

The il Leak

August 2026 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 63 Issue 8

“The Steering Column”

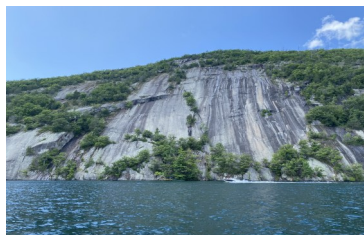
August is upon us and Summer is in full swing. When the weather cooperates, the Model A's will gather for parades, ice cream, camaraderie and of course the smiles & waves that keep us putting the miles on.



We had a great turnout for the Sudbury 4th of July Parade. It was not planned but I got to lead the club in the parade this year. The response from the crowd was absolutely amazing. My daughter Rachel joined us and accompanied the teddy bear in the rumble seat. She managed to animate Teddy's arms with welcoming waves to all. The response to the live action bear was well received by all. Especially the youngsters.

I was able to spend a little time in the garage working on Roberta the 1930 Fordor in hopes of getting her ready for the Sudbury Parade. I was able to get the horn “ahoooga-ing” as well as the brake lights functioning again. With those successes, came a larger failure. The entire car is now dead. Starter won't turn, lights stopped working, horn no longer does the “ahooga” thing. But with the sands in the hour glass depleted, I had to put her away for another day of head scratching and tinkering.

The McLaughlin's are off to Lake George (Someone is practicing for retirement)...



I hope that you are all having a great summer.

~Peter



Sunshine

Sue Champagne

No cards were sent out this month.

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 29 (Wed) Effingham Brewery Larry Conley TL
 - July 30 (Thur) Grand Tour Celebrating Rich Batstone
 - Aug 2 (Sun) 9AM Day trip to Gloucester Doug Linden TL
 - Aug 5 (Tue) Monthly Club Meeting
 - Aug 11 (Tue) 7 PM Ice Cream Natick
 - Aug 15 (Sat) 10:00 AM Mendon Diner Don Ross TL
 - Aug 20 (Thur) 5:30PM Lookout Farm Natick Dinner Tom Zap TL
 - Aug 29 (Sat) 10AM Mt Wachusett Picnic D Ross TL
- TL = Tour Leader

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

AUGUST 1991 35 YEARS AGO

Our Thanks went to Mike and John Gulbankian for hosting our meeting on a beautiful August night at the Gulbankian Auto Repair Company. There were two new items advertised in the Oil Leak - Windbreaker jackets with our Club Logo for \$20.00, and new Baseball Caps with our Club Logo for \$6.00.

AUGUST 2001 25 YEARS AGO

Nan reported that we now have 158 members. With August almost upon us, it was crunch time for the 2001 New England Meet which was less than two months away! At that point we had 154 registrations. In October, MAFCA reviews the nominations for Chapter Service Awards. "If you have a candidate that is deserving of this award, you have to send your choice in by September 15th."

AUGUST 2011 15 YEARS

Tom Zappala had returned home after 53 days on the road touring out to the West Coast and back. Tom had reported that he only encountered a few minor mechanical problems along the way and it was nothing he couldn't handle himself. Our July meeting at the Carlton-Willard in Bedford had become an annual affair and was very much appreciated by the residents. I'm sure it brought back memories as we took them for short rides. It also was a very nice facility for our meeting and the ice cream sundaes were great!

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report June 2026

Income:

Member Dues	95.00
Total Income	\$ 95.00

Expense:

Oli Leak Postage	500.00
Oil Leak Printing	80.00
Total Expenses	\$ 580.00

Net Income \$ -485.00



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.

2026 Board of Directors

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Vice President - Wayne Champagne wchampagne@verizon.net

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 douglingen@aol.com

Steering Committee

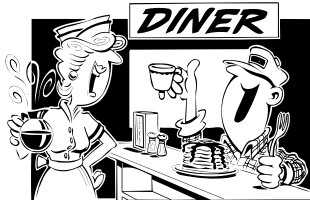
Harold Samuels, Brad Johnson, Tom Zappala, Doug Farrell, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

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

Sunshine: Sue Champagne sdchampagne1931@gmail.com

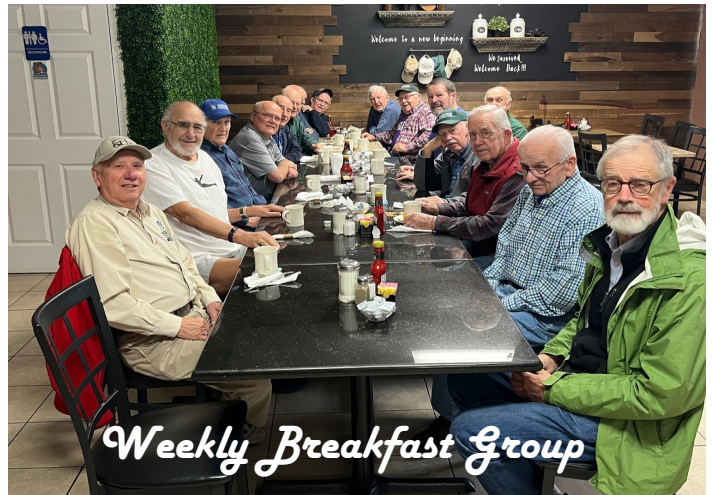
Newsletter Distribution: Sue Champagne sdchampagne1931@gmail.com

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 7:15 AM. Why not join us there is always room for you. ➡



Weekly Breakfast Group

Tour Information

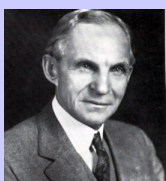
July 30 10:00 AM at the Boxborough Regency Hotel Parking Lot. We will follow the 2025 NE Meet grand tour route. This tour will celebrate the birthday of Rich Batstone (and also Henry Ford's).

Aug 2 9:00 AM leave for Gloucester area for a lunch stop and then to Hammond Castle and tour of the area. Ice Cream stop on the return trip.

Welcome New Members

Nan reports one member rejoined this month. Welcome Back:

Patrick & Kate Langan
12 Columbus Terrace
Newton, MA 02461
1929 Station Wagon



"One of the greatest discoveries a man makes, one of his greatest surprises, is to find he can do what he was afraid he couldn't do."

Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club July 1, 2026

Sudbury Grange, Sudbury, MA

President Peter McLaughlin gaveled the meeting to order at 7:30 and led the twenty-nine in attendance to the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Treasurer's and Secretary's reports were approved as printed in the Oil Leak.

Margaret Klingmeyer and Ben Chirco were thanked for providing snacks at the meeting and Peter McLaughlin volunteered to bring them to the August meeting.

Nan Linden reporting on membership announced that Doug Scott was now officially a new member as his dues were paid and he was here in attendance.

Don Ross could not attend but sent in his tour report for the club. He thanked all the members who were tour leaders in June.

- There were four Model A's in the Flag Day parade on June 14th.
- The Pizzi Farms Ice Cream tour in Waltham was cancelled due to weather, but Doug Ferrell led anyway.
- The June 21st Classic car show in Framingham had one Model A attend.
- On June 20th several members went to Rich Batstone's to help his family learn about and drive his Model A's. Harold Samuels related the day as they got three of the Batstone cars going and Linda Batstone provided a nice luncheon. A tour is being planned by Craig Martin to re-enact the N.E. Meet grand tour in memory of Rich Batstone on his birthday – July 30.
- Harold Samuels reported on the Waushakum Live Steamers tour held on June 27th.

Our July tours include:

- The July fourth parade in Sudbury was promoted and we were reminded that after the parade there would be an event at the Wayside in with food, music and beer.
- The July 7th Valenti Farms tour will be led by Tom Zappala.

- The July 11 tour to Mendon Diner will be moved to August 15th.
- July 16 - The Bedford Farms Ice cream tour will be led by Harold Samuels.
- July 18 - Wayne Champagne will lead the Nashoba Winery lunch tour.
- July 29 will have a tour to the Epigram Brewery and led by Larry Connelly.
- As mentioned earlier, the July 30th tour will be a re-enactment of the NE meet grand tour.
- August 2 there will be a day tour to Cape Ann Gloucester area.

It was announced that there would be a 50/50 raffle at the break charmingly run by member Dick Krug.

On National News, Doug Linden told of the MARC meet at French Lick, IN next Sunday. He also gave an update on the Judging Standards being printed at this time. He reminded us of the NE meet this September led by the Worcester club and at this time has over 100 registrants.



In Old Business, President Peter reminded us that we are still collecting pictures and stories of members' Model A's.

Vice President Wayne Champagne reported on correspondence which included thank You's for our Donations to the Model A Youth Restoration Award and the Model A Ford Youth Scholarship fund,

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 for refreshments, the raffle and a presentation on Model A Cooling system.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Erb

Secretary

Waushakum Live Steamers Tour



On June 27 eight Model A's and one mid 60's Ford Pickup traveled to Holliston, MA to visit the Waushakum Live Steamers club. We would be joined there by Worcester County Model A club to enjoy the amazing display of operating model steam and diesel locomotives. Everyone enjoyed the rides on the trains through extensive track layout through the woods. Both Model A clubs enjoyed a nice picnic lunch and sharing Model A stories with each other. Thanks to Harold Samuels for arranging and leading the tour.



Jack and Karen LeDuc enjoy a ride on the train



Click on link below for Videos of the Waushakum Live Steamers Club

https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search;_ylt=AwrNZG9M9ldqTwIA4doPxQt.;_ylu=Y29sbwNiZjEEcG9zAzEEdnRpZAMEc2VjA3Nj?s_chn=prt_wlcm&hspar=aol&hsimp=yhs-aol_portal&p=washakum+live+steamers%5C&fr=yhs-aol-aol_portal&rurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D7_VeV6snwyA

FIRE TRUCK UPDATE

The historic Wayside Inn was once owned by Henry Ford. Henry Ford was concerned about the safety of the Inn and donated a 1930 AA firetruck to the town of Sudbury. This truck stayed in town service until the early 70's and was sold. The Inn was able to track down the firetruck sitting in an empty barn in NH and buy it.

The Inn Keeper recently asked the Minuteman Model A Club if we could help get the firetruck up and running. What a great challenge. Through some great donations of parts/tires and the time of our club members we finally got to drive the truck out of the barn. What a thrill driving the firetruck around the inn's property.

Henry would have been proud.

BTW only 6474 miles on the truck odometer, but many 1000's of engine hours

Now it needs a good cleaning, the seat repaired, the wood ladder refurbished, and some accessories.



The fire truck out for a few pictures (1) behind the Grist Mill and (2) in front of the Inn.



While doing a google search for Sudbury July 4th parade pictures I was surprised to discover this picture of the Wayside Inn's firetruck taken around 1970. Yes, the one Henry Ford gave to the town of Sudbury with the hope it would help save the historic Inn if there was ever a fire. I am sure you know the Inn was the victim of a massive fire in 1955. No records are available to determine if this firetruck was called into service that day. It is nice to know our work on this firetruck is preserving history for the Wayside Inn and the town.

2026 MEMBERSHIP Application Form

PLEASE complete the form and return with your check for **\$25.**

Membership: Renew - No Changes ____ ; Renew - 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)

Make Check payable to Minuteman Model A Club and send to: **Minuteman Model A Club**

PO Box 545

Sudbury, MA 01776



The Model A's resting after the parade.

CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Where are gas and tires quickly available?
2. Besides the Ford Motor Co., who supplied the bodies for the Model A cars?
3. What is another name for a police car?
4. What has lobes, ramps, and overlaps?
5. What body style has two doors and no B-pillar?
6. What can be chrome or painted body color on a car or truck?
7. What are the three letters associated with an engine additive?
8. Name the annual auto endurance run held from 1905 to 1913.
9. How many years were the Model T's produced?
10. Who wanted the 1939 Mercury to have 4- wheel independent suspension?

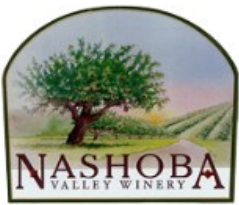


“Artie - Fact”

By “A” nonymous



A guy took his car to a repair shop because he kept hearing music every time he turned a corner. After a thorough inspection, mechanics discovered one of his kids had slipped a musical birthday card down the side of the car window. Every time he made a turn, the card would shift, open and play a tune.



Nashoba Winery Lunch Tour, July 18th

The weather forecast leading up to our tour predicted wet weather for later in the afternoon on Saturday. We decided the tour would go on as planned with a departure of 11:00 AM from the Wayland Town Center. Meeting us there were Carl and Amy Noyes, Doug and Nan Linden, Tom Zappala, Jac and Karen Leduc and Jim Rousseau. The ride out was cloudy and pleasant taking in back roads through Wayland, Sudbury, Stow and Berlin leading up to the Vineyard. Meeting us there were Craig Martin, Diane and Dave Libby and Chuck O’Neil and Debbie.

Once settled at our outdoor reserved picnic tables, we were met by our server who promptly handled our drink and food orders with ease. The food and beverages were served quickly and were very good while our group enjoyed pleasant conversations. No sooner after our lunches were consumed, gray skies and a few rain drops indicated that the weatherman’s predictions and Mother Nature had different ideas. The group departed with well wishes for safe travel and less rainy roads on the way home. Most of us were lucky as the heavy rains held off until we were able to safely return home and tuck our Model A’s in for the day.

Thank you all for participating in our tour. Let’s hope that a return trip to the Vineyard is planned for better weather in 2027.

Respectfully submitted - Tour Leaders, Sue and Wayne with Nova in tow.



SUDBURY FORTH OF JULY PARADE

The weather for the parade was warm but that didn't stop the Minuteman members from driving in the parade. It is always a good time and this year we noticed significantly more spectators than last year. Of course this being the 250th anniversary of the county also made this a special day to celebrate. Fortunately none of the Model A's experienced any troubles during the parade and we made it to the finish line to watch the rest of the parade. After the parade The Wayside Inn invited the club to display our Model A's. This was in conjunction



Picture taken from the video of the parade



with a reenactment of the Minutemen reading the Declaration of Independence and the taking down of the English flag and replacing it with the new 13 Colony flag. In addition to this the new Wayside Inn Beer Garden was open with live music. It was a nice time for those of us who attended.



That is a small cone

I SCREAM YOU SCREAM WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM

Our recent Ice Cream tour to Bedford Farms was a huge success, at least based on the size of the ice cream. The small ice creams were VERY large and VERY tasty. Thanks to tour leader Harold Samuels and in spite of some heavy rain just to the north eight Model A's and 1 modern were on hand to enjoy the tasty treats. Fortunately with the late setting sun we all made it home before it got too dark.

ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Pit Stop
2. Briggs and Murray
3. Cruiser
4. Camshaft
5. Hard-Top
6. Bumpers
7. STP
8. Glidden Tour
9. 18 Years
10. Edsel Ford



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Mason Capital was founded by Model A member Al Mason (1931 Fodor)

2/21/24 IPO Market Open: \$10.00

7/14/26 Market Close: \$ 12.93

Dividends Paid: \$ 0.41

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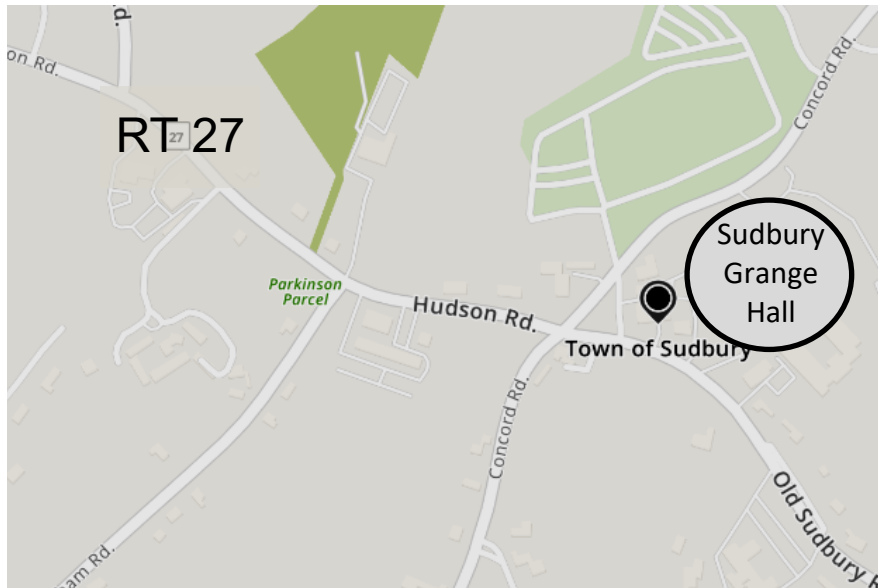
August News

It is summer and many members are on vacation, but we still look forward to gathering at our regular club meetings. And as a reminder the Grange Hall is air conditioned which really makes it nice on these hot summer nights.

Reminder, Have you registered for the 2026 NE Meet? Don't miss out on attending this shindig.

Get info here:

<https://wcnemeet.com/>



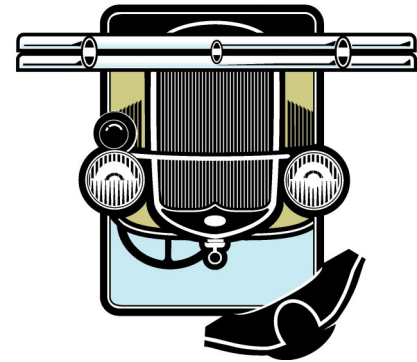
Our meetings are held on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at the Sudbury Grange Hall, 326 Concord Rd in Sudbury. Meetings start at 7:30 PM.



or scan here

Visit www.oilleak.org

MINUTEMAN
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CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS



Please
Mail to:

August 2026

Minuteman Model "A" Ford Club
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