gleason providing us a photo array of cars and people that are or were connected to our club.



Hope to see you soon!

New Member Spotlight

The MVR Welcomes

Frank Brandi of Moline, IL. Frank owns a 1919 Model T Speedster.

Steve Diercks of Davenport, IA. Steve owns a 1911 Ford Torpedo.

Josh Kreuder of Chadwick, IL. Josh owns a 14926 Model T Ford Coupe and a 1980 Shay Ford Replica.

Ernesto Leon of Davenport, IA. Ernesto owns a 1922 Oldsmobile Touring Car, a 1923 Oldsmobile Touring Car and several brass Model Ts.

We look forward to you joining us for club events!

April 14th, 2024

Old Fashioned Pot Luck and

A presentation by Gary Gleason/Mary Bartemeyer on

Remembering The Past To Understand The Future

1 p.m. Butterworth Education Center 1105 8th Street Moline, IL

Bring a dish to share and your own table service

2024 Show and Tell

The Annual MVR Show and Tell brought out twenty-five members to the Hickory Grove Restaurant to share a meal and stories.



Mark Lousberg brought a framed picture of an A-20 Havoc with the associated aircraft identification card. These were used in WWII to train spotters to differentiate friendly vs. enemy aircraft. It was then we learned that MVR Members Mary Bartemeyer and Jim Smith both volunteered as spotters during the war.







Sandy Perry shows off vintage car parts still in their original package.



Jim shows unique precision tools hoping someone can identify their use.

Dick Perry gave the group an explanation on the workings of a vacuum gas flow system.

Eric Smith shows off a Tether Car





Stu Etheridge shows a tool for clamping rims when changing a tire.





1932 Auburn 12-160A Custom Cabriolet

I was asked to write about this acquisition so here it is: It all started with meeting Floyd DuVall and his 35 Auburn Speedster at the French Mansion in east Davenport overlooking the river many years ago. In getting to know him, he once shared that Auburn also had a V-12 Lycoming that you could do a valve job on without removing the heads. Studying the design I saw many other unusual features. The spec's were great for the poor gas available back then at 391 cu. in. making 160 hp, the best ratio of all V-12's! Each bank had its own set of: overhead valves running horizontally, intake manifold with carb. and exhaust manifold. Rocker arm levers had a common pivot rod with rollers running on cam and adjusters contacting end of valve stem. In other words there are no lifters! Similar to Duesenberg's walking beam racing motors with Fred Duesenberg helping with the design. Valve adjustment involved removing a narrow cover between the 45 degree banks. The rods also feature oil squirters to spray the thrust walls sides of the cylinder walls. (Nash does this also.) No other motor is uniquely designed with all these combined features!!!

My friend John Kozol, I acquired his 27 Nash he restored, lived in Washington State and called me one day about his good friend, Carl, who was looking to sell his 32 Auburn with a V-12 which he did a 100 point restoration on 15 years ago. Turns out Carl is a well-known restorer of Full Classic cars including Packard's and also is a retired Boeing engineer they would consult with to solve problems. I did a flew to Seattle to meet Carl and the car, closed the deal and took a flight home the next day. Turns out Karl is 92 and both he and his wife are in poor health and were mainly looking for his last restored car to be in good hands and taken care of which my friend John had assured them that I was their guy. Next step money.... Sold the 32 Auburn 8-100A and the 33 Nash is for sale. Sell 2 to get one and one less to take care of, a win-win!!

Next step: retrieve car. Now I was told there was an extra block and head to go with the car and my friend John had a Nash Advanced 6 motor and transmission in storage out there to go with the 27. I put 10 ply tires on the enclosed trailer and prepared the Tahoe. Ended up out there in two days, a day early, and discovered an electric brake control issue. Obtained another and installed it and it worked intermittently also. Stopped at several so called trailer experts and I knew more than them which was very little. Ended up with a guy who worked his business out of his house and was very electrically smart. He found a potential issue that the breakaway sealed battery was never being charged the way it was wired and for some reason was finally dead creating a potential problem. In the end all was fixed and I met up with John for dinner in Seattle. The next morning we headed north for 45 minutes to Carl's house. Soon I discovered there was a **complete** V-12 motor that was apart, transmission, double disc clutch, flywheel, 3 axles, two speed rear end, hundreds of parts and 6 new tires in wrappers. We loaded all parts, his file on restoring, the car and finished up paperwork. A new storm was on its way so heading south near the Seattle airport we retrieved the Nash motor and parts putting them on the tail end of trailer to get some weight off the hitch! I filled the trailer tires and rear Tahoe tires to 80# along with maxing out the air bags and air shocks, and headed down I-5 to Columbia River to try to avoid some of the mountains I experienced on the way out. Then east on I-84 and I discovered one huge hill to climb at 25 mph in first gear... In Wyoming between Laramie and Cheyenne is the Continental Divide and another climb in first gear at 25mph.... Across Nebraska a strong west wind was a blessing! Arriving back in the area I weighed in at Walcott at 18,200#... Tahoe and trailer weigh 10,000#, Auburn 4,500# so I had 3,700# in parts total. Turns out I was only 5,500# over truck's towing capacity...



Well the truck is getting all fluids changed and it looks like total miles came out to 4,300. Costs of \$1,900 on gas, food and motels, Jan of course missing me.... and all in 5 days. Plus sales tax and registering... Lessons learned were numerous, but the most important one is to acquire cars **closer** to home!!!!!!!

Even with all the challenges it was a fantastic opportunity that was very hard to turn down... John

2024 Quad City Regional Auto Show

Old **Cars** at a New Car Show



For three years running, The Quad City Regional Auto Show has invited the MVR to exhibit at their event. This is a great exposure opportunity for our club and we would like to thank the members who helped out with cars and for their time working the show.

Members who showed cars: Dick and Sandy Perry-1928 Dodge Brothers Sedan, Eric Smith-1957 Ford Thunderbird, John Brewer-1928 Nash, Jim Davies (National Member) 1968 Chevrolet Impala. *Not pictured* Joe Grant-1962 Chevrolet Bel Aire, Mark Lousberg-1938 Plymouth Sedan.





The MVR display got a lot of attention!





Upcoming MVR Events

Iowa Map History Presentation

On Sunday, March 24th at 2:00 PM, the German American Heritage Center (712 W 2nd St, Davenport, IA 52802) will host a presentation by Mike Flaherty on the making of the first automobile atlas of Iowa by local Davenport cartographer Melchoir Huebinger.

Huebinger arrived as a German immigrant to Davenport in 1880 to work as a surveyor and cartographer for the Army Corps of Engineers in Rock Island. He published his first local atlas of Scott County in 1882, and later produced hundreds of local maps and atlases in his downtown Davenport shop until 1910, when he moved to Des Moines to coordinate the first ever automobile road atlas of Iowa. Mike Flaherty will present a history of Huebinger's central role in the development of modern maps of Davenport, culminating in the production of the first automobile atlas of the state of Iowa in 1912. Huebinger's career covered the transition from horse and buggy Victorian maps to modern 20th century automobile map production and is a fascinating look into how maps were made at the turn of the last century.

The presentation will include dozens of local maps, guide books and atlases produced by Huebinger's companies between 1882 and 1926 from Mr. Flaherty's collection.



Eric L. Smith Antique Autos

Specializing in Restorations of 1930 & Earlier 815-535-1367 1958els@gmail.com Over 40 Years Experience



Upcoming MVR Events (cont'd)

April 14th, Club historical presentation and Pot Luck at Butterworth.May, American Graffiti Drive & Picnic hosted by Kathy & Stu EtheridgeJune 1st, Family Day, West Lake ParkJune 14th, 2PMFriendship Manor Car Show







Like a Good Neighbor, State Farm is There Roger Clawson, Agent 800 36th Avenue Moline, Illinois 309-736-0606



The Old Gas Station Page

We continue our Autograf special of Old Gas Stations of the Quad City Area. Please send photos and any background information you might have of local gas stations



Located on Illinois Route 92 at the corner of 55th Street in Moline, this old station now serves as a used car dealership. Anybody know its' history?

MVR FACEBOOK PAGE FACTS

Under the stewardship of member Justin Landwehr the MVR Facebook page has gone from 280 followers to 440! This is great visibility for our club. Thank you, Justin!





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

have teamed up to bring you the 2024 monthly Cruise-Ins

This is open to all Makes & Models

CRABBY'S WILL HAVE BASKET SPECIALS

We will raffle off the following each month with 100% of the proceeds going to **Gilda's Club of the Quad Cities:**

One \$50 gift card to Crabby's

AND...

A variety of gift cards throughout the season

WHEN

Last Tuesday of every month 5:30pm - ???

WHERE

Crabby's Bar & Grill

826 W 1st Ave, Coal Valley

(309) 799-3300



May 28, 2024 June 25, 2024 July 30, 2024 August 27, 2024 September 24, 2024

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