



Willmar Car Club

# *The Polishing Rag*

January 2024

*Prez Sez...*

## **What Is on the Other Side?**

Last month I wrote about what happened in 2023. So, it only seems appropriate to look ahead to 2024. Thinking about New Year beginnings, I googled the internet for inspiration and why it is important. A sentence I found is, "The greatest thing about beginnings is not only it is an open door, but you also get to decide what is on the other side".



Car Club members will have the opportunity to share ideas for the 2024 door at the Saturday, January 13th meeting. It will be held at the Kandiyohi County Historical Society building on North Highway 71, Willmar. The building will open at noon, chicken and ribs buffet meal served at 12:30, and deserts will be potluck. January meeting to follow. Reservations are required along with \$10.00 per person check. The reservations which have been received are showing good attendance, (so let's hope for good weather) and all 2024 ideas can be considered.

On December 9th, before the Holiday potluck meal/meeting, some members met at Walmart to participate in Toys for Tots shopping. The club donated over \$1,100 in toys, and Toys for Tots foundation picked up the balance to cover the \$1300 cost of our four full shopping carts. At the meeting, nominations for 2024 club officers closed, with 2023 officers remaining in place. We welcome Dave McFarland to Board of Directors for a three-year term replacing outgoing Gary Hotovec.

There is no official Car Buffs Breakfast for January, however some members may meet at McMillian's Restaurant on Saturday morning at approximately 8:45, all are welcome.

Wishing everyone a good 2024,  
Bob

**Happy New Year!**

# Something to ponder or entertain you!

Submitted by Francis Kalvoda

For 2024, the Minnesota Department of Motor Vehicles offers 123 different Special License Plates. Click the link below to view the plates and description of each application.

[Special Plates Brochure \(mn.gov\)](https://www.mn.gov/special-plates)

## Toys for Tots

by Bob Barr

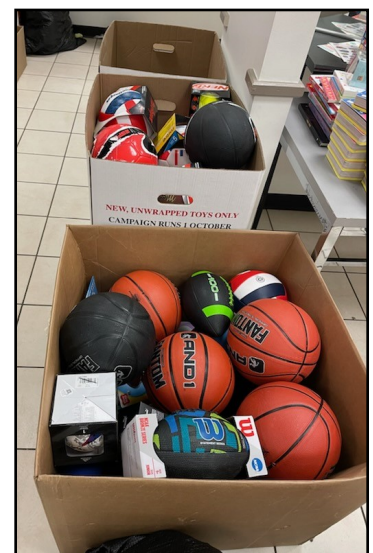
I am not sure when Willmar Car Club began donating to Toys for Tots, it must be twenty-five or more years ago. This year I thought I would like to educate myself on this non-profit organization. Steve Gralish of rural New London is an unpaid volunteer coordinator, who for past eleven years has spearheaded the mission of Toys for Tots in Kandiyohi, McCloud, and western Stems Counties.

I visited with Steve at the main collection point for this area, where more than 4,000 toys, books, and even bicycles were waiting to be distributed for the Christmas Season. Anything donated in Kandiyohi County, stays in Kandiyohi. Same goes for McCloud and Stems. Grants from Walmart Stores in each county stays in their respective county. Distribution to recipients is done thru Salvation Army and other non-profit organizations in each county.

Steve became involved when he did a Christmas display in his yard, and it caught the attention and encouragement of Chad Koosman. Chad had "Celebrate the Light" display near Eagle Lake at the time and this has grown into a major display, now at Robbins Island. Steve's wife is the daughter of a Marine Officer, and a tie with the Marine sponsored Toys for Tots seemed appropriate.

Another event, related to Toys for Tots is an annual summer Frisbe Disc Golf Tournament. All funds raised go to the foundation. Steve's idea began with twelve players, and this past year over \$3,000 was raised by approximately 100 participants.

Willmar Car Club can be proud to make Toys for Tots shopping a tradition and a thank you to Steve Gralish for his commitment. During the 2024 Christmas season, if you see a silver Volkswagen Mini Van with Toys for Tots signs on it, that would be Steve. I think a Merry Christmas greeting to him on behalf of Willmar Car Club is in order.



**The work behind the scenes of Toys for Tots....the white boxes are full of toys that have been sorted and are ready for distribution.**

**The cardboard boxes still need to be sorted.**

**And some of the toys that have been collected.**

*Willmar Car Club Shopping Day*

*December 9th for ....*



Following the shopping trip, the club enjoyed a pot luck meal, followed by the December regular club meeting.

Thanks, Greg, for the great photos!



## **Annual Car Club Meeting Saturday, January 13—12:30 p.m.**

Kandiyohi County Historical Society Building  
North Highway 71, Willmar.

Catered dinner buffet.\* Please bring a dessert to share.  
\$10 per person—reservations required (see the December newsletter)

***The January meeting will follow the meal.***

# Willmar Car Club Minutes

December 9, 2023

26 members present

Meeting called to order by President Bob Barr

Care and Share: no cards sent this past month

Secretary's Report approved as read

Treasurer's Report approved as read, subject to audit

## Old Business

- Toys for Tots: exact amount not in yet but about \$1,300. Spent
- Scholarship amount sent to the College
- Nominations for officers for 2024 called for. White ballot was cast for the following:
  - President: Bob Barr
  - Vice President: Jay Mork
  - Treasurer: Greg Gjerdingen
  - Secretary: Linda Mork
  - Board Member: Dave McFarlandBallot passed
- Discussion on the January annual meeting. Menu chosen. Meal at 12:30. This will be catered but the dessert will be Pot Luck. \$10.00 per person with the club picking up the difference

## New Business

Winter breakfast schedule. The first 3 will be at McMillians in Willmar.

Discussion on the club By Laws will be taken up at the annual Meeting.

Motion to Adjourn, passed.

Respectively submitted,  
Linda Mork, Secretary

Winter Saturday Breakfast get-togethers for January, February and March....See you at McMillians in Willmar.

Traveling breakfast gatherings will resume in April 2024.



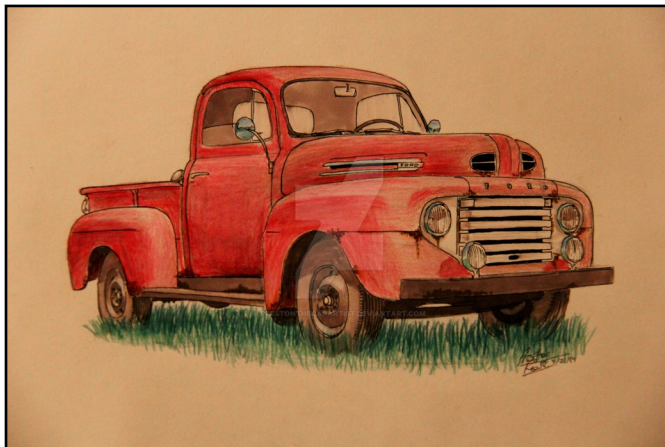
## Newsletter Reminders:

- Deadline: the 27th of each month. If later than that your article may or may not be published in the current issue.
- Public Pictures: - Notify Greg Gjerdingen if you do not want your photo to be published in the newsletters. We are so grateful for all the amazing photos Greg takes for us, but we also want to respect your wishes regarding publication in the *Polishing Rag*.
- Have a notice about an event that did not make it into the *Polishing Rag*—you can share it by going to the last issue, choose “reply all”, insert your message and send it.
- There is an on-going issue with some e-mails not transmitting, particularly if your address ends with tds.net, lakedalelink.net or en-tel.net. Those servers seem to think there is “scam content” in the e-mails.

# The Name Might Be On The Tailgate

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Power Wagon was the Civilian version of a World War Two Military vehicle
2. The 1947 redesigned \_\_\_\_\_ was described as Advance Design
3. 2R, 2R5, 2R10, and 2R15 were designations for \_\_\_\_\_ pick-ups
4. A 1965 \_\_\_\_\_ pick-up would have Twin I Beam Suspension
5. In a 1960 P1000 \_\_\_\_\_, a 305 c.i. V6 could be found
6. \_\_\_\_\_ 4x4 pick-ups were produced from 1948 to 1963 with only minor changes over the years
7. In 1955, \_\_\_\_\_ was the third largest pick-up truck manufacturer in the U.S.A.
8. Also, a radio and refrigerator manufacturer, \_\_\_\_\_ pick-ups were built from 1941 to 1952
9. Produced from 1926 to 1947, styling for the 1942-1947 \_\_\_\_\_ pick-ups came from the company's Super Six Sedan
10. A 1937 \_\_\_\_\_ PT pick-up cost \$525

Answers 1. Dodge 2. Chevrolet 3. Studebaker 4. Ford 5. GMC 6. Willys 7. International (IHC)  
8. Crosley 9. Hudson 10. Plymouth





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

[www.willmarcarclub.com](http://www.willmarcarclub.com)

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