

# The il Leak

July 2017

Volume 54 Issue 7

## *The President Speaks:*

My Fellow Minutemen,

Summer greetings! It has been great to see the sun shining for a few days now, a herald of good days to follow. I want to take this opportunity to wish each of you a safe and enjoyable summer, and whether on an ice cream run or a week-long trek to Gettysburg, I wish you easy and trouble-free miles in your Model As.



I want to thank John and Shirley Jacobson for their hospitality several weeks ago. Our summer meetings have been a highlight of the summer, and I look forward to some more tire-kicking on tours and at the Legge's home in August. And while we don't have an official meeting spot for our 4th of July meeting, for anyone who is around and not engaged in a family cookout, I plan to tour from The Grange over to The Old North Bridge in Concord for a picnic at 4:00 pm. I plan to leave The Grange around 3:30 pm, and If you'd like to come, you can meet me there or at The Old North Bridge. Bring your own picnic supper, and I suspect that we'll find some spot for ice cream on the return trip.

I wish all a happy 4th of July, and I look forward to seeing you on the road soon.

**Editors Note:** *There is NO official July meeting. Instead, as Tom has mentioned, there will be a Picnic Supper for members at The Old North Bridge in Concord. This will be a great way for members to gather to celebrate the holiday.*

*Tom Zappala*



# Sunshine

Grace Doyle  
(Gdoyle95@aol.com)

I'm Happy to report no one was in need of a little cheering up this past month.

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

## Coming Events

(Tours Start at Sudbury Grange unless noted)

- June 29:** 7:00 PM Ice Cream TL Tom Zappala
- July 4:** Noon Sudbury Parade Chiswick Park\*
- July 6:** 7:00 PM Ice Cream TL The Champagnes
- July 8:** 11:00 AM lunch Mendon Diner TL Don Ross
- July 12:** 6:30 PM Lester's BBQ TL Samuels
- July 20:** 6:30 PM Welly's Dinner TL Legges
- July 26:** 6:30 PM Food& Ice Cream TL Don Ross

TL= Tour Leader

\* On your own, go directly to location.

## MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Art Callan

### July 1982 35 years ago

Meeting at Harwoods in Hudson with cold drinks and mosquito swatters.

Pizza tour to Union House.

11th Annual Picnic with 24 A's, on the hottest day of the year.

### July 1992 25 years ago

Meeting at Bunce's garage in Stow.

Mmen back from Mafca & Marc national meets in Dallas and Buffalo with great stories. They last saw Frank & Yvette Faubert off to New Orleans and Warwick, SOLO.

Plans for Lake Winnepesaukee weekender at Bob Kilburn's.

Tour to Fruitlands in Harvard-Dave and Penny Mailly, Leaders.

### July 2002 15 years ago

Shelly Boucher is our new editor and web master on Fordbarn.

Barbara O'Brien reports a great day for the Wellesley City parade. Nice check for \$210- for the club.

Club participates in the Sudbury July 4th parade. Nice check, too.

## ARTIE-FACTS

I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid, but he says he can stop at any time!



## Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report  
May 1, thru June 6, 2017

### Income

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Advertising     | 50.00    |
| Club Items Sold | 10.00    |
| Coffee Can      | 30.00    |
| Member Dues     | 100.00   |
| Raffle (Club)   | 13.00    |
| Total Income    | \$203.00 |

### Expense

|                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| Coffee Supplies    | 12.29      |
| Office Supplies    | 442.48     |
| Oil Leak Printing  | 40.00      |
| Total Expense      | \$494.77   |
| Net Income/Expense | - \$291.77 |

**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 \$40/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

## **2017 Board of Directors**

**President** - Tom Zappala 781- 424-3364 t.zappala@comcast.net

**Vice President** - Andy Adams 781-237-1575 andrewtim.adams@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 - Pro Tem** - Doug Linden douglinden@aol.com

### **Steering Committee**

Jo Johnson, John Jacobson, Clyde Kelton, Doug Linden

**Tour Directors:** Mike Doyle 781-899-8706 / Dick O'Brien 781-223-0259

**Sunshine:** Grace Doyle 781-899-8706 Gdoyle95@aol.com

## **Breakfast Group**

The Wednesday morning breakfast group has had to regroup. What? Well, we have been meeting at the Big Apple Deli in Marlborough for about 10 years and this May the location the B/A Deli had been in for years was sold and scheduled for demolition to make way for a new storage facility. Oh no, what were we going to do? Not to worry, the Deli owners found a new location less than a mile away and we officially moved to the new location June 14. There are a few glitches to work out in the new facility but the staff went above and beyond welcome us back. As you can see from the picture we even had Gene Tallone (arrow) come up all the way from Virginia to celebrate the move. If you would like to join us for breakfast the Big Apple Deli can be found at 890 Boston Post Rd East.



## **TOUR REPORT**

June 7th was a beautiful day for an Ice Cream tour and Dick O'Brien lead an intrepid group to Park Street Creamery in Natick. We were joined there by the Mike & Grace Doyle and Dick Graham & Bob Simonelli. Although Dick figured he would drive in style by showing up in his fantastic 1929 Cadillac. It was a show stopper Dick. The Ice Cream was great and the people even better.

A good time was had by all.



## Secretary's Report

### Minuteman Model 'A' Ford Club June 6, 2017 Meeting Minutes

#### John & Shirley Jacobson's Home Wayland, MA

The meeting was held at the Jacobson home in Wayland and was opened at 7:22 PM by vice president Andy Adams in the absence of President Tom. There were a little over thirty in attendance. Acting president Adams thanked the Jacobson's for hosting the meeting and asked if there were any visitors. There were two: Dave White and Dave Robbins (is a MM Member), Model A'ers from Maine.

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

Committee reports were begun with the reporting on membership by Nan Linden who reported that a new member was Jack Tweed from Marshfield who had a 1930 AA dump truck.

Doug Linden, acting newsletter editor, reported on correspondence concerning the Medfield Car show, the MAFCA National meet and the Modesto Model A club. He reported on correspondence from the Modesto Model A Club that has challenged each club to hold a 50/50 raffle and send the proceeds to MAFFI for future Museum expansion needs.

Fliers for the Maynard Show on Sunday were presented.

Dick O'Brien reported on future tours, announcing that June 7 would be an ice cream tour led by Andy Adams, June 14 would be a Bedford Farms Tour headed by Harold Samuels, the 17th at 11:45 AM from the Grange would be a "Weird Lunch" tour led by John Jacobson, June 22 would be a dinner tour to the Minuteman Air Field, Stow led by John Erb; the 23rd would be a Barrett-Jackson Auction at Mohican Sun, June 29th Tom Zappala would be the leader and July 4th would be the Sudbury Parade.

President Tom sent a note suggesting that as July 4th is our usual meeting date we might meet after the parade at 3:00 PM at the grange to tour to Concord's Old North Bridge for a picnic. Details of this possibility would appear in the Oil Leak.

August 8th would be the August's meeting on the second Tuesday at the Legge's home.

Doug Linden reported that there was a nice turn out of cars at the Wellesley College Parade as there were 6 Model A's and several Model T's.

Andy Adams mentioned that we received three letters of appreciation for our contributions to the Model A Youth Restoration award, MAFFI and the Model A. Youth Scholarship Fund.

Dave White, our guest from Maine is on the MAFCA board of directors and spoke on National tours and encouraged us to promote National events east of the Mississippi and asked for questions or concerns to be brought to the national organization. He reported that after several years the national dues were going to increase.

The meeting ended at 7:53 and we entered the Jacobson home for ice cream sundaes.

(Editors Note: The Ice cream Sundaes were so good!)



Respectfully Submitted,

John Erb

(for vacationing Rick Gadbois)



## Welcome New Members

Nan reports no new members so far this month. If you happen to see a Model A while "out & about" please let them know about the Minuteman Model A Club. Membership info and form is online at [www.oilleak.org](http://www.oilleak.org)

WELCOME



## Model A For Sale

### 1929 Tudor

Burgundy W/Black Fenders, Mitchell OD, Leakless WP, Turn Signals, Alternator with Halogen Headlights, CB, Stone Guard, Luggage Rack, Tools, and more, **\$13,500** Call Art 617 332 3363



## 2017 NEW ENGLAND MEET North Conway, NH

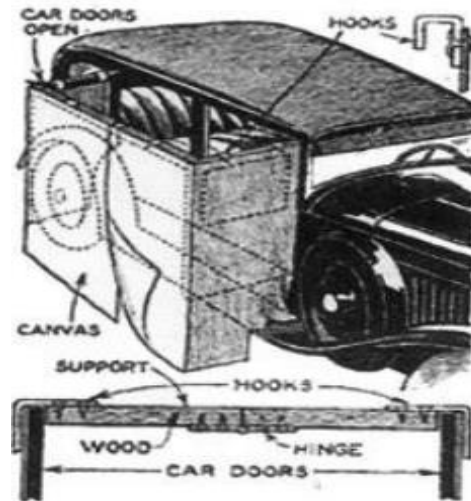
Information for the 2017 New England Meet can be found here:

[www.2017nemodelameet.com/](http://www.2017nemodelameet.com/)

You will find event information and the registration form. The North Conway area is one of the major attractions in NH and offers so much to see. This will be a fun weekend, so make plans to attend.



## For the Old Swimming Hole



**M**ANY times the motorist and friends could enjoy a Saturday afternoon or Sunday swim if dressing facilities were more convenient.

A three sided canvas closure is made to be supported by the closed car doors. The canvas extends from the tops of the doors to the ground. A folding wooden support for the outside edge is made to hold the doors open. Hooks on the canvas provide for hanging the canvas. Stowage is simple as the canvas folds and may be carried under a seat, along with the folded prop. The car is kept clean and dry when this is used.

*Science and Invention*  
May, 1930

## Model A's

## Requested for Wedding

Rich & Linda Batstone's daughter, Amanda, is getting married on **August 12th**. Many of us remember her first tour in the Model A as an infant. My how time flies. Rich is looking for 6 or 7 Sedans for the wedding party, from the church in Northborough to the reception at Charter Oaks CC in Hudson. The trip to the reception would start around 3:45. After pictures, which will certainly feature a few with the Model A's, Rich & Linda will offer the drivers a dinner together at a nearby restaurant.

Please contact Rich or Linda at 978-875-3387 if you would like to help make their day even more special.



## Out & About TOUR REPORTS

### May 21, Wellesley Veterans Parade

Sunday May 21st was a perfect ten for the Wellesley Veterans Parade. Nice breeze, not too hot and it started right one time ! We had Model A's from group leader Dick O'Brien; Harold Legge; Rick Gadbois; Vin and Nicki DelMastro; Andy, Marilyn, & Riley Adams; Don & Sue Ross. Jim and Ronnie Bodkin came in their Model T. Mike Miller and friend wowed the crowd in his BMW Isetta. Ralph Parks & Yvonne came with their white Comet convertible. There was a nice crowd of well wishers and no car issues.

See you there next year.



### June 4, Wellesley College Alumni Parade

For many years the club has supported the college by providing transportation for members of their eldest class reunion members. This year the weather was beautiful for the reunion parade and we were pleased to provide special transportation to members of the class of 1942. These ladies were 96 years young and were sharp as tacks and only had little problems getting in the Model A's and T's. In addition to the class of '42 were members of the class of 1937 AND 1932. Yes, 1932! She was over 100 years young. Our passengers loved the special ride and waved continuously to the younger reunion members lining the parade route. We passed by a live band providing great era music and ended by dropping our guests off at the banquet hall for a lunch.

Model A's on hand were provided by Doug Linden, Don Ross, John Pierce, Tom Zappala, and Andy Adams. In addition the Central Mass Model T's were also on hand to give rides. It was nice to be part of this special day.





# AUTOMOBILE FLOWER VASES

By Rich Bowes

My wife Suzi often suggests a topic for an article for the newsletter. This month, she suggested I write something about the flower vases that are found in many Model "A" closed cars. So here goes.

Transport yourself back to the time when our "A's" were new... "Imagine yourself after a long day outside; you are driving down the road on a hot summer day with temperatures in the upper 90s. Now imagine there is no air conditioning in the car; immediately a pungent odor of battery acid and fuel hits you and mingles with the stench of the other passengers' sweat. There were no pine-scented cardboard trees to dangle from the mirror during this time, and many car owners desperately wanted a reprieve from the foul smell. The auto vase, a term coined by auto magnate Henry Ford, was the solution to the problem. As early as 1895, small vases, which held one or two flowers that emitted a sweet fragrance, became the first automobile air-fresheners. The auto vase is comprised of a small bud vase with a bracket that allowed it to be mounted inside the car either on the dashboard or by a passenger side window. Vases came in many designs and colors, in a variety of price ranges. They not only improved the smell but also added a touch of elegance to the car's interior." (1)

I don't think this was quite what Suzi envisioned for this article. She probably thought it was going to be all about beauty, style, and class, but as Paul Harvey used to say "And now you know the REST of the story."

These, and other examples of auto vases can be found at:

<http://www.classicdreamcars.com/CAR%20VASES.html>

(1) <https://smithsoniangardens.wordpress.com/2014/06/24/autovases-an-accessory-born-from-necessity/>



SMELL  
THE  
ROSES



## Jim's technical tip for May

by Jim Cannon, MAFCA Technical Director

### "Sealing threads to Stop the Drip"

Over the years I have discovered that a very light application of a non-hardening sealer to the threads of things like the fuel shut-off valve, the little plug on the base of the carburetor, the fuel line going into the carburetor and the fuel filter (apply to the ferrule, not the threads), and the oil drain plug can stop the annoying drips that seem to come off of each of them. Any time you have a bolt going into a part of the engine where oil or water is on the other side, put a little non-hardening sealer on the threads. Even places with a gasket will benefit from a light coating of sealant on the gasket surfaces.

For years I have used "Permatex Form-a-gasket #2 (non-hardening sealer)" for this purpose. This stuff is not a silicon "gasket in a tube". It is non-hardening, it stays pliable, so it comes apart at a later time without messing everything up. Don't use their #1 sealant; it dries up like super glue."

## TOUR REPORT

Eleven intrepid Minutemen met at the Grange Hall Saturday morning, June 17th.

Please understand that this was billed as a "Weird Cruise", not because JJ and Shirley Jacobson were the leaders, but because our destination was a truly unique eatery approximately 3 miles from the start. (artfully stretched out a bit to allow for scenic views of the Sudbury River).

Ed Wlodyka, Don and Susan Ross, Vin and Nicky Delmastro, Harold and Sally Legge, Andy and Marilyn Adams, John and Shirley Jacobson dodged a few sprinkles as we made our way to the Chateau, a little known place, on the edge of Dudley Pond in Wayland.

A speakeasy in the '30's, and a favorite fishing spot for Red Sox player Ted Williams, this little restaurant has changed little over time. The place is tacky, full of memorabilia, and located in the middle of a quiet neighborhood.

Truly WEIRD, --But great food at reasonable prices!

Respectfully submitted, JJ and Shirley

## TOUR REPORT

### Bedford Farms Ice Cream Tour Wednesday June 14

We had a day of perfect weather for our tour to Bedford Farms led by Harold and Robyn Samuels. Joining Harold and new member Mike Hale at the Grange were Ed Wlodyka, Rick Gadbois, Doug and Nan Linden, Don and Susan Ross, Andy and Marilyn Adams, and Wayne and Sue Champagne.

Joining Robyn going directly to Bedford Farms were Bruce Marshal and Trish Robeson, Pat Martone, Barbara and "Mac" McElhiney with 2 guests, and Woody and Pauline Palmer.

On the way from the Grange, Don Ross got the answer to the funny noise he was hearing earlier when the fan belt blew accompanied by a puff of smoke. Fortunately Andy Adams, had a spare fan belt, and Wayne Champagne was there to give expert mechanical assistance. After a few minutes, we were on our way again, and continued the tour without incident to meet the rest of the group at Bedford Farms.

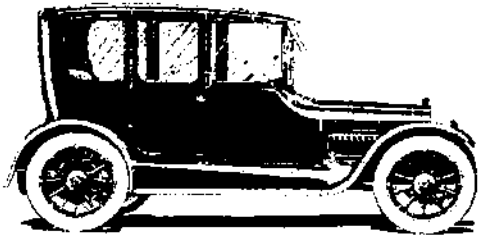
We all enjoyed the great ice cream and friendly conversation until it was time to leave for the trip home, but the adventure was not yet over. Woody was unable to get any response from his trusty model A when he tried to start it. A group of intrepid Minutemen quickly gathered around to offer assistance. After exchanging suggestions Bruce brought out his tools and after checks of the fuse, and readings with a volt meter, the consensus was that likely trouble spot was at the battery terminals. Sure enough, a couple of sharp raps at the terminals got the juice flowing again.

As darkness was falling, we all headed home after another evening of fun and adventure.





# CLASSIC CAR SHOW



Third Annual Show

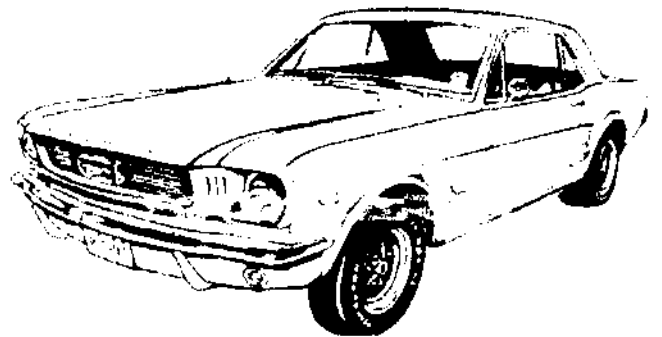
## Saturday, July 15

Rain date is Saturday, July 22

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*Editor's Note: If you have the time this would be a nice event to  
show off your car and help Gary promote the Natick Senior Center.*

# Class A Ads



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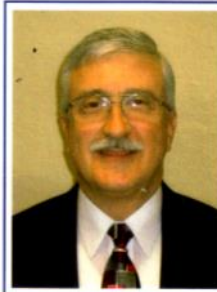
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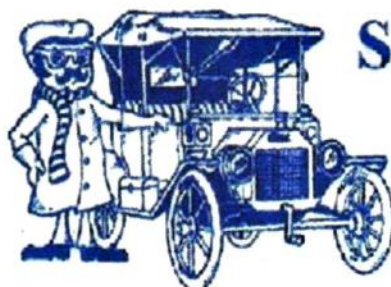


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**JULY 2017**

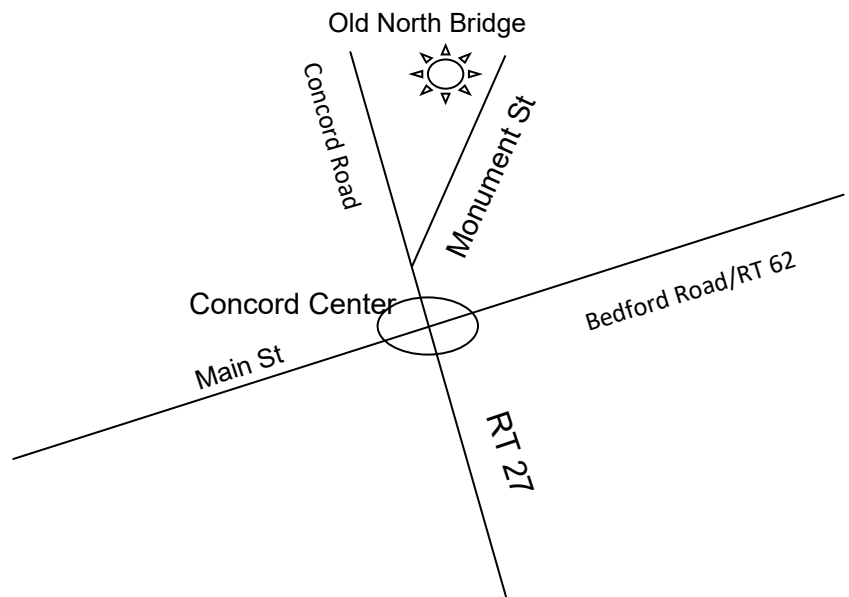
**Please  
Mail to:**

**Be sure to visit [www.oilleak.org](http://www.oilleak.org)**

## REMINDER

In lieu of a July Meeting Tom would like to invite all members to a picnic supper gathering at the Old North Bridge in Concord. He is suggesting that we arrive in Concord at 4:00 PM. He will leave the Sudbury Parade around 3:30. Tom & Lisa look to see you there.

**"FUN WITH FORDS  
& FRIENDS"**



The map above is for general direction only. The Old North Bridge is located on Monument and Great Meadow Road. This picnic will be in lieu of an official July Meeting. Tom says arrive at 4:00 PM.