



THE MOTO METER



CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA REGION, ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

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LOVED BY SOME, CUSSED BY OTHERS,
READ BY EVERYBODY
December 2023



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John Williams 319-848-7418
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mtrcarmn@southslope.net

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loren99@q.com

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Carl Ohrt 319-210-0916
Neil Rohlena 319-350-7457
Tom Oliver 563-513-7172
Jack Harville 319-270-6042

Editor:

Sylvia Copler 319-377-3772
sicopler68@gmail.com

Membership:

Dan Ortz 319-366-3142

President's Message

Hi Again To All You Great Old Car Folks In Our Area! It has not been a very busy old car month for me trying to finish the harvest with a combine that wants to break down & a 70 year old grain leg in our crib that also is troublesome! We did have a spectacular fall banquet at the Country Club that provided one of the tastiest meals I have had in a long time & I'm sorry so many of you missed it!! Thanks to Lauren for organizing & also many thanks To Neil R & his friend for the great music after!

We also had a great meeting, but we need to know what we can do to draw more of you in? Any suggestions will be appreciated And we will try to meet them!

I'm not running out of vehicles to tell you about, but I'm trying to decide which ones you'd all be interested in hearing about? I think I'll tell you about another of the family's motorcycles! As you probably remember my older brother Everett has always been A Motorcycle fan since starting out on the little Alstate Single. After He graduated from ISU, He took his BSA twin that had replaced The Triumph Twin that came apart on the return from the Seattle Worlds Fair, off to work in Ill. That went well for several years until He got Drafted! He turned out to be such a good instructor that the army decided to keep him at Ft Belvor Virginia as a trainer. That meant that he could have his own transportation on base. So - Off he went on his first leave with that trusty BSA to Virginia. All went well for a long time and then one night during his class some low life on the base hot wired the BSA and rode off into the night! Not having his motorcycle was not going to last! He found a local who was selling his BSA 250 so he purchased it. Everett was now the Owner of a BSA 250 scrambler Star Fire with a tired engine. With some help from some friends he managed to fix the worn piston with some Teflon buttons so it fit the cylinder better & with new rings it was operable again! That was his transportation for the rest of his tour And did an OK job getting him around. That little 250 was definitely not the same as that big ole 650 twin, but was much better than shoe leather for getting around! That little rascal did Everett proud & was still running great when I went to haul him back to Iowa when the military was done with him! Because that bike was not so good in the winter Everett picked up a SAAB (Swedish) 3 cyl 2 cycle Sedan that I also had to haul back - that nice little car Is another story for latter!

See You in December at our Xmas party on our meeting night! Have A Merry Christmas - A Happy New Year & A Healthy All Year!!!

This is supposed to be my last Message so I'm wondering if there isn't someone out there who would consider Taking Over?

Your President (for now) - John Williams

JON'S CORNER

1. In what year was the first Model A produced? Careful!

2. In what year was the first Chevrolet V8 produced? Careful!

3. In what year did Buick produce a V12 engine?

Answers on page 7

November 14th 2023 CEDAR RAPIDS REGION AACA MEETING

The November meeting was held at the Shriners Club in Hiawatha.

Meeting called to order by President John Williams. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

VISITORS: None

BIRTHDAYS: None

ANNIVERSARIES: None

ILLNESSES: None

DEATHS: Alvin Vondracek

SECRETARIES REPORT: Motion to approve the October 10th minutes as printed in the Moto Meter was moved by Jack Harville and 2nd by Harry Hawley.

TREASURERS REPORT: Report read by Sylvia Copley. Motion to approve was made by Linda Yoder and 2nd by Jack Harville.

CORRESPONDENCE: A thank you letter from a Kirkwood student that received one of our scholarships.

TOURS AND ACTIVITIES: Sharon is still planning the Christmas lights tour to Monticello. There will be more information in the December Moto Meter.

NEW BUSINESS: We are needing a new venue for our Monthly meetings because the Shriners Club will be using their facilities for their own needs when we have our meeting. John Williams will look into using the Hiawatha Center again but we hope someone can come up with a less costly meeting place. We need somewhere by the time of our January meeting. If anyone has a suggestion please let any of the Officers know.

DON'T FORGET the 2024 dues are payable by December 1st to Dan Ortz.

There was a vote on new Board Members. Tom Oliver and Joan Auterman will continue as our Board Officers. The current officers of John Williams-President, Loren Huffaker-Vice President, Sylvia Copley-Treasurer and Sharon Schminke-Secretary will remain the same.

Jack Harville, Larry Yoder and Judy Ortz volunteered to audit the Treasurers books in January.

OTHER: Jon Reynolds reported on his trip to the London/Brighton Antique Car Run. The run was 60 miles and autos were 1904 and older. There were 365 cars signed up and 310 made the whole trip. John rode in a 1903 car with no spring and reported that he hurt all over at the end of the trip but it was well worth it. The oldest car that participated was an 1896 French car.

Members reported that the Fall Banquet was great. The food and entertainment were excellent but we really needed more people to attend.

Neil's fall tour was reported on and everyone enjoyed it but again we would like more members to participate and enjoy all these great trips Neil plans.

Neil asked if we still wanted the Twin Rivers Tour and everyone said yes but we really would like more to enjoy the great tours.

BUY SELL & TRADE: Was conducted by John Williams

Motion to adjourn made by Harry Hawley and 2nd by Sue Melvin

Treats were provided by Larry and Linda Yoder

Please have your articles to Sylvia by the 10th for the Moto Meter

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Schminke Secretary

JOKE OF THE MONTH

“How was your blind date?” A college student asked her 21 year old roommate.

“Terrible!” The roommate answered. **“ He showed up in his 1932 Rolls Royce.”**

“Wow! that’s a very expensive classic car. What’s so bad about that?”

“He was the original owner.”

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

2023-2024 CEDAR RAPIDS REGIONAL CALENDAR

Upcoming Events December 2023

Dec. 12th-AACA Christmas Party at El Kahir Shrine-905 Tower Terrace Rd in Hiawatha. Doors open at 5:30 pm - eat at 6 pm. Meat will be provided. Bring a vegetable, salad, or dessert & table service. You will need to bring your own beverages or purchase them from the Shrine bar.

Dec. 16th Christmas Lights tour to Monticello. Meet at Marion Walmart. Will leave at 5 pm & go thru Anamosa on the way to Monticello for supper at Pizza Ranch. Then tour Monticello lights & return home on Hwy 151. Sign up sheet will be at the Christmas party. If you can't make the Christmas party to sign up call Neil (319-350-7457) to let him know you will be doing the tour.

Dec. 19th-NO Board Meeting

Dec. 20th-Ladies Luncheon at 11:30 am at Olive Garden/Collins Rd NE. Bring a gift to exchange if you wish.

Upcoming Events January 2024

Jan. 8th AACA Club Meeting at 7 pm at Hiawatha Community Center-101 Emmons St in Hiawatha (Note this is the 2nd Monday & a new location.) The meetings will now be on the 2nd Monday instead of Tuesday as Tuesday wasn't available at the Community Center.

Jan. 16th-Board Meeting at 6 pm at Perkins on Collins Rd/CR

Jan. 17th-Ladies Luncheon at 11:30 am at Starlite-3300 1st Ave NE/CR

2024 Membership Dues

Membership renewal form insert in this newsletter. Note that dues are **payable by December 1st.**

Cost is \$15 for local dues & \$45 for national dues for a total of \$60. Checks payable to CRRAACA.

Mail to: Dan Ortz-1625 K Ave NE, Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402

2023 TREAT SCHEDULE

Dec - Pete & Pat Bischoff (meat for xmas party)

2024 TREAT SCHEDULE

Jan - Sharon & Virgil Schminke

Fall Banquet November 4, 2023





Alvin F. Vondracek, 91, of Fairfax, formerly of Swisher, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 30, 2023, at West Ridge Care Center. Burial will be in Anderson Cemetery, Swisher.

Alvin was born December 27, 1931, in rural Swisher, the son of Filbert and Helen (Pospisil) Vondracek. He graduated from Shueyville High School, class of 1949.

Alvin served in the United States Army. He was united in marriage to Doris Melenovsky on April 24, 1956, at St. James Methodist Church. To this union they raised three children. Doris passed away November 9, 2000. Alvin owned and operated Swisher Feed and Lumber Company, until retiring in 2000. Alvin was united in marriage to Roseann Pospisil in 2003. Roseann passed away in 2014. He enjoyed working on the farm, going on tractor rides, antique cars, family camping trips, and most of all spending time with his family. Alvin is survived by Craig (Karen) Vondracek, Connie (Dave) Dvorak and Cherie (Doug) Johnson; seven grandchildren Austin (Leah) Vondracek, Ryan (Caryn Lee) Martin, Joe (Whitney Free) Martin, Emily Marcantonio (Corbin Birkbeck), Allison (George) Bohren, Andrea (Warren) Swanberg and Jeremy Johnson; nine great-grandchildren and one on the way; his sister Edna Turnipseed; his sister-in-law Susan Melenovsky; special friend Joyce Vosdingh; as well as several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wives, his in-laws Wendell Turnipseed and Bob (Joan) Melenovsky, Mary Ann (Jim) Serbousek and Martha Serbousek.

Memorials may be directed to Swisher American Legion or to the Jefferson Monroe Fire Department.

We have received 4 free membership applications from the national AACA. These applications can be used for the recruitment of anyone that has never been a national AACA member. These memberships must be used by September 1, 2024.

If you know of anyone that would be interested please contact John Williams.

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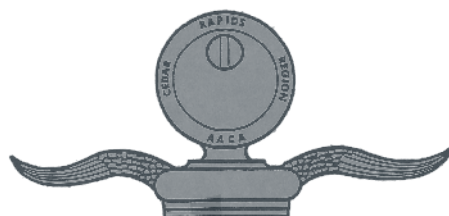
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Jon's Corner Answers

1. The first Ford was a Model A in 1903.
2. The first Chevrolet V8 was produced in 1917.
3. An experimental V12 was installed in a 1915 Buick.



The Moto Meter
Cedar Rapids Region AACA
Sylvia Copler
1789 County Home Road
Marion, Iowa 52302



December 2023 Moto Meter