

THE

# SIDELIGHT



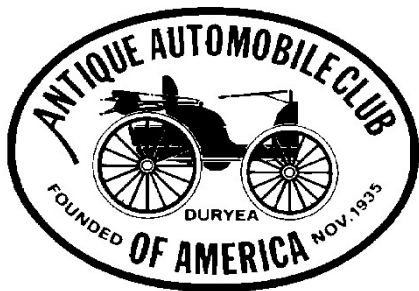
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LAKE ERIE REGION, AACA



## LER SPRINGS INTO 2022

**FEBRUARY 2022**

**VOL. 70 No. 2**



### FEATURES:

- President's message
- Activities Report
- Activities Awards Report
- February & March Meetings
  - A recipe for the ladies
  - Sitting in Santa's Chair
- Annual Installation Banquet photos



**LER BOARD MEMBERS & CHAIRMEN FOR 2022**

21-23	President .....	Cliff Schulz	880-0381
21-23	Vice President .....	Tim Cryan	c228-5638 w645-4159
21-23	Treasurer .....	John Haid	674-7351 (Office) 674-7239
20-22	Recording Secretary.....	Linda Foster	652-5001
22-24	Activities Co-Chairmen.....	Lynelle Schloerb	949-2489
20-22	Activities Co-Chairmen	Chuck Weimer	h688-5016 c955-0834
2022	Activities Awards Chairman ....	TBA	
21-23	Membership Chairman.....	Lon Wilson	873-6280
22-24	Sunshine Chairman .....	Sue Yearke	433-3673
20-22	Split Club .....	Dennis Powers	694-5517
22-24	Publicity Chairman .....	Mike Mesi	810-2610
22-24	Legislative Chairman .....	Ken Kaczka	h741-2496 c200-2035
20-22	2022 Show Co Chairman ....	Charles Facklam	655-0508
22-24	2022 Show Co Chairman .....	Mike Mesi	810-2610
20-22	Youth Chairman .....	Charles Facklam	655-0508
22-24	Youth Co Chairman .....	Mike Mesi	810-2610
	Property Chairman .....	Charles Facklam	655-0508
	Chief Judge .....	Barb & Ray Noonan	957-3076
	Overnighter .....	None planned at this time	
2022	Webmaster .....	Jerry Ptak	h876-8966 c449-0062
2022	Sidelight Editor.....	Valerie Wilson	873-6280

Events for 2022

**Feb. 20 – Elks Lodge, 1-4pm, program on European Immigration to WNY, George Camann, host.**

**Mar. 13 – Elks Lodge, 1-4pm, American Graffiti night, Cliff Schulz, host**

\*This is a tentative schedule. The dates & locations are subject to change, so check this list monthly for more information and possible changes.

All material and want ads must be submitted to the editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the previous month that material is to appear.

Permission is hereby granted to other club publications to reprint material from “The Sidelight” provided that credit is given. All phone numbers listed in the Sidelight are area code 716 unless otherwise stated.

# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Suzanne Wedekindt - 2	Chris Ciszek - 18
Denise Williams - 3	Eileen Holden - 18
Lauren Fix - 3	Mary Momot - 18
Annette Richely - 5	David Hargrave - 20
Christina Henderson - 5	Karl Schurkus - 20
Mary Ellen Kaplan - 12	Ruby Kielt - 23
Sue Reville - 12	John Sole - 24
Candace Reed - 13	Dr. Kristen Smyers - 26
Edward Vogt - 13	Robert Snyder - 26
Vallie Alt - 14	Chuck DiBella - 28
James Galvin - 14	Roseann Gernatt - 28
Christine Snyder - 15	Bob Nash - 28
Julie Walter - 16	Edward Ferber - 29
Jane Licata - 17	

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY



Lee & Phyllis Wass - 5	Daniel & Roseann Gernatt - 14
John & Mary Kay Birtch - 11	Donald & Doris Warnick - 25
Mark & Sonya Bojak - 14	Sam & Jean Yanik - 27



**Attendance Report:** Members & guest who started the LER season by attending the banquet were: Gary & Vallie Alt, Sr. (15); Dean & Pat Burgstahler (15); George & Ruth Camann (15); Jeff & Linda Cryan (15); Tim Cryan (30); Jack & Linda Foster (30); John & Elaine Haid (30); Lee Hartung (15) & Janet Kill; Kenneth Kaczka & Sue Reville (30); Ken Knoll (15); Ross & Gail Martin (15); Joe & Linda McCaffery (15); Mike Mesi (30); Paul Meyer (15) & Crista Sheiten; Bob & Peggy Nash (15); David Nash (15); Mark & Ann Palmer (15); Tom Pirrung (15); Dennis Powers (30); Bill & Edwina Prenevau (15); Jerry & Peggy Ptak (30); Don & Lynelle Schloerb (30); Cliff Schulz (30); Karl Schurkus & Eileen Wode (15); Jeffery & Karen Schwartz (25); Steve & Kathy Vaccaro (15); Don & Doris Warnick (15); Chuck Weimer (30) & Karen Weimer; Lon & Valerie Wilson (45); Charles & Gertrude Wolski (15); Sam & Jean Yanik (15); and Mark & Sue Yearke (40).

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Cliff's Notes:* Greetings everyone! If you are one of those truly hearty Buffalonian's that brave the bitter cold and snowstorms, then your back could be hurting just like mine. Twenty-five plus inches in one day is pretty hard to handle even with the best snow blower's money can buy. January is usually the toughest month we get, so hang in there. I'm not sure how many members migrate south to Florida each winter. But if that is you, please bring back some warm sunshine when you return.

Last night the talented Sue Yearke and Karen Schwartz hosted our 2022 Installation Banquet. The theme was Spring out of Winter. And what a delightful evening was enjoyed by all. They decorated the hall with hundreds of spring flowers to transport us out of winter and into spring. Then the family style dinner resembled a springtime

picnic in the country. Thank you, Sue and Karen, for the gift of spring.

Many exciting activities are in the planning stages for this year.

But we can always use more ideas, so give me a call anytime. I have partnered with Chuck Weimer to bring you a Spring FUNdraiser. We will unveil the details at the February and March meetings with the Winner to be announced In April.

Oh No, it's snowing again! I must go now and clear some more snow. Oh, my aching back.

I hope the Buffalo Bills win tonight, that will warm this town up for sure.

**GO Bills**

*Cliff*

## Sympathies

Lake Erie Region recently lost 2 long time members with the passing of Russ Galbo & Mark Schleicher.

Russ Galbo and his wife Jackie were very active in our club. Russ always helped out with parking cars at our annual show, while Jackie did registration. He also served on the Board of Directors for many years as Co-Chairman of activities with Lynell Schloerb. Russ enjoyed driving his 1969 Buick Convertible to many events. They enjoyed bringing their 3 grandsons to our shows and other events.

Mark Schleicher loved his collection of cars and often entertained the club with picnics at "Marks World" in his summer retreat in Cowlsville, N.Y. He had a building constructed to resemble a railroad station with a ticket window on the side. The building housed his car collection. Outside he had a real antique caboose from the

New Haven Railroad on the tracks with crossing signs and a baggage cart. Many members will remember picnics at "Marks World" where we had cookouts, enjoyed the pond and forest trails. Mark also served on the board and was a past President of LER.

We received word from Myrna Wolff that former member Vern Schmitt passed away in Alabama, where he and his wife, Shirleen, relocated to several years ago. The Schmitts were active members while here in WNY, with Shirleen a past board member.

Our sympathies go to the families of Russ Galbo, Mark Schleicher & Vern Schmitt. We will miss these men. May they rest in peace.

## GET WELL WISHES

Charles Gugino, Jr. & Franklin Schweitzer

From the Membership Chairman

At least three members did not receive the January issue of the Sidelight. They all are mailed together, at the same time, so if you do not receive your copy by the about the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month, please contact me. The Sidelight can also be viewed in color on our website at [www.lakeerie.aaca.com](http://www.lakeerie.aaca.com).

Remember to renew your National & local dues. The National club sent me a list of paid members and we will be checking to make sure that all are local members are also paid up with the National club. I will be contacting any members that National does not have as current. Local members MUST be National members in order to stay in the local club. One of the main reasons is

the National club carries our insurance. Also, check the bottom left corner of your mailing label to see if I have received your local dues. If it still reads 2021, contact me to update your membership.

Lon Wilson –  
Membership Chairman  
– 873-6280

### REMEMBER!!

Local & National dues were due by December 31, 2021. You can pay National dues by credit card at 1-(717)-534-1910. You can bring local dues to the next event & give to Lon Wilson – Membership Chairman



## ACTIVITIES REPORT

**Attention LER Members:** We have an open event for 2022, October fall run. If you would like to host or co-host please contact any board member. A list of all board members can be found in the Sidelight on page 1. Please remember to sign up early for these events and treat your club mates with respect and consideration.

Please be advised that all upcoming events are pending cancellation due to the current affairs with the Coronavirus. Everyone's health and well-being is of the utmost importance. Please stay safe and take care.

**January 22<sup>nd</sup>** Was the Annual Installation Banquet at the Classic Five in Amherst. Hosted by Sue Yearke and Karen Schwartz. Thanks to Sue and Karen for doing such a fantastic job putting this event together.

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** George Camann is hosting this event at the Elks in Lancaster from 1 to 4pm. George has arranged a guest speaker to talk about European Immigration to Western NY in late 1800's to the early 1900's. Refreshments will be served by Lynelle Schloerb. See the Sidelight for details.

**March 13<sup>th</sup>** Will be March Matinee hosted by Cliff Schultz and Chuck Weimer at the Elks in Lancaster from 1 to 4pm. We will be presenting the movie American

Graffiti, popcorn and refreshments will be served. Details to follow.

**April 10<sup>th</sup>** Will be our annual presentation of the past year in review hosted by Lon Wilson. Refreshments will be provided by Lynelle Schloerb. Details to follow.

### Outdoor season begins

**May Rust Buster date is pending possibly the 15<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>.** Mike Mesi and Ken Knoll will be hosting and are planning the event. Details to follow.

**June 12<sup>th</sup>** Will be our annual car show. Hosted by Chuck Facklam and Mike Mesi. This event will be held at the Elma Village Green in Elma. Details to follow.

**July 10<sup>th</sup>** Summer picnic will be hosted by Sam Yanik and Chuck Weimer. The event is in the planning stages. More to follow.

**August,** we have some talk about an event. More to follow.

**October** Fall run is open.

We always need volunteers, helpers and ideas for club-sponsored events. If you are interested in sponsoring, co-sponsoring or helping out at an event, please contact any board member.

Chuck Weimer Activities Co-Chairmen

### Activities Awards Report

At our annual banquet the following people were honored. Due to not having a banquet last year, we needed to do a little catchup as the following members became 25-year members. Bob & Marilyn Hartinger as well as Mark & Lorri Kraus achieved this last year. This year the following members reached this milestone: Ron & Marianne Billo; Mark Brylinski; Ken & Lori Pielechowski; Bob & Chris Snyder; Vern Tollison; Ken & Carol Knoll and Steve & Kathy Vaccaro. Unfortunately, the badges did not arrive in time for the banquet. Members will all receive a silver name badge when the badges come in.

The following members were honored for reaching the designated points total for this year and most received a chip for their board at the banquet. Congratulations to Jerry & Peggy Ptak for winning for the first time and

receiving their board and chip. Other winners were: Don & Joyce Butlak; George & Ruth Camann; Tim Cryan; Jack & Linda Foster; John & Elaine Haid; Kenneth Kaczka & Sue Reville; Ray & Barb Noonan; Daniel O'Connor & Candace Reed; Cliff Schulz; Jeffery & Karen Schwartz; Chuck Weimer; Lon & Valerie Wilson; Sam & Jean Yanik and Mark & Sue Yearke. As in years past the top three-point getters also received a special gift. See the picture page for their photo. Those members not in attendance will receive their chip at an upcoming event.

Lon Wilson, membership chairman, also reports that Sam & Jean Yanik win one year free membership for getting the most new members in 2021.

Congratulations to all our members who support our club through longevity and participation.

Valerie Wilson – Activities Awards Chairman 2021

### It happened again!

Did you ever hear the phrase "History repeats itself"? Well, low and behold, it did again at our annual banquet. As it was getting late and number of attendees dwindled, the hostess came out of the coatroom with two leather jackets. "Does anyone own either of these coats?" she asked. Jeff Schwartz was quick to say "Yes, that one is mine". That left the other one for us to determine who it belonged to or should we say "Who left earlier and took the wrong coat?" Just as we were trying to



determine who when home with Dennis Power's jacket, Tim Cryan's phone rang. "I don't recognize the number, but I'd better answer it". Turns out it was Mike Mesi, who realized he had the wrong coat when he got home. At least this year we were able to figure out who's coats were whose. We'll leave those two to figure out the exchange.

In Mike's defense, the coat room at the restaurant had a burned-out light, so it was very dark in there. FYI, our other mystery was never solved and is a cold case.

**FEBRUARY 20,  
2022  
Elks Lodge  
33 Legion Parkway  
Lancaster,  
1-4pm**



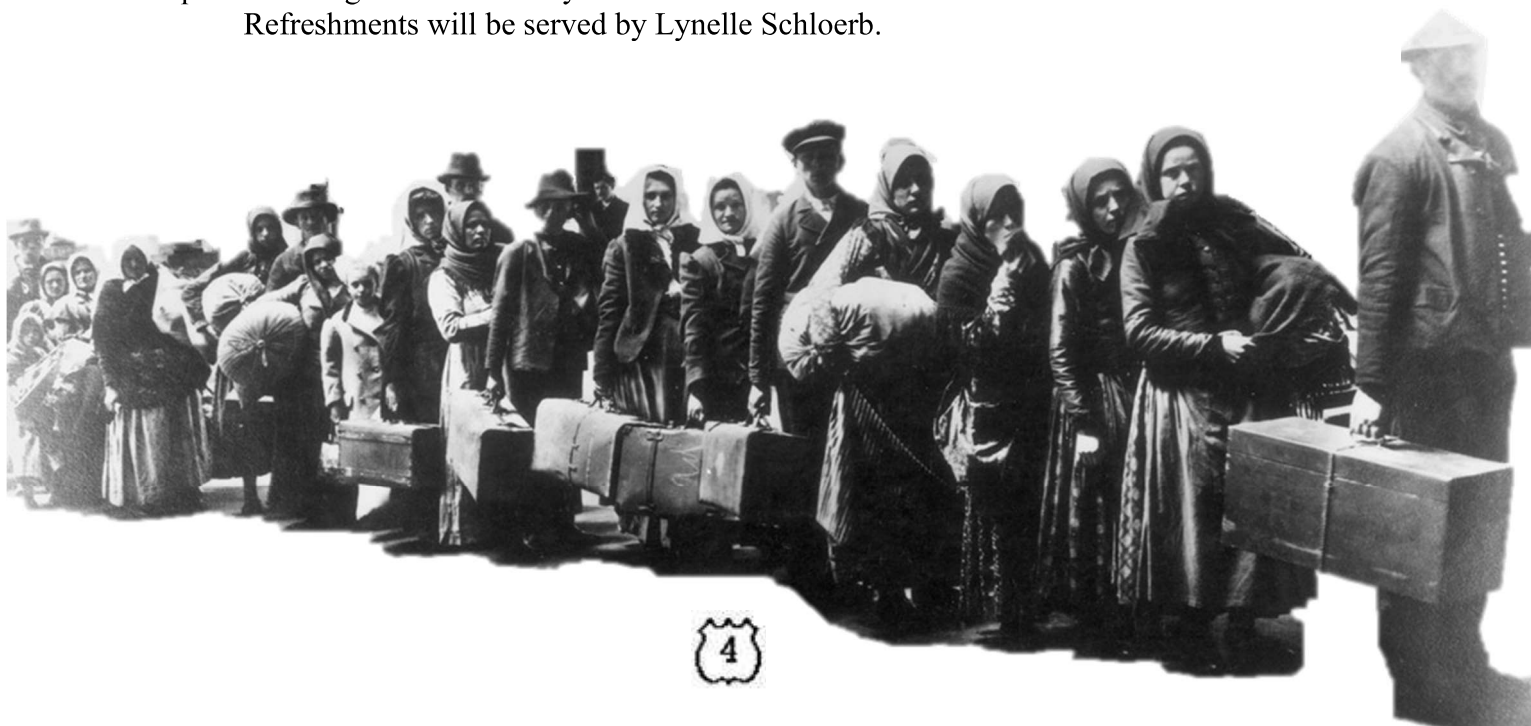
Greg Kinal will present his program which deals with the trials and tribulations our early immigrant ancestors faced in the decision to cross the Atlantic and come to America. The program begins with the reasons why our ancestors decided to leave Europe. Then comes the difficult task of paying for the voyage over. My grandmother's poor family had to borrow what they could to send her 18-year-old self here.

Next, how emotional was it to leave your village and all that you knew including language, dress, food, and religion. Our immigrant relatives had to be scared, excited and sick all at once. Most came from small villages located deep in their ancestral country. What was the city like where they picked up their ship? My grandmother came from a village of 400 and then came to Antwerp. Then the voyage over, with seasickness prevalent throughout the entire voyage.

Once they landed in NY, now what. Then came the hell of Ellis Island and judgements around every corner as this program will discuss. Once through Ellis Island, they moved into tenements in large cities like NYC. The neighborhoods were sometimes organized by nationalities. My family lived in South Buffalo. We were Ukrainian/ Polish and lived on one side of the street with the Irish on the other side.

The program discusses what jobs they took, and what the immigrant family was like here in the US. To give you a hint, I was very aware of my grandfather's belt that was passed down from my father to me. As we come to the last part of the program, emphasis is put on how important it is to us that they made the sacrifice to journey here. I will discuss the very emotional impact of immigrants on us today.

Refreshments will be served by Lynelle Schloerb.



Sue Yearke wants to share this yummy recipe with everyone:

### Ramen Noodle Salad

- 1/2 head green cabbage, chopped
- 1/2 carrot, shredded
- 4 green onions, chopped
- 1 package ramen noodles (oriental flavor)
- 2 Tbsp slivered almonds, sunflower seeds or sesame seeds



- Dressing**
- 1/2 c. salad oil
  - 3 Tbsp balsamic vinegar
  - 3 Tbsp. sugar
  - 1 tsp. salt
  - 1/2 tsp. pepper
- flavor packet from ramen noodles

**Directions**

1. Toast the nuts or seeds in a warm oven for 6-8 minutes, watching carefully to prevent over toasting. Cool
2. Combine cabbage, carrots and onions
3. Break up noodles and add to vegetables
4. Shortly before serving add nuts or seeds and the mixed dressing; toss well.

Before block heaters



Dean Burgstahler sent along this picture. Somebody had to get creative to make this contraption to keep the engine blocks from freezing. Can you tell what year it is?



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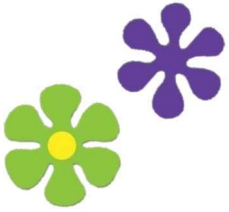


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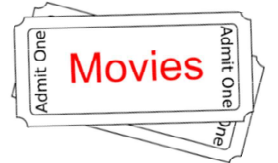
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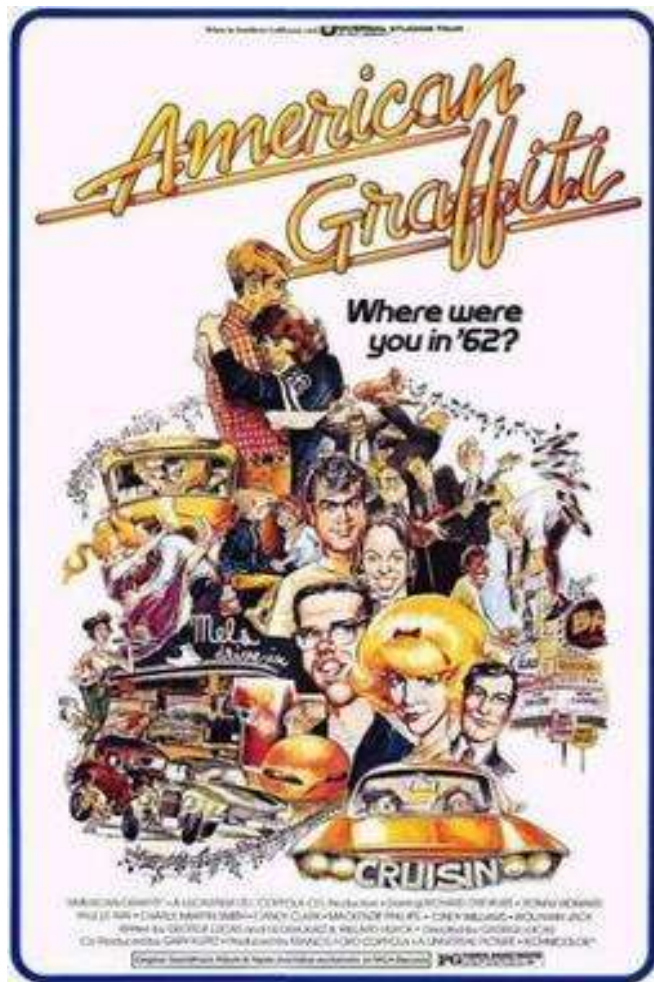
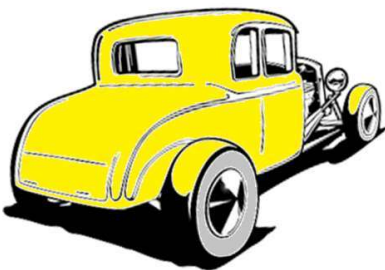


AACA LAKE ERIE REGION  
 PRESENTS A MARCH MATINEE MOVIE  
AMERICAN GRAFFITI

March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 1-4 PM Tickets @ the Door - Free  
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We will be taking a nostalgic look back to the good old 1960's...  
 Hot Rods, Drive-ins, Cruising, Burgers, Shakes & Rock'n'roll...  
 Featuring: Lynelle's snack buffet and dessert temptations...  
 First Time in WNY: Papa's Popcorn, plus Cash Bar



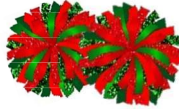
Sitting in Santa's Chair by Dennis Upton



Have you ever wondered what Santa sees as the families line up for their first or annual trip for a picture with Santa? Some words that came to mind as I completed my 18<sup>th</sup> session this year as the primary Santa at the Buffalo Zoo are: joy, fear, anticipation, love and hope.

So what did Santa see and hear this year? Some children approached Santa with unbridled joy and wonder. The look in their eyes as they saw Santa and Mrs. Claus on the platform are looks of wonder mixed with fear and excitement. Many run and take a giant step on to the platform not bothering to climb the steps in a hurry to sit next to Santa and tell him (through a plastic barrier this year) their wishes. Fortunately for this Santa, Mrs. Santa has good hearing and is wise in the names of all toys and gifts desired by the younger set as his hearing isn't what it should be. Others decide that an encounter with this white bearded person in a red suit is too overwhelming and tears form in their eyes and cries exit their mouths. (By an unofficial survey conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Santa, this response happened to boys far more times than it happened to girls.) Upon the photographer's suggestion, one family handled this situation very uniquely by having all the family members cry for their photo op.

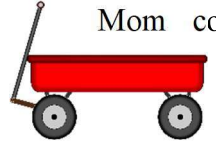
A "Hallmark moment" occurred when two brothers about the ages of 9 and 7 came with their 4-year-old sister. Her request was for pom poms. After leaving the platform, the 9-year-old snuck back up to Santa and whispered through the plastic barrier, "Don't bring the



pom poms, I already bought them." How is Christmas more real not just for a child but for everyone than that?

Or this: One particularly very extended family came with a large entourage. The grandparents and 4 grown daughters came up first for pictures as this was their 34<sup>th</sup> year of having pictures with Santa.

Or this: A mom brought her child in a wagon as walking was not something this child could do due to many challenges including a breathing tube. Mrs. Santa and I walked down and sat on the floor so Mom could more easily have a picture of her child with Mr. and Mrs. Santa.



Or encountering one of my former students who is now a mother with her child coming to see Santa. She didn't recognize her former 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher so imagine the surprise on her face when Santa told her young son his mother's name and her grandmother's as well.

Or the child who wished that his daddy would come home as he now lives elsewhere with his new family and new children.

Or two toddler sisters who posed for the pictures next to Santa, then proceeded to walk around the barrier and put their arms up to give Mr. and Mrs. Santa real hugs.

Or stepping out to get some fresh air when a toddler saw Santa and ran toward Santa yelling, "I see Ho Ho. I see Ho Ho!" Ending up with a big hug of Santa's knees.

And of course, there were two requests for Red Ryder BB guns...followed by Santa's admonition, "You'll shoot your eye out."

Just like the little drummer boy in the holiday song when he said, "Do you see what I see?" I wish that you all could have seen (and experienced) what Santa saw.

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# LER Annual Installation Banquet



Karen Schwartz & Sue Yearke were our hosts for the evening.

Antique car clocks & flowers adorned the tables.



Tim Cryan, Joe McCaffrey & Bob Nash get caught up on things.



Jeff Schwartz and Cliff Schulz check it out when Mark Yearke says "Just look right here!"



Left: Chuck Weimer & Mark Yearke ham it up for the camera.

Right: Karen & Sue start the evening's presentations when one of the clock alarms start to go off!



Jerry Ptak asks "Which button turns it off?"

Sue knows which one it is.

Photos by Lon Wilson & Dean Burgstahler





Valerie Wilson, Activities Awards Chairman, presented the chips to members who obtaining enough activities points (see page3 for all the winners)



Left: Jerry & Peggy Ptak were first time winners and received their plaque with their first chip.

The top three point earners receive a special clock.



Ruth & George Camann, Cliff Schulz and Peggy & Jerry Ptak were this year's winners with the most activity points and for all they did for the club in 2021.



Cliff worked his "magic" as he passed the gavel from one had to the other as past and present President.



Linda Foster, Jerry & Peggy and Jack Foster had a good time.

Valerie, Pat Burgstahler, Dennis Powers & Dean Burgstahler also enjoy the evening

Linda McCaffery, Gail Martin & Jean Yanik swap stories



As this pandemic continues on, we want to remind members that if you are not feeling well, please stay home. Thank you from your LER AACA friends.



**SIDELIGHT TREASURES**

These ads can also be viewed at [www.lakeerie.aaca.com](http://www.lakeerie.aaca.com). Ads are free for members. Ads from non-members must be submitted by a current member. Ads run for at least 3 months. Phone numbers are area code 716 unless otherwise noted.

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'31 Chevrolet 5 window coupe, older restoration, orig restored engine, new interior & tires, call for further info & price. Henry Schmidt 716-628-2362. Lead from

Gary Alt (I have seen pictures of this car & it is nice.) Don't miss this one. (3)  
 '39 Jaun Fangio Chevrolet coupe, replica, restored, \$25,000. Car is in Amherst, NY Contact Bob 716-583-7717 (3)  
 '48 Playboy, manufactured in Buffalo, NY 1947-1950; 97 cars were made, 40 are left, first car made with folding metal hardtop 4 cyl \$35,000/BO. Car is in Georgia Contact Bob 716-583-7717(3)

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# FIRST CLASS *The Sidelight*

FEBRUARY	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1		3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			15	16	17	18	19
			22	23	24	25	26
	27	28			3	4	5

### Calendar of Events

Feb. 2 – Groundhog Day  
 Feb. 6 – Snow Buster, Model A Club Automotive Swap Meet, The Event Center, Hamburg Fairgrounds 9-3pm  
 Feb. 13 - Superbowl  
 Feb. 14 – Valentine’s Day  
**Feb. 20 – Elks Lodge, 1-4pm, program on European Immigration to WNY, George Camann, host.**  
 Feb. 21 – President’s Day  
 Mar. 1 – Mardi Gras  
 Mar. 2 – Ash Wednesday  
 \*All events are pending. Stay tuned for further updates.



Valerie Wilson – Editor  
 235 Villa Ave.  
 Buffalo, New York 14216-1308

## FIRST CLASS



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