

The
BRASS LAMP
WWW.GVACS1.COM

Rochester, New York

*The Brass Lamp is published monthly by and for the members of the
Genesee Valley Antique Car Society Inc. GVACS is a region of the Antique Automobile Club of America.*

**VOLUME 61
NO. 02
February 2023**



**Ron & Sandy DeGroff's
1949 Buick Sedan**

THE BRASS LAMP - FEBRUARY 2023

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A Message From Your Editor Judy Keenan

Every day is Valentine's Day, if you have a classic car! Ah, l'amour! Love is in the air! The deep love that we all have as an owner of a classic car. Sometimes it goes far beyond mere passion.

Our cars are constantly looking for attention and pampering. If it rains at night or there is a heavy dew in the morning when we are on a trip, where do we find ourselves (or our husbands)? Outside wiping our cars off of course. Usually Bob is up and out before I am awake.

It's because of the love for our cars, GVACS exist! Our love is celebrated every day of the year, not only on Valentines day! Some of us even wear the right gloves, shoes, hats, dresses, etc. to match our cars.

So look at our Activity Calendar on page 18 and



bring your love (and your spouse) to the monthly activities planned for you. Blessings, Judy

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A Message From Your President Don Dear

Let the fun begin! We have a long list of activities planned for your enjoyment in 2023! First up is the February Picnic/Chili Cook Off. Bring your special secret recipe for all to enjoy! There will be games and prizes too.

Florida snowbirds are invited to a picnic at Marge Thurley's home on Sunday, February 19th. Her address and RSVP information are in this issue.

Maple syrup and buckwheat pancakes are the feature at Cartwright's Maple Tree Inn. You will not want to miss this delicious event in March. RSVP to Judy Keenan.

Congratulations to Nancy Huffman, webmaster in 2022, and Judy Keenan, *Brass Lamp* editor. The GVACS website has received the Award of

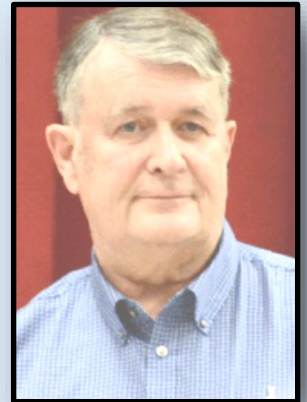
Distinction for 2022. Judy Keenan received the Master Editor award. Thank you both for your excellent skills and dedication to our club!

Thank you, Murray, for arranging our January Cars & Coffee. Great venue and delicious food. Photos are in this issue. Keep on the lookout for the next Cars & Coffee event.

There are a couple events that need a host. If you have an idea, call a Board member and we can work out a plan.

Enjoy the ride!

Don



♥HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY♥

**GVACS "South" Winter Picnic
Sunday, Feb. 19th - 10am**

Marge Thurley will be hosting a winter picnic for those in sunny Florida. We will gather at her son's home at 217 Rotonda Blvd North, Rotonda West, Florida 33947. Please let Marge know if you will be in Florida and are interested in coming to the picnic.



Please bring your drink and a dish to pass. Marge will provide appetizers, condiments plus hamburgers and hot dogs. Betty will make her famous brownies. She has plenty of chairs, and a heated pool. Looking forward to fun in the sun!

Marge can be reached by phone 585-506-2486 or email @ pmthurley@yahoo.com.


THE BRASS LAMP - FEBRUARY 2023



- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 01 Rand Warner | 10 Brad Sargent |
| 02 Joel Neal | 11 Barb Wild |
| 08 Nick Ferrante | 20 Dick Steeb |
| 08 Bob Joseph | 25 Sharon Kron |
| 09 William O'Connor, Jr. | 28 Charles Bruno |
| 09 Bob Klingensmith | |

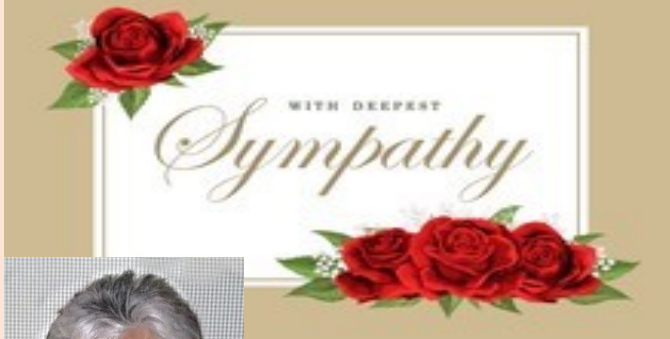


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| 08 Jerry & Nancy Huffman | 1974 | 49 |
| 19 Bob & Dot Gaylord | 1966 | 57 |



Our Deepest Sympathy

Condolences to the family of David Stein who passed away on January 17, 2023, at the age of 95. David was a Veteran of WWII and a member of Braman Post in Penfield. We will miss seeing Dave with his Avanti at GVACS.




Condolences to Jim Burlingame and family in the passing of MaryAnn Bussey on January 7, 2023 at age 86. May all the loving memories help heal your hearts. MaryAnn was always a source of laughter and a ray of sunshine at our club functions. She will be greatly missed.



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We're All in the Same Boat - So Let's Row Together!

By Debbie Nolen, AACA Vice President Youth Development & Awards

Too many times we say that we as individuals, regions and chapters can't reach/attract/retain new members/youth/supporters/sponsors, etc., to build up recognition/participation/support for our passion in automobiles. Usually, the commiseration follows any combination of the previous words. We want to do all these things, but just don't know how, or where to start. Thank goodness, though - an answer might be right under our noses!

During these turbulent times, the best strategy may simply be how collaboration and working together can create results that are greater than the sum of individual efforts or capabilities. Here is a simple example with tips and guidelines on how to apply this successful model in your community - you already have the resources at hand!

Keep in mind that there are many approaches or strategies to offer automotive educational and historical programming in your community - people see our cars as we drive or in a cruise in, but formal ways to learn or expose often are sporadic at best, in most cases, it's an untapped market! So, join forces with like-minded AACA groups, local government and non-AACA marquee clubs to collaborate in the education of the public and develop relationships while creating unique opportunities to team up, share history and appreciation for what we all have in common - our love of automobiles!

How can we accomplish all this? First look within your region or chapter for support and approval. Second, to gain this, a passionate point person is needed to lead/brainstorm a shared vision, and a team of club members willing to share their cars, time, and talents. Moving forward, set the idea, vision, or program goal - such as preserve the history of a vehicle before it is lost or promote why we love our cars. Then narrow down your first or new effort to an achievable positive result, maybe as simple as a joint program with another car club, then identify potential resources and logistics.

Pick a format such as a Sunday afternoon specific topic presentation, visiting youth camp programs, or a specialty event. Say you want to highlight Orphan Cars with a historical presentation and a display of cars that are orphans. Identify vehicle types that are available within your club, and other marquee clubs that may want to participate and sell the idea as you reach out to them! If its British Cars, Corvettes, reach out and get the local clubs involved - Make it happen! Give feature

opportunities to other local car clubs in your car show and don't forget specialty organizations: Tractors, Fire Apparatus, Military!



For a potential automotive educational and historical program, we need a venue that has indoor access for the educational/historical portion and an outdoor area for the display. Reach out to local resources, both internal and external, such as churches, Recreation and Parks, Libraries, Adult Education, and children's organizations and cross collaborate to widen your exposure. You may need to present a written proposal to the agency, so set an appointment and meet face to face to share your enthusiasm! Include a budget and propose in-kind services such as special parade assistance, visiting summer camps, etc.

Once all details are secured, then marketing and publicity is essential! Get the word out! Use newsletters, local magazine, television and newspaper calendars, community sponsor mailing lists, agency publications, other marquee resources, even flyers to schools, social media: email blasts/ Facebook /Twitter - and specially word of mouth at other car aficionado events - share highlights! On the day of the event, offer a 30-60-minute PowerPoint educational piece, focus on the theme, model generational differences, celebrate manufacturer anniversaries, why is a car an orphan? Make it Real! Encourage everyone who speaks to share their love and personal history with the vehicle and your club! Then put something in their hand as a takeaway, a handout, info sheet on your club to take home! Have the display open both before and after the program, a mini cruise-in if you will.

In the long run, every effort made has tangible results - club involvement, visibility resulting in new members, volunteer service to the agency you partner with, potential in-kind-services such as media advertisement, meeting space, waived rental fees, use of tents, tables, and chairs, etc. The potential is endless - but every amazing event has at its core in an idea and a desire to work together for the betterment of future generations and to secure that we are ALL working together.

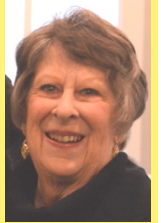




Secretary Jim Day's Report for January 6, 2023

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the members of GVACS, I wish to thank Nancy Huffman for her work during the many years she worked as Secretary, and Chairs of Membership and Website.

The following is a message from Nancy as she reflected on the journey:



4 January 2023,

Reflections....

Jim Day asked if I would share my reflections serving as GVACS Secretary for the past 14 years.

When I became GVACS Secretary in 2008 I was excited to be able to share my skills for organizing information, writing, keeping records and managing data. After all, this is what I had done throughout my career as an audiologist, speech-language pathologist, and school administrator. Since 2008 I have served under four GVACS Presidents, and three Board Chairs. I have enjoyed keeping records for them and maintaining historical records relating to significant Board actions that have taken place over many years --- actions that can easily be forgotten if only left to memory.

During my tenure many changes have occurred as to how we communicate with each other. The most significant changes were driven by improved technology opportunities. Almost all of us now have email addresses so we can depend on communicating back and forth with each other individually as needed. Almost all of us have smartphones which allow us to message one another as needed. We now use E-Blasts to provide timely information that instantly reaches all of our members as a group instead of having to use a phone tree or wait for a monthly newsletter for information. Finally, our newsletter, *The Brass Lamp*, and archives from previous years are available on our website. The "Lamp" no longer has to be manually mailed. We are indeed well along the way to being almost totally paperless yet, not out of touch.

Most of all in my role as Secretary (which expanded to handling Membership and the website), I am grateful for relationships that have developed and grown over all these years with you, our members, and our leaders. I look forward to continuing these relationships and making new friends as our Club thrives and welcomes new members. It's the fun we share through the hobby makes GVACS strong!! My parting message as we enter this New Year would be "Be involved". Help create the fun. Step up to leadership. Step up to organizing an activity. And... most of all... participate and enjoy the hobby.

While Nancy's reflections hit the high points of her success, they do not address the incredible amount of work that she done over her fourteen years of service to GVACS. Her attention to detail in recording the activity of the club, being accurate to a fault and on top of every issue is a tremendous credit to her and to the value that GVACS brings to the members. The club has continued to meet its goals through the years, and in large measure, to Nancy's ambition and dedication to excellence.

"Nancy, you are a tough act to follow."

On behalf of all of GVACS, I wish to thank you so very much.

Jim Day, Secretary

AACA National Calendar and Other Events

February 2023

9-11, 2023 AACA Annual Convention

Williamsburg, VA
717-534-1910

April 2023

13-15, 2023 Southeastern Spring Nationals

Charlotte, NC - Hornets Nest Region - 704-847-4215

April 30-May 3, 2023 Southeastern Division Tour

Oak Ridge, Tennessee, E. Tennessee Region
865-803-6412

May 2023

18-20 Eastern Spring Nationals

Gettysburg, PA
Gettysburg Region - 717-582-3209

June 2023

25-28 Eastern Divisional Tour

Denver, PA
AACA Library hosting
717-534-2082

July 2023

16-22 Founders Tour

Ontario, Canada
Ontario Region
905-305-7747

26-29 Special Eastern Summer Nationals

Norwich, NY
Rolling Antiquers Region
607-334-2907

August 2023

10-12 Grand Nationals

Bettendorf, Iowa
Mississippi Valley Region
309-373-2169

October 2023

3-6 Eastern Fall Nationals

Hershey, PA
Hershey Region
717-566-7720

Flea market set-up is Monday, show date is Friday

22-27 Revival AAA Glidden Tour (Pre-1943)

Thomasville, Georgia - VMCCA hosted



Help Wanted!

GVACS positions to be filled:

As of January 1st, 2023 we do not have a Treasurer. Jerry Huffman has graciously volunteered to fill-in for the time being.

Treasurer

Jerry will work beside you and make sure you are comfortable with the position before stepping aside.

The primary duties include budget planning, financial reporting, record-keeping and managing incoming and outgoing funds.

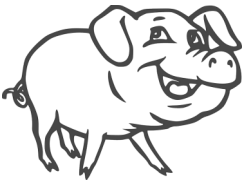
Please contact Jerry Huffman if you are interested at 746-7421.

Safety Reports

From the Ford Times July 1956

When accidents occur, safety equipment is saving lives and preventing serious injuries. This fact is borne out by State Police records, accident reports, and the "Safety reports" received from owners of 1956 safety-equipped Fords. Here are some examples:

After hitting a 300-pound sow on the highway the '56 Ford Tudor of an Air Force sergeant stationed at Phoenix, Arizona, rolled both end over end and sideways. He said, "Luck had little to do with saving my life. I give credit to the safety features in my Ford - especially the safety door latches, which kept the doors closed."



A Belleville, Michigan, man's '56 Ford turned over three times on an expressway and he credits the Ford seat belt with saving his life. He said, "The belt kept me in place even when the car spun crazily."



An Army sergeant from Fort Worth, Texas, reports, "Three of us were riding in the front seat when a car hit the left side of my car. The fellow sitting by the other door hit his head against the dashboard. He wasn't hurt because the padding protected him."



After rolling over three times, a Montclair, New Jersey, man said, "I really hit that steering wheel. If it had been another kind of car, I hate to think what that steering column would have done."



Following an accident in which his 1956 Ford hit another car, a New York City salesman said, "The Life-guard steering wheel saved me from injury and protected my chest. All of the safety latch doors remained closed." This was despite the fact the damage to the Ford was estimated at \$2,000.



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Inflation and Automobile Pricing Through The Years

A Murray Stahl Muse

There is a huge interest in our present inflation situation, it's nothing new, it was always a reality and up to a rate of 2 to 3 percent, it was needed. Zero growth may give you static inflation but also static-stalled economic growth. It is then a fact that anything beyond the 3% threshold is economic pain as is no inflation, zero growth.

The simple fact is that economic growth requires a low level of inflation to stimulate a growing economy but beyond the 3% threshold it's destructive to growth. Buyers of term loans like home mortgages allow buyers to pay back the bank with greatly depreciated dollars, it's all good it seems but in actuality the banks know that the average American will move in an average of 6 years and since they front load the entire terms of interest, they make money. That being said I find that looking at historic Automotive pricing is entertaining and somewhat instructive.

As I write this, we have a few new Pick-up trucks that are being priced close to \$100K and the average new car is priced at \$49K. In the early sixties I purchased an MG for \$2,125 and a Plymouth Sport-Fury for

\$2,950, yikes, what happened?



There is a huge increase in standard automotive content from Automatic Transmissions to universal Air-Conditioning that raised pricing. It's a mystery that the universal adoption of "electronics" in cars has added weight to cars; since the mid-1990s car weights have risen to more than 12-times the weight

of the people in the car. in general, mechanical units are 3 to 4 times heavier than the electronics used for the same function.

Companies that swim in an economy where their costs and revenues fluctuate have to innovate to grow. That's why toilet



paper is thinner and 2 by 4s get ever smaller; my absolute favorite revenue enhancer though is this

year's Chevrolet; the old, yellow Bow-Tie is still standard, but a Black Bow-Tie is a dealer installed \$200 option that is on almost every car sold!

To simplify the available data, I used a single Marque (Buick) through the years.

In 1906 a new Buick would set the buyer back \$1,150, they delivered 1,400 cars, all with 22 HP.

By 1910 a Buick averaged \$1,350 and they sold 30,500 cars. By 1916



Inflation and Automobile Pricing Through The Years

A Murray Stahl Muse

Buick prices went from \$986 to \$1,485 and they economy.

enjoyed sales of about 124,800 cars

In 1927 Buick prices topped out at \$1,995 and yielded sales of 255, 100 cars

By 1938 Buicks sold at a price from \$945 to \$2,400 to see sales of 168,700 cars

In 1951 Buick prices ranged from \$2,046 to \$3,977 resulting in sales of 404,650 cars

By 1959 Buick pricing ranged from \$2,740 to \$3,320 with sales of 285,090 cars

In 1970 Buick pricing went from \$3,122 to \$5,490, sales were 666,500 units

By 1980 Buick costed out from \$4,990 to \$11,800, sales were 855,000

In 1990 a Buick would cost you \$7,800 to \$21,600, sales were 850,150 cars

Fast forward to today and the average Buick costs between \$43,300 and \$58,500. The Dollar's value over the years has naturally declined; a 2% decline equals "about" a 10% devaluation every decade. In spite of the fairly constant dollar decline, living standards since the 1990s have

improved since a little inflation adds growth to the all retail allowing the consumer to easily compare

The USA- CPI Inflation Calculator Calculates the equivalent value of the U.S. dollar in any year from 1914 to 2022. Calculations are based on the average annual CPI data in the U.S. from 1914 to 2022, \$2,774.09 in 2022 has the same purchasing power as \$100 did in 1914. The total inflation rate from 1914 to 2022 is 2,674.09%. The average inflation rate from 1914 to 2022 is 3.12% per year. It's of note that even at a 2% inflation rate (optimum) a fixed income will lose 20% of purchasing power in a decade; money is only useful to buy things, less purchasing power should mean less stuff but over time it improves the average life.

Look at the ad for this house, \$1,092 looks to be a terrific price but consider that an average weekly wage was probably \$35 for a 60 - hour week. In general, the inflating of the Dollar over many decades improves the economy but there is always the pain of short-term change as inflation forces innovation and people work to mediate its effects. In the last decade companies like Amazon and Walmart have fostered price transparency that has modernized



(continued on page 12)

Inflation and Automobile Pricing Through The Years

A Murray Stahl Muse

prices allowing people to own things like dishwashers, microwaves etc. that would be unheard of a few decades ago.

Then there is the always present “unintended-Consequences”, Inflation forces the business world to adapt since they must adapt to conserve or expand their profit margin. That has led to a rapidly expanding world of automation. Automating a companies process cuts cost and allows a nationwide increase in productivity and its usually due to inflation. It is also true that the process of automating a function does cause disruption in the labor force but overall, it results in the growth of jobs that require more skill; overall it’s much better for society. The first really “high-tech”, affordable automation machine was the typewriter, seems simple today but was an office wonder in its day, 1874. The Bottom line is a little inflation forces change and at the end of the day change improves everyone’s life.

In the automotive world it isn’t all bad, cars have dramatically improved with the engineering of crumple zones, electric starters, radio and lately all manor of electronic sensors that improve safety by warning you of people and objects near you; it’s all good but does

increase costs. In addition to safety features there is no doubt that today’s cars are many times more reliable than even 20 years ago.



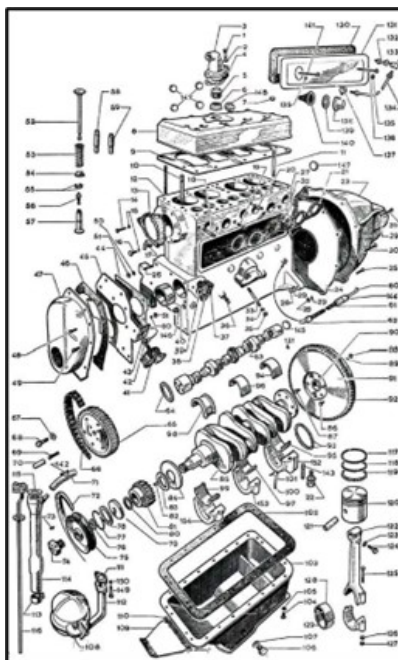
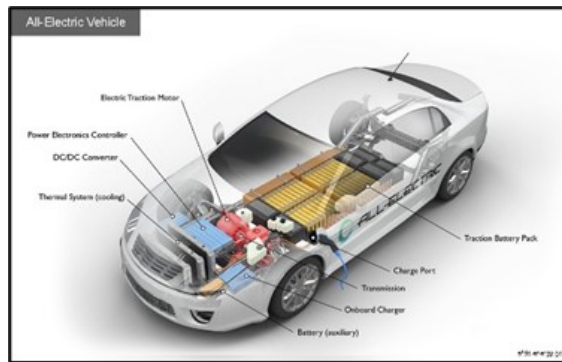
Sholes & Glidden Typewriter
Image Source: www.encyclopedia-universelle.com

As I write this, I realize that mass adoption of Electric-Vehicles is probable in the next few decades. I’m old enough to lament this huge change. Think of the huge disruption the adoption of a car that now requires 60K parts is replaced with a vehicle driven by self-contained electric motors, it’ll require less than 15% of the parts in our present cars. Things like car repair, dealerships and the thousands of little companies producing car components; disruption will be beyond huge but in the end, life will

not only go on but improve.

It’ll be very similar to when the internal combustion engine replaced the original “Horse-Power” at the turn of the century, everything in everyone’s working life became rapidly upside down but the end game was a much improved average life, it turned out to be all good, we all complain because in the short term it’s painful, but the average person lives a little better life every decade.

And so it goes, relax and enjoy the



ride, Murray

Cars & Coffee
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@ 9:00 AM
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See You There!

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January's Cars & Coffee at Johnny D's Family Restaurant



GVACS WINTER PICNIC

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& CHILI

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COOK



OFF



February 26, 2023 Pineway Ponds Park

Boetcher Lodge, Park Road (Rte. 259)
Spencerport, NY 14559



Starts at 12 noon and we will eat at 1 pm

We are having a Chili Cook-Off. If you participate in the Chili contest, that will be your dish to pass. If you do not want to enter the contest bring a dish to pass or dessert. Also bring your table service and drink. There will be hot dogs and rolls if you wish to make Chili Dogs. After we eat, we will play our favorite games.

For Reservations Call or Email by Feb. 17th:

John O'Connor @ 585-377-2252 or Email: wjoconnorjr@usa.com

I will bring Chili _____ OR Dish to Pass _____ OR Dessert _____

Please pick one!

Bring your favorite game to play and/or 4 quarters to play Left, Right, Center!

Hosted by: John O'Connor, Bob & Judy Keenan, Tom & Sue Smith

CARTWRIGHT'S MAPLE TREE INN®



Pancakes! Pancakes!

TENTATIVELY

March 29th @ 8:45am

Join us for our 10th Annual Pancake Outing to

Cartwright's Maple Tree Inn

4321 County Rd., 15A, Angelica, NY 14709

We will meet at 8:45 am in the Lowe's parking lot on
Hyland Drive by Marketplace Mall.

For Reservations Call or Email:

Judy Keenan @ (585) 414-5358 or Email: jmiller1313@hotmail.com

GVACS Activities Calendar Updated December 11, 2022

Dates 2023	Activity/Event/Speaker	Organizer/Hosts
GVACS CHILI COOK OFF  February 26, 2023	Chili Cook-off & Game Night, Boetcher Lodge, Pineway Ponds Park, Park Rd. (Rte. 259) Spencerport, NY	Bob & Judy Keenan John O'Connor Tom & Sue Smith
 February 19, 2023	Florida Winter Picnic Marge Thurley 217 Rotonda Blvd. North Rotonda West, FL 33947	Marge Thurley
 March 2023 Event Date TBD	Pancake Run to Cartwright's	Bob & Judy Keenan
April 2023 Event Date TBD	??Ideas??	Need Volunteer(s)/Host
May 2023 Event Date TBD 	Mystery Run - Tentative	Ron DeGroff
 June 2023 Event Date TBD 	Ice Cream Social	Betty Reilly & Judy & Bob Keenan
July 8, 2023 	National Car Collector Appreciation	Pat & Evelyn Lloyd
August 2023 Event Date TBD 	Summer Picnic Foreman Park - White House Pavilion, 4507 Lake Rd. Pultneyville, NY	Joe Kozloski & Linda Perkins
September 2023 Event Date TBD	??Ideas??	Need Volunteer(s)/Host
October 2023 Event Date TBD	??Ideas?? ? Fall Run ?	Need Volunteer(s)/Host
November 10, 2023	Indoor Meeting - 7PM Annual Meeting and Speaker Lutheran Church of the Resurrection 3736 St. Paul Blvd., Rochester, NY	Need Volunteer(s)/Host
December 10, 2023	Holiday Party Shadow Lake Golf and Racquet Club	Joel and Ann Neal & Linda Hosenfeld

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