

#### Celebrating Jamestown, Virginia – America's Birthplace at the March Meeting

by Cliff Green

The March meeting of the RG 96 of the EFV8CA was special in that we had five ladies in attendance and the program had nothing to do with Ford V8's or cars in general !

Vice president Eric Sumner asked for short reports about coming events following by the 50/50 drawing won by Steve Groves. Cliff Green displayed the 5<sup>th</sup> place awards plaque from the newsletter contest. The refreshments were raised to new higher standards by Maury Roesch who brought CATERED sandwiches, chips, pickles and cookies from Panera Bread! There were so many remaining that Maury insisted we take some home. It was indeed a surprising and most welcome spread. Thanks Maury.

Our program speaker was introduced by friend Bill Simons – Paul Snodgrass, who serves as the Chairman for the Town or Vienna's "Jamestown 400<sup>th</sup>" Anniversary Committee. Paul's background includes membership in the Sons of the American Revolution, Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge, the



Optimist Club of Vienna, the Fairfax Genealogical Society and Historic Vienna, Inc. Because of Paul's extensive volunteer service. Paul was named "Citizen of the year for 2006" by the Vienna Times newspaper.

Mr. Snodgrass topic was "Celebrating Jamestown, Virginia – America's Birthplace" Since 1807, and every 50 years there after, the founding of Jamestown is celebrated. 105 male passengers sailed in three small ships for 4 ½ months on a venture sponsored by the Virginia Company of London. Their basic mission was to find timber since England had been stripped. They landed and settled in a community on a river that they named after King James. Half of the members

died the fist year for lack of food. This was 13 years before the pilgrims land at Plymouth!

Paul continued his interesting and enlighten talk about Jamestown, John Smith and Pocahontas with support from handouts, pamphlets, maps and historical material. There were considerable questions from the membership after the conclusion of his talk. The evening was concluded with a hearty round of applause.





# April 2003

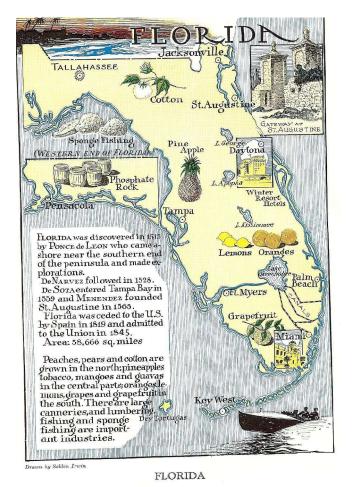
Yesterday I participated in a mulch drive run by my son's Jacob and Peter's Boy Scout troop. In two days 50 boys, aided by adults, home deliver 10,000 bags of mulch. This was our first year of participating and I was awed by the scale and organization required to pull this feat off in just two days. There were four fork trucks, seven box vans, chase cars, truck drivers, chase care drivers, radios, food services, maps, route directions and an operations center. Every mulch bag was delivered to the correct address, no one got hurt, and everyone felt a great sense of accomplishment. When I first saw the sea of pallets, each containing 48 bags, that were unloaded from 21 tractor-trailer trucks, I was overwhelmed. But with a great group of motivated volunteers and fantastic organization the Troop pulled off what seemed like an insurmountable task. All of this reminded me of our Fairfax Car Show and how well organized and fun it can be too. **Dave Westrate** continues to finalize the details on what should be one of our best shows yet, he even put a request in for good weather! When the time comes to sign up for several of the volunteer opportunities, I certainly hope you will help by contributing at least a part of your time at the show in May so together we can pull of our own little miracle.

It must be Spring since the flowers in my yard are in bloom as are the trees. This month is the ever popular Poker Run departing from Fair Oaks Mall at 9:00 am on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Bring out your old or new car and enjoy some Virginia Spring countryside and old car friends. **Don Lombard** and **Ken Burns** have planned out another fun outing for everyone to enjoy. Also, **Leo Cummings** has arranged for a tour of the South County High School auto repair and training facilities on April 26<sup>th</sup>. See a note in this issue for more details. We get to see what the kids are learning about the latest automotive technology and we might be able to share a few tips with them.

**John Sweet** has arranged for a presentation about the aircraft engines at the Udvar Hazy Center at our next membership meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>. If you have ever been to the Air and Space Museum at Dulles and seen their engine collection, I'm sure you won't want to miss this talk.

Thanks to our own dedicated group of volunteers, there's a lot happening in the next few months and beyond, so dust off your car, fill it with gas and come join the fun.

Dave



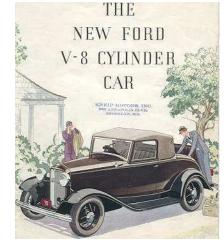
National Board of Director's meet in Florida Report from the National Board

The annual "face to face" meeting for the board of directors was held in Fort Myers, Florida on Feb.14 and 15, 2008. The meeting was hosted by the Gulf Coast R.G. #132. Bob Carey who is president of the group was instrumental is making arrangements and reservations on behalf of the board of directors. There are many national members who vacation in Florida and over 30 members attended during the two day session. Also in attendance were staff members and representatives of the Early Ford V8 Foundation. Many took this opportunity to ask questions and voice their opinions on the various subjects being discussed during the meeting. Those who choose to attend a Thursday afternoon outing were treated to tours of Skip Haney's shop where he remanufactures Ford water pumps and rewires coils and George Mitchell's club house and collection of early V8 Fords. Saturday the group attended the annual ford exhibit held at the Edison - Ford winter estates. This meet draws well over a hundred vehicles, all Fords, and no modified entries.

The national board of directors meeting was called to order by President Craig Gorris at 8 am. Newly elected board member Don Singleterry and reelected board members Jerry Reichel and John McBurney were introduced and sworn in by president Gorris. Former president Jerry Windle (1991-92) swore in the officers for 2008. They are Craig Gorris – president, Jerry Reichel – vice president and secretary Arel Brown. Retiring board member Terry Davis was unable to attend, but his years of service and commitment to the V8 Club were acknowledged by President Gorris. He has served as a member of the board of directors from 2000 till 2007 and held the position of secretary in 2001 and 2002. Mr. Davis was the chairman of the web site committee and instrumental in coordinating with our web master Ken Sumikawa to continually improve and update the club web site.

Dan Wittern provided us with his business manager's report. The club's total revenue exceeded the budget by almost \$40K. This was mainly due to income generated by the 33-34 book and renewals. 20% of those members who renewed choose the three year option, This will have a short fall effect on us over the next two years. For the first time our total revenue for the year was over \$400,000. Under the guidance of Jerry Windle the *V8 Times* production costs were only slightly over budget but most issues last year required the printing of extra pages. So with our operating expenses under budget and our revenue exceeding Dan's projections the club continues to maintain a strong, healthy bottom line.

Carol and Dave Rasmussen filed their report on the sale of V8 accessories and books. Of the total sales 43% were generated through the internet. Total sales for the year (including books) topped \$77K. The technical books continue to be a steady source of income. Over the final quarter of 2007 more than 700 books were sold. The 35-36 book and the 40 book were the most popular but they were followed very closely by the 49-51 book, the 41-48 manual and the 33-34 guide. The 38-39 book and the vintage 32 book still generate very respectable numbers. (*continued on page 4*)



Valve Clatter





The website chairman, Bruce Nelson reviewed the latest features that are being added to the web site. In 2007 a new web page was introduced, improved navigation, and links to RGs and vendors were incorporated. For 2008 members will be able to have secure access to their club information. They will be able to renew memberships, add or subtract vehicles and change their address information. The other changes occurring this year will be a revised vehicle code assembled by director Jim Derickson, a new forum, spam patrol and anniversary year cars (1933).

The privacy policy developed by former president Ray Papciak (2005) was inadvertently omitted from the club's renewal forms several years ago. Cornerstone registration brought this to our attention last fall. The policy allows members to opt out of having their address, or phone number printed in the national V8 roster. The club doesn't sell the membership list or allow suppliers or even regional groups access to computer print outs of the data inside. However anything listed in the roster is public record.

Director Dave Graham had a mock up copy of the proposed recipe /cookbook. He answered relative questions. To keep the project simple and economically feasible he will scan the material and print it as received. A motion was made and passed to print 3000 copies.

A review of the club's various technical books being written or updated is as follows: The optimistic completion and release goal for the revised 1932 book by Dave Rehor is for the Grand National. Jerry Reichel reported the 35 and 36 truck book by Grayson and Cox is steadily moving forward. Gary Mallast sent down the text of the 1937 Ford book. Some photos are missing. Bob York, the book's liaison, and Ken Terrio, former national chief judge and noted 37 Ford authority agreed to review the manuscript. In an effort to help when the progress stalled out, the book was assumed by Gary a number of years ago. As in the 38-39 book, which Gary also authored, the 37 book is full of details and highly descriptive photos. Craig Gorris indicated the '52-'53 book, he and Ray Beebe are working on has 4 of the 7 chapters completed. No news was available on the 49-51 Mercury book. Former president Jack Edison (1984) is working to assemble a group of interested 1940 Ford people to review and update the '40 book. Due to a large surplus of the V8 Album it was

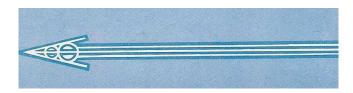
decided to further reduce the price. It will now sell at \$39.00.

<u>V-8 Times</u> editor Jerry Windle discussed with the directors some of the aspects of producing the magazine and preparing it for the printers. Jerry recommended we add Chuck Waller to the complimentary membership list for his annual contribution of indexing the articles in the V-8 Times. We will see a minor change he has made this year in the index of articles: the volume number will be replaced by the year the article appeared. A letter will be sent to all V-8 Times advisors, reminding them of their responsibility to supply interesting technical letters for publication in the magazine. Ron Love acting on behalf of his NorthWest constituents asked that car advertisers be required to list a for sale price. This motion was not passed.

The second day began with a presentation by Bill Tindall, president of the Early Ford V8 Foundation.and trustee, Ron Stauffer. They provided current status of their phase I building, plans for Motorfest IV in Auburn this fall, and the possibility of working with several Regional Groups to put on a central meet in 2009. They also reviewed what some regional groups were doing to support the foundation and how the funds received from the Early Ford V-8 Club last February were going to be utilized. Lamar Hunt representing the Georgia RG # 24 reported on the flathead engine raffle they are promoting to benefit the V8 Foundation.



National Meets was the next topic on the agenda. The Grand National meet in Dearborn (July 14-19) will be the highlight of the summer. To date there are 325 registrations. Specifics are being worked out. Seminars will include Columbia rear axles, Mullins trailers, glass bugging, 1932 Ford, Ford Licensing and a special limited offering of researching at the Archives. Also planned are trips to the Rouge and Piquette plants, a fabulous Ladies day tour, Casino nights, indoor and outdoor swap meet areas, and the exclusive Ford, Mercury, Lincoln concourse. An added bonus will be a special celebration for the 1933 Fords on their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Don't forget to purchase tickets for the Diamond necklace, the Neon V8 clocks being raffled off and (just arranged) a really "Grand" Prize-A week in Hawaii. (*continued on page 5*)







For 2009, the Eastern National Meet will be hosted by the Connecticut RG June 24-27 in the Hartford / Windsor area. Plans for the Central Meet are being jointly formulated by the Northern Indiana RG #69, the Dayton Ohio group #141, and the V8 Foundation. The event will likely be in Auburn Indiana during the third week of August. Jim Derickson, national meet coordinator, has very recently been contacted by the Battleborn regional group #12 in Nevada. They are interested in hosting a Western Meet; no details are available. At this time the Connecticut meet is the only one that has received official approval from the National Club.

John McBurney, director, national deputy chief judge, and our liaison with the judging standards committee reported on the outcome of a number of issues that have been referred. The Judging Standards committee is chaired by John Griscom of PA. The question of having radial tires on Concourse vehicles remains unchanged; there will be a point deduction. No problem with their use on touring vehicles. Regarding the question of using tinted glass on concourse vehicles, only 1953 Fords & Mercurys were offered with tinted glass; all others would receive a point deduction if equipped with tinted glass.

Director Ron Love discussed the possibility of travel expense reimbursement for the secretary of the Judging Standards Committee when attending national meets. A motion was made and passed that would allow the JSC secretary to submit for travel expenses or equivalent airfare (which ever is the less) to any Grand National or national meet excluding the closest regional meet to their home. The presence of the JSC secretary, with all of the club's concourse and judging records, has proven to be a great asset for any regional group hosting a national meet. His records and attendance resolves many issues and disputes.

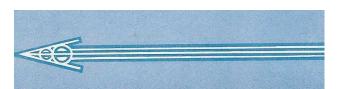
Former president Jack Edison (1984) had submitted a proposal for point judging the touring class. His proposal included judging sheets and evaluation criteria. This idea generated a healthy discussion with many pros and cons. The judging standards committee could not endorse this idea. It is up to that committee to institute any and all changes that involve the concourse or judging. The board of directors agreed the idea has many merits but could not support the proposal. Foster Buchtel president of Ohio RG# 20 also petitioned the board and JSC on efforts to standardize the concourse judging process, train novice judges and set-up workshops or judging schools.

The idea of a special recognition program for long time members who have been strong proponents of the Early Ford V-8 Club was suggested. The possibility will be placed on the April agenda for discussion. Several policy changes were made. The term "January Board meeting" was changed to the "annual board meeting. The business manager, editor, and national chief judge are to be reimbursed for two nights lodging, not to exceed \$150 per night, when attending the annual meeting.

To increase the awareness of the club and advertise its merits two motions were passed. We will again insert our "glove box membership cards" in the V-8 Times mailer in the near future. Advertising chairman, director Dave Graham, was given a budget of \$1500.00 to promote the club in various mediums.

The meeting was concluded on Friday afternoon.

(Florida map on page 3 from New Century Book of Facts, 1937 edition, The Continental Publishing Company)



Early Ford V-8 Club of America <u>45th Anniversary Grand National Celebration</u> Ford Clock Raffle

Win one of these 20 inch Neon Clocks







"Ford Genuine Parts Clock" "Ford V-8 Clock" "Ford Sales and Service Clock"

Tickets are 6 for \$5 or 15 for \$10 Drawing July 18th at the Dearborn Hyatt Regency Need not be present to win. Send check payable to "2008 Grand National Clock Raffle" to GN Raffle, 2887 W. Owasso Blvd., Roseville, MN 55113-21233 Request tickets from the same address (<u>Tickets also available at April NVRG meeting</u>)

# Valve Clatter

#### 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Sugarloaf Mountain Region, AACA Parts And Auction Meet At Frederick Fairgrounds, March 21&22, 2008.

#### By Clem Clement

Last week we made quick driving trip to Kansas City. Ostensibly it was to recruit new members for the Train Collectors Association, of which I'm President elect, by attending the World's Greatest Hobby Show there. Actually it was to spoil our new grandbaby girl which we done did good! We set up for the show on Friday and did 15 hours of booth duty in 2 days. We gained 10 new members in that time. 40 locals came out and helped us recruit. They were most excited about our initiative and hope to start a toy train-related activity in Kansas City.

We left for home on Tuesday after hunkering down Monday to rest and hide from the heavy rain storm in KC. Tuesday and Wednesday we drove toward home in the midst of that devastating storm. Missouri and Ohio are still recovering from the water and subsequent flooding. We could not hear the radio over the pounding rain. In places the road was crumbling because the amount of water on the road let the truck tires create a vacuum under them to lift concrete and asphalt chunks. Visibility after an 18 wheeler passed us was zero. In some areas the MODOT left wrecked cars along the side of the road as it was unsafe to block traffic to remove them. Nasty drive. We stopped early on both days. We made it home about 8 pm Thursday evening exhausted.



Library of Congress photo

The next morning, Friday was the first day of the Sugarloaf Mountain Region, AACA Frederick fleas and Auction Meet. Also it was day-one of a huge toy train auction. I needed to be at both and had so promised. It took me till 2 am to decide based on calls, emails and a reflection on judgment of me and my available \$\$.



Library of Congress photo

So Friday I went to Frederick for the car parts. I thought it was a great event. Bob Clubb, who worries that event 24/7 all year had another sellout. He really does a great job on this show. I parked on the second row for which I gave myself a grade of B. The later I get there the farther away from the heated potty I get to be. Between the heated potty and the main hall is the area graded as "A" parking places. As usual, the fairgrounds were cold. The concrete floor exhumes chillys all day long even with the hot bargoooons everywhere. As usual, I went into the one heated building for chow. Don Jenkins was at his station. He was flipping eggs. His day job is car upholstery at his shop: Joes' Upholstery shop. (This is a great place to get your car upholstery work done.) So great talent: flipping eggs and sewing seats... His Lady Cheryl was working the food line as well. They always have great chow for their event. Then, spilling my coffee, I went after the fleas and the place was loaded. A \$2 Ahooga horn jumped in my bag. I looked at a 1940ish Philco floor radio complete with steering column mounted controls which reportedly worked. \$35 was a nice price, but I passed. I chatted with Jack Burke, Dick Alexander and others from the Model A Club of Baltimore. NO truths were told.



#### AACA Frederick, Maryland Report (continued)

Then I met Craig Mathues, an e-V-8er from Media, PA. He had 10 tables of quality e-V-8 parts. He knows Frank and Frankie Heiss of South Jersey, the late Bill Sutton and other heavy car guys. We had several nice chats.

I studied shackle pins. Craig was in an expansive mood and described the function of the original pins. Because sway bars had not been invented for eV-8s before 1940, the shackle pins performed this function. Between the outer collar and the the pin shaft is cast rubber of some sort. The shaft itself has grooves to help hold the rubber. The collar ends are rolled over (Or tapered in , if you will) to help hold the rubber together. This original design functions to help reduce sway (lateral motion) of the car body while in turns. Repros either don't have this collar-end taper or have a cast rubber/plastic on the outside that does not resist sway. This later version is fine with vehicles produced with factory sway bars. Interesting design. He also at one time worked near a Ford garage and noted that they ground a little metal off the collar before inserting the pin/collar assembly in the spring-loop end. I remember that in my misspent youth, I hung 4-inch lowering shackles and the wrong shackle pins on my '40 Merc four-door convertible. When I loaded the car with girls, the car would sway too much and the shackles would cut the inside of the tires. Craig had lost of stories about buying out old Ford Dealerships and junk yards.

From the Model Aers I saw Dan and Donna Lyons, Harry White, George Merkel, Dave Henderson, Woody Willams and others. Again, no truths passed our lips. All were searching for the elusive golden Model A part. About 11:30, Woody suggested we go to lunch. We done did that at the local airport cafe. Good Chow and a nice environment. Our server fussed at us for telling lies on Good Friday. Funny, she would not let Woody order a chili dog, which he wanted. She said this cafe was better'n that and got him a huge crab cake. Whatta gal! We solved all the world's problems over our good lunch and then rolled for home.

Congrats to Bob Chubb and his entire team for another super Sugarloaf Mountain Region AACA Meet at Frederick.

Clem Clement



#### **Battery Cases**

I am doing a new batch of original (Richardson) Ford script battery cases milled to cover Optima batteries in three versions: 2HF ('40-'53) and 2LF ('37-'39) milled from the bottom and "topless" 2LF cases milled from the top, leaving the bottom uncut ('34-'36). Call Alan Whelihan cell 240-367-7530.

#### 1953 Ford Country Sedan station wagon

1953 Ford Country Sedan station wagon. Sage/Oyster. 65,000 one-family (3 generations) original miles. Flathead V8, of course, with column shifter and overdrive. Nine passenger. WWW Radials. This previously rust-free, excellent-driving "time capsule" has been ground-up restored by Nostalgia Works of (Sharpsburg) Maryland (Tel : 301-416-2566) with one exception. The interior was in such excellent original condition that most of it -- headliner, side panels, rear deck, dashboard & instrument panel, and window surrounds -- has simply been carefully cleaned and left as is. Rare, eye-catching -- and lots of fun!!! Market price. Bruce Valley, Alexandria, VA. Tel : 703-360-1726. Email : brucevalley@earthlink.net See club web page for more photos - www.nvrg.org/Members/Valley.html



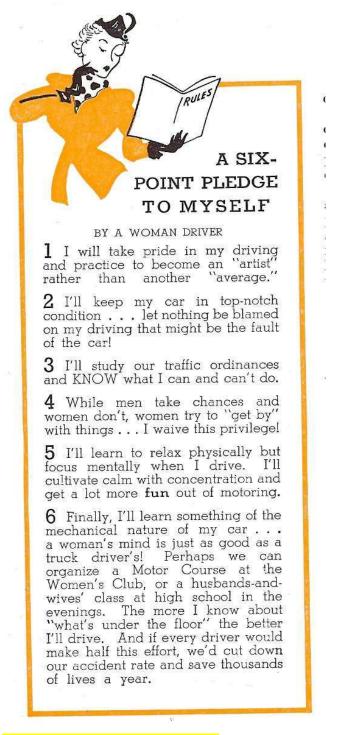
#### V-8 Email

Alan McNiff writes "Ben McDonald is doing a full restoration on my '46 Club Coupe" photo is provided below. Alan will report on the project in a subsequent Valve Clatter.



#### For the Ladies:

As previously noted, Dorothy Dignam wrote many columns for Ford News over the years to bring the ladies' perspective to the Ford experience. The following is excerpted from her column in the July 1937 issue of Ford News.



Ladies, your column could appear here! Your editor would like to include your contributions, so please write.



In regard to the <u>75th anniversary of the 1933 Fords</u>, **Ken Burns** submitted the photo above. "The picture was taken on June 30, 1937 by my father while attending graduate school in Massachusetts. The car in the picture is his 1933 Ford Deluxe Roadster that he used for school transportation and courting the women (as can be seen in the photo). He kept the car for several years until he traded it in on a used 1936 Ford Tudor. Must have had something to do with side curtains and New England winters. Oh, by the way, the woman in the picture is my mother."

### Dig 'em out, Dust 'em off, Blow 'em out, Shake 'em down

If none of these work; drive mama's car, the ol' commutowagon, or anything else that will move under its own power, but for goodness sakes join us for our first road trip of the year:

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Poker Run & Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, April 19, 2008 - 9:00 a.m. - Depart from Fair Oaks Mall

(meet across from the Marriot at the Champps entrance to the Mall)

Travel Northern Virginia's lesser-known roads to view beautiful spring blossoms - stop at a community yard sale in a charming historic village - gourment lunch at a restaurant in an old mill - great prizes - \$\$\$ gift cards for both scavenger hunt and best poker hands - see you on the road!

A firm count is required by April 13th for the restaruant. Contact Don Lombard 703-690-7971

Also, don't miss the April Garage Tour on Saturday, April 26 to the South County High School Auto Technololgies Facility - 8501 Silvebrook Road, Lorton, VA 221015 - Just off of VA 123. Depart Fair Oaks at 9:00 am - Contact Leo Cummings for details.

**Valve Clatter** 



Calendar



#### <u>April</u>

- 8 Membership Meeting 7:00 pm @ Nottaway Park Program: Aircraft Engines of the Udvar-Hazy Center presented by Harry Cawood – Refreshments: John Sweet.
- 19 Annual Spring Poker Run 9:00 am departure from Fair Oaks Mall details on page 8

### 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Poker Run & Scavenger Hunt

- **26** Garage Tour of South County High School Auto Technology Facilities Depart Fair Oaks Mall @ 9:00 arrive SCHS @ 10:00. Contact Leo Cummings for details.
- 29 Board of Director's Meeting 7:00 pm Oakton Public Library

#### <u>May</u>

- 2 Valve Clatter deadline
- 10 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Apple Blossom Classic Car Show, Winchester, VA
- Membership Meeting 7:00 pm Nottaway Park Program: Fords in Stalinist Russia by Von Hardesty. Refreshments: Eric Sumner
- 17 Annual Northern Virginia Regional Group Fairfax City Car Show, Fairfax City Hall, Fairfax, VA. Contact <u>Dave Westrate</u> to volunteer.
- 27 NVRG Board of Directors Meeting
- 31 South County High School 2nd Annual Car show details: Leo Cummings Valve Clatter deadline

#### <u>June</u>

- 51th Annual Historic Fredericksburg AACA Meet Old Town Fredericksburg Point of contact: Jay Brown (540)-372-6896
- Membership Meeting 7:00 pm Nottoway Park Program: A History of Old Time Radio (tenative)
  Refreshments: Dave Westrate
- 15 <u>Sully Plantation Show</u> join us in the shade for our traditional Father's Day picnic
- 24 NVRG Board of Directors meeting
- 28 NVRG Picnic Algonkian Park on the banks of the Potomac River in Loudoun County more details from John Sweet as they develop
  Valve Clatter deadline

#### **Down the Road**

**July 13<sup>th</sup> -19th** -Early Ford V-8 Club of America Grand National Meet in Dearborn, Michigan. Contact Bill Simons about the NVRG caravan to the Meet.

August 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> - Early Ford V-8 Foundation Museum Motorfest IV - Auburn, IN (note new dates for this event)

Board of directors Northern Virginia Regional Group Virginia Regional Group Group Copy Co					
President: Dave Gunnarson 703-425-7708					
Vice President:	Eric Sumner	703-709-4164	Programs:	John Sweet	703-430-5770
Secretary:	Cliff Green	703-426-2662	Property:	Frankie Martin	703-928-7136
Treasurer	Greg Mensinger	703-893-5644	Activities	Dave Westrate	703-620-9597
Membership:	Jim McDaniel	703-569-6699	Historian :	Don Lombard	703-690-7971
Tours: Leo Cummings, Hank Dubois 703-476-6919			Newsletter:	Jim La Baugh	703-573-9285
Past President:	John Girman	703-242-1459	Web master: helenandken@verizon.net		
J <u></u>					

Monthly general membership meetings are usually held at 7:00 pm, the *second Tuesday* of each month, in the historic Hunter House, located adjacent to the tennis courts, Nottoway Park, Court House Road, Vienna, VA. Check the newsletter for occasional alternate sites.





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

# FIRST CLASS MAIL