



Volume 3 No. 1 *The Official Monthly Publication of the Ford & Mercury Restorer's Club of America* January 2007

**Feature Vehicle of the Month:**  
**1955 Thunderbird**  
**Owned by**  
**Gerry Radtke**



Back in 1993, a friend of Gerry's approached him regarding selling his 1955 Goldenrod Yellow, 3 speed overdrive Thunderbird. In the past, that friend had mentioned how he, his brother and dad (who owned a service station) had customized the vehicle and managed to win some show trophies with it during the 1960's.

A few weeks went by and the friend contacted Gerry again about his need to sell the vehicle in a hurry. He indicated that the vehicle had been stored since 1969 in his parent's garage in Detroit. They were in the midst of moving out of the area and needed to get rid of the car **now**.

Gerry went to look at the Bird during a lunch hour and determined that it was a real basket case. However, the price was right and thus began Gerry's long involvement with the vehicle's restoration!

Gerry coerced his buddy, who owned a truck, to help transport the vehicle. When they arrived to pick up the car, they found that it was without wheels and up on blocks. The wheels were subsequently found in his parent's basement with less than 10 miles on the tires! Gerry and his friend managed to get the vehicle up on the car hauler and towed it to a garage next to his house.

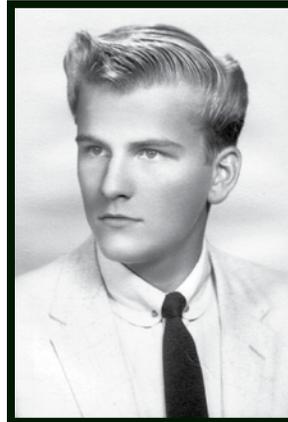
Gerry's first project was to remove, tear down, and completely rebuild the engine. He ended up having the machine shop work done and assembled the engine himself. After all this work, and finally getting the engine installed in the vehicle, the car started easily. However, no oil was getting to the rocker arms! It turned out that the machine

*Continued on page 10.*

**Featured Member:**  
**Brian Kuta**

Brian grew up in Detroit near Warren between Southfield and Greenfield. His parents moved to Dearborn in '55, a year after they bought their first new car -- a '54 Ford which later became Brian's. Brian went to Holy Redeemer but, when there was no longer a bus connection, he ended up attending and graduating from Dearborn High School in June of '59.

Brian began drag racing as a 16-year-old teenager. His very first ticket was for drag racing ticket on Outer Drive in Dearborn Heights. Not thinking his '54 'Y' block could be beaten, he found out the hard



**A young Brian!**



**Brian's Maverick in 2004.**

*Continued on page 5.*

## Annual Dinner Dance is "Magical"

For the first time in several years the weather for our dinner dance was good! One hundred fifty-six Club members and guests attended the excellent event at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia.



**Bob Guetschow presents the Generator Award to Bill Gipperich.**

*Continued on page 7. Photos can be found on pages 5, 7, and 9-11.*

# The Rotunda Times



The Rotunda Times

Published by:

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## The FMRC Membership Advantage!!!!

Your Board officers and Editors take extra effort to bring you FREE Classifieds and Schedule of Events found within your monthly newsletter. Take advantage of these benefits your membership provides. Post your schedule where you can refer to it easily. Submit your ads at a meeting or mail to Phil Lyon, our ad editor. For more information on becoming a member go to <http://www.fmrcoa.org/> or write to:

**FMRC Membership Secretary**

**P.O. Box 2938**

**Dearborn MI 48123**

**Dues are \$25 before & \$30.00 after DEC 31**



## FMRC

FORD AND MERCURY RESTORERS  
CLUB of AMERICA

P.O. Box 2938 • Dearborn, MI 48123

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*The Ford & Mercury Restorers Club is a hobby organization whose purpose is to foster and promote the acquisition, preservation and*



## Editor's Message

First I'd like to wish all of you a very happy New Year!

Thanks this month go to Gerry Radke for providing the feature vehicle material, Brian Kuta for the featured member material, Bill Timoszyk for the Show & Tell, and Terry Worful for her New Members' column. I'd also like to acknowledge Mark Nasera for taking some of the dinner-dance pictures that are distributed in this newsletter.

I thought the dinner-dance was a wonderful event and would like to thank Art and Suzanne Cervi for arranging it! At the event, we showed a short slide show of Club activities during 2006. I plan to show this again at a future meeting as well as footage and pictures that were taken at the dinner-dance.

Unfortunately, this month we included an obituaries page. My sincere condolences to the families of those affected.

Please do keep materials/leads coming. I'm still running very low on feature vehicles so please help!

Just give me a call (734.717.5444), email me, or put something in the mailbox. We can work on articles together and it doesn't take much time on your part! Typically, it really doesn't take more than a 10-15 minute conversation to get great material for an article. **Consider the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month as a deadline for getting announcements or other materials to me for that month's newsletter.** In this manner we can get the material in and to the printer so you have it before next month's club meeting.

Finally, don't forget to visit our website [www.fmrcoa.org](http://www.fmrcoa.org) where you can read these newsletters in color and see more event pictures.

Thanks for your support!

**Steve Rohde, Editor**



## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

### January 2007

First, on behalf of the Board of Directors I want to wish all of you a very happy and prosperous new year.

Last month I announced that long-term member, Tom Mauder, had passed away on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Since then, three more long-term members of our community have passed away. First on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, Verna Ironside, wife of William Ironside, and the mother of Louis Ironside also passed away. We then lost Jack Perkett on Christmas day and Joanie Lyon, wife of Phil Lyon, passed away on January 6, 2007. That brings the count to four members we have lost from our community in less than a month. In the aftermath of this we have instituted a new plan to get the news out quickly and as efficiently as possible. In order for the plan to work, two people must be contacted. First, Jim Crawford will get the word out to all members via our website and e-mail. Then Vic Hollingshead and his committee will make personal phone calls to the remaining members. This plan is in place and it is our hope our members will be notified in time to pay their respects. Donations from the club were sent out to the preferred charities as suggested by the families. We have also instituted an obituary page in the newsletters as needed in the future. Our hearts and prayers go out to the families of our lost community members.

I move on to happier subjects, our dinner dance. Art and Suzanne Cervi hosted this years dinner dance, which was held on January 20<sup>th</sup> at the St. Mary's Cultural Center on Merriman Rd. in Livonia. "Whoodini", played by Larry Thompson presented a magic act, which seemed to delight the crowd. This was followed up by a game show act presented by George Young that I felt this was unique and different. George had to work through some technical difficulties with his equipment and did a very creditable job with his performance. Most everyone appeared to enjoy the evenings entertainment and we thank Art and Suzanne for bringing us something different this year. I passed out over 25 certificates of appreciation during my part of the program to members that gave the club a little extra effort during the year. This was followed up by 25-year membership badges going to Ed Meurer and George Patrick. 35-year membership badges were presented to Paul Coleman and Don McCredie. Harry McAuliffe was presented with his plaque commemorating him as the 2005 generator award recipient. Paul Coleman received a Gil Klaes award for his contributions over the last few years. I also presented Ed Meurer a thank you plaque for his contribution in doing our club flyers and membership rosters at his cost. Finally this years winner of the award to the member generating the most enthusiasm was given to Bill Gipperich. So the 2007 dinner dance has been filed away in the history books and we look forward to 2008.

I spoke with Henry Jusco who was not able to attend the dinner dance to receive his 30- year membership badge and he tells me that he will turn 91 at the end of February and that he and Mary will be married for 70 years on July 31st. WOW!

I am proclaiming that our theme for 2007 is "Think young"; working to establish a new generation of club members of the Ford and Mercury Restorers Club of America. We have had a number of younger members join in the last 2 years and we now have about 35 members under age 50. With greater contact with other clubs, we can expect more younger crossover memberships. We need to double our efforts to recruit our sons and daughters who in turn will bring in the younger members.

I hope to have our swap meet flyers ready at the next meeting. We had to revamp the flyers to incorporate our celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the '32 Ford. We have added some additional incentives to bring in the cars for the car show. We will discuss this at the next meeting. So...Don't forget the next meeting at the K of C Hall on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.

Till then,

**Bob Guetschow**

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### WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

**Ray Crout** (Bonnie)  
7532 Tulane  
Taylor, MI 48180  
*1931 Ford 2-door*  
*1950 Ford 2-door*

**John Franklin**  
31807 Courtland  
St. Clair Shores, MI 48082  
810-691-1508  
*1971 Ford Ranchero*

**Don Harris**  
11010 Berwick  
Livonia, MI 48150  
734-522-4050  
*1930 Ford 2-door*  
*1966 Mustang GT*

**Mike O'Hara**  
6433 Yinger  
Dearborn, MI 48126  
313-582-5716





## 2007 FMRC Meetings & Events Calendar

Below is the *tentative* table of meetings & events for 2007. New information will be posted each month as events and dates are “firmed” up. **Bold font represents club sponsored activities.** Also, *if you have an idea for a Club event, please let a Board Member know!*

February 7	Club Meeting
March 7	Club Meeting
March 9-11	Autorama
March	Garage Tour TBA
April 4	Club Meeting
April	Garage Tour TBA
May 2	Club Meeting
May 5-6	ACS Relay for Life Car Show
May 28	Memorial Day Parade
June 6	Club Meeting
June 10	Carnival of Cars
June 10	<b>Wilson Barn Show</b>
June 16-17	Motor Muster
June TBA	Downriver Cruise
July 11	Club Meeting
July 14-15	<b>FMRCOA Swap Meet and Car Show</b>
July	Club Picnic TBA
July 28-29	Telegraph Cruise
August 1	Club Meeting
August	Dearborn Homecoming TBA
August 18	Woodward Dream Cruise
Sept.	Overnighter TBA
Sept. 5	Club Meeting
Sept. 7-9	Frankenmuth Auto Fest
Oct. 3	Club Meeting
Oct.	Color Tour - TBA
Nov. 7	Club Meeting
Dec. 5	Club Meeting
Dec. 8	Christmas Walk-Greenfield Village

*Mark your calendars.....*

### FMRCOA “Snow Birds” Dinner

Florida winter residents are invited to a:

**Members Dinner**  
**Friday February 23, 2007 at 7pm**  
**Jon’s Restaurant**  
**38361 C.R. 54 East**  
**Zephyrhills, Florida**  
 Restaurant Phone: 813-783-1623  
**Come as you are!**  
**Dutch treat!**  
**No reservations needed!**

This is the Friday of the Zephyrhills Swap Meet.  
 For more information call Leo Chouinard at 248-437-0947.

### ATTENTION ALL CLUB MEMBERS

When you hear of the death of a member or their spouse, please get all the information including:

Funeral Home & Address  
 Viewing Times & Dates  
 Service Time & Dated

Then notify the webmaster Jim Crawford  
 (313.724.9117 or [jcrawfo1@wowway.com](mailto:jcrawfo1@wowway.com))

or

Call Vic Hollingshead (248.474.4356)

*In this manner we will be able to better inform other Club members.*



Photo of Mustang concept car taken recently at the 2007 North American International Auto Show in Detroit. Story to follow next month.

# The Rotunda Times

## FEATURE MEMBER *cont. from page 1*

way what a '53 Dodge Red Ram Hemi could do. Unfortunately, after just "sitting and waiting" in the St. Anselm's parking lot, the cop car won!

When Brian's dad found out about his ticket and court appearance, he introduced him to the Detroit Dragway and proceeded to tell him that "...everyone on the track will accelerate when the flag drops. Yeah, that's right, a flag starter and, flag finisher up in the tower that arched over the track."

After graduating from high school, Brian worked at Sears & Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, Hudson's, and finally at Burroughs Corporation. During this period he went to night/day school. Taking a gamble because it seemed Burroughs was going downhill, Brian, after much reflection, took a job as a Foreman at Ford in the Dearborn Glass Plant within the Rouge Complex. He advanced from Foreman to Production Analyst to Utility Foreman to General Foreman to Buyer to Area Supervisor during his 33 years in the same building! Brian studied at Henry Ford Community College, Wayne State, the University of Michigan, and the University of Tennessee.

Raising five children, working, and going to school certainly kept Brian busy through his almost 43 years of full time employment! He comments, "...the overtime, and always switching shifts schedule surely cut into my sleep. That could be a reason I look a little 'weathered'!"

After living in Dearborn, Newport, S. Rockwood and Garden City, Brian moved to Huron Township just South of New Boston where he has lived for 15 years. He has two garages: one just for parking the daily drivers, and a "working garage" that houses nothing but race cars. The working garage is 30' wide x 34' deep and is equipped with a furnace, A/C, and cable making it a pleasure to work in. In addition he has a 32' x 42' barn that houses a motorhome, boat, small travel trailer, and the race car trailer.

Brian ordered his first brand new car early in November of '60: a '61 red/white convertible Ford Galaxie, with the biggest optional high performance 375 hp 390 cid engine. At that time, the popular place to buy from locally was Bob Ford; but he and his dad decided to order the car from Stuart Wilson Ford for several hundred dollars less. The total cost of the car (taxes/plates inc.) was \$2,987.00! But at that time there was a Michigan 'temporary' extra one percent state sales tax (from three percent to four percent) so "...the '61 really cost me \$3007.00 or, a \$1,000.00 down and \$63.83 per month for three years. My first house was a three bedroom bungalow in Dearborn with a two and one half car garage for \$12,900.00 or, \$1,000.00 down and \$88.00 per month for 30 years," Brian remarked. "It's amazing how that 'temporary' state sales tax that was to go from January the first to the next January the first just somehow never went away!"

Brian's current "hot rod" is a 1972 Ford Maverick Grabber: his fourth Maverick! "Instead of the usual Mustang, I dared to be different and I bought the Maverick," remarks Brian. He bought the Texas Maverick for \$1400 in 1989. "The leaded 103,000 mile engine toasted a valve coming up to Michigan at 80 mph so I had bought the seven cylinder solid car for what I think was a good price," he continued.

The Maverick runs a Ford/Dart 4.125" bore x 3.250" stroke block

@ 347 cid, a Scat internally balanced steel lightweight crank, Scat forged steel rods, Probe/Ross 12.3 to 1.0 pistons, AFR 205 aluminum heads, a CompCam steel solid roller cam running Crane Gold Series 1.6 rockers (.631/.635 / 268/274 @ .050 / 106 lsa steel cam in at 104 degrees), a Victor Jr. intake, a Melling high volume oil pump, an MSD ignition, Superior radiator, a Meziere water pump, the original but modified C-4 by Accurate Transmission, an 850 cfm modified Holley carb by Kar-Go Carburetor, a 9" rear end (out of a Monarch) with 4:30 cogs in a Ford Motorsport nodular case holding a Detroit Locker. To date, his naturally aspirated Maverick has made a best effort of 10:41 @ 130!

The most prestigious race Brian ever won was at Indianapolis Raceway Park at the NHRA Division Three Finals. He had won the points championship at the home track so he was in the Tournament of Champions. The tournament is comprised of each track champion from 20 tracks (from seven states and the province of Ontario). Brian won this tournament and will never forget that victory.

To date, the biggest purse that Brian won is \$6,000.00. Since winning the Tournament of Champions, he never again raced for points, and decided to travel around more looking for good No Box races that payout bigger money. "I pull my hot rod behind my motorhome, and mostly race in MI, OH, IN and IL. 2006 was a pretty 'normal' year for me, as I won two big races, finished second in one, and made the semis twice, out of some 34 entries," remarked Brian.



**Brian & Mary: Then & Now!**

Brian and his wife, Mary, have been together for 20 years and got married on a February 29<sup>th</sup> - a real leap year! Although Brian's daughter, Christine, has no interest in cars and his youngest son, Justin, has not yet been bitten by the bug; his sons Clint, Mike and Mark all have 'specialty' cars. Clint has a '70 AMC 418/401 race only car, Mike has a '71 Maverick 363/302 race only car, and Mark has a '69 Cougar convertible 394/351W race/street car, with a soon to be race only '70 Cougar sitting in the barn waiting to be worked on. Mary also has four children of her own but none of them are into racing or any sort of 'specialty' cars. (Must be genetic!)



**A winning Brian Saylor!**

## Meet the New Members by Terry Worful



**Mike O'Hara**



**Don Harris**

“I was born on November 28, 1969 in Livonia and own M & P Limo.

I have been in cars all my life my first car being a 1977 Ford country Squire. In fact, I am currently looking for a 60's four door convertible Lincoln or another Squire Wagon.

My other hobby is American History.

If I could own any other car other than a Ford it would be a mid 60's Cadillac just because of the nostalgia element.

I joined the FMRCOA because my father and uncle are members and I like Fords. I am a master mechanic and do the work myself.”

“I was born on February 17, 1933 in Detroit.

I am a retired elementary school principal and now teach at Madonna University.

My first car was a 1940 convertible Ford. I started collecting cars in 1970 when I bought a 1930 Model A which I still have. I also own a 1990 Ford LX convertible 25th Anniversary 7-up car, and a 1966 Mustang GT.

The only other hobby that I have time for is collecting miniature cars.

If I could have any other car other than a Ford it would be a 1950 Oldsmobile club coupe Rocket 88, or a 1958 Chevrolet Impala. I owned both of these in the past.

I work on my own cars.

I joined the FMRCOA to get more exposure to early Fords & V-8's.”



## YOUR CAR!

The Rotunda Times would like to feature your old car or truck in an upcoming issue. We are interested in how you came about finding your vehicle of choice, and what you have done to enhance its beauty, and / or mechanical condition. Simply mail or email us your article accompanied with a photo to:

**PHIL LYON**  
pjlyon39@peoplepc.com

ROTUNDA TIMES  
34945 Elmira  
Livonia Mi. 48150  
734.422.0595

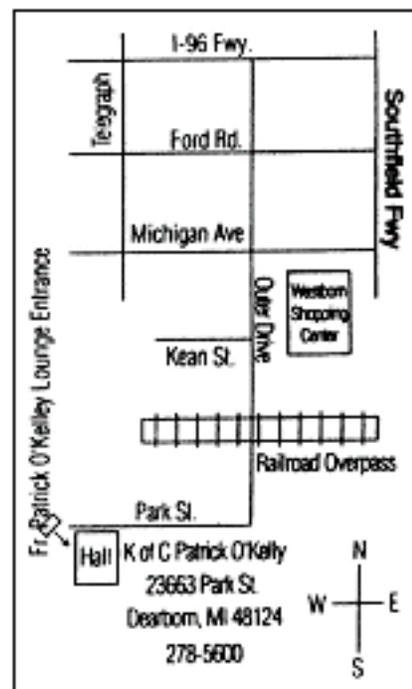
or  
**VIC HOLLINGSHEAD**

ROTUNDA TIMES  
21104 Robinson  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336  
248.474.4356

## Club Meetings

The FMRC meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Patrick O'Kelley Hall in Dearborn (313.278.5600). Refreshments are served after the meeting!

Come and bring a friend!



### A Note from the Treasurer

January has been an active month. Dues have been coming and, as usual, the dinner dance includes a number of transactions.

**Steve Rohde, Treasurer**

# The Rotunda Times



## December Meeting Minutes of the FMRCOA

January 3, 2007

Your secretary would first like to apologize for his absence at the January meeting, but I will try to relate the minutes accurately from the notes taken by board member Brian Saylor. Vice president Art Cervi opened the meeting because Bob's arrival was a bit delayed. Art took care of some of the opening comments, took some last minute RSVPs for the dinner dance. It looks as if we will have about 60 couples attending. After Bob's arrival and some small talk the meeting got a second start. The count this month was 78 strong. Not too bad for a January meeting!



**78 members & guests in attendance!**

Guests present were Don Harris and Ray Crout. Don is the president of the Motor City Model A Club and has a 1930 Model A tudor and a Mustang. Ray has a Model A as well. His is a 1931 Model A and he also has a 1950 Ford Custom tudor. Both were encouraged to become members.

A few new members were welcomed and presented with their badges. An apology was made for the tardiness of our last Rotunda Times, and Brian Saylor was welcomed as a new board member.

With sadness, Bob announced the death of long time members Tom Maurer, 12/14/06, and Jack Perkett, 12/25/06. The wife of William and the mother of Louis Ironside also passed away on 12/22/06. Condolences were offered by the Club. Bob also mentioned that Joanie Lyon has been having serious health problems.

On a happier note, the dates have been officially established for our annual swap meet, and it will be the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of July. There seems to be little competition from other shows that weekend. We will be a sponsor for the Barn Show this year and will have a tent

set up in celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1932 Ford. The discussion of the layout for the commemorative brick for the Early Ford V8 Foundation has ended and it will soon be laid down in stone (brick). Under our logo it will say Established 1968 Dearborn, Michigan. Working To Keep History Alive.

The treasurer's report was read by Bob and accepted by motions from Ladies Gottlieb and Worful.

Under our new business section, Vic Hollingshead proposed a plan by which we can announce the serious illness or death of members, spouses, or close relatives through the E-mail or perhaps a phone fan out system. Some plans will be made by a small committee and more information about this will be forthcoming at a future meeting. Our membership renewals are doing very nicely with 256 already renewed. After some car talk and some clever Show and tell the meeting was adjourned.

**Phil Lyon, Secretary**

## DINNER DANCE *cont. from page 1*

We partied from about 6 PM until 12 AM! Art and Suzanne Cervi did a impressive job of setting the event up: the facility and food and drink were first rate, and we had some unique entertainment.

The evening's program began with our President, Bob Guetschow, recognizing Club members and their wives for their contributions during the past year. In particular, Ed Muer and Paul Coleman received



Gil Clayes Awards, and Bill Gipperich received the Generator Award. Next, Larry Thompson, "Mr. Whoodini," performed some magic tricks. Larry had worked with Art on the Bozo local TV show in the sixties! George Young then hosted "The Game Show" with Club members

and their spouses/significant others as contestants. George also was a well known local entertainer in the 50's and 60's, and continues to perform. He was assisted by his "Vanna": the beautiful Candice Winters! In addition, Mark Nasera, a professional photographer joined us and took some great photographs, a few of which are in this newsletter. The evening concluded with dancing to oldies as well as newer music.

Thanks Art and Suzanne for setting this up!



## In Memoriam

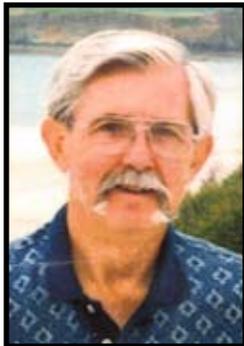
**Verna Mae Ironside**  
**January 29, 1924 - December 22, 2006**



“My mom was a devoted and loving person that saw good in everyone. Although not a “car person,” she attended many car functions with both my father and me. In 1962 she took a class on furniture repair, and then recovered the seats in my 1932 Ford with suit material from the old Arlans Discount store. She supported my obsession with old cars, and my father’s hobby of old cars. Every birthday and Christmas would find those much desired items for our cars in packages from my mother. She gave far more than we could ever return, and we will both miss her so much.” – *Louis Ironside.*

Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army ([www.salvationarmy.org](http://www.salvationarmy.org)).

**John W. Perkett**  
**July 15, 1935 - December 25, 2006**



Jack Perkett was born and raised in Detroit graduating from Catholic Central in 1953. After graduation he started working for a photography company in Detroit where his love for photography began to grow.

About three years later Jack started working at the Michigan Bell Telephone Company and a beautiful blonde entered his life, Barbara, who turned out to be the love of his life. They were married in 1959 and in 1963 had a daughter, Laura, followed by a son, Joe, in 1968.

Jack held a number of positions in the telephony industry retiring

from Ameritech as an Engineer in Special Projects. He continued to consult for Ameritech until 1996 when he officially retired from the work force.

Jack really enjoyed retirement. It gave him an opportunity to be with his three grandchildren Jacob, Kayla and Rachel whom he loved dearly. Then, when Barbara retired from Livonia Public Schools, they were able to travel all over the country!

Jack loved life. He enjoyed golfing, restoring his 1954 Mercury, taking

care of his home and being with friends and family. He was a member of our club for over 20 years.

As Jack’s granddaughter Rachel put it, “the world will never be the same

without grandpa in it”. We will miss Jack in our club too!

Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army ([www.salvationarmy.org](http://www.salvationarmy.org)).

**Joan P. Lyon**  
**October 30, 1940 - January 6, 2007**



Joanie Lyon was the beloved wife of Phil, dear mother of Barb and Michael Poirier, Debbie and Matthew Beattie, and Jennifer and Eric Stadler. She also was the beloved grandmother of Aaron and Travis Poirier; Robbie, Kristen, and Julie Beattie; and Kayla and Bryan Stadler.

Joanie was a member of the Crosspointe Meadows Church in Novi. Her involvement in the church spanned over fifty-five years.

Joanie was an elementary school teacher in the Livonia Public Schools for 29 years, and was respected and loved by teachers and students alike. Joan was a member of the honorary teachers’ sorority Delta Kappa Gamma.

Memorials may be made to the Crosspointe Meadows Memorial Building fund, 39830 Grand River Suite B1-C, Novi, MI 48375 (248-427-2700) or P.A.V. (Paralyzed American Veterans), 801 18th St. NW, Washington DC, 20006-3517, or [www.pva.org](http://www.pva.org).

## January Show & Tell: Lot's of Toys!

by  
Bill Timoszyk

This month Cole Grandy picked up the "Ford Tractor" challenge and brought in some very nice old toys, including a fair number of Ford tractors.



There were 3 old steel wheeled Fordsons. The dark colored one (see above) is an original 1926 Arcade toy. In front of that is an Ertyl made in 1966. It was a promo for the "Green Acres" TV show. Behind it is a current Ertyl toy Fordson tractor complete with fenders and plow.



Also note the 2 smaller Fordson models (above left): the dark one is old original from the 1920's and the other is a current version. The rubber tired Red/Gray plastic/die cast is a current Ertyl model of the infamous 1948-1952 Ford 8N.



The next two items were toy trucks. The green one is an old original 1920's "service car" (tow truck). This was authentically patterned after the real vehicle.

Arcade Toy made models of 1920's large, heavy (e.g., Cadillac, Lincoln) touring cars that had been modified

into tow trucks. The detail was fantastic. The red tractor/trailer was an old Arcade 1928 29 "A" towing a stake trailer.

These are some of the Ford toy tractor items from Cole's collection of old tractors including J Deere, Minneapolis Moline, Oliver, IH, and others. We have several experts in our club, and Clay really showed

and shared his toy expertise that night! Thank you.

The "Generator Award" was also on display at Show and Tell this month.



## Dinner-Dance Photos



## FEATURE VEHICLE *cont. from page 1*

shop incorrectly installed the middle cam bearing. Finally, after this issue was resolved, the engine purred like a tiger!

Now, on to the transmission phase of the program. The original transmission was a three speed with overdrive. However, a standard three speed had been installed in its place. Gerry found a Heaver three speed overdrive which seemed perfect -- but after 15 feet of backward travel, it locked up. He then went through the same rebuild procedures that he had done with the engine.

The last major task was restoring the body and painting the vehicle. Gerry found a great body man and painter whose shop was located in Highland, Michigan. "He was a super person to work with. The only major component that needed replacement was the right front fender," remarked Gerry.



Gerry restored the vehicle back to its basic stock condition with the exception of front disc brakes, gas shocks, a sway bar, a 12 volt negative ground system, radial tires, and an after market carburetor and distributor!

The car has made it from Milford to the Woodward Dream cruise and back, and has also been a part of the Sunday afternoon car meets at Bakers of Milford.

One of Gerry's most exciting events with the 55 T-Bird was giving his 88 year old mother-in-law the ride of her life!

Now that most of the major restoration has been completed, Gerry plans on spending many summers with the T-Bird and his wife tooling around Milford, taking it to club events, and driving the Woodward Cruise.



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## Dinner-Dance Photos



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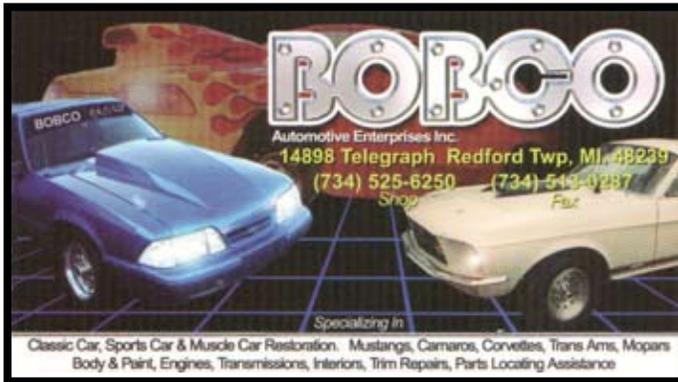
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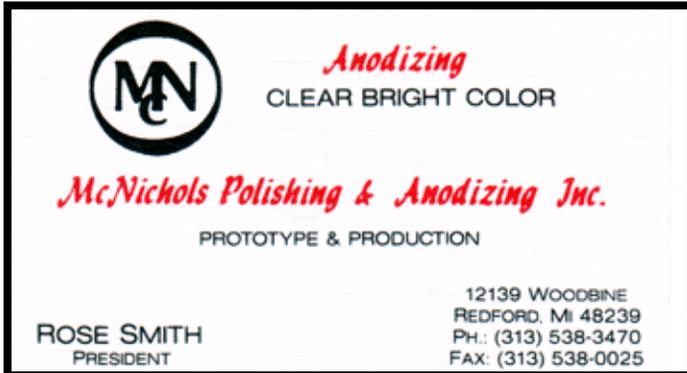
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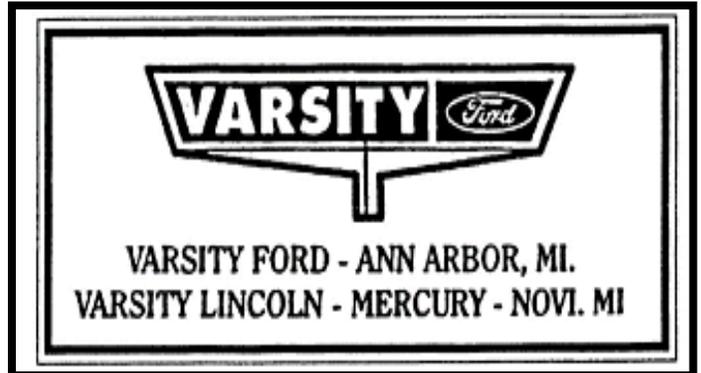
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