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Peggy Crawford

2022-2024

Bruce Williams

2021-2023

Mike Huber 2021-2023

T.B.D.

2020-2022



**EARLY FORD V-8  
CLUB**

**ON THE ROAD**

**ST. LOUIS R.G. #124**

**October 2023**

**Volume 38 No. 10**

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# **President's Message**

**By Bruce Williams**

Fellow V8 Fans,

It's starting to look like Fall, with leaves coming down at an ever-increasing pace and the prospect of hours of yard clean-up. But it also means cooler weather for occasional drives in an old Ford. So I encourage you to get your cars out and take a drive. We had a small caravan of Fords make the drive to the September meeting... The Hubers, the Whites, the Kerperiens, and the Williams' met up and drove to the meeting. It was an ideal day weather-wise, and we had a really great and enjoyable meeting. Thanks to Laura and Lee McDermont for hosting, and for providing some great treats to go with the fine food at the 1356 Public House restaurant. We had a good turnout, and lots of laughs were shared over stories and memories of some fun past club events. The October meeting will again be at the Potthoff's lovely home, so please make arrangements to attend. We can rest assured that it'll be a delightful time, with lots of wonderful and tasty food, and a lot of enjoyable old Ford fellowship. You'll find the particulars on address and time elsewhere in the newsletter. The November meeting is still "hostless", so Theresa and I will make arrangements for a session and will get the word out soon. And thanks to Russell and Gayle Roark, who have again volunteered to host the December meeting at their garage. More on the date and what to bring soon.



Related to the subject of old cars... David Diehl and I recently attended a talk at a library by Jeff Buckley on the history of the Moon Motor Company in St. Louis. I am acquainted with Jeff as we're both members of the St. Louis Model A Restorer's Club. Jeff is also the founder and president of the national Moon club, and he has compiled an amazing amount of information about the Moon company and he has restored several Moons. His presentation was a fascinating tale of business, engineering and local St. Louis family history, with many old photos of factory sites, cars and people. You can find his story at [www.moonclub.org](http://www.moonclub.org). I think you'll find it very enjoyable, so check it out to learn a lot more about the extensive automotive history of our city.

See you at the Potthoffs,

**Bruce**

**Take a look at the 2023 Calendar in this issue. There is only 0ne spot left at the end of the year. The Roarks have once again agreed to host the December meeting. Is it time for you to host the November meeting?**

**The September 17th at The 1356 Public House was a good time and well attended. Thanks to Lee and Laura McDurmont.**

**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.**

**Please mark your calendars for Oct 22. Judy and Jerry Potthoff will be hosting our October meet at their house. The Potthoff's will be providing all refreshments!!! What could be easier.**

**NO EXCUSES PLEASE**



# September meeting minutes

Sept 17 2023 by Gayle Roark

Photos by Dave Kerperien

We met at the 1351 Public House in Ballwin on Big Bend. Bruce thanked Lee and Laura McDurmont, who hosted.

Bruce passed around a picture from 1996, one of the first group meetings we had. We were in front of a ruined building that is now a large restored house. Our October meeting will be at Potthoff's Oct 22 at 1PM. We also need volunteers to host meetings for Nov and Dec. Otherwise Bruce will start looking for restaurants to host. Nov is our nomination meeting for officeholders. Please volunteer for an office.

Bruce went to a car show in Glen Carbon IL. It had lots of late model cars, high end European like Ferrarri, Lamborghini. There was a '42 Tractor Trailer, some Model A's, lots of Corvettes. It is a nice little town.

Bruce handed out copies of the Kirkwood Webster times with the article on our club in it. He looked for a photo gallery on their web site as the reporter took lots of pictures but has not found one yet.

Attendees: Hubers, Roarks, Crawfords, Williams, Whites, Dave, Tosha and Drew Kerperien, Bonnie Abler, Charlie Walters, Lee McDurmont, George Ball, Maxine Carroll and David Diehl.



# Funny Historical Fact

In 1942, Bell Aircrafts secretly built America's first jet, the P-59 Airacomet. Up until this point, a propeller was as important to a plane as tires were to a car. To keep this new project top secret, the P-59 was fitted with a fake propeller that it wore everywhere but in the air. One of the test pilots for the P-59 was a man named Jack Woolams. Jack didn't care one bit about this secrecy and made a hobby out of flying his jet as close to other planes as possible. To make these sighting even more special, he would dress up for the occasion. When men would go to the Air Force psychologist saying that they had seen a "loud, fast propellerless plane piloted by a gorilla in a derby hat, waving a stogie!" the psychologists would tell them, "That is impossible! How can a plane fly without a propeller?"



## 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	1356 Public House	1:00 PM	McDurmont
October	22	643 E. Monroe, Kirkwood	1:00 PM	Potthoff
November	19	?????????	1:00 PM	
December	17	Russell & Gayle Roark's Home	1:00 PM	Roark's

# Octoberber22th Meeting

When: Sunday October 22. 1:00 pm

Where: home of Jerry and Judith Potthoff

643 East Monroe, Kirkwood. 63122

**Special instructions:** The Potthoff's are once again hosting a club meeting at their home, so please drive your old Ford or bring a picture of it to share. And please wear your nametag. Drinks & dessert will be provided

RSVP to [potthoff@charter.net](mailto:potthoff@charter.net) by Friday Oct 20



**Our Hosts Jerry and Judith Potthoff**

# **Congratulations To Dave and Drew Kerperien**

This past weekend Drew and I, along with my Dad, attended the James Dean Run car show held in Fairmount Indiana with my 1951 Mercury. Fairmount Indiana is the hometown of James Dean and every year on the last weekend in September they hold a festival honoring his legacy on the anniversary of his death. It is a three day car show and draws over 2000 cars and lots of people.

Since James Dean was known for Rebel Without a Cause the show has an emphasis on 49-51 Mercurys with an entire area for them to park together. On Sunday of the show the Mercurys on display are judged and the top 25 are awarded and one Mercury is chosen to be Mercury of the year. The Mercury chosen for Mercury of the year will have their car on display at the entrance of the show the following year and will be on the event t-shirts, awards, dash plaques, and flyers. Among Mercury owners it is a very honored award. Well this year my 1951 Mercury was crowned Mercury of the year and Drew and I were as happy and honored as can be!





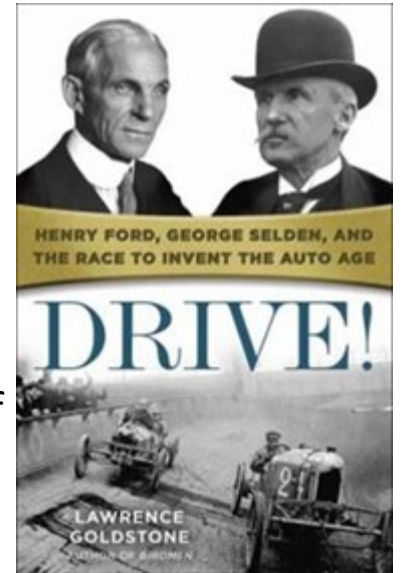
## Bruces Book Report

### Drive!:

#### Henry Ford, George Selden, and the Race to Invent the Auto Age

By Lawrence Goldstone

I recently finished Drive!, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I feared it would be a slow and tedious deep dive into the legal wranglings of Ford's epic lawsuit against George Selden, who claimed to have invented and patented the automobile. Instead, it was a fascinating array of stories of the earliest pioneers of the Automobile Age. The early struggles with basic engineering solutions to internal combustion engines... ignition systems, Brayton vs. Otto combustion cycles, etc. were described in a lively fashion. And there were many stories about promotion of autos, racing, road development, and so forth. The book gives a number of great perspectives on how the auto moved from a "rich man's toy", to a mass consumption necessity of modern life, which was Henry Ford's vision from the beginning of the Ford Motor Company. It is a book that does a wonderful job of explaining the birth of the auto industry, and it gives credit to a wide array of inventors, promoters and business leaders and risk takers. Don't be turned off by thinking it is about patent law and an arcane sequence of trials and appeals (although the content about those details is written in a lively and easily followable style); rather, it is a fast paced recap of many historical actions by many people who were key to launching the Auto Age. I think you'll enjoy it!



# Blast From The Past !!

By Peggy Crawford



Jan 2001 Instalation



Oct 2008 Wildwood Pub



2008 Meeting Bandanas



Oct 2008 Wildwood Pub



May 2008 Webster Groves Tour



May 2006 Tour

# Cars For Sale!

We were contacted thru the club website about a 1942 Ford for sale. We have followed up but have yet to get any more information, so all we have at press time is the note below. If you have any interest, please contact Mr. Andorff.

*On Sun, Sep 17, 2023 at 4:56 PM David Andorff <[back1click@gmail.com](mailto:back1click@gmail.com)> wrote:*

*1942 Ford Coupe: I am trying to find someone that might be interested in buying this car. My sister-in-law's husband passed away 10 years ago and it has been sitting in a garage on the farm they own.*

*The car had been fully restored at the time. The only thing we can see is that is a problem*

*is the tires are bad.*

*The family is in the process of selling the farm and would like to sell the car to help her to enter an assisted living unit. If you can help us it would be greatly appreciated.*

## For Sale:

1940 Ford coupe equipped with SBC engine and Columbia 2 speed, additional pictures and complete description available by email request, \$39,000. Russell Roark 314-578-3275.



### Future Events:

**SATURDAY, October 7th –**

Breakfast 636-398-5089 or  
[raroark@att.net](mailto:raroark@att.net)

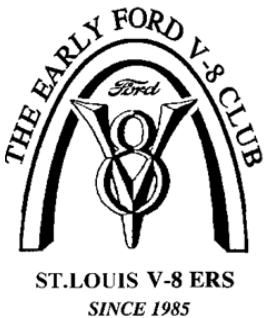


### Upcoming Events:

**October 2nd thru 6th Hershey**

**October 22nd Potthoff's**

**December 17th Roark's**



Don Rogers, Editor  
The Early Ford V-8 Club of America  
St. Louis Regional Group #124  
422 Gunnison Gorge Dr  
Wildwood, MO 63011-1738

1ST CLASS  
MAIL

### September

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

4 Jim Hauschultz

11 Drennan Anniversary (2001)

23 Jan Conrad

26 Lee McDurmont

26 Grebing Anniversary (2001)

27 Doug White



St. Louis R.G. Web Site

<https://stlv8club.org/>