

The il Leak

February 2023 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 60 Issue 2

The President Speaks:

Hi All,

February is the time that daylight is getting longer, winter is well on its way, and still plenty of time to get ready for touring season.

February 14 is Valentine's Day, a happy time to remember the ones we love. Also on that date in 1943 I made my first appearance. Lots of changes since then. I think the telephone we had, as I can remember, was a party line with our own ring. To call, you pick up the phone, then you hear number please from the operator. The next change was dialing numbers on a private line. Out of area calls we had signals, one ring - hang up, then wait for a call back. Long distance calls were always a hassle. The call was taken, then the call went out mom ! Long distance ! Then the call was made as fast as possible! Today we can call over the world with not much cost.



Phones are small enough that you can put them in your pocket or on your wrist. I remember the old comic books, with Dick Tracey calling Sam Catchem on his wrist radio. In 1947 fiction, today no big deal.



When the club celebrated their fiftieth anniversary I was vice president, if things go as expected I would be twice distilled P.P at the 2025 N.E. Meet...so please get involved with this event.

♥ happy ♥
Valentine's
♥ day ♥

See you, t.t.f.n

John Kerns

(ta-ta-for-now)



Sunshine

Sue Champagne

Once again we are saddened with the passing of members of our Model A family.

Sympathy cards were sent to: the Callan Family for the passing of Pat Callan only two weeks after Art's passing, and to Dick Stitt and family for the passing of Mazie. Our condolences to both families.

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

Coming Events

(Tours Start at Wayland Town Center RT 20)

- Feb 7** Regular Club Meeting
Mar 7 Regular Club Meeting
Mar 26 Winter Blah's Flea Market

Special Tour Planning Meeting:

To Be Announced in late February or early March.

TL = Tour Leader

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
December, 2022

Income:

Club Items Sold	60.00
Donations	50.00
Holiday Party	1070.00
Member Dues	300.00
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>20.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 1500.00

Expense:

Dues (MARC/MAFCA)	20.00
Flea Market Ad	34.30
Holiday Party	1753.04
MAFCA Insurance	75.00
Misc. (hats, MAFFI JJ dona)	1298.95
<u>Oil Leak Printing</u>	<u>70.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 3251.29
Net Income	\$-1751.29

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

FEBRUARY 1988 35 YEARS AGO

It was announced that the new bright yellow bumper banners would be for sale in late March for \$4.00 each! What a bargain!

The Tour Schedule for 1988 was planned to be finalized at a special meeting on February 28th. Tour cards were scheduled to be passed out at our April meeting. Plans were made to have our Holiday Party at the Weston Golf Club

FEBRUARY 1998 25 YEARS AGO

We celebrated our 35th Anniversary during this year! Margie Mills reported that our membership stood at 169 active and 32 inactive members. Membership dues of \$10.00 for 1998 were due. Our 4th Annual Winter Blahs Swap Meet on March 29th would be held at Acton Ford.

FEBRUARY 2008 15 YEARS AGO

There were snowflakes and a nip in the air at our annual Holiday Party, but it was warm and festive inside the Marlboro Country Club and a good time was had by all. In the January "Oil Leak" was a request for someone to step forward and help coordinate the Club's Annual Flea Market.

National Organizations: (If you are not a member of these great organizations please consider joining 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 \$25/yr.

2023 Board of Directors

President - John Kerns k1ika@verizon.net

Vice President - Brad Johnson bradj54@comcast.net

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

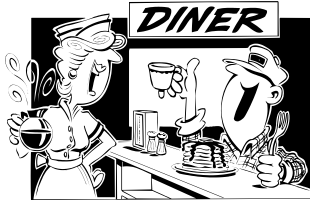
Vacant, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Harold Samuels, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

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 is back and growing. We meet

every Wednesday around 8 AM. Why not join us there is always room for you.



WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Nan reports no new members this month.

If you haven't already renewed your membership for 2023, please take the time to fill out the membership form and mail it and your \$20 dues to the club. Thanks You

2025 New England Meet Update

URGENT

Thanks go to Tom Zappala and Barbara McElhiney for joining forces to chair 2025 NE Meet. They are now looking for members to chair the various committees needed to put on this event. In the past our members have stepped up to help, so it is extremely important for members to do the same now. Look over the survey in the November Oil Leak for a list of areas needing help.

They have also started to check out potential host hotels for the meet and locations for grand tour. The work has started, please volunteer to help, we will need you to make this event a success.



Genius is 1% Inspiration and 99% Perspiration - Henry Ford

2023 Officer Installation



The club couldn't start the new year off without the official transfer of the Presidential Gavel from Doug Farrell to 2023 president John Kerns. Doug was not able to attend the meeting so retiring VP Wayne Champagne handled the formalities of presenting John with the Presidents gavel and announcing the rest of the officers: Vice President - Brad Johnson; Treasurer - Barbara McElhiney; and Secretary - Rick Gadbois. A round of applause was heard when John thanked Doug for his 3 years as our President, certainly above and beyond the call of duty.

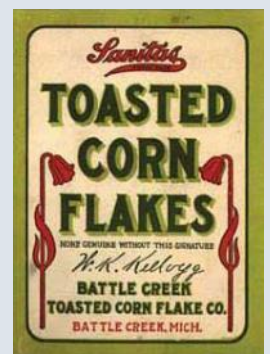
“Artie-Fact” by “A”nonymous

“How did you win that new car John?”

“Oh, I just saved the tops of Corn Flake boxes until I earned it. Good car to sleep in.”

“Sleep In?”

“Sure, the house is full of Corn Flakes.”



Restorer Magazines - Free



Bob Wetherbee, former member of Littleton, MA has a collection of Restorer magazines that he would like to pass along to anyone who would like them. The magazines cover the period of 1988 - 2022. These are complete sets. He also has a few single magazines in addition to the sets. You can reach at 978-486-3086 or WethElec@verizon.net.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club January 3, 2023

Location: Memorial Congregational Church Sudbury.

Outgoing President Doug Farrell was unable to attend tonight's meeting, therefore the evening opened with outgoing Vice President Wayne Champagne introducing the new club officers. Minuteman Club 2023 officers:

President – John Kerns

Vice President - Brad Johnson

Treasurer – Barbara McElhiney

Secretary – Rick Gadbois

President John Kerns then led the membership (28 members in attendance) in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The business meeting kicked off at 7:35 pm with John leading the membership in a moment of silence to remember for our recently departed friends: Barbara Tallone, Art Callan and Mazie Stitt.

Officers Reports:

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

Oil Leak – MSP.

No Secretary's report as there was not a monthly meeting in December.

VP Report: Brad read a thank you letter to the Minuteman Club from the MAFFI Museum for the donation provided in the name of John Jacobson from club members.

Membership:

Nan Linden is collecting dues for 2023.

No new members to report this month.

Touring:

Don Ross reported that the annual Tour Planning Meeting will be held sometime in early March, no date planned yet. Send all your good touring suggestions to Don.

National News:

Doug Linden reported that the MAFCA Awards Banquet in Golden Colorado was a terrific event, with 80 people in attendance. The folks out there had lots of events scheduled, they visited a Railroad Museums, a private car collection, went to the top of mountain on cold windy day but it was a great time! Next year

that event will be in Santa Maria Ca.

The MARC National Convention this year will be held in Hamilton, OH.

The MAFCA National tour this year will start in Auburn Indiana and meander up into Michigan to Gilmore Museum then wind its way back to Auburn where there will be a special event at the Auburn / Cord Duesenberg Museum.

New Business:

* John thanked Harold Samuels for providing tonight's Refreshments.

Volunteers for next month's meeting are the Zeoli's, Gary Hoyt and the Legge's.

* The Annual Winter Blahs Swap Meet will be held on Sunday March 26th at the Maynard Elks Club. Craig Martin has the planning well underway and will be looking for volunteers to assist.

* This year we will be celebrating the Minuteman's 60th anniversary. Tom Zappala will be planning an event, if you have any great ideas please let him know.

* Breaking News! - Tom Zappala and Barbara McElhiney will be chairing the New England Meet next time it is the Minuteman's turn to host in 2025. They will be looking for individuals to assume roles to assist in running the event.

Programs:

No programs scheduled for tonight.

Running Board Commentary:

Doug Linden suggested we try to get the WiFi password for the church to make it easier for us to download and show technical videos at our monthly meetings.

Happy New Year to all !!!!!

Meeting was officially adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Gadbois

Secretary

MAZIE STITT & PAT CALLAN

We are saddened by the loss of two more members of our Model A family

Mazie Stitt 1930–2022



Mazie was born in Ohio, grew up in W.VA and moved to Marietta, OH where she and Dick met, and married. They eventually came to live in Sudbury and became active members of our club. Mazie had many inter-

ests; music, reading, nature, gardening, cooking and travel. Working on her home gardens and flower beds were her most treasured activities. She loved her flowers and had a special appreciation of lupins. Mazie and Dick traveled extensively, especially in their Model A's. She enjoyed the club's Super Tours and the first one to Quebec City was special. The small group had so much fun, even with an unplanned major mishap. Mazie was one of those people who enjoyed many friends and the feeling was mutual. She will be missed by all who knew.

The above photo of Dick and Mazie was taken at their Ohio Model A Club Christmas Party in 2021. The picture to the right was taken at the Elm Bank car show.



Pat Callan 1938–2023



Pat, who past just two weeks after Art, was born and grew up in Fall River. Graduating from Durfee HS, she attended Boston University on a music scholarship. Her love of the arts influenced her life as she loved reading, writing poetry (she wrote and published two poetry

books) and music. Music was her passion, she sang, played the organ, was a choir director and taught music in Cambridge schools. She brought that love of music to the Model A hobby. At the 1996 Model A Ford Club of America's Convention in Toronto, Pat brought her years of teaching and singing to the event by conducting a seminar featuring the Music of the Model A era. The seminar, really a performance was a success and certainly entertained the audience who attended.

Pat and Art enjoyed touring with the Model A club and were actively involved the NE Meets the club has hosted. We will all miss Pat's humor and her infectious laugh.

The pictures were taken at the 1996 Toronto MAFCA Convention.



Out & About



On a recent brisk but sunny winter day Bob Mangan took his 1930 Town Sedan out for a ride around the area and ended up at the Wayside Inn. With the Model A parked in front of the Inn, it is sure to start conversations with those visiting. Sure enough, Bob was soon talking to some great kids about the Model A and giving them the chance to sit behind the wheel of the A.

What a perfect way to plant the seed of how cool Model A's are to the potential next generation of Model A enthusiasts. Good going Bob.

INVENTIONS DURING THE MODEL A ERA

1928



SCOTCH TAPE: We all have used scotch tape brand of tape since we were kids. But do you know the story behind this product? The 3M company introduced the Scotch Tape brand in 1928. The inspiration for this product came to engineer Richard Drew from watching auto engineers trying to achieve a smooth painting on two-color car (I wonder if he visited a Ford plant?) The original solution was masking tape that later evolved to a transparent product. The sales of the product took off during the depression as it provided a way to mend household items like books,

clothing, and curtains. Although it is a trademark and a brand name, Scotch tape is sometimes used as a generic term.



SLICED BREAD: Who hasn't heard the expression "The Greatest Thing Since Sliced Bread?" Well sliced bread wasn't readily available until 1928 when the first automatically sliced commercial loaves were first produced on July 6, 1928, in Chillicothe, Missouri, using the machine invented by Otto Rohwedder, an Iowa-born Missouri based jeweler. When it first appeared the bread was advertised as "the greatest forward step in the baking industry since bread was wrapped". From that tag line developed today's phrase "the greatest thing since sliced bread" which is a commonly used syntagm as a hyperbolic way of praising an invention or development. Which probably says how much was sliced bread loved when it first appeared.

Oh! to answer your question, the first commercial baking company to sell sliced bread was.... Wonder Bread in 1930. The A&P ad was from 1932.

Womens Winter Boots

In some parts of the country, the snow is flying and the trusty galoshes may not be enough to protect your feet from the winter weather. Thankfully, in the Model A era, there were multiple, fashionable, boot styles from which to choose, some of which are shown here.

High Cut Boot

This sporty 15-inch high cut boot features a handy side pocket. The soles are genuine Goodyear Welt* leather. The heel is topped with rubber. The available colors are brown and black, in sizes 2 ½ to 8 in a wide width. The sale price is \$4.79.

*National Bellas Hess,
Winter, 1931-32*



*The Goodyear Welt is a method of stitching the upper and sole of the shoe together, resulting in the unique positioning of the two seams in the shoe bottom. A hidden seam holds together the welt, the upper, the lining and the insole of the shoe. It is stitched using a Goodyear Welt Machine.

Thanks to Utah Valley Model A Club newsletter



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Jim's Tech Tip

by Jim Cannon

Starter Ground

I've had several people ask me why their starter seems to crank the engine over rather slowly. For the most part, this is because that's what our starters do, they did not spin as fast as on a modern car. So there is nothing wrong.

However, I will mention that you need to make sure that the starter has a really good ground when you mount it to the flywheel housing. Fresh paint on the engine combined with fresh paint on a newly rebuilt starter can result in you not having a very good ground connection between starter and engine. Over time you can also get a buildup of rust on the

mounting surfaces, or a film of oil and dirt accumulation that interferes with the ground.

So if you think your starter is cranking a bit slowly, it would not hurt to pull it off, clean up the mounting surfaces with a degreaser followed by some fine sandpaper, and reinstall it. See if that gets it turning at a better speed again.

Have a Model A Day!

Jim

Thanks to MAFCA newsletter



The new year is near!
Time to renew your
MEMBERSHIP

Dues are Due

2023



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 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

email _____ Telephone ____ - ____ - ____

No Changes _____

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 _____

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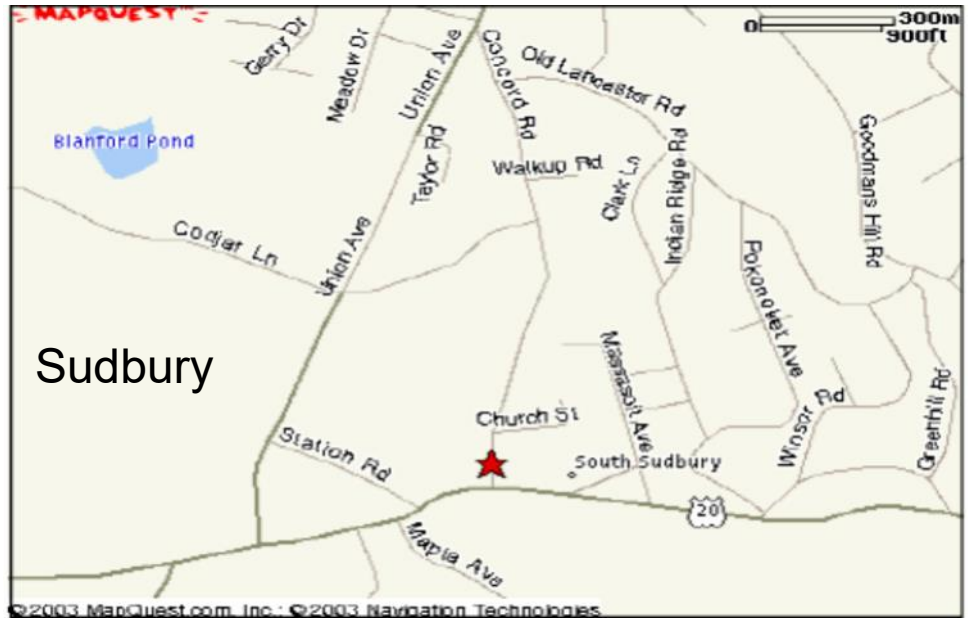
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Ed Croci shared a unique find he made at a NH antique store which is this interesting key fob for the 1931 Model A Ford. I sure have never seen this before and think if you could identify the trademarks on the back you could find out detailed information on who made it and when.

February

We hope to see you at the meeting. There will be an update on the activities to date on the 2025 NE Meet. A tour planning meeting will also be discussed and finally Craig Martin will be signing up volunteers for our annual March Winter Blahs Flea Market. And don't forget the Wednesday breakfast gathering.



Our Monthly meetings are held 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



Please
Mail to:

February 2023

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