



The Autograf.

A Publication of the Mississippi Valley Region of the AACA



www.mvr.aaca.com

August 2023

The MVR Hosts the 2023 Grand Nationals and Zenith Award Issue

Presidents Column August 2023

Spectacular! I don't have any other words to describe the 2023 Grand National/Zenith. There are so many emails/calls etc. that say we have hit it out of the ballpark when it comes to meets. "Best in 20 years", "Great organization", "Attention to detail", "Affordable costs", "Quality of food served", "Absolutely wonderful venue and staff", "Relaxed, friendly atmosphere" etc. If you did not see something new or did not meet people with the same interests, you certainly didn't attend this meet.

People started rolling in on Tuesday. Most had not ever been to this area prior to the event and were amazed at how much there was to see and do. Some went to The Amanas, some to Dyersville, others to The Arsenal, of course Deere Headquarters and Visitors Center. Some ladies made it to the Deere Wiman Complex and others were just content to shop our antique stores. Someone bought out the Isabel Bloom Store. I haven't had time to figure out where all came from, but know that the States of Arizona, Florida, and Maine were represented.

I didn't think the ice cream line would ever let up, the Celebration Belle riverboat cruise and a smoothie as glass Mississippi River a huge success, and banquet food that you could actually eat and enjoy.

For those who put in tireless hours, everyone wants to thank you. You raised the bar for meets other regions are preparing. Final facts and figures will follow.

Mary B



A Note of Thanks

As the Show Chairman I was "out front", but the real action was happening behind the scenes orchestrated by very dedicated club member volunteers. The success of this show is because of them and their tireless efforts.

Club member and show volunteer Craig Sommers interviewed a dozen or so AACA members showing cars as he walked the show field. He made note of the comments and shared them with the show board.

"I spoke to about twelve random car owners. I informally asked them what they liked about this year's show. The following, in random order, are their comments."

1. The weather
2. They liked the venue, hotel, and show fields were paved.
3. Good spacing of cars on the show fields.
4. Each stall was marked for each vehicle.
5. Entrants were escorted to their parking stall on the show field.
6. Food trailers were available on the show fields.
7. The riverboat cruise (and the food and the music)
8. The fact that there were restaurants and attractions nearby.
10. One judge, who was not working this show, liked how we took care of the judges while they worked. Delivering water to them as needed. Apparently, that does not happen at every show.
11. Good organization
12. Good volunteers
13. Great trailer parking
 - * Enjoyed being met by a golf cart and escorted to the trailer parking stalls
 - * Some covered parking
 - * Check off system in the lot
 - * Parking lot maps!
 - * Organized parking volunteers

Our club provided something unique and special to the AACA members and the local community. This would never have been possible without members like the show team volunteers.

Thank you to all who gave time and effort!

-Mark Lousberg

Our Volunteers

Registration: Sandy & Dick Perry, Kathy Etheridge, Mary Bartemeyer, Sandi O'Neal, Carol Pearson, Audrey Birmingham

Merchandise: Jan Brewer & Val Reedy, Mike Flaherty, Kathy Etheridge.

Membership: Mike and Audrey Birmingham

Table decorations: Jan Brewer & Val Reedy

Trophys & setup: Gary, & LaVonne Gleason, Jean & Lou Haas.

Field Marshall: John Brewer

Hospitality: Clair Pearson

Finance: Gary Gleason

Parking: Clair Pearson

Zenith: Eric Smith

Chief Judge: Fred Bartemeyer Jr.

Show Day Signage and Water: Annette Bartemeyer



Trailer Parking Report

It is a daunting task to accommodate over 160 car trailers and their tow vehicles. This phase of the Grand National took a tremendous amount of planning which began months ago meeting with property owners. Contracts were signed giving us use of parking areas next to the Isle and on State Street near the Waterfront Convention Center and east of the Alter building.

John Brewer utilized his computer skills to produce excellent layouts of each lot showing the best way to utilize the available space to hold the most trailers possible. Approximately a month prior to the meet, an informational letter and map was sent to the attendees bringing a trailer.

There was a fee to park in the lots. This was our club's greatest source of income for the meet. This helped cover our expenses such as rental for tables and chairs, porta-potties, golf carts, police, a dumpster and so on. We did have free use of traffic cones. Their use was donated from Bi-State Baricade in Coal Valley

Trailers began arriving as early as Monday. We officially staffed the parking lots from 10-6, Wednesday through Friday and Saturday during load in for late arrivals. We had 6-7 volunteers throughout these times. I cannot thank all of them enough. Everything went smoothly with the check-in and parking process. Our team received many positive comments about how well organized the process was.

Listed here are the individuals who put in their time to make this happen: club members Stu Etheridge, Kent Reedy, John O'Neil, John Brewer, Craig Sommers, Verle Jacobs, Tom Durbin, Jim Conrad, Steve LeMaster, Ed Vize, Joe Grant, Kevin Kelly and Mike Birmingham. Also, there were two friends of Stu, Chuck Stone a local guy who enjoys cars and Greg Gumtow. He is from Michigan and had a car in the show. If I omitted you, I apologize.

Story by Clair Pearson



Zenith Competition August 11th





Cruise Night August 11th



Cruise Photos by Tom Gibson





2023 Grand National Show Day

Field Crew

Weather was perfect on Saturday and all 179 vehicles entered were quickly positioned in their assigned spots so judges could easily find their assigned classes. As vehicles proceeded to the fields their pictures were quickly taken and they turned out perfect at the awards banquet. Late arrivals could also pick up their packets from Registration before entering. Most displayed their mirror hang tags and others were quickly identified and placed. We had many members participating, below, and if I left any out I apologize. ***All efforts made the morning go perfect!***

Special thanks to: Ed York, Tim Drain, Alan Ford, Scott Johnson, Angie Kerr, Bob Kerr, Steve LeMaster, Mark, Lousberg, John O'Neil, Kent Reedy, Steve Sabbe, Eric Smith, Rich Simmon, Wayne Scherer, Jim Conrad, Dick Perry, Sandy Perry, Joe Grant, Pat Flaherty , Verle Jacobs, Ed Vise & all the rest.

-John Brewer











MVR Volunteering Members and MVR Winners



MVR Members with Cars in the Grand Nationals

1st Grand National, Steven Dierks 1911 Ford Model T

1st Grand National, Jan Brewer 1927 Nash 271

Senior Grand National, Wayne Scherer 1928 Willys-Knight 56

Repeat Senior Grand National, Randy Guyer 1958 Dodge Regal Lancer

Repeat Preservation, James Conrad 1975 Chevrolet Nova

2nd Grand National, Angela Kerr 1960 Chevrolet Corvette

1st Grand National, Edward Vise 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air

1st Grand National, Ed York 1985 Pontiac Fiero GTP PPG Pace Car

Senior Grand National, Randy Guyer 1957 Chrysler 300C

1st Grand National, Verle Jacobs 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle SS

Special Congratulations

Go out to Wayne Scherer for receiving a **Senior Grand National** for his 1928 Willys-Knight Model 56 Coupe. His father and he re-stored the W-K 43 years ago and he has kept it in perfect shape all these years while registering 320 miles.



GRAND NATIONAL MEET MEETING

Butterworth Education Center, August 2, 2023

Present: Mark Lousberg, Mary Bartemeyer, John Brewer, Dick and Sandy Perry, Eric Smith, Clair Pearson, Mike Flaherty, Stuart and Kathy Etheridge, Fred Bartemeyer, Jr.,

Gary Gleason reviewed Grand National Budget figures with a recalculation based on lower number of registrations. Meet income to date is \$46,749. This will still allow the meet to finish in the black.

Vehicle Registration update: 150 vehicle Registrations, 2 motorhomes, 107 trailers less than 25', 23 trailers more than 25'.

Meet event registrations: 154 for ice cream social, 195 for Cruise, 123 for banquet (pork), 170 for banquet (chicken), 2 children. T-Shirt orders: 63 total

A few more cars may be coming from the NY Meet that ended July 29.

Zenith Report: Eric has talked to all Zenith owners and they are all staying for Gr. National meet. He will arrange cars in Convention Center for Friday judging. The winning car will remain on display for Saturday's banquet.

The Meet Book will not be printed until next week and will be handed out to all registrants at check in.

Clair will meet with hotel staff on 8/4 RE tables and chairs (numbers and locations). He will pickup rented tables from AAA Rents for outside use on Friday, 8/7. He and Stuart have now sent out all trailer tags with parking directions to registrants. Wednesday a.m. is soonest for trailer parking at the Isle. He has 8 radios that can be used by parking staff. Cones will be rented from Bi-State. Cardboard boxes with liners for trash will be available on show grounds. Clair will contact Arrowhead Ranch RE help picking up trash.

Merchandise will be sold inside the Isle on Thursday & Friday and outside on Saturday. Credit card now OK.

Membership, Merchandise and Registration tables on **SATURDAY** will be located on the NE corner of the Parking Ramp vs. outside pavilion.

Publicity – Clair's newspaper article RE the Meet appeared in Plus 60 Club News on Aug. 6 and July 30.

John's Field Layout for the show cars was approved by Fred. John has contacted numerous club members and requested their help with show car parking on Saturday. John requested that Mark make announcements during the Ice cream social and during the cruise RE showfield entering process and not leaving until Chief Judge approves dismissal. Fred has approved for 1 person to be allowed to unload 2 cars at showfield entrance. Annette will deliver water to judges during the day. Fred has 94 judges at this time.

Registration helpers met with Mary July 27 and August 4 to pack envelopes with windshield card, judging sheets, tickets. We will hand people their Meet Book, the Zenith Book and their lanyards. Registration Hours are 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. inside Isle of Capri Wed – Friday; 6 a.m. – 11 a.m. on Saturday at showfield entrance.

Toys for Tots has requested a place on Saturday only to collect money for Christmas toys. They will be in the parking garage.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Submitted by Sandy Perry, Secretary

Upcoming MVR Events

August 27th Cars & Ice Cream 3:30 PM

Country Style 4115 Kennedy Drive East Moline, IL.

September 1st at 4PM Open House at MVR Member Eric Smith's restoration shop.

2202 US HIWAY 6 Units 5-7 Coal Valley, IL.

Food and Water Provided. **RSVP is a MUST.**

Contact Eric at 815-535-1367 by August 28th

4th Annual Geneseo Car Show "After-Party": As has now become tradition, Scott and Jennifer Johnson will host a gathering (with meal) at their home north of Geneseo after the Geneseo "Trains, Planes and Automobiles" car show on Saturday, **September 9, 2023**. Meet at the Johnsons' after the award ceremony, which usually concludes around 2:30. Note: Car show attendance is not required; you can come straight to the Johnsons. The address is 25967 Angel Ferry Rd, Geneseo, IL 61254. If you plan to come, please **RSVP to Scott** by email to scottjohnson309@gmail.com or via call or text to 309-502-1825 **by Wednesday, September 6**, so Scott and Jennifer can be sure to have enough food on hand. We will also provide more details and directions by separate email.

September 24th Cars & Ice Cream 3:30 PM

Country Style 4115 Kennedy Drive East Moline, IL.

October 14th Fall Cruise and Picnic Destination Big River State Forest Shady Pines South Shelter

1337 Township Road 2850N Keithsburg, IL.

Stay tuned for gathering and tour details

MVR Members Out & About

Michael Flaherty took his 1912 Galloway GT Farm Wagon to the Walcott Truck Jamboree. Michael reports, "I had the truck on display Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It was well received by crowds and my car cover weathered the storm Friday without any issues. I had to tighten the mount for the brass bulb horn several times due to the kids loosening it up with all the honking. The driver next to the St Louis Antique Truck Historical Society tent brought a live kangaroo. His name was Duncan and he didn't like dogs. They had him wear a diaper when he was in the truck."



Michael was quick to point out he had help from MVR member Eric Smith getting the Galloway to Walcott.

July Cars and Ice Cream.

***Great weather and
a great turnout!***



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Automotive History in August

Aug. 6, 1959	Chevrolet registers the name Corvair
Aug. 11, 1966	The first Camaro is manufactured in the Norwood Ohio plant
Aug. 12, 1908	The first Model T was manufactured by Ford
Aug. 18, 1940	Walter P Chrysler dies
Aug. 21, 1897	Ransom Eli Olds forms the Olds Motor Vehicle Company



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



Learn more by visiting IHMVCU.org



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