

# Rolling down the shores of Lake Shore Drive

Ladies and gentleman...start your engines.

Now that Chicagoland is heading into its warmer-weather phase (which always corresponds with the road-construction phase, but that's another story), many suburban cruise nights and grass-roots car clubs are hosting evening and weekend

events. These high-energy, low overhead happenings provide a great atmosphere for like-minded car enthusiasts to get together to share information and stories concerning the fortunes of their four-wheeled friends.

Last spring Jerry Robbin, founder of the International Mercury Owners Association, made one of his many dreams come true as he helped spearhead the First Annual Chi-Town STA-BIL Kruze along the shores of picturesque Lake Michigan in downtown Chicago. More than 600 show cars and 1,000 spectators partook in the day's festivities. Now Jerry's dream is turning into an annual event, so let's get ready to rumble again.

This showcase of cars is loosely based on the long-running Woodward Dream Cruise held each August in suburban Detroit. "It's really a spectacular event," Robbin said; "but Chicago is also a great car town,

a great place to raise a family and the perfect place for car events like the Chi-Town STA-BIL Kruze."

The Second-Annual Chi-Town STA-BIL Kruze takes place on Saturday, June 3. The 'Kruze' consists of both a classic road cruise and show rally. The cruise portion of the day starts bright and early at 8 a.m. at Wilson Avenue on the near north side of Chicago. Vehicles follow a route along Lake Shore Drive past Buckingham Fountain down to 31st Street and finally to Soldier Field. This portion is open and free of charge to any street legal vehicle.

Immediately following at 10 a.m., pre 1981 vehicles will gather in the Soldier Field parking lot for the 'show' portion featuring a variety of activities including family entertainment, car clinics, great food and collectable merchandise displays. This part of the event requires a \$20 registration fee and is limited to the first 750 pre-registered 1981 or older vehicles. However, spectators don't have to pre-register at all, they just have to show up; and in doing so, they'll be helping a worthy cause.

This year, half of all the registration fees and 100 percent of the \$5 spectator admission will be donated to the Chicago-based Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana.

For those who can't make it downtown for the 'Kruze and show,' catch part of the fun on



**A 1957 Checker Cab owned by Joe Fay of Naperville is one of the many vehicles participating in the Chi-Town STA-BIL Kruze this year.**

the radio. Radio personalities Paul Brian and Jake Hartford host their weekly DriveChicago program somewhere along the route from 8-9 a.m. Saturday morning June 3 on WLS 890-AM.

Also at the Soldier Field show rally will be a designated section for tuner and special interest cars. More information is available at [chitownkruze.com](http://chitownkruze.com) or by calling Jerry Robbin at (773)622-6445 ext. 13.

## More summer fun

Looking for more fun with cars this summer? One of Chicagoland's not-so-hidden

treasures, the Volo Auto Museum, has several special events scheduled on specific weekends this summer including:

- Saturday, May 13-Collector Cars for Sale Corral. No charge for showcasing your collector car.

- Saturday, June 3-Carroll Shelby guest appearance and Shelby car show. Thirty dollar vehicle registration benefits Carroll Shelby Children's Heart Foundation.

- Sunday, June 18- Delorean Gullwing 25th Anniversary Cruise. More than 100 DeLoreans expected.

- Saturday, July 1-George

Barris guest appearance and rod and custom car show. Fifteen dollar vehicle registration benefits St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

- Saturday and Sunday, August 26 and 27-Military Vehicle Show and Swap Meet. Free museum admission for drivers and passengers of military vehicles.

- Saturday, September 30-Collector Cars for Sale Corral.

- Saturday October 7 through Tuesday, October 31-The Haunted Battlefield.

- Sunday, October 8-Toys for Tots Cruise.



**Dave Boe**  
*Nuts & Bolts*