



The Gearbox Chatter

Official Publication of the GRRG of the HCCA

*GRRG ~ Grand Rapids Regional Group
HCCA ~ Horseless Carriage Club of America*

Vol. 53 Issue 1

Grand Rapids, MI Regional Group

Jan/Feb 2009

HCCA GRRG Meetings

Bimonthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of even months at Emerald Meadows, 6117 Charlevoix Dr. SE, 7 p.m. Meetings are open to the public and anyone with an interest in historical automobiles. June, Aug., Dec. held at social event.

National HCCA membership is a mandatory prerequisite to regional group membership. National HCCA dues are \$45 per year along with your local chapter dues, \$15 per individual/family.

International Auto Show, De Vos Place

Feb. 5-8, see page 3

KAARC Winter Swap Meet

Feb 7-8, see page 3

ASPARA-TOUR-GUS ADVERTURE

May 28, 29 & 30, see insert

The local policeman was kept busy during the first snowstorm of the season in his 1915 C Cab Paddy Wagon!





Life in the slow lane...

Greetings!

I know our president would want to say hello to everyone and invite all members to join us at our February meeting at Emerald Meadows. He might want to introduce our Vice President as the Program Chair and ask members that they get their ideas with all contact information and particulars to our Program Chair. He would remind you that last year was a very busy year and several times there was more than one event scheduled on the same day or weekend so don't delay.

Our president would also want to know if you have any new old cars and what your current project is. He would probably ask you to send a picture along with a few paragraphs to the editor to include in our newsletter, The Gearbox Chatter.

Another thing he would say is be sure to read your newsletter and to keep it handy, it contains important things concerning our club.

He would also want to remind members to visit our national website, hcca.org. He just might want you to know who is on the 2009 national board in case he has a pop quiz at the February program. The 2008 board members include Gil Klecan; Vice President: Jim Boyden; Secretary: Frank Hurley; and Treasurer: Richard Cutler. And the directors Michael Bruce Rimmer; Skip Carpenter; Jerry Chase; Steve Gordon; John McAnlis; Jim Moe; and Bob Most.

He would probably close his message with a valuable tip: Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.

And he would probably sign his name as

Tom Dinger



CONNECTIONS

GRRG of HCCA BOARD

Officers

President **Tom Dinger** 616-485-7995
tom.dinger@ameritech.net

7038 Southwood Dr., Jenison, MI 49428-8815

VicePres **Bob Palmer**
dbdriver@voyager.net

Secretary **Mary Palmer**
dbdriver@voyager.net

2570 Shadlow TR, Ada, MI 49301-9315

Treasurer **Gary J. Jacobs** 616-897-5424
rosebudbadour@aol.com

2570 Shadlow TR, Ada, MI 49301-9315

Director-at-Large **Jerk Ritsema** 616-772-9041
csmls@macatawa.org

Committee Chairpersons

Benevolence **Scott Grooters** 616-498-8963

Newsletter Editor **Rosebud Badour-Jacobs**
 616-897-5424 rosebudbadour@aol.com

Historian **Terry Cole** 269-672-9599

Spring Tour May 28-30 - Ludington, Van Atta's

Summer Picnic - Cole Family, Miller Lake Camp-ground

Christmas Party Dec. 6 - Jacobs

Spring Tour 2010 - Need Volunteers

National Website www.hcca.org

Yearly Dues are due BEFORE December 31

Yearly National dues \$45 per family, remit to
 Horseless Carriage Club of America, 40637 Highway
 41, Oakhurst, CA 93644, 888-832-2374

Yearly Regional dues \$15 per family, remit to
 Gary Jacobs, 2570 Shadlow TR, Ada, MI 49301-9315

The Gearbox Chatter is published bimonthly.

Newsletter Submissions ~ Submissions are due by the end of ODD months. Newsletters are printed and mailed the end of EVEN months. We welcome articles, stories, and ideas from all members and regions of the HCCA organization and other car club affiliates. Articles and comments submitted to the editor are welcome and will be printed after review, subject to space and time. We reserve the right to reject any submissions.

Board Minutes ~ are available by email or at any meeting. To receive a copy by email, contact the secretary.

Bimonthly Meeting Dates & Locations - check newsletter for information

GRRG HCCA Mission Statement

The Grand Rapids Region of the Horseless Carriage Club of America shall encourage the authentic preservation and maintenance of pre-1942 antique motor vehicles, share with Region members technical and historical information related to antique motor vehicles, provide opportunities to operate historical vehicles, promote public awareness of historical vehicles and their significance, and provide opportunities for fellowship among Region members and their families.

GRRG - Keeping You Informed...

Happy Birthday!

Birthstone - Garnet

Jan: 2- Joan Huffman
 15- Tom Kapteyn
 17- Sally Van Atta
 20- Terry Cole
 26- Carol Ritsema
 30- George Mazurek

Birthstone - Amethyst

Feb: 1- Bonnie Pienta
 17- David Lyon
 19- Ernie Hopson
 21- Jana Reenders
 29- Linda Ennenga

Happy Anniversary!

Flower - Carnations, Snowdrops

Jan: 1 - Jerk & Carol Ritsema
 10 - Arnold & Wilma Reenders

Flower - Violet, Primrose, Begonia

Feb: Once again Cupid missed!

Updates

Last minute updates and bimonthly minutes are sent via email. Be sure the secretary and editor have your current email.

HCCA brochures & forms

The GRRG HCCA Brochures and HCCA membership forms are available at every meeting and event.

Be sure to pick up extra copies to have on hand for interested parties.

Go Green!

As long as you are helping to make the earth a bit greener, don't forget about those cell phones and ink cartridges!

Large postage-paid mailers for cell phones with chargers and regular size mailers for ink cartridges available by contacting the editor. Other supplies available at any meeting. Contact editor: rosebudbadour@aol.com.

KAARC Winter Swap Meet

From Bob Palmer

The Kalamazoo Winter Swap Meet at the Kalamazoo Fairgrounds will be held on Saturday and Sunday, February 7-8, 2009. Our club will have the same booth location in Building E with membership information and Spring Tour registration forms.

Several members signed up to work a shift at our display greeting visitors and promoting our club and the tour. We have 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM on Saturday, Feb. 7 for which we need volunteer(s). If you would be willing to help out please let me know soon at dbdriver@voyager.net or call 616-891-2205. Thanks!

International Auto Show Feb. 5-8

The Gilmore Car Museum will once again display several vehicles at The International Auto Show, February 5-8, De Vos Place, Grand Rapids, MI. Our members dressed in vintage attire volunteer their time to help pass out brochures and invite the public to visit the museum. If you have any questions about volunteering please contact Jay Follis 269-671-5089, jfollis@gilmorecarmuseum.org.

Meeting at Emerald Meadows Feb. 12

Our next meeting is planned for Tuesday, Feb. 12 at Emerald Meadows. The current board will be supplying refreshments that promise to be a sweet treat. The program will be Antique Jars, so bring your Cookie Jars (don't forget to bring the cookies!), canning jars, cream jars, nuts and bolts jars, any type of jar as long as it is an antique jar.

We need to plan our 2009 & 2010 activities, so please bring your ideas or email your secretary, Mary, dbdriver@voyager.net, so she can get those wonderful ideas on the agenda.

We have several events in the works including a Dust Off Car-a-van & car show at Jones Farm Market, Saturday, May 16; Spring Car Show Ludington May 27-30; car show at the Veterans Home for Flag Day, Sunday, June 14; an Ice Cream Social at Emerald Meadows; our Summer Picnic at Miller Lake Campground; and possibly a Car-a-van to the Gas & Steam Show in Clarksville, August 20-22.

Antiques Roadshow

The *Antiques Roadshow* crew spent over eight hours filming at the Gilmore Car Museum this past summer and focused on mascots produced by Rolls Royce, Lincoln, and Pierce-Arrow, as well as some rare Lalique crystal hood ornaments.

Filming also took place at three west Michigan museums for segments that will be considered for inclusion within three planned Grand Rapids episodes scheduled for April 20, 27 and May 4. Be sure to tune in to discover the value placed on the Tireur d'arc (Archer) crystal mascot" signed 'R. Lalique / France' with its original working Breves Galleries illuminating base.



Mary and Bob Palmer with their 1923 Dodge Brother Business Sedan at the Old Car Festival.

Mary and Bob are currently serving as our club's secretary and vice president.

Vice President's Message

I want to thank Gary and Rosebud for again planning our Christmas Banquet. Also, thanks to Greg and Elaine Zernec for helping out. This event remains one of our two primary social events of the year, the other being the club's Summer Picnic. We all enjoy good food and fellowship. It was a real treat to see sunshine on the day of the banquet what with all of the dreary Michigan weather we have endured.

I want to welcome the new members who joined the club in 2008. Hopefully, our club will continue to grow. It will grow if those members who have not renewed their membership take care of that matter immediately after reading this message!

If you have any ideas about how our club should conduct its business, what kinds of activities we should plan, or changes that you think will make our club better or stronger, please contact me or any board member. We would like to hear from you.

If you live a considerable distance from Grand Rapids, we hope that you will make the effort to join us for at least one or two of our activities during the year. We want all members to enjoy this club and the hobby we are all trying to strengthen. Although our name says Grand Rapids Regional Group, we represent the western half of the Lower Peninsula from Manistee to Three Rivers and from Lansing to the Lake Michigan shoreline. We have even had members from outside our general geographic area who enjoy our newsletter and who join us for a tour when possible.

Mary and I wish all of you a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year! Happy motoring,

Bob Palmer

2009 OCF to Feature Centennials

Old Car Festival 2009 will feature Centennials for Hudson, Hupmobile and Sears Auto Buggy, according to Jim Johnson, of The Henry Ford. Sears will actually be Centennial+1 (founded 1908) and all marquees of gasoline, electric and steam engine high wheelers (auto buggy) are invited to participate. Plans are underway to extend the auto buggy enthusiasts events to include Friday and Monday as well. Tours, games, clinics, and participation in the annual Dearborn-Lansing 1-2 cylinder run are just some of the options under consideration. Questions or suggestions are welcome and should be directed to Chuck Sharpe, chaztmi@aol.com or 248-889-6363.

Al Rohrstaff (left) listens while his wife, Diane (center), tells Bud Jonas (right) that she was looking forward to having one of those wonderful sticky buns on Bud's Fall Tour.



The Old Car Festival (OCF)

by Bob Palmer

The OCF started in 1951 as a one-day event organized by three Detroit area car collectors. The activities, including pass-in-review, judging, and driving contests, took place on the village green between the chapel and the town hall. The OCF kicked off with a parade of antique vehicles on the streets of the village known as the Grand Parade and was a tradition for over 40 years.

In 1952, open cars to 1928 and closed cars to 1926 would be eligible for the OCF. However, a uniform cut-off date was later adopted by the mid-1950s with no vehicles newer than 1925 being eligible. This eligibility requirement was in effect through 1985.

In 1957 or 1958, the OCF moved from a Saturday date to a Sunday date. A bigger change followed in 1960 when the OCF expanded to the two-day schedule which has been in effect to the present.

1960 is also significant because that is the year George R. Norton, Jr. and Leslie R. Henry first teamed up as Masters of Ceremonies. They would provide entertaining and expert commentary for pass-in-review for 18 years. Also in 1960, the main activities were relocated to the Special Events field (Walnut Grove) at the bottom of the hill behind the Noah Webster house. Bleachers and special seating areas were erected around the periphery of the field and a permanent covered reviewing stand was built overlooking the entire field. Pass-in-review, driving contests, judging, and special presentations took place on the Special Events field which provided an afternoon of continuous entertainment.

In 1973 a special presentation honored Gordon M. Buehrig for his career in automotive design along with four car clubs which were instrumental in organizing and assisting with the OCF that year and previous years. Ron Blanding, the HCCA-GRRG President at that time, represented our local club during the recognition ceremony.

In 1986, vehicle eligibility for the OCF was extended through the 1929 model year. Then in 1995, OCF eligibility was again extended, this time through the 1932 model year. Currently OCF eligibility remains at 1932 and earlier for all trucks and cars.

It has been many years since the Special Events field (Walnut Grove) was the focal point for all OCF activities. Only the driving contests and a few special presentations are still located there. Pass-in-review and judging activities take place at separate locations in the village.

The tradition of the Grand Parade ended after 2002. In 2004 an evening Gaslight Drive was inaugurated followed by fireworks, and returned in 2006, 2007 and 2008. An evening concert by the Hotel Savarine Society Orchestra featuring music of the Big Band Era has been a popular addition Saturday evening portion of the OCF. At times, the Saturday evening crowds have seemed larger than the daytime attendance on either Saturday or Sunday.

Changes are bound to occur in the future as the OCF evolves with the antique car hobby and Michigan's persistent economic distress forces difficult decisions to be made at institutions like Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum. Hopefully the survival of the OCF will not be jeopardized by economic pressures or conflicts between OCF supporters and institutional management.

Each of us can help ensure the future success of the OCF by being cordial, supportive, and cooperative with members of the OCF Committee, employees of Greenfield Village, and the volunteers we encounter during OCF weekends. We can express our appreciation for all of their efforts and for the opportunity to participate. May this unique tradition continue for many years to come.



1956, the 6th Annual Old Car Festival Program listed over 200 participants and their car.



1979, The 29th Annual Old Car Festival Program took on a much slimmer profile that is still used today.

Greg's Garage



Once again Greg has found a picture that he needs help to identify the year and make of the car. At first I thought it was Greg's car, but he assured me he would never tow someone behind his car, it is much too dangerous. Regardless it looks like they are having fun skiing!

If you can help Greg with the year and make of the car please contact Greg, gzerne@aol.com. It would sure make his day!

Natural Repellents

Winter is often a time to bring out stored wool garments and blankets. If you have trouble with pesky bugs or moths, try making your own natural moth repellent before storing.

Natural Moth Repellent

Essential oils of the same herbs can enliven a tired batch of repellent, if your scent begins to fade.

Mix together: Mix (from bulk):

1-cup peppermint (1-pound peppermint)

1-cup rosemary 1-pound rosemary)

1/2-cup thyme (1/2-pound thyme)

1/2-teaspoon ground cloves (1/4-cup ground cloves)

Find bulk herbs at <http://www.herbalcom.com> for the first three ingredients. Cloves are available at the grocery store.

This mixture also makes lovely sachets for lingerie, fresh and clean without a floral scent.

You can make sachets to stash in drawers, trunks or hang in closets out of pretty cotton fabrics, plain cheesecloth, muslin, linen or clean nylons (knee highs or cut pantyhose).

50/50 rosemary and mint

1 part dried lavender, 1 part rosemary, 1/2 part dried lemon peel, 1 TBS cloves

1 part whole cloves, 1 part whole peppercorns, 2 - 4 cinnamon sticks broken in pieces

1 part dried lavender, 1 part dried lemon peel, 1 broken cinnamon stick

1 part cedar shavings, 1 part thyme

1 part peppermint, 1 part spearmint, 1 part rosemary, 1/2 part thyme

You can mix and match your own recipes, or just use 100% of one ingredient if you like. Try any of the following.

Dried lavender

Cloves

Rosemary

Mint

Thyme

Cinnamon sticks

Eucalyptus

Peppercorns

Dried lemon peel

Cedar (chips, balls, planks or essential oil—cedar lined closets, drawers or trunks)



Modern Dress 1912-1915

American women were becoming much more active by the end of the first decade of the twentieth century. Young women were working to support themselves and families. They needed fashions that were easier to care for and did not restrict activities such as bicycling and motoring in horseless carriages.

Designers began making clothes that looked more modern using a minimum of materials and allowed freedom of movement. Finally women were free of the restrictive undergarments of the nineteenth century.



By 1912 the hourglass figure disappeared and bodices were loose. Skirts were worn with high waistlines and were tighter, and straighter (hobble skirts).

Small hats and short hair was very fashionable by the end of 1913. Each year fashions became more modern and women became bolder. Skirts had more flair with asymmetrical hemlines showing a lot of ankle. Women's garments became more masculine with pinstripes and suits. And skirt lengths continued to rise to mid-calf.

Raglan sleeves were very forgiving and allowed more freedom of movement for 1914. Skirts were worn with overskirts or panier-like additions. By 1915 jackets were nipped in at the waist and extend into overskirts. Hats evolved into bizarre shapes. Corsets were very rare and obsolete.

A Brief History of the “Feedsack”

Sent in by Lynda DeVries
Copyright 1997, Jane Clark Stapel

The history of the cloth bag started in the early years of settling what later became the United States. At that time food staples, grain, seed, and animal feed were packed in tins, boxes, and wooden barrels. However, tin cans rusted and barrels wore out, allowing pests to get at the products within. Both of these forms of storage were also awkward to transport. They required a wagon and horses or mules, something many farmers or widows of farmers did not have. How much easier to toss a bag of feed over the back of a horse! The problem, however, was that no one could sew a seam strong enough to hold the content of the bag. The solution came in 1846 with the invention of the sewing machine, which made it possible to sew seams to make the sacks secure. M. Hurd of Auburn, NY patented a machine for making flour sacks that was cost efficient.

Cloth was also scarce until the New England mills began weaving a good supply of American-made fabric in the 1800s. With U.S. manufacturers getting into the field, the American market no longer depended upon costly English and foreign yard goods. With machines to make the seams stronger and U.S. fabric now avail-

able, the American textile sack was possible. From about the 1880s through the 1940s the bags, as much as the products they contained, became hotly advertised items. One of the largest bag manufacturers in the nation was the Bemis Brothers Bag Company based in Minneapolis, MN. Today the Bemis bags and, in fact, all cloth bags are important collectors' items.

The terms “feedbags” or “feedsacks” are not totally accurate. According to Anna Lue Cook in her book *Textile Bags —The Feeding and Clothing of America*, the flour industry consumed the largest share of the feedsack market with more than 42 percent, sugar was next with 17 percent, behind that were feed, seeds, rice, and fertilizer. Some people refer to these utilitarian bags as simply textile or cloth bags, chicken linen, or ‘pretties’. The loosely woven early bag was displaced when machinery became available and, as the trend for cloth packaging became more popular, a tighter cotton bag was more commonly used. When the product inside was used up, the frugal housewife, who wasted no scrap of cloth that came her way, was soon recycling the bags.

<http://www.planetpatchwork.com/feedsack.htm>



From the Back Roads

Greetings to everyone, everywhere!

Probably the best thing about the vintage car hobby is the wonderful people we meet. Gary and I have done our fair share of getting the most out of our cars this past driving season. We met ‘sew’ many wonderful people while we ‘weaved’ our way on the National HCCA Brass Does the Fruitbelt Tour and met up with several

of them again at the Hershey Swap Meet. The Old Car Festival was another time to renew friendships with those we don’t often see.

I am still waiting for articles about your projects, tech tips, interesting stories along with pictures! Thank you to those who recently sent articles due to my promise. A word of caution – be sure to check the facts, as I do not want to print misleading or incorrect information. And be sure to get authorization to reprint articles, most articles are copyrighted!

‘Sew’ be patient as I add ‘embellishments’ for your reading pleasure. Meanwhile enjoy our ‘threads’...

Rosebud



Caring for Vintage Garments

By Rosebud

Disclaimer – the author, editor, and the organization publishing this article takes no responsibility for damage(s) to goods using any of the methods described here.

Vintage garments are often found stored in someone's attic, usually in a trunk, cardboard box or plastic, and long since forgotten. If you are now the owner of such a find you may wonder if your newfound treasure is worth cleaning or restoring. A professional textile specialist should be consulted for analyzing the best way to clean, restore and storing the garment.

Articles stored over a period of time in a trunk, a wooden or cardboard box may suffer damages by acid or chemical reaction, pests, soil, mildew, temperature or other factors. While some fabrics and stains may be treatable, others are not worth the effort. If you choose to proceed ahead with cleaning check the garment for dry rot and weak areas at shoulders, underarms, seams, etc. The older the item the less it will respond to any cleaning method. Only you can decide.

Following are methods used for the care and restoration of vintage heirlooms. Good luck with your find!

Cleaning

Vacuum garments to remove any dust and debris. Cover the vacuum end with a stocking to protect the fabric.

Cotton, cotton blends, and linen should be easy to clean. Turn garments inside out before cleaning. Hand wash with a very mild soap such as Orvus. Glazed cottons will lose their finish. Always pretest on an inner seam when in doubt.

Rayons, taffeta, silk, or acetate may fall apart depending on age, condition, etc. These fabrics may shrink or lose color; any trims will lose crispness, even shrink. If dry cleaning is recommended and you can find a specialist that will clean your garment, you will most likely be required to sign a release form.

Certain wools are washable, but many are not.

When 'hand' washing by machine, turn the garment inside out, place in a large mesh laundry bag and use a front load machine if possible.

Dry vintage garments flat on absorbent towels; do not use a dryer.

Home dry cleaning kits are a low cost way to freshen clothes. Placing the garment in the fresh outdoors for a while will do the same thing and save you money.

Treating stains and spots

Perspiration and deodorant stains – on cotton try spotting with white vinegar prior to washing.

Rust stains – on washable fabrics use a paste of lemon juice and salt rubbed on the stain and left for several hours. It is not necessary to place in the sun.

Follow manufacturers instructions when using stain removers on the market always testing on an inner seam when in doubt.

Pressing

The simple action of ironing is pressure on fabric and does cause stress. If it is necessary to press the garment, be sure to use a low temperature and light pressure or try steaming.

Roll the hand washed garment in a large absorbent towel and press while damp.

Storing

Always use an acid-free environment to store treasures. Garments should have acid-free paper between layers and folds. Refold every few months to prevent creasing. Never store vintage articles in plastic or on a hanger.

Stored garments should be starch free.

Never use mothballs near garments they leave a permanent odor. Use a natural herbal repellent.

Avoid sunlight when storing garments, it can bleach and destroy fabrics.



Grand Rapids Region
Horseless Carriage Club of America
ASPARA-TOUR-GUS ADVERTURE
May 28, 29 & 30, 2009

Host Hotel: Holiday Inn Express – 1-888-845-7004 – Ludington, MI

Driver's Name _____ Telephone: Cell _____

Home _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ e-mail _____

Passenger's Names _____

Car Year _____ Make _____ Model _____

State Registered _____ License number _____

In consideration of the right to enter this event and for other valuable consideration, I (we) do hereby agree to indemnify, protect, defend and hold harmless the Horseless Carriage Club of America and its Grand Rapids Region, Officers and Representatives from and against any and all claims, cost, liabilities and attorneys' fees arising from damage or injury, actual or claimed, of any kind or nature, to property or persons, resulting from my (our) participation in this tour.

The owner/driver has proof of bodily injury and property damage liability insurance on the entered vehicle in the amount of at least \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per accident bodily injury liability and \$100,000 property damage liability, or \$300,000 combined single limit liability insurance. Insurance company name:

_____, policy no. _____, policy term (dates) _____ to _____.

The owner/driver certifies that the described vehicle entered in this tour has duly passed the requirements of the motor vehicle authorities, or other governing bodies of the state in which the vehicle is registered, and the vehicle shall be legally registered and/or licensed.

Signed _____

Owner

Driver (if different)

Date _____

Registration:	Car and Driver	\$92.00	\$92.00
	Passengers	_____ @ \$77.00	_____
	12 and under	_____ @ \$74.00	_____
	Pizza Party Saturday	_____ @ \$6.00	_____
	Second Set of Directions	\$8.00	_____
	Total	_____	_____

Registration due by April 27, 2009, late registrations add \$20. Tour capacity: 45 cars.

Please make checks payable to Sally Van Atta, in US dollars and mail by April 27, 2009 to:

Sally Van Atta

641 N Golden Sands Dr.

Mears, MI 49436

Over for tour description

Grand Rapids Region
The Horseless Carriage Club of America
ASPARA-TOUR-GUSADVENTURE
May 28, 29 & 30, 2009

Host Hotel: Holiday Inn Express – 1-888-845-7004 – Ludington, MI

The Grand Rapids Region of the Horseless Carriage Club of America is hosting the Spring Aspara-Tour-Gus Adventure headquartered at the Holiday Inn Express in Ludington, Michigan. Forty (40) rooms, with two queen beds have been reserved until April 27, 2009 at a rate of \$71.00 + 8% Tax per room. Call the hotel's toll free number at 1-888-845-7004 and use the tracking code of **HCCA** to reserve your room. If you are staying in your RV, in the Holiday Inn parking lot, you can pay the hotel \$5.00 per couple per day to use the pool and enjoy the complementary breakfast bar. A full hook-up RV park with an indoor pool is immediately behind the Holiday Inn Express. Poncho's Pond RV Park at 1-888-308-6602, charges \$48 per night.

Wednesday, May 27, if you arrive early, we have planned a short driving tour into Ludington to see the murals and the shoreline and/or walk the Lake Michigan beach.

Thursday, May 28, will take us south and east with a tour of Chase Farms which should be processing asparagus at this time of year. Then we travel to lunch at the Par 5 restaurant on the Benona Shores Golf Course included in the registration. After lunch the drive along the scenic Lake Michigan drive will take us to see a model train collection, the tallest lighthouse on Lake Michigan and the Silver Lake Sand Dunes.

Friday, May 29, included in your registration is a tour of the Amber Elk Ranch. You will have a chance to feed the Elk by hand on the largest Elk ranch in Michigan. From there we will travel the back roads to Pentwater and park on the village green to shop and have lunch on your own. After lunch and shopping you will travel a beautiful winding road for a pre-paid tour of the White Pine Village. Almost next door we have arranged for you to visit Jim Tuttle's automotive memorabilia collection.

Saturday, May 30, we will travel north to Manistee with a drive through the Manistee National Forest. In Manistee you will have a pre-paid tour of the Ramsdell Opera Theater and a noon pre-paid banquet at the United Methodist Church. After lunch just a short distance away you can visit a unique "MY WAY" Depot Sundae & Candy Shop on your own. Then, we will travel back to Ludington with a stop at a campground for a snack. In Ludington there will be a pizza party in the Hotel Hospitality room to round out the tour and bid good bye.

Bring coolers if you like fresh picked asparagus available at many roadside stands. The hospitality room will be open: Wednesday 2-8pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 5-8pm.

Over for Application



Jan McDowell and his friend enjoying a warm spring day at the Veterans Home. Club members treated the Veterans to a car show on Flag Day 2005.

A few members are planning another car show at the Veterans Home in Grand Rapids on Flag Day, Sunday June 14. Mark your calendar and make plans to join them.

Annual Christmas Get Together

From Gregory Zernec

It seems like only yesterday we were on Bonnie and Tony Pienta's deck enjoying a wonderful summer picnic in 90-degree heat. Fast-forward to December 7 with a cool 20-degree, very sunny day for our annual Christmas get together.

There were 28 of us that enjoyed the excellent brunch buffet at Charlie's Crab in downtown Grand Rapids hosted by the Jacobs and Zernec's. The business portion of our meeting included installation of the 2009 officers with Terry Cole officiating; Tom Dinger-President, Bob Palmer-VP, Mary Palmer-Secretary, Gary

Jacobs-Treasurer and Jerk as Director at Large. We look forward to an eventful 2009.

We also voted to donate funds to the Gilmore Car Museum for the placement of a picnic table on their grounds with our club name on it. The vote passed unanimously.

The GR HCCA collected \$124 for our "Adopt a Family," one of our holiday charity programs. Those funds will go to a needy family in our city.

There were a number of door prizes handed out with Juanita Cole winning the grand prize. You will have to visit her this summer at our annual Summer Picnic to view it for yourself.

I need to thank everybody for their very generous support of our Veterans. The back end of Gary's SUV was loaded with new clothing and personal items that was delivered to the Veterans Home of Grand Rapids. This clothing is sorely needed by our vets.

Hope to see all of you this year at one of our events.

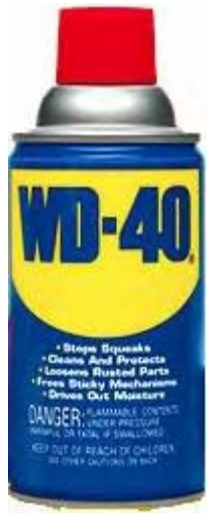
Gary Jacobs delivering the club's gifts to the Veterans Home.



Tech Tips From the Shop

The Can with Thousands of Uses

Known as “the can with thousands of uses,” WD-40® protects metal from rust and corrosion, penetrates stuck parts, displaces moisture, and lubricates just about anything. WD-40 is also great when it comes to cleaning grease, grime, and other marks from most surfaces.



As for the claim that the “basic ingredient” in WD-40 is “fish oil,” it’s a common rumor and one that is easily propagated because cans of WD-40 spray include no ingredients list. The MSDS for WD-40 aerosol indicates the product is primarily petroleum-based, with the main ingredient being 60% solvent naphtha petroleum, not ‘fish oil’.

The five basic functions:

Lubricates: wd-40’s lubricating ingredients are widely dispersed and hold firmly to all moving parts.

Cleans: wd-40 gets under dirt, grime and grease to clean. It also dissolves adhesives, allowing easy removal of labels, tape, stickers, and excess bonding material.

Protects: wd-40 protects metal surfaces with corrosion-resistant ingredients to shield against moisture and other corrosive elements.

Penetrates: wd-40 loosens rust-to-metal bonds and frees stuck, frozen or rusted metal parts.

Displaces moisture: because wd-40 displaces moisture, it quickly dries out electrical systems to eliminate moisture-induced short circuits.

Of course, this doesn’t mean WD-40 won’t necessarily work (more or less effectively) for other purposes just that the manufacturer doesn’t recommend them. If you have a favorite use for this product, please let us know and we will share your ideas.



Scott Grooters presenting the Heritage Trophy to Lorene and Bud Jonas. Scott said Bud even cracked a smile, something he doesn’t see too often.

2008 Heritage Trophy

Scott Grooters and Tom Dinger presented the Heritage trophy to Bud and Lorene Jonas in November. The Jonas’ have hosted an annual fall tour that is well attended by people from five or six states.

The purpose of the Heritage Trophy is to honor a person, couple, or family that has the best interest of the GRRG HCCA, is a current member in good standing of the GRRG HCCA, active in regional club events, and participates in one or more tours during the current year.

Congratulations to the Jonas’ and past recipients Rosebud and Bob Palmer.

Rosebud and Scott Grooters with Scott’s 1929 Model A at an ice cream social during the warm spring.



HCCA National Tour and Convention *The Rollin' in Vegas 2009*

February 22-26, 2009, HCCA National Tour and Convention The Rollin' in Vegas 2009. If you wish to make reservations, send a \$50 check payable HCCA Vegas 2009 to: Jean Blyden, 18695 Carriage Hill Drive, San Jose, CA 95120. For more information, contact Bill Carpenter (702) 641-6890, or Jim Boyden (408) 268-4872.

Watch Hundreds Of Classic Motoring Archive Films

From Chuck Sharpe

Universal Motoring History has turned its comprehensive film archive into a free online motoring history resource for all serious car enthusiasts. The archive consists of more than 500 classic films from around the world from the 1890s onwards and can now be enjoyed for free 24 hours a day at www.auto-history.tv.

The complete collection covers everything from the start of mass production to world land speed record runs, car commercials, motor shows, new car launches, the evolution of car design, experimental cars, flying cars, famous drivers, stunt driving, unusual military machines and much more. There's also extensive racing footage from the "golden age" of motor racing from circuits such as LeMans, Indianapolis and Monte Carlo, as well as films featuring bygone hill climbs and stock car racing.

Taken on a warm summer day, a group of members decided to it was a great day to take out the family's 1915 Model T. Can you identify the owner of the auto and a few of the members?



GRRG Programs

Events subject to change. Meetings/Gatherings noted by *. To volunteer an activity, contact any board member.

*February 10

*April 14

May 16 Jones Farm Mkt, Saranac, Car Caravan Tour, Car Show, Craft Sale

May 27-30 GRRG HCCA Spring Tour, Ludington, MI

*June TBA

*August Picnic – Cole Family, Miller Lake Campground

*October 13 – Nominations

*Dec 6 – Elections, Christmas Party

Auto Events

All Events Subject to Change

If you know of an event that might be of interest to members, please send it to the editor.

The Horesless Carriage Gazette and HCCA website lists several coming events along with upcoming tours. Please see your Gazette or visit hcca.org for additional events and details.

Feb. 7-8 KAARC Swap Meet Kalamazoo Fairgrounds, kaarc.net

Feb. 5-8 International Auto Show, DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, MI

Feb. 22-26 HCCA National Convention & Tour Las Vegas, Bill 702-641-6890

March 19-21 Chickasha Swap Meet, OK, Mike Ersland 405-224-9090 for information, no flyer

April 10-12 HCCA Bakersfield Swap Meet & Tour, Kern County Fairgrounds, hcca.org, Gregg 661-325-2840

July 19-25 National HCCA Tour Lake Superior, WI, Twin Cities Reg. Group, Jim Moe, 763-786-6609, no flyer

August 20-22 Gas & Steam Show, Clarksville, no flyer

August 22-23 28th St. Metro Cruise, Grand Rapids, no flyer

September Lansing to Dearborn Run, John Grace 734-467-7802, no flyer

September 5-6 Old Car Fest, Dearborn, MI, thehenryford.org, no flyer

October 6-9 Hershey, PA, AACA Fall Swap Meet, aaca.org, no flyer

Please note - Information regarding tours, dates and contact information is listed above. More information is always printed in the newsletter as small articles if it is sent to the editor. If and when a flyer is received (rarely if ever) it is sent via email to members.

Classifieds ~ Buy Sell or Trade

The Gearbox Chatter will print new or reprint classified ads on a space-available basis as a free service to HCCA members. Every attempt is made to list the ad from other HCCA club newsletters as original as possible, some editing may occur. Please email your ads to the editor rosebudbadour@aol.com, or USPS, see back cover mailing label for editor's address. Business ads are not accepted in this free space. For classified ad rates, please contact the editor, rosebudbadour@aol.com.

Buy, Sell or Trade

Tire Irons – Change any early tires without scratching the rims. Easiest tire iron in the world to use, available in two sizes, regular \$35, and long \$45, plus S&H. Also used for motorcycles, lawn & garden tractors. Contact Bud & Lorene at 616-794-0433 summer, 305-745-1587 winter.

Horns for sale 6 & 12 volt, George Mazurek 231-733-6439
Buy or Sale Model T parts, contact Model T Michael, 330-774-8060, modeltmichael@yahoo.com

Wanted

Articles and Tech Tips – The editor is still needing articles from the members. Otherwise you will have to read something on sewing or fashion, and **that is a promise.**

Historical Garments, Books, Videos

Reproduction historical garments:

www.premierclothing.com	www.wwmerc.com
www.riverjunction.com	www.longago.com
www.seamingperfection.com	
www.HeritageDesignbyjem.com	www.alteryears.com
www.victoriantradingco.com	www.recollections.biz
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Patterns for historical garments:

www.pastpatterns.com	www.folkwear.com
www.thebluegardenia.com	www.oldpatterns.com
www.decadesofstyle.com	www.evadress.com
www.sewvintagepatterns.com	www.sew-retro.com

Custom Fit Reproductions

Men's custom shirts, driving caps, ladies garments & hats, contact Rosebud, rosebudbadour@aol.com

Vintage Clothing

www.labarrebooks.com

Reference Books and Videos

Kalamazoo Automobilst, by Dr. David Lyon, \$39.95, member of the GRRG. Book is available from Dr. Lyon, lyon@wmich.edu, or Barnes and Noble.

Model T Ford Parts Identification Guides, Vol I & II, by Gail Rodda, \$14.95 plus SH, modelt.org/tpguide

Evolution of the Automobile and Its Effect Upon Society, by Don Marsh, 1 hr 45 mins.\$15 for HCCA members. Don Marsh Restorations, POB 760, Spirit Lake, ID 83869, 208-623-2039.

Real To Reel Recording Studio 970 East Lake Drive, Bartow, FL 33830-5917, classic-antiquecarvideos.com

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International Auto Show, De Vos Place Feb. 5-8

KAARC Swap Meet Feb. 7-8

Meeting at Emerald Meadows Feb. 12

GRRG Spring Tour May 27-30

GRRG of the HCCA
Rosebud Badour-Jacobs, Editor
2570 Shadlow TR
Ada, MI 49301-9315

Dues are Due!

Someone just had to take her 1915 Runabout for a spin in the first snowstorm of the season!

