



# The Steering Wheel

## April 2023

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 &amp; Karen Thurber</u>	<u>Ph. (402)-496-7701</u>
<u>Vice Presidents</u>	<u>Dave Hansen</u>	<u>Ph. (402)-350-6505</u>
<u>Secretaries</u>	<u>Gloria &amp; Tom Kannas</u>	<u>Ph. (712)-566-9818</u>
<u>Treasurers</u>	<u>Jim &amp; Cheryl Cushman</u>	<u>Ph. (402)-558-0150</u>
<u>Tour Committees</u>	<u>Ed &amp; Janet Hedegaard</u>	<u>Ph. (402)-490-5909</u>
<u>Web Page Editors</u>	<u>Tom &amp; Linda Beiriger</u>	<u>Ph. (402)-498-0598</u>
<u>Historians</u>	<u>Clif &amp; 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. 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 latest Steering Wheel can be found at <https://midwestantiqueautoclub.org>.**

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

### The President’s Message



Hello Everyone,

It’s time for our first outdoor driving tour of the year. We will be meeting on Sunday, April 16th (weekend after Easter) at 1 p.m. at the Bomgaars in Council Bluffs and then drive to the Hedegaard’s home for a late lunch and a chance to view Ed’s cars. I hope you can join us.

I was glad to see a number of our members attend the memorial service for Jerry Vincentini. Jerry passed away in February in Arizona and a memorial service was held on March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Tangier Shrine Center. A great crowd was there to celebrate Jerry’s life. I appreciated the MAAC members that were able to attend.

I am sure that a number of you have been following the restoration of my father’s 47 Chevrolet convertible. Dad is finally ready to start driving the car. If the weather holds out, dad will be driving his car to Ed’s house for our first tour of the year. I appreciate everyone’s support on the restoration. We would not have been able to complete it without the club members’ help.

I hope to see you at our driving tour in April.  
John and Karen Thurber

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### First Driving Tour – April 16, 2023

This is our first driving tour of the year. Our driving tour will be on **Sunday, April 16th** (the weekend after Easter) to the Hedegaard's home in Underwood Iowa. **We will meet at Bomgaars at 2803 E Kanessville Blvd Council Bluffs at 1:00 p.m. and leave for the tour at 1:30 p.m.** Weather permitting, we are planning to have food and kite flying – please bring a kite if you have one. Members with the last name beginning with A-M, please bring a salad, members with the last name ending with N-Z please bring a dessert.

### Swap Meet Wahoo NE - April 16, 2023

The Wahoo Swap Meet Spring 2023 will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Saunders County Fairgrounds, 635 E 1st St, Wahoo, NE 68066 (1 Mile East on 1st Street from the Junction of Hwy. 77 & 92) - Rain or Shine - Gates Open by 7:00 AM

### Free Car Show and Drive-In Movie Night: Classic Car Love Stories - Saturday April 22, 2023

Join us for a special screening of the PBS show *Classic Car Love Stories* at the Quasar Drive-In (13427 N. 300th St., Valley, NE). Our newest local documentary shares the passions of car enthusiasts who can't resist weekends spent tinkering with the nostalgia of a four-wheeled friend. Come early to show off your vintage roadster or to admire amazing autos from many eras. **Gates open at 5 p.m. for a Classic Car Show & Shine, and the film begins at sunset.** Come early to show off your vintage roadster or to admire amazing autos from many eras. Full-service hot food and concessions will be available for purchase. This event is free, but space is limited - pre-register to reserve your parking space! Registration is for one vehicle; additional vehicles should register separately. This event will take place rain or shine, except in the case of severe weather. To register, please use the following link – <https://nebraskapublicmedia.org/en/about/on-the-road/>

### Show and Shine Car Show – May 7, 2023

A friend of Jerry Vincentini (Jordan Wrieth) is holding a Show and Shine Car Show from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 7th at the old Nobbies at 120<sup>th</sup> & Center. It looks like a fun, free event to attend.

### May Driving Tour – May 21, 2023

We are tentatively planning the second outdoor tour on May 21st to visit Hummel Park in Omaha. More information on the tour starting point and time in next month's Steering Wheel.

## MEMBER NEWS

**March Indoor Meeting** - We had a great time at the March meeting having Ed's famous corned beef, cabbage and potatoes while we watched the movie Ford v. Ferrari. We also got to meet our newest members, Ron Shields and Lance and Aleta Sulentic. We had almost 25 members attend the meeting. Thank you to Ed Hedegaard for the great food and the rest of the members for the desserts. I am sorry but I did not take attendance at the meeting. Again, thank you for everyone that showed up.

## 5 steps to bring your car out of storage

Kyle Smith - Hagerty

26 March 2020

The snow mounds are receding and the mercury is beginning to rise for much of the U.S., which means that many gearheads are eyeballing their currently tucked-away vintage rides. If you are giddy with anticipation about driving that long-stored vehicle, here are five steps to follow to get your next driving season started off smoothly.

Even if you put the car away properly, and kept an eye on it over winter, the first thing you should do is go over it with a keen eye. Bumper to bumper and roofline to contact patch, grab your favorite flashlight (everyone has a favorite flashlight, right?) and examine each nook and cranny of your car.

Keep an eye out for cracks, evidence of leaks, worn-out bushings, or wiring that needs attention. Despite your best efforts, you might have to evict a rodent. Now is the time, however, before you tear off on the first, triumphant drive and a nest dislodges and causes even more damage. Meticulously taking stock of the car each year is a great way to ensure that deteriorating parts do not cause additional damage.

The most important system to inspect right now is the brakes. I start with a hard/harder test at the pedal. Sit in the driver's seat and press the brake pedal as if you were coming to a normal stop and hold the pedal down for 10 seconds or so after the pedal stops moving. Now press even harder on the pedal—more akin to a panic stop—and hold pressure again. The pedal should stay rock solid, not slowly move towards the floor. After this test, inspect the brake system once more, looking for leaks or signs of fluid escaping the system. This is a pass-or-fail exam, and now is the time to find any issues, not on the open street.

Even in storage, dirt and grime accumulate on your beloved ride. Take the time to remove all this damaging debris from both painted and soft surfaces. We have talked about good detailing technique before, and we will always recommend keeping both the interior and exterior of your ride clean.

You can perform this step at the same time as the inspection, but I prefer to keep the tasks separate so I don't lose my mechanically-oriented concentration amid a mist of quick detailer. Treat rubber weather stripping to keep the sealing intact, therefore allowing less dust inside the interior (unless you prefer to go topless.) Interior fabrics should get a protectant to start the season off right and make for easier cleaning later on, when you would rather be driving or showing than detailing.

- Prepare to start
  - clean dirty engine bay
  - test your belt tension
  - check radiator cap
  - check your battery

That's right, we're slicing this process pretty thin. However, even when properly stored, a dormant engine can benefit from a slow awakening. Ensuring components are ready to move again will go a long way to ensuring your engine has not only a good driving season but a healthy extended life.

Engines drain oil from top to bottom, and after sitting all season there is likely very little—if any—oil at the top end of the engine. If you have the ability and confidence to spin the oil pump before cranking the engine with the start, do that. If not, grab an oil can and remove the valve covers and oil the top end. This won't get the main bearings, but it is better than nothing.

Hopefully, your inspection told you that the fuel lines were in good shape (if they weren't, replace and then come back to this step) so it's time to get fuel pressure in the system. Be prepared for anything at this point, especially if you stored the car filled with fuel that has ethanol blended into it. An electric fuel pump is great for these situations, since you can pressurize the system rather than cranking the engine for a bit.

If you don't have an electric pump, disconnect the ignition by pulling the coil wire to the distributor and crank the engine till you see oil and fuel pressures. You'll know that fuel pressure is adequate on a carbureted engine if the accelerator pump squirts fuel into the intake when the throttle is opened by hand. Replace the coil wire once this process is complete.

Now the fun part. While it pales in comparison to starting a rebuilt engine for the first time, starting your vintage car for the first time of the season is the pick-me-up most of us could use right now.

A few pumps of the accelerator on a carbureted engine will get some raw fuel in the intake manifold to make starting a bit easier. Fuel-injected engines will only need a turn of the key. Once running, let the engine idle for a few minutes as you look around the engine compartment for any leaks and listen for strange noises. Diagnose anything you find right away.

You finally made it to the part you have been waiting for this whole time. Put the car in gear and start slowly—a trip around the block or down the street, for example. Pay attention to any noises or vibrations that seem out of the ordinary. Investigate accordingly.

Just like that, you are on the path to another great season of driving. Keep up on the maintenance on your classic and you will be rewarded with miles of enjoyment. For now, though, get out in the garage and get your car ready to cruise at a moment's notice.



## **MIDWEST ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB**

**AN INDEPENDENT GROUP OF COLLECTIBLE VEHICLE ENTHUSIASTS**