ROAD CHATTER

Volume 59 Issue 11

Early Ford V-8 Club - Northern Illinois Regional Group #8 P.O. Box 803 Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0803

November 2025

www.nirgv8.org

UPCOMING NIRG EVENTS

November 8 - V-8s and Veterans Lunch, see page 2.

November 11 - Monthly Meeting, Wheeling Township Service Center, 7:30 pm. Note special date!

November 13 - Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom 7:30 pm.



OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

November 2 - Daylight Saving Time ends - remember to set your clocks back.

November 2 - MARC turkey dinner, Elburn.

November 11 - A day to say "Thank You" to the veterans in our lives.

November 27 - Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families.

In this Issue

Page 2 – Este Scheve is once again hosting our annual V-8's and Veterans luncheon at the Patio in Lombard. See details here.

Page 2 – Reserve the dates for events coming up in December and January.

Page 2 – Reminder! Dues are due for 2026.

Page 3 – President Scott Gilday talks about recent events, some work on Tom O'Donnell's Lincoln, and salutes a very special veteran.

Page 4 – Ron Blum hosted a fall colors tour of the north shore with interesting stops at Fort Sheridan and the Bahá'í House of Worship in Wilmette. See details here.

Page 6 – Minutes of the October 21 monthly meeting.

Page 7 – A few words from your editors.

Page 8 – Rearview Mirror – information about club events over the past 50 years, plus a Flathead Flashback.

Page 9 – Remember to review the Events Calendar each month; also, see who has a birthday or anniversary this month.

Page 9 – Bonus pictures from the fall colors tour.

Page 10 – Check out the for sale and wanted ads.

Back Cover – Our group on the Lake Michigan Shore on the Fall Colors Tour.





Elections will be held at the **November 11** meeting. There will be another round of nominations to ensure that we have a full slate of officers for 2026. We need you to come to the meeting and cast your vote for our club's future. We will also have our traditional November turkey drawing for three \$25 cash prizes! Plan to attend.

2025 OFFICERS

President

Scott Gilday

Vice President

Jay Hinshaw

Secretary

Gary Osborne

Treasurer

Ron Blum

Membership Chairman

Ken Bounds

Health & Welfare

Dawn Zulas

Newsletter

Ken and Carolyn Bounds

Tour Chairman

Open

Board of Directors

Ken Bounds Ciena Gilday Mike Heatherly Rusty Medlin Este Scheve George Zulas

MEETINGS

7:30 pm on the third Tuesday of the month at the Wheeling Township Service Center, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL

NEWSLETTER

Send submissions to Editor, 1N410 Forest Ave., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 or e-mail

editor@nirgv8.org

or call 630-858-9474

Publishing deadline is the 25th of the month.

The Road Chatter is published monthly by NIRG. Other Early Ford V-8 Regional newsletters are welcome to use material from the Road Chatter provided the Road Chatter is credited as the source.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Veterans Day Lunch

Saturday, November 8, 2025 11:30am



The Patio BBQ Restaurant will be the location for another great event to support the Veterans in our life! Join us for lunch.

2780 S. Highland Ave, Lombard

Off I-355 at Butterfield Road

No signup required - everyone is welcome!

Questions? Call Este Scheve 630.420.0029

Save the Dates for More Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 14 - Dawn Zulas is hosting a Christmas Luncheon at Tony Spavone's Ristorante in Bloomingdale. We visited there a couple of years ago and everyone had a good time.

Saturday, January 10 (date tentative) - Jay Hinshaw is repeating last year's Installation Dinner at Cooper's Corner in Winfield. Alternate date January 17.

2026 Dues are Due It is time to renew your membership to



It is time to renew your membership for 2026. For those who are "grandfathered in" to receive the printed edition of the *Road Chatter* by mail, dues remain at \$25 per year. Members who receive the *Road Chatter* through e-mail only (no paper copy) pay \$15 per year.

You should have received a renewal form by e-mail or in your Road Chatter last month. The renewals have been filled out for you. Please check them for any errors or additions and return them, with your payment, to membership chairman Ken Bounds. The address is shown on the form.

Thank you to the 34 members who have already renewed!

From the Desk of the President

Welcome to November. I hope you had a chance to get out and enjoy the nice weather in October and participate in some of our club events.

First, thank you to Ron Blum for hosting our Fall Colors tour to the north suburbs of Chicago along scenic Sheridan Road on October 25th. After rescheduling from the prior week due to rain, the group had a really nice day and got to see the changing colors and some beautiful sites, followed by lunch at Dengeos Restaurant in Skokie.



Next, I'd like to thank Ken Bounds for giving a very informative tech talk on replacing the master cylinder on his 50 Ford Convertible. In addition to Ken's presentation, we also got to enjoy Carolyn's wonderful custom baked fall-themed cookies. And, as Ken's hasn't finished the job yet, we look forward to part two!

Last month I got the opportunity to spend some time with Tom O'Donnell and his grandson Tom helping them replace the generator on Tom's 53 Lincoln. Based on the complexity of the job, Tom figured it would be easier to make use of a





lift, and he was right. I now really appreciate how easy it is to change the generator on my '41-48 Fords!

With Veterans Day this month I would like to salute all our veterans for their service to our country. Este and John Scheve are hosting our Veterans Day Lunch on November 8th, at The Patio in Lombard. Please join us for a great lunch and to honor our vets!

Also, on a very special related note, I'd like call out member Len Vinyard who had the honor of participating on the 125th Honor Flight Chicago on September 17th, where he was one of three Kore-

an War veterans on this very special tour to Washington D.C. Lenny served in Korea as a radio operator near the demilitarized area, and his son Jeff worked for two years to get him scheduled for this trip. Congratulations Lenny and thank you for your service!

Lastly, please don't miss our Monthly Meeting on the special date of November 11th. We will hold our very important vote for officers and directors, and there's still time to nominate someone or throw your hat in the ring.

I look forward to seeing you this month! And please don't forget to check us out on the web at nirgv8.org.







North Shore Fall Colors Driving Tour By Ken Bounds

On Saturday, October 25, Ron Blum hosted the fall colors driving tour. After postponing the tour one week due to the threat of heavy rain, we were treated to a gorgeous fall day with temperatures in the 50s. Since we have yet to experience a frost, the leaves are very late this year in turning colors, but we did see some beautiful examples.

The day kicked off with everyone meeting at the McDonalds in Highwood, Illinois, adjacent to Fort Sheridan. Those driving early V-8s were Ken & Carolyn Bounds – 1950 Crestliner, Jay Hinshaw with friends Bill & Susan Schoenbeck – 1940 Tudor, Tom & Steve O'Donnell – 1953 Lincoln, and Dan Pudelek – 1950 Crestliner. Driving modern iron were our hosts Ron & Arlene Blum with their friend Audrey Rohlinger, John Judge and friend Yolana Rojas, Gary & Dawn Osborne, John & Este Scheve, and George & Dawn Zulas.

Over the past 60 years we have driven on countless fall colors tours, typically to the north or west

of Chicago. But Ron hit it out of the park with his idea: a drive down the Illinois north shore of Lake Michigan. The drive, mostly along Sheridan Drive, was relaxing and scenic with beautiful fall colors, magnificent homes, and some sights many of us have never seen.

We started with a stopover at the 600-acre site of Fort Sheridan, which served the U.S. as an Army post for over a century



The water tower at Fort Sheridan



This home is the former General's quarters



Following Jay's 40 Sedan on the tour



Dan's 50 Crestliner at Fort Sheridan

from 1887 to 1993. After environmental cleanup, the area is now mostly residential. We parked the cars near the impressive water tower building and Ron talked briefly about the history and uses of the fort.

We drove around the grounds of the old fort and marveled at the incredible homes that were created from former officers' headquarters and barracks. We then headed south for a very leisurely drive along the nearby lakeshore through the cities of Highwood, Highland Park, Glencoe, Winnetka, Kenilworth, and Wilmette. The countless homes we passed along the lake were just spectacular! At Wilmette we made a stop at Gilson Park where we took a photo and spent a little time on the beach. Incredibly, we saw a couple of swimmers although the water temperature was around 50 degrees.





Baha'i Temple

One of the nine gardens surrounding the temple

A short drive took us to the highlight of the trip, a visit to the Bahá'í House of Worship. This is the oldest temple of the Baha'i Faith and is open at no charge to all people, regardless of their religion. Several of us watched a short video which explained the history and construction of the temple which began in 1912 and was not completed until 1953! The building is impressive and the construction techniques incredible. A visit to this temple should be a bucket-list item.

From here our drive continued south through Evanston, along the Northwestern University campus, and eventually into Skokie where we enjoyed lunch at Dengeos. After lunch we went our separate ways and made our way home. We put 98 miles on our Crestliner! Thanks to everyone who participated, especially to Ron Blum for this well-planned and beautifully-executed tour.



Tom's Lincoln at the Baha'i Temple



Lunch at Dengeos

OCTOBER 21 MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by Gary Osborne

President Scott Gilday opened the meeting with a warm welcome to the many in attendance. He got right into the business portion of the meeting because he was looking forward to the very special fall decorated cookies made by Carolyn Bounds.

Membership Report

Ken Bounds reported that we currently have 54 members with about half having turned in their renewals. If you have not turned in yours, please send it to Ken.



National Club Report

Ken Bounds reported that there is a problem with the ballots for the National Director postions getting out. They will be in an upcoming issue of the V-8 Times.

The National Meet to be held in New Jersey is still being worked on. Registrations should be coming out in a few weeks.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Blum reported that the Club had revenues of \$24 from the 50/50 raffle, and expenses of \$20 from the Road Chatter.

Health and Welfare Report

Dawn Zulas reported that Ron Dopke is doing well, just feeling tired. Please keep him and others in our club in your prayers.

Previous Events

Ken Bounds talked about the Poker Rally held last month. It was a very successful event, and everyone had a great time. He also noted that due to the timing of the ENM next year the Poker Rally will be held the first week of October.

Upcoming Events

October 25 - Fall Colors Tour

November 8 - Veterans Day Luncheon at the Patio in Lombard

December 14 - Christmas Lunch at Spavone's in Bloomingdale

Additional Items

The members took a short break to enjoy the famous homemade Carolyn Bounds cookies. After the break it was time for the annual nominations for officers and directors. These are the nominations so far: President-Scott Gilday, Jay Hinshaw, Treasurer- Ron Blum, Secretary- Gary Osborne, Directors- Este Scheve, Ken Bounds, Mike Heatherly, George Zulas, Rusty Medlin, Ciena Gilday. If you would like to volunteer for a position or nominate someone else, you can still do it at the next meeting. At the next meeting the voting will take place to secure the positions for next year.

Ken Bounds then gave a slide presentation about replacing the brake master cylinder on his 1950 Convertible. He explained all the difficulties that he encountered just to get to it below the floor-

boards. He has not completed the project but will let us know how it goes. Some members also talked about issues that they've had with their master cylinders.

The last item on the agenda was the 50/50 raffle, which Scott Gilday won for the second time in a row, and took home \$22.

Attendance

Ron Blum, Ken Bounds, Scott Gilday, Mike Heatherly, Jay Hinshaw, Rusty Medlin, Tom O'Donnell, Gary Osborne, Dan Pudelek, George Zulas, and Dawn Zulas.

FROM THE EDITORS

Ken & Carolyn Bounds

It is almost Hallowe'en and we still have great weather. At our house the leaves are still green and on the trees, but this can't last long.

First, thanks to Ron Blum for the fantastic Fall Colors Tour! What a great time and a good chance to get the Early V-8s out one more time. Thanks to several people who sent photos that were used in the article, including Ron, Steve O'Donnell (photo of the month), Carolyn, and Dawn and Gary Osborne.

Please note that our November meeting is one week earlier than normal. We invite all members to attend this important meeting

because we will be electing new officers to guide the club. As reflected in Gary's minutes, nominations were made in October, but we will re-open nominations at the November meeting. Please stand up and serve your fellow club members.

If you attended the last two monthly meetings, you will know I have been obsessed with brakes. For years I have put off most brake maintenance on our three Early V-8s for various reasons, none of them acceptable. At the October meeting I presented a slide show describing my unsuccessful efforts to replace the master cylinder on my 1950 Convertible.

The 1949-1951 Ford master cylinder is a servicing nightmare. Just like all Fords from 1939 to 1951, it is under the floor. But, for 1949-1951 Fords, the engineers made the brilliant decision to make the master cylinder the mounting point for the brake pedal AND the clutch shaft runs through it and the frame. Replacement is a serious task.

Spoiler alert: I finally figured out the process and completed the replacement on the convertible. If we have time, I hope to show it at the November meeting.

In the past few months I have completed these tasks on our cars, which now have great brakes:

- Replaced a leaking wheel cylinder on the Crestliner.
- Installed a master cylinder repair kit on the Crestliner.
- Installed new front brake hoses on all three cars.
- Adjusted all four brakes on all three cars.
- Bled the brakes several times on all three cars using the Motive Products power bleeder, AND
- Replaced the master cylinder on the convertible.

Ken & Caroly



10 Years Ago This Month – November 2015

On a beautiful November 7, 24 V-8ers honored our veterans at the 10th Annual V-8s and Veterans luncheon at Sams of Arlington, hosted by Earl Heintz and Ken Bounds. With the perfect weather, five Early V-8s and one Packard were in the parking lot. At the November 14 National Board of Directors meeting, Ken Bounds was elected National President for 2016.

20 Years Ago This Month – November 2005

At the November 10 Board Meeting, President Ron Dopke dropped a bombshell: long-time Road Chatter Editor Diane Wrobel had advised him of her desire to step down at the end of the year. At the November 15 monthly meeting, President Dopke advised that the search was on to identify a new editor. Thanksgiving gift certificates were won by Norm Collins, Joe Novak, and Jack Nikolich.

30 Years Ago This Month – November 1995

The November Road Chatter included a notice about implementation of the new Area Codes 630 and 847. The November 14 monthly meeting was held at the Palatine Public Library because our meeting room was not available. Nominations and election of officers held at this meeting resulted in the following: President – Tom O'Donnell, Secretary – Rich Doligale, and Treasurer – Larry Webb. Thanksgiving gift certificates were won by Rich Doligale, Larry Webb, and John Pater.

40 Years Ago This Month – November 1985

The November Road Chatter contained the second detailed update on the 1986 Central National Meet from Chairman Marty Duling along with the "moneymeter" showing that the group had sold \$9,000 in raffle tickets, well on the way to the \$15,000 goal. On November 6 Marty and Lloyd Duzell attended the Twin Cities monthly meeting to promote the Meet. Thanksgiving gift certificates were won by Neil McManus, Lloyd Duzell, and Chester Lawrence.

50 Years Ago This Month – November 1975

The November 11 monthly meeting included a lively discussion about the direction of the Club. There were opinions discussed that the Club has become too concerned with making money by showing cars and not planning enough tours and outings. Alan Wall suggested that the officers should hold a separate executive meeting for planning and present the results to the membership.

Flathead Flashback

Our group at 10th Annual V-8s & Veterans Luncheon, November 7, 2015.



September	October	November	December
11 Board Meeting	9 Board Meeting	8 Veterans Luncheon	No Meetings
16 Member Meeting	21 Member Meeting	11 Member Meeting Note Special Date	14 Christmas
26-28 Lake Geneva Poker Rally	25 Fall Colors Driving Tour	Note Special Date 13 Board Meeting	Luncheon, Tony Spavone's
January	February	March	April
8 Board Meeting	12 Board Meeting	12 Board Meeting	9 Board Meeting
10 Installation Dinner, (Tentative)	17 Member Meeting	17 Member Meeting	21 Member Meeting
20 Member Meeting			

Bonus Pictures from the Fall Colors Tour







Dawn, Este, and John at Baha'i Temple

Happy birthday to Tom O'Donnell (11/7), Este Scheve (11/7), Mike Heatherly (11/12), Terry Freihage (11/17), and Tim Carlig (11/27)



AND ALL THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH.



Vehicles For Sale



This 1940 Ford 1/2 ton pickup is a full restoration. The engine is a 1951 Mercury flathead, 3 speed transmission, Columbia two speed rear end. Frame is powder coated along with many suspension parts. New wire harness and many other items. Have all the records of the restoration and list of parts. Asking \$40,000. Contact Ron Steck at 630-777-4001.

Other Items For Sale

1940-1948 Ford 16" wheels. Three new at \$60 each; two used at \$30 each. **Contact Ron Dopke at 815-344-1335.**

Three 16" 1945 pickup rims. Contact Tom Myers at 847-308-1495.

Pressure pot for sandblaster, no holes. Wood stove - not pot belly. Contact George Zulas at 630-362-4120.

The Items Below are Offered by Ray McMahon

Professionally rebuilt 1936 LB engine. The rebuild was done by Speed Performance Engineering and Dyno tested. I have documentation on all components that were used as well as video of the engine on the Dyno. Includes rolling stand. Price \$11,750.

Good set of original 36 cast iron heads, \$175.

Original 36 Cam in good used condition, \$85.

Original Ford 8 Day Clock Mirror (pull string) with Mounting Bracket. Very Rare. Mint condition, \$1,275.

Heart shape Vacuum Windshield Wiper Motor Chrome plated in mint condition, \$1,050.

Generator restored and tested by Joe Serritella, \$275.

Original voltage regulator restored and tested by Joe S. tested together with the generator above, \$100.

1936 Ford Tool Set includes wrenches, jack, tire pump, tire irons, grease gun, screw driver, tool pouch and Reference Book 1936 Ford V-8, \$500.

Call Ray McMahon at 630-853-6832.

Wanted

Wanted: 2-speed 6-volt blower motor for 1940 Ford hot water heater. Contact George Zulas at 630-460-0095.

Wanted: 47 Ford Coupe interior door handles. Contact Mike Heatherly at 630-234-5384.





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Photo of the Month Our Group on the Lake Michigan Shore on the Fall Colors Tour