



Willmar Car Club

The Polishing Rag

April 2023



Prez Sez....

Twofer

On a television YouTube offering, I will often tune into Strong's Garage. It is a historic garage in Bruderheim, Alberta, Canada and from what I am picking up from watching segments, it was operated by different owners over the years. Now taken over by two mechanics, with a good sense of humor and knowledge of how to do things. Their specialty are pre-World War 2 cars and trucks, replacing parts, doing repairs, and using tools from the 1940's and 50's. I think the newest vehicle I have seen on the show is a 1964 Ford sedan in for brake work. I did a silent chuckle when they ended a video with, "just remember, for every mile of country road, there are two miles of ditch."

Yup, that's right, kind of a twofer. Merriam-Webster dictionary defines twofer as something that satisfies two criteria or needs simultaneously.

I think this happens often with Willmar Car Club. At our monthly breakfasts, it is a time of nourishment and a time to visit with car club friends. On our summer cruises, it is a time to exercise your collector car and be part of a group that many who see us pass probably wish they were part of it too.

We have had two trial run meal/meetings. Weather kept numbers down for March, however we had twenty-one for April and it was snowy/sloppy earlier that day. The feeling at the meeting was to do one more trial run before we begin our summer meeting schedule. I think the "twofer" meal/meeting is a good way to go.

The May meal/meeting will be at Willmar Pizza Ranch on the 18th. Food at 6:00 p.m., the meeting will start at 6:45 p.m., due to an 8:00 p.m. closing time.

The May Car Buffs Breakfast will be at McMillian's restaurant on the 6th, 9:00am. 2620 1st Steet S., Willmar. Bring an interesting item for show and tell. It does not need to be automotive.

Hope to see you at a summer full of "twofers". Bob



- **May 6** - Car Buffs Breakfast, McMillian's Restaurant, Willmar, 9:00am
- **May 7**- Spring Extravaganza Car Show and Swap, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, 8:00am - 3:00pm
- **May 17**- Country Stop A&W Cruise Night, New London, 5:00pm - dusk
- **May 18**- Willmar Car Club May Meal/Meeting, Pizza Ranch, Willmar, 6:00pm -meal, 6:45- meeting
- **May 20**- Back the Badge Car Show, St. Cloud, Crossroads Mall, 10:00am- 3:00pm
- **June 2-4**- Mopars in the Park, Stillwater, Washington County Fairgrounds
- **June 3**- Car Buffs Breakfast, Sherry's Cafe, Kerkhoven, 9:00am
- **June 10**- 320 Trucks Car and Truck Show, Renville, 10;00am- 2:00pm, First annual, 507-430-5206

NOTICE – APRIL CAR CLUB MEETING

Thursday, May 18

6:00 p.m.—Meal

6:45 p.m.—Meeting

Pizza Ranch, Willmar

Join us for a meal, and then
we will conduct the business meeting!



2023 Summer

Car Buff's Breakfast

All car and truck enthusiasts are



May 6 – McMillian's Restaurant

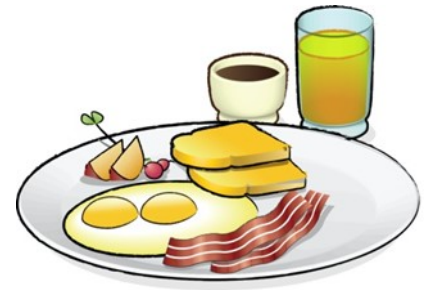
2620 1st St S - Willmar

June 3 - Sherry's Café

1005 Atlantic (Hwy 12) – Kerkhoven

July 8 – Dave's Place

313 Main St S. — Renville



August 5 – McMillian's Restaurant

2620 1st St. S - Willmar

September 2 - McMillian's Restaurant

2620 1st Street S. - Willmar

October 7 – Paynesville American Legion

770 Diekmann Dr. — Paynesville



Organized in 1980 to promote the preservation and enjoyment of collector vehicles.

www.willmarcarclub.com

PO Box 428 • Willmar MN 56201

November 4

McMillian's Restaurant

2620 1st Street S. - Willmar

Willmar Car Club Minutes
April 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Barr.

Care and Share: Card to JoAnn Gesellchen.

Secretary's report approved as read.

Treasurers Report approved subject to audit.

21 members present.

Correspondents and Announcements:

Up coming car shows: Renville, June 10; Marshall June 3; Sacred Heart July 13.

Old Business:

Update on the jackets. Beth will call people and let them know when their jacket can be picked up at her office in Willmar.

Summer Breakfast schedule:

June 3, Sherry's Café, Kerkhoven

July 8, Dave's Café in Renville

August 5, McMillians in Willmar

September 2, McMillians in Wilmar

October 7, Paynesville American Legion

November 4, McMillians in Willmar

Motion made by Chip that if other places for breakfast are not found, we will go to McMillian's. Second by Mike. Motion passed.

Discussion on having a pot luck breakfast.

Notice given that the Car Club Scholarship was presented to Jacob Raak.

New Business:

Summer Activities:

Road Trip to Lou's Nursery. Please contact Gary Hotovec for information.

Father's Day Cruise and ordering dash plaques for this date is undetermined. Motion made by Jay and second by Tim to order the plaques for this and also for the Root Beer and Rides on September 16, 2023.

The car that will be on the Root Beer and Rides plaque will be Lawren Meads car.

Future meeting locations:

Thursday, May 18th at Pizza Ranch in Willmar. Eat at 6:00 meeting at 7:00

June will be following the Father's Day Cruise with a pot luck at Jay and Linda's

July, suggested but not finalized at Chip and Deb's

August is the annual picnic at Diamond Lake

Discussion on the saving account that the car club has and what it should be used for.

Motion to adjourn by Tim, second by Deb.

Respectively Submitted,
Linda Mork, Secretary





SPRING 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Willmar Car Club

\$500.00

Student Name: Jacob Raak

Program/Major: Auto Body Collision Technology

STUDENT'S BIOGRAPHY

I first had an interest in Ridgewater College when two of my older brothers attended college here. I wasn't sure about the Auto Body program at first but I was very excited to learn and try something new so I walked through the program. I spoke to the instructors and got the chance to get to know them and was excited to register for classes. I enjoyed seeing the smaller class sizes which would mean I would be able to bring in more work and get more work done in the shop space we have. I really enjoyed my first year in the program and I was learning something new everyday. I really liked how friendly and informing the first year instructor had been and I came back my 2nd year and I could step in and make jokes as if I had still been a first year. I've enjoyed my 2nd year so far as I am learning about painting and will be starting on projects here shortly. I enjoy learning everything I can in the time that I have left and have even enjoyed learning all of the small things in Auto Body. I chose to sign up for the Auto Body program because it was something I really didn't know much about. I grew up on a farm so I have knowledge of taking care of animals and I help out with the mechanical work at home so I know most mechanical things in and out. My junior year of high school I bought a salvaged pickup that had been in an accident. The bedside had been smashed in and so I put a new bed on it and repainted the whole truck. This helped get me interested in working on the refinishing aspect of cars. I put a lot of time into my pickup pulling out the motor and transmission going through them fixing leaks. My oldest brother was overseeing me working on everything to make sure I didn't get anything messed up. We had to rush getting my pickup finished because he was getting deployed in the middle of my senior year. My pickup has a special place in my heart because of all the time my brother and I spent working on it that if anything had happened to him while he was deployed I would hold my pickup very close. The things I did to fix my pickup sparked my interest in auto body. I knew most of the mechanical stuff already but didn't have a very good idea how to refinish the truck when I was repainting it. The project was a learning experience for me that I didn't have much knowledge about but still dived into it. In the future I might redo the paint on it since I have learned so much since starting school that I could make it look a lot better. I am not certain where I will end up in the future. This past summer I worked at a shop restoring tractors and painting miscellaneous industrial sized projects. I really enjoy painting so I would like a job where I can paint and refinish projects. I grew very close with my boss this summer and I could see myself going back and enjoying working there and he's been offering to take me back and would be very excited to see how we work together in the long run. However, I would also like to expand my horizons out of school and end up in a body shop right out of school so I can get more experience working on customer work and maybe entertain my previous job in a few years. I just don't want to regret not getting in a collision shop incase I change my mind down the road. My old boss Greg has offered to start selling me the restoration business he owns because he is older and he knows I am young and I have a strong work ethic so he would be putting the business in good hands. I don't know where I will be for sure in my future as of now but wherever it is I will work 110% at every job until everyone is happy with the end result.

I grew up on a family run dairy farm, I started feeding bottle calves when I was about 3 years old. Growing up on a farm has taught me that if you work hard for something nothing is unreachable. I remember when I was 14 years old I wanted a four-wheeler so bad and I kept asking my dad for one but he didn't want to just give me one for begging for it. So we made out a deal that if I had fed bottle calves for the whole summer mornings and nights that at the end of the summer we would go pick out a four wheeler. I had a budget of course and didn't want the nicest or newest four wheeler so my dad was happy to drive a little ways to go get one. I was 15 at the end of the summer with a farmers permit so I got to drive my dad to go pick one up from a dealership and that's a trip I will remember for many years. That summer taught me that if I really want something all I have to do is put my mind to it and if I keep with it I can achieve any of my dreams. I learned on the farm how to work and manage people. I work with my 4 brothers to get chores done on the farm and everyone is busy doing something most hours of the day so some days I have to organize a few brothers to get animals bedded or animals home where it takes more then just one or two people to get the task done. I enjoy working with my grandfather, parents, and brothers to keep our dairy farm running smoothly. This past fall my Grandpa gifted me his 1968 Mercury Cougar that he got brand new back in 1969 when he first moved out to the farm that I live on today. This car has meant a lot to my Grandpa and his kids because it was their family car for the longest time. The car hadn't driven in 13 years so it needs quite a bit of work and to get it back to a factory looking car it needs to be restored and my grandpa wanted me to do it sometime in my lifetime. This past spring my Grandma passed away and it opened my eyes of how fast things in life move along. I am at a point in my life where things are all moving so fast around me and its probably the business time of my life between starting a life of my own, working, and making time for family and friends. This spring opened my eyes that I need to make time for the things that are important to me. I don't think there's any way I could get the Cougar restored before my Grandfather passes away, but I would like to get it running and take him for a ride in it before his time comes. I know for a fact that it would make him smile ear to ear like he hasn't for a long time. He loved that car and hasn't let any of us boys tinker on it until he was certain that we would make something happen and not just get it messed up even more. This has driven me that once out of school and I get a little money underneath me I want to take my grandpa for a ride in his old car and clean it up like he hasn't seen it in 15 years. In the next 3 years that's a certain goal that I will work tooth and nail to make happen, because I don't know how much time I am given left with my Grandpa. The only obstacle that I can see in my life right now is what I want to do with my future. I would like to stay close to the family farm so I can help in the busy seasons like spring and fall and cutting hay in the summer. I don't think farming is something I want to do everyday for the rest of my life and that's why I joined Auto Body so I could go out and learn something new with my education. I enjoy working on cars, straightening panels, and painting them and letting my work speak for itself. I would like to go back and work for Gregs and take over his restoration part of his business, but at the same time I would like to also get my foot in the door at a body shop right out of school. I don't want to regret not ever starting in a shop because one day I might look back and wished I had some real shop experience.

A scholarship award will help me by granting me funds that I can use to put towards my future. The school gets a generous discount on most tools and materials that I can use in the future. A scholarship would help me pay for the cost of some tools that I can use in my future job one day. The costs of college tuition and rent has to come as first priority so tools get put on the back burner. A scholarship would help on the back burner to have the necessary tools that would be needed to go right into a collision job right out of school. I head home 2.5 hours most weekends to help out on the farm whenever I can which adds up fuel wise. I am not one to sit still and take time off so I like to be busy most hours of each day. I believe our donors should be proud to invest in me because I am not one to take things for granted. I am the student who shows up early to everything and stays late and often until a teacher kicks me out because they are heading home. I want to make the most out of my education here at Ridgewater because its a time for me to learn all that I can in the time that I have. I like to have fun with friends while I am up here, but for me school comes first. If I feel my grades aren't as high as they need to be its my first priority to get those back up to the best that I can do. At the end of the year it is my goal to have my instructors say that I was one of the best kids to go through the program. I want to dive in to everything I can while I am here. I want to be more than capable in

everything that I could've possibly learned here in my two years. If a body shop in town is asking for the best technician in the Auto Body I want to be the first one that comes to mind between my instructors without a doubt and I won't quit until I am. I love to put my mind to things and challenge myself to get as much as I can done in as little of time while still doing quality work. I know that any scholarship offered to me is something that shouldn't be taken lightly and I will do everything that I can to make everyone of the donors proud that they chose me to invest in.

I have known since I was in high school that my parents wouldn't help cover the costs of college and so I've been working to pay for my pickup, tuition, tools, and rent. I go home and help on the farm on the weekends to keep busy and to help out the family farm in whatever ways I can. The farm helps cover part of my fuel cost driving back and forth but the cost of fuels have gone up the past two years which hasn't helped the college budget. I have had a few scholarships help with previous semesters of school so that has helped me buy more tools that I will use after school. My parents told me years ago that I would have to pay for college myself, so knowing that I have been working the last few years to build up some money for this past two years. My first year of college I was basically set out to figure it out. I jumped into a new chapter of my life where I was responsible for paying rent, showing up for class everyday, and covering the expenses of living on my own. This was all new to me and was a big eye opener how real life really is when you aren't living under your parents roof. I learned a lot in my first year about responsibility, everything that I have up here is in my own name and if something happens or doesn't get paid I am the one responsible for the overdraft or late charge. I made a budget my first year to make sure I would always be able to make ends for the year and that I would have a little extra incase some emergency happened and so I could go out with friends and enjoy some nights together having fun while being in school.



Dear Jay and Linda,

It has been an honor to have you both attend our scholarship celebration and present the Willmar Car Club scholarship. The photo that was taken of you and the student is attached.

We are so grateful for the continued scholarship support. The Willmar Car Club scholarship makes an impact to Ridgewater College students by relieving some of the financial burden of paying tuition.

We look forward to next year's celebration of our donors and students! Thank you for supporting Ridgewater College and making a difference in student lives.

Stephenie Jimenez

Scholarship & Database Coordinator

Ridgewater College Foundation

2101 15th Ave NW | 2 Century Ave SE

Willmar, MN 56201 | Hutchinson, MN 55350

THANK YOU!

Dear Willmar Car Club,

My name is Jacob and I am a second year Auto Body student going into my final semester at Ridgewater College. I received a Willmar Car Club scholarship award and I wanted to say how much I truly appreciate these scholarship funds.

I grew up on my parents farm where we milk cows and raise hogs near Jasper, Minnesota. I have four brothers who I work alongside with on the farm to get daily chores done each day. I am the second youngest and two of my older brothers have also gone to Ridgewater and graduated a few years ago. I decided to attend Ridgewater when I took a tour of the Ag, Electrician, and the Auto Body areas of school based on multiple interests of mine. I was attracted to the Automotive because I really didn't know much going into classes but that's why I wanted to learn everything that I could in my two years of being at school. I liked how friendly and easy going the instructors were and they are patient with our students as we develop our skills as technicians.



This past semester I have fixed a farm pickup where I put two new doors on and repainted the whole pickup. My oldest brother is a mechanic and has gone through most of the pickup rebuilding it mechanically so I fixed up the body of the pickup to make it brand new again. He was very pleased with how it looks and it was a nice thing to do because it was a farm truck on the trailer most years so it had its fair share of accidents. The hood and one of the fenders was blue when the rest of the pickup was purple so I put new fenders on because the ones on there were already rusting. My Dad couldn't believe how it looked when it came home. I also put bedsides on another farm truck and also my brothers pickup this year. As I go into my last semester I have one more bedsides project for a friend of my moms. My oldest brother Matthew also wants me to do rockers and cab corners on his pickup

while I'm still in school and I have a pickup that got T-boned in the bed so it needs a new bed and cab work to get done yet this year.

My future plans are to venture off of the farm for a few years and apply myself to a shop where I can pick up and learn all the small things I can about the Auto Body industry. After I have learned all I feel that I can I want to open a shop of my own where I can take in customer work or work on vehicles of my own and sell them for my own pure profit.

In closing, I wanted to say again how much I appreciate this scholarship award and I wanted to extend that I will be using these funds to help pay for tools that I can use when I am out in the industry. I know that with college I my only limitation is my ambition so will only get out of school what I put into it. So with that being said I put everything I can into my courses and I keep myself as busy as I can in the shop so I can soak up all the information and skills that I can in my short two years of school. The students of Ridgewater and I thank you for helping us all on our paths towards our future careers.

Thanks Again

Jacob Raak

"Show Off Your Wheels!" Car Show

Thursday, July 13

Sacred Heart

Registration at 4 p.m.—voting 5-7 p.m.

Sponsored by Citizens Alliance Bank—Sacred Heart

Serving BBQ's, potato salad, chips, pickles and beverage -free of charge. Jaycee's Beer Wagon will also be present.



May Quiz

Model Introductions

What is the first year these models were part of the manufacture's line up?

1. Chrysler New Yorker A.1939 B.1949 C.1959
2. Luxury Nova Concours A.1972 B.1976 C.197
3. Ford Starliner A.1957 B.1960 C.1963
4. Henry J A.1941 B.1948 C.1951
5. Buick Roadmaster Riviera A.1949 B.1955 C.1963
6. Plymouth Belvedere II A.1951 B.1957 C.1965
7. Lincoln Premiere A.1950 B.1956 C.1959
8. Hudson Super Jet A.1940 B.1949 C.1953
9. Oldsmobile Fiesta Convertible A.1949 B.1953 C.1959
10. AMC Nameplate A.1966 B.1968 C.1970
11. Last year for Rambler Nameplate A.1966 B.1968 C.1970



Answers, 1.A 2.B 3.B 4.C 5.A 6.C (note II designation) 7.B 8.C 9.B 10.A 11.C



2nd Annual Classic Car Show



Saturday, July 15, 2023

521 4th St SW, Willmar, MN

REGISTRATION.....9AM-10AM
Trophies/Awards.....1pm
Voting...Done by 12 Noon
SHOW CAR ENTRY FEE: \$10 EACH
Spectators are Free



Not responsible for accidents

For more info, call: 320.235.2033

320 TRUCKS

First annual
truck n car
show Family event

Renville Sugar Beet Days

Location-Renville MN \$20 fee entry for car or truck

Date sat-June 10 Time-10:00AM-2:00PM

People choice trophy
1st place trophy
2nd place trophy
3rd place trophy

Trucks cars muscle cars low riders
import cars are welcome

Tel:507-430-5206



320 TRUCKS CUSTOM DROPS





Organized in 1980 to promote the preservation
and enjoyment of collector vehicles.

www.willmarcarclub.com

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