

The il Leak

February 2021 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 58 Issue 2

No Club Events Until Further Notice

The President Speaks:

Well Hello Club Members hope all of you are well and keeping busy. So far, it's been a good winter with not much snow. I took out my Model A for a drive yesterday felt good to run around town. Returning home I backed into garage put the A up on jack stands, put stable in the gas and covered it for the rest of the year.



So, as the months go by, I have been busy making a bucket list that keeps getting BIGGER. This darn virus better end soon or I will never get the items on my list done.

It is FUN to dream of future outings and places to go; I think I have crossed the country 2 or 3 times lots of fun traveling the USA.

I still hold out hope for the MAFCA National Tour June 20to25 in North Conway, NH you should too. It is in our own backyard and 5 months away. With the vaccine rollout very much slower than Washington promised there is still time that things will get better and the show will go on, keep your fingers crossed. Find good things everyday, talk on the phone about good times in the past and even better the great times in the future.

*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

KEEP SMILING EVERY DAY

Doug Farrell



Sunshine

Sue Champagne
(sdchampagne1931@gmail.com)

A sympathy card was sent to Joe Barrera for the passing of his wife Gail. Our condolences to Joe and his family.

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

Coming Events

(Tours Start at Wayland Town Center RT 20)

No Winter Blah's Flea Market

(see page 4)

No Other Events scheduled.

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
December 2020

Income:

Member Dues	\$ 240.00
Total Income	\$ 240.00

Expense:

Oil Leak Printing	70.00
Total Expense	\$ 70.00
Net Income	\$ 170.00



MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Art Callan

FEBRUARY 1986 35 YEARS AGO

Meeting night with light crowd but heavy snow.
"First" suggestion for C B Radios during tours.
Agreement to co-host MAFCA NATIONAL MEET with Conn. Club.
Treasurer reports a balance of \$960-.

FEBRUARY 1996 25 YEARS AGO

Oil Leak combined with January.
Big plans for #2 Winter Blahs Swap Meet. Marlies Plaggenborg reports 23 vendor spots filled, teams for coffee, admissions, parking and vendor assistance.

FEBRUARY 2006 15 YEARS AGO

Pres Tom Zappala, VP Tom Geagan, Secy Janice Wright, Treas Gene Tallone, and Editor Doug Linden fill officer ranks.
Winter Blahs Swap Meet set for Maynard Elks.
Tour: Miniature Model Engine Show in Waltham.

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

After his car was serviced, he went to the desk to pay the bill and get his keys. He got the bill OK but was told his keys were locked inside the car and a mechanic is working on opening the drivers-side door. From the passenger side, he watched the mechanic for a while, then tried the door---it was unlocked! Hey, it's open he said. The mechanic nodded and said, I know, I already did that side.

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 (model-a-ford.org)
Membership Dues \$45/year



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

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ODTAA

One **D**arn **T**hing **A**fter **A**nother! Hard to believe, but I think I'm back on the road finally! That is after replacing two frames. Don't think I'll do that again.

Of course, that means finding out all the little things that still need attending to. Got to the gym Monday morning in a light rain. The electric W/S wiper (after market) would not shut off. Had to drive back home to disconnect. The horn not really loud enough, passenger door rattling, rear window seal still leaks a little, clutch pedal too high, bunch of what I hope are a few minor problems. But it is finally on the road.

I've passed on earlier some of the engine issues that plagued me. Now driving an engine with insert bearings, counter-balanced crank, higher compression head, touring cam shaft, lightened flywheel, and a lightened wallet. But WELL worth it! It pulls that 10 degree hill in Franklin now, no sweat in high gear. The lightened flywheel neat on pickup. Thank you Gary Poulin for that engine rebuild. Still don't know exactly what I'm feeling with this new engine. It sounds different, vibrates different, not sure yet of best spark position. Course my hearing is in need of a rebuild but too late for that.

Managed to squeeze in one of those small square water heaters just above the brake pedal. It makes more fan blade noise than the engine! With regard to that, the radiator is one of the new larger capacity ones. I run a 180 thermostat and on 20 degree mornings, it doesn't really warm up. Remember the J C Whitney catalogs that carried adjustable canvas radiator covers? Am I dating myself?

I'm going to drop a couple of arm exercises. Since I drive every day now, the effort to manage parking lot steering with radial tires is something else. But they are really great on maintaining a straight path down even these roads in Franklin (NH). Another well worth it expense for an every day driver. And my Mitchell O/D ! Really great. Funny thing, I still cruise at 55 even in overdrive. Everything feels and sounds just right. Course NH could do better on getting the slope right on some of the highway curves. I'm having personal balance problems enough without thinking I'm going to topple over in my A.

"Uncle Don" Freniere

Secretary's Report

No January 5 , 2021 Installation Dinner

Nothing to Report - Stay well

Major Cancellations

MARCOM Flea Market: The annual March (7th) flea market held at Holmes Transportation in Norfolk has unfortunately been canceled due to continuing pandemic restriction.

Minuteman Winter Blahs: Unfortunately our flea market typically held at the end of March has also been canceled due to restriction on large gathering due to the lingering Covid virus.

Both of these events will be back . . . See you in 2022

Winter Driving



Winter season in the Northeast means most of our Model A's are tucked away in the garage until spring. So far this winter we have been fortunate to have had very little snow and salt used on the roads, consequently a few of us have been able to do a little touring. Nan & I took a ride in our Model A on New Year's Day which included a drive by the Wayside Inn. I recently took my Model A to visit a friend who is working on his Model A Coupe. I also know that Bob & Cindy Mangan have been out and about in their Model A. So don't be hesitant on taking your A out in the cold and enjoy a winter drive. If you do go for a ride please let me know and if you take a picture

send it along. You don't need a heater, but it sure does help. (See page 7)



Nice, but hope we don't need one this winter.



V P Needed

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



**The new year near!
Time to renew your
MEMBERSHIP
Dues is Due
2021**



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. **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

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Sudbury, MA 01776

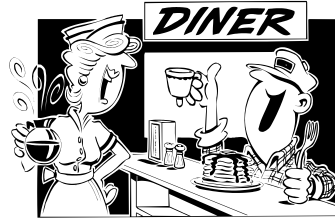


It looks like this poor Model A sat a little too long in this field. Might be just a little difficult to move it now.



↑ *Weekly Breakfast Group* ↑

Doing anything on Wednesday morning? No. Well, you are invited to re-join the breakfast group at the Big Apple, 890 Boston Post Road East (RT 20) in Marlborough, MA. The food is



good and there is plenty of Model A talk. New time 8:00AM, Masks Required (see ad page 11)

National Happenings: MAFCA, MARC and MAFFI 2021 has some very promising events happening at the national Level.



Model A Ford Club of America

(MAFCA): MAF CA will be conducting its National Tour right here in New Hampshire this year. These tours provide members to get out and enjoy the beautiful scenery all while driving your Model A. The New Hampshire Lakes Region Model A Club is hosting this event in North Conway, NH and will be centered at the North Conway Grand Hotel. The hosts have planned many tours showing off the amazing scenery on the White Mountain National Forest. More information is available on the tour website: www.2021mafcanationaltour.com



Model A Restorers Club (MARC): MARC starts off their national activities early in 2021 with their annual Membership Meeting in **April (9-11)** in Bay City, MI. This meeting features local tour, technical seminars and awards.



The event is still on, however the continuation of the Covid may change this status. Next on the agenda will be their annual National Convention in Oshkosh, WI from **June (7-11)**. This event was postponed from 2020 due to the pandemic and all event are carried over to this year. More information can be found on the MARC website: Model A Restores Club

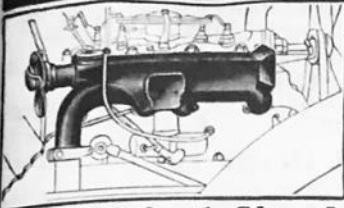
Model A Ford Foundation (MAFFI): The annual Model A Day festivities will be held on the third Saturday in September (9/18). The museum put on two days of activities that includes a great Model A only flea market and ceremonies on Saturday. If you have never visited the museum complex, this is the best time to do so. For more information visit: www.maffi.org

CAR HEATER BARGAINS

... HEADQUARTERS FOR THE NATION
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ORDERS of \$2.00 OR MORE
SEE PAGE 2

HEATERS for the NEW "A" FORD



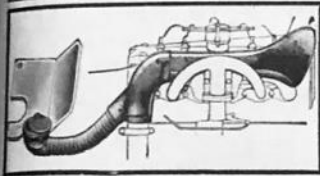
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Exhaust Cast
in One Piece**

\$3⁴⁸ Postpaid
Complete With
All Fittings and
Parts for
Attaching

Very Efficient, Simple

This economical and highly efficient heater is cast as a unit with an exhaust manifold which attaches directly to the engine block. It exactly replaces the exhaust manifold on Ford "A" cars and "AA" trucks, and there is nothing about this heater to rattle or become loose. Clean, fresh air is drawn through the radiator into the heating chamber, in which are vertical fins of wide area for rapid diffusion of heat. The air is forced in a steady, warm stream through a register into your car. Register has a deflector to direct the air as wanted, and a cutoff to shut off the heat. Has top vent which keeps engine cooler in summer weather.

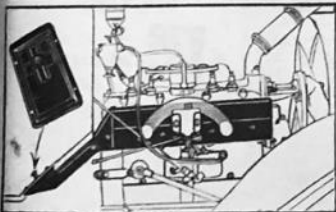
28F9942 1/4—Complete with all fittings, Postpaid. **\$3.48**



**Cast Aluminum
Forced Draft Heater**

Easy installation! All you need is a screwdriver—no bolts to loosen or holes to drill. This heater fits around the exhaust manifold. Wide mouth insures good flow of warm air past exhaust pipe and into flexible metal tube to floor of front compartment of car. New plate furnished with round cutout makes it unnecessary to cut any holes in floorboard or dash. Slide over opening permits as much heat as desired. Light weight—only 5 1/2 lbs. Full instructions furnished.

\$2⁹⁵ Post Paid
Complete 28F9905 1/4—Complete, Postpaid. **\$2.95**



**Famous Direct
Draft Heater**

Nationally known for its all-around efficiency and convenience. It provides an abundance of clean, warm air and adds to winter driving pleasure. All parts are rigid, and construction is very durable. Air which comes through radiator enters mouth of heater, which encloses exhaust manifold, and warmed air enters through special floor register with foot-regulated openings. Light in weight, beautiful black glossy finish. Complete instructions furnished.

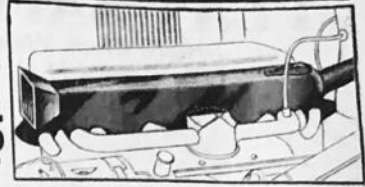
\$1³⁹ Shipping weight, 5 pounds.
28F9906 1/4—Complete, for "A" Fords. **\$1.39**

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Quick heat! That's what this heater brings to your Chevrolet Six! One of the simplest, most efficient heaters designed. It attaches directly to the motor block, behind the exhaust manifold thus receiving heat directly from the motor before it enters the exhaust pipe. Clean, fresh air is drawn in through radiator to the heating chamber, which is lined with wide-area vertical fins, and passes in a warm, steady stream to car through register—which has deflector and shut-off. Top vent on heater keeps engine cooler in summer. Full instructions and all necessary bolts and gaskets furnished.

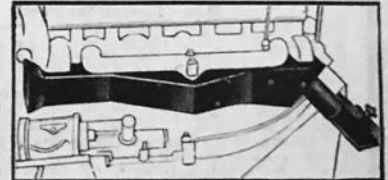
28F9929 1/4—Complete heater, Postpaid. **\$4.75**

**Forced Draft Heater
For Chevrolet
or Pontiac**

Owners of Chevrolet six and Pontiac cars find this sheet metal heater meets all requirements of efficiency, comfort and ease of installation. Install around exhaust manifold. Air coming from radiator enters at wide end, is heated by exhaust manifold, and enters car through special floor register, with adjustable opening. A splendid value. Instructions furnished.

28F9907 1/4—For 6-cyl. Chevrolets. Postpaid. **\$2.45**

28F9908 1/4—For Pontiac. Not illustrated. Postpaid. **\$3.15**



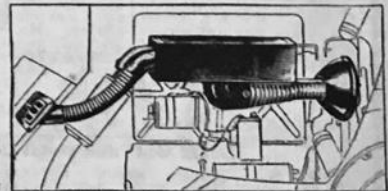
\$2⁴⁵
And
Up

**Forced Draft Heater
For 4-Cylinder
Chevrolets**

This heater will enable you to enjoy complete driving comfort on the coldest days. Heater and manifold are cast in one piece, which assures clean, pure warm air under any conditions. Large mouth at front end gives forced draft. Entire construction is mechanically and scientifically correct. Special floor register has adjustable openings, operated by foot. Full instructions for every installation furnished. Postpaid.

28F9994 1/4—For Chevrolet 4-cyl. 1928. **\$3.85**

28F9981 1/4—For Chevrolet 4-cyl. 1923-27. Not illustrated. **\$3.59**



\$3⁵⁹
And
Up
Postpaid

SPECIAL LOW PRICED HEATERS FOR ALL CARS

I know most of us don't drive our Model A's in the winter but back in the day the Model A was a main source of transportation so winter travel was necessary. Since the Model A didn't have a heater, like most cars back then, many companies offered accessory heaters for cars. The above ad is from the 1930 Fall Winter Sears catalog which shows just a few of their offerings. These used the exhaust manifold for the heat source (others used hot water or gas to provided heat) and directed the hot air (relative term) into the passenger compartment. The clamp on heaters did work, but others used more substantially modified exhaust manifolds for more heat. The Autolite, Otwell, Hadees, and Director are just to name

a few of the heaters available. Most sent the heat through a hole in the firewall, other heaters directed the heat into the passenger compartment through the floor boards instead. All of these heaters provided enough heat to keep the passengers warm but didn't help defrosting the windshield. I remember talking to guys who drove Model A's back in the 40's and 50's and they claimed they used to drip wax from a candle and stick it to the dash rail and this little flame would help keep the windshield clear. Over the years Hot Water heaters were adapted for use in the Model and they worked very well, but the old candle was still needed for the windshield.

See page 8 for pictures of some of the Model A heaters.

Model A Heaters



Auto-Lite



Otwell



Director



Photos from George Washington Chapter tech site.

MAFFI Liaison Letter

January 2021

Happy New Year from the Model A Ford Foundation! We are looking forward, as many of you are also, to a better and more active year. Hopefully you have been able to get in your A's and do some driving before the weather makes it impossible. Many clubs have had some "No Contact Tours" which have been nice. We live in a beautiful world and there is no better way to see it than from a Model A!

Last year the Museum had to say goodbye to a beautifully restored Woody belonging to Tim Wiggins that had been on loan to the Museum for several years. As luck would have it, a 1931 Woody has just been donated to the museum by Rob Gibby from Pennsylvania. Rob has owned this car since 1963 while he was in school. We hope to have it safely installed in the Museum by February.



Did you know that you can get a tour of the museum right from the comfort of your own home? Go to our website: www.maffi.org and click on the link "Tours". There is a tour that was filmed in September, led by MAFFI President, John Begg and others. It was focusing on the First Responders Display but also gives you an idea of what's inside. You truly have to see it in person to appreciate all that is there. You could spend an entire day if you looked at every exhibit and read everything. We hope to have other short videos coming soon so check back often.

Thank you for your support of the Model A Ford Foundation through your membership and your donations.

Jim's Tech Tip by Jim Cannon

Ford originally used a fine mesh brass screen at the top of the glass fuel strainer bowl that's mounted to the Model A firewall. The bowl gives a place for water to settle into (water is heavier than gasoline) and a place for dirt and rust particles to collect.

The screen also keeps these particles from traveling down to the carburetor (where you have another screen!). With all these screens, I think Ford knew that gasoline supplies at the time were prone to contamination (more than today).



Many people have started to install a small pleated paper filter element in the glass bowl instead of the brass screen.

I'm not so sure it's needed; I think the brass screen is enough. The Model A has no fuel pump, it relies only on gravity feed, and I'm concerned about adding another restriction to the fuel flow.

But IF you use one of these paper filters, you need to know that the rust, dirt, etc. is trapped **INSIDE** the paper element, not on the outside of it like you'd think. Therefore, you can be collecting a lot of junk inside the filter, plugging up the filter element on the inside, and not even know it. One day, you lose all your power and the engine really acts like it is starving for fuel. You thought you would see the rust and dirt collect on the outside of the filter... but you don't. Surprise! (I hate surprises!)

So, if you are going to use these pleated paper filters, get into the habit of replacing them regularly, maybe once a year, since you can't see how dirty they are inside. And carry a spare filter and gasket with you in the car. It's a pretty easy thing to swap out in a parking lot. Kind of messy, but it can be done without tools. Use some disposable gloves and you won't smell like gas for the rest of the day.

That's all for now. Keep driving, help each other out, and Have a Model A Day! Jim



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From MAFCA monthly newsletter

Class "A" Ads



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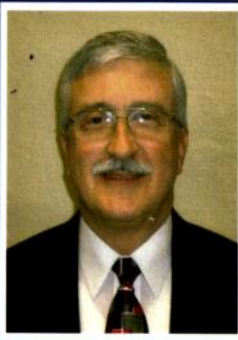
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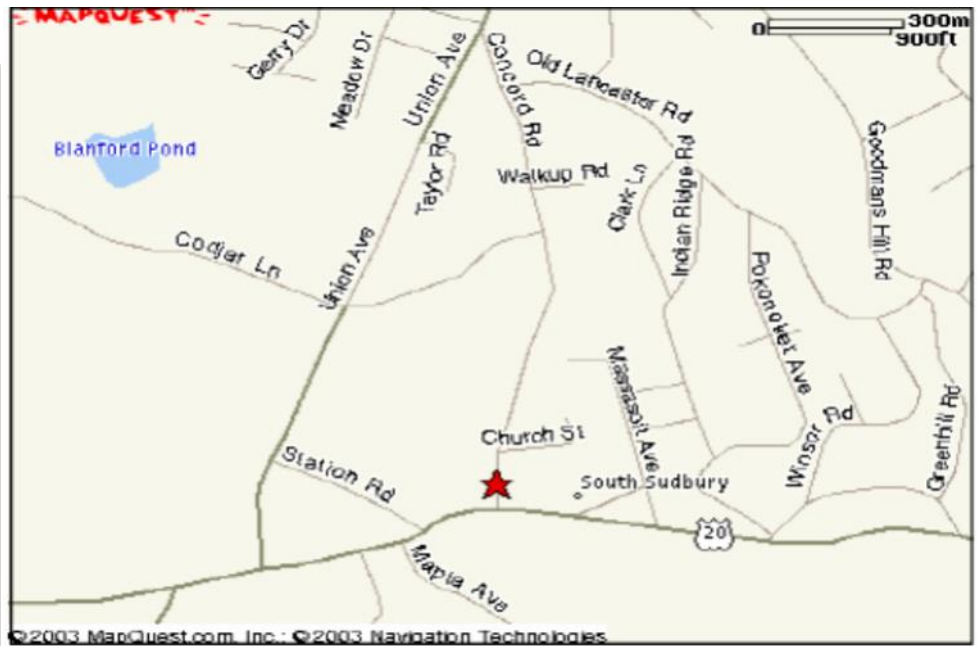
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Looking Forward

It's February and lets hope that we see some good results of the vaccine and can put the pandemic behind us. 2020 was a dismal year for Model A activities with the club only getting out a few times. It will be a few more months before we will be able to gather in a groups, so keep working on those winter Model A projects. Before you know it we will be back on the road enjoying a few tours with the club.



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.

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



February 2021

Please
Mail to:

Be sure to visit www.oilleak.org