



# The Steering Wheel

## June 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>	<b><u>We still need someone</u></b>	<u>Ph. (xxx)-xxx-xxxx</u>
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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. 90<sup>th</sup> 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,

A big thank you to Nathan Bunch for his tour of the Echo Supply Company. It was great to see all the products and services that Echo provides. I really appreciated Nate's tour of his interesting place of employment.

I am sad to say that Dixie and Kenny Foote have decided to retire as the MAAC treasurers. Dixie and Kenny have been treasurers for over 15 years. I really appreciate all they have done for our group. We now need new treasurers that would be responsible for depositing and paying MAAC expenses and setting up our annual Christmas banquet. Please let me know

if you can help us by being treasurer. Ed and I are too busy right now to take on the treasurer function.

Karen and I had a chance to visit the California Automobile Museum in Sacramento, CA in May. I am sharing a few pictures on the next page. I would highly recommend visiting it if you are in California.

John and Karen Thurber



## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **June Driving Tour – June 18, 2022**

We will be meeting at New Cassel Retirement Center (900 N. 90<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha) at 11:00 a.m. on June 18th for a car show. New Cassel has been a great supporter of the MAAC club allowing us to use their indoor space for our winter meetings. The car show allows us to give back and share our cars with the residents. **Please plan to be at the New Cassel south parking lot at 11:00 a.m.** New Cassel will provide us a lunch and goodies. The car show should be over by 1:00 p.m.

### **Hot Classic Nights – June 18, 2022**

The Chevrolet Classic Club is sponsoring Hot Classic Nights in Papillion at Grace Baptist Church 205 E. Halleck Street. Registration at 4 p.m. with the show from 5 to 9 p.m. There is a \$10 entry fee. Contact Scott at 712-328-7113 or Gena at 402-960-5957 for more information.

### **July 9th Driving Tour**

We will be meeting at Jack and Susan Lorsch's home at 6755 County Road 25 in Kennard NE at 1:00 p.m. on July 9th for car show. Food starts at 4 p.m. Please bring lawn chairs. More information to come in the July Steering Wheel.

### **Member News**

The May 15<sup>th</sup> Tour was to Echo Supply Company in Council Bluffs. A big thank you to Nathan Bunch for his tour of the Echo Supply Company. It was great to see all the products and services that Echo provides. I really appreciated Nate's tour of his interesting place of employment. The members that attended include John and Karen Thurber (47 Chevy), Clif and Joyce Ellis (51 Chevy), John Clark (68 Chevy Pickup), Monte and Marj

Frost (modern), Ed and Janet Hedegaard (54 Chevy Station wagon), Tom and Gloria Kannas (modern), Ed and Sandy Anderson (modern), Leon Zager and Jeanie Oles (modern), Daryl and Linda Baker (89 Chevy), Roger and Delmar Bunch (28 Ford) and Nate Bunch (71 MG). Thanks for everyone's attendance and Echo's hospitality.

I am sad to report that long-time MAAC member Jimmie Peterson passed away in May. Jimmie's funeral was on May 25<sup>th</sup> at Bethany Funeral Home in La Vista. Please keep Jimmie's family in your thoughts and prayers.

## How can you preserve your tires from age-related rot?

Ask a Hemmings Editor

By [Kurt Ernst](#) on May 11th, 2022



*Sometimes, no amount of care is going to help. Photo by author.*

Tires may be the most overlooked—and most misunderstood—component on your car. While modern tires are incredibly capable (even compared to those made a decade back), they still require some degree of care and feeding to maximize their lifespans.

Reader Doug Higbee recently chimed in with a rather specific question about tire care, asking: *Tires age. 'We' know this to be the case. What would be Hemmings recommendation to preserve tires from age-related rot? I cannot confirm what I was advised many years ago: Using a pure silicone spray on the tire will help replenish what has dried from the tire over time. I have witnessed this absorption to be extremely rapid after the spray contacts the tire, leading me to believe it benefits a 'thirsty' tire. What is your take on this?*

First and foremost, we need to acknowledge that modern tire compounds have evolved at an incredibly fast pace. In some cases, they've become even more specialized, too: Modern summer-only performance tires offer a level of grip unimaginable in a street tire a few decades back, but the window in which they can be safely used has grown smaller. Both Pirelli and Michelin warn that summer-only tires may be subject to sidewall cracking in low temperatures, voiding any manufacturer's warranty.



With this in mind, the rubber compounds used in a modern tires differ from the rubber compounds used in tires years ago. What may have been good advice for a '60s-era bias-ply, or an '80s-era radial, may be harmful to tires today. For advice on proper tire care, we looked to Goodyear, which manufactured over 169 million tires (of all types) in 2021.

Per the Akron, Ohio-based manufacturer, sidewall and tread weathering, often referred to as dry rot, is a result of the breakdown of compounds used to make the tire. Though a natural age-related process, several things can accelerate this, including UV exposure, environmental extremes (particularly a hot, dry climate), high ozone levels, underinflation, and lack of use. Tires benefit from regular exercise, and don't like to remain stationary for extended lengths of time. According to South Bend, Indiana, (and online) vendor [the Tire Rack](#), "The repeated stretching of the rubber compound actually helps deter cracks from forming."

To care for tires, [Goodyear recommends](#) cleaning them regularly with water and a mild dish soap, followed by a rinse with clean water. The manufacturer cautions against the use of *some* tire dressings, specifically those that contain petroleum distillates. While these products may temporarily enhance a tire's appearance, in the long run petroleum products can prematurely age a tire. The Tire Rack backs this up, advising that excessive use of tire cleaners and dressings can remove anti-oxidants and ozone protectants from the tire's rubber compounds.

Silicone grease is often used to [lubricate and swell rubber seals](#), but an o-ring is not the same thing as a tire. We've seen anecdotal reports of silicone sprays adding tire shine (and restoring color), too, but if the tire manufacturer doesn't specifically recommend it, there's probably a reason (and it's not just to sell more tires).

Instead, to maximize tire life and reduce dry rotting, we suggest you check the tires regularly for proper inflation, and cover any tires that may have direct exposure to sunlight (even through a window). If the vehicle in question is parked for an extended period, consider putting it on jack stands to take the weight off the tires, or at the very least repositioning it every month or so. Avoid parking near equipment that potentially generates ozone, such as generators or welders, and prevent temperature extremes if at all possible. Wash the tires as Goodyear suggests, and if you really want to use a product on the tires, opt for a water-based dressing that doesn't contain petroleum distillates.

Finally, keep in mind that tires can also age from the inside out. Even if a tire appears to be in good condition externally, there's no way to know if an older tire is safe to use. We tend to follow the 10-year rule, since a set of tires is a lot cheaper than the potential outcome of a tire failure, particularly one at speed.

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