The Oil Leak

August 2025 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 62 Issue 8

The President Speaks:

Recently there have been observations from the National Clubs about membership numbers decreasing and folks looking older and grayer. While the location of the fountain of youth still eludes us, there is, with a little bit of effort, ways that we can increase interest in the Model A and help keep our hobby viable for the future.

This morning, I visited a Cars and Coffee event that was very well attended. Most of the cars there had skipped past cars of the Model A era, and past the once dominant sixties and seventies muscle cars to today's high performance, luxury cars, sports cars, and specialty cars. There were a few notable exception "classics" that seemed to draw more interest than most from the crowd because they were enthusiastically promoted by their owners. The message here is that it is up to us to promote the Model A if we want our cars to have a place with future generations.

Some time back, I tried to get my son interested in my Model A without much success, but when he brought my granddaughters over for a ride, and I again offered him an opportunity to drive the car, his attitude changed. One test drive changed everything. The hands-on experience brought home the fun and the inexplicable connection that we all experienced when we first got the "bug". So here is what we can do. Teach a family member how to drive your Model A. Bring your car to a youth activity in your community and do a little demonstration. Explain the elegant simplicity and the fact that you can go anywhere at a pace that allows you to experience all that is around us. Everyone can appreciate both what today's technology offers and the special experience of a classic that started it all.

August 1st

We still have much touring ahead of us this season. Stay tuned for updates on weather and schedule. See you on tour, at the meeting, and at the New England Meet. Be happy and enjoy!

Happy Motoring

Harold

Sunshine

Sue Champagne

A sympathy card was sent to Pat Quirk on the passing of her husband Ed.

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)

July	**30**	4PM Epigram Brewery Tyngsboro, L Conely
Aug	**3**	~~Fairbanks House~~ → Canceled See page 3
Aug	**6**	Regular Club Meeting
Aug	**12**	7:00PM Dairy Queen Natick
Aug	**16**	10:30AM Nashoba Winery Lunch/Tour
Aug	**23**	7:00PM Movie Night at Kerns
Aug	**27**	5:30PM Kennedy Meadows Assisted Living
Sept	**3**	Regular Club Meeting
Sept	**6**	9:00AM USS Constitution Tour

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
June, 2025

Income:

Coffee Can	18.00
Raffle (club)	24.00
Total Income	$ 42.00

Expense:

Meet Donations	300.00
Coffee Supplies	13.00
Oil Leak Postage	500.00
Oil Leak Printing	80.00
Total Expenses	$ 893.00
Net Income	$ - 851,00

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

AUGUST 1990 35 YEARS AGO

Don Rising once again worked with the "Dead Horse Hill Race" Committee for the June 23, 1991, event in Worcester. By a show of hands, the Minutemen enthusiastically agreed to help with the administrative tasks on that date. Our following meeting would be a "Tech Nite", with a panel of experts...promised by President Don Rising. "Write down all your questions for our September 4th meeting at 8:00pm sharp!"

AUGUST 2000 25 YEARS AGO

Thirty four Club Members in two major groups, the first left at 8:30am and the second group at 1:00pm, attended our popular weekend trip to Hildene, VT. Hildene has a huge antique and classic car show of 800+ antique and classic cars! When not attending the Car Show and Flea Market, club members could be seen heading to downtown Manchester, VT to visit the factory stores and do some shopping. Sunday morning it was breakfast on our own, followed by lining up at the Aspen Motel for our slow, scenic tour home.

AUGUST2010 15 YEARS

Some of our club members were off at the MAFCA International Meet in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Dick and Mazie Stitt travelled in a modern car with the intention of visiting friends along the way. John and Shirley Jacobson drove their motor home to Vancouver. As previously mentioned, the Lindens and O'Briens drove in their Model As!!! Total mileage was approximately 7,500 miles! This trip was long, starting in July, and also took up a good chunk of August! You can still follow along by visiting: http://boston-to-alaska.blogspot.com.

National Organizations: If you aren't a member of these three groups, we encourage you to join them

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

President - Harold Samuels *hsamuels10@gmail.com*

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 *douglinden@aol.com*

Steering Committee

Brad Johnson, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Wayne Champagne, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

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

Sunshine: Sue Champagne *sdchampagne1931@gmail.com*

NE Meet Help

The Raffle room is asking members to donate scratch ticket for a Lottery Basket. Scratch tickets of any of the many games are welcome. Bring your donation to a club meetings and the tickets will get to Lisa Zappala—Raffle Chair.

Additional Event/Tour Info

Aug 3 now Aug 9: 10:30 AM The new tour will go to the Codman Estate in Lincoln. We will picnic on the grounds, tour the mansion if desired and then head out for some ice cream .

Aug 27: 5:30 PM Assisted Living display for the residents, always fun to show off the cars and bring back memories.

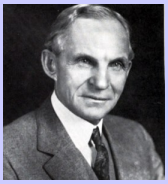
Sept 6: 9:00 AM This will be a unique tour to the USS Constitution at the Charlestown Naval base. You must have completed the sigh up form to attend.

Flea Market Help

Craig Martin is stepping down as coordinator so the club is searching for someone to take over the reins for our 2026 event. Craig has volunteered to assist the new person(s) learn the ropes for what is needed to make this event happen.

The flea market is a major contributor to the club's operating budget, losing it would be a problem.

If you are interested in helping keep this event viable, please contact President Harold Samuels.



"You can take my factories, burn up my building, but give me my people and I'll build the business right back again." Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club July 2, 2025

Sudbury Grange Hall, Sudbury, MA

President: Harold Samuels gaveled the meeting open at 7:30 PM to an attendance of 28 people. He then led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The Secretary's report and the Treasurer's report were accepted as printed in the Oil Leak.

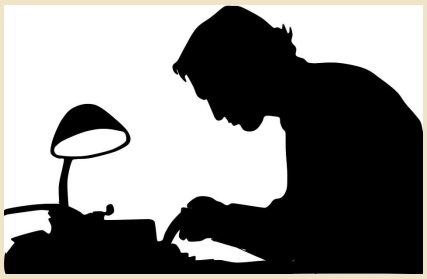
Vice President: McLaughlin was on vacation so there was no report from him.

Membership Chair: Nan Linden, reported that there were no new members this month.

Tour Chair: Don Ross, was absent but sent his report to President Harold. Don reported that the month of June was busy and thanked Doug Linden for posting pictures of the national tour in the newsletter. He reported that the Ross's, the Lindens and Marshalls attended the national tour, and the bad weather was a factor and the tours were several hundred miles.

- -The July fourth Sudbury Parade was promoted, and the line up would be near the Chiswick theatre at noon for a kickoff at 1 PM.

- -There will be a tour to Kimballs in Lancaster on July 11, Hebert's on the 17th and the 20th is national ice cream day. The discussion led to a decision to meet on the 11th at the intersection of 495 and 117 in Bolton at 3:30 to get to Kimballs earlier.



NE Meet Vice-Chair: Barbara McElhiney reported on the plans for the 2025 New England Meet. All were encouraged to register and there are 88 registrations so far and 150 are expected. Tom Zappala sends greetings from Ireland and will continue to work on the meet. Nan Linden, reporting on the registration, said there are 14 clubs registered already and more should be coming from our club. Barbara reported that the program for Friday at the meet would be a Battle Road tour in Lexington and Concord; Friday evening would have a buffet dinner with a DJ; Saturday would have the grand tour with judging, and the banquet featuring "The Beatles." Sunday would have breakfast buffet and awards. License plates for the meet have been received, and the repair tent has the needed staff. Donations are still needed for the raffle room and items are needed for the hospitality room – i.e. baked goods, snacks etc. volunteers are needed for staffing the rooms. Also, Rich Batstone is arranging a Hubley Derby for the meet. It was reported that taking an ad in the program would help with the income of the meet.

Local News: Ron West reported on the Waltham Museum saying they have a donation of beautiful 1911 Metz and September 20 would be Metz day in Waltham.

National News: Doug Linden reporting on National news told us to look at the MAFFI.ORG website for pictures of the museum addition now that it is done. He reported that the financial goal to fund the addition exceeded their expectations.

Lenny Michalak reported on the MARC 2025 meet that he and his wife attended and helped. He said there was judging for cars and fashions, there was a repair tent and was overall a good time. Next year the National Marc meet would be in French Lick, Indiana and there would be tour in the Adirondacks in NY next year.

Doug reported that the weather in the Gettysburg meet was hot and foggy and there were 140 registrants. There was 850 plus miles of touring, and he discovered that LED lights don't work well in fog.

Old Business: In discussing old business President Harold reminded us that a leader for next years swap meet was still needed.

New Business: Doug Linden proposed an ice cream social at the next meeting, so we would not need volunteers for the refreshments. Nan Linden and Barbara McElhiney would set up the social.

The president reminded us that there would be a 50/50 raffle and the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Erb

Secretary

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New meaning to the term "oil leak"

At a recent breakfast meeting I placed some cardboard under my Coupe engine area to see how badly a new leak had reared it's ugly head. I assumed it was a rear main seal leak and it was very bad (some of you saw the leak on the cardboard container). I phoned Harold Legge to see if I could put my car on his lift to help analyze what was wrong. He asked a couple of questions and gave me something to try in order to begin checking things out. He suggested I secure a plastic bag tightly to my uncapped oil filler pipe to see if the bag would inflate when I ran the engine. It did, but only a little bit. BUT, more importantly, when I took the filler cap off and looked into the filler pipe I noticed it was fully clogged with a gooey sort of fluffy yellow orange substance (very gross). I had never seen anything like this before so I called Harold again to tell him about it. I was totally surprised when he told me that the same thing happens to his Model A about once every year or two. He suggested that I remove the filler pipe and clean it out. Harold said it might solve the problem. When I put it back together, sure enough the oil leak stopped! So, it might be smart to check that filler pipe for any clogging from time to time on your cars. We don't know why this happens but it may have something to do with the intense heat and humidity we have had recently. Thanks Harold, you are a genius!

Rich Batstone

Sudbury Fourth of July Parade

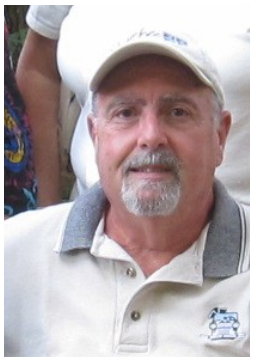
The Sudbury fourth parade is always a fun time. This year the weather was perfect which brought out loads of spectators. John Pierce kept everyone laughing by soaking the crowd with his mega-blaster. We also had a record turn of Model A's with 14 showing up at the starting area. With the Model A's all decorated with bunting and flags we all looked very patriotic. With our ahooga horns blaring and plenty of waves and smiles along the route we all had a great time.

Waiting for the parade to start.

Rich & Linda Bastone and Harold & Robin Samuels volunteered to have their Model A's on display as the guests entered the ballroom which was set up for a roaring time back in the '20s. They report the music was great, the food was plentiful and the gaming tables were busy. And the best part was that were the guests of Steve Pickford, the Inn Keeper of the Wayside Inn. This is the second year that the club has provided this extra flair to the fundraiser and it is greatly appreciated.

What great turn out we had for our Ice Cream tour to Kimball Farm in Lancaster. 16 Model A's caravaned to Kimball's to enjoy their legendary food, Ice Cream and huge turn out classic cars. The weather was perfect and so was the food AND Ice Cream.
No one left hungry and everyone left happy.

Gene Tallone



MAFCA Nominee Introduction

MAFCA's voting cards for the 2026-7 Director Nominees will be mailed soon! Be on the lookout.

Hello and hope you are enjoying touring season. I am **Gene Tallone**, one of the Nominees for a Director position. I am honored to share my Model A experience and leadership with our National Organization and you. My family and I have been active Model Aer's for many years. Some of you may know me from being an Officer with both Minuteman Club of MA., and Old Dominion in VA., or as Trustee/ Treasurer for MAFFI (Model A Ford Foundation Inc). Over the many years participating in our Hobby my family has organized or attended numerous successful events hoisted by active Clubs across the Country.

MAFCA will be publishing a more in-depth Bio for you to review and **I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE.** Thanks Gene T.

Welcome New Member

Nan reports no new member this month:

"Artie - Fact"

By "A" nonymous

Married Humor

I always adjust the seat and mirrors when I drive my husband's car so he doesn't forget he's married.

Husband: "Honey, the neighbor is washing the car with his son again!"
Wife: "Poor kid! Go over there and tell him to use a sponge instead.

CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Name a brake assist feature.
2. After the Model(T). When did Ford change to negative ground on their batteries to the chassis?
3. What is a good auto paint protection?
4. What product is stronger and lighter than fiberglass?
5. What is a traffic circle term?
6. What make was Archie Bunker's car?
7. What gas adds power (used in drag racing)?
8. Name a Jeep model?
9. What is an adjustable seat support

2025 New England Meet Hospitality Request

I am in charge of the Hospitality Room at the NE Regional Meet in September 2025 at the Boxborough Regency in Boxborough, MA. I am asking for volunteers to provide baked goods, individually wrapped snack items and to assist me in the Hospitality Room during open hours.

The Hospitality Room open hours are:

Thursday, September 11th	3:00 to 6:00 pm
Friday, September 12th	8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday, September 13th	3:00 to 4:30 pm

Please let me know if you would like to volunteer in the Room by choosing a date & time so I can add you to my list. Please bring your baked or individually wrapped snack item directly to the Boxborough Regency. Call me at 508-881-1595 or send me an email at sdchampagne1931@gmail.com to let me know what you are intending to do. Thank you for your assistance with my request. I look forward to hearing from you.

Susan Champagne

Ed Quirk

Long time member passed away on June 5, 2025. Ed grew up in Waltham but migrated to Georgia where he had a very successful construction company. Ed was a car guy, and even though in Georgia he was a regular participant of our club's super tours and NE England meets for many years. This picture is of Ed and Pat after driving on the Watkin's Glen Race Track on our tour to the Finger Lakes. We were supposed to tour with Ed and Pat on the national tour last month, but God had other plans. Our condolences to Pat and the entire Quirk family.

Bob & Cindy Mangan send their greetings . They have resettled in Windham, NH and recently stopped at Harold and Sally Legge's daughter and SIL's Country Shop & Kitchen. Nice to see that that they are touring again.

ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Anti-lock brakes
2. 1956
3. Clear coat
4. Carbon fiber\
5. Roundabout
6. LaSalle
7. Nitrous gas
8. Renegade
9. Lumbar support

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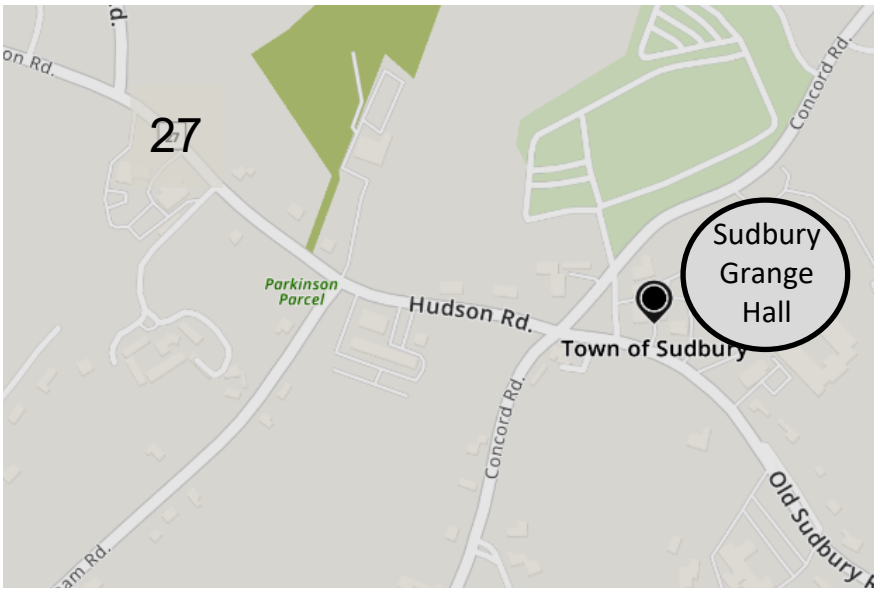
August Meeting News

August is a hot month, and what better way to stay cool is Ice Cream. SO, our August meeting will feature a make your own sundae .

There will also be a short presentation on the restoration of John Erb's very rare Model T Hearse.

See you on the tours.



Our meetings are held on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at the Sudbury Grange Hall, 326 Concord Rd in Sudbury. Meetings start at 7:30 PM.

Be Sure to visit www.oilleak.org

MINUTEMAN MODEL "A" FORD CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS

AUGUST 2025

Please Mail to:

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