

“The Headliner”

Newsletter of the Northern Ohio Regional Group #20
Early Ford V-8 Club of America
Our 53rd Year



Volume 29-30 Number 12-02

December 2021-22

Mission Statement: “To preserve and authentically maintain vehicles manufactured by the Ford Motor Company for the model years 1932 through 1953 inclusive, and to serve as an accurate and technical source of information concerning these automobiles for the benefit of its members as well as the general public.”

Wishing you all and yours a very Merry Christmas and a very healthy New Year.

As you know by now there will not be a meeting in January or February. Our last two meetings went well for the few members that attended.

We agreed to have our traditional installation dinner in January in lieu of a Christmas party due to the combined confusion of the holidays. Annette has gone through great lengths to coordinate an event to be together. She has asked for a show of hands as whether you will attend or not. It's very disappointing not to get a reply one way or the other. It's very sad that it's the same few members that want to keep our Ford Family together. Please take the time and courtesy to let Annette know if you will attend or not.

I joined this club because of the family atmosphere and the way the members came together as one body. Many hands make a job much easier. Your time, efforts and opinions are very valuable. I hope to see more shining faces in the near future. God

Bless you all and yours. Keep the “shut-in's” in your prayers. 😊

This is my favorite time of the year. I can't believe it's time

NjoyurV8B4its2L8

Jeep



Officers & Board 2021

President: Jeep Iacobucci
Vice President: Jack Bukszar
Secretary: Neal Garland
Treasurer: Dan & Diane Francis

Directors

Rick Jandrey
Steve Kronen
Paul Null
Beth Schilling

**All Meetings are held at
Stow Community Center
3800 Graham Road
Stow, OH**

“Kick Tires”: 7:00
Meeting Begins: 7:30
Ends: 10:00 or Sooner

Website:

www.norgv8club.org

Editor

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Henry said: Quality means doing it right when no one is looking.



February NORG Meeting
Friday November 19th Stow City Center



MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by president Jeep Iacobucci. He called on members to introduce themselves and their cars. Program chair Rich Jandrey introduced Linda Smith, who was our speaker for the evening. Linda explained the benefits of the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan for 2022. Some of our members have enrolled in this health insurance plan and found that it saved them a considerable amount of money. Linda can be contacted at 440-552-6538 if you would like to get details on this plan.

President Jeep thanked Ken and Michelle Bruening for tonight's coffee and cookies. We still need volunteers to take care of coffee and cookies for several of the months of 2022. Here is your chance to show off your culinary skills! Call Jeep if you are willing to volunteer.

Secretary Neal Garland reported that the blank space which appeared in last month's newsletter in the spot where the minutes usually are printed was the result of his sending the minutes to a cloud somewhere instead of to the newsletter editors. October's minutes were last seen floating somewhere over Australia. Neal read the minutes as they should have appeared in the Headliner. They were approved as read.

Treasurers Dan and Diane Francis reported that our financial status is still good. Their report was approved as given.

Annette Gorris reported that things are going well with the Headliner. She noted that the December and January newsletters will be combined. Please send any items you would like to see included in the newsletter.

Craig Gorris informed us that we have 94 members, although there is a possibility that number will shrink to 87 for the coming year. Even the lower number still makes us one of the larger regional groups in the national V8 club. If you have not sent in your dues for the coming year, please do so as soon as possible so you will be included in the 2002 roster. Guy Shively is already working on the cover for the roster. Craig also reported the sad news that member Bob Jones passed away this month. Bob was a valued and much appreciated member of our group for many years and he will be greatly missed. A memorial brick at the Ford V8 museum will be purchased.

Regis Schilling reported that all is well with the club's website and that we have not been hacked lately. Regis is working on a plan for updating the website. Jeep encouraged members to check out the website if you haven't done so recently. Regis has done a tremendous job with it.

National Director Steve Kronen reminded us that there will be an Eastern National Meet in Tennessee in 2022. Check the most recent issue of the V8 Times for details. The national club is planning two driving tours for 2022 and, again, check the V8 Times for details.

Beth Schilling informed us that she has spoken with the mayor of Stow regarding where the club's donation for appreciation for use of the meeting room should be made. The mayor suggested that we donate to a fund for construction of a memorial for first responders that the city is planning. Craig Gorris moved that we donate \$250 to this fund. Second by Jack Bukszar. The motion passed.

Frank Posar is retiring from his position as the club's V8 Times correspondent. Darlene Null has volunteered to take over the position. Her willingness to help out with this very important position is much appreciated.

Minutes continued on page 3

Minutes of November 19 continued

Neal Garland reported having problems making suitable arrangements for our club's lunches. This is due primarily to the fact that many restaurants have stopped serving lunch to large groups because of the pandemic. He hopes to resume the lunches in January.

Jack Bukszar is exploring possibilities for an overnight outing to the Gilmore Museum in Michigan. Watch future newsletters for developments.

Election of officers and board members for 2022 was held. The results are:

President: Jeep Iacobucci

Vice president: Jack Bukszar

Secretary: Neal Garland

Treasurers: Dan and Diane Francis

Board of Directors: Steve Kronen, Paul Null, Rick Jandrey, Beth Schilling.

Annette Gorris announced that there are some changes in the plans for the Christmas Party/ Installation Banquet. A special announcement will be sent out regarding the final plan. The date will be January 16.

Rick Jandrey moved that we adjourn. We did so at 8:20 p.m.

Neal Garland, Secretary

Bob Jones Obituary 1934 ~ 2021

Bob Jones was a member of NORG for over 30 years. He owned Jones Group Interiors in Akron a very successful business.

In addition he had a wonderful collection of Ford V-8's as well as other collector cars housed in Akron close to his business. Bob would invite our members and other folks interested in antique vehicles to an "Open House" in Akron every few years to enjoy his collection.

Bob passed away November 11, 2021, at the age of 87.

He was loved and cherished by many people including : his deceased wife Shirley; his siblings, Bill, Arlene, Janice and Shirley; his parents, Horace and Ethel; his sons, David and Eric John (Bob Kish); and his grandchildren, Kate (Nate), Sarah (Brandon), Rick, Alex and Hayley (Anton)



2021 Activities At A Glance



- **Sunday January 16th Time TBD** NORG Holiday Party and Installation of Officers at Sleepy Hollow Golf Course (*see page 5 for more information*)
- **Friday, February 18th 7:30 PM** Monthly Club Meeting, Stow City Center



NORG COOKIE BAKERS



February Meeting	Bruce Lewicki
March Meeting	Darlene Null
April Meeting	Georgene Iacobucci
May Meeting	Diane Francis
June Meeting	NO MEETING
July Meeting	Sharon Bukszar
August Meeting	Beth Schilling
September Meeting	<i>Need Someone</i>
October Meeting	Kathy Kessler
November Meeting	<i>Need Someone</i>

**NORG Installation Banquet
& Holiday Party**

Sunday, January 16th, 2022, 2:00 PM
Sleepy Hollow Country Club
9445 Brecksville Road

\$30.00/Person
Guests Welcome

Menu Includes

Roasted Prime Rib of Beef
Salad
Roasted Red Skin Potatoes
Green Beans Almandine
Desert
Coffee or Tea

Vegetarian Meal Available

Cash Bar with Beer, Wine & Mixed Drinks

Reservation Information:

Reservation required by **Monday January 10**

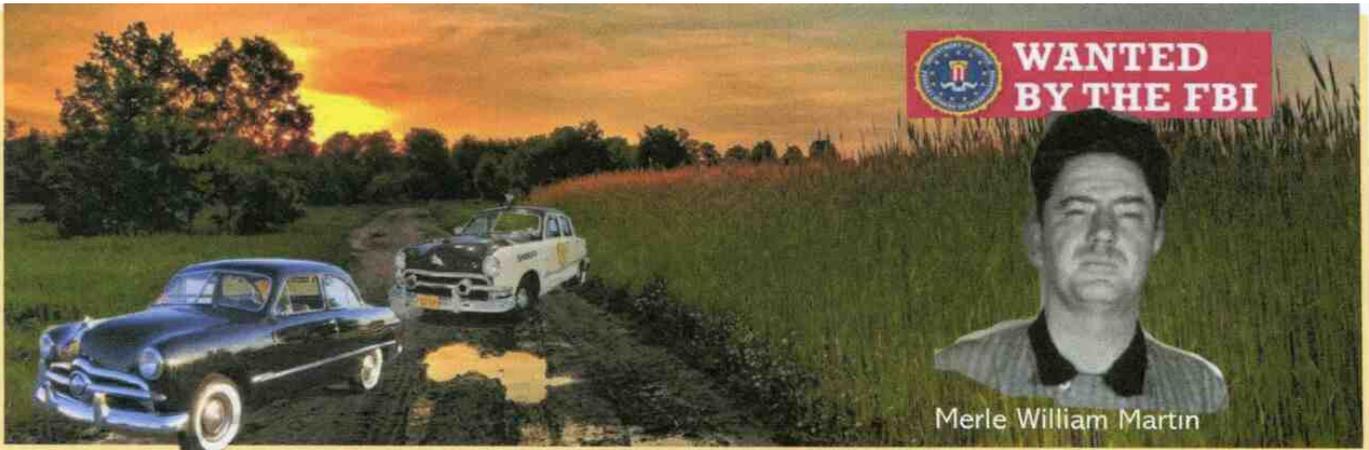
E-mail or Call Annette Gorris :

E mail: annette.gorris@gmail.com

Cell: (216) 215-7255

NOTE:

**Vegetarian Meal Reservations required
by January 3rd**



Sheriff's Sergeant Willard Carver spots stolen 1949 Ford V-8 Slain by Ex-Con Merle W. Martin Who is Soon Nabbed by Police

by John Emmering

As it sped through the darkness west on Shawnee Mission Road toward the town of Zarah, Kansas on the evening of June 22, 1952 the black 1949 Ford V-8 did not attract attention. Passersby had no idea that the Ford, occupied by Merle Martin and his brother-in-law Charlie Isgrigg was fleeing from the scene of a residential burglary the men had just pulled near the Kansas City suburb of Overland, in Johnson County Kansas.

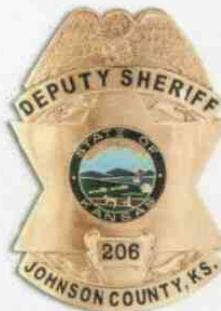
The pair had broken into the home of Moss Davis and his family and filled pillowcases full of cash and small valuable items taken from the home. The burglary had been reported to the Sheriff by a neighbor. Martin and Isgrigg, both ex-convicts were nervous and anxious to put distance between themselves and the scene of the crime .



ROBERTA RAYE CARTER



SGT WILLARD CARVER



Unfortunately for the burglars recent rains had left the back road they took muddy and the 1949 Ford became hopelessly stuck in some mud. The pair left the Ford and took off on foot with a goal of finding a car or truck to steal to pull the stolen Ford out of the mud. It was not too long until they discovered a truck parked in a farmyard.

Experienced as a car thief, Martin defeated the ignition lock and the criminals took off in the truck. The theft of the truck had not gone unnoticed and the owner phoned the Sheriff's Office. By now Johnson County Sheriff L.V. Billings himself had been alerted to the goings on and began to personally direct his men. .



CHARLIE ISGRIGG



Stolen '49 Ford found stuck along muddy Kansas road.



Martin stole a '41 Ford in Rochelle, Illinois in 1941 and drove to Missouri



Martin spotted in a '51 Ford



St. Louis Police pulled over the stolen Ford



Martin in custody 08/30/52

The Sheriff radioed a two-man unit composed of Sgt. Willard Carver and Deputy Floyd Gaunt, working the 11:00 pm to 7:00 am watch and sent them to investigate the theft of the truck near Zarah. Sgt. Carver, a Navy veteran of the D-Day invasion of Normandy during World War II, was a rising star in the department. He had reached the rank of Sergeant in only three years. Sgt. Carver had set his sights on the office of sheriff itself. With incumbent Sheriff Billings leaving office, he entered his name in the primary election against nine other candidates running for nomination.

Enroot to the scene of the theft of the truck, Sgt. Carver and Deputy Floyd spotted the black 1949 Ford Tudor Sedan along the side the rural road, mired in some deep mud. Examining the car, they discovered a German Lugar pistol in the front seat along with pillowcases full of stolen items in the back. Carver decided they would park their patrol car behind cover and wait to see if the offenders would return. It was not long before a truck was seen backing up close to the 1949 Ford. Carver and Floyd illuminated the truck with their flashlights and drew their service revolvers. They approached the truck from different sides. The deputies shouted to the truck's occupants "Come out with your hands up, Police!"

The orders shouted to Martin and Isgrigg were met by gunfire as Martin pulled a Colt .38 caliber revolver, aimed carefully and opened fire. While Deputy Floyd had taken cover behind a telephone pole, Sgt. Carver remained out in the open. A bullet from Martin's Colt revolver ripped through Sgt. Carver's right side, severing his spine. After the shots were fired Isgrigg fled north into the woods, and Martin ran in the opposite direction. After returning fire, Deputy Floyd rendered first aide to Carter and radioed for an ambulance and assistance. Within minutes however Sergeant Willard Carver, age 31, died, becoming the first Johnson County Law Enforcement Officer to lose his life in the line of duty. After an intense manhunt Charlie Isgrigg was captured by a posse that morning. Merle W. Martin, now wanted for murder, was still in flight.

Ever resourceful, Martin fled on foot a mile south of the scene of the shooting until he spotted a pickup truck parked outside the home of the McLaughlin family. Entering the truck, Martin hotwired it and drove off 16 miles south down Route 7 to the town of Olathe, Kansas. He spotted a Hudson automobile parked outside the home of Hugh Miller that looked good. Martin abandoned the truck and in turn stole the Hudson. This was no problem since Martin was a skilled auto thief. In 1941 he stole a 1941 Ford in Sycamore, Illinois and drove the car into his home state of Missouri where he was caught committing a burglary. Martin received seven years in Leavenworth Prison for the federal crime of interstate auto theft, followed by four years in the Missouri State Penitentiary for burglary. Martin had only been free from prison for seven weeks and had already made the FBI's Ten Most Wanted List. (continued on pg. 19)

Driving the Hudson, Martin headed to an area hotel where he, Charlie Isgrigg and Roberta Rae Carter, Isgrigg's statuesque blond girlfriend, had checked in the day before. They had traveled from Joplin, Missouri. Martin told Miss Carter what had happened and that he and Isgrigg had been separated. The next day, upon learning of Isgrigg's capture, Martin and Carter, who would quickly form a romantic relationship of their own, fled into neighboring Nebraska. Using various stolen cars, their flight from justice continued on through Nebraska and later into the area of Chicago, Illinois and Valparaiso, Indiana.

They stole a Buick car in Valparaiso and traveled as far east as Washington D.C.. Later they headed west to Las Vegas, Nevada. On the night of August 24, 1952 Martin parked the car on a residential street in Birmingham Alabama to burglarize a home. Roberta Rae Carter, who was sleeping in the car was approached by a city police officer, who then arrested her. Martin was able to slip away, steal another car and drove to back to Missouri alone.

Spotting in his stolen car west of the city of St. Louis by the Missouri Highway Patrol, Martin's stolen car was forced off the road and he fled into a field. He stayed hidden outdoors for three days. As officers continued the search for Martin using bloodhounds and a spotter plane, he jumped into an unattended 1951 Ford V-8 belonging to a deputy sheriff and sped down the highway toward St. Louis. Falling under the sharp eyes of two St. Louis city Police Motorcycle officers the 1951 Ford was brought to the curb and the hungry, exhausted William Merle Martin finally surrendered on August 30, 1952

Both Martin and Isgrigg were charged with the murder of Sgt. Willard Carver. Isgrigg pleaded guilty and received a life sentence. He was released on parole after 20 years. Martin however pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. He was however convicted of the murder. Taking full blame for the killing, Martin went to the gallows at 1:03 am on July 16, 1954, paying the ultimate price for his crime.



Thanks to NIRG for this story

Ladies Daisy Page

Your Editors wish you a very
Merry Christmas and Healthy and
Happy New Year



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Don't Forget to Check out our updated website : www.norgv8club.org

The Headliner Deadline
 1st Day of each month. Please e-mail articles, tech tips, outings, adds, club news and pictures to:
Annette Gorris
annette.gorris@gmail.com

Happy December-January Birthday

4	Judy Brehm
10	Ed Carr
17	Linda Schweikert
22	Dick Deyling
23	Charlie Jandik
30	Jamie Madden
Jan 3	Regis Schilling
12	Rick Jandrey
14	Rags Stallard, John Schigulinsky
17	Craig Gorris

February Meeting
Friday February 18th
7:30
Stow City Center

Happy Birthday Continued

20	Ted Cragulets
25	Walt Archer