



The Steering Wheel

April 2026

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 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,

I am sorry for the last-minute cancellation of the March meeting. Given the snow and wind forecast, the Board felt it was prudent to cancel the meeting and stay safe at home.

We had some sad news last month with the passing of two long-time members, Monte Frost and Sandy Anderson. Please keep Marj Frost and Ed Anderson in your thoughts and prayers.

I hope you are getting your cars ready for the first driving tour. As usual, we are planning to go to Ed and Janet Hedegaard's home. We are moving the tour date to **Saturday, April 18** due to some conflicts on Sunday, April 19. We hope to see everyone in April.

John and Karen Thurber

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

First Driving Tour – April 18, 2026

This is our first driving tour of the year. We are moving our first driving tour to **Saturday, April 18th** and plan to drive to the Hedegaard's home in Underwood Iowa. **We will meet at the Caseys in Crescent, Iowa at 1:00 p.m. (the Corner of G37 and the Old Lincoln Highway in Crescent) 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.

2026 MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE - They are still \$25.00. If you didn't pay you membership dues as part of the Holiday Banquet registration form, please send payment to Jim Cushman at 1901 No. 59th Street, Omaha, NE 68104

April 12, 2026 Wahoo, NE —Swap Meet,

The Wahoo Swap Meet Spring 2026 will be held on Sunday, April 12 at 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 Parking for Non-Vendors.

May Driving Tour – May 17, 2026

We will have our second driving tour of 2026 by visiting the Mills County Historical Museum in Glenwood, Iowa. More information on the tour starting point and time in next month's Steering Wheel.

MEMBER NEWS

March Indoor Meeting Cancelled – Due to the snow and near blizzard conditions, we cancelled March's indoor meeting. Sorry for the late notice.

Sad News – Monte Frost's passing – I am sad to share that long-time MAAC member Monte Frost passed away in March. Monte was well known in the Omaha antique car/Model T and A Ford community and will be missed by all. Please keep Marj and Monte's family in your thoughts and prayers.

Sad News – Sandy Anderson's passing - I am sad to share that MAAC member Sandy Anderson passed away in March. Sandy and Ed Anderson have been loyal members of MAAC and will be missed by all. Please keep Ed and the Anderson Family in your thoughts and prayers



5 Spring Cleaning Tips from My Garage to Yours

Kyle Smith Hagerty



Spring cleaning is a concept that has existed for centuries. It's the annual reminder to take personal stock of what we have, what we need, and what might need a little bit of organization or clean-up. Whether you take it seriously or not, spring cleaning is something worth at least trying if your garage is also a workshop or DIY space for your automotive habits. Make your annual cleanup better than ever with these five tips, straight from my overflowing and disorganized garage, direct to yours.

Beware of the organization trap

When I was young, I would spend the occasional Saturday morning piddling around the garage with my father, who described the time as “organizing,” but if I snuck upstairs for a mid-morning snack, my mother would ask how dad was doing “shuffling his

sh*t.” I spend a lot of my time shuffling my sh*t, so I guess that might be genetic. Perhaps you got that same gene.

If you do, be warned. We are the particularly gifted type who regularly put five pounds into the 10-pound bag—often without drama. The bag is not a literal bag here, but instead the area on a shelf or under a workbench. Packing things in more tightly is technically organizing, but it does not make it easier to get work done. Spending time unburying a part you now need but know is tucked behind a bunch of other things is still a waste of time. Organizing should make things easier to retrieve and use, not just allow you to fit more into the same space.

Be honest, are you actually gonna get to that?

Spring cleaning might be about returning your storage bench to a workbench, but it is also prime time to take stock of how much time you have against how many [projects](#) you have. This doesn't have to be about getting rid of things. Instead, consider keeping the priorities up front and putting in a little extra effort to pickle and store the long-term projects better. This ensures that when you do get to them, they are how you left them—not a mismatched pile of parts that has been shuffled five times in three years, that's also starting to rust.

Think forward

While most of the thinking in the garage is very present-focused, it's also important to think about the future and [what projects might be coming up](#). Are there some things in the trash pile that would be useful for that project? A few things worth hanging onto just a little bit longer?

It can be easy to simply default to “throw everything away” or “keep everything.” Resist this urge and instead look at the discoveries you make while spring cleaning and honestly assess them against the to-do list or calendar that helps keep track of the projects and tasks you have on the docket. Some make sense to keep and keep track of due to an upcoming task. Let this help guide your selection of what stays and what goes.

Take out the trash

Every used cable I've taken off a project bike. Used sprockets and pegs for bikes I don't own. Why keep them? It sounds simple, but actually throwing things away is tough. During an annual clean-out, a new pile will likely form in the garage, full of bits and pieces amassed during the colder months that you *had* every intention to throw out. It's important to actually follow through.

The struggle—for me at least—is often that items in the trash pile do still have some small perceived value. For example, nearly every motorcycle I bring into the garage gets new control cables in the interest of safe operation. Some of the

cables I pull off other bikes are still functional, just in less-than-desirable shape. [Perfect spares](#), right? Yet I can easily find myself keeping all the cables “just in case,” which means I have a trash pile by a different name.

Create homes, not spots

Organizing is hard. Putting things down is easy. Be careful not to fall back into just piling things together. Instead, take the time to catalog—even if only mentally—the parts and pieces as they appear from the depths of disorganization. This holds for tools also; the items that get rare usage might end up in the same spot, but it’s not a good spot for them to live. Spring cleaning is the time to look at workflow and space to put things where they should be, rather than a place where they fit.

Here’s an example: The vise for my drill press often ends up living on top of a toolbox, meaning it has to move each time I open the box and again when I go to use the drill press. This spring, it’s going to get a better home.

Spring cleaning should feel refreshing when complete. That can be tough in a garage where we are often forced to confront the progress (or lack thereof) on a project each year. Whether life was good to us or not, taking a moment this spring to assess and get back on track can be powerful. If you have tips or tricks you use for your spring cleaning, be sure to leave them in a comment below.



MIDWEST ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB

AN INDEPENDENT GROUP OF COLLECTIBLE VEHICLE ENTHUSIASTS