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**EARLY FORD V-8
CLUB**

ON THE ROAD

ST. LOUIS R.G. #124

July 2023

Volume 38 No. 7

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Your New Ford Is Ready

President's Message

By Bruce Williams

Fellow V8-ers,,

Wow... it's been a busy June. Aside from all my time in the garage working on the Mercury, we had the Cars & Guitars event in downtown Kirkwood (David Diehl, Jim Hauschultz, Jerry Potthoff, and yours truly in attendance), the 60th Anniversary Grand National meet in Dearborn (Potthoff's & Williams' in attendance), and the annual Ice Cream Social at our place. Speaking of the Ice Cream Social, during our get-

together I noted that I found in a 1998 V8 Times reference to us hosting the June '98 meeting that featured a driving tour of Kirkwood and an Ice Cream Social afterward. So that means we have been getting together for TWENTY-FIVE YEARS to eat ice cream! Theresa and I truly consider it a privilege to have known all of you and to have had you bless our home to share laughs, stories and calories. We hope to do another 25 years. We had a good turnout for ice cream and treats this year, and we were rewarded with a beautiful, hot and breezy summer day. And we had a fair amount of old Ford and Mercury products show up.

We have more stuff planned for the balance of the year, so please show up and give us the pleasure of your company. And drive safely and stay cool.

Bruce



Bruce on The Judging Field at The Grand National Meet

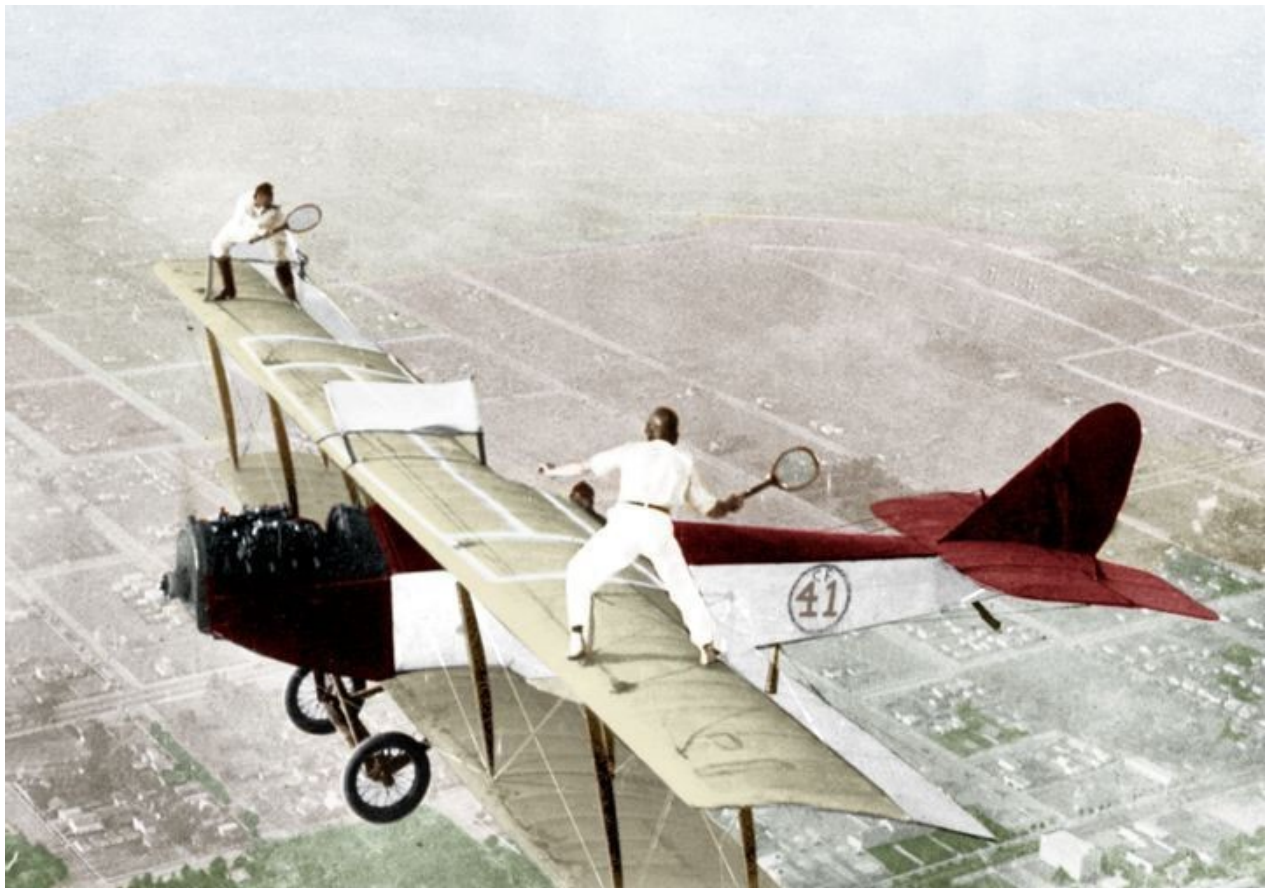
Take a look at the 2023 Calendar in this issue. There are a few spots left at the end of the year. Is it time for you to host a future 2023 meeting?

July Meeting...David and Mary Diehl have a few surprises for us at his meeting at his house. See Page 8 for more information

George and Maxine promise us a great feast on August 19th (Saturday) at Pio's Restaurant in St. Charles. They picked Saturday because we can have a private room with inexpensive entrees

There are some of you that we haven't seen for a while. Please make a point to attend one of our up coming meetings. We would love to see you again

Blast From The Past !!



Tennis Anyone?

June Meeting Report

By Theresa Williams

Bruce called the meeting to order, and noted that it was the 25th anniversary of our Ice Cream Social. He read from the Sept-Oct 1998 edition of the V8 Times and showed that Howard Crawford (our corresponding secretary then and now!) had documented our first ice cream social event.

The Williams' and the Potthoff's talked about their recent attendance at the Grand National meet in Dearborn. All agreed it was a great time and a great event. Bruce described that Seth Swoboda and Michael Driskell were doing initial development of a "Super Meet" concept that would celebrate the first 50 years of Ford, with participation by T, A and V8 clubs, plus the pre-T vehicles in one large concourse.

Bruce outlined some efforts to support the St, Louis Community College auto/diesel mechanics program by aligning with and mentoring students who will soon start the restoration of a '41 Ford that has been donated to StLCC by the V8 Foundation in Auburn. The car is to be entered in the 2024 Great Race and driven by program students.

Bruce outlined the next several months' meetings, and the hosts briefly described their plans. Members were encouraged to check the newsletters for more details, and to be sure to attend.

Don Rogers answered last month's newsletter puzzler to name the celebrities in an old photo. Turned out to be an amazing story that Don and his sister were guests of Johnny Mathis at a show, initiated by Johnny's manager running out of toilet paper!

Bruce mentioned that Bud Wilson is planning on selling his '38 convertible. No details about the car are known at this time. Bud's phone is: **618.512.1155** if there's interest.

Lastly, Don made a call for any newsletter stories or content.

The business part of the meeting was adjourned and the group toured Bruce's garage.

June Meeting Report (con't)

Photos by Peggy Crawford



Desserts Everywhere



Out Hosts: Theresa and Bruce



John Schmid Digs In While Don and Debbie Watch



Dave Conrad, Drew and Dave Kerperien



Jerry and Judy Potthoff



Don Rogers



Bruce Checks His Notes While Don and Rosie Taylor Look On



Peggy and Howard Crawford



Relaxing In The Shade
Bonnie, Bruce, Don,
Judy and Jerry

June Meeting Report (con't)

Photos by Peggy Crawford



Beautifully Restored Engine and Chassis



No Detail Spared In Bruce's Restoration



Jerry Potthoff's 36 Phaeton



Dave Conrad's 36 3 Window Coupe



Dave Kerperien's 51 Mercury Coupe

2023 Calendar of Events R.G. 124

Month	Date	Event	Time	Hosts
January	15	Cancelled	1:00 PM	Cancelled
Feburary	18	Maggie Obrien's	1:00 PM	Conrads
March	19	Wildwood Pub & Grill	1:00 PM	Crawfords
April	15	Pizza Ranch	1:00 PM	Roarks
May	6 7 21	Kirkwood Driving Tour Model "T" Swap Meet Museum of Transportation (All Ford Show)	9:30 AM 6:00 AM 10:00 AM	Williams
June	10 25	Kirkwood Route 66 Festival Ice Cream Social	All Day 1:00 PM	Williams
July	16	Northeast Corner of Lockwood and Sappington	1:00 PM	Diehl
August	19	Lunch at Pio's ***Saturday***	1:00 PM	Ball and Carroll
September	17		1:00 PM	McDurmont
October	15		1:00 PM	Potthoff
November	19		1:00 PM	
December	17		1:00 PM	

July 16th Meeting

Hosted By David and Mary Diehl

"The July meeting will be held on 16 July 2023 at 1:00 p.m. will be held at the residence of David and Mary Diehl, 905 W. Lockwood Avenue, Glendale MO 63122. The home is located on the northeast corner of Lockwood Avenue and Sappington Road. David's cell number is 314-223-9617.

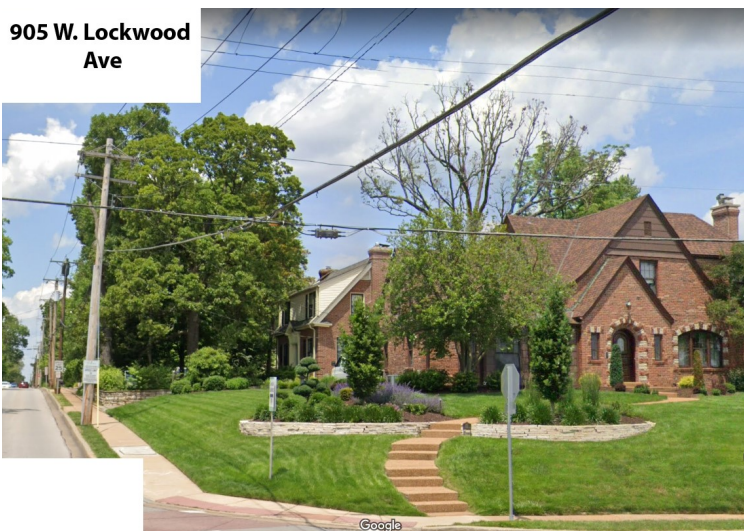
Those driving their old Fords are encouraged to park in the driveway which is accessible from Sappington Road. Those driving other vehicles will be best served to park in the school parking lot across Lockwood Avenue from the home.

David and Mary will provide a barbecue lunch consisting of hamburgers, brats, buns, condiments, and drinks such as water, sport drinks and soft drinks. Contributions of side dishes and desserts would be most welcome.

Sometimes access to the driveway can be tricky due to traffic, so David and another volunteer will be on hand to assist you in and out of the driveway.

Please RSVP to ddiehl@aurora.edu if you plan on attending.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!"



Diehl Home From Lockwood



Driveway From Sappington

An Air Field In Forest Park??

By Diane Huber Reporter at Large

Did you know that Forest Park used to have an airstrip and mail delivery service from Chicago to St. Louis after World War I? In the southeast quadrant of Forest Park, just west of the McDonnell Planetarium, a long barn provides shelter for four horses in the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department's mounted unit.

This large structure wasn't always a stable though: It used to house air planes. If you travel along Highway 40 you can see the 100 year old structure. City Hall and the Chamber of Commerce put up money to clear 100 acres of the Park and a private firm operated the Forest Park Airfield. The Robertson Aircraft Corporation purchased a Curtiss JN-4 Jenny biplane left over from the war. They took passengers up for lessons and sightseeing flights. Ralston Purina hired them to paint the checkerboard logo on their plane and drop advertisements onto farm property for \$20 a day.

Yet the Forest Park airmail service lasted less than a year. It wasn't slow: The planes could deliver letters to Chicago in less than four hours, on average, whereas a train would take eight hours at best. The problem with the airfield was that Congress failed to appropriate the funding necessary to keep it going, the route closed and Robertson moved the air service to Lambert Field. The lavish neighborhoods surrounding the Park also complained of the noise. All told, the aircraft had carried 52,000 pounds of mail and logged 130,000 miles from Chicago to St. Louis, and on to many Western States.

That section of Forest Park is now called the Boeing Aviation Fields; it boasts four baseball and four softball diamonds. So now, instead of air plane fly overs, there are now fly balls.



Old Airplane Hanger...Now Horse Stable

Future Events:

SATURDAY, July 1st – Breakfast

636-398-5089 or raroark@att.net



Upcoming Events:

July 16th Meeting at The Home of Dave and Mary Diehl (See Newsletter For More Detail)

Saturday, August 19th Meeting at Pio's
Hosted by George Ball and Maxine Carroll

July

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Klein Anniversary (**1978**)
- 11 Howard Crawford
- 16 Rosie Taylor
- 27 Russell Roark
- 30 **HENRY FORD in 1863!**



Don Rogers, Editor
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1ST CLASS

MAIL

St. Louis R.G. Web Site

<https://stlv8club.org/>