

The Rotunda Times



Volume 1 No. 11

The Official Monthly Publication of the Ford and Mercury Restorer's Club of America.

November 2012

Greenfield Village 62nd Annual Old Car Festival

submitted by
Bill Timoszyk



Thursday, October 10, 1901

submitted by
Mark Sapienz



Detroit Driving Club

Held on the Village grounds Sept 8th and 9th on a warm (not hot) breezy day. This show is for vehicles manufactured in 1932 or before. I believe that due to the pleasant weather prediction, it drew a good number of participants, both car owners and pedestrians. The majority of the cars are from Michigan, but many plates from Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and New York and Ontario among others. One thing you see at this show that you don't at others; Long term ownerships, single or family. This year there was a good original 1908

Everyone knows the storied history of Henry Ford beating Alexander Winton and then starting Ford Motor Company. What really happened that day? William Metzger, a Detroit Winton dealer, promoted a day of racing at the Detroit Driving Club's one mile horse track. The track was located in then Grosse Pointe Township at Jefferson and Lenox. The program consisted of thirteen cars entered in three races: steam, electric, and gasoline powered engines as well as one mile measured time trials. The racetrack had a five thousand seat covered grandstand, but nearly 8,000 spectators showed up by rail, street car, steam boat and carriage. Metzger's main event was the 25 lap gasoline powered race featuring 4 cars. Henri Fournier's speed record car was a no show. Vanderbilt's Red Devil car broke during the day.



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The Rotunda Times
Published by:
Ford and Mercury Restorers Club of America
P.O. Box 2938 Dearborn, Michigan 48123
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Just to remind you that if you have any material you would like to submit for the newsletter, the deadline is around 15th of the month.

I want to wish our membership and their families a wonderful holiday season.

Interim Editor, Beth Marschner

FMRCOA

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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



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Well, here we go again. Last year at election time we had the unsigned poison pen letter circulated around opposing me. And now we have Vintage Motors USA campaigning for my opponent through their website. During this year's election period my opponent has instituted a smear campaign with a goal of turning enough members against me to increase his chances of winning the election for president. My question is would this be considered an attempt to demonstrate a lack of "spirit of fellowship, sociality, and fair play" on the part of my opponent. These are stated in the constitution in article 2, item c; these are the goals that all of us should be striving for. This kind of behavior should never be allowed in our election process. I have always taken a position to demonstrate the "high road approach". I believe that any candidate injecting this kind of political activity, in our election process, should be disqualified as a candidate for office. Over the past two years this type of political behavior has emerged and it must be eliminated before it becomes an accepted part of our election process. In the early years we all voted to name the club "the ford and mercury restorers club" and now it appears that some of our members act as though the club should be renamed the ford and mercury fight club. We must all work together to restore a sense of civility within the membership.

Til next time
Bob Guetschow, president



Welcome New Members



Gerald Bryce (Kathryn)
Shelby Twp., MI 48136
(248) 520-1771
gbryce@tlwlcc.com

George Procter (Nancy Stylon)
Missoula, MT 59804
(406) 370-8438
spmachine27@yahoo.com

- 1964 Ford Galaxie XL 2dr. h.t.
- 1967 Ford Fairlane GT Conv.
- 1968 Ford Fairlane GT Conv.
- 1968 Ford Galaxie XL

David Brockett
Warren, MI 48089
(586) 615-4403

- 1962 Ford Falcon 2dr. Station Wagon
- 1978 Ford Pickup Camper special

This Month in Ford History: November

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| November 2, 1955 | 1956 Thunderbird introduced in dealer showrooms |
| November 6, 1893 | Edsel Ford is born |
| November 19, 1959 | Edsel car line discontinued, Lincoln-Mercury division is re-formed |



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 5th Club meeting

Bring in a new, unwrapped gift to the meeting for our annual Toys for Tots drive



December 7th
"Holiday Nights"

Happy Holidays!

December 25th

January 2nd

Club meeting

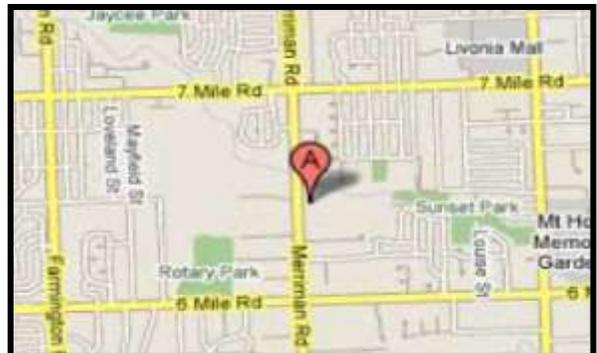


The Rotunda Times would like to feature your old car or truck in an upcoming issue. We are interested in how you came about finding your vehicle of choice, and what you have done to enhance its beauty, and/or mechanical condition. Simply mail or email us your article accompanied with a photo to:

Beth Marschner
emarschner@twmi.rr.com
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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**NOVEMBER 2012
FMRCOA MEETING MINTUES
November 7, 2012**

Sorry no photos

"Photographer" was absent

The meeting started at 7:42 and the pledge started us off.

Welcome David B who was a guest at the meeting.

Bob presented milestone membership badges to Chuck Warren who has been a member for 25 years and Dick Anderson who has been a member for 30 years.

The newsletter is at the printers and should arrive shortly. Most should have received the electronic copy prior to the meeting.

Beth was not at the November meeting so the minutes were not read.

Terry has the new membership rosters available. See her during the meeting for your copy.

Dale read the treasurer's report which was approved.

Terry reports that there are 336 members as of the November meeting.

Old business included discussion on the trip to Village Industries in October; Holiday Nights at Greenfield village hosted by Bob Assenmacher on December 7th and a reminder to bring in a new unwrapped toy to the December meeting for our annual toys for tots drive.



Leo Chouinard has stepped down as election committee chairman. Member, Wally Wigand has agreed to chair the election committee in his place.

Cole Grandy was nominated for the 1 year director position. He will run along with Jim Crawford and Rob Martoia.

Stan Miller will go unopposed for the treasurer's position and Beth Marschner will go unopposed for the secretary's position as no other candidates were nominated.

Vice Presidential candidates are Tim Pusilo and Hank Dawson.

Presidential candidates are Bob Guetschow and Dale LeVasseur.

All candidates please submit your resumes in printed form to Wally Wigand as soon as possible.

Members presented their show and tell and the 50/50 raffle finished the evening.



Recorded by
Beth Marschner

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 or write to :

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

Dues are \$25 before and \$30 after December 31st.

Please mail your dues in or pay at a meeting!

62nd Annual Old Car Festival

Continued from page 1

Cadillac bought new by a woman in Ohio. She drove the car only 3 years, and kept it. It was shown by her great grandson from Michigan. He had original papers, license disc's(early license plates) etc.. Sorry I did not get a photo of the T woody wagon with the original 4 wheel drive set-up.



45 MPH in the win. The 2 cylinder 26 hp Sweepstakes car built by Henry Ford and his five friends (Oliver Barthel, Ed Huff, Ed van der Linden, George Wettrick, and Charlie Mitchell) led directly to November 3, 1901 formation of the Henry Ford Company. Henry Ford left his second car company in March 1902 and later that year it became Cadillac. Mr. Ford went on to build another famous race car -- the 999 and after its success he formed the Ford Motor Company in 1903. So really Henry Ford's win started two car companies; Cadillac as well as our beloved FOMOCO. As for the location of the cut glass punch bowl, it is a Hoffa mystery.



Thursday, October 10, 1901

Continued from page 1

Leaving Ford's Sweepstake to duel it out with Alexander Winton's Bullet car for the \$1,000 cash prize as well as a cut glass punch bowl picked out by Mr. Winton's secretary to go back to Mrs. Winton in Cleveland. In the morning, Winton being an experienced racer, set a speed record of one mile in 72.4 seconds. Due to delays in the day the feature race was shortened to ten laps. Winton's Bullet shot out to an early lead, but began to smoke/sputter at the halfway mark. Ford and his mechanic rider, Ed Huff, passed the Bullet on lap seven in front of the cheering grandstands. They went on to average nearly

FEATURED NEW ADVERTISER

This month our featured advertiser is Dynamic Metal Finishing. Jim Bartolotta is the owner and he has been in business at this location about 25 years. Jim specializes in show quality chrome plating and metal finishing. Several of our members have used Jim's services in the past and recommend him for his quality workmanship. Check out his ad and give him a call.



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Brian's Tip: **More on Compression Testing**

I just want to go through this again to make sure I didn't overlook some basic information about compression testing engines. First thing you need to do is to remove all the spark plugs, keeping them identified by the cylinders they came out of. Now you prop the choke and throttle open. Using a good tester that screws into the spark plug hole, you now crank the engine to record the highest reading you get in each cylinder. Now that you have completed that task, you now grab a pressurized can of oil to spray into each cylinder, one at a time, then crank the engine to distribute the oil throughout that cylinder. If the compression improves substantially during the second test, the one with oil in the cylinders, ring wear is indicated. If the compression readings do not change and remain low, valve leakage is indicated. Either way, there should not be more than a 10% difference in compression throughout all cylinders. I must extend a word of caution here about ring selection, just in case you determine the engine needs rings. Many shops, even good trusted and reliable shops, make poor selections on rings so, you need to get involved in the selection of rings for your engine. I am not a fan of chrome rings. Most folks seem to think that chrome rings will last longer, and they will under crazy perfect conditions. It is way more common than you think that chrome rings will not seat causing the engine to use untold amounts of oil. Nobody wants to have an 'oil stove' for a car, so the only way to remedy those unseated rings is to rehone the cylinders and try again, but the same thing can and probably will happen again. For your 'specialty car', really, how many miles are you really ever going to put on that engine so, get some good quality non chromed rings and you and your engine will be much happier.

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Postcards from the Past

by
Lou Ironside



How many of the members remember the Hudson Motor Car Co. This postcard from the early 1950's shows the headquarters at 12601



Hudson Motor Car Company

E. Jefferson in Detroit. I remember visiting this building in the early 1950's with my father, and great-uncle who was an engineer there. The part I remember the most was the plaster models of the cars painted in various colors....boy how I wanted one of those! My father was a paint engineer with Wyandotte paint and they painted some of those models...so you would have thought that a car crazy seven year old would have been given one....but it wasn't to happen. A few did survive however, in fact there is an unpainted one in the display case in the office at EMS Classic Cars where I occasionally work part time. And no, it isn't for sale, I've already asked.

The Roving Reporter:

Well, the swap meet season is pretty much over for 2012, and all in all it has been better than the past few years. Maybe it is the economy, maybe it is older rodder/restorers that are cleaning out the spare parts...who knows. Let's just hope that 2013 is continuing on the upward trend.

Only two swap meets to report on this month, one in Michigan and one in Ohio. The fall Adrian swap meet had excellent weather, a good number of vendors, and

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Roving Reporter

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my estimation was at least an equal number of spectators as the past few years. I have been attending this meet since 1965, and have always found it well worth the drive. This year was no exception, and I scored several needed parts for various projects.

The second swap meet was in Brookville (Dayton) Ohio, and would primarily be of interest to Model A and early Ford collectors. The meet was a little smaller this year, and according to the meet chairman, attendance was down slightly. In spite of that a friend and I sold quite well, bought a few nice parts, and found a great Mexican restaurant for dinner. What more could we want! Have a nice holiday season, and start thinking about all those great swap meets in 2013!!

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Nostalgic Fords

submitted by Bill Timoszyk

On Saturday, October 29th Milan Dragway had a "Nostalgia Racers" day. It was perfect weather and drew a capacity crowd and a ton of sweet TRUE muscle cars. Pictured here are some of the FoMoCo cars, both race cars and in the show.

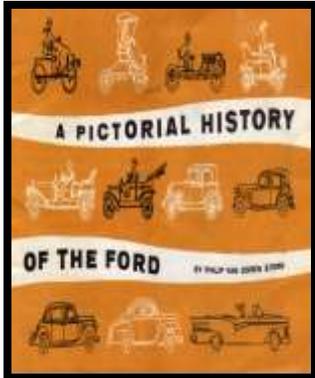


See page 10 for more great photos



NOVEMBER SHOW AND TELL

Recently at an antique shop I found this 1957 book: A Pictorial History of the Ford. It measures slightly less than 5" tall, and slightly more than 8" wide. There are 15 pages with some nice photos of the early Fords up to and including the new 1957 Ford. The booklet was authored by Philip Van Doren Stern, and according to the back cover was published: For the men and women of Ford Motor



Company employee information rack service. It has a "pumpkin" colored cover with black and white photos. If it was a hand-out on the employee information rack there must have been thousands of these printed...and possibly other years

also. Anyway, it is a neat Ford collectible to add to the collection.

Submitted by Lou Ironside



.....

Several members shared their treasures at the November meeting.

Sorry No Photos

"Photographer" was absent

Charlie Rivers brought in a newspaper from 1928

~~~~~

Bill Coombe shared his license plates from South Africa and Rhodesia

~~~~~

Mark Sapienz brought in a book titled "Living on Edge"

~~~~~

Larry Wolohon brought in a dealer parts manual

~~~~~



NOVEMBER CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

- 1993 Buick 4 door Roadmaster 4.7 auto. 120,000 miles. Runs and drives nice. \$2,000. Hal Stambaugh. 419.583.7892
- Jasper built 302 Ford engine. No miles. Performance roller cam 650 Holley. \$2,000. Hal Stambaugh. 419.583.7892
- Wolverine truck camper. Fits 8 ft. bed. Good condition. No leaks. \$500. V-6 heads \$100. Hal Stambaugh. 419.583.7892



WANTED

Used oil (waste oil). Bring to the meetings.
John Miller. 586-756-4279 or 313-891-2640.

OCTOBER CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

- Used parts for 1966 Mustang trunk lid \$50, front bumper \$30, center console (rough) \$50, R & L front fenders \$25 & \$50. Don McCredie. 248-563-8048.
- National parts depot gift certificate \$75, sell for \$60. Good for 10 months. Gary Sharkas. 734-525-3652.
- 1988 Lincoln Mark VII LSC over 100k. Minor surface rust. Everything works. Cold A/C.
- Air Bags recently replaced. Runs excellent. \$2500 or best. Bill Sulak 313-565-2591

WANTED

- Used oil (waste oil). Bring to the meetings. John Miller. 586-756-4279 or 313-891-2640.
- 1990 Mercury Grand Marquis LX/LS Colony Park Wagon for parts. 1989 Ford Crown Victoria Country Squire Wagon for parts. Both cars can be rusty and need not run. I need Plastic and Aluminum trim for my fire damaged cars. George Weisbrod. 256-362-8088 Evenings please.

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