

The il Leak

April 2024 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 61 Issue 4

The President Speaks: Change is Coming

I'm not talking about the kind of change that rattles around in your pocket but the kind that means we have to adjust and get used to something different. Change happens all the time. Almost every day brings some kind of change. But most of the time, especially when we get older, we don't like change.

The Minuteman Model A Ford Club has made some pretty big changes.

1. After over 20 years of meeting at Memorial Congregational Church, we are moving back to the Sudbury Grange, 326 Concord Rd., where the club used to have its monthly meetings. Starting in June we will make this change. Take note, April and May we will still meet as usual at MCC on the 1st Tuesday of the month.
2. Location is not the only change!! We are going to begin meeting on the 1st Wednesday of the month starting in June.
3. The final change is that during the summer months, we will not be meeting in homes, we are going to meet at the Grange.

So here's the amazing part of these three big changes. The club voted *unanimously* to make these changes. It was great to see our club work together to save a large sum of money each month by moving to the Grange.

What hasn't changed is our love for our Model A's, the fun we have driving them, and the smiles we get when people see them. And the New England weather is almost to the point where all this can happen again.

Another thing that hasn't changed is the smile I hope to give you with my monthly "dad joke." A good friend of mine was bragging about his new hearing aids. "State of the art," he said. "Cost me a fortune." I replied, "Awesome. What type is it?" He said, "Two-thirty."



Patriots Day April 15

Prez Brad



Sunshine

Sue Champagne

A sympathy card was sent to Karen & Craig Martin for the Passing of Karen's Mother. Our condolences to the entire family.

A get Well Soon card was sent to Bill Scaglione who recently had cataract surgery.

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)

- Apr 2** Regular Club Meeting
- Apr 11** 6:30 PM Ziti's Restaurant (OYO)
- Apr 20** 10AM Post Office Pub Lunch
- Apr 27** Model A Dust-off (see pg. 6)
- Apr 28** V8 Flea Market Fitchburg Airport (see pg. 8)
- May 4** Spring Tune-up Clinic, (see pg. 7 for details)
- May 7** Regular Club Meeting

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

APRIL 1989 35 YEARS AGO

Dave Smith offered to make a storage cabinet for our supplies at the Grange and Steve Wedge presented a Budget for a TV and VCR!! A motion was made, and it passed, to appropriate up to \$500.00 to buy six folding leg tables to present to the Grange in gratitude for past and future favors. The old tables were offered to The Camp Virginia Girl Scouts.

APRIL 1999 25 YEARS AGO

New Member Bruce Marshall was welcomed to the club driving his 30 Coupe from Roslindale. The previous month we had our very successful Annual Swap Meet and hopefully our last snowstorm of the season! Touring time is approaching! Wayne Champagne had graciously offered to print our popular Tour Schedule which would be available at the April Meeting.

APRIL 2009 15 YEARS AGO

John Roberson read a letter from MAFFI regarding the "Best fundraiser they'd ever had!", which our Club is very proud to have initiated. Per the previous month's issue of the Oil Leak, 26 Clubs had donated \$14,150 toward the Model A Ford Museum. The plan was to keep that ball rolling! At this year's Tour Clinic, we planned to offer replacing a limited number of "Original Steel Fans" as a safety measure. It's a commonly accepted fact that original fans will break eventually. The reproduction aluminum fan is a much safer and unbreakable unit.

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report February, 2024

Income:

Coffee Can	26.00
Flea Mkt Vendor Fee	380.00
Member Dues	220.00
Raffle	<u>92.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 718.00

Expense:

Coffee Supplies	17.78
Flea Mkt Expense	21,25
Flea Market Hall Rental	300.00
Holiday Party (deposit)	100.00
Mtg Room Fee (tour mtg)	50.00
Oil Leak Printing	80.00
Website Fee	<u>338.88</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 907.91

Net Income \$ -189.91

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.

2023 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

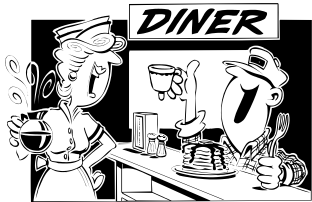
John Kerns, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Harold Samuels, John Erb, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

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 →



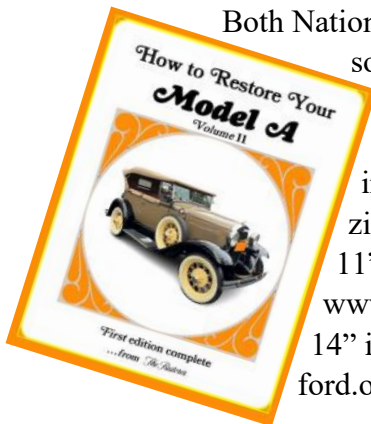
The breakfast group at the Big Apple, 890 Boston Post Road East (RT 20) in Marlborough, MA. We meet every Wednesday

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



National News

Two New Books are Available from **MAFCA & MARC**



Both National Clubs (MAFCA & MARC) publish some great books that provide a wealth of technical information. This information is compiled from the articles that appeared in The Restorer or Model A News magazines. "How to Restorer Your Model A Vol 11" is available from MAFCA at www.mafca.com. "Technically Speaking Vol 14" is available from MARC at www.model-a-ford.org. Check out the websites for more info.



"It's not the employer who pays the wages. Employers only handle the money. It is the customer who pays the wages."

Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club March 5, 2024

Memorial Congregational Church, Sudbury, MA

President Brad Johnson opened the meeting at 7:31 with the pledge of allegiance. There were forty people in attendance.

There was a motion with seconds to approve the Minutes of the last meeting as well as the treasurer's report, both as printed in the Oil leak and the vote was in favor.

Vice president, Harold Samuels read a letter from MAFFI thanking us for the \$5000 donation to the museum addition fund and inviting us to be at the ribbon cutting in 2025. He showed pictures of a Model A trunk and trunk rack for sale by Larry Conley. He spoke of the Model A Dust off day April 27 in Sanbornton, NH led by Dick O'Brien. He told us he has made the deposit the holiday party. However, for the October Wayside Inn dinner, the cost of the room use (\$350) is an issue he will address with the Inn and will report back.

Membership report by Nan Linden, reporting that we have a new member Peter Walk of North Reading who has a 1931 Tudor Sedan.

Doug Linden reported on the New England meet being held this year in Rocky Hill, CT and encouraged our members to attend. They have a web site for further information. He reminded us that the following year is our turn to host the 2025 meet. He spoke of the first tour of the year – a pizza party at the House of Pizza in Southborough. Please make reservations. The cost is \$12 each.

Don Ross reported that the tour schedule is almost complete and at the end of this week he will have the tours for March, April, May and June emailed to us.

President Brad reported no old business but spoke of May being Model A Youth month and Brad's former church has a youth group that will have 5 or 6 model A's attending for demonstration and rides on May 5.

He encouraged members to find other ways to

include youth.

One of the members reported that a friend wants to buy a Model A and he was told to send the information to the newsletter editor to be included in the 'wanted' section.

Brad also spoke of the steering committee's discussion of changing the meeting place and day. The cost at our current meeting place has increased to \$165 and research showed that the Grange building in Sudbury (where we used to meet) is only \$50 per meeting. The building has been completely done over with a new kitchen and elevator. It was moved and seconded to move to the Grange starting in June and move the day to the first Wednesday to fit better into the Grange's schedule. The vote was positive.

Craig Martin reported on the upcoming swap meet on March 24. There are 29 vendors already and help is needed moving vendors in from 6 – 6:30.

Thanks to Dick O'Brien who brought meeting snacks and for the next meeting Harold and Peter will bring snacks.

Doug Linden mentioned that a man from Lee, MA has some tools for sale – riveter and brake arching tool. A member also has an enclosed trailer for sale.

After the break, the program led by Doug and Wayne went over the Model A Carburetor and a video on starting the Model A.

Respectfully submitted,

John Erb, Substitute 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: _____



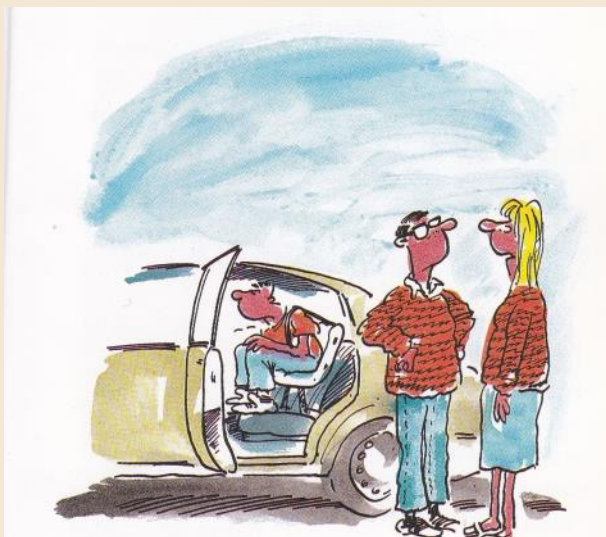
Police Light

Have you ever seen such a great looking police light. This original lens is mounted in a 1933/4 Ford headlight shell. It was probably mounted on a bracket that went on the front bumper. This beauty is owned by Chris Rogers

in the Milford Model A club.

“Artie - Fact”

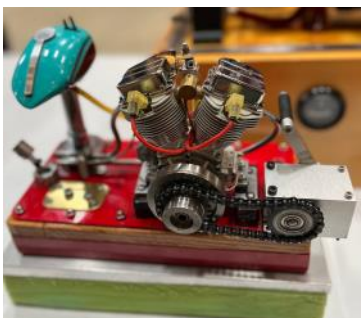
by “A”nonymous



“I know you are very safety conscious, but Brian is 15 - couldn't he just use ordinary rear seat belts now?”

Model Engine Show

The 2024 NE Model Engineering Show had a great re-start after being postponed since the Covid outbreak. My grandson and I attended and were amazed by miniature Harley Davidson and Flathead Ford engines and to see and here them running was great. And these were both hand made. It was also nice to a few other club member in attendance.



WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Nan reports we had one new member join:
Please welcome:

Peter & Tracey Walk
32 Strawberry Lane
North Reading, MA
1931 Tudor



NH - Sanbornville - Model A Ford Dust Off**April 27th**

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

The Bean Farm
2253 Lovell Lake Rd
Sanbornville, NH

A group is planning to attend this event. We will be leaving early since it is approximately 100 miles to the event. They have a goal of having 100+ Model A's attend this event.

The Model A Carburetor and its Operation

The Technical presentation at the March meeting was conducted by Doug Linden and Wayne



Champagne and focused on the different carburetors now used on the Model A. While the Zenith, Tillotson and Marvel carbs a look and are internally different, they all have the same operating controls. The Idle, Air Mixture and GAV controls are the same for the different carbs. Wayne used his cut away Zenith carb to show how the fuel passes through the carb during startup and running. One of the key adjustments is the Choke/GAV which can greatly affect

the performance of your engine. The original Model A instruction book gives tell you how and when to use the choke/gav. When the cold it says to turn the GAV open one turn and pull the choke to start. When the engine warms up close the GAV so it' 1/4 turn open. In addition to the information provided by Wayne and Doug a short Paul Shinn video covering Starting the Model A Ford was shown (click on link below). We heard a number of members comment "I learned something new." Ain't that what it's all about!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2ViOXhPNfs>

2024 MINUTEMAN TOUR CLINIC

Saturday May 4, 2024



Tour Director Don Ross invites you to sign up to participate at the club's annual Tour Clinic. Don explains the Tour Clinic is designed as a checkup, providing adjustments and limited repairs.

The day is set up with half hour sessions starting at 8 AM and runs until 3PM. Appointments are necessary in order to have an orderly flow at the work stations.

A sign up sheet will be available at the April 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

The Inventor of the Stop Sign



Few people have had a larger or more positive impact on the way we drive than William Phelps Eno, sometimes called the “father of traffic safety.” The New York City born Eno - who invented the stop sign around the dawn of the 20th century - once traced the inspiration for his career to a horse-drawn-carriage traffic jam he experienced as a child in Manhattan in 1867: “There were only about a dozen horses and carriages involved, and all that was needed was a little order to keep the traffic moving,” he later wrote.

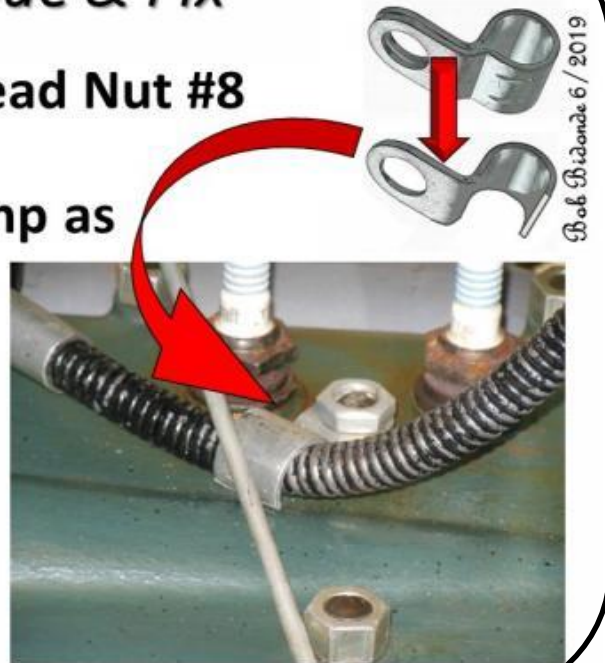
“Yet nobody knew exactly what to do; neither the drivers nor the police knew anything about the control of traffic.”

After his father's death in 1898 left him with a multimillion-dollar inheritance, Eno devoted himself to creating a field that didn't otherwise exist: traffic management. He developed the first traffic plans for New York, Paris, and London. In 1921, he founded the Washington, D.C. based Eno Center for Transportation, a research foundation on various transportation issues that still exists. One thing Eno didn't do, however, is learn how to drive. Perhaps because he had such extensive knowledge of them, Eno distrusted automobiles and preferred riding horses. He died in Connecticut at the age of 86 in 1945 having never driven a car.



Popout Cable Clamp – Issue & Fix

- Eliminates need to remove Head Nut #8 for removal of distributor
- Cut the bottom off of the clamp as shown
 - Paint bare edge
- Install & torque Head Nut #8
- On top of Nut #8 install modified clamp & secure it with a thin 7/16 x 20 Jam Nut



**3rd Annual Wings & Wheels
in conjunction with:**

52nd Annual

Swap Meet & Car Show

Early Ford V-8 Club of New England

Sunday, April 28th, 2024

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Fitchburg Airport, Fitchburg, MA

Admission \$10



CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What communication item should be in your pocket while driving a car?
2. Name a tire noise.
3. What set the C8 Corvette apart from older Corvettes?
4. What was the Mercury's precious gem?
5. What was a power additive on a drag strip?
6. Name the term of an inline engine.
7. What is a four-door auto called?
8. What was the Chevelle-based pickup called?
9. Why are the camshaft specifications so important?



New Starter Switch Internals

by Jack Zolnik

Just thought I would send several photos of possibly something to be aware of when ordering a starter switch.



The following photos are of the new internals compared to an old switch I had.

First photo - is the insulation from the new starter. Part of one side of the fold appeared to be defective. That issue may ground out the switch ?



Second photo - is the new starter switch "push tube " on the left compared to the old " push tube" on the right that holds the actuator . The new push tube on the left is longer and the seat inside is too deep to allow movement of the actuator. The actuator also sits on a opening that is not quite smooth . Now compare the old push tube on the right . That one is shorter . It also has a smooth flange collar.

Third photo - old push tube on the right has a seat that allows the actuator to sit at a better height ,allowing it to move freely. Otherwise when the actuator sits too far in the tube (like it did in the new replacement),it just becomes a "tube extension ". Apparently , the actuator should have a downward motion and not a forward motion to engage the starter.



Hope I explained the issue in a logical and coherent manner but just in case , Here's a link of "How To Repair a Model A Ford Starter Switch" by George sage "

[How to Repair a Model A Ford Starter Switch by George Sage \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Cell phone
2. Squeal
3. Mid Engine
4. Topaz
5. Nitrous fuel
6. Straight Engine
7. Sedan
8. El Camino
9. The control of intake/exhaust valve opening
10. To pilot a luxury car



Host hotel: Sheraton Hartford South in Rocky Hill, CT
 Rate is \$139 mention "NE Model A Meet 2024"
 Phone 860-257-6000
 Registration Forms will be available soon

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Meeting Information

For the April Meeting we would like to have members bring unusual items, Model A related or not, for a show and tell night. Some of the items we have are really unusual and probably have a good story behind them. So if you have an unusual item bring it to the meeting and tell it's story.



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:

April 2024

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