

The il Leak

May 2024 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 61 Issue 5

The President Speaks

One of the benefits of being part of the Minuteman Model A Club is the amazing, combined Model A knowledge that exists. One way we help each other is the annual Spring Clinic. This year it's on Saturday, May 4th. You can sign up to have your Model A gone over for basic safety, problems diagnosed, and to have small repairs done. Sign-ups have already begun, so contact Don Ross for possible openings to have your car checked before the summer touring. Or join us for the day to watch and learn, as well as enjoy each other's company. (*info on page 7*)



MAFCA has designated May to be youth month. This is one way to encourage continued interest in Model A's. I've lined up six of our club members to have their Model A's at a youth night at a church in Acton where 75 to 100 kids will be present. Kids love Model A's. You could try just parking your A in your own driveway and inviting the neighborhood families to come over and have a short ride. Or maybe contact a local school or other organization and set up a time to bring your car over to answer questions. Invite others in the club to join you so you can show off different body styles. The love for Model A's won't continue without the next generation's involvement.

Be sure to check out this month's schedule for tours and join in the fun. Model A's were meant to drive. Speaking of driving, I used to occasionally drive my Model A to work (before I retired). When I got to work, I would often hide ... good employees are hard to find.

Prez Brad

P.S. Don't forget that May is our last month meeting at Memorial Church in Sudbury. See you at the Sudbury Grange, on Wednesday night June 5th.

HAPPY
MEMORIAL DAY



Sunshine

Sue Champagne

No cards were sent out 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)

- May 4** Spring Tune-up Clinic, (see pg. 7 for details)
- May 7** Regular Club Meeting
- May 14** 6:30 PM Ashland Dairy Queen (food & Ice cream)
TL Don Ross
- May 19** Noon: Meet at Wellesley DPW Building RT9 (paid event please plan to attend)
- May 26** 9:00 AM Wellesley College Reunion, transportation for elderly Alums (paid event) meet at chapel.
- June 5** Club Meeting at the Sudbury Grange

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report March, 2024

<u>Income:</u>	
Coffee Can (March mtg)	\$34.00
Flea Market	401.00
Flea Market Attendance	659.00
Flea Mkt Vendor Fee	250.00
Member Dues	280.00
<u>Raffle (club)</u>	<u>33.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 1657.00
<u>Expense:</u>	
Flea Mkt Expense	\$145.35
Mtg Room Fee (Grange)	300.00
<u>Oil Leak Printing</u>	<u>80.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 523.35
Net Income	\$ 1133.65

MINUTEMAN HISTORY


by Dick O'Brien

MAY 1989 35 YEARS AGO
Don Bennett, aka "Ole Ben" retired from making and serving coffee at our monthly meetings. A big round of applause for Ben was given by the club members! From then on, it was our pleasure to serve him. New sample logos were printed in this issue of the Oil Leak for consideration and discussion at the next meeting. Also, at the next meeting we will present our Tool Scholarship to a candidate from the Assabet Valley Vocational School


MAY 1999 25 YEARS AGO
We received official notice that the Minuteman Club would host the 2001 New England Meet! Though it was two years away, we needed to start thinking about finding a location, putting together a committee, etc.. At the November meeting, it had been agreed to run our Website for a six month trial. If voted to continue the website, we would ask for volunteers to manage changes and additions to the web.

MAY 2009 15 YEARS AGO
The weather was fantastic for our April 18th Spring Tour Clinic! Our service stations were all staffed by our "A"ce mechanics. We had 13 members take advantage of the day and they really appreciated the scrutiny we provided and the following service of any areas that needed repair or adjustment. Craig Martin received a rousing round of applause for running our March Winter Blahs Swap Meet. We had 44 vendors and over 300 people attending and made over \$1,200.00!

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.

2024 Board of Directors

President - Brad Johnson *bradj54@comcast.net*

Vice President - Harold Samuels *hsamuels10@gmail.com*

Secretary - Rick Gadbois *r.gadbois@comcast.net*

Treasurer - Barbara McElhiney *mcelhiney@rcn.com*

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

Editor - Doug Linden *douglingen@aol.com*

Steering Committee

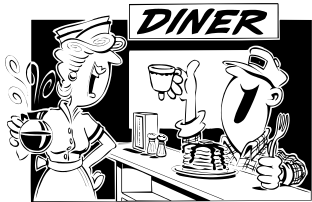
John Kerns, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Harold Samuels, John Erb, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

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. →



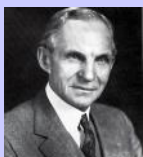
National News

MAY IS MODEL A YOUTH MONTH

In prior years MAFCA has clearly supported the concept that youth are essential to the Model A hobby's future and chapters are the means to introduce youth to the hobby. Establishing club activities that invite youth participation is a fundamental key to turning our youth into life-long hobbyists. May of each year has been designated as Model A Youth Month. I look forward to reading about the many different ways our chapters are involving our youth in the hobby. "Robert Bullard MAFCA President"



NOTE: The Minuteman Club is supporting two youth events in May. Brad Johnson and John Erb at their respective churches will be joined with other club members to greet the youths and display and answers question about the Model A.



"The genius of the American people is self-reliance. The old principles that made us great - Self-direction and self-help - are still contemporary and valid"

Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club April 2, 2024

Memorial Congregational Church, Sudbury, MA

Meeting was called to order at 7:33PM with 30 members in attendance.

Tonight's meeting was kicked off with President Brad Johnson leading the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the singing of God bless America led by the Mangan's.

Officers Reports:

- Brad requested a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as printed in the Oil Leak – MSP.
- Brad then requested a motion to accept the Treasurers Report as printed in the Oil Leak – MSP

VP Report:

- Nothing to report this month.

Membership:

- Nan Linden – no new members this month.

National News:

- Doug Linden – Model A Days at MAFFI this year will be held on 9/20 and 9/21. There is currently a group restoring a commercial Model A bus which they hope to be able to use that weekend.

There is also an individual putting together a Route 66 tour from Chicago to Santa Monica and he is looking for cars to join in, you can find him on various Model A Facebook pages.

Touring:

- Don Ross
 - * 4/11 - Thursday 7:00 PM - Dinner Tour at Ziti's in Natick, on your own, we meet there.
 - * 4/20 - Saturday - Brunch at the Post Office Pub in Grafton, tour leaves Wayland at 10:00 AM.
 - * 4/27 – Saturday - Dust Off tour to Bean Farm in NH. Leaves Wayland at 7:30 AM. Dick O. will be leading tour.
 - * 4/28 – Sunday – Flea Market at Fitchburg Airport – on your own.
 - * 5/4 Saturday – Spring Tune-up Clinic will be held at Harold Legge's garage in South Natick.

To reserve your half hour slot please contact Don Ross.

- * 5/7 – Last Monthly meeting at Congregational Church, June meeting will be held at the Grange. (See new business)

Old Business:

- Craig Martin reported on The 28th Annual Winter Blahs Flea Market.

We had a pretty good turnout considering the weather. Many thanks to all the volunteers that helped out.

- Layout: John Pierce, Len and Peg Michalak.
- Signage: Doug Linden
- Admissions: Nan Linden, Jude Zeoli, Kathy Johnson.
- Refreshments: Grace Doyle and Peter McLaughlin
- Security: Dick Krug
- Raffle: Don Ross and Tony Zeoli -- Many thanks to those who supplied items for the raffle.
- Many thanks to all the volunteers' who helped the vendors with un-loading and loading their vehicles, this is a great help in expediting set-up and breakdown.
- Craig also thanked the club for the donation to MAFFI in his mother in-laws name who passed away in February.
- The club then thanked and applauded Craig for all he does, especially for the many years he has organized and managed the Flea Market.

Refreshments:

- Thank you to Peter McLaughlin and Harold Legge for tonight's refreshments. Next month volunteers will be Doug Farrell and Linda Batstone.

New Business:

- The May meeting will be the last held at the Congregational Church. Beginning with the June meeting we will be moving to the Sudbury Grange - 326 Concord Road, meeting nights will be on the first Wednesday of each month.
- May is Model A youth month - Brad Johnson will be holding an activity at Faith Church in Acton and has 6 cars signed up to attend.

John Erb is also planning something in his area of Bolton.

- Wayne Champagne reported on the MARC Mileage program, you need to be a MARC member and it only cost \$1 to enroll.

Awards were handed out by Wayne;

- ◆ Don Ross – 1929 Tudor – 5000 miles.
- ◆ Wayne C. – 1931 Cabriolet – 35,000 miles.
- ◆ Doug L. – 1931 Town Sedan – 95,000 miles.

Programs:

- Tonight we will have a show and tell from various members.

Business Meeting Adjourned at 8:09 PM

Respectfully submitted –

Rick Gadbois - Secretary

2024 MEMBERSHIP Application Form



PLEASE complete the form and return with your check for \$20.

Membership: Renew - w/no changes _____, Renew - w/changes _____, New _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Spouse/Significant Other Name _____ Model A : _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

email _____ Telephone _____ - _____ - _____

How would you like to receive your Newsletter: Electronically or US Mail (circle one)

Model A Owned: _____

April Meeting Program

For the April meeting members were asked to bring Show & Tell items to share with the members. Doug displayed a number of different accessory lights for the Model A. Dave Libby explained the trial & tribulations of rebuilding the Fordor window regulator. Bob Mangan presented a number of unique items obtained on overseas trips, including a German WWII helmet and original rust from the Eiffel Tower. Rich Batstone presented two



beautiful painting by his very talented brother. One in particular of Rich's Coupe at the antique railroad station in Wayland. Rich revealed that the Coupe was never parked at in front of the station, Rich's brother painted it from two separate picture. The end result was still beautiful.



“Artie - Fact”

by “A”nonymous

Businessman and inventor Elwood Haynes astonished one of his earliest customers by delivering a pioneering horseless carriage personally in 1898. Elwood drove the spartan open-topped car all the way from his Indiana workshop to the wealthy doctor's home in New York City.



It was the first 1,000-mile car journey ever completed in the United States... and it took over a month (the car he delivered became

known as "The Pioneer". It was later donated to the Smithsonian museum and appeared on a US postage stamp in 1995).

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

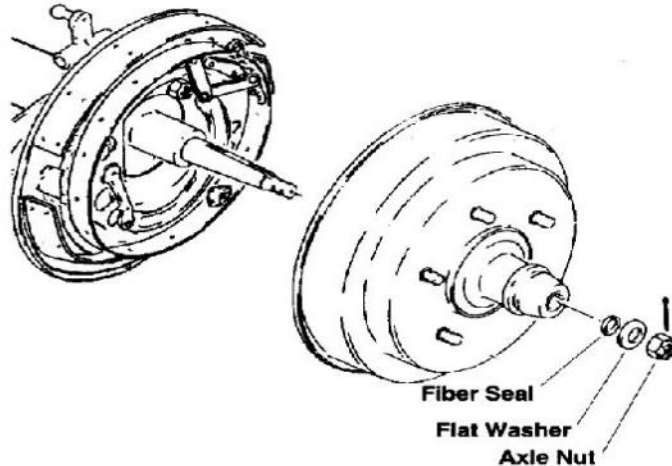
Nan reports No New Members last Month.



Jim's Tech Tips

"Check Your Rear Axle Nuts"

Every time I have a rear wheel off of a Model A, I use the opportunity to check the tightness of the rear axle nut for that wheel. They are supposed to be quite tight, and yet I find many with at least one axle nut that is loose. This is not good. If the hub is able to move on the axle, it will cause excess wear to the end of the axle and can damage it to the point where the axle will need to be replaced.



To check it, first remove the cotter key. With the transmission in 1st or Reverse gear, and the opposite rear tire on the ground, you can apply a wrench to the axle nut and confirm it is tight.

Ford did not publish torque values for nuts and bolts; he counted on the experience and "feel" of expert mechanics to know how tight to make things. Les Andrews has a value of 125 ft-lbs. in his book for this nut, and I feel that is a good target to shoot for. Watch the position of the cotter pin hole relative to the slots in the axle nut. If the pin will not line up on the nut, keep tightening the nut until the cotter pin goes in. Bend the ears over. I use a new cotter pin every time.

This simple maintenance step will help you avoid bigger problems down the road.

Until next time, *Have a Model A Day!*
Jim



Ziti's Dinner Gathering

Those attending the club gathering at Ziti's Italian Trattoria in Natick had a wonderful time. As usual the food was good and the conversation was plentiful. It was also very good to have Gary Hoyt in attendance. We haven't seen Gary in a while so it was great to have him join the group. A pleasant time was had by all.

2024 MINUTEMAN TOUR CLINIC

Saturday May 4, 2024



Tour Director Don Ross reports that the time slots for the day are filling up. The clinic uses half hour sessions to evaluate and make and minor adjustments to your Model A. Don states that there are still some time slots available after lunch starting at 1 PM. Appointments are necessary in order to have an orderly flow at the work stations.

A sign up sheet will be available at the May meeting. If you can't make the meeting please contact Don for an appointment: dross02466@gmail.com or text his cell phone at: 617-584-5245.

The members of the service team look forward to seeing you at the home of Harold & Sally Legge, 8 Brook St. Natick, MA

Historical Notes From The Past

Club Meeting Minutes May 31, 1962

The meeting was called to order at the home of Bill and Marty Saunders by Tom Taranto.

Agnes Crook suggested that Dorthea Burn of Holliston be called in connection with the Holliston 4th of July parade.

Fitz Stevens brought the program for the Newport Car Festival on June 23 & 24th. It will be decided at the next meeting if some of us would go as observers.

Marty Saunders volunteered to help with the artwork on our bulletin. We decided the bulletin should have interesting stories, a calendar of events, a swap column, a wanted column, a membership list, and the time and place of the next meeting.

John Moran volunteered his services in transporting parts from Chester, VT, where Mr. Jack Armstrong has all sorts of "A" parts for sale.

We decided that the next Model A meeting would be June 14th at the home of Tom Taranto in Holliston.

We adopted the Tri County Model A Club as our official name.

Bill Saunders was going to check on the Needham 4th of July parade.

Before departing we also verified arrangements for our Princeton meet the following Sunday.

Respectfully Submitted
Joan Christopherson Acting Secretary

PIZZA PARTY & QUIZ



Southborough House of Pizza

The Pizza Party is back! After a break of a few years due to Covid the Pizza Party was back on our activity schedule thanks to the efforts of the Lindens and Champagnes. This was the first event of the touring season and it was well attended with 35 members showing up to enjoy some good pizza, enjoy good conversation and take the world famous Pizza Quiz. There was plenty of Salad, Pizza and Desserts to satisfy your appetite. The Pizza Quiz was a hard one this year but we did have winners for the large number of prizes that were on the table. All attending had a great time, the only problem was the weather did not cooperate for Model A's to attend.



CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What is a roof option other than paint called?
2. What are wheel supporters called ?
3. What is a pickup truck protector called?
4. What does a engine piston fit into?
5. What type of brakes were offered in 1923?
6. What year was the transparent top introduced on production cars?
7. What type of power was used to drive the Studebakers in 1902?
8. What was the M.P.G. rating of the Model A Ford?
9. What type of breaking system did Ford motor co. introduce in 1939?
10. What country manufactured the Jeep?



WINTER BLAH'S FLEA MARKET

Once again Craig Martin worked hard to make sure the 28th annual edition of our flea market was a success.

This year the weather was a little unfriendly with all the rain on Saturday froze overnight and the fact that it was Palm Sunday caused the attendance to be off from past years.

That didn't stop the vendors from showing up though and they were greeted by a flock of club members to help them unload their wares.

Once the gates opened I could see the business was brisk. As a vendor I was happy and sold some good stuff to another vendor right as the doors opened.

Looking around from my swap space I could see the other vendors selling their goods and all were happy with the results.

Thanks to early risers Len & Peg Michalak and John Pierce for getting the floor spaces laid out. Coffee & Donuts were under the able control of Grace Doyle & Peter McLaughlin. The all important Gate Keepers job was once again handled by Nan Linden and Jude Zeoli, and newbie Kathy Johnson.

At April club meeting, Craig Martin thanked all who helped out and most importantly reported that the event once again added revenue to the club's operating budget.

See you again next year.



Peter & Grace staffing the coffee



Don & Tony selling raffle tickets



Blake & Rick minding the store

ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Vinyl roof
2. Spokes (iron or wood)
3. Bedliner
4. A cylinder bore
5. 4 wheel brakes
6. 1953
7. Electric motor drive
8. 25 mpg
9. Hydraulic brake system
10. United States



The Registration Form for the NE England Meet is now on line. Please visit this website and register for this fun event.

<https://cmarc.us/2024-new-england-meet/>

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Meeting Information

Just a reminder that the May meeting will be the LAST meeting at the Memorial Congregational Church.

Starting in JUNE we will meet at the Sudbury Grange Hall which just 1.5 miles away next to the Town Hall and the Noyes School.

The meeting will move to the 1st Wednesday of the month.



Our Monthly meetings are held at the Memorial Congregational Church, 26 Concord Rd in Sudbury. Meetings start at 7:30 PM. Hope to see everyone there.

Be Sure to visit www.oilleak.org

CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS
MODEL "A" FORD
MINUTEMAN



Please
Mail to:

May 2024

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