



Feature Vehicle:  
1967 Lincoln Convertible  
owned by  
Bob Guetschow



Bob's 1967 Lincoln Convertible

I purchased my 1967 Lincoln convertible in answer to an advertisement in Hemmings Motor News. The owner had a collection of about fifteen Lincoln convertibles from 1961-1967. I drove over to Westlake, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland, and took a look at the cars that the seller wanted to cull out of his collection. I ended up purchasing the nicest car he wanted to sell and consequently the most expensive. I gave the man a deposit and returned a few days later with my son Eric with the intention of driving the car home. We made the trip back without incident. I drove the car down to the Wednesday lunch session at the Three Brothers restaurant. After lunch I found a large quantity of coolant loss due to a failed upper radiator hose. With some help from Jimmie Stewart, and Fred Alexander, and the Napa Auto Parts store, I returned home

*Continued on Page 6*

"34"  
by  
Mark Sapienz



Wendell Scott was the first African American man to win a race in 1969.

With this being February and not only is it Black History month, but the time of year the "roundrounders" migrate to Daytona. Everyone is familiar with Richard Petty and his #43 STP racers so much so "The King" did not even put his name decal on his cars. Another man made his mark in the history of southern stock car racing running his #34- Wendell Oliver Scott. In 1977, the movie "Greased Lightning" was made loosely based on the life and career of Wendell Scott. Although Hollywood altered many facts, the reality of his struggling to overcome and becoming the first Black man to win a Nascar Grand National Race is remarkable.

Wendell returned from serving in Patton's Army as a mechanic. He opened a Garage /Taxi /Bootlegging service in his hometown of Danville, Virginia. Unlike in the movie, he was

*Continued on Page 6*

# Rotunda Times

## The Rotunda Times



### The Rotunda Times

Published by:

**Ford and Mercury Restorers Club of America**  
P.O. Box 2938 Dearborn, Michigan 48123

[www.fmrcoa.org](http://www.fmrcoa.org)

#### Newsletter Staff

#### Temporary Editor

Beth Marschner 248.231.4892  
emarschner@twmi.rr.com  
17445 Norborne, Redford, MI 48240

#### Display Ad Editor

Bob Guetschow 248.328.9113  
rguetschow@comcast.net  
16291 Worden Rd., Holly, MI 48442

#### Staff Contributors

Bill Gipperich	586.826.8813	gipp@juno.com
Louis Ironside	810.798.8803	louisironside@aol.com
(The Roving Reporter)		
Brian Kuta	734.753.3788	mbhouse@charter.net
Jeff Maroia	734.953.2679	jmaroia@netzero.com
Rob Martoia	734.837.1891	martoia5@yahoo.com
Mark Sapientz	734.676.5379	none
Terry Worful	313.271.2017	kercrest@comcast.net

#### Membership Secretary

Terry Worful 313.271.2017 kercrest@comcast.net

#### Club Historian

Bill Gipperich 586.826.8813 gipp@juno.com

#### Web Master

Jim Crawford 313.724.9117 jcrawfo1@wowway.com



**From the Editor**

I want to thank everyone for their wonderful articles and newsletter materials. If you have a car that has a "story" we would love to hear about. Send me an email and a photo and we can feature your vehicle in an upcoming issue of the newsletter.

Temporary Editor, Beth Marschner

## FMRCOA

**FORD AND MERCURY RESTORERS  
CLUB of AMERICA**

P.O. Box 2938 • Dearborn, MI 48123

### 2012 OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	<b>Bob Guetschow</b>	248.328.9113 rguetschow@comcast.net
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Tim Pusilo</b>	313.278.1325 dean35aw@gamil.com
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Beth Marschner</b>	248.231.4892 emarschner@twmi.rr.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Dale LeVasseur</b>	248.634.9806 fmrc2011treasury@yahoo.com
<b>Director</b>	<b>Mark Koehler</b>	734.699.6900 markkoehler@att.net
<b>Director</b>	<b>Rob Martoia</b>	734.837.1891 martoia5@yahoo.com
<b>Director</b>	<b>Jim Crawford</b>	313.724.9117 jcrawfo1@wowway.com

The Ford & Mercury Restorers Club is a hobby organization whose purpose is to foster and promote the acquisition, preservation and use of all Ford vehicles, 25 years of age and older.

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# Rotunda Times

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## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

WOW!! We sure have had a mild winter this year. It has been so mild that we have gone through this winter without experiencing "cabin fever". For me we turn the corner by the first of March and then we have it made. Pretty soon we will be taking our cars out of storage. I can't wait.

For those that did not make it, we toured the Stahl Automotive Museum on February 25th. About 35 of us gathered together to take a look at a very nice collection of classic cars including two Duesenbergs. The turnout was good considering Autorama was going on at the same time. The club provided plenty of Pizza to go around.

We are touring DST Industries on March 17th with the Early Ford V-8 chapter. DST is a car restoration facility. Club member Bob Milligan is our host. Bob is in charge of vehicle restoration services. Check the events section for more details.

I have started a new feature column in our newsletter. If we get a new advertiser we feature the company in a welcome new advertiser column. If we don't receive a new ad we will feature a current advertiser in the column. Advertisers are an important part of our newsletter and we need to give back all we can for their support.

At our next meeting on March 7th Tim Pusilo will be calling for you all to step forward and fill the open work roster slots for the Swap Meet and Car Show. Please pitch in. We need to work hard to maintain our Swap Meet and Car Show and of course our revenue stream.

We also need to target the Car Cruises, Car Shows, and Swap Meets to concentrate on our flyer distribution campaign. We need to coordinate our campaign to realize the best possible results.

### Till Next Time

Bob Guestschow

### Welcome New Members

#### Leon Narozny (Evelyn)

Novi, MI 48375

(313) 938-3539

leon38spl@aol.com

**1964 1/2 Mustang Convertible**

#### Jac Becroft (Lynn)

Livonia, MI 48152

(248) 444-0858

**1977 Lincoln Town Coupe**

#### Don Clos (Pat)

St. Clair Shores, MI 48081

(586) 771-4766

dclos@comcast.net

#### Hal Deily

Pittsburgh, PA 15202

(412) 849-4938

**1953 Mercury Monterrey**

#### Cory Salter (Karen)

Bowman, ND 58623

(701) 226-6673

**1967 Ford Fairlane XL 427**

**1967 Ford Fairlane GTA**

**1967 Ford Fairlane GT 390 Clone**

**1973 Ford F250 4x4 Pickup**

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### *In Memoriam*

*Phillip E. Wood*

*1930 - 2012*

It is our solemn duty to announce the passing of Phil Wood on January 29, 2012. Formerly of Milford, MI, Phil lived with his wife, Lois in Buchanan, Tennessee for the last 14 years. Phil joined the club in 1985. He is survived by wife Lois, son Gary and daughter Linnie.

# Rotunda Times



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 7<sup>th</sup> Club meeting

### Club event on March 17<sup>th</sup>



[www.dstindustries.com/classic\\_and\\_custom](http://www.dstindustries.com/classic_and_custom)

*Join us for a shop tour at DST Industries. We will be joining the Early V-8 Club at 3:00pm. Our host, Bob Milligan will be providing food at the completion of the tour. It promises to be fun afternoon. See you there!*

**34364 Goddard, Romulus**  
(South of I-94 and East of Wayne Rd.)

April 4<sup>th</sup> Club meeting

### The FMRCOA Membership Advantage!!!!

Your Board officers and editor 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 Beth Marschner, our ad editor. For more information on becoming a member go to [FMRCOA.org](http://FMRCOA.org) or write to :

**FMRCOA Membership Secretary**  
**P.O. Box 2938**  
**Dearborn, MI 48123**

Dues are \$25 before and \$30 after December 31<sup>st</sup>.  
Please mail your dues in or pay at a meeting!

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:

**Beth Marschner**  
**[emarschner@twmi.rr.com](mailto:emarschner@twmi.rr.com)**  
ROTUNDA TIMES  
17445 Norborne  
Redford, MI 48240  
248.231.4892

Our monthly club meetings are held at **St Mary's Cultural Center at 18100 Merriman Rd** in Livonia between 6 and 7 Mile Roads. This is the beautiful facility where we have had the last several dinner dances. Moreover, it has an extremely large parking lot enabling club cars to be easily parked together (and the food is great).

**Meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month and begin at 6:30pm with a snack.** And do bring a friend!



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## **FEBRUARY 2012** **FMRCOA MEETING MINTUES** **February 1, 2012**



70 members at the February meeting

Bob started the meeting at 7:40pm.

Bob apologized for the delay in the January newsletter but it is on the way.

Since the newsletter had not arrived before the meeting, the minutes were read by the club secretary. Pat Beattie and Wally Wigand approved the meeting minutes as read.

Dale read the treasurers report for January. Hank Dawson suggested showing more details for the expenses. Dale has a binder with check/receipt information available for viewing. The treasurers report was approved by Jerry Ostalecki & Bob Assenmacher as read.

Terry Worful reports that there are 386 members as of tonight's meeting. The "last chance" reminders will be going out soon. This is your last chance to new your 2012 membership dues before you are removed from the rolls on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Jim Crawford, our web master reports that he continues to add new links to the website. Items from the newsletter will be updated on the web as well as event information.

Stahl Museum tour set for Saturday, February 25, 2012. Runs from 10a-2p with lunch at the museum. Plans for a DST Industries tour set for March. More details to follow. Jim thanked Bill Coombe for helping set up of the Stahl museum tour.

It's official. We have a reserved spot at the Hines Park Cruise for our club picnic on Sunday, August 26th. Don Nicholson is the promoter for this cruise and he says that we are in the field and have plenty of room.

The crusin' season is upon us and it would be nice to have more club participation at some of the cruises that are coming up.

Bob reports that we have a new advertiser. We

welcome Ride on Appraisals. Bob wrote a short article about them in the newsletter which we hope to do with each new advertiser.

Bob reported on old business which was the dinner dance in January. He felt the dance was a huge success and everyone seemed to enjoy the Jamie Coe band.

Mark Koehler reports that about 87 people attended. Food was well received. There were some good and bad comments but good overall.

Hank Dawson asked that the board "level the playing field". Hank questioned the board if there was a club credit card purchased. Bob reported that a debit card was issued when the new account was opened. Hank stated he just wanted to be informed.

Bob thanked everyone for stepping up for all of their contributions to both the newsletter and the club.

Mark Sapienz addressed the issue of junior membership. This is no longer an issue as the junior members we had did not renew, this topic will be further addressed in the



Pete Stevenson gets his milestone badge

by-laws committee.

Cole suggested 16 years old and up be considered a full member, anyone younger would be considered a junior member.

Bob issued Lou Williams, a new member his membership badge and issued 25 year milestone badges to Pete Stevenson and Rich Vander Vlucht. Congratulations!

Bob reports on the health issues of some of our members. John Staciewz is having foot surgery, Paul Coleman is due to have heart surgery, Mike Fontana is also to have heart surgery and sadly the chemo that Tom Pfeifer, "Model A Tom", is not working and the prognosis does not look good.

Bob Assenmacher volunteered to revisit the Holiday Nights outing in December.



Rich Vander Vlucht also gets his 25 year badge.

Work rosters for the swap meet/car show will be available at all the of the meetings. Please do your share and sign up, sign up, sign up.

Members presented their own show and tell and the 50/50 raffle was done and Bob adjourned the meeting at 9:30pm.

Beth Marschner

## 1967 Lincoln Convertible

*Continued from page 1*

with upper and lower hoses renewed. I guess I was lucky the hose didn't fail on the Ohio Turnpike or on US23 when I drove the car home! A few facts about the car: the car was purchased new in Jonesboro, Arkansas and never left that general area until purchased by a car dealer in 2000, who took it to Auburn, Ind., and it was sold to the man I purchased the car from in 2002. The car is original with only 44,000 miles on it. The car dealer painted the sides to repair parking lot damage. The leather upholstery, carpeting, and, miraculously, the top are all original and in very good condition. I paid a little more for the car, but it was well worth it after crawling over a number of cars that could only be classified as 'junk'.

worth of press at the first Daytona 500 before determining Lee Petty's victory. Wendell competed in Nascar's premiere Grand National series for 12 years. He amassed 495 starts with 1 win, 20 top 5's, 137 top 10's. His career was cut short by a terrible crash at Talladega in his 1972 Mercury Cyclone. He was seriously injured as well as financially ruined by the wreck. He would later race only part time until age 62. He did more with less and earned respect among all that he raced against. He was a black man in a predominately all white sport. Moreover, he was a true racer. Note: although Wendell ran mostly Fords his entire career, sadly his infamous Grand National win came in 1962 Chevy Impala.



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## 34.

*Continued from page 1*

never caught running shine. Once, he outran the police to his garage and in minutes pulled the engine from his car as the cops showed up to arrest him. The Judge dismissed the case when it was learned the car did not have an engine in it. In 1951, Wendell began his racing career at the local dirt tracks. He had 128 Sportman Division race wins over the next decade. He won the Virginia Drivers Championship as well 22 races in 1959.

At age 40, Wendell moved up to run the Nascar Grand National circuit in 1961. On December 1, 1963, Wendell Scott won the Jacksonville 100 Grand National Race. However, Nascar race officials flagged Buck Baker as the winner of the race. Rumors persist, was it that they didn't want a black man in victory lane kissing the white trophy girl in the deep South? Nascar blamed it on a simple scoring error and later awarded Wendell the win. One must remember, Bill France, who ran Nascar, thrived on a weeks'

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## FEATURED ADVERTISER

This month we are featuring Oval Repair Auto Service Center. Jeff Schembri is the owner/operator and has been with us for a number of years as an advertiser. Jeff specializes in Ford, Mercury and Lincoln classic car repair, but he would like to let you know that he will be delighted to work on your modern cars as well. Check out his ad and by all means give him a call or visit him on face book.



## Happening from Headquarters

By  
Bill Gipperich, Club Historian

The no. 3 issue of the Ford Mercury Historian was published in June of 1969. The date of the meeting for the minutes was May 1969.

Several pages were given to a reprint from the May 1969 issue of Car Classics where in the author described his experience from a tour of Harrah's Automobile Collection. He went on to describe the documentation procedures employed in the restoration process.

The minutes for the last meeting: "The location for this meeting was not mentioned however; the first item of discussion was to announce that future meetings would be held at the Michigan Bell Telephone Co. office at Nine Mile and Southfield roads." Talks about history, any of you remember that company?

The reasons cited for this place were "1. there is no charge for the facilities and 2. it is more secluded."

"A list of upcoming activities was read which included the Carnival of Cars in June and a rally in July and a picnic in August."

No for sale items were listed in this issue.

New Faces: Jimmy Stewart

The no. 4 issue for the Ford Mercury Historian was published in July of 1969.

The following was reported as the minutes: "On June 8<sup>th</sup>, we participated in a rain soaked Carnival of Cars. We had a turnout of six cars. The ribbons were given out as follows: Yellow for third, red for second, and blue for first place. Anyone who brought a car, regardless of its condition, received a yellow ribbon.

Roy Stull received a yellow ribbon for his 1936 Tudor, Roy Nacewicz received a blue ribbon for his 1937 Tudor, Phil Lyon received a red ribbon for his 1940 Coupe, Dan Bartok received a red ribbon for his 1940 Mercury Sedan Coupe, Roy Nacewicz received a yellow ribbon for this 1940 Fodor, and a newcomer received a yellow ribbon for his 1939 coupe. Roy Nacewicz's 1940 Fodor was driven to the meet by Jim Scott.

On July 13<sup>th</sup>, we had a sun soaked Road Rally. We all met at a designated spot to receive

questions and directions. The rally ended up at Kensington Park for a picnic. Again, we had a limited turnout (nine members and their families), but it was the best doggone picnic yours truly has even been on in his life.

Coming up in august will be an economy run, and in September, there will be a swap meet.

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## Postcards from the Past

by  
Lou Ironside

This month we have a view of Mackinaw City, MI which was probably taken in the late 40's or very early 50's. In the lower edge we see a very collectable Model A coupe sitting in front of an equally collectable



Mackinaw City, Michigan

Standard Oil "crown" gas globe. Parked on the left is a Lincoln "3-window" coupe, a brand-x, then a 49 Ford, and what looks like a 34 Ford sedan. This photo was obviously taken in the summer on a bright sunny day...but note the lack of both traffic and people. There are only two cars driving on the street, and a couple motorcycles on the far right. If you have been to Mackinaw City recently....you know that it is wall to wall traffic and people. What a difference 60+ years can make.

## The Roving Reporter:

Well, the swap meet season is in full-swing, and I am ready! This month there are three swap meets to report on. First, the swap meet in Saginaw, MI put on by the local Model A Club. This has always been a good meet for finding parts, but in the last couple of years it has started to "go downhill". This year at least over 20% of the vendors were selling non-automotive "stuff". If I want to buy dish soap, lamp shades, or shoes, I will go to Wal-Mart. If this trend at their meet continues, the meet will turn into a flea market and the old car people will stay away. Best way to kill a swap meet is let the non-automotive stuff in.

The second meet on the schedule was the 49<sup>th</sup> annual swap meet in Kalamazoo. In the past this meet has been very crowded and difficult to move in the aisles and see the parts. The new building is a 100% improvement, and the meet was excellent, in addition the warmer weather even allowed several dozen vendors to set up outside. I found some nice parts, enjoyed the meet, and look forward to next year's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary swap meet.

Roger D. Kuclo  
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## Brian's Blog: A look at Benson Ford Research Center

by  
Brian Kuta

More than meets the eye pretty much sums up the Behind the Scenes Tour I took at Benson Research Center. I confess, as many time as I've walked past the building when visiting Greenfield Village – it's located in the Josephine F. Ford Plaza near the village entrance – I had no idea whatsoever what even went on in that building. Now that I know, I can truly say the experience has only proven yet again that there is so much more than what meets the eye at The Henry Ford. The tour was expertly lead by Kathy Steiner, who is head of access services at Benson Ford Research Center, and Terry Hoover, the chief archivist there. If you have a small group of friends or folks (up to 15 people) who love history, this a is an excellent outing. There are five miles of shelving at Benson Ford



Research Center. Of course, it's what's on and in those shelves that makes the place so interesting. That, and the fact that the center continues to make the treasury of artifacts so

carefully housed and catalogued there more and more accessible to the public through a variety of services. Benson Ford Research Center is just one of many storage areas on The Henry Ford campus. Items at the center include documents and artifacts that need the same kind of climate-controlled storage as paper. So you're not going to find a automobile in the stacks, but depending on your interests, you will find some significant, valuable, historic, cool and at times even quirky treasures. Among other things, the research center houses the early business records and nearly half a million photographs from the very beginnings of Ford Motor Company through part of the 1960s. This collection occupies approx. ten thousand cubic feet in the three-story facility. While on the tour, Terry showed us the very first bank register for Ford Motor Company – which was Henry Ford's third attempt in the industry. The company was practically down to its last dime (more like \$200) when the first Ford automobile was sold, and the rest – as they say – is history. It was really inspiring to close. Its significance in



industry alone is mind-boggling. With Henry Ford's success and then dedication to collecting, preserving and sharing the stuff of America life through

his creation of the Edison Institute (now The Henry Ford), I have to say that while standing among those collections in Benson Ford Research Center, the importance of that bank register was profoundly tangible.

*See next month's issue for more of Brian's Blog.*



Do you have Detroit street smarts?

Match the street with what its namesake is best known for.

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Allen       | a. Major in War of 1812                    |
| 2. Charlevoix  | b. French Priest                           |
| 3. Coolidge    | c. Detroit's 1 <sup>st</sup> elected Mayor |
| 4. Crooks      | d. A lumberman                             |
| 5. Dequindre   | e. Creator of white road divider line      |
| 6. Gratiot     | f. U.S. President                          |
| 7. Hines Drive | g. 1812 Col. drove British out of Michigan |
| 8. John R      | h. Troy Town Clerk                         |

*Answers on page 9*

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## FEBRUARY SHOW AND TELL

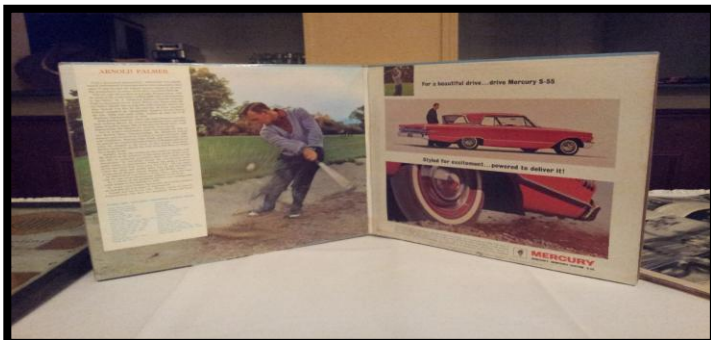
Our members brought in some great show and tell items this month. Hearing the history behind these great pieces has been a nice treat.



Larry Wolohon brought in this 1/4 scale 1948 Fordson Tractor



Bill Coombe shared his license plates from Guam, Panama Canal, Virgin Islands and a rare party plate.



Rob Calhoun brought in this "The Hot Rod Problem" – Life Magazine from 1949.



Mark Sapienz shared his Wendell Scott memorabilia.



Mark Zagar brought in this vintage Sinclair gas price list (above) and (below) is a Sinclair oil can



### Answers to Detroit street smarts

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1-D Lewis Allen       | 2-B Pierre Charlevoix |
| 3-F Calvin Coolidge   | 4-H Riley Crooks      |
| 5-A Antoine Dequindre | 6-G Charles Gratiot   |
| 7-E Edward Hines      | 8-C John R. Williams  |

Referenced/sourced from the Detroit Free Press –  
The Detroit Almanac. Column #1 Streets;

Bob Hunt Enterprises\*

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## FEBRUARY CLASSIFIEDS

### FOR SALE

- 1939 2dr Ford Standard. 1941 Ford Opera coupe. Pat Beattie. 248-545-4128
- 4 Fox Mustang Ronel 4 lug wheels. Black with silver rim locking nut caps. Gary Holmstrom. 313-277-3475.
- 15X6 torque thrust "d" rims with tires. Fit '66 Mustang and other 5 lug hubs. Lugs, no caps. Jerry Ostalecki. 248-344-4063.
- 1966 Thunderbird grille and miscellaneous trim pieces. 1932 n.o.s. Ford commercial grille. Harry McAuliffe. 313-534-5974.

### WANTED

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