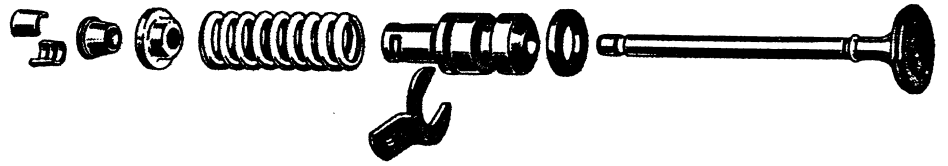




Valve Clatter



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

www.nvrg.org

Volume XXX, No. 7

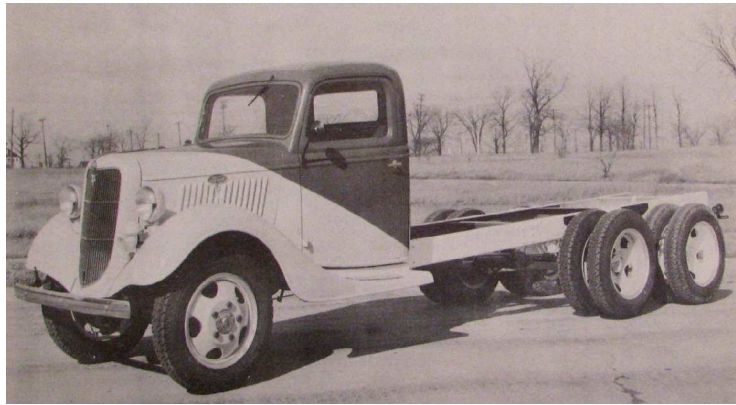
July 2008

Jim LaBaugh Editor

Summer picnic on the banks of the Potomac



Algonkian Park along the banks of the Potomac was the scene for this year's summer picnic. The Flathead Ford faithful made their way to the event in modern and vintage iron through summer heat and humidity that tested air conditioning of the 255 or 455 variety (two or four open windows at 55 mph). Once at the shelter, reserved well in advance by John Sweet, members and guests were delighted to find a gentle breeze and ample food that John had obtained on behalf of the club from Famous Dave's barbeque. Much time was spent in conversations about family, Fords, and food. Participants brought desserts to share as well, so anyone going home hungry had no one to blame but themselves. Algonkian park is one of the gems scattered around the northern Virginia region. In addition to the picnic shelters along the river, the park includes a boat ramp for launching watercraft onto the Potomac that was not far from our shelter. *(continued on page 3)*



July 2008

By the time you read this, our picnic at Algonquian Park will be history. I always look forward to a relaxing event, good conversations and fine food and I'm sure this year's picnic will be no exception. There always seems to be a lot going on in our club and July is no exception.

John Sweet has arranged for Maury Cagle of the Metropolitan Washington Old Time Radio Club to give a presentation on old time broadcasting at our July 8 membership meeting. On Sunday nights at 7 pm I like to listen to the Big Broadcast on WMAU (88.5 AM) which features re-broadcasts of radio shows from the 1930's to 1950's. It's fun to listen to the show in the garage while working on my truck, so I'm really looking forward hearing what Mr. Cagle has to say and hope to see you there.

Another fun event in July 26 will be the annual Drive-In-Movie tour. John Girman has coordinated this event. Come out and join the fun, relax under the stars in Stephens City, and enjoy the show. Look for the details in this issue.

Coming soon is the Grand National Meet in Dearborn. This event, held only once every five years, is a special occasion and I encourage you to find a way to attend. It's a long drive, but Bill Simons is driving his '33, and maybe more as well. So if you want to join him in your early Ford V8, or something more modern, let Bill know.

If you haven't seen our web site (www.nvrg.org) recently, I recommend that you take a few minutes to look at what Ken Burns has done. One feature I like is the calendar photo section where you can look at the photos from the prior calendars and click on them to get close up views. Another great feature is the Members page where it's possible to post information about your flathead car and more. I find it a good source for refreshing my memory about our club members and encourage you to send information to Ken to update or start your own page. It's really not that hard, and by looking at what some of us have already posted, you can get some ideas of what to include.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank Cliff Green, Clem Clement, Dave Westrate, Eric Sumner, Bill Selley and Hank Dubois for helping me lift the cab off my truck and raise it up to the ceiling of the garage. One of the great aspects of our club is the willingness to help each other and I couldn't have done that task myself. Now I can really begin to make some progress on the restoration!

Keep those flatheads running.

Dave

Picnic on the Potomac *(continued)*

Algonkian Park also has a swimming pool, miniature golf, driving range, soccer fields, and 18 hole golf course. The shady location around the shelter provided a comfortable setting for the event. The feasting began at around 2:00. A great time was had by all.



Frankie Martin's '51 Custom Tudor & John Girman's '53 Victoria



Sully Plantation, Father's Day 2008

A Father's Day tradition is the pilgrimage to Sully Plantation, near the Smithsonian Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum. The George Washington Chapter of the Model A Ford club of America hosts this annual event at this historic Fairfax County Park. The grass fields surrounding the plantation mansion saw several hundred vintage vehicles on display and provided a fine setting in which to show off the Flathead Fords. Club members assembled under the shade trees to enjoy the sunny and breezy day in between wandering around the show fields to see everything from '60 muscle cars to Model Ts.



The show features 37 classes of vehicles including motorcycles/scooters, military, light and heavy commercial, Cadillacs, Packards, Corvettes, Mustangs, T-Birds, Chevys, Pontiacs, Studebakers, MG, and Foreign. Of course, there were Fords everywhere, Lincolns too. *(continued on page 4)*

Sully Plantation (continued)

The car corral had a real smorgasbord of iron and there were enough vendors to satisfy the itche of those seeking the fleas at the market.



Some club members even came home with trophies! First Place Winners included Jim McDaniel's '51 Custom Tudor Police cruiser, Ben McDonald's vintage Chevy pickup, Jason Javaras' '63 Ford Galaxie XL convertible, and Dave Westrate's '39 Standard Station Wagon.



Other cars on the show field included Hank Amster's '41 convertible, Bill Simons' '34 Tudor, Frankie Martin's '51 Custom Tudor, Bob Belsley '50 Tudor (upper right photo), John Girman's '53 Victoria, Bill Selley's '47 Super Deluxe Coupe, Eric Sumner's '46 Super Deluxe Tudor, Tom Shaw's '51 Convertible, Don Pauly's '41 Lincoln Continental Coupe, S.L Ross' '48 Lincoln, Hank Dubois' '39 Deluxe Station Wagon, Bob Wild's '51 Custom Station Wagon, Cliff Green's '40 Deluxe Station Wagon, and Ken Burns' '41 Super Deluxe Station Wagon. Among the cluster of Ford Woodies, Dave Blum showed his rare '47 Nash Sedan.



Bob Belsley's '50 Tudor



Bill Selley's '47 Super Deluxe Coupe



Dave Blum's '47 Nash (photo by Jim Yergin)

Only 1,000 of these vehicles were made. Dave Blum's has all the original wood, as well as the screens inside the rear door windows. When Dave was a growing up, one of his neighbors owned one of these '47s. The neighbor had Dave wash the Nash and keep it in excellent condition. Now Dave has his own to wash and wax in between shows. It was another great show put on by the Model A Club.

Welcome!

Among the 1932 to 1942 Fords on the show field at Sully Plantation was Michael Kozak's remarkable '39 Deluxe 3-window Coupe. After much conversation with our own Bill Simons, Michael joined our Regional Group. The vehicle has been in Michael Kozak's family since his grandfather purchased it new.



Welcome also to John Mason, who was among the 30 plus attendees at our June meeting. He has a '32 Fordor Sedan. We look forward to seeing both Michael and John at future club events.

Please stand by for an important announcement... (June meeting report)

Maury Cagle, our planned speaker for the June meeting about Old Time Radio, was unable to attend due to illness. The Regional Group Ford Faithful, however, will hear his program at the July meeting, Tuesday, July 8. As a result, the club did what many do when experiencing technical difficulties, **Show and Tell**.

Club Vice President Eric Sumner started the festivities by showing "The Thompson 'Know How' Manual for Wartime Automotive Trades" circa 1944. The manual covered all types of cars, Desoto, Buick, Chrysler, and Fords to help keep vehicles going through the war years.

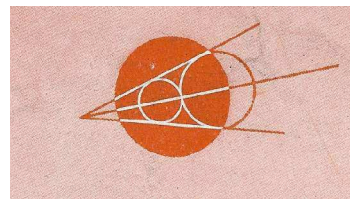
Next up was Bill Parrish. He discussed the article Cliff Green wrote in the June Valve Clatter about the book on Ford Dealerships. It turns out, one of our members, Clem Clement, knew about the dealerships mentioned in Cliff's article. In Clem's words "*The Car dealership in Cliff Green's book review. Is ACE Motors of WoodburyNJ. ACE stands for Allan C. Eastlack. My father Roy Clement and Allen grew up together. Daddy bought 25 straight new*

Fords from ACE. I have all the serial numbers and receipts. I bought 4 cars from Allan the son. I was by the dealership last year but Allen was out. I loved that dealership as a youngster. One long-time parts guy was so helpful to us kids."

"Merlin Dealership was in Camden on R38. There was a long line of dealerships there. Me and the boys haunted those dealerships in the 50's looking for bargains and women (We found neither). If I remember right they were next to the Wynn's Friction Proofing Sign (Maybe factory as well). We would park in one and walk to several of them dreaming about the new cars."

It just so happens that Bill purchased a '55 Mercury from the Merlin dealership. He kept the dealer medallion attached to the car when he sold the Mercury. So, at the June meeting he presented Clem with the medallion.

Ken Burns followed, referring to Clem again in relation to Clem's article on Shackle Bolt removal in the June Valve Clatter. Ken showed us one of the tools used in the process. Ken also passed out a photo of a Ford Display that included a radio in the background. Ford sponsored Radio programs and published the scripts. An example was passed around. John Girman's contribution was an explanation of a vintage car electrical tester. Clem Clement showed a blueprint for drilling the holes for attachment of spotlights on many different vintage cars, including his '39 Ford Pickup Truck. Clem pulled many items out of a box that was a cornucopia of mysterious steel, wires, and grease, including: a vintage 6 volt battery charger, Hudson clutch plate, dash fans resuscitated by an overnight bath in automobile transmission oil, a snow funnel that keeps water out of the gas as a gas tank is filled - works on the difference in surface tension between water and gas -, and a dual carburetor for a Model A. Another member showed the group a set of Mercury 8 hub caps that were from an unknown Mercury model of the Flathead era. Al Edwards passed around a set of aftermarket lights "Errols Safety Device" with a '46 patent date, possibly used on Ford Trucks in the '48 to '52 period. Cliff Green concluded the festivities by mentioning that at the '34 Chicago Fair Ford required that all of its suppliers show examples of their product and manufacturing processes. One item handed around was a set of all the natural materials that went into the '34 Fords. The final item was a tray that was woodgrained to '34 standards and contained an inset of the Ford Rotunda. It was a great evening of stories and automotive memorabilia.



ANDWE HAVE LIFT OFF!

by Cliff Green

Dave Gunnarson sent out a request on our list server, requesting help to move his truck cab off the frame. More than enough volunteers showed up at his garage, one Sunday afternoon, to accomplish the task of raising the cab off the chassis eight feet up into the ceiling!!



How was this accomplished do you ask? Well, Dave has a very generous garage ceiling of about 20'. He has cleverly utilized this area as storage for all sort of things, including two complete truck beds for his 1 ton truck! Not withstanding, the joists above the ceiling have been braced to support such weight.



When the crew of Bill Selley, Dave Westrate, Eric Sumner, Clem Clement, Hank Dubois & Cliff Green arrived, the preparation work had been done. The gutted cab had a welded cradle under it with screw eyes on each corner. It was necessary to manually lift the cab off the brake and clutch pedals and ease it to the rear of the frame. Now, suspended from the ceiling were three come-alongs

attached to wires from the ceiling. The object was to raise the cab high enough to engage chains suspended from the supported ceiling. It worked as slick as a Worcester Poly Grad could have engineered it. With lots of encouraging chatter and cranking, the bed was soon suspended eight feet off the ground. As Dave said, Now we have a cab over!



This is what a club is all about to help and assist other members, a bonding experience! Some day it will have to come down again Help again!

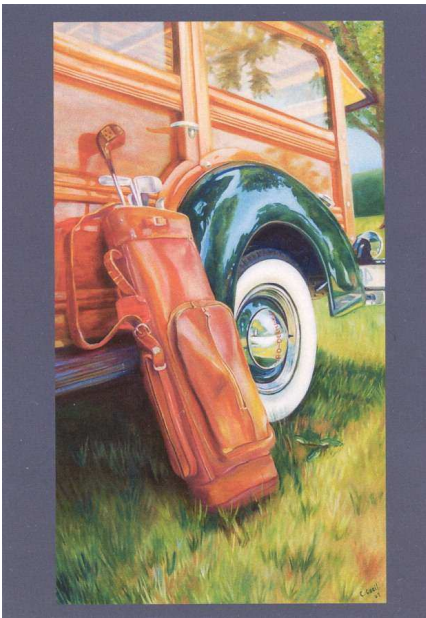


PAINTED!

by Cliff Green



Last year at Sully, I displayed a vintage golf bag beside my woody as an era prop. It caught the attention of an artist who took a picture of it. He used the picture as a guide and painted a 30 x 50 oil on canvas entitled "Woodie". Chip Cecil made post cards of his painting and distributed 200 of them in the show cars at Sully. It was a surprise to me!



The detail is impressive. You can see the partial reversed 401 tag number, the inner fender support and the roof slats through the glass. Note the Ford DeLuxe on the hub caps!

Speaking with Chip, I found that the oil painting now hangs in the Waverly Street Gallery in Bethesda and is priced at \$3200! After a year he said that he would sell it to me at a reduction. Good luck! Not to be disappointed, he said that he has a lithograph of the painting and can copy it on canvas at any size that you want. The 30 x 50 would than be only \$800! Looks like a scanned 8 x 10 image will have to do.

Wanted:

I need to find a good place to get my '46 Ford's bumpers rechromed. Bob Drake (the guy who makes them) doesn't have any new '46 bumpers left and none of the other early Ford parts places seem to have any left over. Does anyone know of a good chrome plating shop? I don't need show chrome because the car will be a driver - a really, really nice driver but, a driver nevertheless. If anyone has a real good (like new) set of bumpers for a '46 lying around I'd be happy to buy them. Thanks, Alan McNiff - Email: alanmcniff@verizon.net Hm: 301 320 4159 Cell: 301 938 4141

V8 Email

Bob Belsley sent in this link to an interesting site:
[_http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VadAcb94GZE_](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VadAcb94GZE)
(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VadAcb94GZE>)

Von Hardesty provided a note and photos regarding travel in Russia today on the highway from Moscow to Siberia, as a sequel to his presentation last month on Fords in Stalinist Russia. One example is below.



This road has no asphalt, even if it is an essential road. Every time it is raining, the road is paralyzed. These photos were taken some days before approximately 600 cars remained bogged down here.

Lets All Go to the Drive-in Movie!



Well depart the Fair Oaks parking lot at **2:30 pm** on **Saturday, July 26** (with a stop at Gainesville on the way, as needed).

Dinner will be at the **New Town Tavern**, Stephens City, VA about **5:30 pm**.

Movie at the **Family Drive-in**, Stephens City about **8:00 pm**. Cost \$7.50 adults. Speakers are available but bring an FM radio or boom box for better sound. Bring lawn chairs because it's often hot. But also bring blankets and a light sweater or jacket because it can be surprisingly cool in the evening.

For those who wish: **Overnight stay** at the **Holiday Inn** nearby. You will need to make a reservation for the **NVRG** for \$89.10 (mostly two double beds in each room, non-smoking). Please make the reservation early as they will only hold the rooms until July 19.

To reserve a spot on this tour and for any further information, contact **John Girman (703-242-1459)**. This is especially important for the restaurant and if rain forces postponement. Our rain date is the next Saturday, August 2.

So, (1) mark your calendar for July 26, (2) make your hotel reservation and (3) give John Girman a call to sign up for the tour!



July Meeting News Flash!

DATELINE: Vienna, Virginia, July 8, 2008 **OLD TIME RADIO COMES TO THE NVRG . . .** Join us Tuesday, July 8 and come back with us to those thrilling days of yesteryear to when was king. It was a time of Little Orphan Annie, magic decoder rings, and Ovaltine. When Gunsmoke starred William Conrad as Marshall Matt Dillon, the NBC network came in a shade of Blue and an announcer would intone Ladies and gentlemen, Lux presents Hollywood!" before producer Cecil B. DeMille would invite you into the best seat in the house for The Lux Radio Theatre. It was a time when the theatre was in your mind and not on a television screen. It was Radio's Golden Age. Our speaker, Maury Cagle, will freely admit to you that he has too many hobbies, but two have persisted through many decades--a love of antique automobiles and old time radio. He looks forward to being able to combine the two at the forthcoming meeting. Maury worked in radio and television for many years, and still does a daily, 60-second radio feature syndicated to stations across the country. Maury is active in the Metropolitan Washington Old Time Radio Club (www.mwotrc.com) and is dedicated to keeping interest alive in the golden age of radio, and belongs to several car clubs.

So, please join us on **Tuesday July 8** for a very special presentation that will take you back to when our V-8's were new. Also, if you have an old radio from the 20s, 30s, 40s or 50s, please be sure to bring it and we'll put them on display in the side room. Leo Cumming also suggests checking out www.Nostalgiaair.org, another great web site dedicated to Old Time Radio.

For Sale:

'49 Tudor Sedan, car runs, some rust. Price \$5-6,000 - call John Ritter 410-984-3503

Four 1935 16" spoke wheels in very good condition \$120 Ken - Fredericksburg kckissler@erthlink.net

Champion H-10 Plugs: Bob Moon is selling a set of an original Champion H-10 spark plugs complete with brass washers for the 1939-1940 Fords. These are the original and correct three rib coke bottle shaped plugs. 375 + 5 for shipping. Mint condition moons99@webtv.net.





NVRG Calendar



July

- 4 Independence Day Car Shows in downtown Fairfax and Vienna
- 5 **For the Troops Car Show** – Old Dominion Speedway, Manassas, VA – 100% of proceeds to support the **Fisher House Foundation**
- 6 National Capital Region 18th Annual Car Show, Longwood Center, Brookville, MD
- 8 **Membership Meeting** – 7:00 pm – **Program:** A History of Old Time Broadcasting – Maury Cagle from the Washington Old Time Radio Club – bring your significant other as we returning to thrilling radio days of yesteryear! Refreshments: TBD
- 13-19 Early Ford V-8 Club of America **Grand National Meet**, Dearborn, MI – contact Bill Simons if you're interested in join the caravan out and/or back
- 26-27 **Annual NVRG Night at the Drive-In Movies** – **Stephens City, VA** – rain date 2-3 August – see notice on page 8 – Questions? Contact John Girman
- 29 NVRG Board of Directors Meeting **Valve Clatter** deadline (jlabaugh@verizon.net)

August

- 12 **Membership Meeting** – 7:00 pm – Nottaway Park – **Program:** Grand National Meet in Review. **Refreshments:** Cliff Green
- 23-26 **Motorfest IV** – Early Ford V-8 Foundation Museum– Auburn, IN
- 26 NVRG Board of Directors Meeting
- 30 **Valve Clatter** deadline

September

- Membership Meeting** – 7:00 pm – Nottaway Park – **Program:** Designing Your Dream
- 9 Garage (tentative). **Refreshments:** Frankie Martin
2nd Annual Car Show for Jill's House – Dulles Crossing plaza, Sterling, VA – Jill's
- 13 House is committed to providing care and support to children with special needs
- 15 **NVRG Annual Fall Picnic, Willowcroft Vineyard, Leesburg, VA**
- 20 33rd Annual Edgar Rohr Memorial Car Meet – sponsor: Bull Run AACA, Manassas, VA
NVRG Fall Picnic and Tour to Oak Hill – visit the Oak Hill estate of President James
- 27 Monroe and tour to Doukenie Winery in Hillsboro. The Oak Hill estate is **not** open to the public but Bill Simons has arranged a private tour for us.
- 30 NVRG Board of Directors Meeting

Down the Road

October 24th-26th – **Annual Lebkicker Tour** – two night tour to the Gettysburg area – join us!



Board of directors
Northern Virginia Regional Group



President: **Dave Gunnarson** 703-425-7708

Vice President: Eric Sumner	703-860-1916	Programs: John Sweet	703-430-5770
Secretary: Cliff Green	703-426-2662	Property: Frankie Martin	703-928-7136
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Tours: Leo Cummings, Hank Dubois	703-866-9707	Newsletter: Jim La Baugh	703-573-9285
Past President: John Girman	703-242-1459	Web master: helenandken@verizon.net	

Mark your calendar!
The July Meeting is on
TUESDAY July 8
at 7:00 pm in the historic Hunter
House, located adjacent to the tennis
courts, Nottoway Park, Court House
Road, Vienna, VA



July's program - Old time Radio



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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