

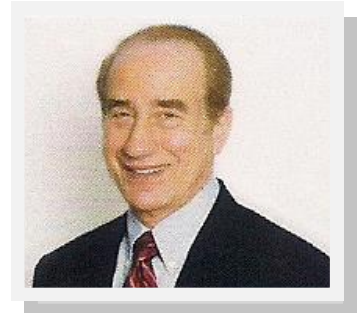
The Oil Leak

April 2019 Official publication of the Minuteman MAC Volume 56 Issue 4

The President Speaks:

Happy upcoming April fool's day! I hope all your jokes are pleasant ones.

I checked on my car last weekend, and the squirrels have not carried it off so I am planning on an early start with all of you for the touring season.



By the time you read this we will have had our Winter Blahs Flea Market on the 24 March, and our pizza tour/quiz on 27 March. A big thank you to Craig Martin for again heading up this event. In addition to being the season kickoff event, it has been an important source of fundraising to help support our club activities.

Also thanks to Doug and Nan Linden for the famous pizza tour quiz. I am predicting that the weather will have cooperated this year.

Please don't forget our monthly meeting on 2 April. We should have our tour schedule available then (thank you Don), and a signup sheet for the spring tune-up clinic (late April) hosted by Harold and Sally Legge.

We are still looking for program suggestions and presenters for our monthly meetings. Any ideas that you may have will be appreciated.

Thank you to Gary Hoyt and Joyce Croci for the refreshments at the March meeting, and to all those who continue to provide goodies for the membership.

We will continue to keep the membership informed as the Board of Directors finalizes year's budget and recommendations for additional activities. The club is in good shape both financially and operationally, and we are looking forward to a fun time this year.

Looking forward to a great turnout at the April meeting.



Happy Motoring
Harold Samuels



Sunshine

Sue Champagne
(sdchampagne1931@gmail.com)

A Get Well card was sent to Rich Batstone as he was under the weather with an awful cold and then slipped on the ice and hurt his ribs.

If you know of a member who needs a little cheering up contact me.

Coming Events

(Tours Start at Wayland Town Center RT 20)
(see info & map on pg 9)

Apr 2: Regular Club Meeting

Apr 7: 10 AM Post Office Pub Brunch TL (The Croci's)
NOTE - (this first tour will start at the Grange)

Apr 17: 6:30 PM Lavender—Asian Dinner TL (Jacobson's)

Apr 27: Tour Clinic at the Legge's sign-up at April mtg

Apr 28: V8 Club Fitchburg Airport Flea Market (see pg 9)

May 4: 2 PM Traditions Derby Day Celebration (see pg 9)

May 7: Regular Club Meeting

TL= Tour Leader

Minuteman Model A

Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
February 2019

Income:

Coffee Can	14.00
Flea Mkt Vendor Fee	340.00
Raffle (club)	41.00
Member Dues	<u>440.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 835.00

Expense:

Flea Market Rental Space	300.00
Holiday Party General	100.00
Website Fee	<u>263.88</u>
Total Expense	\$ 663.88
Net Income	\$ 171.12

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Art Callan

APRIL 1984 35 YEARS AGO

Auction night, Phil Iorio auctioneer.
1st Pizza Party scheduled for May 2nd.
New member - Gus Waldren.

APRIL 1994 25 YEARS AGO

Guest Speaker-Chet Wojcek, MAFCA Tech Dir.
New tour card made ready by Wayne Champagne.
Retiree (and Wanabees) breakfast at Lloyd's Diner

APRIL 2004 15 YEARS AGO

Pres. MacDonald asks for a new Editor.
Tours start with a Pizza and Quiz night.
MARCOM will host NE Meet in Falmouth.
Marathon cookout on Apr 19th at the O'Briens.

ARTIE-FACTS

Hiram's rabbit dog was know as "Old Booze". He was Hiram's pride and joy. On a hunt one day a rabbit crossed the railroad tracks with Old Booze in hot pursuit. The rabbit made it, but a passing train cut off Booze's tail. Hiram grabbed Booze and rushed home to sew back the tail. Then, a sheriff pulled into the yard to arrest Hiram, Hey, what did I do, says Hiram. You're retailing booze without a license.....



National Organizations: If you are not already members of the following organizations, consider joining them.



Model A Ford Club of America (mafca.com)

Membership dues \$50/year



Model A Restorers Club (modelarestorers.org)

Membership Dues \$45/year



Model A Ford Foundation (maffi.org)
and the Model A Ford Museum \$25/yr

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Club March 5, 2019

Location: Memorial Congregational Church Sudbury, MA

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Harold Samuels, with 37 members in attendance. Harold kicked off the meeting leading the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. Harold thanked Gary and Joyce for supplying tonight's refreshments, next month's volunteers are Shirley and Clyde.

Officers Reports:

- Harold requested a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as printed in the Oil Leak – MSP.
- Harold requested a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed in the Oil Leak. – MSP.
- Doug Farrell VP urged members not currently receiving the Oil Leak via e-mail to consider doing so. Review of budget line items shows this is one of the club's largest expenses.
- Doug Linden – Oil Leak Editor, please submit any stories or articles you may have as club members enjoying reading them.

Log into MAFFI.org to see live cameras operating at the museum in Michigan.

Also MAFCA has one-year free trial memberships for those who have never been a member in the past.

Membership:

- Nan Linden – no new members to report. Tonight's guest are Pat & Don Beal's, they have a 1930 5 window Coupe under restoration.

Jim Flanagan a new member is attending his first monthly meeting. *(ed. Note, Jim's parents John & Betty have been members for a number of years)*

Nan circulated a roster for members to verify we have correct contact information prior to the printing a new roster.

If you are not currently listed on our Google Groups mailing list please contact Nan or Bruce Marshall with your e-mail address.

Touring:

- Don Ross – Tour Cards should be available at the next monthly meeting. Tour cards will list the destination, city and tour leader. We have 42 tours scheduled.

Leading off the touring season is the infamous Fire-

house Pizza Tour and World Famous Quiz. This will take place March 27th. Cost is \$8.00 and includes Pizza, Salad, Desert and Coffee. Doug L. passed around sign-up sheet.

The Spring Tune-up Clinic will be held at Harold Legge's house in So. Natick Ma. There will be a sign-up sheet at the April meeting.

Summer Picnic sponsored by the club is currently scheduled for June 15th. The Kearns have graciously offered to host this event on their property. Catering is still being looked into, there will be a small cost to attend.

- During the tour planning meeting there was a discussion regarding the change of starting location for tours. Doug L. and Doug F. scouted out new locations, both determined Wayland Town Center would be the most advantageous. This decision was based on amenities available and entry points from both Rt.20 and Rt.27.

After a short discussion a motion was proposed to move the starting location from the Grange to Wayland Town Center – **MSP**.

New Business:

- Looking for someone to make coffee at the monthly meetings – Shirley Jacobson has recommended we have someone volunteer to do it one month at a time, Shirley has volunteered to make coffee at the April meeting please consider volunteering to make the coffee at a future meeting.

- **Craig Martin** – Reminder - The 25th Annual **Winter Blahs Flea Market** is March 24th. Currently we have 31 vendors signed up. We would like to have volunteers for loading and un-loading as the vendors really appreciate the help.

- Board meeting was held, Budget Review,

Hall rental for monthly meetings expected to go up slightly next year.

Programs:

- Today's program is a video by Antique Engine Rebuilding in Skokie IL.

Respectfully Submitted

Rick Gadbois - Secretary

2019 Board of Directors

President - Harold Samuels *hsamuels10@gmail.com*

Vice President - Doug Farrell *dfarrell1416@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

Wayne Champagne, Rich Batstone, Clyde Kelton, Andy Adams, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

Tour Directors: Don Ross 617-584-5245 / Dick O'Brien 781-223-0259

Sunshine: Sue Champagne *sdchampagne1931@gmail.com*

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

Member Information

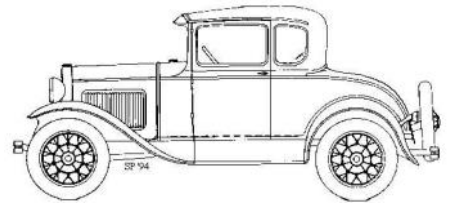
If you haven't paid your dues, please go to www.oilleak.org and download a membership application and send the form with your dues to the address on the form.



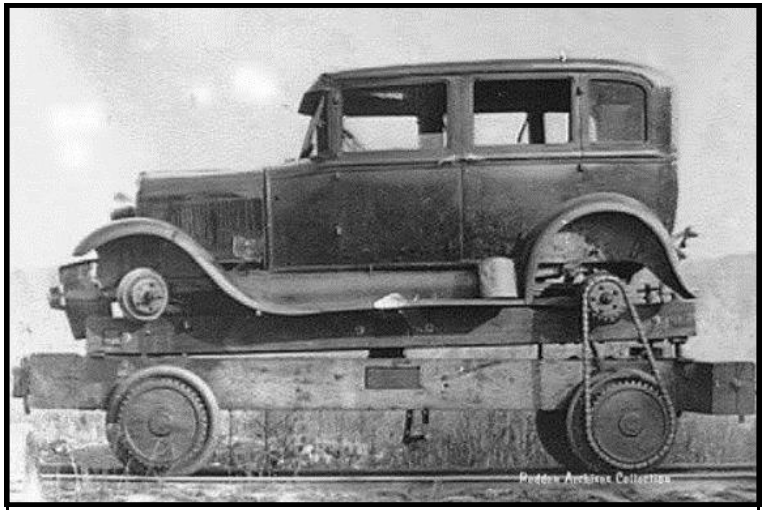
Welcome New Members

Donald & Pat Beals
1353 Main Street
Ashby, MA 01431
978-356-2251
dbeals1932@gmail.com

They own a 1930 Coupe



This is definitely a one of a kind Model A. When did you ever see a Model A Front End Loader. This was seen in the UP of Michigan



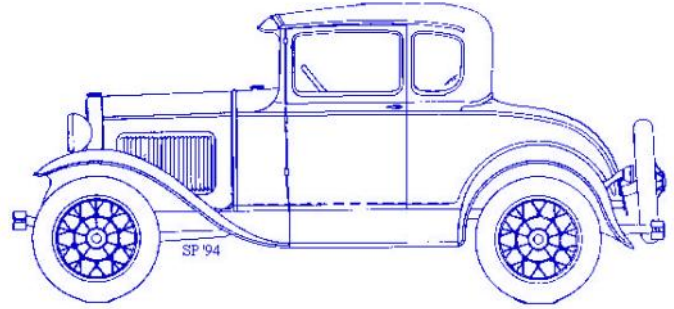
Another strange modified Model A. This one has been repurposed for railroad travel. May have been an inspection vehicle.

Model A Fords were very popular cars and even after they had outlived their useful life as the family grocery-getter they experienced a second life. Model A were turned into tractors, Sears and others even offered conversion kits. Many were cut down into doodlebugs. A snowmobile conversion was available if you lived in snow country. Rear wheels power all sorts of implements, saw mills and water pumps just to name a few.

ASH WEDNESDAY & Model A's

As I moved around the front of my, 30 Coupe, looking at that unmarked forehead of a radiator shield, what came to mind was that today was Ash Wednesday. It was time to mark that forehead with ashes as mine was done that morning. They are a reminder that God had formed man from the dust of the earth and the Psalm's tell us that we'll return to dust.

As I looked at my gashed and bleeding hand from cutting a radiator hose, I wanted to remind that Coupe that it came from the dust of the Mesabi Iron Range, and by gosh it would end up as iron dust at the local scrap company if it gave me any more guff!



Finally got my rebuilt engine back from the rebuilder. Heard it run on a test stand and stuffed it in the coupe (I call it Coupe cause I've never named any of the many A's I've owned). Come to think of it, I've called it a few other things these past months as it resists getting on the road. I'm in the process now of trying to find a way to fit a new H/W heater in the coupe. One of the W/M club members mentioned he had success with a heater using the new upper hose insert that had a "scoop" in the H/W take off.

I've spent at least a half hour every day for the past two weeks trying to fit a foam board likeness I'd made on the passenger side. No way would it fit. Even low mounted, you would have to undo everything to get the floor boards up. "can't fit" on the driver side I thought. WRONG. There is just enough room tween the column and the tunnel under the tank. I use a solenoid start so no issues there. There is just enough clearance for my size 8 1/2 shoe. Everything else about me is shrinking so I don't think I'll be wearing size 13's which could be a problem.

I went on Ford Barn prior to this discovery, looking for help in locating the heater. One of the responses that came back chastised me for using my moniker "Don Cape Cod". Since I was now in NH. I should apply for citizenship and change my ID. I promised that I would as the town hall had the same hours as the dump. It's open one day a week for 23 minutes at 6:14 am. Somehow everyone in town knows I've come up from Mass and they won't tell me what day it's open. Even the "greeter" at the local Walmart turns his back when I come in.

It was the same thing on the Cape where Ann and I spent some 20 years before landing here 3 years ago. We were not allowed to say we were from the Cape unless we were born there! Not only that, there was an-other faction that said you could not claim Cape citizenship, even if you were born on the Cape but lived west of the Brewster town line. Something like not being allowed to claim NH residency if your from south of Manchester. Now that I can understand, and I even find myself hollering at cars with Mass plates, trying to make myself worthy.

That's enough for now. I'll undo the tourniquet on my wrist now and see if the blood has stopped from the gash I put in my hand last week.

I'm still looking for a 1930 left front plain fender. Picked up a battered '31 and will use it for now. Also need a steering column tube or the whole unit. Believe it or not, the raised surface for positioning the gas lever is worn flat.

Don Freniere 603-229-2731 dlfreniere27@gmail.com

IT'S PIZZA PARTY TIME!

ATTENTION!!
Call ME ASAP if you
plan to attend
508-485-7575

Yes, it's Pizza Time once again. Last year we got snowed out, what a bummer, hopefully moving the date out one week we can avoid any snow. It's nice to know that warmer weather is on the way and the Pizza Party kick's off our activities.

The menu will be assorted Pizza and tossed salad. Coffee and dessert will be provided.

Where: Southborough Fire House Pizza
 5 Main Street (RT 30)

Time: 6:30 PM

Price: \$8.00 per person.

&
World Famous Pizza Quiz



Weekly Breakfast Group

Doing anything on Wednesday morning? No. Well then, you are invited to join the group for breakfast at the Big Apple, 890 Boston Post Road East (RT 20) in Marlborough, MA. The



food is good and there is plenty of Model A talk. We arrive about 7:15 AM. (see ad page 10)

Help Needed



Coffee Person

To oversee the coffee pot at the meetings. Not hard to do, but someone needs to be in charge.

Bob & Cindy Mangan out & about in their "A"



On Saturday, March 9, Cindy & I took my sister and brother-in-law and 2 friends to the Wayside Inn for lunch. It was a beautiful sunny day; perfect for the "A" except parking in the mud (and snow). The day before the storm always seems to be the perfect time to go for a winter tour.

Jim's Technical Tip

by Jim Cannon,



Coolant Level in the Model A

It is best to check the coolant level in your radiator when the engine is cold, before you set off on a drive. At this time (because coolant contracts when cold and expands when hot) the proper coolant level is about a $\frac{1}{2}$ " or so above the top of the tubes in the upper tank. The coolant should not be above the baffle in the upper tank when cold. That's too much and the excess will just be blown out later when the engine is hot and you are running down the road.

It's hard to see the coolant level when cold, because the baffle is in the way. Use a flashlight to look in through the filler neck, and to the left or right of the baffle, to see the coolant level. If you can't see the tubes through the coolant, use a disposable wooden stir stick (like the ones they put out at coffee shops to stir your coffee) as a dipstick in the filler neck. Go just to the side of the baffle until it touches the bottom of the upper tank. When you withdraw the stick, look for about $\frac{1}{2}$ " of coolant stain on the stick. Add some coolant if low.

When checking the coolant when the engine is hot, after you've driving for a time, you want to see the coolant very close to or slightly over the baffle. Only add coolant if you can't see any near the baffle in the upper tank, but don't overfill (or it will just blow it out).

Have a Model A Day!
Jim

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I mentioned last month in my comments on Skip Hurst's passing that Skip and Joe DeMilia would travel together to meetings. I knew I had this picture of Skip & Joe attending a summer meeting at the Legge's. Joe didn't drive at night and Skip was only to happy to provide the transportation. It was always good to see them at a meeting.

RIP Skip and Joe.



Joe

Skip

Fordite: Beauty left behind on Automakers Paint Lines

By Jennifer Strong (from theoldmotor.com website)

Fordite or Detroit Agate is highly sought after by collectors, but it is not actually a stone; it's a piece of automobile history.

Henry Ford may have said you can have any color car so long as it is black, although paint color choices have long been important to car lovers. Lacquer replaced the slow hand brushing process by being able to be sprayed on during the production process. In time enamel paints were introduced that were both hand sprayed and baked on a car body or pieces on the paint line. Acrylic paints in vibrant colors used this same process and followed.

As a result of the painting process it would build upon the skids and racks used for transporting them down the paint line. Many layers of different color overspray would build up and get repeatedly baked, forming a hardened slag. Over time, the residue became too thick and had to be removed from the fixtures because it ended up interfering with the painting process.

Soon it was realized that this material could be cut and polished like gemstones into artistic works suitable for jewelry settings, and factory workers began taking pieces home as colorful souvenirs for their families. Fordite is now a general term for a material made up of paint layers formed during the hand spraying years in auto plants.

Like the naturally formed rings of agate, the colorful layers in each piece of Fordite tell a story. The earliest pieces are comprised of mostly blacks and browns, the common paint colors of the time, but most Fordite available today reflects a wild array of paint colors. Some pieces have gray primer layers between the colorful ribbons, and others contain shiny flakes of metallic paint. The most coveted appear to be older pieces from the Ford River Rouge Plant that might include bright greens and oranges and also metallic colors.

The phasing out of hand spraying on the assembly line began in the 1970s and was replaced by robots and electrostatic painting processes. The paint residue used to create Fordite is no longer found in auto factories because of new painting technology. Jewelry makers today search for raw material from retired autoworkers. The nostalgia of Fordite created as a byproduct of the assembly line is as important to most collectors as the beauty of the piece itself.

Actual paint cross section



Block of paint partially cleaned



Fordite "Jems" can be made into just about any type of jewelry.



Saturday MAY 4th

Traditions of Wayland has once again invited members of the Minuteman Club to

join them to celebrate the "Running of the Roses" on May 4th. 2:00 PM arrival to show off the Model A's then enjoy some Music, Food and Mint Julips. (The food is always excellent) Traditions of Wayland is located at: 10 Green Way (off RT 126/27) Wayland, MA 01778 Don Ross will lead this event.



49th Annual Swap Meet and Car Show

Sunday, April 28, 2019

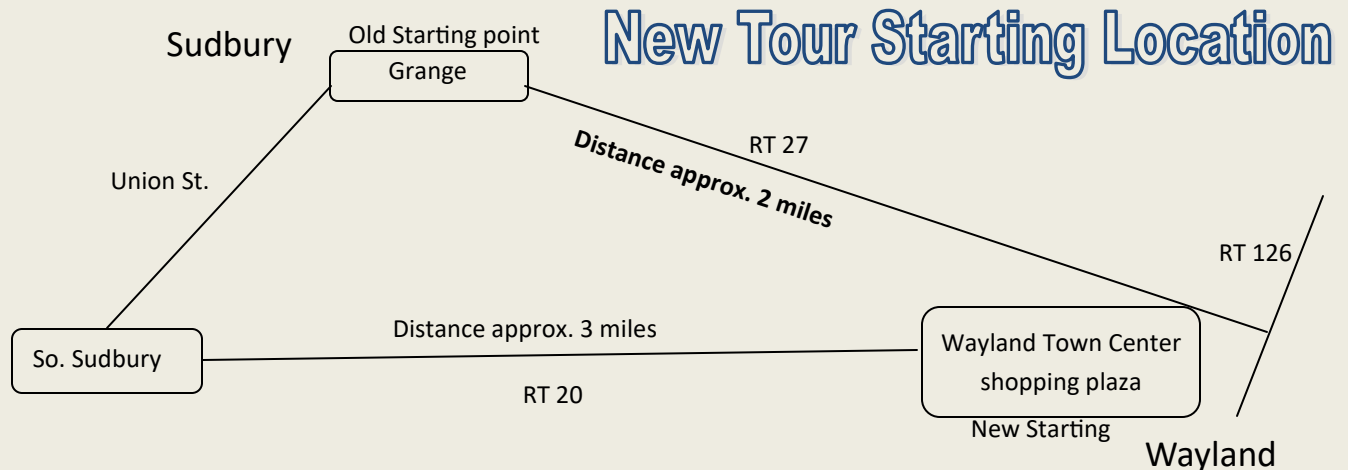
8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Fitchburg Airport, Fitchburg, MA

General Admission \$5.00

Dash plaques to
first 500 show cars

Rain or Shine – Come Prepared! Map and Navigation/GPS are on the other side of this flyer.



At our March meeting the Board proposed a change in starting location for club tours. The objective was to avoid heavy traffic at the Grange location, leaving the Grange can be a problem. Also, members have been asking for a location where food (coffee, etc.) and restrooms were available. The new location is only a few miles from the current one and does offer a variety of options for food and other facilities. After discussion a vote was taken and the move to the Wayland Town Center was approved. We hope this works out better for all.

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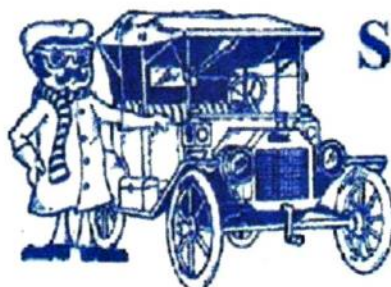


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April 2019

Please
Mail to:

Be sure to visit www.oilleak.org

At the April meeting there will be a signup sheet for the tour clinic at the Legge's. If you would like to have your Model A checked out for the tour season, appointments are every half hour, so make sure you sign up for a time slot.



Happy Patriot's Day
April 19th although it's
celebrated this year on
April 15th.



Monthly Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the Month at the Memorial Congregational Church, 26 Concord Rd in Sudbury. Meetings start at 7:30 PM, preceded by "Tire Kicking" at 7:00 PM.