

# KALAMAZOO ANTIQUE



# Arc and Spark



1903 Kalamazoo  
by Michigan Buggy  
Designed by Norm Knight

## AUTO RESTORERS CLUB

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*VOLUME XLIII; NO. 8*

*AUGUST 18, 2009*

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*Ted McFarlen's 1981 GMC half-ton*

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Visit us at [www.kaarc.org](http://www.kaarc.org)

**PRESIDENT**  
Doug McFarlen 269-345-5667  
dougmcfarlen@cs.com

**TREASURER**  
Bob Williams 269 383-7868  
bwilliams\_9@charter.net

**WINTER SWAP MEET**  
Stan Rakowski 269 375-3669  
sdrakow2@aol.com

Paul Van Stratton 269 344-5714  
buick32@aol.com

Bill Mercier 269 344-5714  
bill\_m\_49024@yahoo.com

**MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR**  
David Long 269 649-4494  
longdavejudy@ecybermind.net



**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

- 2009 -  
- 2010 -

**PAST PRESIDENT**  
**STEVE TURNER**  
269 965-4247  
imakarknut@yahoo.com

**Newsletter Editor: John McLellan-**  
jmclellan75@comcast.net

**VICE-PRESIDENT**  
Will Pugsley 269-674-8475  
cherryman@btc-bci.com

**SECRETARY**  
Cody Sarenus 269 720-8616  
firesole12@hotmail.com

**RED BARN SPECTACULAR**  
Will Pugsley 269 674-8475  
cherryman@btc-bci.com

Chris Welborn 269 323-1708  
welbornchristopher@sbcglobal.net

Ted McFarlen 269 806-4564  
regalman75@yahoo.com

**INSIGNIA & APPAREL**  
Jim Nemire 269 344-3389  
carcyrazy63@charter.net

THE KAARC MEETS AT 7:00 PM THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH...SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY AT THE MILWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 3919 PORTAGE RD., KALAMAZOO...JUNE, JULY, AUGUST AT THE GILMORE CAR MUSEUM, HICKORY CORNERS, MICH.

**CAR OF THE MONTH!!**

This month's car feature is a 1981 GMC half-ton, four wheel drive, short box. Ted and Lynn McFarlen purchased it in July of this year and are the second owners of the truck with 56,000 original miles. It has a 4.1 L (250 c.i.) inline six, manual four-speed trans, manual windows and locks (even the vent windows), an old "turn knob" radio, bench seat, no a/c (which old trucks should never have; just pull the vents and roll down the windows). This truck came from a neighbor's father's estate and it had some features which struck their interest. The truck has some sentimental value. Back in 1991 my father bought a 1981 Chevy truck from Don Boot, a member of KAARC. This was my first driver. It was a 2wd 1/2 ton with a 250 Chevy, automatic trans, and manual everything. I drove it to high school, and cruised Westnedge looking for girls. I had the truck for a few years and then went to college. I miss that truck every now and then and my wife laughs at me. I'm a huge Craigslist (I buy, sell, & watch things on the Internet.) I came across a 1981 GMC 1/2 ton pickup on Craigslist. The funny thing was, about a month ago, my neighbor and I were talking about the vehicles she inherited. A couple of motorcycles, a few El Caminos, and a truck. She told me it was some old Ford and I told her if it was a Chevy I would be all over it. The truck was in the garage, with parts laying all around it. The engine was on a stand, with many other pieces and parts all over. A few weeks later, I saw a listing on Craigslist. The title said: 1981 Ford, Needs To Be Rebuilt. I looked at the pictures and it was a GMC, not a Ford, with parts all around it, and an engine on a stand." So I called our

neighbor and asked if it was the truck on Craigslist and she said it was. I told her it was a GMC not a Ford, and I wanted that truck! She told me we could go and look at it the next day after work. The night before I couldn't sleep. I kept thinking about my old '81 Chevy. The next day came, and we went over to see it. All around it were new and used parts, ready to put on. It was crazy to see all the stuff: new rotors, pads, drums, alternator, exhaust, extra seats, radiator, hoses, caps and rotors, headlight bezels, and many others miscellaneous parts. She told me the price and I said SOLD!

When I went home to tell Lynn about the truck, she laughed because now I had another truck which would help me out with the feelings I had for my first truck. I went over the next day and put the parts in the truck and got it back home. My wife and I are going to put the truck back together to stock (this is the agreement). I have a tendency to modify everything that I own. Like my 1986 Regal (See Mail Side) which I lowered 2 inches, shaved all the emblems, handles, locks, and antennas, took off the landau top, and made it a one of a kind Regal. However, I am at a good stopping point so now I can start on our truck. This is going to be a family project, which Joey (2 1/2 years old) asks to help with. It is funny how life's events come back to you when you are a parent. I can remember helping my dad with his cars when I was little. It is a great experience to have such a little person interested in the same thing as you. I can't wait to roll down the windows and feel the wind through my hair.

## MINUTES OF THE JULY 21, 2009 MEETING

The July KAARC meeting was called to order at the Gilmore Car Museum by Will Pugsley at 7:06pm.

A motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting was approved.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Due to Bob Williams' absence, there was no Treasurer's report presented.

### GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Orrin Dorr, and his wife, Faye, Lawrence, Michigan, collectors of Chrysler Imperials, were present and announced their intentions to join the club at this meeting.

### PAST ACTIVITIES

**The Kalamazoo Kings Game** - The Kings lost the game, and there were not a lot of club cars present this year. Those who came had lots of pie to eat. Jim threw out the first pitch.

**Richland July 4th Parade** - Dick Saddler thanked those who participated.

**Marshall Car Show**- Norm Jones reported lots of street rods and customs including a '57 Chevy 4-door wagon that had been shortened to a 2 door. The swap meet was smaller than usual.

**Lawton July 4th Parade** - Bob Packer thanked all who came to Lawton and then to his home for a pot luck dinner. There was lots of good food, and a good time was had by all.

**The Paw Paw Days Car Show** - Dick Saddler commented that the show enjoyed a great turnout.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Red Barn** - Will Pugsley reported that things are shaping up and that everyone was "on the home stretch". Dash plaques, and trophies are done. Money takers are needed at the gate. Youth judging will again take place at Red Barns. Chuck Nagy commented that the "Boats At The Barns" would have a good turnout and that there was a great deal of interest from the owners of wooden boats.

**Fall Color Tour/Overnighter** - Ken Maxam is working on a possible color tour/overnighter to Adrian October 24th & 25th.

**Winter Swap** - No new news at this meeting.

**Winter Banquet** - A new committee is being formed.

**COMMUNICATIONS** - The usual newsletters, ads, etc.

**OLD BUSINESS: None**

**NEW BUSINESS:** David Lyon presented a 12-point "Marketing Strategy" which he designed to make the club more visible. The 12 points were:

1. Publish a special Arc & Spark issue for the Winter Swap to describe the club to potential new members.

2. Members should be identified at the swap meet, especially those working in the kitchen who are the most visible.

3. Continue to give plaques to hosts of March Winds Tour visits.

4. Review club attire and start wearing more club clothing to spread the word and increase recognition.

5. Create an appropriate museum display to be identified with KAARC at the Gilmore Car Museum.

6. Create a float for use in parades to show off the club. It would be accompanied by cars and signs identifying the KAARC.

7. Once a decision is made regarding WMU scholarships, the presentation should be made in public to make us more visible.

8. We should be identified at all club events.

9.& 10. Have members attend the scouting Camp A Rama held at the Gilmore Museum to teach kids about old cars. They could possibly earn a Merit Badge in relation to this exercise.

11. Seek to establish an identifiable image for the club, list and review advertising for the club, new members' form, web site information, brochures and club details.

12. See to establish an identifiable image on a national level, provide some sort of contribution to the Gilmore Museum, and make sure the act is publicized in Old Cars Weekly and other publications.

**APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP** - Orrin and Fay Dorr were welcomed to the club as new members. They were introduced by Will Pugsley.

**COFFEE POT HONORS** - ?

**QUESTIONS, TIPS, PLUGS, ETC.** None

**ADJOURNMENT** - 7:45 pm.

**Happy Birthday to Norm Knight!**

## KAARC NEWS AND NOTES

Looking ahead to 2010...yes, the summer is rapidly fleeing and though we are hoping for a great autumn season again this year, it's not too early to start planning for next year's events. Just ask Stan Rakowski. He has set March 20, 2010 as the date for the hugely popular, and always stimulating March Winds Tour. Stan is still working out details of just where the destination will be this year...but, we do have the date to mark down on our calendars.

Still on the docket for this year is the Fall Color Tour which is being planned out by Ken and Kathy Maxam for the weekend of October 24th and 25th. Ken is looking into making it an Overnighter/Color Tour to Adrian.

Also, on September 27, Ben Barber and associates are planning this area's equivalent of the "Hunnert Car Pile-Up", a traditional hot rod show which will be held at the Gilmore Car Museum

### FUTURE DATES FOR WINTER SWAP

**February 6-7, 2010**

**February 5-6, 2011**

**February 4-5, 2012**

**February 2-3, 2013**

**February 1-2, 2014**

**February 7-8, 2015**

### DEADLINES FOR FUTURE ARC & SPARKS

For publication, please send articles, Sell and Swap, etc. by the date listed for each issue. Articles that can be emailed are preferred as that saves the editor a bunch of keyboard time...and exposes his family to less expletives.

July Issue - Must be received by July 3

August Issue - Must be received by August 3

September Issue - Must be received by August 30

October Issue - Must be received by October 3

November Issue - Must be received by November 1

December Issue - Must be received by December 1

Thank you. The Editor

### The 2009 - 2010 Calendar

August 26-31, 2009...Tri-State Gas Engine & Tractor Show, Portland, Indiana

September 11-13, 2009...Annual Frankenmuth Car Show, Frankenmuth, Michigan

September 11-13, 2009...National Street Rod Association Nationals North, Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds.

September 27, 2009...Traditional "Non-Billet" Hot Rod Show at the Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners, Michigan

February 6-7, 2010..Winter Swap Meet, Kazoo Fairgrounds

March 20, 2010...March Winds Tour, Destination To Be Announced at A Future Meeting.

### THE MIGHTY HUDSON INVADER 168

With the successful merging of antique cars and antique boats, effected by the KAARC, Gilmore Car Museum and Chuck Nagy, many might be interested in knowing of an auto manufacturer that built engines for boats during World War II. The Hudson Motor Car Company took on the marine conversion of the famed Hall-Scott six-cylinder commercial engine which was to be used in landing craft and as a replacement engine in certain P-T boats.

The Hudson Invader 168 might just be the largest displacement engine ever manufactured by a U.S. car manufacturer. At a lusty 998 cubic inches, and weighing in at over 3,000 pounds, few could argue that statistic. The basic design for the Hall-Scott six cylinder had been around since the early 1930's and the engine was offered in many variations, and displacements up to 1,091 cubic inches. Most were used in large trucks and some were even converted to run on butane instead of gasoline. In marine trim, the Invader 168 produced 275 horsepower using two huge Zenith updraft carburetors and a twin ignition.



*The mighty Hudson Invader 168*

## SELL AND SWAP

**For Sale:**1999 Mercury Sable Wagon, Black, 124K miles, every option (they all work), Needs front rotors and new front tires, \$2400.00. 1958 Century Sea Flight Lap-Stake Mahogany Outboard, includes all parts, Teleflex steering, ALO trailer (10 years old), 1960 45 hp Mercury and 1978 30 hp Mercury with gas tanks. \$1,200.00. Call Doug McFarlen 269 345-5667

**For Sale:**1956 Scott Atwater 16 HP outboard. Bob Conrad, 269 496-7679

**Wanted:** 1940 or '41 Ford truck frame rails, w/ X-member, front inner and outer fenders, (truck or sedan), grille, headlight buckets and running boards. Joe Odehnal, joe.odehnal@wmich.edu or 269 342-5509 evenings.

**For Sale:**1964 Pontiac LeMans convertible, project car, partially disassembled. Could make a GTO? Has 1973 400 inch engine, California car with black plates. Missing grille, gas door, original wheels. \$2,800.00. Dale Wells, 269 375-4844

**For Sale:**1974 Lincoln 4 dr., 1971 Olds Royale conv., 1936 Chevy parts, 1949 Ford parts, 1955 Chevy generator, starter, transmission Call Rob VanderRoest 269 382-4573

**Wanted:** Four (4) center caps for '69 Buick Skylark Rallye Wheels. Contact Ken Maxam

**For Sale:** 225 c.i. Slant Six, 34,000 miles, with push-button Torqueflite. \$400.00. Call John McLellan 269 621-3249

**For Sale:**1957 Buick Hard Top 269 375-7551. Ask for Barney.

**For Sale:** 1968 Chevy Impala Conv., 80,000 miles, 307 engine, recent brakes, very good tires, white w/ red interior- white top. No rust, very good condition. 269 567-4166

**For Sale:**2003 Buick LeSabre, 89,000 miles, Good, clean car. Runs, looks good. 269 567-4166

**For Sale:** 1957 Chevy and Corvette parts. 269 344-2624. Jack M.

**Wanted:** 15" Chrysler wheels, GM Turbo 350 2-3,000 RPM stall speed converter. Ben 269 567-9336

## BOATS AT THE BARNs 2009

By Chuck Nagy



*This photo says it all...antique cars and boats*



*The boat, not the man*



*Perfect for a day on the lake*



*Hard to beat a nicely finished wooden boat*

## 2009 RED BARN SPECTACULAR

Hesitant about discouraging weather reports, they came late, but come they did, in large numbers, to the 29th version of the KAARC's Red Barns Spectacular at the Gilmore Car Museum. Good reports came from the show grounds, from the Boats at the Barns show, from the swap meet and from the Tin Can Tourist display. Feast your eyes upon this collection of photos courtesy (once again!) of John Lacko.



*1954 Ford Country Squire, Ed McCarty*



*1966 Ford Fairlane Super Stocker, Mike Higgins*



*1957 Plymouth Belvedere Convertible, Robert & Marie Badder*



*1936 Ford Woody Station Wagon, Rick King*



*1930 Whippet Coupe*



*1938 Chrysler Imperial Convertible Coupe, Rolla Mitchell*



*1922 Reo Touring, Don Sheferman*



**1929 Essex Sedan, Bob Boorsma**



**1953 Airstream, Mike & Sue Conway**



**1955 Buick Convertible, Jesse & Sandy Cahue**



**1964 Beeline, Chuck & Nancy Nagy**



**1917 Hudson Shaw Special Racer, E. Hostetler**



**1923 Studebaker Camp Car**



**1938 Ford Phaeton**



*Many subtle modifications have made Ted and Lynn McFarlen's 1986 Buick Regal a smooth, stylish street cruiser.*

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