

# THE ROTUNDA TIMES

Volume 4 No. 9 The Official Monthly Publication of the Ford & Mercury Restorer's Club of America September 2008

**Feature Vehicle:  
1963 Falcon Futura  
owned by  
Gene Johnson**



“One of the greatest benefits of my career as a Sales Representative for Deluxe Check Printers was that I spent most all my time calling on banks in Southern Michigan.....driving the back roads....meeting great people and looking for old cars and parts. I always got my job done...and had a good time doing it,” remarked Club Member Gene Johnson.

It was January 1991 that Gene first spotted the 1963 Futura hardtop. His friend Ned Kope of Brookland, Michigan had just brought it back from Oklahoma. Ned would go back to his family homestead in Oklahoma



**A dressed-up and good running 289 under the hood!**

*Continued on page 4.*

**Featured Member:  
My Almost Favorite FMRCOA Member  
by  
Roxanne Fontana**



**Mike Fontana with his new 1964 Comet Caliente.**

Just about everyone knows him. He talks to everyone and everyone talks to him. You see him at the Club meetings sitting on the Board. He's setting up garage crawls and working out the details of the next club bus trip. If you need something, Mike Fontana's the go-to guy!

Like most of our Club Members, Mike's love affair with cars started very early. He began with his 2 wheeled scooter and in his child's eyes it was his horse and his race car. The boy grew older and by the time he was 15, he'd bought



**Mike's 1940 Ford Coupe with a Chevy powertrain!**

*Continued on page 8.*

# The Rotunda Times



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[www.fmrcoa.org](http://www.fmrcoa.org)

## Newsletter Staff

### Editor

Steve Rohde 734.717.5444 [steve@quantumsignal.com](mailto:steve@quantumsignal.com)  
2955 Bateson Ct., Ann Arbor, MI. 48105

### Display Ad Editor

Phil Lyon 734.578.6223 [pjlyon39@att.net](mailto:pjlyon39@att.net)  
2002 Hopkins Drive, Wixom, Mi. 48393

### Staff Contributors

Bill Gipperich 586.826.8813 [gipp@juno.com](mailto:gipp@juno.com)  
Louis Ironside 810.798.8803 [louisironside@aol.com](mailto:louisironside@aol.com)  
(The Roving Reporter)  
Brian Kuta 734.753.3788 [mbhouse@chartermi.net](mailto:mbhouse@chartermi.net)  
Phil Lyon 734.578.6223 [pjlyon39@att.net](mailto:pjlyon39@att.net)  
Bill Timoszyk 734.421.2076 [williamtimos@att.net](mailto:williamtimos@att.net)  
Terry Worful 313.271.2017 [kercrest@aol.com](mailto:kercrest@aol.com)

### Membership Roster Editor

Terry Worful 313.271.2017 [kercrest@aol.com](mailto:kercrest@aol.com)

### Club Historian

David Cheklich 248.391.3934 [vidachek@comcast.net](mailto:vidachek@comcast.net)

### WEBMASTER

Gil Brueckner 910.602.1721 [gil\\_brueckner@yahoo.com](mailto:gil_brueckner@yahoo.com)



## Editor's Message



We appreciate the positive feedback that we've gotten on the new format for the Rotunda Times. We'll keep it that way!

Thanks this month go to our guest contributors: Gene Johnson, Roxanne Fontana, Brian Saylor, and Mark Sapienz; and to our team of Staff Contributors for providing articles for this newsletter. I'd also like to thank and Brian Kuta for pointing me to the XM-800 on eBay.

Please **do** keep materials/leads coming. With a larger newsletter, we need more material! Just give me a call (734.717.5444), email me, or put something in the mailbox.

**Consider the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month as a deadline for getting announcements or other materials to me for that month's newsletter.**

Finally, don't forget to visit our website [www.fmrcoa.org](http://www.fmrcoa.org) where you can read these newsletters in color and see more event pictures, and now videos. Thanks for your support!

Steve Rohde, Editor



## FMRCOA

FORD AND MERCURY RESTORERS  
CLUB of AMERICA  
P.O. Box 2938 • Dearborn, MI 48123

### 2008 OFFICERS

**President** Art Cervi 248.553.8897  
[lrc\\_acervi@yahoo.com](mailto:lrc_acervi@yahoo.com)  
**Vice President** Bob Guetschow 248.328.9113  
[rguetschow@comcast.net](mailto:rguetschow@comcast.net)  
**Secretary** Phil Lyon 734.578.6223  
[pjlyon39@att.net](mailto:pjlyon39@att.net)  
**Treasurer** Steve Rohde 734.717.5444  
[steve@quantumsignal.com](mailto:steve@quantumsignal.com)  
**Director** Brian Saylor 248.486.8851  
[bsaylor22@charter.net](mailto:bsaylor22@charter.net)  
**Director** Mike Fontana 248.926.0160  
[mike34pu@hotmail.com](mailto:mike34pu@hotmail.com)  
**Director** Doug Osborn 248.629.6139  
[osborn.carol@att.net](mailto:osborn.carol@att.net)

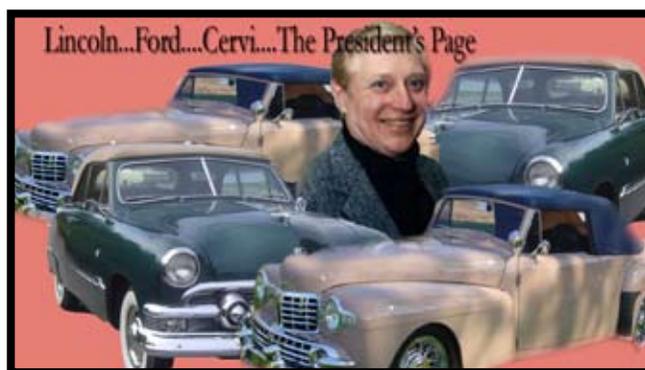
*The Ford & Mercury Restorers Club is a hobby organization whose purpose is to foster and promote the acquisition, preservation and use of all Ford vehicles, 25 years of age and older.*

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# The Rotunda Times



Time is really flying! Can't believe we are already looking at October. Carlisle and Hershey are around the corner. Yes, we also have our club outing (our bus trip to Auburn) that looks to be a blast. I sincerely hope you were able to get your tickets before the bus filled up. Last year's trip to Hickory Corners was great and I hope this one is too.

Bear in mind that October is also election month. This year we will continue to use the **volunteer process** that we have been using the past few years, and that was approved by the Membership: *If an incumbent volunteers to continue serving on the Board and she/he is unopposed, she/he continues to serve on the Board by acclamation.* I am pleased to report that all of our current Board Members, who I feel have been doing an outstanding job, have agreed to remain on the Board. However, if you'd like to volunteer for a position on the Board, please let us know.

Next year I would really like to see us do another overnighter over the Labor Day weekend. We haven't done one in a couple of years, and we are due. They can be a lot of fun. Those of you who have gone in the past know what they're like. Any ideas? Keep in mind that we should try to limit the distance to 1½ to 2 hours from the Detroit area, especially now with the cost of fuel the way it is.

Thanks to Bob G. (Mr. VP) for setting up our location at Royal Oak Ford during the Woodward Cruise! Easy in easy out and they treated us very well....topped off with the free hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, plus all the pop and water. Made for a great day! Hope we can go back next year.

On a more somber note, condolences go to the Stewart family on the death of Fran Stewart, wife of our late Club member Jim Stewart.

May the Weather Gods continue to bless us with good weather during this next season. I have no problem seeing Club Cars at the meetings well into January.....How's that for optimism?

**Art Cervi, President**

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### Walter Wiitala (Sharon)

6029 Dvorak  
Clarkston, MI 48346  
248-623-1533  
[wiitalawalt@peoplepc.com](mailto:wiitalawalt@peoplepc.com)

*1932 Ford 2-door*  
*1929 Ford 2-door*  
*1937 Ford Project Car*

### Michael Phillips

1064 Carol Ave.  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
734-455-1073  
[mikeygp@aol.com](mailto:mikeygp@aol.com)

*1926 Ford T Roadster*  
*1948 Ford 2-door*

### Joann Rodriquez

12801 Harrison  
Romulus, MI 48174  
734-992-2099  
[joannbill801@comcast.net](mailto:joannbill801@comcast.net)

*1962 Ford Thunderbird*

### Kurt Guetschow (Lisa)

10326 Gordon Rd.  
Fenton, MI 48430  
810-714-2265  
[kguetschow@excite.com](mailto:kguetschow@excite.com)

### Ken Ladd (Mary)

9612 Hazelton  
Redford, MI 48239  
313-538-8702  
[hpvconcepts@twmi.com](mailto:hpvconcepts@twmi.com)

NEW MEMBER:  
CONFIDENT, WELL  
PREPARED, ENTHUSIASTIC,  
GENNED UP,  
ACTIVE ...



### Dave Bednarczyk

590 Crescent Lk. Rd.  
Waterford, MI 48327  
248-765-3589  
[f25097@hotmail.com](mailto:f25097@hotmail.com)

### Rob Marble

5550 Old Flint Rd.  
White Lake, MI 48383  
810-241-5312  
[Robert.marble@arvinmeritor.com](mailto:Robert.marble@arvinmeritor.com)

*1974 Ford 250 Camper*

*1977 Ford Bronco*

*1979 Ford Mustang*

### Kris Kalen

37725 Avondale  
Westland, MI 48186  
734-595-3321

## FEATURE VEHICLE *cont. from page 1*

and bring back cars and trucks from the junk yards and resell them in Michigan. Most were Mustangs, Falcons, and trucks with solid bodies. "It was always fun to see what showed up his yard next," Gene continued.

Gene purchased the Falcon in February 1991. For the first five years he spent time disassembling the car and cleaning the underside. During the next five years he searched for parts and repaired the minor floor rust.

The exterior body and paint work was next. This was mostly handled by his good friend Manny Sant. Fortunately for Manny, the body had very little rust and almost no dents.

Once the car was back home, Gene spent the next five years putting it back together.

Since the Sprint option was a half year introduction, the



**Beautiful, functional interior.**

word "Sprint" does not appear on the title. It is very easy to convert a car to a Sprint. The Sprint option included chrome engine trim, wood grain steering wheel, special interior, and several Sprint name tags.

Gene then decided to upgrade the engine from a 260 CI to 289 CI with a four barrel carburetor, dual exhaust, C4 transmission and an 8 inch positraction rear end. "For the most part the car looks completely stock except for the Cragar wheels," Gene commented.

Gene feels has it taken a long time for Falcons to become popular among collectors and hotrodders. "But it seems that their time has come. On Labor Day weekend (see article on page 9) the Motor City Chapter of the Falcon Club of America had their regional meet at the Holiday Inn in Southgate. I am proud to say that my car won first place in its class. This made it all worth while," Gene concluded.

Gene, who has been a Club Member since 1992, is a real asset to the FMRCOA. Not only does he help organize and participate in events, but he also is always there to help Club Members with their projects!

## Club Member in the News

Ambrose Biondo was featured in the August 25<sup>th</sup> issue of Detroit Auto Scene. Ambrose was interviewed by reporter Irena Granaas while at the August 7 Cruise Night at the Walter P. Chrysler Museum in Auburn Hills.



**Ambrose with his beautiful 1950 shoebox at the Walter P. Chrysler Museum on August 7.**

"...the 1950 Ford Custom 2-Door owned by Ambrose and Dianne Biondo of Sterling Heights got more than its share of attention...The car's unusual looks attracted a fairly steady stream of admirers..." the reporter commented.

Ambrose detailed his restoration of the car which he has owned since 1985, his participation in car shows and other events, and the significance of "shoebox" Ford cars in the history of Ford Motor Company.

Stay tuned for a Feature Vehicle story about Ambrose's 1950 Ford!

### **The FMRCOA Membership Advantage!!!!!!**

Your Board officers and Editors 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 Phil Lyon, our ad editor. For more information on becoming a member go to <http://www.fmrcoa.org/> or write to:

**FMRCOA Membership Secretary**

**P.O. Box 2938**

**Dearborn MI 48123**

**Dues are \$25 before & \$30.00 after DEC 31**

## Meet the New Members by Terry Worful



### Art Cairo



I'm Art Cairo. I was born on August 7, 1953 in Detroit and am a retired FoMoCo Manufacturing Manager. My first car was a 1928 Model A sports coupe.

I started collecting cars about 14 years ago with a 1961 T-Bird Convertible. My other hobby is home restoration. If I could own any other car other than a Ford it would be, a 1958 Corvette convertible because I love its

lines and the history of the American muscle car.

I do my own work on my cars and joined the FMRCOA because of common interests with the men and women like me.

### Bob Munson



Hi! I'm Bob Munson and I was born November 11, 1945 in Cadillac, MI.

I'm retired from the State Department Treasury.

My first car was a 1964 Cortina. I started collecting cars in 1967 with a 1962 T-Bird.

I also like photography.

I would also choose a 1962 Corvette

if I could have any car other than a Ford.

I work on my own cars and joined the FMRCOA because of my interest in restoration.

Hi! My name is Charles Witmer.

I was born on August 9, 1936 in Pennsylvania and am retired from GM.

My first car was a 1947 Buick Convertible.

I started collecting cars in 1973 with a 1947 Lincoln Coupe.

Cars are my only hobby.

I do my own work on my cars.

I joined the FMRCOA because I own Ford products.



## YOUR CAR!

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 e-mail us your article accompanied with a photo to:

**PHIL LYON**

**pjlyon39@att.net**

ROTUNDA TIMES

2002 Hopkins Drive

Wixom, MI. 48393

734.578.6223

or

**STEVE ROHDE**

**steve@quantumsignal.com**

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2955 Bateson Ct.

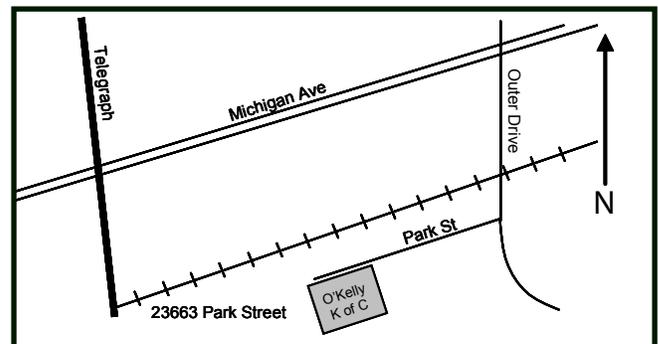
Ann Arbor, MI. 48105

734.717.5444

## Club Meetings

The FMRC meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Patrick O'Kelley Hall in Dearborn (313.278.5600). Refreshments are served after the meeting!

Come and bring a friend!



### A Note from the Treasurer

This month was a fairly typical one. A few more Swap Meet bills came in.

**Steve Rohde, Treasurer**



## 2008 FMRC Meetings & Events Calendar

Below is the *tentative* table of meetings & events for 2008. New information will be posted each month as events and dates are “firmed” up. **Bold font represents club sponsored activities.** Also, *if you have an idea for a Club event, please let a Board Member know!*

<b>Oct. 1</b>	<b>Club Meeting</b>
Oct. 5	Cars on Campus at WCC
<b>Oct. 11</b>	<b>Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum</b>
<b>Oct.</b>	<b>Color Tour - TBA</b>
<b>Nov. 5</b>	<b>Club Meeting</b>
<b>Dec. 3</b>	<b>Club Meeting</b>
<b>Dec. 6</b>	<b>Christmas Walk-Greenfield Village</b>



### Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum Trip

All Seats for our bus trip to the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum in Auburn, Indiana on Saturday, October 11 have been sold!

People will be picked up at two locations:

**7 AM** Pickup #1 at 23663 Park Street in Dearborn (the K of C Hall)

**7:45 AM** Pickup #2 at parking lot on NW corner of I94 & Ann-Arbor Saline Rd. (Exit #175 on I94).

The plan is that you will be dropped off around 8 PM after a fun day!

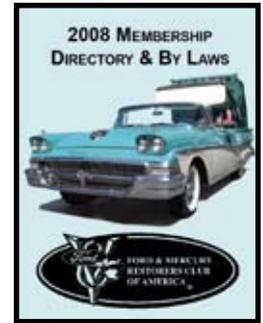
### Thank you!

The family of William Ironside would like to thank the members of the FMRCOA for their calls, cards, and visits to the funeral home after the passing of our father, and the Club’s contribution to the Salvation Army. Bill was very proud of his membership in the Club, and we thank you for your support in the past weeks.

*Louis and Pam Ironside and family.*

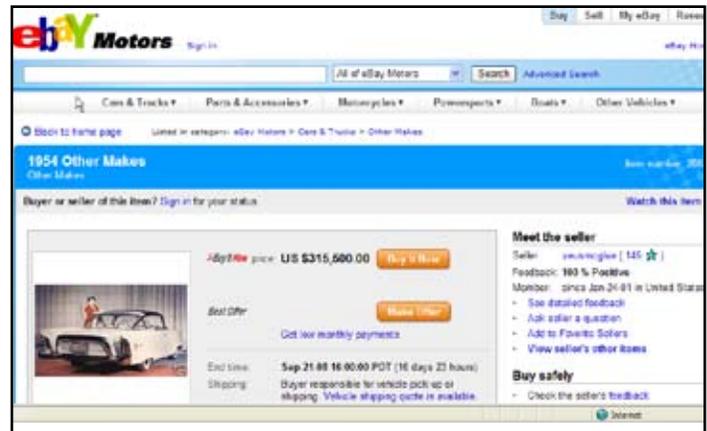
## New Club Directory Printed

Many of you already have a new 2008 Member Directory. Thanks here go to Pat Blanc and Club Member Ed Meurer of *Rex Publishing* for laying out and printing them, to Terry Worful for providing the membership data, to Dana of *Cruis’news Magazine* for providing the cover graphic, and to Bob Guetschow for again spearheading this effort!



## 1954 MERCURY XM-800 ON EBAY AGAIN: BUY IT NOW FOR \$315,000

You can even buy a one-off concept car on ebay these days! This car was designed by John Najjar who was the most famous designer of the Ford Motor Company and was responsible for not only the 1954 Mercury XM-800 but was also the 1955 Lincoln Futura show car and the mid-engine Mustang I experimental sports car of 1962.



According to the current owner, the car is in running condition and has less than 5 miles total on it since it was built! The body, which is 5 inches wider than a stock 1954 Mercury, is fiberglass with much of its trim made out of chrome plated fiberglass—including the Dagmar bumpers. The car has an essentially stock 1954 powertrain.

Rumor has it that the XM-800 was almost put into production and many styling cues were taken from it to be used on the 55 Lincoln. For more information, please see <http://cgi.ebay.com/ebaymotors/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=260280559384&fromMakeTrack=true&ssPageName=VIP:Watchlink:middle:us>.



## September 2008 FMRCOA Meeting Minutes September 3, 2008

Our meeting started at 7:35 PM.

Several new Members were introduced including Art Cairo.

Terry Worful took a count of Members and guests



**97 Members & guests attended the meeting.**

present: 97. The August Minutes were approved by a motion from the floor. The Treasurer's report was also read and passed.

The new sixteen page format for the newsletter received many accolades. Those of us who have trouble with the large E on the eye chart also approve of the larger font!

Terry Worful gave her report on the membership, and has 340 members on the rolls. Thanks to Bob Guetschow for signing up five new members. He brings them out of the woodwork!

Mike Fontana plugged his line of Club clothing and also gave us an update on the bus trip to Auburn Indiana on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Sounds like a good trip with Auburns, Cords, Dusenbergs, WW2 memorabilia, and Corvettes. A nice bus ride and a trip to the smorgasbord dinner attracted 56 participants. That's a bus load! We were advised to bring a lunch, since we will eat later in the day. The bus will depart our parking lot in Dearborn at 7:00 AM and the Ann Arbor - Saline Rd.

Exit off I-94 in Ann Arbor at 7:45 AM.

There was some discussion of members' benefits vs. non-members, wives, dates, etc.....and the Board will discuss these issues later.

Thanks were given to Royal Oak Ford for their welcoming attitude, the food and the convenient parking for the Woodward Cruise. Thanks again go to the past President, Bob Guetschow, for arranging this for us. On the subject of the Cruise, Don Olson said that Birmingham was down from 700 to 400 cars this year.

Hank Dawson attended the Hot Wheels Meet at the Automotive Hall of Fame and said that those folks are as enthusiastic over those tiny little cars as we are about our grown up ones!

It was brought up in the meeting that the Secretary/Treasurer should have a list of vendors for the swap meet. Bob agreed to provide the information.

During some interesting car talk, Bill Large requested some information on chopping a 42-48 Ford convertible. He wants it to be automatically foldable. Can anyone help? That's one thing this club is for!

Show and tell was well handled by Bill Timoszyk, the lottery drawing followed, which was again followed by Arts monthly joke. groan!!

We adjourned for refreshments at 8:47 PM!

**Phil Lyon, Secretary**



**Above: Dinner before the meeting ( l ) and Terry at the meeting ( r ). Below: Bill shows some Ford Tractor items ( l ), & Nick Nichols tries on a size M t-shirt!**



## FAVORITE MEMBER *cont. from page 1*

his first set of 4 wheels -- a 1953 Ford without a motor or a transmission for a whopping \$10. He never got to drive it, but it was a start.

The 1953 Ford was sold and on his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, he offered his teacher \$50 for her 1947 Ford Coupe with a bad motor. She refused to take the \$50 telling him it was only worth \$35. Mike didn't know who was more excited -- he or his dad, Al.

Delivering pizzas and working at a Gulf station supported Mike's new hobby. He found a perfect 1950 Mercury with a good engine and a bad trans and brought it home. The motor went into the '47 and he junked the Merc. (I bet he wishes he had that one back!) Then he put a '39 trans in the '47 Coupe and now he had a hot rod!



**Mike & his '47 -- a few years ago!**

The 1947 Coupe gave way to a 1956 Chevy Belaire with a stock V8. It was actually owned by a little old lady. The Chevy was followed by a black 1957 Ford Fairlane with a 390 big block -- Telegraph and Woodward knew him well!

By now, Mike had worked long enough to buy a brand new, 1964 Comet Caliente -- forest green, with a 4 speed. Life was good but it was about to get better. Mike found his first 1940 Ford Coupe sitting in a garage in a field without a drivetrain. That's when he decided to build a car for the drag strip. Once again he paid \$10 and the '40 Coupe followed him home.

In red primer, with blue glass and a chrome dash, she was a treasure. Now, working at the Ford Motor Livonia Transmission Plant with his dad, Mike had the money to build the car he wanted. Mike and his dad put a souped-up, late model Chevy powertrain in her, added wheel well headers, Kessler cheater slicks and she was ready for the drag

strip. Running in the C Alt Class, the little Coupe won more than she lost. They were especially impressed when the Comet got stuck in the mud at the Spring Nationals at Detroit Dragway and Mike used the Coupe to pull it out!

Almost every weekend was spent at Detroit Dragway or Milan. His dates had to like the dragstrip and cars or they didn't last long. One Saturday night Mike was supposed to take his date to the show, but started working under his Coupe. His date wasn't happy and told him either he stopped working on the car or she was leaving. Mike said, "hand me a 9/16" wrench" and she was gone.

Uncle Sam's letter came on a Friday after work. In 6 months the cars were sold, and Mike was off to the Army and Vietnam. Mike served as a Combat Engineer and spent 1 year, 1 day and 20 hours in Vietnam -- but who was counting? When he came home, his dad surprised him with -- what else -- a car. Al had taken 3 cars and built a 1960 Ford Sunliner convertible -- black with red interior just for him. Mike was home!

About 6 months later, the Sunliner was gone and a 1964 GTO with a 421 HO motor was in its place. Once again, life was good. Mike didn't know it, but things were going to change (for the better!) with a blind date. This time when Mike asked for a 9/16" wrench, I handed him the wrench.

Mike joined the Detroit Fire Department, we married and were blessed with 2 wonderful children. We went from driving Corvettes to driving mini-vans and station wagons. Mike traded his cars so fast that I can't forget the night I went to the store to buy milk, and when I came out I couldn't remember what I was driving!

The '40 Coupe that laid on its side on a mattress so Mike could work on the floor; the '36 that came home in so many pieces it took 3 trips; and the favorite, a 1946 Ford Coupe that he and his dad built 23 years ago. The 1946 will stay with us forever.

So here we are, 38 years and 50+ hot rods later. Now we're in the garage together wrenching on my 1960 Metropolitan and I'm actually letting him tell me what to do -- but things have changed -- now he hands *me* a 9/16" wrench.

Mike is the guy that always has a quick joke, will help you with your project, or be there if you just need someone. He's my "almost" favorite club member because our grandson, Dominic (10 months old), is a dues-paying, card carrying, too-small-club jacket wearing member and I just can't choose. Lucky me -- I get to keep them both!

## Model T Celebrated in Michigan

There were two events recently in Dearborn that commemorated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Model T—the car that put the Ford Motor Company on the map and America on wheels.

The first was a *Model T Centennial Drive-In at Ford World Headquarters* on Friday, September 4. There were over 110 Model Ts at the event and virtually every “flavor” of Model T was on display. There were also Model T rides and live entertainment.



**Ford Chairman Bill Ford Jr. admires some brass era Model Ts in front of Ford’s WHC building (l), & Club Member Abigail Rohde tests siren in a 1913 fire truck (r).**

The second event was the *58<sup>th</sup> Old Car Festival* held in Greenfield Village on Saturday, September 5. There was an amazing array of Model T Fords and hundreds of other unique and historically significant pre 1933 vehicles at the Festival. In fact, many of the Model Ts that were at Ford World Headquarters on Friday were also at this event. The weather was perfect and thousands of people attended the Festival.



**There were unrestored & restored Model Ts at the OCF (l), & Club Member Vic Hollingshead (r).**

## Falcon Regional Meet Report

by  
**Gene Johnson**

On Friday and Saturday of this past Labor Day weekend, the Metro Detroit Chapter of the Falcon Club of America put on their first Regional Car Show. There was a total of 63 Falcons of all styles at the event

with no two alike! The participants came from Florida, Delaware, Maryland, Kansas, Ontario, and other parts of the Midwest.



**Now this guy looks like he has some Falcon parts for sale!**

The event was very well done and the staff kept us busy and well fed!

Both Keith Price and I received first place awards in our respective classes!

I would like to thank FMRCOA Member and President of the Metro Detroit Chapter of the Falcon Club, Gordon Leslie and the Falcon Club members for this fine event. We look forward to the National meet, here in Dearborn, in 2012.

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FAX (248) 626-6481

## Understanding Ford Part Numbers

by  
Mark Sapienz

The Ford part numbering system is quite simple to understand. Hopefully, by the end of this article, the reader will get a general knowledge of parts numbers.

Consider these parts' numbers:

D5AZ-1130-B

C9AZ-6731-A

D65Z-16005-C

The middle section of these numbers refers to a particular vehicle subsystem/component. For example, 1130 refers to a hubcap, whereas the number 6731 refers to an oil filter, and 16005 a right hand side fender. The table below depicts this numbering system.

Number	Subsystem/Component
1000's	Wheels
2000's	Brakes
3000's	Front suspension/axles
4000's	Rear axles/driveshaft
5000's	Frame/muffler/springs
6000's	Engine
7000's	Transmission
8000's	Radiator/water pump/fan
9000's	Carburetor/air cleaner
10,000's	Pulleys/battery/instruments
11,000's	Starter
12,000's	Distributor
13,000's	Headlights/taillights
14,000's	Wiring looms
15,000's	Clock/lighter
16,000's	Hood/fenders
17,000's	Jack/speedometer
18,000's	Shocks/heater parts
19,000's	Air conditioning
20,000's	Front doors
27,000's	Rear doors
29,000's	Moldings
40,000's	Tailgate/rear window
50,000's	Roof
60,000's	Seats

The first letter of the part number references the decade the car was built in and the second digit the year in that decade.

First Letter	Decade
A	1940's
B	1950's
C	1960's
D	1970's
E	1980's
F	1990's
G	2000's

In the examples above, we have 1975, 1969, and 1976 vehicles.

The letter following the car year indicates the make/model of the car, i.e., the body line. The table below contains a list of some of these. There are actually many more:

Letters	Vehicle
A	Ford full size
D	Falcon
E	Escort
F	Pinto, Maverick, Falcon
G	Early Comets, Montego, Cyclone
H	Medium/Heavy Duty Truck
K	Edsel
L	Lincoln Mark VII
M	Mercury
O	Fairlane
R	Capri
S	Thunderbird
T	Pick-up Truck or Bronco
U	Econoline Van
V	Lincoln
W	Cougar
Z	Mustang

The fourth letter signifies the Engineering group:

Letter	Meaning
A	Chassis
B	Body
E	Engine
Or if it's a Service Replacement part:	
Z	Ford Division
Y	Lincoln-Mercury
X	Original Muscle Parts program
M	Ford Motorsport, SVO, FFRP.

Finally, the suffix of the part number is a letter that indicates some additional information about the part such as color, left or right, version, etc.

For more information, please (for example) see

<http://www.mustangsandmore.com/ubb/FordTechData.html> or <http://www.falcongt.com.au/part%20number%20codes.htm>.

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## A New Source for Flathead Radiator Hoses & a New Movie

by  
**Brian Saylor**

I found a great resource for radiator hoses for flatheads that I would like to share. For flathead Ford engines with the radiator port at the center of the head, you can get new radiator hoses that are a perfect fit. Use a Dayco 72020 hose. Fits '99-'02 Dodge Ram 2500 and 3500 engines. By cutting off a couple of inches from both ends they are the perfect size and shape for the flathead engine.

Also, there is a new movie about hotrods, dating, and running from the law in the '50s called Deuce of Spades. The movie looks like a lot of fun and is due out in the spring of '09. Check out the teasers at <http://www.deuceofspadesmovie.com/>.



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## September Show & Tell: "Some Unique Stuff"

by  
**Bill Timoszyk**

The attendance was a little light at this meeting and, hence, Show and Tell was a little light, but still unique.

Larry Haase brought in an original 1953 Hot Rod Parts catalog from the Douglass Muffler Company of Alhambra, Ca. This was chock full of flat motor heads, intakes, S/W gauges, and more. It listed all the good goodies.



**1953 Douglas Muffler Catalog: Cover (l) & flathead intake manifold items (r).**

Resident toy guru Cole Grandy had some current reproductions of old tin cars originally made in the late 1940's. They have a push down type of spring/friction drive. Cole bought these at TSC (Tractor Supply Company) for about \$10 each. Neat boxes too.

Art Cervi brought in a genuine "What's this" item. It was a dial indicator, to be used in a machine shop. Now remember fellas, Machinists are not Clowns, and Clowns are not too mechanically inclined. Art will now add this to his tool collection.



**TSC repro toy cars.**



**It's an antique dial indicator!** I brought in some Ford Tractor items, supposedly from the estate of a Ford Tractor advertising employee: a clock (circa 1962) and 2 original advertising photos (circa 1956).



**Ford Tractor items: Clock (l) & advertising photos (r).**

So we will see each other at the next meeting just before the big season: Carlisle, Hershey, and the Auburn trip.



**Photo of Bob Guetschow at the Downriver Cruise on June 28 distributing FMRCOA Swap Meet flyers taken by Mark Sapienz. Club Members attended the Cruise.**

## The FMRCOA Roving Reporter in Bellville -- Again!

Sort of a quiet month with all of the cruises that were held. The "big one," Woodward, was kind of a disappointment. Lots of modern cars driving up and down the street, no buses to get you to the far flung edges, and unless you walked for miles, you didn't see the older cars. I did, however, see quite a few FMRC members.

The evening before, we visited Flint, Michigan for the "Back to the Bricks" car show and cruise. Lots of old cars and a fun time! The mini vans, new Corvettes, and Jeeps haven't invaded Flint yet like they have Woodward.

On the fourth weekend in August, a friend and I drove down to Belleville for the "Cruzin the Park" car show and swap meet. This show is held at the Lower Huron Metropark at exit #192 off of I-94. The entrance fee is \$4 per car and no other fees.

The swap is held in a shady area along the winding roads in one section of the park. I would guess that there were about a hundred vendors.....most of whom I've never seen before. The car show had quite a few cars, and again was in a grassy area. The friend, Tim, that I attended with said that both swap and car show were bigger than last year.

The park workers seemed to have it pretty well organized, and it appeared to run smoothly. There was also an all-you-could-eat breakfast for \$5 which Tim and I found much to our liking! With the exception of the rows of vendors being hard to follow due to the twisting and curving, it was a nice swap meet and show. We need to watch this show as it could easily become "the Belleville" show that people attend.

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1960-64 Ford Galaxie	1980-89 Pickup-Bronco
1960-70 Falcon-Ranchero-Comet	1966-77 Ford Bronco
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1965-72 Ford Galaxie-LTD	1936-65 Cushman Scooter

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## Postcards from the Past by Lou Ironside

This month's postcard features the rock gardens at the Ford hydro-electric plant, in Iron Mountain, Michigan. As we know, Iron Mountain is the home of Ford station wagon bodies. But, when this card was mailed on February 2, 1943 the plant was not producing station wagon bodies, but instead gliders for the military effort. A young lady named Joyce mailed this card to a friend who was visiting Chicago. Joyce mentioned that she was ill, and had missed several days of work, and was hoping to be able to return to the plant (maybe the Ford one) real soon. She also looked forward to her friend's return from Chicago. You always wonder...what happened after that card was mailed over 75 years ago.



The rock gardens at the Ford hydro-electric plant, in Iron Mountain, Michigan.

## Our Golden Quill Award



Golden Quill Award received from Old Cars. For the complete story, please see the June issue of the Rotunda Times.

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Starting Young!



JP Hamilton's 2-year-old grandson, Gavin James Cheeseboro reads the Cruis'news News at Wampler's Lake!

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**For Sale**

- 1979 Lincoln Continental collector series sedan 38,000 miles blue/blue excellent condition \$6000 OBO. Ken Martin. 313-271-3901.
- 1941 Ford 1/2 ton pickup electrical parts 6 volts (changing over to 12volts). John Staciewicz. 586-286-3265.
- 1972 Ford Mustang convertible. PS, PB, AC, 351C 2v. \$16,000. Howard Voigt. 734-944-6930.
- Many 302 and 2300 Ford engines. \$250 or less. Roger Hodyka. 517-282-4738.
- For rent. Florida luxury condo available Jan 09 on the water in St Petersburg. Gary Sharkas. 734-525-3652.
- 1950 Ford Custom 2 door original V8 with overdrive. See to appreciate \$19,000.
- 1949 Ford pickup. Mint. 50,000 original miles. 6 cylinder. \$21,000. Paul Conforto. 313-801-8131 or 313-882-6122.
- 1962 Thunderbird convertible. Rebuilt engine, rechromed bumpers, new interior (carpet, seats, dash), new brakes, ball joints and tires, recored radiator, etc.. Has been stripped to bare metal, prepped and painted patrician green, metallic (aqua). \$18,500. Pictures available. [rmunson45@tds.net](mailto:rmunson45@tds.net) Bob Munson. 517-675-7277.

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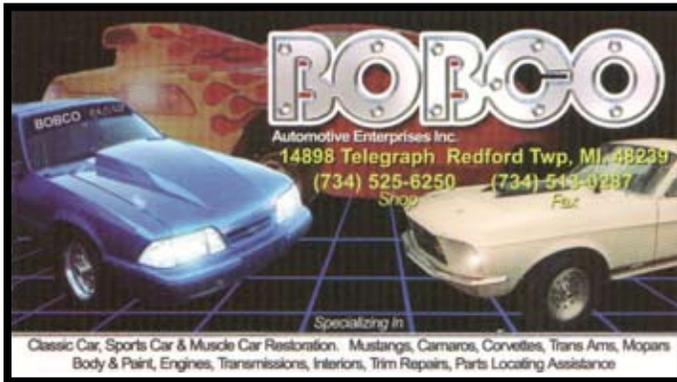
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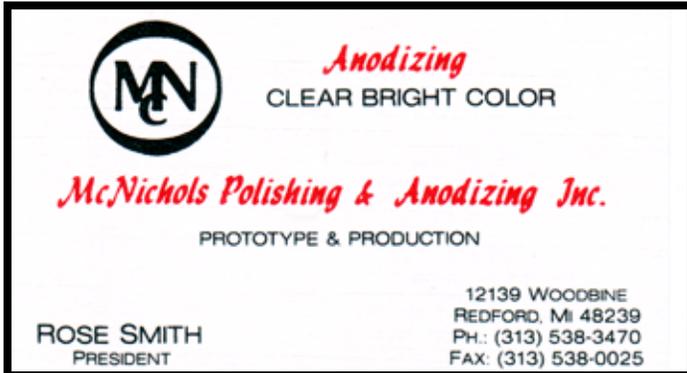
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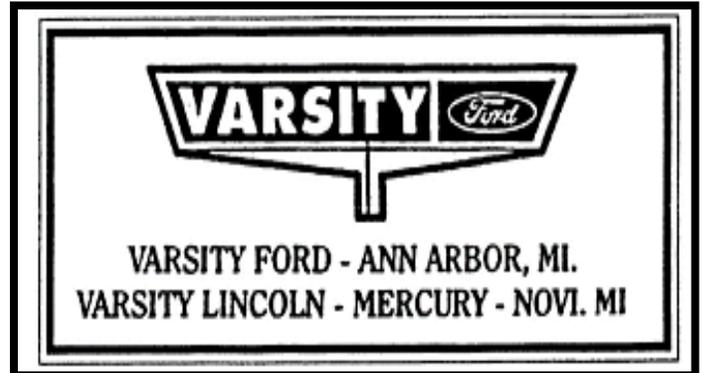
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