



The Distributor



Newsletter of the Hi-Country Regional Group #28

February 2022

HiCountryV8.org

Volume 52, Number 2

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Hi-Country Regional Group

Meeting Place

The Hi-Country V8 Club meets at the Englewood Bible Church. 3190 So. Grant St., Englewood CO, at 7:30 PM, on the first Tuesday of each month except January. Parking is on the east side of the building with the entrance being the East side. Entrance door to the right. Board meeting's are also at the church, on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

February 2022 President's Message

I would like to welcome everyone into the new year and a new President, I hope I can do as good of a job as all the past presidents have done over the years. First of all I hope everyone is safe, well and I hope this year is not like last year was, it made for a dull year. If everyone stays safe and well, I want to start having more events such as Seminar and Tours and anything else we can get together. So I asked if you have any ideas of things to do, please let me know. We have a good group of members to put all these events on. As you know by now, Steve Estep is in charge of the seminars and Jim Hatfield is in charge of tours, so give them a call with your ideas. We have a new newsletter editor, Steve Kennedy. We have an excellent staff this year, its hard to put into words how well they are. I really hope we can count on Bernie Sawin and Charlie Palmer for their shops for our get-togethers. They've done excellent in the past. I want to thank everyone on the board for giving me the opportunity to move up to this position. Look in the January Distributor and look at the Officers and Board members we have, they are all great people. I ask you to come to our club meetings, we have show and tell and Jay puts on a great show with all past events with pictures. I could go on for a long time but I'm not sure how much room I have. I know I did not start the year off right with the installation banquet, but I felt with the lack of members and the situation with this virus hanging on so hard, I felt it was best for now. I will schedule it a little latter on. We have February to look forward to starting with The Sabers Swap Meet on the 5th of Feb. Then all we can do is get better in this new year 2022. Hope to see every one starting this month we will have good times.

Abe

The Distributor

Is a monthly publication of the Early Ford V8 Club of America, Hi-Country Regional Group, a not-for-profit club founded in 1970, dedicated to the restoration & preservation of Ford Motor Company vehicles manufactured from 1932 to 1953.

Contributions of articles, photos, cartoons, sale or wanted items, etc., are welcome and may be mailed to Steve Kennedy, deadline the 18th. Of the month.

Address Steve Kennedy
8137 Zang St.
Arvada, CO 80005
303-489-3955 evenings please
or email skennedy@ecentral.com

EARLY FORD V8 CLUB OF AMERICA HI- COUNTRY REGIONAL GROUP

2022 Officers & Board:

Abe Jones President
abej2850@gmail.com
Steve Estep ... (2021-2023) Vice President
Fred Hower Treasurer
Scott Turnage Recording Sec
Loren Helfenbein . (2022-2024) Corresponding Sec.

Steve Estep (2021-2023) Board member
Loren Helfenbein (2022-2024) Board member
Debra Jones (2022) Alternate

Chairperson:

Debra Jones Membership
Steve Estep Seminar Chairman
Jim Hatfield Tour Chairman
Jay Svigel Meeting Programs
Jim Nielsen CCCC
Representative

Newsletter/Web Site Staff:

Steve Kennedy Editor
Debra Jones Circulation
Ed Rockwell Photographer
Patti Jantz Remembrance & Celebrations
Jay Svigel ... Web Site/E Mail
Samie Anderson Facebook Editor

Seminar Chairperson ... Steve Estep, 720-381-8984,
estepio@yahoo.com
Tour Chairperson ... Jim Hatfield, 303-877-2722,
jhatfield@rmpro.net

EFV8 Hi-Country Regional Group
P.O. Box 3137,
Littleton, CO 80122
website: HiCountryV8.org

Comforts & Concerns

By Patti Jantz

The following members are in our thoughts & prayers for medical or other issues:

Al Noterman passed away

Fran Fiechter isn't doing well

And Leroy Rupp is not doing well

New Members

By Debbie Jones

John Svel, A-1 Metal Stripping, Golden

For Sale

1949 Mercury grill and trunk lid trim which a working lock and key. Grill \$1000; Latch \$300. OBO. For more info and photos, please contact Jerry Worthington, 719.276.1992, kdw81212@gmail.com



Upcoming Tours

By Jim Hatfield

Due to the current health challenges we have decided not to hold any tours until March.

Seminar News

By Steve Estep

February Seminar

The seminar for February will be the Tri-State Swap Meet at the National Western facility. The date is Saturday Feb 5, 2022. If I don't happen to see you at the swap meet, just call, text or email me to let me know you were there. Also let me know if you found anything good. Good luck. Steve Estep

March Seminar

I am having some difficulty scheduling seminars due to the Covid situation. I have asked for Bernie Arellano's help in getting something set up for a tour at Warren Tech, but two of their instructors are in quarantine. Watch the next newsletter for the March seminar.

Non Seminar News

Many of you are familiar with the Surplus Tools & Commodities store at 1411 W Alameda Ave, Denver 80223. The owner, Roger Cox, sells surplus stuff, most of which is Made in the USA. I know that several V8 members have shopped there during the 75 years they have been in business. Roger took over the business from his father Ivan Cox. Roger has told me that he must close the store so he is having a going out of business sale. This would be a good time to stock up on drill bits, taps, hardware and many other occasionally needed tools. He will be closing as soon as the inventory is reduced, maybe as soon as April 2022. Check it out.

The 2022 Eastern National Meet

Franklin, Tennessee

June 1-5, 2022

Please join us in Tennessee!

The 2022 Eastern National Meet promises to be a great time for everyone. For the first time since 2019 Eastern Ford V-8 enthusiasts from all over the country are encouraged to come together in the Nashville area for a traditional national meet.

Several events are being planned, including a tour to the Leiper's Fork and Distillery, the Grand Ole Opry judging and also a special ladies event on concourse day.

While in the Nashville area, be sure to leave yourself time for touring on your own. Historic downtown Franklin has plenty to do and see and drive from the meet is just a short 5-mile. Those who want to venture farther, down-town Nashville is about a half-hour drive. If your tour includes a visit to the adjacent Gaylord Hotel is a destination in itself. Consider also the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the Ryman Auditorium and the honky-tonks on Broadway, to include Tootsie's Orchid Lounge, for a visit.

The meet itself will have all the activities you have come to expect, from the raffle to a memorabilia room, to an indoor swap meet and a place to clean up your

vehicle. There will be a meet and greet on Wednesday with light snacks. In addition to seminars, on Thursday there will be an Early Ford Foundation meeting, Meet the President, and owners/judges meetings followed by a more formal welcome party.

For more information please go to

Website: 2022enm.com

or Email to: registration@2022enm.com



Golden Cruse

By Mike Jacobs

This month's cover photo is by Mike taken at a very cold January Golden Cruse.

January 1st Golden Cruse, the first cruise of the year for the EFV8 club. Nice weather and blue skies with the highs of 8 degrees. We had fun taking one lap of Golden in my flathead powered, '36 Ford pick up. **Mike**



Photos by Eddie from Past Installation Banquets

Since we did not have an installation banquet, we may later, here are some photos from the 2020 banquet.



1980's Royal Gorge Tour

by Harry Lindsay

In the 1980's our V-8 chapter put on several extremely fun tours.

We had one particular tour to visit the Royal Gorge, west of Canon City.

After spending a night in Canon City, we headed up to the Royal Gorge the next morning.

These photos have become extremely rare, because I don't think they allow vehicles on the Royal Gorge Suspension Bridge any more.

We also took the tram down to the bottom of the Gorge. You get a dramatically different understanding of the cut in the rock made by the Arkansas River.

The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad track ran through the Gorge, right next to the river.

The "Hanging Bridge" is an engineering marvel in the entire railroad industry.

This mainline continued west, over Tennessee Pass, to Minturn, then to Glenwood Canyon, Glenwood Springs, Grand Junction and Salt Lake City.

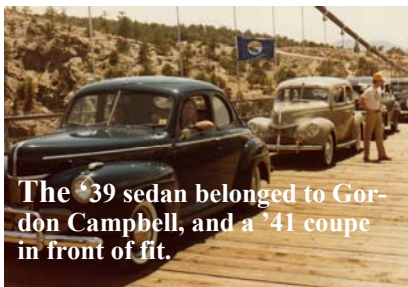
Amtrak also ran on this route at one time, but it has since been changed to the Moffat Tunnel route to Glenwood Springs.

This important route over the Continental Divide has generally been abandon since then. As opposed to most abandon railroad routes, all of the track and signaling is still in place.

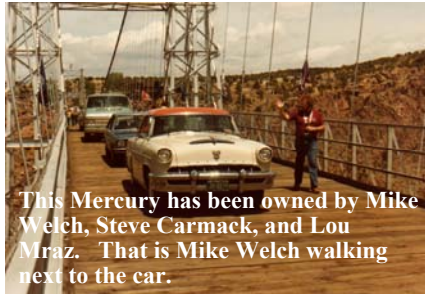
I think this is a national defense decision, because there are so few railroad routes over the Continental Divide.

Royal Bridge statistics: 956 ft. above the Arkansas River. 4,100 cables supporting the suspension bridge. 1257 wood planks on the bridge.

Harry Lindsay

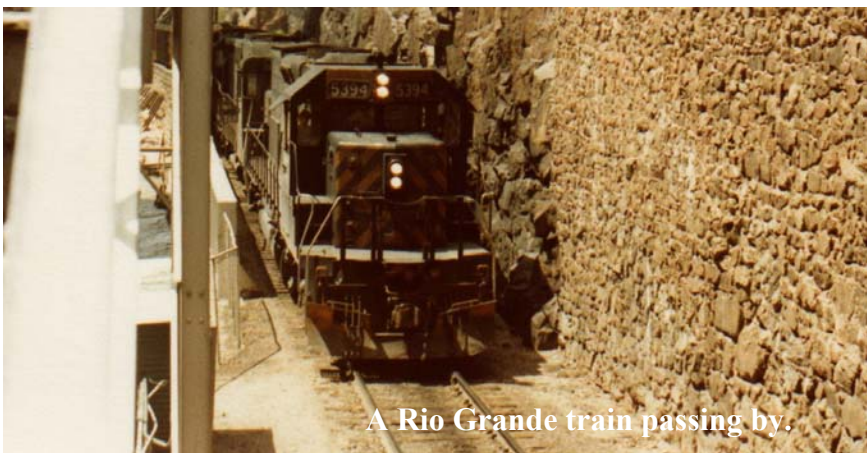


The '39 sedan belonged to Gordon Campbell, and a '41 coupe in front of it.



This Mercury has been owned by Mike Welch, Steve Carmack, and Lou Mraz. That is Mike Welch walking next to the car.

The Tram from the top to the bottom.



A Rio Grande train passing by.

THE BORDER AFFAIR

by Lou Mraz

Plan to spend the third week of September, 2022, (Friday 9/16 thru Friday 9/23) in Colorado and New Mexico, driving the "road less traveled". Please note the exact dates for the tour will be forthcoming soon, and the dates will include arrival day. This will be a full, seven-day+ motoring adventure, featuring lots of very interesting things to see, do, and experience. And you will certainly enjoy the awe-inspiring vistas and scenery that will magically be appearing before your windshield. Among other things, we will cross the Continental Divide 4 times during the tour, and yes, there will be some serious elevations encountered. And did I mention the great driving and scenery? Remember the road trip vacations back when you were a kid? This tour will feel like a revisit to those days.

We will begin the adventure in Trinidad, Colorado, a major stop along the fabled Santa Fe Trail, and conclude the tour in Chama, New Mexico, where we will enjoy an all-day excursion on the Cumbres & Toltec (narrow gage) steam powered scenic railroad --- think 1880's state of the art rail transportation at its best, and you will be there. In between, we'll experience the fun and joy of motoring down many of the less traveled roadways in both Colorado and New Mexico --- the kind of two-lane highways for which our vintage FOMOCO vehicles were designed. Have you ever driven on a road cut thru a huge volcanic dike? On this tour you will be able to do so, when we travel the "Highway of Legends".

Want to visit a cavalry post, where Col. Kit Carson had his last command? You can do so on this tour, and Fort Garland is the place. Also note the part of south-central Colorado/north central New Mexico that we will be visiting has a very strong flavor of historical Spanish Colonial times. The very first (acknowledged) European explorer to reach this part of Colorado and New Mexico was Francisco de Coronado, in 1540, and the following (European) settlements in this part of the world predate the English settlement at Jamestown (VA) as well as the Pilgrims arriving at Plymouth Rock. The native American settlements hereabouts are much older, and we will also be visiting one. Great Sand Dunes National Park will also be on our tour list. What --- you didn't know that Colorado is home to a huge dune field, now covering more than 30 sq. miles? Well, it really is here and bigger than life, with some of the dunes now approaching 800 ft. in height. This is a great place to visit and explore, so plan on getting some serious sand in your shoes while romping on the dunes.

What else will we be doing? Driving thru mountains, and over Wolf Creek Pass will be one thing. Do you remember the country/western song by C.W. McCall? This is the place --- yes, there really is a Wolf Creek Pass. We will also be visiting small towns (some with very interesting histories), and then (maybe) relaxing and banishing all your aches and pains by soaking in very soothing natural hot springs (if you are so inclined). In addition to all of this, we'll be visiting the newly designated Chimney Rock National Monument, which preserves a 1,000-year-old Ancestral Puebloan (Anasazi) village ruin, located high up on a mesa. And did I mention the great mountain scenery and the Continental Divide?

Finally, we will drive to Chama, New Mexico, for the fascinating, 64-mile, all-day journey on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad. The coal burning steam engines, which power the railroad, are a sight to behold as well as an experience not to be missed. And we will be able to get reasonably close to these metal monsters. This is a gritty and unforgettable encounter with technology from another time --- from the beginning of the industrial revolution --- that is very rarely experienced in the world of today. The Cumbres & Toltec is a ride that will be an adventure, and one that you will certainly treasure and remember.

I've mentioned just some of the highlights that will be a part of the tour. There is much more available. Colorado alligators anyone? If you explore the route and do a little research, I'm sure that you will be able to identify many additional things that will capture your attention and interest --- and that is OK. These tours were never intended to be nose-to-tail forced marches, with everybody necessarily doing exactly the same thing at the same time. Deviations that grab your attention and intrigue your interest are encouraged.

For further information, please contact:

Louis Mraz, Chairperson
11195 East Warren Ave.
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303-755-4637 (Mountain Time)
lfmj60@aol.com

Lone Wolf Tour XI

The Goals of this trip:

Drive on Roads less traveled and never before used.

Observe the springtime “greening up” of Eastern Colorado’s prairies/grasslands.

Drive into Crowley County – the last of Colorado’s 64 counties visited.

See water running in Medano Creek through the Great Sand Dunes Nat’l Park, which I’ve never seen.

Four- to- seven- day trip on a “shakedown” for a longer trip this Fall.

Day 1 - Sunday 16 May 2021 – Left Sheridan later than usual, at 10:00 am, knowing this day I wouldn’t be driving too far. Trips in my Coupe fast traffic and Interstates are normally avoided, so CO 105 South from Sedalia to Monument has been used many times. A forecasted rainy day and with storm clouds building in Monument, I jumped on I-25 there. I knew from previous trips it’s a downhill run to my son Bob’s home through Colorado Springs to Security. At 64 mph the Coupe kept up with traffic! Arrived in Security around 1 PM without getting wet, but the skies didn’t look great! Dark threatening skies over Cheyenne Mountain and Pikes Peak continually worsened that afternoon into dusk. A nice soaking rain that evening and most of Monday negated me

from leaving as planned. I

always plan a couple of “down days” on my trips and Monday 17 May was one such day! (80 mi. driven)

Day 3 – Tuesday 18 May – That morning the rain was still steady, but I was off at 7 AM hoping for the best and the forecast looked kinda promising. The weather seemed to be heading toward the West and I was goin’ East. Drove around the Springs north and east to a new, never traveled road US 24 (East). The traffic was very heavy coming in from Falcon and beyond. Folks living



out on the plains driving into work – just a steady ribbon of headlamps.

Wanted a photo in front of the POP – A – TOP Saloon in Peyton, but with a roll-off dumpster in front of this neat named bar and it was raining, the photo wasn’t meant to be. Pop-a-Top was a classic country song, sang first by Jim Ed Brown in 1966 and later by Alan Jackson in the 90’s. One of my favor-

Still raining driving through Calhan, on a blue-sky day I would have spent time at Paint Mines Interpretive Park, which is just a few miles South and East of Calhan. A 3 ½ mile hike of unique Colorado beauty! Try it on a nice day in the Fall.

Continuing East, still in the rain, to the nice little town of Simla. This ranching community of 700 was the home of 2-time consensus All-American Punter Barry Helton of Colorado University (1986 – 87) He is the owner of perhaps the most unique of all football records at CU: Longest punt with a non-kicking foot; he booted one 51 yards left footed against Oklahoma State in ’85. He played in 50 career games in the NFL for the ‘49ers and the LA Rams. Barry won 2 Super Bowl Rings with San Francisco in ’88 and ’89. Definitely this small town’s hero.

Limon is the “Hub City” of Eastern Colorado where I-70, US Highways 24, 40 and 287 and State Highways 71 and 86 pass through or near the town. Heading South on a “new” road for us is Colorado 71. After

passing the Limon Correctional Facility (employer to 350 of 2,000 residents), the heavy rain clouds broke and headed West towards the foothills. Blue skies and no rain for the remainder of this short road trip!

On this 90 mi of CO 71 to Rocky Ford I was pushed by a nice tail-wind which the V860 always enjoys. Beautiful green grasslands in late spring makes this a nice time to travel here. I took a 20 mi R/T into Karval, CO. I'd heard about this little town 50+ years ago and just had to see it! Karval is surrounded by miles and miles of open grassland and is one of our state's most isolated Great Plains Communities. Still has a nice Post Office. (Since 1911)

Crowley County was probably my main goal of the day. My '39 Ford Coupe now has been in all 64 of Colorado's Counties. The Coupe has traveled US 50 along the Arkansas River between Holly and Pueblo a few times, but baggin' the counties wasn't a goal until recently. It provided this nice trip, especially now with no rain. Lunch in Ordway (Crowley County Seat) – the "blue plate special" is always my choice; this one was enchiladas! Good food and conversation here!

Rocky Ford was a short (12 mi) drive south across the Arkansas River. The original Town site was named after the safest ford of the Arkansas River that the rocky bottom provided vs. quick sand in most of the area. The area South of the Colorado Canal in Otero and Crowley Counties are considered Rocky Ford Melon Country and has been world famous since 1887. By 1896 train car loads of now famous cantaloupe were being shipped as far as New York and its finest restaurants. They are harvested in early July until late September, so I was here a little early!

Colorado 71 to Hawley and never traveled road CO 10 takes a diagonal 80-mile SW to Walsenburg. Very little traffic along this 2-lane with little shoulder, blue highway. Miles and miles of green grassland were noted. I

was still ridin' the wind as I passed through a huge out-cropping of wind turbines near Walsenburg. This highway (CO 10) took me across 4 counties: Otero, Pueblo, Las Animas (Colorado's largest at 4,775 sq. mi) and Huerfano. A nice drive, but the closer I got to the mountains the darker the skies became. It looked real threatening for sure. I



had been chasing the storm most of the day! I've now entered the town of Walsenburg from all four directions! A lady I talked with on the street here told me US 160 was closed all day over LaVeta Pass. It had snowed 5" on the pass the previous night and a river of water was rushing down the center of the pavement to the

East. By the look of the clouds up the valley to the pass it could have done it again! At this time my trip further West was cancelled – the Sand Dunes could wait until another time. That plan was the Dunes on Tuesday night and Wednesday afternoon arrival in Beulah via Crestone, Salida, Canon City and down the Arkansas (down hill, right?)

Called my brother-in-law Eric in Beulah, I wanted to drive the hard packed gravel road from Colorado City to there. After 2 days of rain that road could be also driven another day! Instead, I blasted North up I-25 to Pueblo and 25 mi SW to Beulah. The clouds were very black, with lightning and the look of hail at any moment as I arrived at Eric and Nancy's nice home. A spot was made in their garage – but it didn't hail or rain that night. (342 mi driven)

Day 4 – Wednesday 19 May – Left Beulah at 9 AM. Traffic through Pueblo and Colorado Springs on I-25 is not like Denver! A steady 60 mph in the right lane to the Monument exit. Nothing better than goin' out and comin' back on CO 105. When my GPS was hooked up Monument to my driveway is a 2000' drop in elevation. (143 mi driven)

Epilogue:

My shortest LW trip: 4 days out, 3 days on the road. Everything considered it was a good trip. Can't do much about the weather. I thank my son Bob and future wife Jamie for a 2-night stay in Security and Eric and Nancy for their hospitality at their new home in Beulah. First LW trip I didn't have to use the tent, but I WAS prepared. This could have been a "Short Story", but it probably wasn't! It's nice to go, but it's nice to be home.

Total mileage: 565 mi; Fuel: 25-gals, 22.6 mpg; The Coupe ran great!

Tom Webb

EARLY FORD V8 CLUB OF AMERICA

HI- COUNTRY REGIONAL GROUP

2022 Schedule of Events

Seminars are held the first Saturday of the month

Tours are held the third Sunday of the month.

Board Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise rescheduled.

January

- 4th, NO Monthly Meeting
- 8th, Steering Box Seminar—Cancelled*
- 16th, Installation Banquet—Cancelled*
- 22nd Polar Bear Swap Meet-Adams Cnty Fairgnds
- 25th, Board Meeting

February

- 1st Monthly Meeting *
- 5th NOOO Seminar at Surplus Tools
- 5-6 Tri-State Swap Meet at National Western Complex*
- 22nd, Board Meeting

March

- 1st, Monthly Meeting *
- 5th Seminar at _____, Host? *
- 13th Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 20th, Tour _____, Host? *
- 22nd, Board Meeting

April

- 5th Monthly Meeting *
- 8th Seminar at _____, Host? *
- 17th, Easter
- 24th Garage Tour at _____, Host *
- 26th, Board Meeting

May

- 3rd, Monthly Meeting *
- 7th, Seminar at _____, Host? *
- 8th, Mother's Day
- 15th, Front Range Affair Tour*
- 24th, Board Meeting
- 30th, Memorial Day Car Show at 1st Bank
on west Colfax & Miller

June

- 1st–5th Eastern National Meet in Franklin,
TN *
- 4th, Seminar at _____, Host? *
- 5th, Tour at _____, Host? *
- 7th, Monthly Meeting *
- 19th, Father's Day
- 28th, Board Meeting

July

- 4th Independence Day
- 5th Monthly Meeting *
- 9th, Seminar at _____, Host? *
- 7th- 14th, Western National Meet
Wenatchee, WA *
- 24th, Tour _____, Host? *
- 26th, Board Meeting

August

- 2nd, Monthly Meeting *
- 13th, Club Auction (Seminar) Wilson *
- 14th, CCCC Car/Air show in Broomfield
- 21st Anderson Park Car Picnic (Tour) -Abe *
- 23rd, Board Meeting

September

- 5th, Labor Day
- 6th, Monthly Meeting *
- 10th, Seminar at _____, Host? *
- 11th, All Ford Day (Tour) -Abe *
- 25th, Annual Banquet *
- 27th, Board Meeting

October

- 4th Monthly Meeting
- 5th-9th Hershey Swap Meet
- 8th, Seminar at _____, Host? *
- 30th, Turkey Trot (tour), Gene & Abe? *
- 25th Board Meeting

November

- 1st, Monthly Meeting *
- 5th, Seminar at _____, Host? *
- 6th Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 11th, Veteran's Day
- 13th, Tour at _____, Host? *
- 22nd Board Meeting
- 24th, Thanks Giving

December

- 4th, Holiday Party (Seminar) at _____ *
- 6th, Monthly Meeting *
- 10th, Tour at _____, Host? *
- 25th, Christmas
- 27th Board Meeting
- 31st, New Year's Eve

THE DISTRIBUTOR

EARLY FORD V-8 CLUB

HI-COUNTRY REGIONAL GROUP

website: HiCountryV8.org

P.O. BOX 3137

CENTENNIAL, CO 80122

NO Surplus Tools Seminar

| CALENDAR OF EVENTS | | | | | | (*) Indicates Points Event | February 2022 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|---|----------------------------|---------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
| | | 1 *Monthly Meeting | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 Tri-State Swap Meet | |
| 6 Tri-State Swap Meet | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| 13 | 14 Happy Valentine's Day | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 Distributor Article Submission Deadline | 19 | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 Board Meeting | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | |
| 27 | 28 | | | | | | |