

# The il Leak

February 2022 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 59 Issue 2

## *The President Speaks:*

Now, with the cold January weather is when I start thinking of spring and nice sunny days, they will come sooner then you think. It feels good to dream of pleasant not so cold days.

February is the month that Don Ross will be setting up tours on Paper. You, the club members, need to help with ideas and volunteer to do the tours. What do you think!!!!!! No one person does this on their own, it takes the group effort to make the Club function.



I read with interest the MARC National Meet will be held in Morgantown, PA from June 5 thru June 11 2022. Who thinks they are going this summer? Let others know it will build interest and the Minuteman Model A Club will be better represented at the NATIONAL MEET this year.

February Meeting is on the 1st. Business meeting, then several topics and hopefully another short video. See you then.!!

Happy  Valentine's Day!

**KEEP SMILING EVERY DAY**  
*Doug Farrell*



# Sunshine

Sue Champagne

Get well cards were sent to Jo Johnson and Peg Michalak who are recovering from recent 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)

- Feb 1** 7:30 PM "Regular" Club Meeting
- Feb 6** Somers CT, Flea Market at VFW (old Powder Mill Barn event)
- Mar 1** 7:30 PM "Regular" Club Meeting
- Mar 6** MARCOM Flea Market Holmes Transportation Norfolk, MA (see page 6 )
- Mar 27** Minuteman Club Winter Blah's Flea Market Maynard Elks (see page 6 )

## Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report  
December, 2021

### Income:

Holiday Party	\$940.00
Member Dues	465.00
Total Income	\$ 1,405.00

### Expense:

Holiday Party General	\$ 1,887.12
Oil Leak Printing	70.00
Total Expenses	\$1,957.12
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ -551.12</b>



## MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

### February 19867 35 YEARS AGO

Dave Mailey gaveled the meeting to order at 8:40 PM, no easy task with a crowd of 50 members and 4 guests! Finnerty's Restaurant in Cochrane was selected for our 1987 Holiday Party, with dinner and dancing. Arnold Goff's club presentation and video on the 1986 CA to NY "The Great Race" was enjoyed by all. Arnold was a participant in a 1939 Packard.

### JANUARY 1997 25 YEARS AGO

Mass Reg. of Motor Vehicles letter printed in The Oil Leak authorizes "Year of Manufacture" plates for antique vehicles. Our annual tour planning meeting will be held at The Faith Lutheran Church in Wayland, thanks to Dick Stitt. 175 letters have been mailed out to potential vendors, publications and auto clubs promoting our upcoming annual swap meet on March 22.

### JANUARY 2007 15 YEARS AGO

Final preparations are underway for the 51st Annual New England Meet hosted by our club. The Chapter Service Award was presented to Clyde Kelton for ongoing assistance to many club members. A big thank you went out to Tom and Lisa Zappala for their hard work planning the Martha's Vineyard weekend tour. 22 Model As and 36 club members participated in that tour.

----- ARTI-FACT -----

See page 8

## National 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 \$25/yr

## 2022 Board of Directors

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

**Vice President** - Wayne Champagne (pro tem)

**Secretary** - Rick Gadbois [r.gadbois@comcast.net](mailto:r.gadbois@comcast.net)

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

**Membership** - Nan Linden 508-485-7575 [met59a31@aol.com](mailto:met59a31@aol.com)

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

### Steering Committee

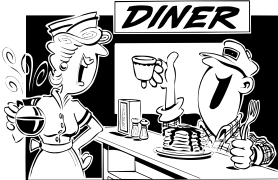
Vacant, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Harold Samuels, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

**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)

### *Weekly Breakfast Group*



The breakfast group at the Big Apple, 890 Boston Post Road East (RT 20) in Marlborough, MA is back and growing. We have our vaccinations and the Big Apple staff follows Covid cleaning protocol. Why not join us there is always room for you.



### WELCOME BACK MEMBER

Timothy Darsney  
Nashua, NH

Tim was a member of the club and has recently rejoined. Welcome back Tim.



I was pleased to recently present Jack Bickel with his 35 Years of MAFCA membership pin.



Have you sent in your dues for 2022?

If not go to page 7

Fill out the form and mail your check

Thanks



# Secretary's Report

**Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club January 4, 2022**

Location: Memorial Congregational Church Sudbury.

The evening opened with outgoing/incoming President Doug Farrell leading the assembled club members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were unfortunately only 19 members in attendance, hopefully next month we'll have a larger crowd.

The business meeting kicked off at 7:35 pm with Doug leading the membership in a moment of silence in memory of John Jacobson.

Doug Linden then mentioned that there is a wonderful eulogy written by Charles Gould on the Minuteman Facebook page. Charles is a longtime friend of JJ's and he chronicled nicely many of JJ's accomplishments and successes.

## **Minuteman Club 2022 officers:**

- **Doug Farrell - President**
- **Wayne Champagne – Vice President protem**
- **Barbara McElhiney – Treasurer**
- **Rick Gadbois – Secretary**

## **Officers Reports:**

Doug requested a motion to accept the Treasurers' Report as printed in the

Oil Leak – MSP.

Doug requested a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as printed in the

Oil Leak – No December meeting, report encompassed short write-up on the Holiday Party held at Conrad's in Sudbury.

Doug Linden then mentioned that the Southborough Fire Department sent a nice thank you note regarding the Minuteman Toys for Tots donation.

## **Membership:**

Nan Linden is collecting dues for 2022.

Nan reported that we have 3 new members to the club:

Brian Wittstein of Watertown, he has a 1929 Phaeton that he is currently working on.

Robert Gardner of Ayer, who has a 1930 Model A Sport Coupe and a 1923 Touring Model T.

John Fridrick of Westford, who has 1931 Coupe.

Nan also introduced a visitor, Richard Everett who is the market for a nice 1930 or 1931 Fordor Sedan.

**Welcome All !!!**

## **Touring:**

Don Ross reported that the annual Tour Planning Meeting will be held during the regular monthly meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup> here at the Church. Please plan on attending and bring all your fun touring suggestions. Destination tours seem to be better attended.

## **National News:**

The MARC National Convention will be held in Morgantown PA in June. Also, in June will be the MAFCA National Convention in Kerrville TX.

This year New England meet will be held in Mansfield MA additional details to follow.

Doug thanked the Linden's and the Legge's for providing tonight's Refreshments.

Volunteers for next month's meeting are the Zeoli's and Farrell's.

## **New Business:**

The Annual Winter Blahs Swap Meet will be held on Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> at the Maynard Elks Club. Craig Martin has the planning well underway and will be looking for volunteers to assist.

## **Programs:**

Doug Linden will show a short film produced by Ford on purchasing and servicing the New Model A.

## **Running Board Commentary:**

A short discussion was held regarding the current purchase price and condition of a Model A Fordor sedan.

Doug Linden presented Doug Farrell with a special calendar in recognition of his continued service to the club. Doug is entering his third consecutive year as President.

Wayne Champagne is looking for a Volunteer to take over the Webmaster position as he has been doing it for well over 10 years. If interested please contact Wayne he will be happy to assist in the transition.

## **Happy New Year to all !!!!!**

Meeting was officially closed at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

***Rick Gadbois***

Secretary

# Memories of Model A'ing--At age Nine

By John Jacobson

Dad came home with the big news: His offer had been accepted on a beat-up three room summer cottage in a remote area of Scituate, ( A seaside community 20 odd miles from Boston, for those of you unfamiliar with our south shore)

"Mom, Grandma, Aunt Gert, Simone (my younger sister), and John (He didn't know that I would later be called "JJ") will be vacationing there all next summer", he announced, " and I will be coming down there for the weekends"

There was consternation on the faces of those assembled, as each responded to this surprise announcement :

Mom: "And how will we get around in that Godforsaken place without a car may I ask?"

(we only had one—and a twodoor sedan, at that! Dad would need it to commute, of course.)

Grandma: "How big could the oven be in a little place like that—What about my Friday night chicken?-How will we get groceries?"

Aunt Gert:" Uncle Ralph will need to be met at the Scituate train station, from time to time -He can't be expected to walk that far."

Sister Simone-"I'll go, as long as we can go for ice cream on a regular basis."

Brother John (Me): "Leave my friends, and live THERE with four women for the whole summer vacation?"—Only if someone could drive me to stay with my buddies in Nantasket (a nearby resort community)

It was clear that Dad had to make concessions, and make them fast!

The answer came in the form of a nicely used 1931 Ford Model A Fordor which was purchased at Young's garage in Egypt, Massachusetts -A neighboring town to Scituate.

The deal was that we would buy the car for \$100.00, pick it up in late June, and sell it back to Youngs in early September for a predetermined price (I don't know how little that might have been, but I'm sure Dad never told Mom what it was)

Thanks to the Fordor the cottage sale was completed . Mom had transportation; Grandma had groceries; Uncle ralph got picked up at the train station; Sister got ice cream; and I got to have frequent unchaperoned visits with all my horney friends in Nantasket!

To this day I vividly remember certain things about that car—

Smells-- From gasoline which oozed from around the site glass on the dash. From burned engine oil coming through the open heater hole in the fire wall. From the must in the worn mohair seats,. From the tar on the many softening roof patches in the hot sun.

Sounds—Squeaks from the springs when she was all loaded up with family.

Clucking the exhaust made whenever we went uphill.

Gear grinding when Mom would let me shift for her .

Backfires when the points closed up.

I never thought that these memories would ever again become realities.—Maybe my children (and Grandkids) who have piled into my Model A's will have similar reminiscence when they are asked about their childhoods—I hope so.--JJ

*I found this story JJ provided a few years ago about how he got exposed to the Model A Ford. I thought it would be good to share it as a way to remember our friend JJ.*



# MARCOM FLEA MARKET

## SUNDAY- MARCH 6th, 2022

*The ANNUAL MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS*

### *WINTER FLEA MARKET*

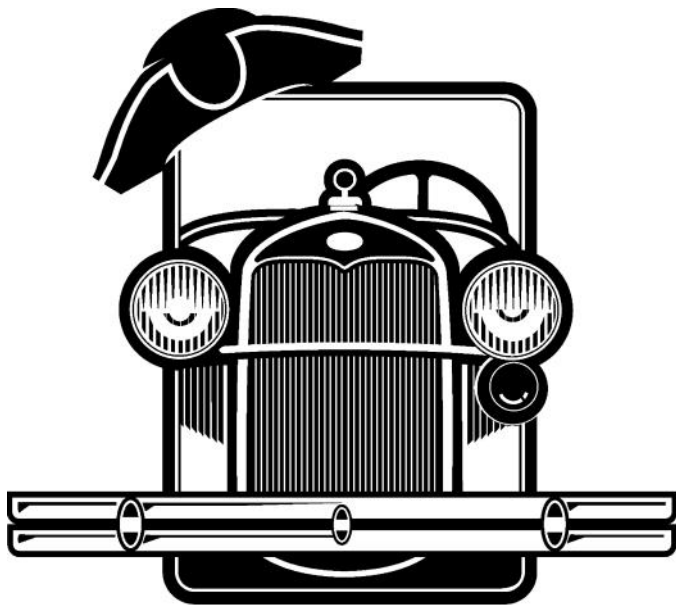
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26<sup>th</sup> Annual

# WINTER BLAH'S

## Swap N' Sell

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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.*

Membership Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_ or New: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Street \_\_\_\_\_

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No Changes \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) Telephone \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Are you over 80 and been a member for at least 5 years? \_\_\_\_ If, yes, membership is free. However a donation in lieu of dues is always welcome

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: Minuteman Model A Ford Club and mail to

Minuteman Model A Club

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Sudbury, MA 01776



## MISCELLANEOUS FUN STUFF



Jack Stokinger saves everything and I recently spotted this original club business card hanging in his garage. Notice where we met, the CO-OP supermarket on Franklin St in Framingham. The supermarket had a Community Room they made available to clubs to use. Thanks for saving this bit of club history Jack..



Now those are BIG Tires!  
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New England snow storms.

### Artie-Facts

by Art Callan

A B17 lost two of it's 4 engines during an Allied raid over Berlin. The pilot, knowing he could not make it back to his base in England, headed for Russian occupied Poland. They belly-landed in a frozen potato field. All were safe, but the plane would never fly again.

The Russians treated the crew as heroes and moved them to an ex-German airfield where another B17 crew was held. Their B17 had lost one engine and blew a tire during landing. An escape plan was hatched to use a old FORD TRACTOR to haul a good engine and tire from one plane to the other.

They bartered several revolvers, fountain pens, watches and dollars to get some tools and gas. Telegraph poles were cut down to use for hoisting. Once the jury-rigged plane coughed and started, they taxied and took off for an an American air base in Foggia, Italy.

(Source: New York Times)



This is not that plane, but the picture is a testament to how much damage the B-17 plane could endure and still fly. Click on this link to see the story of this plane. [B17Story](#)



# Henry Ford's Idea

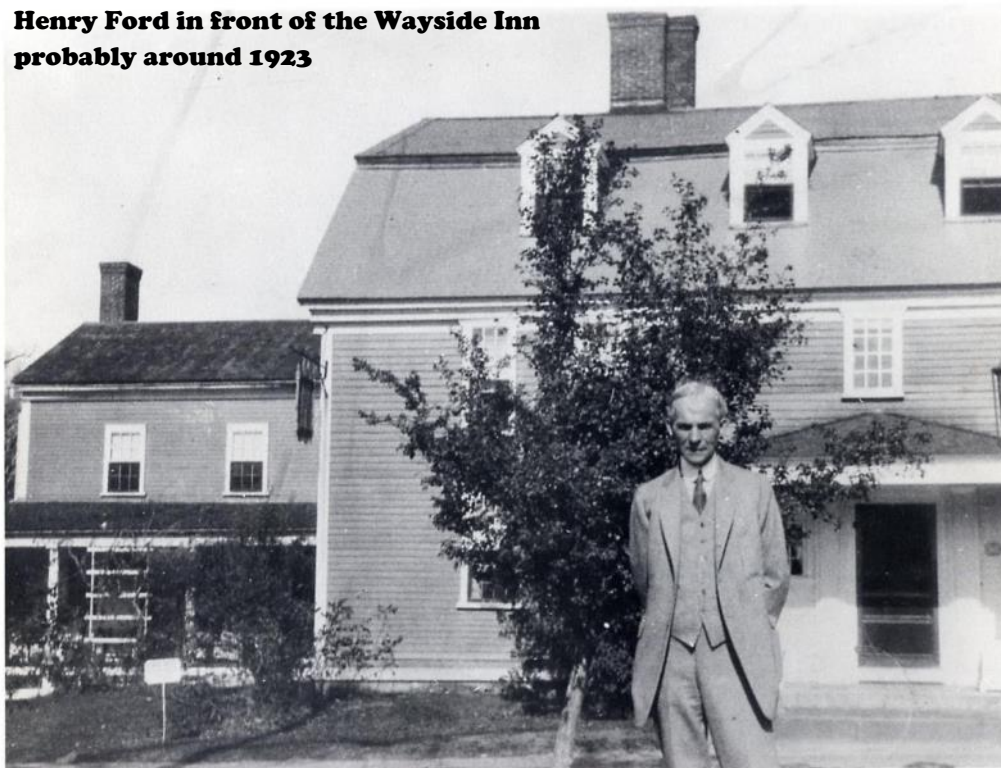
## “The Wayside Inn”

Although the Edison Institute (The Henry Ford Museum/Greenfield Village) was dedicated in 1929 and opened to the general public in 1933, Henry Ford previously acquired the Wayside Inn (from 1716) in 1923. According to the Inn, Ford used his vast resources to acquire acreage, buildings, and antiques with the intention of creating a living museum of Americana. He expanded the property to almost 3,000 acres in not only the town of Sudbury, Massachusetts, where the Inn is situated, but neighboring Marlborough, and Framingham. He added buildings to the property including the one-room Redstone Schoolhouse (relocated to the property in 1925), a fully functioning Grist Mill (built in 1929), and the Martha-Mary Chapel (built in 1940 from trees felled in the historic Hurricane of 1938).

From 1928–1947, Ford operated the Wayside Inn School for Boys, a trade school that prepared indigent boys for potential employment in Ford's factories. (Likewise, an Edison Institute School system followed on the grounds of Greenfield Village.) In 1944, a few years before his death in 1947, Henry and Clara Ford placed the central 100+acre parcel and nine buildings into a non-profit organization to preserve the Inn's historic legacy. Henry Ford was the last private owner of the Inn.

The Inn is well remembered, of course, from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's book of poems... Tales of a Wayside Inn...which was published in 1863.

**Henry Ford in front of the Wayside Inn  
probably around 1923**



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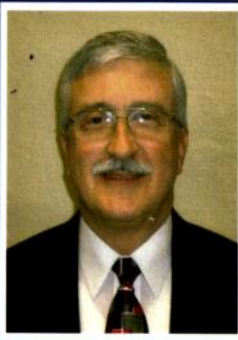
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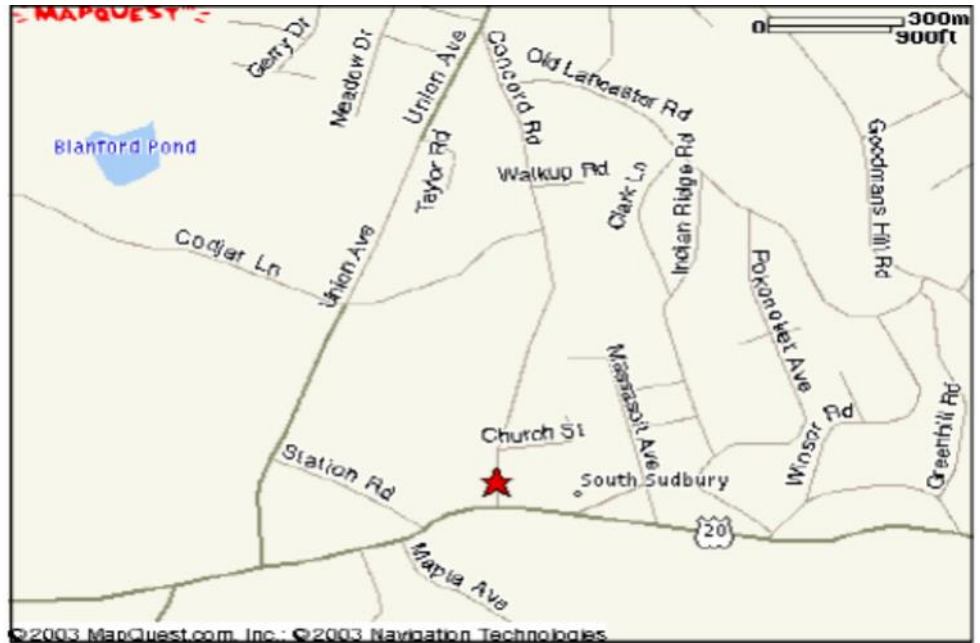


## NOTICE

The February meeting will be held on Feb 1st, and we look forward to you attending. The town of Sudbury currently has a mask mandate so please come prepared.

We have one carryover item from 2021 to finish up at this meeting.

We will also have a short video provided by John Kerns on the significance of the car show at the Macomber Estate in Framingham.



Monthly Meetings have resumed 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](http://www.oilleak.org)



Please  
Mail to:

February 2022

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