

The Gas Line

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Thanks to Hallmark for this image

President's Corner

Happy February,

What a different winter we are having! Warmer than usual and the streets are clear of snow!

We contacted the City and were told that the meeting room, at this time, will not be available until July. The Activity Center on Skyline has been reserved through June. The facility will be used to hold clinics to administer the COVID vaccine. Therefore, the February meeting will be

Thursday, February 4, 7:00 p.m.

Aeromark, 1940 International Way

The room we will use is upstairs, and masks will be required. During the February meeting, we will read the bylaws and again pass around sheets to sign up for monthly meeting treats and monthly activities/tours. The big topic for the night will be the Swap Meet. Please plan to attend and give your input and suggestions for a successful Swap Meet and Car Show.

Keep warm and will see you at the meeting.

Douglas

CHAPTER EVENTS

Feb 4 – Chapter Meeting, Aero Mark, 1940 International Way, Idaho Falls, 7 p.m.

Jun 19-20 – Swap Meet and Car Show

Aug – Doug & Rhonda Event

Dec – Doug & Rhonda

MEETING TREATS

| | |
|-----|----------------|
| Feb | Carol & Ken |
| Mar | Jane & Bob |
| Apr | Bob Thompson |
| May | Carole & Lewis |
| Jun | |
| Jul | |
| Aug | |
| Sep | |
| Oct | |
| Nov | |
| Dec | |

NATIONAL EVENTS

Apr 25-30: Chrome Glidden Tour, Alcoa/Marysville, TN
Jimmy and Debbie Hixson
(386) 478-6668
debbieowens1953@aol.com

Jun 6-10: Nickel Tour - Planes, Trains & Automobiles, Troy, OH Rick Lindner (614) 263-3673

Jun 6-11: Lewis & Clark Regional Tour, Yankton, SD to Mobridge, SD. Jim and Judy Johnson, (605) 390-4410 or jim.judy.johnson@rap.midco.net

Jun 13-18: 1&2 Cylinder Tour, Fremont, OH. Marty Tansey & Jerry Martin, dmtansey@ncwcom.com

Sep 12 –17: 2021 Revival AAA Glidden Tour, Saratoga Springs, NY. Bill Preston, (315) 224-5759 or 75thglidden@gmail.com

Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2021

President Douglas Schwartzenberger opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Bob and Jane Hoff, Carol and Ken Avery, Bob Thompson, Yale Harker, Louis Rounds, and Doug and Rhonda Schwartzenberger.

Previous meeting minutes and treasurer's report were not available. Doug thanked Bob and Jane for the use of Aeromark for our January monthly meeting. The Skyline Activity Center is not available to us. As of this meeting, they allow only six people in our usual meeting room. We will check with them again for the February meeting. A sign-up sheet for monthly treats/activities was passed around.

Old Business:

Doug reviewed the Membership Drive noting that 21 members renewed their membership, 10 vintage vehicles were driven, and we have two new members – Kevin and Berny Barrentine.

New Business:

Because of low attendance, the bylaws were not read. We will read the bylaws at the February meeting.

Doug noted two items from Bob Shilkett's email regarding the Board of Governors' Meeting. Rick Stephens from Brighton MI will chair a committee to generate ideas to attract new, younger members to VMCCA. Also, would our club be interested in a regional newsletter? Because of low attendance, we will discuss this at next month's meeting.

Yale reported on the status of Chrome in the Dome. He noted that he has contacted Russ Butler. The event is tentatively scheduled for March 19 and 20 with an opening registration date of January 9. The event is still in limbo dependent upon COVID. We have four spots reserved. Because of COVID, we will not plan a breakfast gathering for Saturday morning. We will hopefully have more concrete information next month. (**Editor's Note:** See the Chrome in the Dome in page 4).

Doug noted that the Hockey Shelter has been reserved June 18, 19, and 20 for the 2021 Swap Meet and Car Show. Dawn has agreed to contact food vendors. We are still in need of someone to volunteer to take on Larry and Clyde's position. It was suggested that those responsibilities be broken up between two or three people. It was also noted that we need to get all the information from Larry (contact info of Swap vendors, assigned spaces, etc.). Doug will contact Larry.

It was suggested that we charge a fee to enter a car in the Car Show. It was noted that charging a fee deters some from participating. It was also noted that most car shows that charge a fee also provide a participant goodie bag. It was suggested that perhaps we have a donation bucket or a raffle (maybe a 50/50 raffle) indicating that the proceeds will go towards a scholarship to ISU and CEI. We will further discuss these suggestions at next month's meeting.

(continued on page 4)

1946-'48 Mercury Sedan Coupe

By Mark McCourt, Hemmings Motor News, February 2021

It's always seemed a bit unfair how, on the whole, Ford cars have maintained much greater recognition and desirability than their upmarket Mercury counterparts, in spite of the mid-priced cars' more opulent trimmings and greater power. This disconnect remains when examining the early postwar Mercury lineup, which— save for passionate marque enthusiasts like those belonging to the International Mercury Owners Association—is largely forgotten today, compared to equivalent mass-market Fords. It's not necessarily a bad thing, though, when it comes to assessing the values of Mercurys like the 1946 through 1948 Sedan Coupe, which has long represented a fine value in the classic car marketplace.



As did the competition from General Motors and Chrysler, Ford's newly formed Lincoln- Mercury Division rolled out lightly revised cars for the 1946 model year. The new Mercury Eight got a fresh face, trading its distinctive horizontal-grille treatment for a vertical grille. The lineup was consolidated, dropping the prewar three-passenger notchback-styled Coupe but keeping the equally attractive, more accommodating six-passenger Sedan Coupe that is the focus of this story. In 1946, it cost a reasonable \$1,495—the inflation-adjusted equivalent of \$19,963—just \$47 (\$628) more than the lowest price barrel-back two-door Sedan, and substantially less than the maple- and mahogany-trimmed Station Wagon (\$1,729) and the ultra-rare Sportsman convertible (\$2,209).

The Sedan Coupe would be sold through the end of this (initially prewar) body style, before the new, trendsetting envelope-body Mercurys arrived for 1949. It differed visually in minor details from year to year but retained the 118-inch wheelbase and 239.4-cu.in. flathead V-8, making 100 hp and 180 lb-ft of torque. While it was practical, this wasn't a high-volume body style: Hagerty reported 24,163 built for 1946, 29,284 for 1947, and 16,476 left the line for 1948. Pricing would increase marginally, but considering inflation, history shows this actually represented better value: According to NADAguides, the 1947 and '48 Sedan Coupe both cost \$1,645, which was roughly equivalent to \$19,208 and \$17,773, respectively.

As this piece was written in the end of 2020, NADAguides suggested retail value ranges of \$10,200 to \$41,700 (1946), \$10,450 to \$42,900 (1947), and \$10,450 to \$42,900. Hagerty largely concurs with these figures, suggesting a #4 "fair" to #1 "concours" range of \$13,000 to \$44,400, with #3 "good" being \$21,700.

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Send me your car photos for
the website.
<http://www.eivmcca.org>

Meeting Minutes (continued)

The meeting ended with sharing of what projects members are working on or what they have been doing to keep busy this winter. Bob Hoff shared that he has been working on an unplanned restoration of a 68 Ford pickup and camper that was originally purchased as a parts vehicle. Ken mentioned that he installed a new light switch in his 57 Ford station wagon. Doug shared that he finally fired up the Model T after 20+ years and is working on the wood bed of the Depot Hack.

Doug thanked Jane for providing treats. Ken made a motion to adjourn; Carol seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda

Chrome in the Dome Update

Yale Harker has received some additional news about Chrome in the Dome. The original dates of March 19-20, 2021 were cancelled due to COVID-19. However, it appears that the organizers have been given permission to have an outdoor car show on the Holt Arena parking lot on May 8, 2021. More information will be released as we get closer to the dates.

Chapter Cars

