



The Steering Wheel

September 2020

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

An independent group of collectible vehicle enthusiasts.

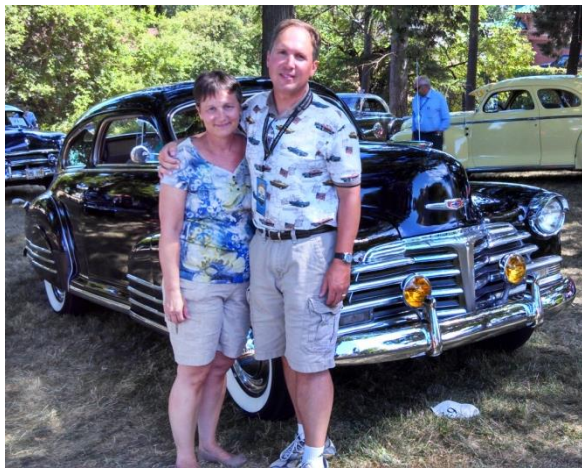
Dedicated to the preservation of the antique/collectible automobile.

<u>Presidents</u>	<u>John & Karen Thurber</u>	<u>Ph. (402)-496-7701</u>
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<u>Tour Committees</u>	<u>Jim & Cheryl Cushman</u>	<u>Ph. (402)-558-0150</u>
<u>News Letter Editors</u>	<u>We still need someone</u>	<u>Ph. (xxx)-xxx-xxxx</u>
<u>Historians</u>	<u>Clif & Joyce Ellis</u>	<u>Ph. (402)-397-4279</u>

Meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month. The Board meets at 1:30 p.m. and the general meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. during the months of November, January, February and March at the **NEW CASSEL RETIREMENT CENTER at 900 N. 90th St., Omaha, NE 68114.** 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,

I hope everyone had a safe and healthy Labor Day. I have been able to go to a few car shows over the last month. I recently visited the Thursday night car show at Quaker Steak and Lube in Council Bluffs and they had over 200 cars show up. I think that everyone was tired of staying home and wanted to show their cars in a safe manner.

I appreciate everyone patience with the August trip to Scatter Joy Acres and our little detour. I am glad that everyone was able to make it up the hill on 45th Street. I appreciate Jim and Cheryl Cushman investigating the facility for us and setting up

our tour guide.

We hope to see you in September and October for our last driving tours of the year.

Be safe and stay healthy

John and Karen Thurber

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 20th (Sunday) Visit Bob and Gloria Chalek's Car Collection

We are planning to visit Bob and Gloria Chalek's car collection in Malvern, Iowa. Bob and Gloria have been gracious enough to invite us to their home to see their wonderful car collection. Please bring masks and chairs as we will be looking at the car collection in small groups. We will plan to meet at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 20th at the Iowa School for the Deaf at 3501 Harry Langdon Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA (the interchange of Highway 92 and Wabash Ave.) and leave for our tour at 1:30 p.m.

October 18 (Sunday)

We are tentatively planning to meet at Ed Hedegaard's home in Underwood IA. More to come in the next Steering Wheel.

Member News

****DUES ARE PAST DUE! PLEASE SEND THEM TO DIXIE FOOTE IF YOU HAVE NOT YET PAID.**

August 16th Tour- Participants, Ed and Sandy Anderson (modern), Delmar and Roger Bunch (69 Chevy), Chuck and Lola Christensen (56 Ford), Clif and Lisa Ellis (49 Ford), Ken, Dixie, Donna, Jayden and Dracon Foote (49 Packard), Monte and Marg Frost (Modern), Ed, Janet, Skylar, Katie Hedegaard (Suburban, Ambassador, Malibu), Tom and Gloria Kannas (41 Buick), Charlie and Mickey Moriarty (49 Chrysler), John, Karen, Michael and Nick Thurber (47 Chevy and 66 Olds), Jim and Sue Peterson (modern)

We had a great time visiting Scatter Joy Acres. It was real interesting to see a farm located so close to the central part of Omaha. Ed Anderson won the split pot of \$19. Thanks for everyone who attended.

Below are pictures some pictures from the tour:



Brad Schiller (402-639-3462) has a 1941 Olds 4dr car for sale. The car is from Montana and still has the Montana plates on it. It was stored in a barn engine and turns over by battery. It needs to be fixed up or restored. Brad also has a Olds Cutlass that could go with it if wanted modern power and suspension and keep it all Olds, the body is real good.

From Hemmings Motor News

How old cars help find meaning in a world of progress and represent a thorn in the side of the future

By Hemmings contributor Matthew Crawford on Jun 10th, 2020 at 9:00 am

Once, in the grassy parking area of Virginia International Raceway, I spotted what appeared to be an AC Cobra from the mid- 1960s. Usually these turn out, on closer inspection, to be kit-car reproductions. But this thing was ratty looking, like it had been living outdoors for fifty years and driven hard for just as long. It turned out to be the real McCoy. I talked to the owner, who'd had the car since the 1980s. He said he had driven it to VIR from Pennsylvania.

I felt cheered, for some reason. Such iconic cars are usually removed from circulation and overrestored. They spend their dotage as trailer queens, to be trotted out and parked as touring conversation pieces. When a formidable car is reduced to this, you can't help but feel an injustice has been done, as when you see a once-magnificent predator moping around in the zoo. But here was a Cobra in the wild, oblivious to decades of marketing kitsch (images of the car are used to sell all kinds of stuff). Seeing it bruised, un-self-conscious, and happy in the muddy parking lot, the fog of cliché that hangs around this model lifted for me and revealed the thing-in-itself.

Old cars elicit a range of feelings. One of them is that elusive feeling that we sometimes try to name with the fraught word "authenticity." The car may bear visible scars of a life fully lived, traces of a past that lend depth to the present. The Road and Track columnist Peter Egan related his reluctance to restore his Lotus that had taken some beatings on the racetrack, and shared the wisdom of a Jaguar enthusiast who told him never to replace anything he could save. "You see these old factory inspector's chalk marks on the back of a dash panel and you realize the whole car is full of English ghosts. If you let them escape . . . they never come back."

Another enthusiast wrote, "Patina lends proof of life. . . . It tells a saturated story of age, of history absolutely unrevised. Its unique character of textures can't be bought for any price or fabricated with even a pretense of dignity."

Most of us will never own a classic. It wasn't "patina" on the 1992 Camry I sold a few years ago, it was just oxidized paint. The interior's ratio of velour to dog hair had crossed some important threshold years earlier, but this was no spur to sentimentality. Still. We had been through many struggles together, beginning with the water pump and timing belt I had to replace a week after buying it in 2004, and this shared history gave rise to a certain loyalty. Distinguishing a classic from a car that is simply done is harder than you might think!

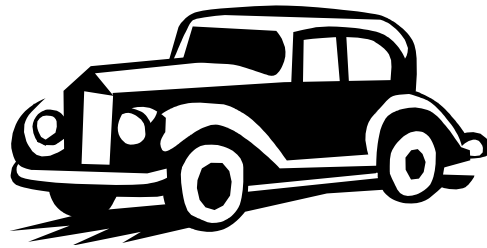
It would be easy to dismiss odes to old cars as the musings of nostalgic old farts. Or perhaps they express the connoisseurship of the aesthete who goes antiquing in the countryside, looking to appropriate other people's pasts as props to lend an ersatz depth to his life. But if we adopt a more charitable interpretation, we can note that for those who value them, old cars become the focal point for a way of orienting to the world and finding meaning in it. As such, they enact a moral sensibility of stewardship, an outlook that values continuity. And this is true not just of the comfortable middle-aged guy with his old Jaguar, but also of the Vietnamese immigrant with his early '90s Civic, equally precious. He too is likely to tell you "they don't make them like they used to."

For that is the curious thing about cars and our love for them: today's uninspiring models become tomorrow's classics. Some of them do, anyway. Which ones, one can't really know in advance. It seems to

take about one generation, or a progression in one's own life from car-enthralled childhood to regret-burdened adulthood, for sentiment to attach to the material things of one's youth. Ironically, the design churn dictated by technological progress provides the raw material for retro fascination—quirks to be cherished by enthusiasts a generation later. Without progress, we would be denied the pleasures of nostalgia! Put the other way around, "retro" is a sensibility that has obvious appeal as a shelter from the relentless onslaught of the new.

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MIDWEST ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB



AN INDEPENDENT GROUP OF COLLECTIBLE VEHICLE ETHUSIASTS