

UP TO SPEED

October 2023

Greater Illinois Region/CCCA
<http://GIRCCCA.org>

"Let's go for a ride"

M. Blevins, editor



Message from the Regional Director

Hello fellow club members:

Judging by the direction we're pointing our thermostats, we know the season is changing, and along with the colors of the trees our cars are seeing less and less action. This doesn't mean that we still can't find ways to enjoy the social aspect that our club brings you. We have an amazing opportunity coming up for our annual dinner on Sunday, November 12. Longtime club member Dennis Heywood has graciously invited us to enjoy his stunning car collection and an evening of socializing for what might be the last time of the year.

Did I mention entertainment? Please check out the invite contained in this newsletter for more details. Sign up as soon as possible so we can get an accurate count. Space is limited.

I would also like to ask if anyone has considered for a moment what they can do to help make our club even better. I welcome any ideas you may have for suggestions of things to do or car collections that we may see. Presently we are putting our thoughts together for creating another outstanding calendar of events for 2024. We would love to hear from you and see what we can do together.

Looking forward to seeing you at our annual dinner and other adventures down the road.



CORDially,
Russ

GIR/CCCA 2023 Events

November 12 - Annual Dinner - Heywood Collection, Frankfort, IL Sign up Enclosed.

Other Events of Note

November - Hilton Head Concours - November 3-5, 2023

GIR/CCCA 2024 Events

CCCA Annual Meeting

California Dreamin'

Save the Date
MARCH 20-23, 2024

2024 CCCA ANNUAL MEETING
Huntington Beach, California

Dear CCCA Members,
Mark your calendars for the 2024 CCCA Annual Meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, March 20 through Saturday, March 23, 2024 in sunny Huntington Beach, California. Our host hotel is the Woodward Beach Resort, a Hilton hotel just steps away from the Pacific Ocean. A secondary hotel nearby will also be available to accommodate participants.
The schedule of events is being finalized but plan on hours of automobile collections, visits to local attractions, CCCA business meetings and the Grand Classic display and judging of Classic Cars.
Huntington Beach is 40 miles from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and just 15 miles from John Wayne Airport (SNA). More information and registration forms will be published in a future issue of the Bulletin and will also be distributed via email.
We look forward to your participation.
The Annual Meeting planning committee

CCCA Museum Experience 2024 - May 31 - June 2, 2024 - Hickory Corners, MI

On our cover: Jan and Paul Grant displayed their 1932 Packard Coupe Roadster at the Geneva concours, where they received a Carl Benz Class Award. Congratulations to the Grants and to all the Geneva concours award recipients. More coverage of the Geneva concours will be in the upcoming Dashboard.



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Editor's Corner



I hope all of you are doing well! It's almost time to get those classic babies put to bed for the winter. It's been a good year for car shows, tours and just cruising around in a classic. I hope you all got the chance to do at least a little of that - more if possible - but at least a little, to create a summer full of happy memories. There are still one or two yet for the season, so get on out there! Enjoy them while we can.

It's not too early to put those 2024 events on your calendars. It will be here before you know it. And the national meeting is in California this year - a great place to go in March. Keep it in mind!

We lost a couple of long time members recently - Jim DeBickero and Jim Manak. I know all of you join me in wishing our heartfelt sympathy to their families. They were both active members of this club and will be missed.

The Annual Dinner is coming up in just a few short weeks. It should be another fun event. Dennis Heywood has opened up his garage for us this time, and Russ Rodriguez has secured a speaker for what promises to be a very interesting presentation, so come on down, enjoy the cars, the camaraderie, and the food. I'm looking forward to it and I hope you are too. See you there!

~ *Maureen*

p.s. More coverage of the Geneva concours will be in the upcoming Dashboard.

Classic Car Club of America Museum Save the Date for the 2024 Experience

Power & Performance Then & Now
May 31 - June 2, 2024



CLASSIC CAR CLUB OF
AMERICA MUSEUM
Art in Motion.



Left: "Mercedes 540k...Ideal for long range, high speed cruising...gives the man a sense of achievement no other passenger car affords." Right: "1931 Cadillac V16 Dual Cowl Phaeton...massive elegance and power...no one who ever drove it could resist winding it up to 100mph...built like a battleship and handled like a hot rod when the needle passed 70."

1954 Modern Man Magazine

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In Memoriam

Jim DeBickero

August 30, 2023

Our father, Jim DeBickero crossed to, "The Sunny Side of the Street" (August 30). Even during his last peaceful moments, Joyful Jim was moving his foot to his beloved jazz music. His passion for classic cars, antiques and architecture will be remembered by many as he loved to share them with all. Mike, Kathe and Tom, honoring Jim's wishes not to have a service, ask you to celebrate his life by listening to Dizzy Gillespie and dancing with the one you love. As Jimmy use to say, "dance, dance, dance until you split your pants". His clever wit and way with words will be deeply missed.

God Bless



As an added remembrance, I would ask you all too find someone you don't know and offer them a ride in your classic car. It's through our vast and wide car community that we've come to know one another and share such wonderful times in the pursuit of this hobby. Giving someone an opportunity to develop the deep friendships and camaraderie that we enjoy would be a great way to pay tribute to one of the pioneers of our club.

On behalf of the club, I wish to extend our collective deepest sympathy to Mike, Kathe, and Tom on their loss. We appreciate the many memories Jim has left us with

~ Russ

In Memoriam

James Paul Manak, Sr.

August 31, 2023

Jim leaves behind his wife, Lucille, 6 children, and 7 grandchildren. Jim achieved his law degree in 1964 and Master of Law from Northwestern School of law in 1969. He worked as a Project Director for National District Attorneys Association, taught law at several Law schools, was an author and publisher of 8 periodicals and books.

He enjoyed volunteering for the Glen Ellyn Historical Preservation Commission and Historical Society. In addition to being a GIRCCCA member,



he was an officer of Packard, Cadillac, Hupmobile, and Volkswagen car clubs in Chicagoland.

He loved to learn and traveled around the world with Lucille and his children. He was a beloved husband and father who never stopped helping his family.

A memorial for James Manak was held on Friday, September 8th in Glen Ellyn, and his funeral was held on September 9 at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, of which Jim was a longtime member.

Our condolences go out to Lucille and the entire Manak family at this sad time.

The club was once again invited to bring some cars to a retirement community for an afternoon. On September 23rd, Russ Rodriguez rounded up about 20 cars for the residents to enjoy. The Batmobile, courtesy of Volo Museum, was a big hit. Thank you to all those who so graciously drove their cars over for the afternoon. Everyone was thrilled to be able to see them up close and talk with the owners. You made their day.

The following members and their cars were there:

Nick Carso, 1989 Bentley,
Gary Gerstner, 1971 Buick
George Hansen, 1973 Cadillac Eldorado
Connor Harrington, 1962 Alfa Romeo
Bob Marshall, 2022 Ford
John McNabola, 1957 Cadillac
Mike Pavlak, 1957 Ford
Dennis Sobieski, 1966 Pontiac Bonneville
Mary Ellen Thielemann, 1958 Packard



Thanks to Gary Gerstner for the photos.

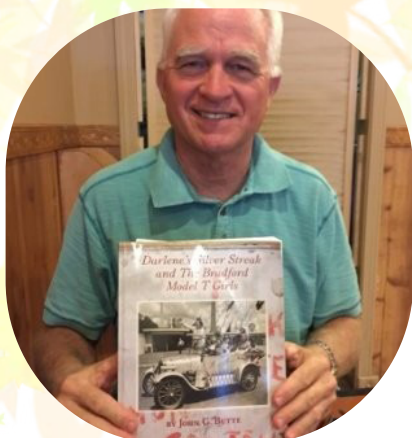


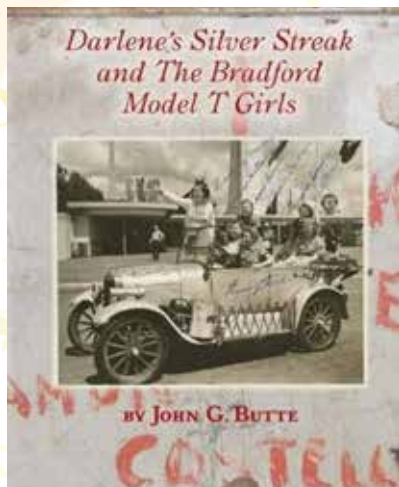
It's Time for our
ANNUAL DINNER
Sunday, November 12, 2023
2:00 - 5:00 pm
9309 Gulfstream
Frankfort, IL 60423

Another entertaining afternoon has been planned for you.
Dennis Heywood has graciously allowed us access to his outstanding collection of
award winning automobiles.

There will be ample opportunity to chat with friends and view the collection
after which we will have a buffet style dinner, and dessert,
then settle back and enjoy our guest speaker, Mr. John G. Butte, author of
Darlene's Silver Streak and The Bradford Model T Girls.

And something NEW this year! We will be having a raffle!
If you'd like to donate something classic car related - new OR old,
contact Mary Ellen 630-542-7721 or mthielemann24@yahoo.com.





Darlene's Silver Streak and The Bradford Model T Girls tells the real life story of 8 summer vacation trips by a group of girls from Bradford, IL in the 1930's and 1940's in an old Model T. They seemed to find adventure at every turn, attending World's Fairs in New York and San Francisco and traveling to Canada to see the Dionne Quintuplets. They met Henry Ford himself and other celebrities on their journeys. Learn how the author eventually found the Silver Streak, a true piece of Americana, and returned it to Central Illinois.

This beautiful 100% cotton classic car themed quilt was handmade by Mary Ellen Thielemann just for the raffle.



A variety of appetizers will be available between 2 - 3 pm

Buffet Dinner at 4 pm will include

Parmesan Crusted Chicken Breast, Black Angus Sirloin,
Baked Rigatoni, salad, vegetable, and assorted dinner rolls.

Dessert of assorted petite sweets will follow.

Cash Bar

**Please RSVP by November 5th. Make checks payable to GIRCCCA
mail to
RUSS RODRIGUEZ
P.O. Box 55
ITASCA, IL 60143**

call 630-767-9000 or email russarod@gmail.com with any questions

Please note any special dietary needs _____

of persons attending _____ **x \$ 65 per person** _____
Total \$ _____

Names _____

Contact Name & Phone _____

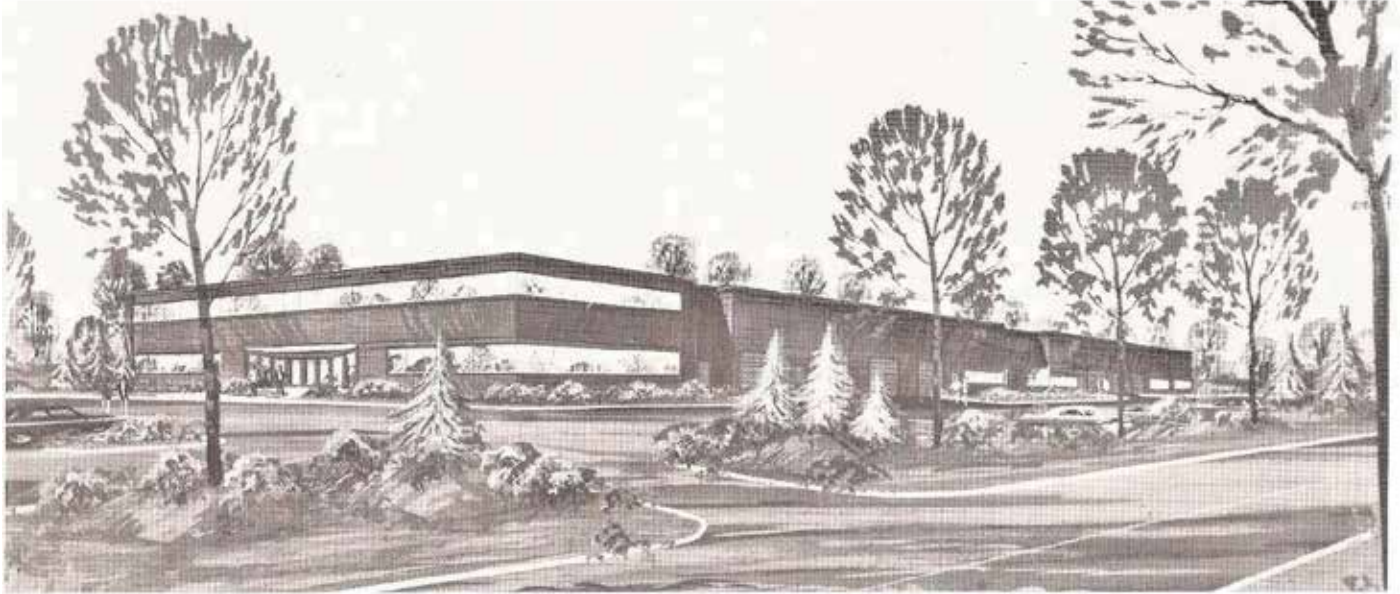
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Fall Tour



by Mary Ellen Thielemann

The Galena Territory was the destination, known for rolling hills, country roads and well-preserved 19th-century buildings.

Eagle Ridge Resort served as home base for the Packard/GIRCCCA tour.

The Generals of the Civil War - men in Civil War uniforms, polished boots and sabers - gave a presentation after dinner at Eagle Ridge.

Stops on our three day tour included lunch at the DeSoto House Hotel with a presentation by women portraying characters from the 1800's. The DeSoto house opened in April of 1855 and is still operating as a hotel today - "Illinois' Oldest Operating Hotel" was originally billed as the "Largest Hotel in the West."



On Sunday we toured the historic 22 room Belvedere Mansion, considered the finest mansion in Galena since it was built in 1857. This home features a Tiffany Chandelier and matching sconces among many other notable pieces of art. Well worth the trip if you have the opportunity to visit.

Touring the Midwest is swell in a Packard - ask the man who owns one!

August Day Tour

“GIRCCCA Members Join AACA Members on One-Day Barrington Area Tour”

By Charles F. Falk

Greater Illinois Region, CCCA member, Dan Sobczyk, who leads the Fox Valley Chapter of the Illinois Region of the AACA, recently arranged a one-day tour on August 5, 2023. GIRCCCA members were invited to join AACA on the tour. My wife, Joan and I were among those accepting the invitation. All fifty tour spaces were quickly claimed. The day began with a tour of Humberto Garcia’s “MPG Auto Body Shop” in Algonquin. Apart from being very hospitable, Humberto has become well-known as a knowledgeable restorer of collectible Lincoln automobiles—especially those from the sixties and seventies. While consuming coffee and pastries, visitors to his resto shop had the chance to view some of his completed work, and works-in-progress.

From there, the group made a short drive through the countryside to Barrington Hills and the large and private Sanfilippo Estate, to see interesting collections that were the passion of the late Jasper Sanfilippo. The estate includes about 200 acres and Mrs. Sanfilippo, all five of her children and their families live on the grounds. The collections include mechanical musical instruments, steam powered devices, art objects, scent containers, and other memorabilia. The estate is not open to the public, but over the years, the family has opened it up to charitable organizations and offer access to the estate as a fund-raising event through the [Sanfilippo Foundation.org](https://www.sanfilippo.org) which they founded. Since the family started this practice, more than twenty-million dollars have flowed to charities from tickets sold to supporters wanting to visit the estate.

The Sanfilippo family came into wealth and prominence as the founders (in Chicago) of John B. Sanfilippo & Son, Inc. The firm is probably most well-known for its Fisher Nut Company products, but it offers varied products under others of its family of brand names. Its corporate home is now in Elgin, IL, but has several other facilities in the U.S. and abroad. In 2022, the company celebrated its “Centennial.”

Soon after arrival at the entrance to the estate’s main building, our group was introduced to the Director of the Foundation, who indicated that he would take the visitors through. What we were about to experience was a curious mix of art, aesthetics, technology, history, and culture.

Joan and I had been to the estate twice before and knew a return visit would allow us to see things we may have missed previously; but we were more interested in seeing a brand-new and recently opened “Perfume Passage” exhibit. It aims to “...preserve the history, beauty, and artistry of perfume bottles, compacts, ephemera, and related vanity items” ...and “seeks to educate and inspire visitors by illuminating the connection between perfume and the human experience.” I thought it would be difficult to fashion an interesting exhibit for this type of collectible; but that challenge has been creatively met by showing objects in vintage perfumeries and in a vintage barbershop setting.

However, it is the extensive array of mechanical musical instruments and devices, along with all manner of steam driven equipment, that most commands visitors’ attention. Two “showstoppers” in the musical instrument category are the wonderfully restored Wurlitzer theater-style pipe organ, and the enormous, elaborate French-made “Eden Palais Carousel,” that are on display. The 1927 organ - which was played to offer our group a mini-concert - was magnificent and is said to be the largest of its type that still survives in the world.

The Eden “Salon” Carousel was built in 1890 and is a true marvel that showcases all manner of faux animals moving around and keeping up with the beat of the music. Happily, we were able to ride the carousel and experience its magic firsthand. While this exhibit is the real head turner, there are several other, smaller, but very interesting and clever machines to charm visitors.

As far as the steam driven devices are concerned, the 1881 steam-driven Grant Locomotive and Tender and related passenger cars are hard to beat. The train can and sometimes does, leave its building on special occasions. Visitors will find interest in the many steam driven devices that have kept all kinds of important processes operating for manufacturers and consumers during the last 150 or more years.

Whether considering the mechanical musical instruments, the steam driven devices, or the art and other objects, tour visitors couldn’t help but notice how many cultural and technical advances or changes have occurred in the last 150 or more years. In all, the Sanfilippo provides a wonderful, educational, and entertaining experience.



Thanks to Dan Sobczyk, Chris Schurrer, and Humberto Garcia for making this opportunity available.

In view of the interest this tour drew, Dan reported that he plans to offer it again in 2024.





P.O. Box 55
Itasca, IL 60143

The Classic Car Club of America defines a Full Classic as a “Fine” or “Distinctive” automobile. American or foreign built, produced only between 1915 and 1948. Many factors come into play but, generally, a Classic was a high-priced, top end vehicle when new and was built in limited quantities. No "Mass produced" assembly line vehicles are considered Classics. Other factors, including higher engine displacement, custom bespoke coachwork and luxury accessories. Mechanical developments such as power brakes, power clutch, and “one-shot” or automatic lubrication systems, help determine whether a car is considered to be a Classic.

Only certain models of some vehicles built during 1915 through 1948 are recognized as CCCA Classics: Be sure to check the list of recognized cars to see if all models of a particular marque are accepted as Full Classic cars. Application may be made for Full Classic consideration by applying to the National CCCA Classification committee.

Check out the complete list at <https://www.classiccarclub.org/approved-classics>

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