

# "H"appenings



VOLUME 15, ISSUE 5

Keep Up To Date christmasinjuly.org



#### JANUARY 25, 2008 CHAPTER"H"ONCHOS

#### Chapter Representative

Les Chapman Treke1@ aol.com 630-640-5020

#### Assistant Representative

Cary Levin 847-697-6782

Treasurer

Steve Roberson

Secretary

Open-HELP!-REALLY!

#### Newsletter/Webmaster

Jim Garner wcwinger@ aol.com

#### How's Your "Willie", "Woodie" or even "Phil"?

By Jim Garner

Okay, so have you seen "Woodie" (Woodstock), "Windy City Willie" (Navy Pier), "Phil" (Punxsutawney) or even "Stormy" and "Cloudy" (Brookfield Zoo) lately? If not, you may have to wait another six years to see one on the weekend if you don't rise before dawn this February 2nd and visit one of our local furry forecasters in celebration of Groundhog Day! That's right, the time honored tradition is alive and well in the Chicago area with a few choices for the prognostication of a potentially early spring, or another six weeks of win-



ter; which by Chicago land standards, wouldn't be so

bad either. Groundhog Day originated with Central European farmers in the

18th century. They would watch if hedgehogs came out of hibernation in early February, a sign that spring planting should begin. In the U.S., the tradition was applied to groundhogs, also known as woodchucks, since they hibernate when temperatures drop to 50 degrees and below for an extended period, according to the Brookfield Zoo website.

Woodstock, Illinois, the movie site for the 1993 film "Groundhog Day", offers something a

**See Groundhog:**Continued on Page 2

#### Special "H"appenings

#### Happy Birthday!!

<u> </u>	<del></del>
Nancy Greco	25-Jan
Lorri Berthelot	29-Jan
Ken Kaya	29-Jan
Matthew Levin	2-Feb
Nancy Schneck	3-Feb
Jose Delvalle	6-Feb
Stina Hirsch	19-Feb
Joann Leith	21-Feb
Pat Ciston	28-Feb

## Happy Valentine's Day!



#### Hoppy Aniversall

Tom & Joann Leith



#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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LITTLE ANGELS

REGISTRATION FORM

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#### A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

by Les Chapman

Happy New Year! As Jim and I started this year we had great hopes and expectations for the club, I can honestly say it has been a good beginning so far. The New Year started out cold and snowy, but 18 brave souls showed up for our New Year Breakfast at Colonial Café in Geneva. It was good to see our guests Lloyd and Leona Tatman, Ken Archibald, Tracy & Eric (Russ's daughter) and their two son's Nicolas and Matthew. Russ informed us of his new grandchild by his son Russell, this will be number five. The chapter members were Larry & Nancy Greco, Bev and I, Bruce Hirsch, Jim & Dawn Garner, Joe Hughes, Joel Gyurnek, Russ Prichard and Lewis Hatt. We had a good time talking over 2007 and looking forward to 2008.

Steve, Larry, Jim and I met on Wednesday the 9th to do the ride calendar, and I believe we have a good start on the dates for the year. We still need more new ideas from you! I believe that 2008 will be a great year for Chapter H, both Riding and on the social side .

The weather was cold, cold, cold for our dinner run to Dave and Buster's on Saturday night, January 19<sup>th</sup>. The Temperature dropped down to 4 below zero. Here is the whole story in a nut shell.

I called during the week and they told me to go to the dining room and they would seat us. They didn't tell me there would be a two hour wait, so Steve and Cheryl came to the rescue! They suggested a restaurant on Medina Rd. named Gaynor's Irish Pub. We had the whole dining room to ourselves. It was great! Thanks Steve and Cheryl. I had the Shepherd's pie and it was like being back in England.

We had a lot of Birthday Girl's there: Nancy, Paulette and Beverly. The rest of the happy campers were Jim and Dawn with Carrianne and Amanda, Mark, Larry, Joel and Carolyn along with myself; fourteen in all. Mark was walking without a cast, but he thinks it will still be awhile before he can ride. We miss Mark and Paulette on Sunday mornings! We had a lot of small talk about our pets and family and our aches and pains, but all in all we had a good time. If you missed our January Dinner Run, plan on going to our February Dinner Run on the 16th to celebrate Valentine's Day. That way you don't have to take her out twice!

Looking ahead to February, we plan on a breakfast before the bike show on the 10th, the fore mentioned Valentine's dinner run, plus, we are going to the Volo Car Museum on Sunday the 24th. It should be a good month for



Les Chapman Chapter-H Representative

socializing.

If all the rides and social events we have planned for the year happen, you will have to help. So get ready! I am going to start recruiting .This is our Chapter not mine alone, so get up and say yes. Hope to see all of you real soon!

Ride safe and smile! :) Les Chapman

## **Groundhog:** continued from page 1

little different from the normal fair, a multi day festival called "Groundhog Days" which offers "Woodstock Woodie's" prognostication at 7:07am in the town square on February 2nd, followed by a breakfast, a free showing of the film and a walking tour of the movie sites among other events both Saturday and Sunday. More information can be

found at 815-338-2436 and www.woodstockilchamber.c

If that's a bit too early for you, you can sleep a bit longer and head over to the Brookfield Zoo's Children's zoo at 10:30am, where "Stormy" and "Cloudy" will be coaxed out of their hibernation with a little carrot cake and be doing their own forecast for the Chicago area. The national groundhog is

"Punxsutawney Phil," from that Pennsylvanian-Dutch (German) town, which held its first Groundhog Day celebration in 1886, according to its Web site. The site quotes an American adage:

"If the sun shines on Groundhog Day; half the fuel, half the hay."





Free downloadable Honda Service Manuals & bulletins can be found at: goldwing.soylentgeek.com

Check it out and tell us what you think!

MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 PM

THE OLD COUNTRY BUFFET, STREAMWOOD, IL.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2007



#### Meeting Agenda

- 1. Meeting Called to Order
- 2. Reading of the Minutes from the 12/16/2007 Meeting •
- 3. Introduction of guests:
- 4. Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 5. National Business:
- 6/23-6/26 2008 AGWA Gold Classic Rally XXV, Hendersonville, NC See your WOTR for more details.
- 6. State Business:
- Russ Densmore will be resigning the office of Illinois State Director as of 02/01/08. If a replacement is not elected, state run activity will fall dormant. Nominations come from the Chapter level and can be taken at this and the December Chapter-H meeting.
- 7. Old Chapter Business:
- Treasury Report
- Breakfast Rides-Soup Run-Dinner Run
- 8. Break-50/50 Sales-Who knows a good joke?
- 9. New Chapter Business:

- Committee formation for 2008 Ride Destinations
- 01/27 Breakfast Ride
- **02/01** Soup Ride?
- 02/03 Breakfast Ride
- 0 02/10 10 Breakfast and Motorcycle Show-AGWA Members will be meeting for breakfast beginning at 8:30am @ Tiffany's Restaurant-2179 E. Touhy (S.W. corner of Touhy & River Rd.) Des Plaines 847-298-7733. We should be able to qualify for a group rate. Chapter-H will meeting between 8:30 and 9:00am @ Tiffany's and not at McDonald's on this day.
- **02/16** Chapter H Dinner Run-TBA (see web page)
- 02/17 Breakfast Ride
- 02/24 Breakfast Ride/Volo Auto Museum
- 02/29 Chapter H General Meeting of the Membership 7pm @ The Old Country Buffett, Streamwood, IL...
- 10. SPEAK UP! Open Discussion.
- 11. 50/50 Drawing
- 12. Meeting Adjourned...



#### Minutes of the 12-16-07 Meeting

Meeting Place - Nest Café

Number of members in attendance – 36

Meeting called to order at 9:54am

Meeting brought to order and thanks given to Nancy G. for a job well done.

Attention to our 50/50 drawing, will draw for half the pot and then drawings for Center Pieces.

Thanks to James Garner who has been doing the newsletter for 2 months now.

Welcomed everyone, including some old faces, Pat and Bob Ciston, and Larry Greco's Mom to our December meeting/Christmas Party.

Reviewed Birthdays for January, no Anniversaries.

Everyone in attendance OK'd last months minutes.

New Year's Days breakfast at Colonial Café in Geneva 9am.

Still looking for Russ Densmore's (State Rep) replacement.

Chapter Treasury noted at \$1538.00

In January work to be done on a 2008 ride schedule – 4 volunteered during the meeting:

Bev Chapman, Les Chapman, Larry Greco, Jim Garner, Steve Roberson

There has been talk of Toys-For-Tots moving to Nov. in 2008 due to poor turnout over past years due to weather.

Larry Greco's mom wished Happy Birthday, then all sang to her.

Next meeting 1/25/08

Motion put into discussion by Larry Greco to donate \$50 to Food pantry for the holidays. Motion second by Jim Garner. All in favor.

50/50 winner: Greg French \$70

Winners of center pieces, Nancy G. Mark B, Carolyn G, Trevor G.

Meeting / Party adjourned 11:07am Minutes taken & transcribed by Dawn Garner

SIGN UP 7 NEW
MEMBERS IN A
YEAR AND
RECEIVE A FREE
1-YEAR
MEMBERSHIP!!

PAGE 4 "H"APPENINGS

# The Next Meeting of the Membership will be 7pm Friday, February 29th, 2008 @ The Old Country Buffet, 1020 S. Barrington Rd., Streamwood, IL

#### This Month's Web Chuckle

Submitted by Nancy Schneck

#### Get out of the car!

This is supposedly a true account recorded on the Police Log of Sarasota, Florida.)

An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and, upon returning to her car, found four males in the act of leaving with her vehicle.

She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun, proceeding to scream, "I have a gun, and I know how to use it! Get out of the car!"

The four men didn't wait for a second threat. They got out and ran like mad. The lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her shopping bags back into the car ad got into the driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not get her key into the ignition.

The tried and tried, and then she realized why. It was for the same reason she had wondered why there was a football, a Frisbee and two 12-packs of beer in the front seat.

A few minutes later, she found her own car parker four or five spaces farther down.

She loaded her bags into

the police car and drove to the police station to report her mistake.

The sergeant to whom she had told the story couldn't stop laughing.

He pointed to the other end of the counter, where four pale men were reporting a car-jacking by a mad, elderly woman described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair, and carrying a large handgun.

No charges were filed. Moral of the story? If your having a senior moment . . . make it memorable.

### Sunday, February 24th. Leaving McDonald's @ 9am Chapter "H" Breakfast and field trip to:



The Volo Auto Museum and Antique Malls compound is made up of five showrooms with 300 collectible and Hollywood cars; three large antique malls with 350 dealers displaying their unique finds; and the Mercantile Mall housing a broad array of gifts and the largest selection of die-cast automobiles in the Midwest.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$9.00 for adults, \$7.00 for seniors, veterans with Veterans Universal Access ID and active personnel with military ID, \$5.00 for children 5-12, and free for any kid under 5 and military personnel in uniform. Special group rates are available.

The museum is located about 50 miles north of Chicago, 50 miles east of Rockford and 50 miles southwest of Milwaukee, ½ mile west on Route 12 on Highway 120, 13 miles west of I-94 in Volo, Illinois. For more information call 815-385-3644.

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Suggested by Malcolm Irwin

Reprinted from quasarworld.com - Visit the web page to see classic video of the Quasar in Action!

#### QUASAR by John Malfoy

As most people know, the Quasar has been around now for a good few years. Despite this, its handling, comfort, economy and its ability to consume great distances very rapidly have yet to be matched by the most modern 'superbikes'.

The Quasar story started in about 1968 when Malcolm Newell owned a motor-cycle shop in Devises with the unusual name of "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang". He designed a trike using a Mini engine/gearbox unit, and christened it "Revolution". The trike was assembled at Devizes but the frames were made by a Chippenham firm, a Director of which was a Mr Ken Leaman. An

appearance at the Earl's Court Show resulted in some orders, but at that time the banks were very tight with money and Malcolm was not able to expand his production. After making about seven Revolutions he closed his shop and went on to other things.

The idea of a Quasar-type bike was going through his mind at the time and various ideas were put down on paper. Ken Leaman had by then also moved on to pastures new, and while on holiday in Scotland he found himself on the same camp site as Malcolm. From this chance meeting the Quasar project was born. Ken started producing drawings and eventually Malcolm found a small engineering company in Melksham to manufacture a prototype. Unfortunately when the prototype was finished the company felt that it could not devote the necessary time and money to develop the bike to the production stage so a new backer had to be found.



By this time Ken Leaman was Chief Design Engineer with Wilson and Sons, a Bristol engineering firm. He managed to persuade them that they should take on the development and eventually the production of Quasar, and in 1974 the project moved from Melksham to its new home in Bristol.

Development was continued over the next couple of years and in December 1976 the first Quasar was sold.

During the development period it was important to make the motorcycling public aware of the Quasar, and, to this end, Malcolm was busy getting as much publicity as possible. He sought publicity in national and local papers, radio, motorcycle shows and, with Ken, gave talks to clubs, universities and professional institutes such as the Institute of Mechanical Engineers.

A tremendous amount of interest was generated by these means and the enquiries came in steadily. One would think that this interest would have given the company sufficient encouragement to commence production properly but unfortunately this was not the case. Between December 1976 and October 1979 a total of only six bikes was made and sold.

My own involvement with Quasar started in March 1976 when my employer at that time, Transtrip Ltd, was asked to supply the inverters for the rear-light system. Never having seen Quasar before I was absolutely amazed by the bike. A further surprise was that Malcolm lived in a small village only about five miles from my home - and yet I'd never seen the bike!

One evening during November 1979 Malcolm was at my house bemoaning the fact that Wilson's were not doing anything about increasing production. Jokingly, I said that as my company had just taken over a 5000 sq. ft. factory with, at that moment, no firm plans for it, we could perhaps slot Quasar into one corner. Then I noticed that Malcolm was not laughing. We talked for a long time - mainly about how I could convince the Managing Director that we, a company manufacturing transformers and electronic equipment, could start producing motorcycles - and a rather radical one at that. We drew up an impressive document detailing the story to date and future developments, possible market shares etc., then, when the time was right, I presented it to John Marshall, the Managing Director. To cut a very long story short, by April 1980 a verbal agreement was reached with Wilson's for us to make a batch of five machines to check out costs, methods etc.

Material was ordered, and in July Malcolm and I started assembly of the first two bikes for the Earl's Court show in August. Our "demo" bike, in police colours, was on the Cibie stand, and the other one, which was already sold, was on the Piranha stand. On our return from the show assembly continued with the remaining three machines of the batch. Malcolm was not in-

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#### QUASAR Continued from previous page

volved in the production now having gone "free-lance", One bike was sold in October, one in December and the last of the five in March 1981.

By this time no definite arrangement with Wilson's had been reached, but it was mutually agreed that a further batch of ten bikes should be made. Interminable delays in obtaining components resulted in production starting in late August 1981, the first bike going out on 2 November. This machine went to a British soldier in Germany, and the hassles with Customs and Excise over non-liability for VAT and Car Tax has indelibly fixed this date in my mind! Another bike went out in December, and the next was ready for delivery to a Plymouth buyer in March 1982.

At the end of that month I was made redundant.

Returning to the factory the following week, I started concentrating on disposing of the stock, etc. Obviously a lot of ground-work had been done during October, but equally obviously nothing was sold until I was on commission! The red bike went to a guy from Lancing, and the purple bike to a buyer near Marlborough. The black machine, originally destined for Plymouth, was purchased, together with a rolling chassis and a considerable amount of spares, by a gentleman from the Birmingham area.

By the end of the month everything had been disposed of and it was time for me to finally leave the company after collecting my agreed commission. This was the Quasar demonstrator, as well as all relevant correspondence, drawings etc., so when I left there was nothing at Romarsh to mark the Quasar's 2½ year tenancy.

During December and into January 1983 I rebuilt Wilson's demo bike. This was the one that Malcolm Newell used, which was taken back by Wilson's when Malcolm left the project. The bike had to be completely stripped and rebuilt using many new parts as it had been left outside for eighteen months. It was painted beige with a dark brown stripe.

I then built a new Quasar for the gentleman who had bought the rolling chassis and spares.

While the Romarsh collapse hastened the end of Quasar, its days were in any case numbered. As stated earlier, the decision to finish production at Romarsh had been taken in mid-1982. The project would then have reverted to Wilson's and no further bikes would have been made there. To have been a success, costs would have had to be cut, and the only way to do that while retaining the quality would have been to increase the rate of production. Unfortunately, neither Wilson's nor Romarsh had the finance to do this.

It is a great shame that in ten years or so since the prototype was completed, so few bikes were made: seven by Newell at Wilson's and ten by me at Romarsh. In addition to these, one is being slowly built from material bought from Wilson's, and one was built by me as mentioned above. There are also two "unofficial" Quasars, origins unknown.



It took around four weeks to assemble a Quasar, including all the preparation of the fibreglass. Materials, labour, overheads etc. brought the ex-works cost up to £4750. On top of this went Car Tax, £365. and VAT, £770, making a total of £5885. Believe me, the taxes added to more than the manufacturer's profit.

Top speed was around 110 mph, but the machine's ability to cruise at 100 mph (at 4250 rpm) is more important than absolute maximum speed. Fuel consumption overall was 70-80 mpg at pretty high cruising speeds, up to 90 mpg at 50 mph. Acceleration, on paper at least, looks not exciting at 10 sec for 0-60, 17 sec. standing 1/4-mile to t.v. 75 mph. Braking distance from 30 mph: 28 ft.

Quasar was years ahead of its time, and remains a credit to its designers, Ken Leaman and Malcolm Newell. Its futuristic lines still make heads turn and crowds gather when it is parked. The most modem UJM (Universal Japanese Motorcycle) doesn't start to compete with this design of the early 1970's.

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# THIS MONTH'S CHAPTER "H"appenings



# FEBRUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
						Matt Levin Groundhog Day
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Nancy Schneck			Jose Delvalle			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Lincoln		Halentine's Day		Dinner Ride
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	President's Day	Stina Hirsch		Joann Leith	Washington	
24	25	26	27	28	29	
				Pat Ciston		

May peace break into your house and may thieves come to steal your debts. May the pockets of your jeans become magnets for \$100.00 bills. May love stick to your face like Vaseline and may laughter assault your lips! May your clothes smell of success.

May happiness slap you across the face.

May your tears be that of joy.

May the problems you had forget your home address!

In simple words... May 2008 be the best year of your life!!!!!

PAGE 8 "H"APPENINGS



#### PEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMOR FOUNDATION BENEFIT NIGHT AT THE CHICAGO RUSH ARENA FOOTBALL

Saturday, March 22nd, 2008-7pm

The Allstate Arena: Chicago Rush vs. Colorado Crush

\$20 per ticket (face value) with a portion of the proceeds being donated to the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation.

Contact Cary Levin @ 847-624-8865

Make your check payable to the Chicago Rush. Mail your Check to:

Cary Levin 1854 Pebble Beach Circle Elgin, IL 60123

Tickets will be available late February, but mail your check to Cary soon!

Tickets will be sent on a first come, first serve basis.



By Jim Garner

**A**s many of you know, Our Chapter Rep., Les Chapman, spends some of his Sundays devoting time to his faith and is unable to attend a breakfast ride from to time. I've written this just to help fill in some blanks.

December 16th the Chapter had our annual Christmas Breakfast which was held at the Nest Café in Bartlett. The breakfast was organized by Nancy Greco. Nancy did an outstanding job at providing some holiday merriment, and Chris Irwin was there to lead us with some favorite Carols. Les promises to write more fore our next newsletter!

December 23rd Joel, Russ, Joe, Lewis and myself had breakfast at the Omega House on Wise Rd. in Schaumburg.

December 30th a group from H, Led by Les, had breakfast at Carol's Garden in Carol Stream. The wait was a bit too long, so a few members headed home, but those who could stay enjoyed swapin' stories and ate a good breakfast.

January 6th morning temperatures rose to the low 50's, so, as you could guess we had our first bikes of the year turn out. Cary and Nancy S. braved the fog and mist and led the group to Sandpiper's in West Chicago for our morning chow. Once there they were joined by Larry, Russ, Joel and myself.

Joel was the only rider the following Sunday, January 13th, as temperatures were once again in the more seasonal 20's with snow flurries for breakfast once again at

Sandpiper's. Joel was joined by former H members Lloyd and Leona Tatman, members Roy and Trudy, Cary, Matt, Benjamin Levin, Lewis, Larry and myself.

January 20th we were back to all four wheelers as I met Les, Joel and Russ over at the newly opened Bentley's Restaurant in the location the old Rosewood occupied on Lake street in Bloomingdale. The food was great and the comraderie even better!

So as you can see, even in the darkest months of winter, you can have you morning, day or evening lightened up by coming out and joining the fun, friendship and fellowship that is your AGWA-IL Chapter H! We hope to see you

soon!



CLASS TAUGHT BY BURT WAGNER @ RACER CAFE' IN SAINT CHARLES. \$30 PER PERSON WHICH INCLUDES LUNCH. CONTACT BURT AT (773) 909-4426 BURTSR@BIGFOOT.C

OM TO REGISTER

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Do you plan on attending the Little Angels Pledge Run this Year? If so, fill out the following registration form and mail it in before this Friday, February 1st, for the best pre-registration discount. Use the money you save to buy 50/50 tickets, food, or any other creative way you can to help the kids at the Little Angels Home the day of the run!







#### YOUR PLEDGES MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE TO LITTLE ANGELS

#### TO REGISTER:

>Mail this form to: Little Angels, 1435 Summit St., Elgin, IL 60120

➤ Fax this form to: Little Angels, 847.622.5523

➤ Visit us online at: www.littleangels.org

➤ Walk in: Woodstock Harley-Davidson

*** ONE REGISTRATION FORM NEEDS	ED PER PERSON ***
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(Pleas	e check appropi	iate boxe	s. Registration	should be po	ostmarked by due date.)
000 00	☐ Before February 1 <sup>st</sup>		\$15.00 \$20.00 \$30.00 (Mey 12-17: ONLY on-line registration or walk-in at Woodstock Harley-Davidson; ends on 05-17 at 5 p.m.) \$35.00		
	☐ I can't participate but would like to donate \$ to L			to Little Angels	
	I would like to	order	raffle	tickets @ \$16	0.00 each
	T	OTAL A	MOUNT EN	CLOSED \$	3
1	Name: Address; City, State, Zip: Phone: e-mail address;	()_	ECKS AND MA	JOR CREDI	T CARDS ACCEPTED
					ANGELS PLEDGE RUN
	Card: □VISA er:_				Exp Date:
Name Signat	20000	card (PLI	EASE PRINT):		



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN GOLD WING ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS CHAPTER-H

#### "H"appenings

Chapter-H Representative Les Chapman 275 S. Melrose Elgin, IL 60123

Phone: 847-697-6768 Cell: 630-640-5020 E-mail: treke1@aol.com

VISIT US ON THE WEB WWW.CHRISTMASINJULY.ORG Since 1983, the American Gold Wing Association has shared the common desire of fun, fellowship, and safety. AGWA is a family orientated, family membership social organization of Gold Wing owners and other brands of touring motorcycles who share the love for the open road and participating in exciting activities, recreation and educational programs, events, and fellowship. AGWA is an AMA chartered organization. All Directors and Officers are volunteers serving without financial compensation. All positions are obtained through a completely democratic process.



The Next Meeting of the Membership will be 7pm Friday, February 29th, 2008 @ The Old Country Buffet, 1020 S. Barrington Rd., Streamwood, IL



Lester T. Chapman 275 S. Melrose Elgin, Il 60123