



The Steering Wheel

June 2021

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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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 want to give a big thank you to Jack and Susan Lorsch for inviting our group out to your house in Kennard on June 5. Your hospitality was fantastic as was your hot dogs and root beer floats. It was great to see everyone bring their cars to the event. Thank you again, Jack and Susan.

If you didn't have an opportunity to attend the Greater Omaha Rotary Car Show, you missed a chance to see Peter Fink's car collection in the old Richman Gordman building at 90th & Military Road. It was an outstanding car collection with over 100 cars with most over \$100,000 each (some over \$1 million).

If you appreciate muscle cars, I don't think we will see a better collection of muscle cars in the country.

Please stay safe and healthy as we continue to open up our economy.

John and Karen Thurber

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June Driving Tour

We are planning to meet at New Cassel Retirement Community, 900 N. 90th Street, for a car show from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on **Saturday, June 19**. This is an opportunity to show our cars to the residents of New Cassel that have a hard time going to car shows. Please show up at New Cassel by 10:50 a.m. New Cassel has generously offered to provide us with refreshments and snacks.

July Driving Tour – July 25

8th Annual Missouri Valley Hot Rod Reunion – We have been asked by the sponsors of the Missouri Valley Hot Rod Reunion to participate in the car show and help manage spectators that will be attending on Sunday, July 25. The show will raise funds for Make-A-Wish, Child Saving Institute and the Shriners. The show will be located at 5111 N. 78th Street at the lot behind Midlands Baptist Temple. There will be a band, four top fuel dragsters and food trucks. More information will be sent out in the July Steering Wheel.

Member News

2021 Dues

Please remember to pay the 2021 dues of \$30 if you haven't already done so to our Treasurer, Dixie Foote, at 25127 Bentley Lane, Neola, IA 51559.

April Tour to the Lorschs

It was nice to see everyone at the Lorsch's home for a car show and hot dogs. Although a list wasn't taken, my recollection of the participants include Delmar Bunch (51 Chevy), Clif and Joyce Ellis (51 Chevy), Ken and Dixie Foote (48 Packard), Ed and Janet Hedegaard (38 Chevy), Tom and Gloria Kannas (41 Buick), Max Meier (modern), Roger Olsen, John and Karen Thurber (47 Chevy), Michael Thurber (66 Olds Toronado), Jerry and Connie Vincentini (Modern), Frank and Liz Van Doorn (52 Studebaker). We had a great meal provided by the Lorschs and a nice tour of their garage and shops.

MIDWEST ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB

AN INDEPENDENT GROUP OF COLLECTIBLE VEHICLE ETHUSIASTS

Just Like New: Five facts about vehicle interior cleaning

By Mark J. McCourt from June 2021 issue of Hemmings Motor News

It may be a beloved classic you want to tidy up before car show season gets underway, or the daily driver that takes everything your life throws at it, but we all find our vehicle interiors getting dusty, dirty, and cluttered. Few automotive experiences are more pleasant than settling into a car or truck whose cabin looks, feels, and even smells showroom fresh. It's one thing to pick up the scattered gas receipts and shake out the floor mats, and another to remove built-up filth and discoloration from every part of the interior, and properly treat and protect individual surfaces like carpet, fabric, plastic, and leather.

Professional automotive detailers can charge serious rates because their work is time-consuming and physical, and they've mastered specialist techniques that bring the best outcome. And while garage shelves filled with pro-level cleaning supplies and dedicated tools are great to have, those are not the be-all and end-all: a few quality products and some typical household tools, used in a knowledgeable way, can achieve show-worthy results.

1. Before You Begin

When it comes to a serious deep clean of your vehicle's interior, you may already have some of the most useful and effective cleaning implements and chemicals on hand, while others can easily be acquired through online sources. A shop vacuum—especially a wet/dry version—with brush and slender crevice attachments is great, but even a powerful regular vacuum with an extendable hose can be effective. Microfiber towels that can be washed (a reminder to avoid fabric softener and line dry) are inexpensive, as are various-sized soft-bristle brushes—yes, your old toothbrushes can be useful, so save them for car cleaning!

As to the products you'll want at your disposal, a biodegradable or citrus-based general purpose, low-sudsing cleaner/degreaser, diluted with water and handled conscientiously, can be safe for use on most interior surfaces. When it comes to interior dressings/ultraviolet light (UV) protectants, detailing pros tend to be selective. Some of the most commonly available brands are silicone-based, which gives them the propensity to attract dust and—as they evaporate—to haze interior glass. Water-based dressings are generally preferred for those reasons, and tend to impart a desirably natural, low-gloss appearance.

2. Under Foot

A thorough vacuuming—including under the seats, in seat seams, the dash top, center console, and don't forget the rear shelf, trunk, or cargo area, should remove built-up dirt and dust. A towel misted with all-purpose cleaner and rubbed on the carpet can lift dirt and greasy marks and, with repeated passes, treat many types of stains. If a vacuum and rag-applied cleaner aren't doing the trick, Gil Monge of Gillin Auto Interiors suggests a household-type steam cleaner may work as a last resort: "The key is to not soak the carpet, because there's padding underneath; if that gets wet, you could end up with mold growing."

If your vehicle has carpeted floor mats, you can give them the same vacuum/wiped cleaner application. Rubber or plastic mats needing attention will benefit from a different treatment, T44 Detailing principal Brian Skorski advises: "Like ugly brown 'blooming' oxidation on tires, all-season floor liners and mats can fade and discolor over time. Apply rubber cleaner or diluted all-purpose cleaner and agitate, rinsing thoroughly and following up with a dressing of your choice, but wipe mats before reinstalling to ensure surfaces aren't slippery."

3. Upholstery Do's and Don'ts

Whether your vehicle's seats are covered in fabric, vinyl, or leather, you should be able to freshen their

appearance with a bit of elbow grease. Ensure your seats are vacuumed, paying attention to seams and other low areas where dust and debris collect. If pet fur has become stuck in the seats and carpet, Brian recommends wiping those surfaces with a silicone brush or water-wet latex glove, before a final vacuum pass.

Follow this with a cleaner that is appropriate to the material: Most fabrics will respond well to the light, microfiber/towel-borne application of diluted all-purpose cleaner, and of course, don't saturate the surface. Vinyl can be cleaned in a similar fashion, and then sparingly treated with interior dressing/protectant. Automotive leather is a natural substance that is typically colored through spray-applied surface dyeing. It's subject to abrasion and degradation through contact with body oils, so it requires regular attention with dedicated products. Gil suggests choosing ones specifically intended to clean and condition leather, preferably sourced from a retailer who specializes in this material. To clean and condition the hides, apply the treatment using a microfiber towel or foam pad—don't dispense directly on the leather—and follow with a fresh towel to remove excess. Pros recommend cleaning and conditioning leather upholstery four times a year if a vehicle is used daily, or one to two times a year if it only gets limited seasonal use.

Approach a dirty fabric headliner with caution, as this delicate trim is typically affixed with glue that weakens with age. Dab the area—applying very light pressure using a microfiber towel misted with diluted all-purpose cleaner or citrus fabric cleaner until it's barely damp—then gently wipe it.

4. Out, Damned Spot!

Removing stains from carpet and cloth can be tricky, especially if they're set in. You may find spots that don't respond to the diluted all-purpose cleaner treatment or even applications of a household citrus-based fabric cleaner, so you'll then have to try a specialist treatment like Folex or Spot Shot. To make sure your affected areas are colorfast in the face of a stronger chemical, find a hidden area to test before applying it to the stain, agitating with a soft brush, and removing residual moisture with a towel or wet-dry vacuum.

If you're faced with something like an ink spot on fabric or vinyl, target that stain carefully and with patience. Dabbing and blotting with a lightly dampened cotton swab or clean microfiber spritzed with isopropyl alcohol may lift the ink, but it could also remove or otherwise damage the finish underneath; proceed with caution, and if need be, seek help from an interior detailing professional.

5. And Don't Forget

The tight and tricky areas of your dashboard, air vents, center console, and interior door panel cubbies—probably largely plastic or vinyl—will all benefit from dusting with a clean microfiber cloth lightly spritzed with diluted all-purpose cleaner and, when dry, wiped with a clean microfiber or foam pad carrying a UV-rated interior cleaner and protectant. A soft detailing brush, lightly dampened with cleaner/protectant and chased with another clean towel, will improve the look of vents, buttons, cupholders, and more; be sure not to apply liquids directly onto buttons or vents.

When it comes to window glass, Brian suggests replacing traditional cleaning sprays with a melamine-based sponge (think, Magic Eraser) dipped in warm water and squeezed-out; wipe the glass with this sponge, and follow with a microfiber or lint-free cloth. This sponge will also clean window frames and doorjambs.

And for owners of classic cars, he advises paying attention to areas of dry, brittle materials: “They can be treated with a leather rejuvenator product and allowed to soak overnight. Then, you can follow up with a normal UVA/UVB rated protectant, or a new-style ceramic protectant that claims to have further capabilities at blocking harm from the elements. These ceramic interior cleaners are also great for leaving a satin finish, and they repel dust!”