

CLUB OFFICERS

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Theresa Williams

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Vacant

CORRESPONDING

SECRETARY:

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Don Rogers

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Peggy Crawford

2019-2021

Bruce Williams

2021-2023

Mike Huber 2021-2023

Charlie Walters

2020-2022



**EARLY FORD V-8
CLUB**

ON THE ROAD

ST. LOUIS R.G. #124

JAN. 2021 Volume 36 No. 1

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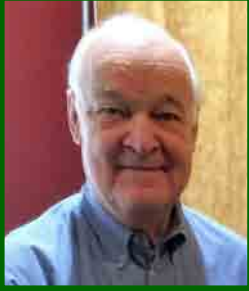
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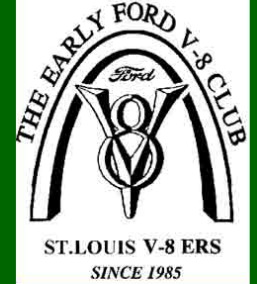


Well Officer.....If The Pole Hadn't Been In The Middle Of The Road!!!!



President's Message

By George Ball



Members,

Our Board membership for 2021 is almost complete! Russell Roark has put his name in for the VP position while Bruce Williams and Mike Huber have offered their names for the two open Directors positions for 2021-2023.

Sooooo.....we still need a member to volunteer his or her name for the *Recording Secretary* position. Please let me know if one of you can take this on....and take the Minutes of the RG #124 monthly meetings and send them along to Don Rogers for the newsletters. Obviously that will not be anytime soon.....I'm hoping this Summer.

Thanks to EVERY member for their support and continuing membership!

George

Please continue praying for Mary Rogers.



**RALPH A. BAUER COLLECTOR CAR & MEMORABILIA
AUCTION**

2-DAY NO-RESERVE AUCTION Monday & Tuesday, February 1 & 2, 2021

Beginning at 9:00 A.M. CST Each Day

Items located in a privately owned airport hanger/auto museum located directly adjacent to :

The Spirit of St. Louis Airport at 18380 Edison Ave., Chesterfield, MO 63005 (Greater St. Louis)

<https://www.sullivanauctioneers.com/auction/2-day-no-reserve-collector-car-memorabilia-estate-auction/>

Hershey is on for 2021!!

Flea Market Reservations Have Been Sent Out

Oct 6 thru 9, 2021

Note from Maxine

Dear V8 Members,

Just a note to let you know how much I appreciated your donating a Memorial Brick in Larry Carroll's name. He really enjoyed the fellowship and group meetings while the guys "kicked tires".

Thank you so much!

Maxine Carroll

1935 Fashions



When You "Dress-up"
The Long Sleeve -
a New
Hollywood
Success

In Our Finest
Silk Canton Crepe
\$4.98

AN AUTOGRAPHED FASHION
Worn in Hollywood by
Loretta Young

THIS LONG SLEEVED EVENING Gown is a marvelous ideal! It makes the dress perfect for all sorts of occasions. Sleeves are full *raglan* at the top and snug from the elbow to the wrist. You'll like the way the fagotted braid trimming sweeps across the sleeves and front and back. Bias cut skirt—and our very finest Silk Canton Crepe weighted! Gleaming clips and buckle. Loretta Young Autographed Label in your dress. *State size.*
Misses' Sizes: 14-16-18-20 yrs.
Bust Measures: 32-34-36-38 in.
Lengths, about 52 inches.
31 H 8651—National Blue.
31 H 8652—Aqua Blue.
31 H 8653—Applemint. \$4.98
31 H 8654—Gold. . . .
Sent direct from New York to you. See Page 12.
Shipping weight, 1 lb. 10 oz.

\$3.98

High Ruffled Neck
Moire Taffeta Yoke

EXCELLENT QUALITY SILK Crepe (weighted) with Moire Rayon Taffeta yoke and sleeves. Little standing collar lined with contrasting color. Novelty buttoned back with silts.
Misses' Sizes: 14-16-18-20 years.
Bust Measures: 32-34-36-38 inches.
Lengths, about 52 inches. *State size.*
31 H 8655—Blue Lilac.
31 H 8656—Ash Rose. . . . \$3.98
31 H 8657—National Blue. . . .
Sent direct from New York to you . . . but you pay postage only from our nearest Mail Order House. See Page 12.
Shipping weight, 1 lb. 12 oz.

\$2.95

Permanent Finish
Sheer Organdy

THE MATERIAL IS OUR FINEST Dotted Organdy—*permanent finished.* Large double tier collar trimmed with harmonizing color. Tiny cape sleeves.
Misses' Sizes: 14-16-18-20 years.
Bust Measures: 32-34-36-38 inches.
Lengths, about 52 inches. *State size.*
31 H 8658—White with Red.
31 H 8659—White with Navy. \$2.95
31 H 8660—White with Green.
Sent direct from New York to you . . . but you pay postage only from our nearest Mail Order House. See Page 12.
Shipping weight, 1 lb. 6 oz.

Gorgeous Party frocks - Direct from New York -

REMEMBER THE LADIES WITH POPULAR V-8 VANITIES

Cultivate that important feminine buying-influence with V-8 vanity gifts. These low-priced compacts will make a real hit—they're *distinctive* and look *much higher priced!* Glossy black bakelite, with silveroid V-8 emblem mounted on white cloisonne® background. 3-inch size, with mirror, powder screen and puff.

*Simulated.

As Low As **25c** Each

Order No. NM-2082.

- 1 doz.....\$3.50
- 2 doz.....\$3.25 per doz.
- 3 doz.....\$3.00 per doz.

Postpaid if Remittance
Accompanies Order

TRIAL OFFER

Order No. NM-2083.

3 cases.....\$1.00



BEAUTIFUL DeLUXE VANITIES

Truly exquisite are these vanities—gifts that will cause a feminine flutter wherever they're given . . . wherever they're seen. Gifts like these will pay rich dividends in *friendship* and *good will!* Such quality cannot be obtained elsewhere at these low prices!

GOLD PLATED RIM Double compacts, featuring marcasite-inlaid, silver V-8, mounted on simulated white cloisonne background. Completely outfitted with rouge and powder compartments, puff, mirror, powder screen, rouge. Black bakelite base. 2 3/4-inch diameter. **\$1.50** Each

Order No. NM-2086.

RHINESTONE RIM Double compact with silver V-8 and rim set solid with glittering rhinestones. Black bakelite case with chromium trim, in 2 3/4-inch size, completely outfitted with puff, mirror, screen, rouge, powder pit. **\$2.00** Each

Order No. NM-2124.

Each Item Postpaid if Remittance Accompanies Order.

Lafayette at 10th Street

SALES EQUIPMENT CO.

Detroit, Michigan

Author John Emmering



Irish O'Malley, Vivian Chase and the Ozark Mountain Boys drive Ford V-8s in Crime Wave

By John Emmering

Peering through the frosty windshield of his 1934 Ford V-8 roadster, side curtains tightly snapped shut, Irish O'Malley headed south down Route 62 and into downtown Okemah, Oklahoma followed by his cohorts trailing him in a pair of sedans, one a black 1934 Ford V-8 and one a Plymouth. At 4:45 am there was very little activity in Okemah on that snowy, freezing morning of December 22, 1934. The small town of 2,200 suffering the effects of the great depression was about to experience more bad luck as seven desperate criminals rolled into town in the three cars.

Taking the role of lookout Irish O'Malley cruised the downtown square in his roadster, while the Ford V-8 sedan pulled up next to the Okemah National Bank. The Ford's three occupants, members of the "Ozark Mountain Boys" gang Leonard Short, Dewey Gilmore, and Russell Cooper stepped out. Spotting the bank's janitor Claude Scarborough approaching in the predawn light the gang accosted him and forced him to grant them entry into the bank. Once inside they waited as each employee reported for work, tying each one up and holding them in a back room.

Nearby the Plymouth sedan stopped close to the town's other bank, the First National across the street and the masked passengers "Red" Melton and Fred Reese hopped out. They likewise intercepted 60-year-old J.M. Morgan that bank's janitor who was walking toward First National. The Plymouth's driver "Dapper" Dan Heady joined Melton and Reese who had jammed a .45 pistol to the janitor's chest demanding entry to the bank. The gang now occupied two of the town's banks simultaneously. Each group of robbers confronted arriving employees, taking them hos-

tage and binding them until the Bank presidents arrived. When the complete bank staff was present and the timed vault locks opened, the robbers helped themselves to the cash held inside. The robbery crews gathered their takes from each bank. The score from the First National Bank was \$9,391 with a take of \$14,892 from Okemah National.

Exiting the banks, the robbers met up with Irish O'Malley in his Ford V-8 Roadster just outside of town. The outlaws sped north on Highway 56, as the hostages back in Okemah worked to free themselves. The robbers had a quarter of an hour head start before the police were notified of the two bank robberies. Traveling one hundred miles north to their hideout in Rodgers County, Oklahoma the bandits made good their escape. The police had sent posses after the men, set up road blocks and conducted an areal search for the men using an airplane to no avail. The Okemah bank job would stand as one of the best orchestrated robberies in Oklahoma history.

Purported ringleader of the criminal band, "Irish" O'Malley was born Walter Riley in St. Louis, Missouri in 1898 to Irish parents in severe economic straits. When his folks split up, Walter was taken in by middle class foster parents, Mr. & Mrs. Holland. With little interest in school, Walter dropped out in 8th grade to work as a meat packer for Swift. Having joined the National Guard Walter was called to active duty for World War I. On Christmas Eve 1917 he deserted and fled to Canada. Regretting his actions Walter enlisted in the Canadian Army, seeing service in France. After the War he was given a bad conduct discharge from the U.S. Army after turning himself in.

Unable to settle into a job Walter fell in with bootleggers during prohibition and began his illicit activities assuming the moniker "Irish O'Malley". Taking a wife, the short marriage ended due to his bootlegging activity.

O'Malley hung with a rough bunch of St. Louis toughs, called "Egan's Rats" who helped enhance his criminal skills. He spent most of the 1920's in prison for a number of robberies such as the robbery of a Railway Express messenger of \$17,423 in Granite City, and robberies of banks in Panama and Iuka, Illinois. In 1922 O'Malley was arrested, tried and given a one to twenty-year sentence to be served at the Southern Illinois State Penitentiary at Menard.

Surprisingly paroled in November 1929, O'Malley was turned loose as the depression began and the roaring twenties ceased. Returning to St. Louis O'Malley made his living as a bunco artist circulating among underworld characters. Moving to Kansas City, he ingratiated himself with organized crime figures and began a criminal partnership with hoodlums Clarence Sparger and John Langan pulling burglaries and robberies.

Love again entered Irish O'Malley's life as he teamed up with Vivian Chase, a 30-year-old thrill seeker who had kept company with some of the worst outlaws of the time. Vivian was an escapee from the Clay County Jail in Liberty, Missouri where she had been held for a bank robbery.

In July 1933 O'Malley enlisted Vivian and some cohorts to kidnap wealthy August Luer, of Alton, Illinois. After kidnaping the 77-year-old Mr. Luer and holding him in a crude cellar the plot was abandoned. Luer was in poor health and O'Malley couldn't formulate a workable plan to pick up the

\$100,000 ransom demanded, so Mr. Luer was released unharmed.

On a stop in Springfield, Missouri enroute to Kansas City after the failed kidnaping, O'Malley made the acquaintance of Leonard "Shock" Short leader of the Ozark Mountain Boys gang. Comparing notes, the two decided to join forces. The O'Malley gang combined with the Ozark Mountain Boys was an unusual amalgamation of rural and city criminal enterprise. Together the two factions committed many successful bank robberies, such as the Okemah robbery.

In one such robbery of the First National Bank of Neosho, Missouri on March 2, 1935 the outlaw band again utilized a dark 1934 Ford V-8 along with a Chevrolet to transport the gang. Working in the same manner as in Okemah, they took over the bank and emptied the vault of \$16,689. Their Ford V-8 was found abandoned outside of town, wiped clean of fingerprints.

The criminal combination prospered until the spring of 1935. O'Malley associate Dewey Gilmore was captured by the FBI and was convinced to turn informant. Gilmore's information led the agents to Irish O'Malley's plush apartment in Kansas City where they captured him on May 26, 1935.

O'Malley was tried for the Luer kidnaping in Madison County Court, Edwardsville, Illinois and sentenced to life in prison, the bitter consequence of the actions he chose. Although Irish O'Malley was behind bars his criminal associates continued their illicit activities. Vivian Chase, Clarence Sparger, John Langan and others were still on the loose committing many crimes, often behind the wheel of a Ford V-8. *(See the February issue to learn the conclusion.)*



Irish O'Malley after his capture



The Luer Home in Alton, scene of the kidnaping



Elderly kidnap victim August Luer



Crude cellar where Mr. Luer was held



Ford V-8s were often employed in O'Malley Gang crimes.

Future Events:

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH– Breakfast at 8 AM at Village Café, 6127 Ronald Reagan Dr., Lake St. Louis, MO 63367. Just off Hwy 64 at Hwy N across the street from Walmart.

636-561-0235 **ON HOLD !!**

EVERY WEDNESDAY – The ROMEOs meet at Culvers 4351 State Hwy K, O’Fallon, MO 63368 at 11:00 AM **ON HOLD !!**

EVERY THURSDAY – The ROFers meet at Lion’s Choice 17294 Chesterfield Airport Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63005 at 11:00 AM **ON HOLD !!**

January

Birthdays & Anniversaries

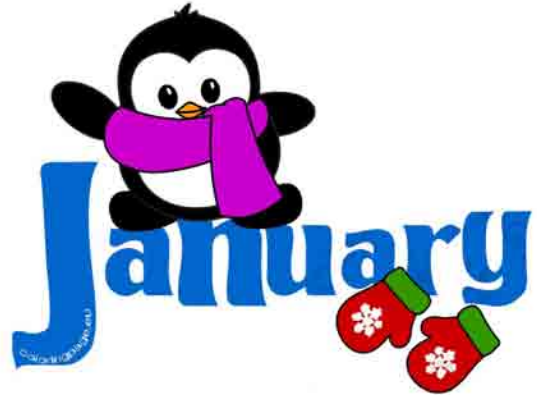
2 Carolyn Aumann

8 Laura Durmont

15 Cathy Stirnemann

24 Barb Hartnagel

28 Joy Drennan



Don Rogers, Editor

The Early Ford V-8 Club of America

St. Louis Regional Group #124

422 Gunnison Gorge Dr

Wildwood, MO 63011-1738

FIRST CLASS MAIL

St. Louis R.G. Web Site

<https://stlv8club.org/>