



The Steering Wheel

March, 2018

Newsletter of the Midwest Antique Auto Club
Not affiliated with any national club.

An independent group of collectible vehicle enthusiasts.

Dedicated to the preservation of the antique/collectible automobile.

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News Letter Editors	Dave & Esther Miller	Ph. (402)-593-2009
Historians	Clif & Joyce Ellis	Ph. (402)-397-4279

Meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month. The Board meets at 6:00 p.m. and the general meeting begins at 7:00 during the months of November, January, February and March at PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, Northwest Corner of 76th & Maple Streets in Omaha. During the summer months of April, May, June, July, August, September and October, there are no inside meetings. In these months we have "Official Car Tours" on the third Sunday of each month. Plus whatever extra tours may please us. There is no meeting in December, that meeting is replaced by our annual Christmas banquet. All vehicles are welcome, any year, make or model, but a drivable collectible/antique vehicle is not a requirement for membership.

The deadline for articles for the Steering Wheel is the last Saturday of the month.

The President's Message



Hello Everyone,

Sorry that we were not able to meet in February. We had plumbing problems with the Paralyzed Veterans building and had to call off the meeting. We will be having bingo along with corn beef and cabbage in March.

I spoke to Jerry Vincentini and he will need our club's help again for the 2018 Nebraska Concourse Classic at the SAC Museum. The Concourse will be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 21-22. We will need volunteers on July 18-20 to help with moving and placing the cars in the SAC Museum. As we get closer to July I will be sending around the times and dates for volunteer help. Jerry and I both appreciated your help last year and would ask you to help

again this year if you can. More information about the Concourse Classic is located in the newsletter. As I am writing this, it looks like we may be turning a corner on the weather. I am really looking forward to driving my car later this month when the weather gets warmer.

We hope to see everyone in March.

John and Karen Thurber ❁

Coming Events

March 16th -18th

OMAHA, NE — 63rd Annual O'Reilly "World of Wheels," CenturyLink Center Omaha, 455 N. 10th St. Information: <https://autorama.com/attend/omaha/>

March 17th (Saturday) 7:00 pm.

This is the last official indoor meeting of the season. This is the month for GREEN, Happy St. Patrick's Day! **Please bring a green desert or salad. Hopefully we will have our Corned beef & cabbage. After our general meeting and goodies we will have BINGO. So bring your lucky marking pen and hopefully YOU will have the luck of the Irish! It should be a good time for all !!!.

March 18th

GRAND ISLAND, NE — Toy Collectible Show, Boarders Inn, 333 Ramada Road, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission: \$2. Contact: Vicki or John, 402-463-1669; Doug, 402-318-4316 or vnhastings@hotmail.com

April 6th -7th

LATHROP, MO — Good Time Swap Meet. Gates open at 7 a.m. Information: Rick, 660-868-0759.

April 8th

WAHOO, NE — Spring Swap Meet, Saunders County Fairgrounds. Vendor information: 531-203-7699.

April 21st

LINCOLN, NE — Lincoln Area Street Rods 8th Annual Swap Meet, Speedway Motors Campus, 340 Victory Lane. Show starts at 7 a.m. Rain date: April 28th. Contact: Roger Nunn, 402-474-7637.

April 27th -29th


JEFFERSON, WI — Spring Jefferson Car Show and Auto Swap Meet & Sale. Information: www.madisonclassics.com.

April 28th

KEARNEY, NE — 12th Indoor Annual Auto & Bike Show. Buffalo County Fair Grounds by Central Nebraska Auto Club. Contact: Jerry, 308-440-8731 or Jeff, 308-233-5120.

July 21st- 22nd

ASHLAND, NE — Nebraska Highway 66 Concourse Classic.



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The SAC Aerospace Museum is again hosting a premier classic automobile show featuring exclusive vintage and collectable cars, and motorcycles. A top quality collection of prestigious vehicles! There is no charge to display a vehicle at this show just the opposite. Those picked to display will be able to bring their vehicle to the museum on Thursday July 19th and Friday July 20th. The vehicles will be displayed inside the Museum amongst the planes. The building will be secured overnight. On Friday evening there will be a hors d'oeuvre and cocktail reception for those displaying vehicles. On Saturday those displaying cars will be invited to a Banquet (2 people per displayed vehicle). On Sunday three different awards will be presented selection of the vehicles is spectator's choice of the best liked Car, Motorcycle, and Children's favorite. More information will be mailed out on March 1st.

Those that don't wish to display but would like to be spectators the event is open daily July 21st – 22nd from 9 am to 5 pm. 28210 West Park Highway, Ashland, NE, 68003. Admission: \$6-\$12.

<https://sacmuseum.org/event/nebraska-highway-66-concourse-classic>

Some have asked me why this show is called the Nebraska 'Highway 66' Concourse Classic. Hey that's an easy answer: Because the SAC Aerospace Museum is on Nebraska State Highway 66 (nothing to do with U.S. Route 66).

May 20th
 OMAHA, NE — Midtown Car Show, Turner Park,
 (31st Ave & Farnam St., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ☼

Member News

Well members, our last meeting was a first! We had to cancel, not due to weather either. Something about sewer or plumbing in the building being done. Anyway, you were all missed.

Our membership has shrunk a little bit from 52 memberships (usually 2 per membership) to 40 memberships. Any ideas on how to encourage folks to join our club would be great, spread the word.

Since our membership has shrunk, it may not be feasible to stay where we are for meetings and I for one would like to see these indoor meetings at an earlier time, say 4pm then snack/eat at 5pm with activity. This is just my input. So put on your thinking caps.



A black rectangular advertisement for a NASCAR event. It features a large white and red checkered "I" logo with "80 NEBRASKA" in the center. Below it, the word "SPEEDWAY" is written in red. Text includes "HOME OF THE SILVER DOLLAR NATIONALS", phone numbers (402.342.3453, 402.659.3301, 402.731.2947), office address (5040 I St, Omaha, NE 68117), and website (www.neracewaypark.com).

A red rectangular advertisement for KOSISKI AUTO PARTS. The text reads: "Used Late Model Auto & Truck Parts", "KOSISKI AUTO PARTS", "GARY", "Parts Specialist", "5040 I Street Omaha, NE 68117 www.kosiski.com", "402-731-4592 ext. 233", "Toll Free: 800-228-0053", "Fax: 402-731-2947".

A white rectangular advertisement for Select Auto. It features a cartoon illustration of a man with glasses and a beard driving a red car. Text includes: "Ron Boecker", "Work (402) 731-2325 Call (402) 699-1955", "6211 L Street Omaha, NE 68117 www.selectautoomaha.com", and "Select Auto" in a stylized font at the bottom.

Does anyone have a heated large garage, know of a school or community building? We need fresh ideas for our meetings and tours!

This Editor had an embarrassing situation, not just for herself but also the club. In last month's issue I listed those members who have not rejoined. And Dixie received a phone call from this member's son stating that he had passed away in November!! We deeply apologize for this lack of acknowledgement in our newsletter, but the Editors need to know so please, please let us know if you have news like this.



James Rexford Barker has been a long time member of the Midwest Antique Auto Club. He was born March 28, 1934 in Omaha, NE to Rex & Irene Barker. He graduated from Omaha Technical High School in 1952. He was married to Noreen Langan (predeceased him in death). They were blessed with five children: Rex, John, Ann, Mary, and Thomas. Jim worked in Seattle in the logging industry and on a fishing boat. After moving back to Omaha, Jim worked as a television repairman before starting Seat Cover Center of Nebraska. This was the pre-eminent auto upholstery business in Omaha for over 50 years. He retired from the business when he was 80 years old. Jim died on Sunday, November 19th, 2017 at Bergen Mercy Hospital in Omaha following surgery at the age of 83. Jim is survived by sons and daughters –in-law: Rex & Mary of Omaha, John & Brooke of Palmyra, NE, and Thomas & Michelle of Port Charlotte, Florida; daughters and sons-in law: Ann & Brian Miller of Papillion and Mary & Steven Thacker of Clinton, IA; 10 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren; and sister Patricia Brisbay of Pearland, TX. Internment was at Prospect Hill cemetery in Elkhorn, NE. Military Honors were conducted with taps played. Memorials are suggested to St. Patrick's Catholic Church or Open Door Mission.

HOW ABOUT A MOVIE-A DRIVE IN MOVIE! Well, here is some history.

Information in this little article is from a book by Don and Susan Sanders "The American Drive-In Movie Theatre ((2013 Edition by Crestline w/ arrangements with Motorbooks International). It states that the automobile and the motion picture were born just 12 years apart. The Duryea(automobile) was out on the road in 1893, and the motion picture arrived in 1905. The fascinating world of the mechanics of both the moving picture and the automobile were intertwined. The nickelodeon theaters were 5 cents and one could watch a moving picture. Silent movies were next, and vaudeville was basically gone. Watching movies under the stars was taking shape with outdoor theaters like the 1915 Air Dome Theater on Fremont St. in Las Vegas, NV. These had rows and rows of seats with a very large screen up front. Cruise lines also offered outdoor theaters. The automobile not only represented a new independence, but was also the main "action" figure (along with trains) seen in these old movies. This wonderful book also gives the history of the "Father of the Drive-In Theater". "As the story goes, it all happened in the driveway of Hollingshead's Riverton, New Jersey home. Trying to find a way to combine America's two great love affairs- the automobile and the movies-Hollingshead sat a Kodak 16mm projector on the hood of his car and spooled up some old home movies" (Sanders & Sanders, Pg. 13) After various adjustments and testing with sound(radio) and different natural back ground sounds he also devised an upward ramp system. The ramp would become the basis for his patent. His idea opened to the public in 1933, it allowed smoking, chatting, and the car became a private theater box unlike the indoor theaters. This theater opened to a full house on June 6, 1933.

MIDWEST ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB ROSTER March 2018

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BAKER, Larry & Janet
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BEIRIGER, Tom & Linda
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BUNCH, Delmar & Barb
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Zachary, Phillip, Jacob,
Nathaniel & Lydia
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AN INDEPENDENT GROUP OF COLLECTIBLE VEHICLE ETHUSIASTS