

The Oil Leak

February 2019

Volume 56 Issue 2

The President Speaks:

We are off to a great start for the coming season. The installation dinner was fun for all with lots of socializing, catching up on the latest news and of course the presentation of the coveted hard luck trophy.

In addition to the new officers, Rich Batstone has agreed to serve on the steering committee, Sue Champagne has volunteered to do Sunshine, and Jo Johnson is standing by to serve as member emeritus. We are still looking for someone to do coffee, and for a coordinator for programs. Please let me know if you are willing to take on an open position.

In response to our request for recommendations for tours, Marty Grady proposed a tour to the WW II museum in Natick, Barbara McElhiney offered to lead an historical tour of Woburn, and the Kerns offered their place as a venue for a picnic and movie. Keep those suggestions coming and do attend the February tour planning meeting that Don Ross will be leading.

The February general meeting will take place as scheduled on the 5th. While some of our less hardy members have departed for warmer climate for the winter, I expect a great turn out from those of us who still enjoy the ever changing New England weather.

Looking forward to seeing you there.



Happy Motoring
Harold Samuels



Sunshine

Sue Champagne
(sdchampagne@gmail.com)

Two cards were sent this month. A "Thinking of You" card was sent to Mary Foran in Florida. And a sympathy card was sent to Clyde Kelton for the passing of Chris.

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

Note: We are grateful to Sue Champagne for volunteering to be Sunshine person.

Coming Events

(Tours Start at Sudbury Grange unless noted)

Feb 5: Regular Club Meeting

Feb 12: 7:00 PM Tour Planning Meeting at the Church

Mar 3: MARCOM Flea Market (see page 8)

Mar 5: Regular Club Meeting

Mar 24: Our Winter Blahs Flea Market (see page 8)

TL= Tour Leader

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
December 2018

Income:

Club Auction	10.00
Holiday Party	1140.00
Member Dues	540.00
Misc (Wright's Refund)	49.00
Total Income	\$ 1739.00

Expense:

Oil Leak Printing	40.00
Holiday Party General	1767.13
Total Expense	\$ 1807.13

Net Income \$ - 68.13

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Art Callan

FEBRUARY 1984 35 YEARS AGO

February meeting at the Grange was a "very cold" night, but a few A's made it.

Tour Comm presented a list of events. Next problem---tour leaders!

"Fitz" showed a film from his 60's Calif. trip.

FEBRUARY 1994 25 YEARS AGO

Pres Steve Goldberg presiding.

Tour to Wilson's Diner in Waltham.

Bus tour to Allen Paul's Pioneer Valley A's in Easthampton.

***First Artie-facts printed.

FEBRUARY 2004 15 YEARS AGO

Plans for Winter Blah's at Maynard Elks Lodge.

Helen Johnson, the Sunshine Lady, sent card to Bob Donovan for the passing of wife Pat.

Note from Ellie Thompson thanking A's for coming to Russ's wake and funeral.

ARTIE-FACTS

From 1922 to 1926 Richard H Long of Framingham with designer Herbert Snow, manufactured the Bay State automobile. Long's plan was to build a car free of RAT-TLES. Before closing the plant, they made 2,600 open and closed cars selling for \$1,800 to \$2,200. R H Long's later became a Cadillac/Oldsmobile dealer and has remained a family business.

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/year

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Club January 8, 2019

Location: Memorial Congregational Church Sudbury, MA

Meeting opened at 7:35 PM by outgoing President Andy Adams who thanked the membership for their help and support throughout the year. There were approximately 48 members in attendance.

Andy did a quick review of the 2018 touring season. There were 44 tours, a tour clinic thanks to Harold Legge and all his elves, weekend tours to Manchester NH and Freeport Maine.

Many thanks to all tour leaders!!



Andy then presented the **Hard Luck Trophy** to the 2018 recipient: **Brad Johnson**

As you may remember Brad had engine timing issues at the tune-up clinic. Problems continued; a team of volunteers stopped by Brads house to diagnose the problem. After much head scratching, the team found the timing gear had loosened. This caused the gear to work back and forth elongating the alignment holes and making it impossible to time the engine.

Enjoy the trophy Brad and display it with pride!

Andy then turned over the official gavel to incoming President Harold Samuels and also presented him with the Presidents Plaque. This is a framed three dimensional Model A ad from a 1929 issue of Harpers Bazar. This wonderful piece is signed and passed on to the incoming president each year for display in his/her home.

Andy then officially introduced the 2019 officers:

Harold Samuels – President

Doug Ferrell – Vice President

Barbara McElhiney – Treasurer

Rick Gadbois – Secretary

The club is looking for a new **Coffee Coordinator**

Duties include:

Ensure supplies are in storage.

Arrange for coffee making at monthly meetings.

Collect 'coffee can' donations, make out report and provide to Treasurer.

If you are interested in helping the club please see Harold Samuel or Doug Ferrell.

Andy requested a motion to accept the Treasurers' Report as printed in the Oil Leak – MSP.

Andy requested a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as printed in the Oil Leak – MSP.

Incoming President Harold Samuels then spoke on the tour planning questioner recently sent out. The whole idea behind this is to solicit ideas that may be new and different that you think people would like that may increase participation.

Please attend the tour planning meeting to be held at a time yet to be determined in February.

Harold then thanked Sue Champagne as she will be taking over Sunshine duties for 2019.

Refreshments volunteers for the next meeting; Len Michalak and Nan Linden.

Programs: Harold is looking for someone to give a talk at next months meeting that would be of interest to the club, otherwise we may have to suffer through his travel pictures.

Harold has announced a proposal to the club membership, that the club add an additional non-voting member to the steering committee. This person would be a long time member and would fill an advisory role and provide guidance from a historical perspective to steering committee and board members.

This will be voted on by membership at the next meeting.

Dick Batstone will fill a position on the steering committee being vacated by John Jacobson.

Harold then presented a token of our appreciation to Yvonne Pepe for her many years of providing handmade decorations for our holiday parties.

Harold then presented a framed photo to Andy. "A" terrific picture of Andy and Riley on tour, this is in lieu of the traditional gavel plaque presented to the outgoing president. Thank you Andy for your service to the club.

Marty Grady recommended we consider visiting the WWII museum in Natick. This is a great venue that should be considered during the tour planning meeting.

Happy New Year All !!

Meeting was officially closed at 7:50 PM.

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

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



**Dues
are
Due!**



Welcome New Members

Robert & Fran Weiss
1 Shady Lane
Dover, MA 02030
email rweiss@cpa.com

Max Maxfield
32 Champeaux Road
Brimfield, MA 01010
email sgtmax@hotmail.com



Brad Johnson accepts the hard luck award with a smile for the trouble that a messed up timing gear that caused a lot of head scratching before the problem was found.



Harold Samuels presents outgoing President Andy Adams with a framed picture of him and Riley as a token of the club's appreciation for his service.

VOLUME 56 ?

How can that be? I'm not even 50 years old yet! Whoops, big mistake, I'm actually 87. HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?

That means I was '31 when we put the club together. I was driving a '31 roadster then. It came out of Brookline as I recall. A small tree that had grown up thru the empty floorboard area had to be cut away in order to move the car.

Ann and I were in our 6th year of marriage with 5 kids. Computers were room size then, and full of vacuum tubes. I kept them running, a thousand words of memory stored in tubes of mercury. Univac #1 that I learned on in Suitland Maryland at the Census Bureau. That was back in '51 or so when I owned a two cylinder '41 Crosley and my first Model A Tudor. Ah the "A" stories these years yielded. Some of them I retold along with new ones in the "Oil Leak" back then. Those were the days when the "Leak" was typed up on mimeograph paper and run on a mimeograph copier. Any one remember those days? The title came about as I looked out a window and saw streams of raw oil on the driveway often after (can't remember his name, always with a kid in tow) would come by for a visit in his A (*editor's note: that was probably Art Crooke*). If anyone has copies from those early years I wrote a couple articles on how the club started and was a MAFCA instead of a MARC affiliation.

Tom Taranto is still around and was the first president. Was so good to meet him again at the club's 50th anniversary meeting.

Well, I confess to a few years in a '34 roadster on Cape Cod but finally back in a '29 Tudor (that would hang up in 2nd gear from time to time). Ann's Parkinson's became unmanageable and we ended up with family here in New Hampshire some 3 years ago. Things settled out a year or two ago and I started looking for an A. I'm at the Nursing Home everyday and don't get in till 11 PM. Checking Craig's List, everything was gonzo! The couple of A's I was able to look at were so over priced or bad value.

So in desperation, I stepped in it. Yes, me, Mr. smart

butt. The guy who had done valuations for so many other people, made a quick judgment and bought a real piece of junk. The frame was bent and full of extra holes. All the bottom panels had been poorly replaced and **done** on the bent frame. I wanted a coupe because I could get almost enough manifold heat up here in NH as a daily driver. I don't know what all the trials, tribulations and sitting out in the weather were. I do know that the various owners over the years must have really had quite a ball in it. I think it was run in a lot of parades stuffed with as many people they could get in it and on it! I wanted to return it to a trunk type. Of course all the older after market sheet metal they bought to make it a rumble don't match the newer replacement sheet metal to make it a trunk. Even the trunk lid is off shape. Sigh.....

Oh well, it's mine (though I think it may own me). I give it a pat and hug a fender every time I leave it to go spend the rest of the day with Ann.

Not quite sure why I thought you might be interested enough to read this flap, but I wrote it anyhow. Trying to resolve an engine problem but hope to finally have it on the road in a week or so with my new Mitchell overdrive.

I'm in the White Mountain club now and think I'm still carried in the Cape's club though I don't get any mail. Looking forward to making a few meets again.

Don Freniere

FYI, Don was a founding member of our club way back in the early 1960's. He was the editor of the newsletter and the one who came up with its name "The Oil Leak." Some of his writing from the days of Model A's as daily drivers are hilarious.

Wanted

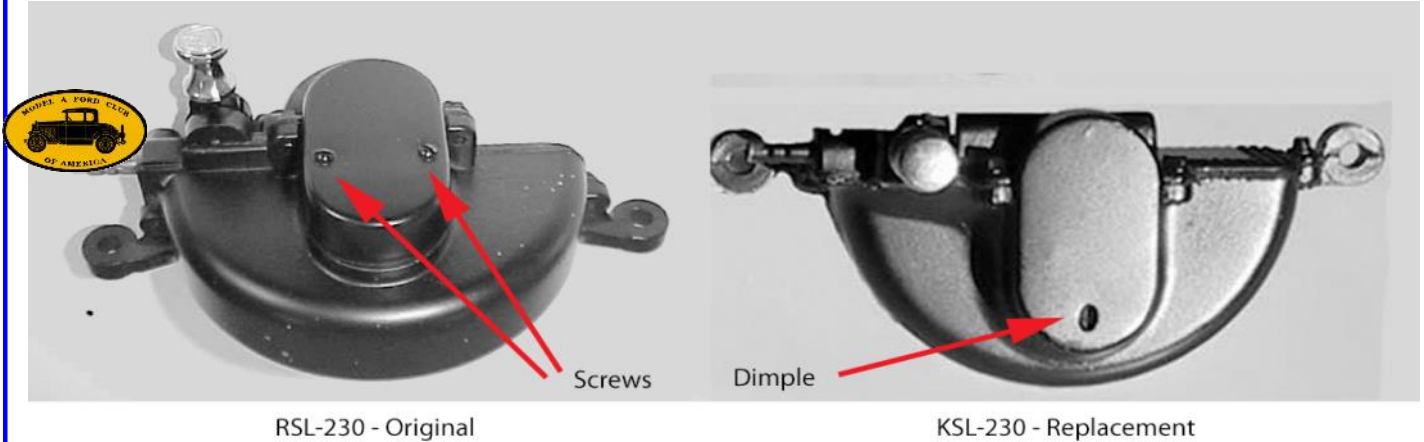
A decent or repairable left front 1930 Coupe plain fender. Could use a 1931 fender but hopes are for a '30. Contact: Don Freniere, 603-229-2731, dlfreniere27@gmail.com"

Windshield Wipers

By Rick Black Medford Oregon

Model A windshield wipers are described in detail in the **"Restoration Guidelines & Judging Standards"** published jointly by MAFCA and MARC. Since The Standards doesn't have photographs of wipers, just line drawings, this page includes photos of original wipers and era replacements.

You'll notice that some photos are missing. If you have a Trico wiper not photographed on this page, please send a photo with a



description of the vehicle to [the webmaster](#).

1930-1931 Wipers

From many years of research, I've found that Trico used the letter "R" to start Model A vacuum wiper model numbers. In the 1930s, Trico improved the design of the Model A wipers and used the letter "K" to start part numbers. For example, the most common 1930-31 Trico wiper was used on Coupes, Tudors, Closed Cab Pickups and Straight Window Fordor Sedans. The original Trico Part number was RCX-1. The replacement wiper was KCX-1.

How to tell an "R" series original motor from a "K" series replacement

It's easy. The tops of the two differ; check patent dates. But the best way is to simply look at the front of the wiper.\

If you want to read more information on the Model A Windshield Wiper you can visit the following site on the MAFCA webpage.

http://www.mafca.com/tqa_wipers.html



Now that's a lot of Snow



Chris Kelton January 6, 2019

The Minuteman Club sadly lost one of our longtime members. Chris Kelton, Clyde's wife of 53 years, was a very active member for many years as the club grew from a small group in the 60's to its current size of 150 members. Chris was one of those people that you liked from the first time you met her. She always had a smile, a wonderful laugh and that lovely Scottish accent. She was a special lady for sure, I don't know how Clyde was able to convince Chris that all those rusty parts were as good as gold. Chris did enjoy the Model A and socializing with members and she will be dearly missed by family and friends alike. Our condolences go out to Clyde and the entire Kelton family.

Jim's technical tip

by Jim Cannon,

Radiator Hoses - Hard to Get On, Hard to Get Off!



For many years I had a hard time getting new radiator hoses on the engine to seal well. I would tighten the hose clamps to what I thought was reasonable, and they still seeped a bit of coolant. And years later, when I needed to remove the hoses, they seemed to be glued to the metal parts and I had to pry them off or cut them off.

A Master Mechanic shared his secret with me years ago. Apply a very thin coating of a specialized gasket dressing called "Hylomar AF" to the inside of the new hoses where they will contact the metal just before installing them. Install and rotate each hose back and forth, to spread the sealant out evenly. Now tighten hose clamps and you are done. It will not seep or leak. And years later when you need to remove the hose, it will come right off!

I get the Hylomar AF (Advanced Formulation) -- originally developed by Rolls Royce for their jet engines -- from an industrial supply place near me called W.W. Grainger. It's also available on Amazon and other places on the Internet. Compare prices because some places price it like it's gold!

There are several variants of Hylomar. You don't want the original "Hylomar Universal Blue" or the "Racing Formula". The Hylomar AF works best for our application. I also put a little on my oil drain plug threads, on the transmission and differential drain plugs, etc., to stop the drips. It gives a good seal but never hardens, so it's easy to take it apart later.

Have a Model A Day!
Jim

copywrite Frisco illustrationsOf.com/89401



Help Needed



Coffee Person

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

INSTALLATION DINNER



It was a cold night but the hall was ready for annual installation dinner. All the tables were set up and Mel's catering was right on time and Mel's catering was right on time. Members started arriving and it wasn't long before we were all enjoying good food and great conversation. The Lasagna, salad and special cake were all very TASTY! The January meeting followed.

March 24, 2019 25th Annual

WINTER BLAH'S

Flea Market - Maynard Elks Lodge Maynard, MA 7:30 - 11:30

Contact Craig Martin information (cmartinstow@comcast.net)

MARCOM FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY MARCH 3, 2019

WINTER FLEA MARKET 7:30 - 11:00 AM

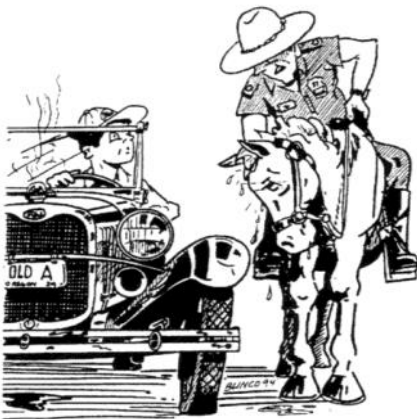
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Idea's Wanted

For the upcoming Tour Meeting. Tour director Don Ross has asked us to bring some of your ideas for potential activities to the meeting. New ideas for tours will be sure to get our Model A's out on the road and make for a good Tour Season.



"A" Toons



Young man, this horse doesn't understand AHOOOGA!

THE RESTORER - MAY/JUN 1996 5

A few of the attractions in the Berkshires:

Aerial & Mountain Adventure Parks at Jiminy Peak, The Clark, Norman Rockwell Museum, Herman Melville's Arrowhead, Williams College Museum, Williamstown Theatre, The Mount, Edith Wharton's Home, Mount Greylock, C hesterwood and Crane Museum of Papermaking.

63rd Annual New England Model "A" Ford Meet

Hosted by:
Western Massachusetts Model "A" Ford Restorers Club



Friday, Sept 13 to Sunday, Sept 15, 2019

Where: Jiminy Peak Mountain Resort,
37 Corey Road, Hancock, MA

Check out all the amenities at www.jiminypeak.com
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New Number

UPDATE - Country Inn Suite (\$149) - SOLD OUT

Overflow: Vacation Village in the Berkshires,
276 Brodie Mountain Rd, Hancock, MA

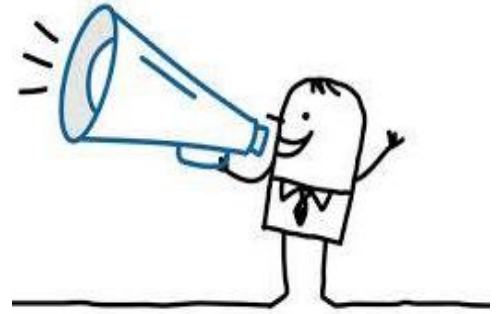
Reservations: **ONLINE ONLY -**

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(\$175 -A unit; \$135 -B unit) (Mention: Model A Ford Regional Meet for our group rate)



**The new year near!
Time to renew your
2019 *MEMBERSHIP*
*Dues is Due***



In order for us to keep our records up to date, **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 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

email _____ Telephone ____ - ____ - _____

No Changes _____

Are you over 80 and been a member for at least 5 years? ____ If, yes, membership is free.

I would like to receive my ***Oil Leak*** by email. Yes _____ No _____

(If you do not specify, it will be sent electronically if we have an email address on file.)

Are You a member of MAFFI _____ MAFCA _____ MARC _____

Model A Info:

Year _____ Body Style _____ Year Acquired _____

Year _____ Body Style _____ Year Acquired _____

Year _____ Body Style _____ Year Acquired _____

Year _____ Body Style _____ Year Acquired _____

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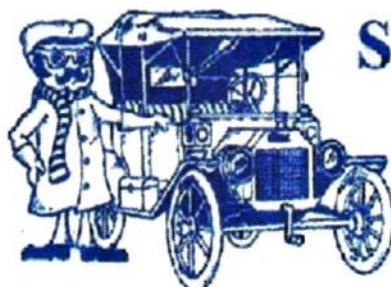


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February 2019

Please
Mail to:

Be sure to visit www.oilleak.org

The February meeting will be back to our regular day, the first Tuesday of the Month, Feb 5th. The plan is to have either a short technical session or a video of a PBS special on the Lincoln Highway. You'll have to come to the meeting to see what is on the agenda.

Don't forget to pay your dues if you haven't already done so.



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.