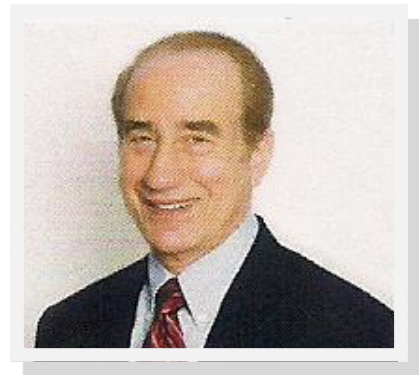


The il Leak

January 2025 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 62 Issue 1

A Message from the President

As I sit here anticipating the new year, the January Installation of Officers (my third round as president), I think back to the friendships, events and great experiences I have had since I joined the club back in 1997.



It all began with a chance conversation I had with a colleague at work who had a picture of his Model A on his desk. I was quickly introduced to the Minuteman Model A Ford Club, and a whirlwind search for a Model A for sale ensued. I soon found myself in possession of a potential Model A, completely disassembled, and a project well beyond my capabilities. It all worked out in the end, but that's a story for another time.

The upcoming year will be a busy and exciting one. We are always looking for suggestions and tour leaders. Bring your ideas to the tour planning meeting (date to be announced). As hosts for the New England Meet next September, there is much work needed to make it successful. I am sure that Tom and Barbara would welcome your help, suggestions and hands-on participation. Programs and/or presentations at our monthly meetings are welcomed and are enjoyed by our members. If you have an area of technical expertise that you are willing to share or know someone who does, we can schedule a seminar.


Most important is your participation. Each of you brings something unique that makes our club special. Looking forward to the year ahead.



*Happy Motoring
Harold*

Sunshine

Sue Champagne



No Cards were sent out last month.

If you know of a member who needs a little cheering up contact me. sdchampagne1931@gmail.com

Coming Events

(Tours Start at Wayland Town Center RT 20)

Jan 8 Regular Meeting, NOTE the date change.

Feb 4 Regular Club Meeting

TL = Tour Leader

Minuteman Model A Ford Club	
Treasurer's Report	
November, 2024	
<u>Income:</u>	
Club Auction	928.00
Coffee Can	11.00
<u>Member Dues</u>	<u>480.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 1419.00
<u>Expense:</u>	
Coffee Supplies	11.72
Dues & Subscriptions	10.00
MAFCA Annual Insurance	75.00
<u>Oil Leak Printing</u>	<u>80.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 176.72
Net Income	\$ 1242.28

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

January 1990 35 YEARS AGO

A "Member of the Year" Award was established by Don Morris. Scorekeeper was Phil Iorio. You would get credit for attendance at all Club events between February and December with magnificent prizes to be awarded at the following Holiday Party. We had an engine discussion by Rick Knight of Knight Engineering of Gloucester scheduled for February. Rick Knight is a member of our Club and would discuss the Model A Engine and hold a Question and Answer session.


January 2000 25 YEARS AGO

Among the projects in 2000 was the amendments to the Club By-Laws (previously revised in 1964!) to reflect changes in operations, organization and staffing since the Club was founded. A draft of the proposed amendments would be up for a membership vote that Spring. Our Club hosted the 6th annual "Winter Blahs" auto parts "Swap n' Sell" meet on March 19, 2000 in Stowe, MA at the Minuteman Airfield from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. "Please note! This is a new location, with more room and improved parking".


January 2010 15 YEARS AGO

The Minuteman Club, through its Youth Restoration Awards and the help of individual members, supported the efforts of three young members. Fred Hamway had a 30 Phaeton, Dave Willens had a 30 Pickup, and Matt Johnson had a 30 Coupe. Matt Johnson was one of the recipients of the Youth Restoration Award presented in 2008 by the National Clubs.


National Organizations: Highly Recommended you join all three organizations



Model A Ford Club of America (mafca.com)
Membership dues \$50/year



Model A Restorers Club (model-a-ford.org)
Membership Dues \$50/year



Model A Ford Foundation (maffi.org)
and the Model A Ford Museum \$35/yr.

2025 Board of Directors

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Vice President - Peter McLaughlin *petermclaughlin1485@gmail.com*

Secretary - John Erb *john.erb@verizon.net*

Treasurer - Barbara McElhiney *mcelhiney@rcn.com*

Membership - Nan Linden 508-485-7575 *met59a31@aol.com*

Editor - Doug Linden *douglingen@aol.com*

Steering Committee

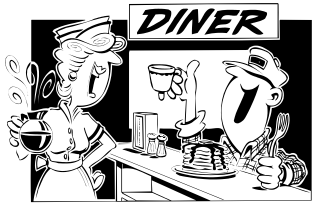
Brad Johnson, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, vacant , Jo Johnson - Emeritus

Tour Director: Don Ross 617-584-5245 *dross02466@gmail.com*

Sunshine: Sue Champagne *sdchampagne1931@gmail.com*

Newsletter Distribution: Sue Champagne *sdchampagne1931@gmail.com*

Weekly Breakfast Group →



The breakfast group at the Big Apple, 890 Boston Post Road East (RT 20) in Marlborough, MA. We meet every Wednesday

around 7:30 AM. Why not join us, there is always room for you. →



MAFCA National Awards Banquet - Salt Lake City

The annual Awards Banquet was held Dec 11 - 14 and the host clubs had planned a variety of seminars, tours and dinners. These are small events with about 70 registrations. Tours of the Salt Lake City area provided a chance to take in a rehearsal of the Tabernacle Choir and organ recital. The raffle and hospitality rooms were always busy places. One unique Model A on display was a 1929 Pickup that had been converted to operate on electric. Here is a you tube video of it. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJWLiU1CpEU>

At the banquet, awards were presented for various articles in The Restorer magazine, newsletters and webpages. One final award surprised the heck out of Nan and I as we were presented the Volunteer of the Year award. Next year's NAB will be held in Mobile, AL, we were told the weather will be warmer.



“Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goals.”
Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

Minuteman Model 'A' Ford Club

Location: Sudbury Point Restaurant Sudbury, MA

No Secretary's Report.

The December 8th Holiday Party replaced the regular club meeting.



Our annual Holiday Party was again a festive and successful event. Fifty-four (54) members gathered at the Sudbury Point Grill to share the holiday season, catch up on family events, share Model A activities and ,of course, enjoy some great food. And thanks to those attending we were able to fill the Toys-For-Tots table. I am sure there will many happy young faces on Christmas Day.



A special thanks goes to Harold and Robin Samuels for overseeing the plans for this party and for the adorable center pieces on each table. Merry Christmas and Happy Hannukah to all.



Attention - FEBRUARY CAR SHOW

Yes, a car show in February, where? At the club meeting. That's right, a car show at the meeting. BUT, there is a catch, it will be for Hubley Metal Model A's models. We think most members have a Hubley Model so we would like to have you show them at the meeting. The February meeting will give you time to do any "detailing" you might need to get



your model show ready.

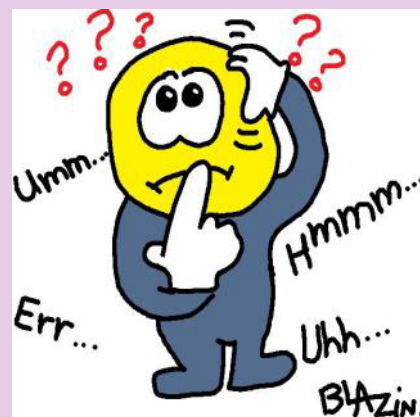


We will have two classes, the first for home built Hubley models. The second will be for purchased model cars (metal or plastic) such as Danbury/Franklin Mint or similar, even Beam Bottles.

If your model isn't a Model A, that's ok too, this is an equal opportunity car show.

CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. The Model "T" existed from 1909-1927. How long did the Ford flathead V8 engine exist?
2. What happened to the Packard after the "SILVERBIRD" hood ornament dipped it's wings in 1952?
3. Which American auto company manufactured the Falcon?
4. What country required in the early day's of child safety for children to ride in the back seat of a car?
5. Who acquired control of the Duesenberg Motor Co in 1927?
6. What year did Cadillac announce the V-16 engine?
7. Name the most famous annual race in the United States?
8. What was the first year every US State was taxed for gasoline?



WELCOME NEW MEMBER



Nan Reports One New Member this Month.

Joshua Sieg
Westbrook, ME
(No Model A)

2025 New England Meet Update



December 20, 2024

Our fellow Minutemen,

We have busily been making plans for the Minuteman Club to host the 2025 New England Meet in September 2025. We've secured the Boxboro Regency Hotel as the meet venue; we've planned two great dinner events, including entertainment, for Friday and Saturday nights; and we've planned an Awards Brunch on the Sunday morning of the meet. We have a Grand Tour through Apple Country that will end with peer judging and lunch at Kimball Farm in Lancaster. We have a number of on-your-own tours planned, and we'll have guests arriving from at least 12 different clubs from all over New England, New York, and New Jersey.

The planning has gone well, and while the basic blocks are in place for a great event, we still have far to go to make this a really successful event for our members and guests. We anticipate registration opening for the meet this Spring, and as of today, the hotel is almost fully booked.

How can you help?

Plan to register, attend and enjoy the meet.

Volunteer to help out at the meet. We will need volunteers to help out in the repair tent, raffle room, hospitality and registration areas, on the tour route, and at the awards brunch.

Donate an item for the raffle room. Raffle Room items are a big draw at the meet and the proceeds from raffle ticket sales help underwrite the costs of hosting the events. Raffle items can be automobile-related or not, and in addition to tools, auto parts, and gift certificates, gift baskets, artwork, and other such items make for great raffle items.

Place a business ad or tribute in the program book for the meet. The program book for the meet goes to all registrants, and in addition to providing great exposure to meet participants, ad sales also help underwrite the costs of putting on the meet.

We have a great team in place for the meet, but we will need your help to make this a successful and really fun Model A event. If you'd like to help out, donate an item for the raffle room, or place an ad in the program, please contact Barbara or me, and we'll get you the on the list, in the raffle room, or in the program. We look forward to working with you on the 2025 N.E. Meet.

Thomas Zappala
Chair, 2025 N.E. Meet
t.zappala@comcast.net
(781) 424-3364

Barbara McElhiney
Co-Chair, 2025 N.E. Meet
mcelhiney@rcn.com
(781) 738-2084

Model A Ford Foundation, Inc

Model A Ford Enthusiasts:

First, the Model A Ford Foundations Trustees and Advisors wish everyone a wonderful holiday season! It's always a magical time of year, but especially this year with the museum expansion in progress!

Executive Director of MAFFI, John Marshall and his team of elves have just finished decorating the museum for the holidays. The Parts Department in the museum is looking pretty festive. Meanwhile outdoors the trusses are up on the expansion. The walls for the expansion are expected to up the week of November 18th --- so long as the weather cooperates. You can actually watch the construction if you go to maffi.org and click on the Camera icon, and then click on Expansion.



And right around December 23, the back wall of the museum will need to be opened up to connect the existing building and the expansion. This means moving all the displays at the back of the museum and covering all the museum artifacts with plastic. During this phase of the construction, the museum will be closed for safety reasons. (The closure is just temporary, so call ahead if you plan to visit in December or January to be certain the museum is back open).

Give yourself and your car a gift this holiday season: Have your car's picture and your name engraved on a plaque that will be the archway from the existing museum to the expansion. Be a part of the history of the museum! Just contact Val

Maron at 847-951-5858 or TheMyAProgram@gmail.com For \$200, a donor will receive a plaque mounted on a museum wall segregated by year (1928, 1929, 1930, 1931) showing their vehicle, name, home area and vehicle body style.

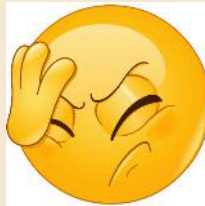
Happy Holidays,
Cindy Ellenbecker - MAFFI Trustee, Secretary

Not a MAFFI member! This organization's goal is to preserve the Model A and the Model A era for future generations. You can become a member by visiting (maffi.org)

“Artie - Fact”

By “A” nonymous

- Why couldn't the frog find where he parked his car?
- He'd been toad.
- New Teslas don't come with a new car smell they come with an Elon Musk
- What kind of cars do people in Norway drive?
- Fjords.
- Who can drive all their customers away and still make money?
- Taxi drivers.



Annual Wayside Inn Dinner

The annual Wayside Inn Dinner was once again a hit with the members. We usually gather in the old Tavern to enjoy the atmosphere, the cocktails and great conversations. For dinner, the staff relocated us to the upstairs Ballroom where we had plenty of extra room. The staff did a great job serving us and the



food, especially the inn's signature prime rib was excellent. Everyone attending had a great time.

A Tool For All Seasons

by Tom Endy 2023

When it comes time to tighten the rear axle nuts on a Model A that hold the brake drums on there is a need for a torque wrench. The torque value is plus or minus a nominal 100 ft. lbs. My technique is to set the torque wrench at 90 ft. lbs. and tighten the nut, then see where the cotter pin hole is. If it is dead on I leave it. If it is not, I tighten the nut more until the hole is visible. Sounds simple enough, but there is a problem. In order to gain access to the nut the wheel must be removed. This requires that the rear of the car must be sitting on jack stands. When you apply that much torque to the nut the brake drum wants to rotate. Even with a helper pushing on the brake pedal it may not be enough.

The BLT Guys run into this problem every time they install a Mitchell overdrive. During the install process the two axle nuts have to be removed so that thread protectors can be installed on the ends of the axle shafts and the removed rear end dropped into a cradle with the axle ends supported by the cradle. This necessitates that both axle nuts be re-torqued before the wheels are put back on.

To simplify the job Bryan Thompson developed a unique tool that holds the drum from rotating. The tool can also be used anytime the axle nuts need to be torqued, such as when doing a brake job, or when just checking the torque on the nut.



The tool is shown here. It is mounted on the brake drum so that three lug bolts on the brake drum are inserted into the three tubes on the tool. The pipe is then extended down through the tool to rest on the ground to prevent the drum from turning as the axle nut is being torqued.



Don't miss an issue!
Time to renew your
MEMBERSHIP
Dues are Due
2025



In order for us to keep our records up to date, **PLEASE** complete the form below and return with your check for **\$20**. If there are no changes, you won't have to complete the entire form, just check the appropriate box. *Thank you.*

Membership Renewal: _____ or New: _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Spouse/Significant Other Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

email _____ Telephone ____-____-_____

No Changes _____

I would like to receive my **Oil Leak** by email. Yes _____ No _____

(If you do not specify, it will be sent electronically if we have an email address on file.)

Are You a member of MAFFI _____ MAFCA _____ MARC _____

Model A Info:

Year _____ Body Style _____ Year Acquired _____

Year _____ Body Style _____ Year Acquired _____

Please make check payable to: Minuteman Model A Ford Club and mail to

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Sudbury, MA 01776

ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. 1932--1953 22 years
2. Packard slowly died
3. Ford motor Co.
4. England
5. E.L Cord
6. 1929
7. Indianapolis 500
8. 1929
9. Fuel tanks modifications
10. 1970

SOCIAL MEDIA

Do you know that our club has a Facebook page? Well we do, if you have a Facebook account you can check our recent club activities by visiting us at

Minuteman Model A Ford Club.

There are usually posting before and after club events and club activities, so check out this page.

Speaking of social media, there are many Model A Facebook and Instagram sites on the net. They all have great information on Model A body styles, Technical repairs and tour in the Model A.

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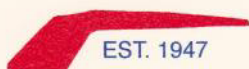
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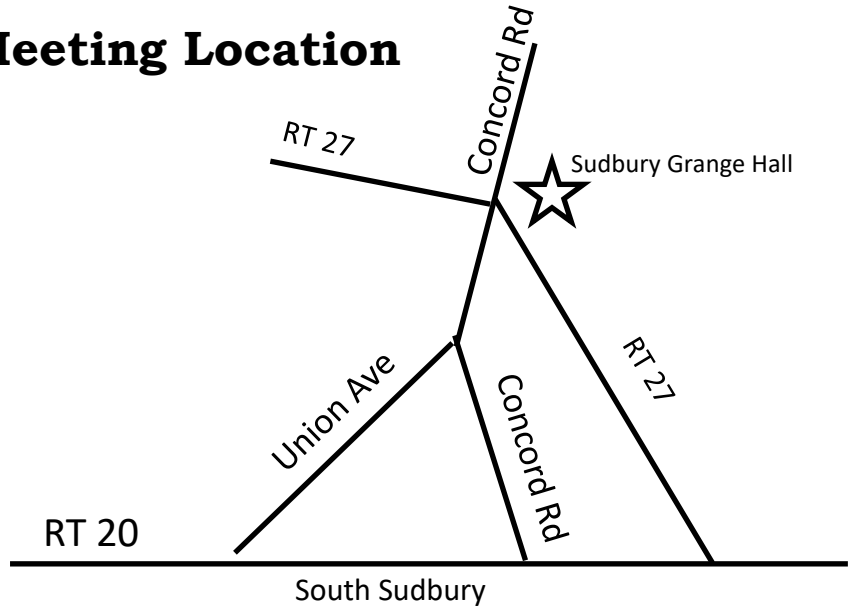
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Meeting Location



January Announcements

JANUARY 8

Please note that the meeting date is ON the second Wednesday NOT the first Wednesday as it falls on New Years Day.

At this meeting our new slate of officers will take the reins and lead the club in 2025.

Please see 2025 Meet Chair Tom Zappala's message on page 6.

Our Monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at the Sudbury Grange Hall, 326 Concord Road Sudbury, MA. Meetings start at 7:30 PM.

Be Sure to visit www.oilleak.org

MINUTEMAN
MODEL "A" FORD
CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS



Please
Mail to:

January 2025

Minuteman Model "A" Ford Club
PO Box 545, Sudbury, MA 01776