

# THE 4-BANGER

## VOICE OF THE NAPER A's

THE 4-BANGER VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3 ★ FALL, 2018

**AFFILIATED  
WITH THE  
MODEL A  
FORD CLUB  
OF AMERICA**



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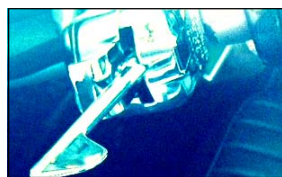
**A GUY WHO DRIVES  
A CAR WIDE OPEN  
IS NOT THINKIN'  
HE'S JUST HOPIN'**

2018 LUSTGARTEN FOUNDATION PANCREATIC CANCER WALK

## TEAM FRED RULES!

By RAY McMAHON

**W**e had a great turnout for the 2018 Lustgarten Foundation "Beat Pancreatic Cancer" walk on Sunday morning, July 15<sup>th</sup>. The Naper A's were well represented, as Lindy and Fred's families were all there to lend support, so our force included 13 walkers. Thank you, everyone, for your help, support and generosity in making this year's event such a huge success. Our Team Fred effort contributed \$1051.00 to the Foundation, so the 2018 bottom line beat last year's total of \$1040.00!



## NICK'S NEW TURN SIGNALS

By NICK MAZZARELLA

**O**wning an unaltered Model A Ford car involves preserving, as much as is practically possible, a machine from another era in its original form. That being said and agreed, there are nevertheless certain modern improvements that I believe should be added to an antique car

to improve its safety and utility. These can often be accomplished without seriously altering the original appearance and functionality of the car.

**S**ome alterations had already been made to my 1931 Fordor SW Model A before I bought it. They included a third brake light mounted in

*Continued On Page 4...*



GENE'S CAR, FOLLOWING NEW ALTERNATOR INSTALLATION

# CRUISE NIGHT

## Naper A's At The Downers Grove Model "T" and "A" Club June 8<sup>th</sup> Cruise Night

By JOHN EMMERING

**D**owntown Downers Grove resembled a scene from the 1920's or 1930's as the Model "T" and Model "A" Fords gathered Friday evening, June 8<sup>th</sup> for the annual Model "T" and "A" Club Night at the Summer Nights Classic Car Shows. The featured car area filled up with some nice Model "A" and "T" Fords, including cars brought by four members of our Naper A's Chapter.

**O**n the scene were Larry Benischek with his 1931 Tudor, Ed Danley showing his 1930 Fordor, John Emmering with his 1931 Roadster, and Jim Weaver exhibiting his 1930 Fordor. It was an enjoyable, mellow evening as the car owners conversed about their vintage cars and onlookers stopped to ask questions. There were plenty of interesting collector cars to look at that evening and ample good food available at the local eateries.

**A**s the evening progressed, the Naper A's contingent drew the attention of a videographer who did video interviews about their cars. Larry Benischek thus ended up featured on the Summer Nights Facebook page posed with his Model "A". Several very young onlookers got a chance to sit in some of our cars and of course blow the horn. With great weather and good participation, the event was a lot of fun.





7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL 40-HORSE FARM

## MODEL T AND MODEL A

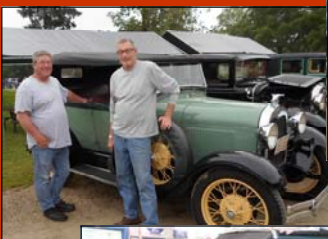
## SWAP MEET

A Fundraiser for the Model A Ford Museum

August 25, 2018 □ Woodstock, Illinois

Seven Naper A's Members attended the 2018 Illinois Region MARC/Illinois Chapter MAFCA Swap Meet hosted by Helen and Ken Ehrenhofer at their 40 Horse Farm workshop in Woodstock, Illinois.

Tom Eklund, John Emmering, Dan Manola, Ray McMahon, Bill Johnson, Steve Paul, and Lindy Williams made the trek up to Woodstock for this year's event. Steve Paul drove his 1929 Phaeton and John Emmering brought his 1931 Roadster to the event.



Members enjoyed checking out the swap meet and Ray McMahon took a look at a very original project car. As is always the case the Ehrenhofer's shop was quite interesting with several Model A project cars in various stages of progress parked inside. The 1904 Model A could be seen with its early Ford body suspended for painting.

Ron Ehrenhofer posed with his nice Model A Station Wagon. The Ehrenhofer's Model A Bus was also displayed and attracted a lot of attention as did the Marengo Model A Fire Engine which they previously restored.

There was plenty of good food which the group enjoyed. Besides being interesting as an event, it was all for a good cause as all proceeds went to the benefit the Model A Ford Museum. The weather was a little overcast but pleasant.

CULVER'S  
DRIVE-IN  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL

AUGUST 25, 2018

Also on Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, seven Naper A's attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Fords and Friends" Ice Cream Social with the Northern Illinois Regional Group of the Early Ford V-8 Club of America at Culver's Drive-in on Route 64.



Thirteen Naper A's attended in seven Model A Fords, including Rick & Mary Burgermeister with their 1929 Roadster, Tom Eklund in his 1929 Tudor Sedan, Nick Mazzarella with his 1931 Fordor, Ron Olsen with his 1931 Tudor, Alan & Diane Petrik & daughter in their 1931 Sport Coupe, Jim & Robin Weaver in their 1930 Town sedan, and Lindy Williams in his 1930 Coupe.



John Emmering brought his 1951 Fordor this year. The V-8 Club had six flathead Ford V-8's and one member who drove a 1954 overhead valve V-8, so the Naper A's can claim a technical victory in the "cars attending" headcount. No question, the line-up of all 14 old Fords from 1929 to 1954 drew lots of admiration from other Culver's customers!

AUGUST 25, 2018 DOUBLEHEADER!



# NICK'S TURN SIGNALS, *Continued from Page 1...*

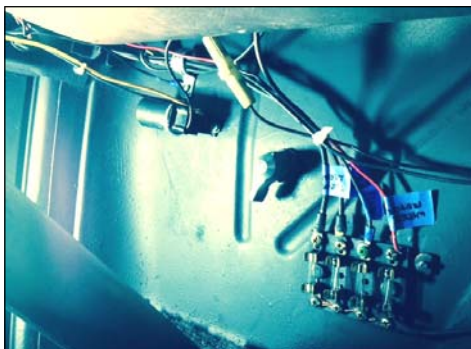


the rear window, a dome light, and — unfortunately — some inoperable turn signals that had been badly spliced into the car's wiring harness.

I decided to do some alterations, first replacing the badly cut-up wiring harness with a new one. Then, I added new turn signals and an electric windshield wiper motor. On another front, I hope to add front seat belts soon.



My turn signals and wiper motor are powered up through an auxiliary electrical circuit. This will maintain the integrity of the basic electrical harness, as we avoided cutting into any of its wires. The existing dome light and the cowl lights were also transferred to the auxiliary supply. The cowl lights are now operated by a toggle switch on the dashboard. And the front turn signal lights are actually the second elements in each cowl light bulb.



The auxiliary electrical supply is routed through a four-circuit BUSE fuse block on the firewall. All of the non-original electrical devices are thus connected this way. We tagged each circuit for easier identification and used zip-ties to provide strain relief necessary to prevent shorts and breakage.

After installing a new wiring harness, installing the new turn signals was the most complicated part of the job. I had to add a turn signal control unit, a thermal flasher unit, and turn signal lights to the rear bumper . . . all of which required new wiring.

The signal controller is a commonly available Signal-Stat unit that mounts on the steering column with a steel band and is powered by the flasher unit.

The power to the flasher is now routed through the fuse block with a 10-amp fuse and a failsafe inline 15-amp fuse at the flasher unit.



Mounting the rear turn signal lights required some thinking. I looked at an installation on Naper A's member Ray McMahon's '31 Coupe for ideas.

Using those lights as guides, I fashioned my own system. I mounted six-volt amber signal lights (from NAPA Auto Parts) on six-inch by three-inch PVC boards. Then these assemblies were installed on the inside of each end of the rear bumper by clamping them in place with three-inch steel straps that wrap around the front of the bumper. (See photos.)

The turn signals do not disengage automatically after a turn is made, so I added a six-volt beeper in line with the signal to remind the driver to turn off the signal manually. Once the

system was tested, I installed conduit sleeves over the control unit and the wires at the signal lights themselves for protection and appearance.

Eventually, I plan to refine certain elements of the current system. For example, I fabricated the straps that clamp the light assemblies in place from steel stock I had lying around, and while functional, they are not really as cosmetically appealing as one might prefer, so I plan to replace them with



oval rings mounted to the outside of the bumper. Another issue to be resolved is the indicator light on the control unit staying on when the ignition is off. Over time, this would run down the battery. The ignition switch does not prevent this because it connects directly to the points, so for now I am relying on a main electrical cut-off switch.

Overall, I'm very happy with the end results of our turn signal project, and feel safer and more confident now when driving my Model A with this modification in place . . . and now we can turn attention toward installing those seat belts!





# Vintage Transportation Meet

Union, Illinois ☐ August 5, 2018



By John Emmering

**A**n enthusiastic group of five Naper A's members met early Sunday morning on August 5<sup>th</sup>, setting off for the Vintage Transportation Meet at the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, Illinois. Hot weather was predicted but there was a welcome cloud cover that morning and even a brief light sprinkle of rain, which kept temps down.



**F**orming up their Model "A" Fords for the journey were Tom Eklund, leading the way in his 1929 Tudor, John Emmering in his 1931 Roadster, Bill Johnson on his first event in his newly completed 1930 Coupe, followed by Ray McMahon and Lindy Williams both



behind of the wheels of their 1930 Coupes. By 7:40 the group was off on their 40-mile journey to the Railway Museum where 500 vehicles, built in 1998 or before were expected.

**T**he drive out west to Union was pleasant and as always, a large part of the fun of the tour. The convoy of Naper A's Model "A" Fords arrived, safely and car show workers waved them through to area "R" which had been designated for Model "A" and Model "T" club members. Tom Eklund found a nice shady spot to park and the others in the party followed suit, lining up our five cars side-by-side.

The group set up chairs and rested for a time before setting out to view the huge array of other interesting antique motor vehicles.



**T**he trains were also an attraction with four of them running on the museum grounds. At registration, all participants were issued passes to ride

all four trains. We had the opportunity to ride in a three-car Chicago, Aurora & Elgin commuter, a diesel coach, a Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Train and in the beautiful streamlined Nebraska Zephyr. The trains passing by, with all their smoke and whistles, added to the antique transportation atmosphere.



**N**aper A's members enjoyed lunch at a variety of locations and took in the many sights. As the afternoon wore on, and the heat began to rise, the group headed to their cars once again for the return trip home.

**E**ach of our Model "A's" performed well on our homeward bound return journey as the weather quite fortunately never got as warm as had been predicted. Everyone counted this year's outing to the Union, Illinois Rail Museum Car Show an enjoyable time and a very successful Naper A's tour.



# 2018 NAPER A's GARAGE TOUR

By RON OLSEN

Our 2018 Garage Tour featured five stops of about 45 minutes each starting at Bill Johnson's place in Winfield for a progress inspection on his 1930 coupe project.

The second stop visited Gene Egert's garage in West Chicago for a tech presentation on engine rebuilding. The third stop was at Rich Volkmer's garage in Warrenville for a presentation on heat and sound insulating the Model A car.

The fourth stop was at Gar Williams home to see his Pietenpol Model A-powered homebuilt airplane. Finally, the last stop was at Alan Petrik's place in Naperville for a look at his current Model A projects and a sumptuous lunch.



*"How many mechanics does it take to....?"  
Department*

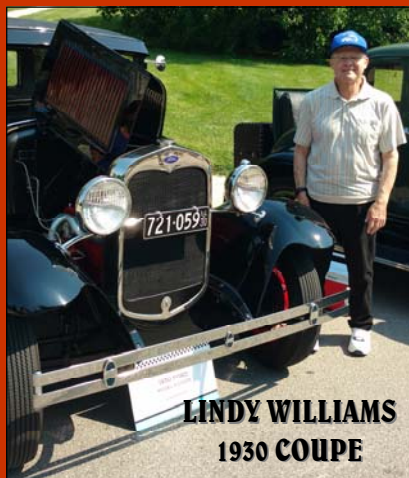


*Gar fashioned a polished aluminum skin for this 1941 Luscombe aircraft entirely by hand.*

## NAPERVILLE FATHER'S DAY CAR SHOW

JUNE 16, 2018

Trips down memory lane launched the Father's Day weekend for visitors at the 2018 Downtown Naperville Classic Car Show, organized by the Downtown Naperville Alliance. Event Director Katie Wood reports that this was the fourth year for the show, which always aims to get the weekend off to a good start for dads. "We have this event on the Saturday before Father's Day, and hosted nearly 100 classic cars this year!" Wood said. "We feel this is a great way to get people downtown for the weekend, and there is a wonderful collection of cars from throughout the area. People tell us how much they love the cars and the community of car owners."



**LINDY WILLIAMS**  
1930 COUPE



**ED DANLEY**  
1930 FORDOR

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED...

# TIME TO TALK TURKEY!



## 5th ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER

**November 4, 2018 At 12:00 PM**

**\$23.00 Per Person - Cash Bar Available**

**\$9.00 Children ages 4-11, Free For 3 & Under**

**HOST: THE ILLINOIS REGION MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB**

Elburn Lions Community Park ☐ 500 Filmore Street ☐ Elburn, IL 60119

Send your Name, Phone Number, E-Mail Address, Check Payable to Illinois Region MARC/MAFCA, and Club Affiliation to: ILLINOIS REGION MARC/MAFCA, c/o Melinda Pritchett, 40W051 Sunflower Lane, Elgin, IL 60124

**RSVP BY OCTOBER 21 2018, Call Melinda at 630/842-7065 or E-Mail her at [melindaborck@yahoo.com](mailto:melindaborck@yahoo.com)**

**A PRIZE WILL BE AWARDED TO THE CLUB WITH THE MOST ANTIQUE CARS DRIVEN!**



## TRI-MOTOR TOUR

**Clow Airport in Bolingbrook May 31, 2018**

**O**ur Tour Group assembled at the Colonial Restaurant in Naperville and toured as a group to Clow Airport in Bolingbrook to experience a Ford Tri-Motor first hand. For \$70<sup>00</sup> you could take a ride and get close-up pictures with your Model A!

**T**hough primarily prominent in automotive history, Henry Ford also carved his name securely into the annals of aviation history with the "Tin Goose" Ford Trimotor airplane. In 1924, he invested in the Stout Metal Airplane Company, and a year later, he built the country's first concrete runway in Dearborn. The venerable Ford Trimotor was his most successful airplane; it was produced between 1926 and 1933. Over 100 airlines used it, and, in 1929, Richard Byrd flew one over the South Pole. It served in the evacuation of Bataan in 1942, and hosted Grand Canyon Tours by air for 65 years. Regional carriers were still using their vintage Ford Trimotors well into the late 20th Century. Reportedly, eight of these historic aircraft remain in service.





## VENDOR SPOTLIGHT



**RICH FALLUCCA ATTENDED THE AUGUST 25<sup>th</sup> SWAP MEET AT THE 40-HORSE FARM**

## ANTIQUE ENGINE REBUILDING

**CALL 847/674-6716**

**Richard Fallucca, owner of Antique Engine Rebuilding, has been busy rebuilding engines since 1975. He gained a great deal of experience with babbitt bearings while in the Navy. In 1991, he moved to the shop's present location at 4835 Louise Street in Skokie. Rich has rebuilt engines for show cars and entrants in "The Great Race," and has an extensive fund of knowledge in rebuilding Model A engines for restorations as well as drivers. His facilities feature over 4,000 square feet of machine shop to meet all of your custom rebuilding needs. He can provide you with everything from a short block to a running engine complete with accessories. The company focuses on rebuilding Model A and B engines equipped with modern insert bearings.**

# Naper A's Christmas Dinner December 2, 2018



## A Word From Gene Egert...

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# THE PREZ SAYS...

## A FEW WORDS

**H**ello again, my fellow Naper A's! Cheryl and I are currently at sea in Alaskan waters enjoying a cruise up here immensely, but I thought we should send you a large postcard to recap what's been happening this busy Summer and what's ahead.

**W**e started off the season with the Downers Grove Cruise Night on June 8<sup>th</sup> with Ford Model T's and Model A's the featured marques being honored. This event always brings out a wealth of interesting vehicles of all makes and vintages. The Naper A's were well represented, and numerous others from other clubs also brought their T's and A's. Next up was the Naperville Father's Day Car Show on June 16<sup>th</sup> in downtown Naperville, which is always a fun and easy event because it starts early and only lasts until mid-day. So you can get in, have a few hours of fun, then head home and still have your afternoon ahead to do other things.

**O**nce again we fielded several cars for the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July Parade in Warrenville that evening, after enjoying the hospitality of Stu and Sophia Carstens at their cook-out prior to the Parade. The day was hot, but all our cars made it through the slow parade pace without overheating.

**N**ext up was our Garage Tour, as planned and coordinated by Ron Olsen, which made five stops this year on July 14<sup>th</sup> to visit the garages of Bill Johnson, Gene Egert, Rich Volkmer, Gar Williams, and Alan Petrik. It's always great to see a finished product coming together, as we did with respect to Bill's 1930 Coupe. My own Tech Talk on rebuilding the Model A engine was basic information, as was Rich Volkmer's PowerPoint presentation on Insulating The Model A. Everyone enjoyed seeing the Pietenpol homebuilt Model A-powered aircraft in Gar Williams' hangar and his on-going automotive projects before lighting out for a home stretch run to Alan Petrik's place for an update on his newest Model A and a terrific lunch. Many thanks to Alan and Diane for their most generous hospitality that day.

**T**he next day, we fielded several walkers for the July 15th Pancreatic Cancer Walk hosted in Naperville by the Lustgarten Foundation. The day was warm, but our route along the Riverwalk was shady, and Team Fred even topped last year's fund-raising mark with a new record of \$1051.00 raised for cancer research.

**E**lsewhere in this issue, our reporter John Emmering recalls our August 5<sup>th</sup> outing to the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, which combined a short tour with a fun family day of riding several different old trains around the Union circuit of track.

**A**ugust then wound down with two events on the same day. On the morning of August 25<sup>th</sup> several of our members attended the annual Ehrenhofer Model T & Model A Swap Meet conducted up at their 40-Horse Farm in Woodstock to benefit MAFFI. Later in the day, in the evening we joined the V8 Club, which was hosting its annual Ice Cream Social at Culver's Drive-In in St. Charles . . . And once again, our Model A's outnumbered their V-8's!

**L**ooking ahead, I hope to see everyone at our next monthly meeting and at the events we still have coming up during 2018. The Illinois Region MARC-MAFCA Club is again hosting its Turkey Dinner on November 4<sup>th</sup> at the Lion's Club in Elburn, which comes with all the trimmings. And, to wind up the year, we'll enjoy another festive Naper A's family Christmas Dinner at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant in Westmont on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Bohemian Crystal Restaurant

**639 Blackhawk Drive  
Westmont, Illinois**

**Refreshments & Reception / 4:00 PM**

**Family-Style Dinner / 5:00 PM**

**Membership Meeting / 7:00 PM**

**Just \$20.00 Per Person!**

