

# The il Leak

August 2021 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 58 Issue 8



**Club Tours - See page 2**



## *The President Speaks:*

I Hope JULY has been a good month for all club members and you are enjoying life every day. I think it is such a wonderful time we live in when a vaccine has been produced that works so well to protect us all. People all over the world wish they had the good fortune to get vaccinated, we are very lucky to be in America.

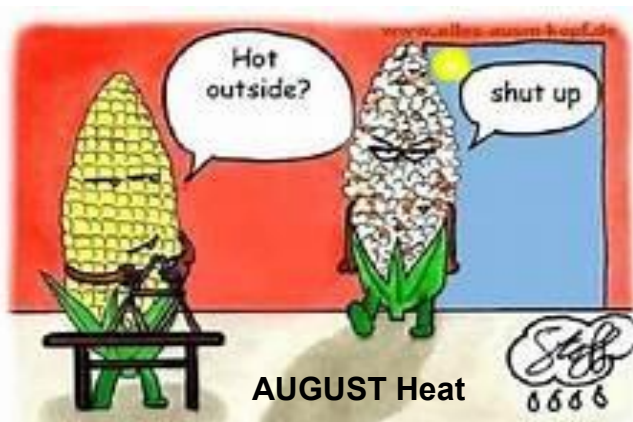


This past month there were several good tours the highlight was 7/10 covered bridge tour. I am also looking forward to Movie night at the KERN's on August 28th. Sounds Good!!

September is our first CLUB meeting at Memorial Congregational Church. It has been 18 months without our monthly meetings so I hope we get a great turnout and look forward to seeing many faces again.

September also brings the annual New England Model A Meet held at the Sunday River Resort in Newry, Maine *(Time to register is running out, see page 7 for more information)*

Keep driving your cars as much as possible it puts smiles on everyone's faces.



**KEEP SMILING EVERY DAY**

*Doug Farrell*



## Sunshine

Sue Champagne  
(sdchampagne1931@gmail.com)

No cards sent this month.

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

## Coming Events

(Tours Start at Wayland Town Center RT 20)

- Aug 1 11:30 AM Scales Restaurant TL John Kerns
- Aug 14 12:00 PM Dudley Chateau
- Aug 17 6:00 PM Trombetta's Ice Cream TL Wayne C.
- Aug 28 6:00 PM Movie Night Kerns' Home
- Sept 7 CLUB MEETING

TL=Tour Leader

## Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report  
June 2021

### Income:

Member Dues	\$ 60.00
Total Income	\$ 80.00

### Expense:

	\$ 00.00
Total Expenses	\$ 00.00
Net Income	\$ 60.00



## MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Art Callan

### AUGUST 1986 35 YEARS AGO

No Report Available.

### AUGUST 1996 25 YEARS AGO

July meeting held at Carlton Willard in Bedford, great turn and refreshments thanks to George Day.

Lou's Diner in Clinton next breakfast tour location\

Jack says alternators are here, \$64 each.

August meeting at Rich Gebo's garage in Marlboro

### JULY 2006 15 YEARS AGO

Annual Club Picnic host by Terry & Pat Sullivan at their farm in Andover. Great time and plenty of food.

Club meeting at the Sutcliff's was catered thanks to Gary & Marcia Hoyt winning a "Tail Gate Party".

Nine members signed up for Super Tour to Finger Lakes area of NY..

### ----- ARTI-FACT -----

#### I HEARD IT ON THE GRAPEVINE.

Dick K wants to grow his own food but can't find Bacon seeds.

Ed W has a Step-Ladder but never knew his Real Ladder.

O'Bee did some financial planning and says it looks like he can retire soon and live comfortable for 11 minutes.

John E has a new hobby as a taxidermist. If you ask him what he's working on today, he says . "Y'know, Stuff."

Doug L, it is said, doesn't eat birthday cake after his grandkids blow on it. Is it the lack of vaccine or spit or Tooooo many candles.

## National Organizations:



Model A Ford Club of America (mafca.com)

Membership dues \$50/year



Model A Restorers Club (model-a-ford.org)

Membership Dues \$45/year



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

## **2021 Board of Directors**

**President** - Doug Farrell [dfarrell1416@gmail.com](mailto:dfarrell1416@gmail.com)

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**Treasurer** - Barbara McElhiney [mcelhiney@rcn.com](mailto:mcelhiney@rcn.com)

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**Editor** - Doug Linden [douglingen@aol.com](mailto:douglingen@aol.com)

### **Steering Committee**

Wayne Champagne, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Harold Samuels, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

**Tour Director:** Don Ross 617-584-5245

**Sunshine:** Sue Champagne [sdchampagne1931@gmail.com](mailto:sdchampagne1931@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Distribution:** Sue Champagne [sdchampagne1931@gmail.com](mailto:sdchampagne1931@gmail.com)

## **Secretary's Report**

**No July 5, 2021 Meeting**

**Nothing to Report - Stay well**



If we get any more rain we will need to break out some of these old Mudders to navigate the roads. These must have been the only way to get about on the dirt roads of years past.



### **V P Needed**

The club can use your help! Yes we are looking for a volunteer to fill the VP position. There is still time to volunteer. Please contact Doug Farrell,,,Thank You.



# Covered Bridge Tour

Rich & Linda Batstone hosted the tour to the only Covered Bridge in eastern MA. Wayne Champagne led the group over back roads to Pepperell, the location of the bridge. Driving through the bridge we stopped at the Covered Bridge Store and were greeted by Diane Cronin who explained the history of the bridges over the Nashua River. The first bridge (non-covered) was erected in 1740. By 1845 a new covered bridge was constructed for the sum of \$1200. Since 1845 the bridge has been replaced two times, 1968 and 2010. the 2010 bridge cost \$9M. After this history we visited the country store and managed to find a few items to bring back home. From there it was back through the bridge and off to Johnson's in Groton for lunch and Ice Cream. A good time was enjoyed by all in spite of the unexpected rain shower.







## **Jim's Tech Tip** by Jim Cannon

### **Working Around Your Car's Battery**

Whenever working on the electrical parts of your car, it is a good idea to de-energize everything to prevent an accidental short circuit. For example, one of the horn wires in "hot" all the time, so any time you do anything with the horn cover, it's a good idea to disconnect the battery. The same is true of the brake light switch and the wires inside the instrument panel in the car.

If you have a fuse on the yellow wire that comes off of the starter switch, just removing the fuse will do the trick. Or if you have a battery cut-off switch on the car, that will kill the power to everything.

But in many cases you need to disconnect the ground strap from the battery in order to make sure everything is without power. Perhaps you need to remove the starter cable, or the battery itself. Whenever you remove cables from the battery posts, it is a really good idea to cover the battery post with something to prevent accidental contact between it and the other battery post.

For example, if you dropped a wrench or other tool while working around or above the battery, it could land on top of the battery touching both posts. This will short out the battery, which can be a really big problem, resulting in a fire or perhaps the battery exploding acid all over.

When you buy a new battery for most cars today, they are sold with one or two small plastic caps over the battery posts. I see them in red and black plastic. If you go to your local auto parts store, the people there may even give you a few of these caps, if you ask.



I keep several of them in my box of battery-related tools and things, to put over the posts of any battery I am working around. It is easy to do and only takes a minute.

Take a minute to be safe. Enjoy! And Have a Model A Day! Jim

Robert Bullard is the MAFCA Chapter Coordinator and lives in Texas. He and his wife Elaine trailered their beautiful 1931 Panel Delivery to the National Tour in NH and in his monthly mailing to Chapters he states what a great time he had.



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## Chapter Chatter

August 2021

The MAFCA 2021 National Tour, A White Mountain Adventure, is concluded and besides the enjoyment of a great tour, I marked off two of the four remaining states I haven't visited bringing my total to 48 of the 50 states. New Hampshire and Maine were absolutely beautiful. If you were not able to attend you missed a well-run, well organized tour. For the most part, the weather was great and the cooler temperatures were a welcome relief from my typical hot Texas weather. Elaine and I got to visit with old friends, reacquaint with people we've met on past tours and make some new friends. Because of COVID restrictions and concerns, much time was spent outside in the parking lot with our cars which made a great venue for making new friends and seeing all the wonderful cars attending. Of special note to me were the six sedan deliveries present. If these are not rare enough, also



attending was an ultra-rare "drop bottom" sedan delivery. I was told by several that this is a one of eighty four vehicle. Incredible to see her still on the road.

As we move into the second half of the year, it's time to get those fall tours planned, ice cream socials and International Model A day activities on paper. Our club, the Piney Wood A's is working on all three along with our Christmas Banquet/Dinner. If you live in an area where this is possible now is the time to make final plans. December will be here before you know it.

Robert

2021 Chapter Coordinator



# NE England Meet

September 10-12, 2021

The big event for the year that is always great fun is the annual New England Model A Meet that will be held in September at the Sunday River Resort in Maine. The registration form was in the May Oil Leak. For the latest information you can visit the Pine Tree A's website for the latest information.

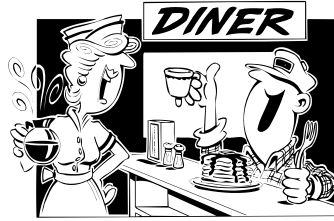


<https://www.mainemodelafordclub.com/ne-meet>



## ↑ Weekly Breakfast Group ↑

The breakfast group at the Big Apple, 890 Boston Post Road East (RT 20) in Marlborough, MA is slowly growing. Now that members have received their vaccine the group keeps growing each week. The Big Apple staff keep the area clean and safe. Why not join us again.



## 2021 MEMBERSHIP Application Form

**PLEASE** complete the form below and return with your check for \$20. If there are no changes, you won't have to complete the entire form, just check the appropriate box.

*Thank you.*

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Significant Other Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

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email \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_





The International Order of the Rubber Chicken Society  
Rules, Regulations and Other Silly Stuff



At a meeting of the International Order of the Rubber Chicken Society (IORCS), the following rules and silly things have been agreed to and enacted upon. The infamous *Rubber Chicken* is to be fun and full of frivolity. The purpose of these rules is to provide consistency and fairness for those persons desiring (or not) to acquire the scandalous *Rubber Chicken* because of a *Model A Ford* mishap.

Rule #1

If your *Model A Ford* causes an unscheduled stop (breakdown, flat tire, running out of gas or any other calamity) while on tour-**YOU GET THE RUBBER CHICKEN!**

Rule #2

If, while on tour, you delay the group from leaving on time (excepting for reasonable delays because of bringing donuts & coffee) - **YOU GET THE RUBBER CHICKEN!**

Rule #3

If you have a trailer (or modern car) problem, causing others to stop alongside the road or be delayed-**YOU GET THE RUBBER CHICKEN!**

Rule #4

If during any *Model A Ford* tour, you call another tour member to "help, aid, assist, or suggest what 'might be a problem'- **YOU GET THE RUBBER CHICKEN!**

Rule #5 Getting rid of the *Rubber Chicken* (procedures on how to give the *Rubber Chicken* away).

Rule #5-a. To pass the *Rubber Chicken* to another, the current holder of *Rubber Chicken* **must** be on the tour (if you ain't there too you loose), NO EXCETION TO THIS RULE!

Rule #5-b. While broken-down on the side of the road, it is **NOT ADVISABLE** to hand over, pass to or throw the *Rubber Chicken* at the car's owner or driver. It is also not advisable to put it inside the broken-down car. Nor is it advisable to stand alongside any broken-down car taunting the car's owner with the *Rubber Chicken*. Should one decide to have a picture taken with one standing next to the broken vehicle giving a thumbs-up jester, proudly displaying the chicken or any other sign of delight, satisfaction or joy, you do so at your own risk. Injury and mayhem for violating this rule is possible.

Rule #5-c. It is appropriate to pass the *Rubber Chicken* at any meal, gathering or chapter activity once faces have turned from bright red and steam is no longer venting from ears, or if the new recipient requests it while on the side of the road.

Rule #5-d. In order for a National Event (Tour or Convention) to be in play 25% or more of the chapter's members must be there and driving a *Model A*. A person should not be penalized for having the guts to drive their *Model A* when everyone else CHICKENS OUT!

Rule #5-e, multiple breakdowns. In the event more than one car breakdown on the same tour the appropriate method of passing the *Rubber Chicken* is to call all vehicle owners up in front of the chapter and then proceed to pass the *Rubber Chicken* from one to another in the chronological



**The International Order of the Rubber Chicken Society  
Rules, Regulations and Other Silly Stuff**



order in which they broke down. Each owner should be given a minute to tell of their harrowing experience or why they don't deserve the Rubber Chicken. The last person to breakdown possesses the Rubber Chicken until the next opportunity to pass it along.

**Rule #6**

All chapters should name their Rubber Chicken. It is most appropriate to name the chicken after a member so deserving because of the regularity or quantity of times he/she has had the honorable Rubber Chicken bestowed up him/her.

**Rule #7**

Out of respect, the Rubber Chicken shall be honorably retired once its head or **both** legs have fallen off.

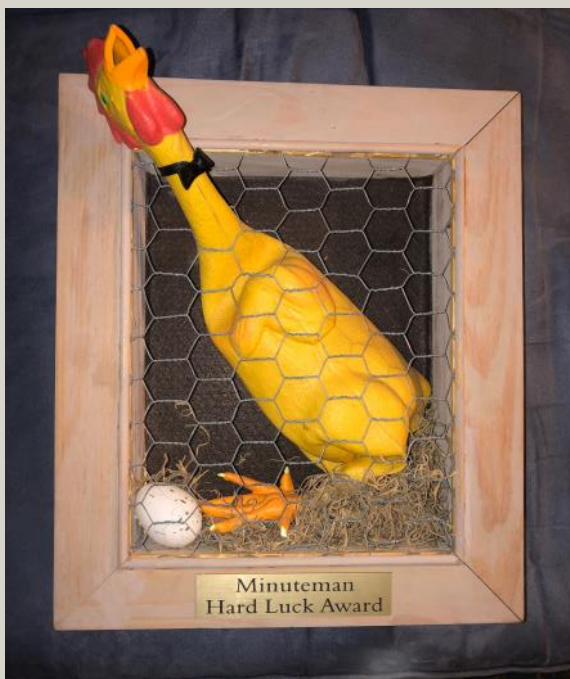
**Rule #8**

Each chapter should appoint a Colonel Chicken whose job shall be to determine all disputed matters. His/her word is final and not open to debate.

**Rule #9**

Life Time Achievement Award. The Rubber Chicken shall be permanently given to he/she who run their Model A out of gas while on tour. Phrases accompanying running out of gas, such as "Don't worry, I have plenty of gas" are to be pointed out at the next chapter meeting this person attends. The person running out of gas shall at his/her own expense replace the chicken with a newer version. This is not debatable! (Note: an appropriate Rubber Chicken Mardi-Gras necklace (can be found on line) may be given in lieu of the original Rubber Chicken).

## **"MINUTEMAN VERSION OF THE RUBBER CHICKEN AWARD"**



The Rubber Chicken Hard Luck Award has been presented in our club for a number of years. However, instead of passing the rubber chicken out on each tour as many clubs do, we elected to recognize this "achievement" at the end of the year. We keep track of who had a breakdown on tours during the year and then rank order them using a highly sophisticated rating system to determine the "winner" of this coveted award. Over the years there have been a few repeat winners, which just proves that you have to drive and enjoy your Model A. Hopefully next year's touring will be back at full speed, who knows you could be next year's "winner."

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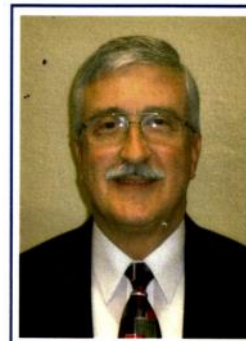
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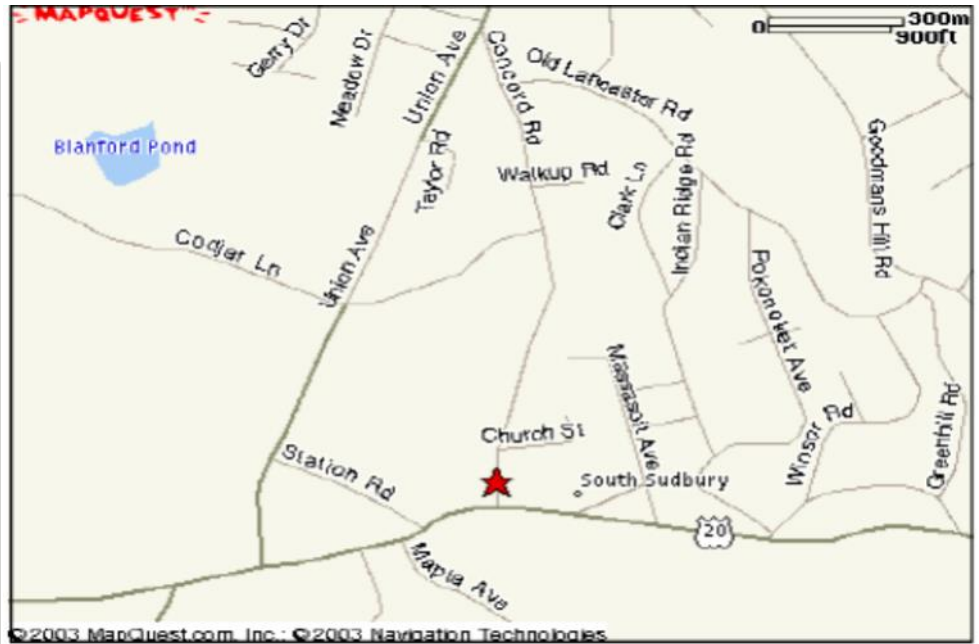


### Club Meetings

Good News, unless the Delta Virus has other ideas, our first club meeting in 18 months will take place on September 7 at the church.

We are all looking forward to being able to gather, safely, again for a club meeting.

See you at the meeting.



Monthly Meetings will **RESUME** in **SEPTEMBER** at the Memorial Congregational Church, 26 Concord Rd in Sudbury. Meetings start at 7:30 PM. Hope to see everyone there.

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



**August 2021**

Please  
Mail to:

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