

# The il Leak

September 2024 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 61 Issue 9

## *The President Speaks*

September, here it comes. Cooler weather, Labor Day weekend, school buses to watch out for, and great weather for driving your Model A on those back roads with kids and grandkids.

Maybe we should call September Model A month ... There are three big opportunities for our Minuteman Club, as well as other smaller planned tours:

Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> – This will be the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for the Minuteman Model A Club at the Fruitlands Museum in Harvard, MA. Sign up is needed, and the meal is only \$15 for members. Tours will be leaving from Wayland and Acton (for the more northern members) at 10:30am. Or you can meet us there at 11:30am.

September 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> – New England Meet in Rocky Hill, CT. I hope you've signed up already. It's only about 100 miles from here. Great time to be together and see some of what we need to plan for 2025 when the Minuteman Club will be responsible for the meet in Boxborough, MA. Watch for details for driving down together in our A's.

September 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> – Model A Days at the Gilmore Museum in Hickory Corners, MI. If you haven't been to this huge museum, it's well worth the drive there. Check out the MAFFI.org website and see the expansion being planned, which will hopefully be finished by next year's Model A Days.

Continuing with the humor: I once submitted 10 puns to a joke contest. I figured by submitting so many that surely at least one would win. Sadly, no pun in ten did.



**HAPPY  
LABOR  
DAY**

*Prez Brad*



## 2024 Board of Directors

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**Editor** - Doug Linden *douglingen@aol.com*

### Steering Committee

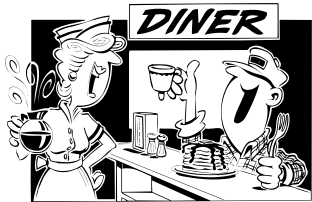
John Kerns, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Harold Samuels, John Erb, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

**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

### MAFFI MODEL A DAYS

The Model A Ford Foundation Inc (MAFFI) has a beautiful museum dedicated to the Model A Ford and the Model A Era. The museum is part of a multi museum complex within the Gilmore Museum in Hickory Corners, MI. Each September MAFFI hosts a two day event called "Model A Days" which includes a Model A only flea market, a huge Model A show, seminars, starting a Model A that has been sitting for years, and the induction of people into the MAFFI hall of Fame. This year the event will be held on Sept 20 & 21. The Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA) this year will unveil commemorative bricks for clubs who attained their 50 year anniversary with MAFCA. Minuteman will be one of those chapters recognized. More info is at: <http://www.maffi.org>



*"The object of education, as I see it, is not to fill a man's mind with facts; it is to teach him how to use his mind in thinking"*

*Henry Ford*



# Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model 'A' Ford Club August 7, 2024

Location: The Sudbury Grange, Sudbury Ma.

Meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM with approximately 37 members in attendance. Tonight's meeting was kicked off with Brad leading the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 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:

- Harold requested a show of hands of members signed up for the NE meet in Connecticut, it seems we have at least 11 members planning to go at this point.

## Membership:

- Nan reports we have one new member and he is in attendance tonight. Joseph Leone from Milford Ma. He is currently looking for a car, preferably a driver, he has always liked Model A's since he was a child.

## Touring:

- Harold reporting for Don,

Thank you to this month's tour leaders: Larry Conley, Harold Samuels, Wayne and Sue Champagne and Tom Zappala.

7/4 – Parade we had 17 A's, 1 Model T, 1933 Ford Truck

7/13 – Spyglass Brewery – 4 cars

7/21 – Canal Tour – 8 cars, great weather

7/27 – Uxbridge Antique and food, 7 cars

8/1 – Lookout Farm tour, 4 cars

## \* Upcoming tours:

8/8 to 8/11 – Weekend in Stowe. The 67<sup>th</sup> Vermont Classic Car Meet is OYO.

8/11 – Willard Clock Museum OYO meet at the Museum at 11:00 AM. Admission to the Museum is covered by UniBank. There will be food and beverage trucks on site. There are 4 nice Ice Cream shops in the area.

8/17 – Thibault's Country Store in Spencer, led by Rich Batstone, meet in Berlin center at 10:00 AM. This shop was visited by the American Pickers television show. This is also home to the largest Tee Pee in New England which stands 27 feet high.

8/24 – Movie Night at the Kearns, Belknap Rd. Framingham. Showing will be 'Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines'.

John will have pizza and snacks, your welcome to bring anything you would like.

9/4 – September Meeting Sudbury Grange, Sudbury.

9/8 – 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic at Fruitland's Museum. Meet in Wayland at 10:30. Picnic lunch is \$15 per person, this is also a trial run for the 2025 NE meet Grand Tour destination.

## National News:

- The Linden's and Michalak's attended the MARC National Meet in Ashville, NC. It was hot and humid, thunderstorms every afternoon, on the evening of the fashion show it came down in buckets, the hotel had to remove and replace all the chairs that were set up.

The next national event will be MAFFI Model A Days in September, the weekend following the NE meet in Connecticut.

## Old Business:

- No issues discussed.

## New Business:

- Larry Conley has parts for sale.

- Nominating Committee needed for next year's slate of officers. John Kerns, Doug Linden and Peter McLaughlin have volunteered to lead the search.

- Thank you to John Kerns and the Linden's for tonight's Ice Cream Sundae set up.

- Snack volunteers for next month meeting are Doug Farrell and Harold.

- Don't forget tonight's raffle!!

## Programs:

- There was no program for tonight.

## Running Board Commentary:

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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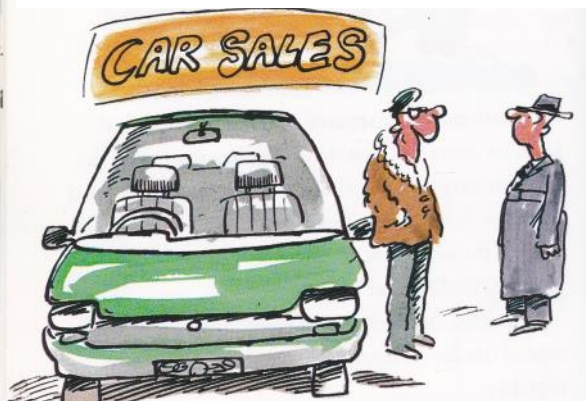
### “Artie - Fact”

#### The Selling Game

“Grandma,” asked the inquisitive four-year old,

“what Happens when a car, get too old to drive any more?”

“Someone sells it to your grandfather”



### WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Nan Reports No New Members this Month.



# The Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Invites You To

## Celebrate Our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On

**Sunday, September 8, 2024**

at

## The Fruitlands Museum

102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard, MA

**11:30 AM**

featuring

**Art, History, and Scenic Views**

and a

**Picnic Lunch**

**\$15 per member; \$30 per Guest**

**Check Payable to: Minuteman Model A Ford Club**

**Check Sent To:** Tom Zappala, 379 Charles River Street, Needham, MA 02492

**We Plan To Attend:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Your Names Here)

**Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Box Lunch Choice:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Spicy Roasted Turkey BLT**  
(Select one each) \_\_\_\_\_ **Grilled Garlic Herbed Chicken**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Fresh Mozzarella Caprice**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Roast Beef & Cheddar**



# JULY 27<sup>TH</sup> FOOD AND ANTIQUE SHOPPING TOUR



The high humidity we've been having this summer cleared in time for a beautiful sunny, warm day for our Stanley Mill Antiques tour. Meeting us at the Wayland Town Center were the Batstone's, Ed Wlodyka, Mike Miller with stepson, Josh, the Libby's and Carol Smith (friend of the Ross'). Meeting us along the way were the Linden's and O'Brien's. The drive out to George's Surf N' Turf in Mendon was pleasant as we trav-

ersed many scenic roads. Once we arrived at George's, the group ordered and settled into having great seafood and other fried goodies. After lunch it was a short ride into Uxbridge where the owners of Stanley Mill Antiques welcomed our cars with a large sign and had arraigned for an ice cream truck on site for our dessert treats. The Stanley Mill had posted our upcoming tour on their Facebook site and we were surprised to see three other local Model A's had joined us. All in all, a great day of Model A friends traveling and enjoying each other's company.



*Submitted by Susan and Wayne Champagne*



## The Minuteman club needs YOU!

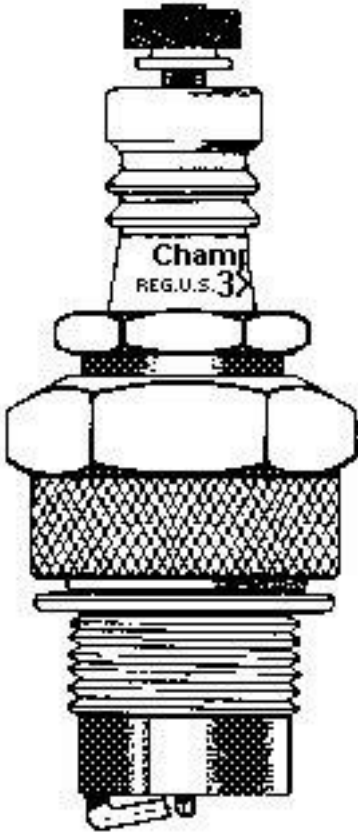


**WE WANT YOU!**

It's that time of year and the club needs you to help keep it going. Our by-laws require the nominating committee to seek out volunteers for the club officers for 2025. The committee is still seeking a candidate for the office of Vice President. Please consider stepping forward and supporting the club. (Nominating Comm: Doug Linden, Peter Mclaughlin & John Kerns)

## Tech Tip – Spark Plugs - Jim Townsend

### Queen City Model A Club Newsletter



S. Pargeter

I see all sorts of spark plugs used on Model A engines and get asked “What is the best one for the A?” Henry Ford selected the Champion 3X. I had a set of original 3X in my phaeton for years and never had an issue. Champion still makes an updated version of 3X which are now pricey but I think proper if you plan to show the car. But why did Henry select this plug design over others? You may have heard the term “Hot” describing the heat range of plugs. This is relative to the temperature produced by the spark plug at combustion time. Compression ratio of the engine and fuel mixture are factors in choosing the right plug. The model A engine has a compression ratio of 4.2:1 which is low in comparison to modern engines. And the fuel mixture is relatively rich. This calls for a spark plug with relatively high heat range. The 3X was an excellent choice. So how does one judge the correct heat range? Place several different plugs side by side and you will note different lengths from the bottom end of the plug measured up to the area where the gasket is placed. Pick one where that length is similar to the 3X and you will have one with a higher heat range level. Think of it this way, the longer bottom end of the plug puts the spark further it will extend into the firing chamber. You will find that the Champion W18 is the closest match to the 3X and will perform equally as well.

### CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What year was the Ford Fairlane introduced?
2. What auto company offered front-wheel drive in 1929?
3. Who was Henry Ford?
4. As a safety precaution, only ambulances or fire trucks can pass what car.
5. What year did the Ford business coupe feature an oval back window?
6. What year was the Chrysler Slant-six first offered?
7. Where were the Volkswagen and the Porsche 914 manufactured?
8. What type of sun visor was introduced in 1932?
9. Name the nation's largest club.
10. Were the 1937 Ford headlights mounted in or on the fenders?





# Thibault's Country Store Tour

We met in Berlin center for our tour to Spencer and Thibault's Country Store and property (we nicknamed this the Picker's Tour because the "American Pickers" show visited several years ago). We had 7 Model A's and two modern cars in the group. We arrived at approximately 11 AM and met as a group in the large TeePee next to the Seven Mile River for a talk by our host Jim Ingalls. He gave us a great history of his family and the property which was originally a chicken farm. He also shared interesting facts about the Picker's visit. Jim also set up a hot dog and nacho stand for us for lunch. Participants got to browse the store and some of the former chicken barns where we found lots of vintage items. In attendance we had the Lindens, Martins, Ed Wlodyka, Harold Legge, Brad & Cathy Johnson and their daughter Kelly, John Erb, the Champagnes, Butlers, and the Batstones.. We enjoyed nice country roads and a few hills, and one "turn around" on the way home. It was a pleasant day in the quiet countryside.

*Submitted by Rich & Linda Batstone*



*A copper Casket with viewing door*

*Jim telling us about the TeePee*



**ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ**

1. 1955
2. Cord
3. Founder of the Ford Motor Co.
4. The white house car.
5. 1929
6. 1960
7. Germany
8. Mounted inside the car
9. Antique Automobile Club of America
10. In the fender



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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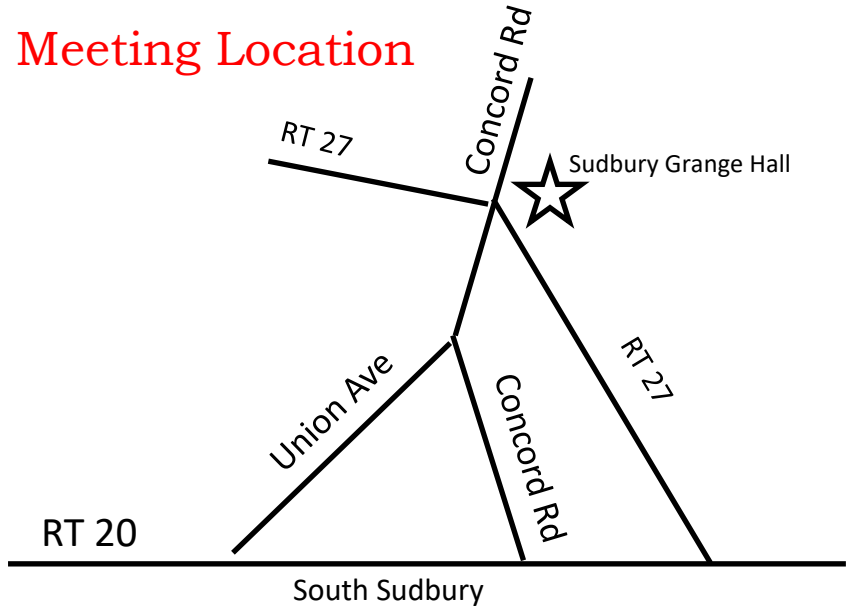


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## Meeting Location



### September Announcements

The nominating Committee is looking for a someone to fill the Vice President position. Please consider helping the club, with over 100 members we should be able to have 1 person step forward.

We will also talk about traveling to the NE Meet in CT.

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

Be Sure to visit [www.oilleak.org](http://www.oilleak.org)

MINUTEMAN  
MODEL "A" FORD  
CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS



Please  
Mail to:

September 2024

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