



The Steering Wheel

March 2022

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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<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 went to the Lincoln Swap Meeting last Sunday with my son, Michael. I also saw Monte and his grandson at the event. I had to think back to 2020 when the Lincoln Swap Meet was the last big gathering I attended prior to the Pandemic shutting down the country. I was happy to see everyone out enjoying themselves. I ended up buying a few items I didn’t need but it was nice seeing all the vendors.

My brothers and I continue to work on my father’s car. In the last 30 days, we finished with the wiring for the headlights, horn and taillights (thank goodness everything works – the new YnZ wiring harness is great). We also finished connecting the hood latch. Next, we are working on insulation in the interior, painting the dash and installing the windows. We are getting close and my Dad is getting excited to drive the car.

John and Karen Thurber



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March Indoor Tour – March 20, 2022

This is the third official indoor meeting of the season. Please join us at New Cassel (900 N. 90th Street) on March 20th at 2 p.m. to celebrate a late St. Patties Day! **Please bring a desert or salad. We will be having Ed's famous corned beef, cabbage and potatoes at this meeting. **Please bring a show and tell item or pictures about how you started in the old car hobby or pictures of a car restoration you completed.** After sharing the pictures of my dad's car restoration, I would like to see your car restoration pictures. Please remember to enter using the lower north entrance to the facility and please bring masks while entering and exiting the facility.

****2022 MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE - They are still \$25.00. If you haven't paid, please send payment to Dixie Foote at 25127 Bentley Lane, Neola, Iowa – 51559**

April 23rd First Outdoor Tour

We will have our first outdoor tour of 2022 visiting the Hedegaard's home in Underwood IA. We are moving the tour date from the traditional 3rd Sunday due to Easter to the 4th Saturday. More information on the tour starting point and time in next month's Steering Wheel.

Member News

Wanted – I need help finding someone to go through my dad's hydraulic pump on his 47 Chevy Convertible. If anyone has information on someone or a company I can send the pump to, please call John Thurber at 402-496-7701

Hemmings Motor News - The Nut Behind the Wheel: Leah Levin on Why a Senior in High School Drives a 1951 Packard 200 Deluxe

By [David Conwill](#) on Nov 8th, 2021



Retrophile Leah Levin at the wheel of her 1951 Packard 200 Deluxe.

"I'd been looking for an old car since I was 10 years old. I think it started because my granddad had an early-'40s Ford truck. It was the coolest thing ever. We'd always go fishing down to the creek in it and it was good bonding time with my granddad. His dad owned a body shop, and the love of cars has been in the family since then.

"There's always been a huge car show in the town I live next to that I've always loved going to. They just don't make them cool like they used to. Cars today are just not like 'oh wow!' I like '50s cars and definitely '60, for so long I wanted a '67 Impala SS. Everyone tells me I was born in the wrong generation—it's definitely true.

"It probably started middle-schoolish when I started getting into my hobbies like music and movies and the things that make my life what it is. I loved listening to music from the 1940s to the 1970s and watching black and white movies. I got into that stuff and I still really am. Seeing all the movies that I loved and seeing all the things like cars and antiques and anything vintage. I have been collecting since middle school, so it's not just cars. Vinyl records are a huge thing for me. It's also hats, clocks, cameras...

"I was 16 last year and, well, now I needed an old car, and I got super lucky. We got the Packard in late September of last year. My dad knows a lot of people around. My dad's friend's friend was running an auction in Oklahoma. It was all-original with the straight-eight.



Ask the teen who owns one.

"Dad said, 'well this is your favorite color,' kind of joking, and it was the auction car in the best condition. I looked at it more and it was cute plus it was a bargain and a half. Even my grandparents were like 'Leah, you have to get this!'

"We made a trip out to pick it up. I was excited because we had always talked about getting one and fixing it up, but it had never actually happened. Once we got it home, we decided we needed to crack down on it and we actually got it running on the first or second day we had it. There was some old gas in it that really stunk up the place, but we were all excited saying 'yahoo, it's running!'

"That was great news to me: Already, it wasn't a fail. I could drive it to the golf course where I work, but that's only a mile away on gravel. But I live eight miles outside of town and high gear was not doing it, so we put it into the shop. One of my neighbors actually works on cars as a side job, but he's also a farmer and was busy with harvest, then he got busy with planting season. It was on the lift for a long time, so we decided to take over. I wanted to drive it real bad.

"Then last month we finally started getting it done. We put an LS engine in it, fixed all the wiring and now I can drive it to Omaha or Lincoln, which is like an hour from my house. Going on day trips with it is so fun. "Most of my friends are supportive like, 'oh yeah, this is definitely something Leah would do,' but I don't think they're like 'oh, I want a cool old car too!'

"I see older folks and they love it. All my high school teachers love it. It's my pride and joy."

MIDWEST ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB
AN INDEPENDENT GROUP OF COLLECTIBLE VEHICLE ETHUSIASTS