

BATTERY POST



POSITIVELY GROUNDED IN THE OLD CAR HOBBY

August 2017

A Note from the President



A Stunning Barn Find

By Harvey Baker

Hello again! Somewhere in this issue of the Battery Post is a picture of an early Semi-Racing. Have you ever heard of a barn find? Well...I stumbled on this early automobile south of Des Moines a few months ago and

never told anybody. The owner agreed on selling and after bypassing the fuel system, the engine started right away. None of the tires would hold air, and after much hassle, I finally got it home! If you believe this, I have ocean front property in Clive for sale. Now the truth: Koy asked me in March to build her something for her birthday, and then... "We keep it!" Over the years, it seems that everything I built, I gave away. For many years, I thought I was going to find the complete remains of a 1914 Overland and build a speedster. That project never came to fruition, and so this is my attempt at a miniature version of that dream. I figured if I could build the wheels and find a set of tires, I'd keep going. After a few inquiries online with ridiculous costs quoted - some as high as \$350 - which I declined, a kind man in Massachusetts told me he makes this size O-ring and would give me six of them if I would send him a picture of the completed project. Boy... was I on a roll! After 200 hours of bending, cutting and pounding on tuna cans, nails and exhaust pipe...along with other junk pieces of brass and sheet metal, I was able to finish it and



promptly sent the gentleman a picture! The car is 12 inches long, 4-½ inches high and weighs four pounds. It even has spark plugs and a fan belt! Paul Wold asked, "How did you get the patina?" Well...the color comes from heating the sheet metal to a fairly high temperature with a torch and then quenching in WD-40 or water. By using water, it will rust. This is the only time I find automotive rust to be appealing. I'm glad to have built this little model - a 'quasi- cross' between a Stutz Bearcat and a Mercer - circa 1912, but quite sure I will not do another. Please try to have a good day today and happy, old car motoring to each of you!

Are you on Facebook? Be sure to "like" our page at <https://www.facebook.com/DesMoinesAACA>
Website: <http://aaca-dsm.org>

2017 Board



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 **Financials**

As of 06/05/17 - \$1,684.52

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DM Region

2017 Events - Mark your calendars!

Wednesday night car shows at Bennigan's on Merle Hay Road - through the summer months.

August 5 - Annual Car Show at Calvin Community - 9 am breakfast at the Café across the street on Beaver. Car show starts at 11 am. Lunch will be provided (hot dogs and potato chips with pop). **Be sure to bring a chair!**

Friday, August 18th: Iowa State Fair Car Show - Arrive at 8:30 am. **Please contact Jack McWilliams at 515-240-3670 if you plan to attend and he will get you a ticket and more directions.**

August 27 - Pork Chop Fry. Walnut Ridge Park at Saylorville Lake. Arrive between 11 and 11:30 am. Our club will provide the main dish, beverages and tableservice. Please bring a side dish. No sign up needed for this event.

Sunday, September 10th. Concours d'Elegance event at the Pappajohn Sculpture Garden. We will need volunteers for the booth. Sign up at the club events prior to the Concours. Or email Julie. Also - please consider applying to show your vehicle in the Antiques Class! Go to <https://exhibit.desmoinesconcours.com> to apply online. The deadline for submitting your application is August 1st - but they will probably accept until the 8th. It would be great to have a great AACA-Des Moines Region showing!

Sunday, September 24th. Summerset Winery with Live Music from 2-5 pm. Admission is \$5/person - or \$15/carload. Meet at the Isaac Walton League at 12:30 pm then caravan at 12:45 pm. Bring lawn chairs. We will try to reserve a space for the club - in the September Battery Post.

Tentative October 10th at 1 pm - Meals from the Heartland. We are waiting for confirmation from the organization for this date. Once confirmed, the club plans to meet at Red Robin in West Des Moines for lunch at 11:30 am. Then contribute our time to Meals from the Heartland, an amazing organization, starting at 1 pm at 357 Lincoln Way Street, West Des Moines, IA. We will provide more information in the next Battery Post.

Breakfast / Lunch / Party dates

More details to come on these events/dates.

October 10th at 11:30 am: Red Robin Restaurant in WDM - then donating our time to Meals from the Heartland (see the October 10th event listed in the column to the left).

October 27th - Halloween Party. The board is making reservations at the Norwoodville Community center. More details in the next newsletter.

November 4th at 8:30 am - Breakfast - location to be announced.

November 20th at 6 pm - Thanksgiving Dinner. Location to be determined.

December 2nd at 8:30 am - location to be announced.

December 16th - Christmas Party. This is a tentative date depending on availability at the Willow Creek Golf Course. More details to come.

August Anniversaries

8/3 - Jack & Maralee Sarasio

8/9 - Peter & Pam Hemken

8/19 - Paul & Linda Wold

Want to see a photo of your collectible in print?

Brent Isenberger is looking for collectibles to photograph for a national calendar! You will receive copies of the calendar and a print for framing. Please contact Brent at 515-360-9179 to schedule a time to take photos.

Mission Statement

The Des Moines Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America is an organization whose members have an interest in antique vehicles 25 years or older that are devoted to the preservation and restoration of original condition of all makes of their antique vehicles.

July was a busy month!

The Newby's hosted their annual 4th of July picnic. It was very well attended and everyone had a great time. A BIG thank you to our hosts!

The club traveled to Luther for the annual Sweet Corn Feed hosted by the Tall Corn Club (Boone Chapter) on Sunday, July 23rd. It was a beautiful day and the food was great! Our club was very well represented and we all had a great time - and no one left hungry!

On Friday, July 28th, more than a dozen members from our club were treated to a tour of the John Deere Plant in Ankeny. Gerald Christiansen was singled out by Bob Baker (Brent & Julie's neighbor who helps with the tours and a John Deere retiree) with a special birthday shout out! He was presented with a John Deere hat and plaque. What a surprise! John Deere doesn't allow photos to be taken inside their plant so if you weren't there, you'll have to hear about the great experience from those in attendance!

Here are some photos of the 4th of July picnic and the Sweet Corn Feed. Be sure to mark your calendars for all of our upcoming events!

4th of July



4th of July



Sweet Corn Feed



Sweet Corn Feed

