



VALVE CLATTER

Northern
Virginia
Regional
Group



THE EARLY FORD V-8 CLUB OF AMERICA
Regional Group 96

Volume XXII, No. 8

August 1999

Cliff Green, Editor



*California Surf 'n Shine -
Dana Point in '99
Western National Meet
June 21-26, 1999
Dana Point, California*

Editor

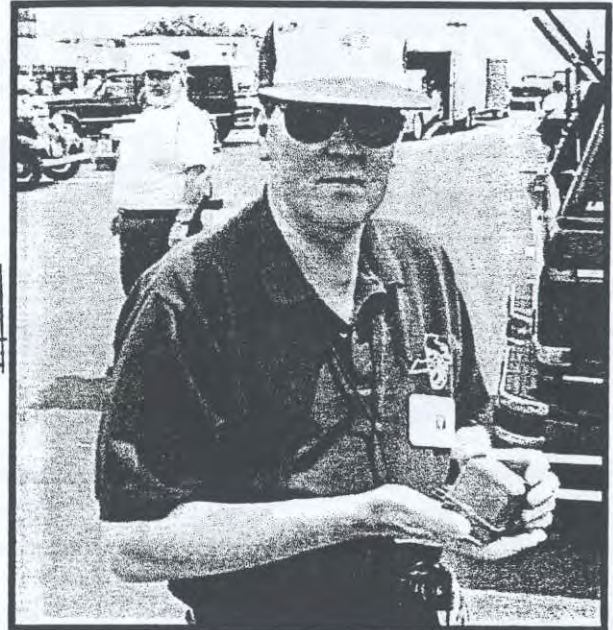
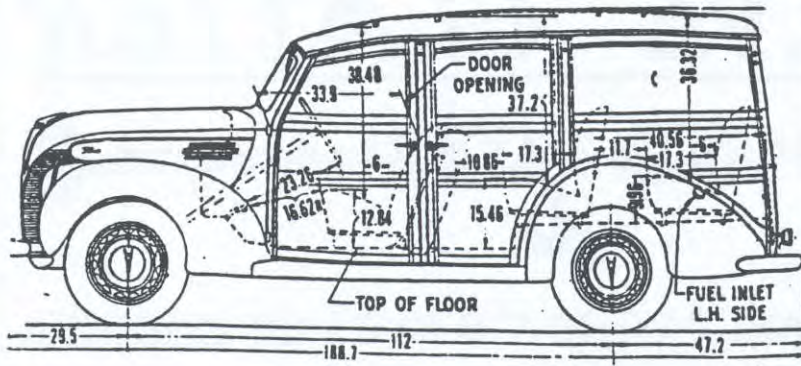
What is most impressive about the West Coast V8'ers...THEY DRIVE THEIR CARS! There were close to 300 cars at Dana Point and I'll bet 290 were driven there. Of course you say, the weather in southern California is conducive to driving, but let me counter with 11 V8's being driven down from rainy Washington state over five days! How about the driving tour the day after the concourse over two mountain passes into the heat away from the coast for a total of 120 miles round trip - over 175 cars went on this sight seeing tour to a winery, just for lunch! Alas, it is a big event for NVRG to drive to Reading, 170 miles one way. But you say, the West Coast cars are mostly equipped with Columbia overdrives for cruising - and they don't have the capital beltway and I95 to contend with! The overdrive is true, but I was following a pair of V8's on the 405 south of LA where the road is grooved and they were all over the place. Those 600 x 16's did not like the grooved pavement. I talked with one of the Washington state V8'ers and he said his hands were sore from gripping the steering wheel to control the swerving while the crazy Californians

were zipping by on both sides. That is my biggest impression about the meet - how the cars were driven...you saw them all over the place, every day we were there.

The meet hotel was the beautiful Marriott Laguna Hills Resort at Dana Point. What a place! It would be hard to find a more perfect site for a National Meet. Situated on a cliff overlooking the Pacific and the harbor of Dana Point, the place was inundated with flowers and fresh air from the ocean. Combine this setting with V8 parked everywhere (not in boxes) and friends from around the country, it was an unbeatable combination. The San Diego RG had been working on this meet for three years and their effort showed. A lot of thought went into every facet of the meet, from the name tags to the ladies luncheon. The meet had over 300 registrations.

Sandra and I arrived on Monday afternoon in time for the welcome party held around the pool overlooking the Harbor. Tuesday was the first day of the flea market and I was lucky to buy a rare piece of '36 literature and a rare, top fill, solid core '40 radiator that were installed in cars and trucks in the Southwest. An AACA friend of mine from San

Diego and his wife came up to visit us and he took the radiator back to ship home for me. The cars were being safety checked and their pictures taken to be used at the banquet during the awards presentation.



UP FRONT With the President

August 1999

Well, summer is in full flower, and I hope each of you is able to enjoy it to the fullest. The picnic (spouse appreciation night) was fun, and we all got a lot of visiting done. I must admit that this hobby does require support, flexibility and downright indulgence from a spouse, and we all do appreciate it!

I have begun to turn my attention almost full time to finishing up the 39 wagon project. Restoring a car is a big job! We have been working hard on this for five years, and there is still a good deal to do. I remember very well one of my first club events was a tour of White Post Restorations and learning that a car would be at the facility for a minimum of one year and often several years. I couldn't believe it could take so long, but now I know why.

On the 39, the mechanicals are completely finished except for re-installation of the steering column which, with its related parts, are at the painter. As soon as my exhaust pipes get here from Michigan, we will start the engine up—which will be a big step! The chrome has been sent off to Alabama, and the dash is going to a woodgrain guy in Florida in the next week or so. The dash instruments are going to Massachusetts for an overhaul.

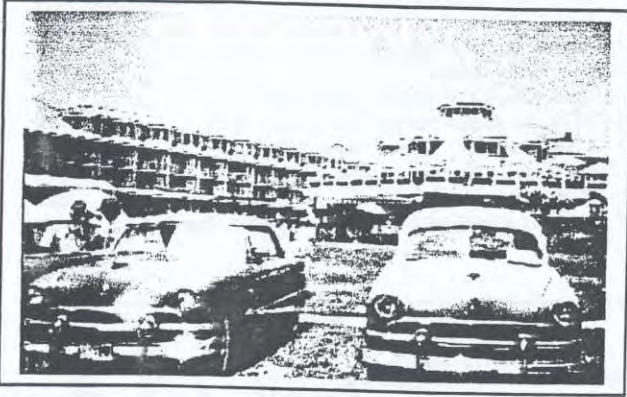
Yesterday I went to Maryland and picked up a whole pickup load of metal parts that I had chemically dip stripped. Fenders, hood, grill and a million other small parts all have been taken back to bare metal. I had to hustle them into the air conditioned house to keep them from flash rusting before I can do my body work and prime them. (This is where the spousal appreciation part comes in.)

The big task for me is the wood. I have remounted all of the new wood on the car and am in the process of tweaking it to fit right. Door alignment, etc. are critical at this stage. Next, the doors and quarters get glued up, panels installed, and the stain and 5-10 coats of varnish applied. This will be followed by final installation of hardware, vinyl top, glass, dash, sheet metal, etc.. While there is plenty left to do, much has been done already.

See you at the next meeting, and remember if we each do a little...together, we can accomplish a lot!!

Dave

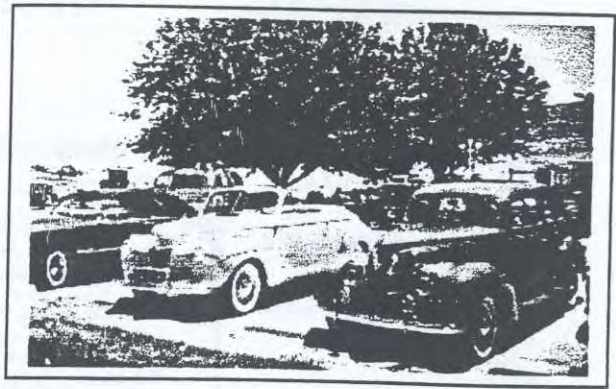
Bob and Jane Wild own a share of a beautiful condo with a dynamite view that was walking distance from the hotel, so we saw them every day. We arranged a ride for them in a '48 convert from Washington for the driving tour.



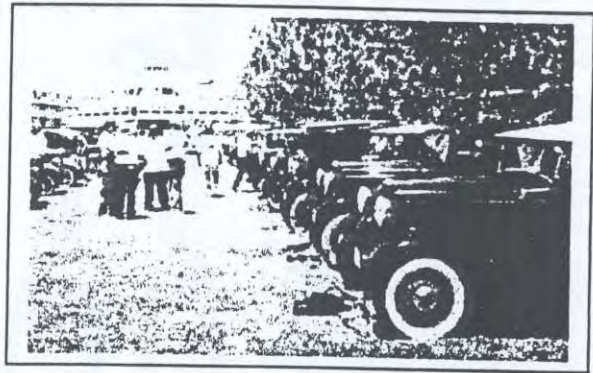
The car(s) that I found most appealing were a pair of Washington blue 1938 station wagons from Oregon. The story goes that the owner bought a parts woody and decided to restore them both – one as a driver, the other a concourse. They were parked nose to nose in front of the hotel and were identically restored with new wood and sequential license tags! Closer inspection revealed that one had dual exhaust, juice brakes and no radio! The modifications knocked the car out of a “Dearborn”

Wednesday was the concourse and one could not have asked for a better day! Beautiful blue skies, temperatures in the 70's, cars parked on the lawn in front of the hotel and all of this against the backdrop of the Pacific Ocean! The judges breakfast with eggs and all the goodies was served on the concourse field. It was interesting that the majority of the deputy judges were from the East Coast – I personally knew ten of them! Needless to say the quality to the V8 was outstanding. I was on the judging team that inspected the woodies. The Rouge class was most interesting – where do they find these cars? Sandra attended the ladies luncheon which she said was well done. That evening the cars were driven to two different restaurants in nearby San Juan Capistrano.

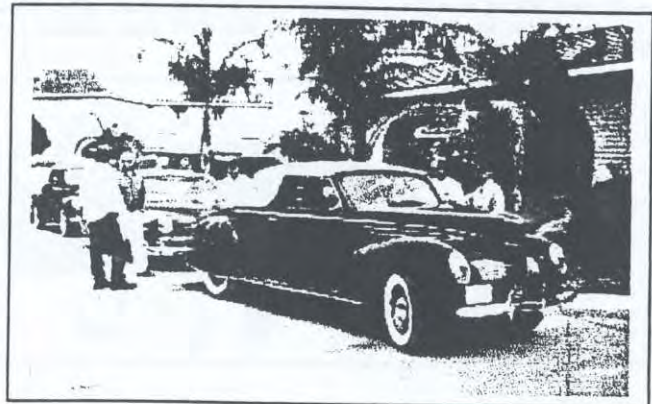
Thursday was the tour day to the winery for a catered lunch. That evening Dennis Carpenter sponsored a “sock hop” that was well received. The banquet was on Friday night and was attended by 400 plus! All 17 past presidents of the



EFV8CA were introduced and lined up for pictures. The awards were displayed on a huge rack with the names of the winners already engraved. When they were presented, the slide of the car was shown on a giant screen – nice touch. Everyone took home a champagne glass with the meet logo and a large poster (24x36) of the concourse.



This is my fourth Western National meet and I do not have to convince Sandra to attend. They are held at resorts in a beautiful setting, well planned and executed - V8'ers from all over the country attend. The '99 Dana Point meet was no exception. Come see the 70 slides I took at this month meeting.



Photos by Ray Nelms and Jason Boshers Rg #97

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Group 7 "Tune Up" Tools \$26.55

Recommended By Ford Service Engineers
Illustrated In Ford "Engine Tune-Up" Films
And Booklet, "Making Good Performance Better."

Mechanics!

If you have not already received a copy of this booklet entitled "Making Good Performance Better," be sure to get one from your nearest Ford Dealer or Parts distributor. It will show you how to tune Ford V-8 motors to get Championship performance.

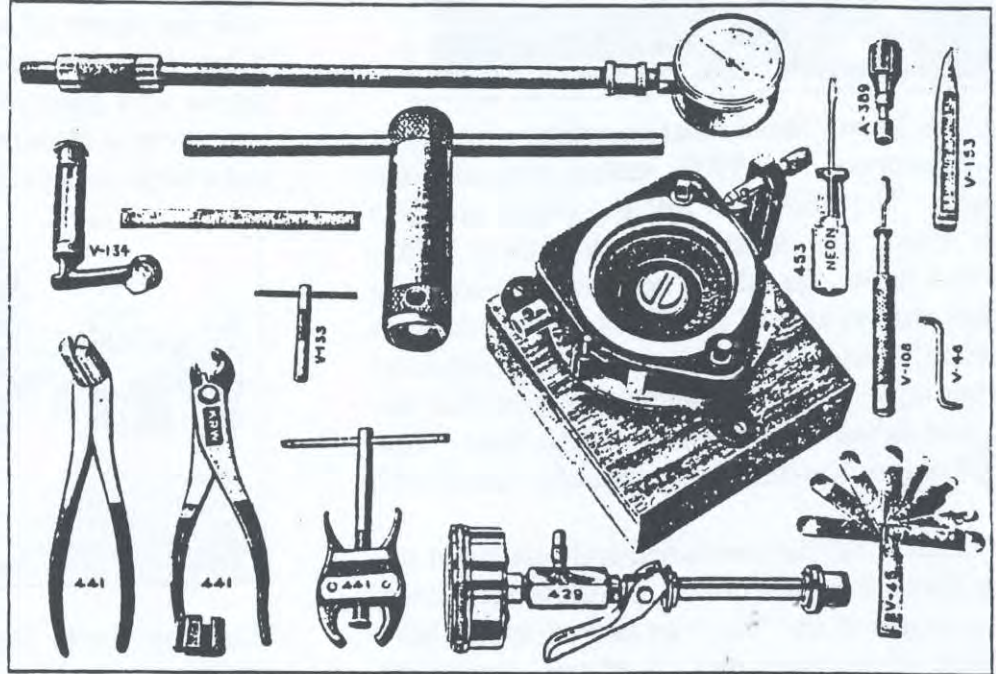
V126	Dist. Timing Fixture	\$ 7.85
V108	Breaker Spring Tension Tester	1.50
V46	Breaker Spring "Offset" Screwdriver50
V127	Spark Plug Wrench90
441	Set (3) Battery Tools	3.00
A389	Generator Socket Wrench25
8V45	Step Feeler Gauge	1.15
V134	Carb. Float Level Gauge—6-Inch Scale	2.25
V133	Carb. Jet Socket Wrench50
V153	Carb. Drain Plug "Offset" Screwdriver50
112	Oil Pressure Gauge	2.90
429	Compression Gauge	4.75
463	Insulated Headlight Screwdriver and Neon Plug Tester.....	.50

\$26.55

This Booklet says:

Championship performance is not an achievement which belongs to racing cars alone. It is the absolute right of every Ford V-8 owner—for it is built into every Ford car. The function of service is to maintain the quality and performance. If Ford mechanics everywhere do their work in such fashion that this function is performed, V-8 owners will get the championship performance to which they are entitled.

Mechanics! You can quickly restore the original power and "pep" of any Ford V-8 motor, if in good mechanical condition, by using KRW specially designed tools and following the procedure recommended and illustrated in the Ford Service Film—"Engine Tune-up," also in the booklet "Making Good Performance Better." Each and every one of the 16 tools in this group plays an important part in making the analysis and adjustments necessary to secure proper co-ordination of the fuel and ignition systems. Guess work is entirely eliminated.



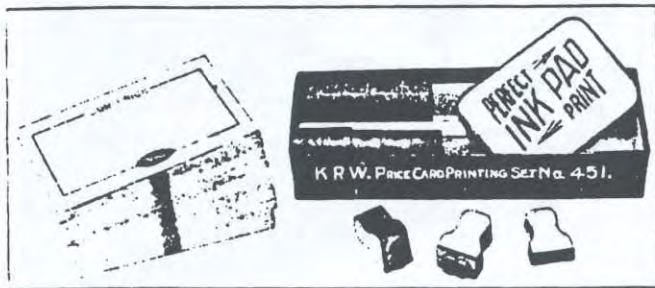
Print Your Own Price Cards

No. 451

Price \$1.50

Print your own Price Cards—Save time and money. We furnish a set of ¼", double hair line numbers including dollar and cent characters, also ink pad and two hundred 4x2½" bristol board blanks printed with border in Ford Blue.

Well dressed displays will sell more Ford parts and accessories when each item has an attractive, uniform style of Price Card on it. Dealers everywhere say this kit is just what they have been looking for. Shipping weight 2 pounds.



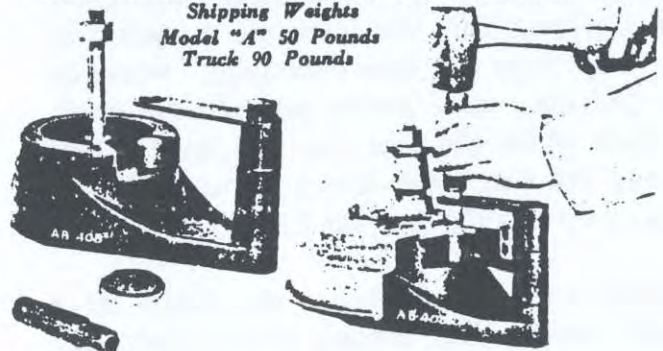
KRW "Improved" Hub Bolt Swage

No. A408 MODEL "A" Price \$6.00

No. AA409 TRUCK Price \$8.25

The KRW improved hub bolt swage is recommended for changing "stripped" hub bolts, but not for changing the entire brake drum because dial gauges and other elaborate equipment is required to insure holding the brake drum concentric with the hub. Made of semi-steel castings, anvils and upsetters of tough alloy steel.

Shipping Weights
Model "A" 50 Pounds
Truck 90 Pounds



WIVES APPRECIATION NIGHT OUR ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

by Hank Amster

It was a grand night for all those who attended our annual picnic at Nottoway Park on Tuesday, July 13, 1999. The picnic is held annually in tribute to the wives as a "thank you" for putting up with our year long forays into the realm of old cars, our adult toys. This year's picnic had an especially innovative and exciting bill of fare. Instead of the usual hot dogs and hamburgers, the group was treated to a real feast--a catered barbecue dinner from the Red Hot and Blue restaurant. (The treasure, yours truly, was absent from the Board meeting when the decision to purge the club's treasury was made.) Replete with barbecued ribs, pulled pork, shredded chicken and the usual cole slaw, buns, baked beans and potato salad, we topped off the evening with chilled watermelon and cantaloupe. It was truly a great meal. The bonus was the leftovers, which many of the guests doggy bagged home for Wednesday's dinner or lunch the rest of the week..

Nearly fifty people attended the grand event. Among them were the Amsters, Blums, Burns', Chases, Dubois', Greens(just Sandra, the editor was ill), Hardestys, Ed Mascali, Halls, Morrisons, B. Myrick, Piepers, Potters, W. Selley, Shaws, E. Sumner, Vincents, D. Westrate, and the Wilds. (Regrets to those who I missed naming.) It was obvious listening to the evening's conversations among the guests that a great time was had by all. Even some social conversations (children, grandchildren, dogs, etc.) took place in addition to the old car talk.

Kudos to Dave Westrate for arranging the feast, and to Hank and Cindy Dubois for procuring and preparing the fresh melons. And a tip of the radiator cap to the weatherman for providing an outstanding evening

of reasonable temperatures and low humidity. The Washington Post says, "If you don't get it, you don't get it." In this case, if you missed it, you *really* missed it!

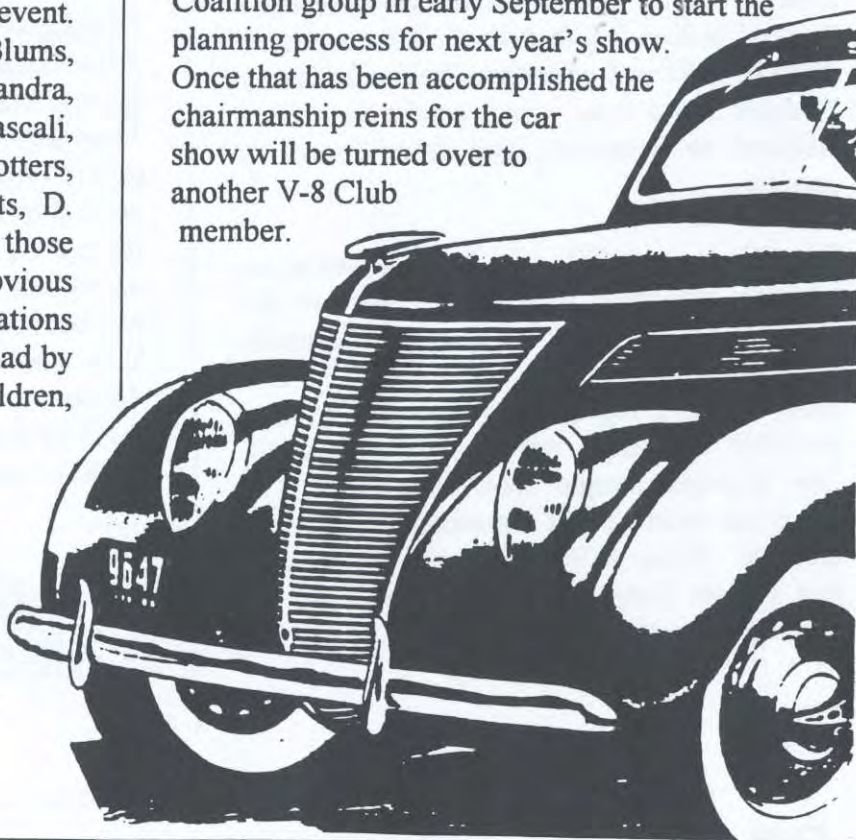
CAR SHOW WRAP-UP

Tom Shaw

The Northern Virginia Regional Group received the final check from the Antique car show for \$237.50. This check was our split from the general admissions gate receipts. According to Hank Amster the club has realized a net profit of \$777.00 from the car show. These funds will help support the Club's financial endeavors throughout the rest of the year. Fortunately, the City of Fairfax and the Downtown Coalition pays for many of the up front costs.

Mr. Rick Dixon from the Fairfax City Downtown Coalition sent a letter along with the check thanking the Early Ford V-8 Club for a job well done. He went on to say that he hoped next year's show would be even better.

I have been asked to set up a meeting with the Coalition group in early September to start the planning process for next year's show. Once that has been accomplished the chairmanship reins for the car show will be turned over to another V-8 Club member.



IOLA-60 YEARS OF MERCURY

Steve Dawkins

The Iola '99 Old Car Show and Swap Meet in Iola, Wisconsin drew 2,400 show cars, 130,000 visitors and celebrated 60 years of Mercury - 1939 to 1999. Bevy's of beautiful Mercury's graced the show grounds. My favorite was a 1940 Mercury convertible four-door sedan owned by Dick Duncan of Rochester, Michigan. His Cottswall Gray beauty took a second prize in the prewar class and Rene Hoenscheide's stunning red 1947 Mercury woody wagon took a second in the postwar 1946-48 class. Rene also owns a '40 convertible sedan.

A perky green 1939 Mercury coupe that looked original, as did its owners, cruised the fair grounds on Saturday with the owners enjoying themselves. A red 1948 Merc coupe must have been a 1000 point car and several others showed that they were trailer queens brought to the show in style.

Most of the old Mercury's, however, were 1955 thru the 1970's. I hitch hiked a ride back to the motel 26 miles away in a nice 1956 Mercury in a caravan of about twelve 1950's. I took a special interest in these cars because I worked at Ken Smith Lincoln Mercury from 1953 to 1955 and witnessed the revolutionary changes those three years produced - from flathead to overhead, and from round to angular.

Iola '99 was a delight and fun. The focus on Mercury was what took me out there in the middle of that lush green Wisconsin countryside with its lakes and a boat behind every SUV. I regret, however, that so few pre-1949 Mercury's were on the showfield. Few younger people show any interest in these old examples of America's automotive heritage. What proved to be sad for me was that we are losing a part of the America I want to remember and we are the poorer for it.

WRONG PHONE NUMBER

The editor mistakenly gave the wrong phone number for the RSVP on the picnic. Instead of Dave Westrate, some poor woman was bombarded with phone calls from V8'ers. Apparently she took it graciously - the board authorized that we mail her a club hat for the intrusion.

WILLOWCROFT

Because of the oppressive heat and forecast of sever thunderstorms, only three cars showed up for the fundraiser. Organizer Don Lombard, Ken Burns with his '41 woodie and Dave Blum in his '38 phaeton.

LEBKICKER TOUR

Don Lombard is finalizing plans for the clubs annual over night tour in honor of Dick Lebkicker. It will be the weekend of September 18th. This years tour will be in the Shenendoah Valley with planned stops at the automotive museum at Luray, Shenendoah Caverns and an auto restoration facility in Broadway. Please fill out and mail the ballot for the recipient of the Lebkicker award.

TOUR OF SMITHSONIAN CAR COLLECTION PLANNED

John Girman has put together a visit to the Smithsonian car collection November 6th. They are mandated to open this facility to the public twice a year, and that's is all they are willing to do. There are restrictions in place for our visit: only 25 people, no children, list of visitors with addresses and social security numbers two weeks prior and only 1 to 1 1/2 hour tour. As of now, Von Hardesty of the *Air and space* facility is attempting to ease some of these restriction. Stay tuned! This might be one tour you don't want to miss!



THE ANNUAL DICK LEBKICKER AWARD

PURPOSE: The selection and subsequent presentation of this annual award to a fellow club member who most exemplified the qualities exhibited and practiced by our friend and highly respected club member in whose memory this award is named.

OBJECTIVE: Be it known that club members of the Northern Virginia Regional Group of the Early Ford V-8 Club of America will, through the process of nominations/voting, select the person most deserving of the award. The award will be presented to a highly active club member based on the qualities, presence, demeanor, and contributions to the betterment of this regional group as were demonstrated by the attributes of Mr. Dick Lebkicker. This person will be someone who has repeatedly, if not characteristically, demonstrated one or more of the following characteristics:

- Love of the cars.
- Drive the cars.
- Support the club:
 - Assume office--take responsibility.
 - Attend meetings, encourage others.
 - Recruit new members.
 - Participate in tours and activities.
 - Help plan meetings, programs, and activities.
- Help fellow members:
 - Mechanical--fix cars and advise others.
 - Help others as needed, when needed, where needed.
 - Offer assistance to resolve car related problems and identify vendors of parts/services.
 - Set aside own projects and priorities for the betterment of the club and its members.

Vote for up to three members. Thank you!

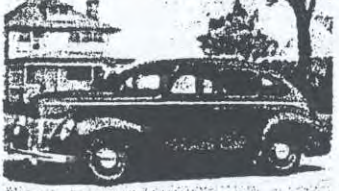
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please mail ballot to: Ken Burns
10409 Stallworth Court
Fairfax, Virginia 22032

PHONE IN VOTES ACCEPTED - 978-5939

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Make \$100 to \$200 by trading your Chevrolet Now!

Don't wait until another model year rolls around — your present car is likely to bring \$100 to \$200 less in trade. During the next ten days you can get a swell deal here on a 1940 Ford V-8. Tell us what you want for your old car — we're eager to meet your figure and deal.

You can buy from us on terms to suit your pocketbook. Come in quick. Bring this card with you.

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Ask for _____

See our stock of late model used cars — we'll deal right.



R & G

Renewed and Guaranteed That's what the R & G trade means. Every used car we sell with this guarantee has an "Lubrication" record. The engine, chassis condition determined and the necessary renewals made to a point that every card team with us is a car you can buy with **MONEY BACK GUARANTEE**

H. L. KARLEN AND SONS

PHONE 144 BRANFORDVILLE, N. Y.

SALTMAN

Any salesman worth his salt was always on the look out for new customers. One way to promote business was direct mailing and the post card was the preferred method. Other more expensive color brochures describing the new car in detail were mailed to a more select list, usually owners of Ford cars that had been purchased at the dealership before. These sales memorabilia are collectable today.

EBAY.COM

Check out *EBAY* for parts and literature. Define your search for the year and you will be surprised on the amount of merchandise that is offered at auction. You have to wade through the car models to come up with the items. Pictures of the article usually accompany the description. Since I am interested in 1936 literature, I am finding that more and more unusual pieces are coming up. How about a 1936 Dealers accounting manual with letters from the factory! I have been successful on several — you have to determine in your mind what the item is worth to you and don't get carried away.

There has been a NORS carb, intake manifold, dash instruments, hood side panels, all for '36 come up. Also Ford china plates and coffee cups.

This might be the medium to sell some of your unwanted parts. There is no fee for listing items for sale.

AUGUST MEETING

There will be a side presentation of the Eastern and the Western National Meets at this months meeting. This is always fun as every one gets a chance to comment on the cars and narration. Over 90 sides — don't miss it! **SEE YOU THERE!**

CALENDAR

August

- 6-8 36th annual Das Awkscht Fescht Car show and Flea Market, Macungie, Pa.
- 14 Fredericksburg AACA Show
- 10 **NVRG Monthly Meeting** Slide show of the Eastern and Western National meets.
Refreshments: **David Blum**
- 21 24rd Annual Tobacco Trail Antique & Classic Car Show, Allen Pond Park, Bowie, Md.
- 21-22 Virginia Wine Festival
- 22 Francis Scott Key Antique Car Club Car Show Flea Market, Rose Hill Manor Park, Frederick. 301-473-8212
- 31 **NVRG Board Meeting**

September

- 11 Northern Neck Region AACA, 6th Annual - Antique Auto Show, Heritage Park Resort, Warsaw, Va.
- 12 Mt Airy - 29 th annual Sugarloaf Region AACA meet
- 12 Out of the Past Review - Vern Parker's "Times
- 14 **NVRG Monthly Meeting** Program: TBA
Refreshments: **Steve Pieper**
- 19 Bull Run Region AACA, Manassas, Va

18-19 Annual Lebkicker Tour

- 26 Lucketts '99 Antique and Classic auto show at historic Lucketts, Va community center
- 28 **NVRG Directors Meeting**
- 30-Oct 2 Fall Carlisle

October

- 3 Antique Auto Assembly on grounds of US Soldier's Home, Washington, DC
- 6-9 Hershey
- 12 **NVRG Monthly Meeting** Program: Hershey review and slide show. Refreshments: **Von Hardesty**
- 16 Rockville
- 26 **NVRG Directors Meeting**
- TBA Fall Tour

November

- 6 Tour of Smithsonian auto collection
- 9 **NVRG Monthly Meeting** - Speaker who knew Henry Ford. Refreshments: **Green**
- 30 **NVRG Directors Meeting**

December

- 4 **NVRG Christmas Party**, Fairfax Country Club. Cocktails 7:00

Call Editor for additions or corrections to this list - check date for sure!





BOARD OF DIRECTORS NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL GROUP



President: Dave Westrate.....620-9597

Vice President:	David Blum	281-1654
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Programs:	Bill Selley	273-5334
Property:	Hank Dubois	476-6919
Historian:	Don Lombard	690-7971
Refreshments:		
Newsletter:	Cliff Green	426-2662

Monthly general membership meetings are usually held at 7:30, the *second Tuesday* of each month, in the historic Hunter House, located adjacent to the tennis courts, Nottoway Park, Court House Road, Vienna, Virginia. Check the newsletter for occasional alternates sites. **SEE YOU THERE**



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Regional Group 96
Early Ford V8 Club
Post Office Box 1195
Vienna, Virginia, 22183