

# The il Leak

July 2020 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Volume 57 Issue 7

**July Events Canceled see page 2**

## *The President Speaks:*

HI Club members:

Hope all is well with everyone !! July brings us half way thru the year 2020. It's kind of hard for me to believe we have gone over 4 months now without club meetings or breakfasts on Wednesday mornings. Things do look better as time goes by.

On June 10 there was a drive by for a SUDBURY woman who was 100 years old. Everyone meet at OUR LADY OF FATIMA Church parking lot. There was a huge show up to celebrate this birthday. 12 model A's arrived, many Fire Trucks, at least 8 police cars and many friends. The ride was quick but great to see Model A owners at the ride. We all did social distance and wore masks in the parking lot.

The next phase of opening up MASS may lead to some tours that would be safe. Any suggestions of places that are large and open where distance can be accomplished? We will see in the next few weeks how things open up by the governor.

I have a niece that is a doctor at Lacey Clinic and talking to her she reminded me that social distance and masks work!!! Please don't forget or become complacent it is very important. WE WANT YOU ALL TO BE HEALTHY AND WELL!!!



**KEEP SMILING EVERY DAY**

*Doug Farrell*



## Sunshine

Sue Champagne  
(sdchampagne1931@gmail.com)

A sympathy card was sent to Vin Delmastro following the passing of Nicky. (see page 7)

Please stay safe.

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

## Coming Events

(Tours Start at Wayland Town Center RT 20)

~~July 4: Sudbury Parade~~

~~July 7: Regular Club Meeting~~

~~July 8: Kimball Farm Ice Cream~~

~~July 11: Covered Bridge Tour~~

~~July 14: Bedford Farms Ice Cream~~

~~July 25: Car Rally~~

~~July 28: Carbone's Rest Dinner~~

**Our July events will be canceled. However for latest changes check oilleak.org for any updates.**

## Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report  
May 2020

### Income:

	0.00
Total Income	\$ 0.00

### Expense:

Oil Leak Printing (2 months)	140.00
Total Expense	\$ 140.00

Net Income	\$ -140.00
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## MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Art Callan

### JULY 1985 35 YEARS AGO

Pres Dick O'B thanked Bob Noyes for hosting summer meeting and welcomed back Joop & Marlise who are still visiting from Holland. Nice article in Middlesex News about the club meeting at JJ's and included Tu-Tu. The club got an inquiry from MAFCA about hosting a national convention.

### JULY 1995 25 YEARS AGO

VP Art Callan filled in for Pres Goldberg and thanked Don & Donna Morris for hosting summer meeting. New members Andy and David Talvy form Ashland. Fitzzy received award from MARC for attending every convention todate. Nice report on club trip to Nova Scotia with 13 Model A's participating.

### JULY 2005 15 YEARS AGO

Pres Marshall thanked Harold & Sally Legge for hosting the meeting. Nan reports membership is at 169 and welcomed new members John & Betty Flanagan and Gene Laks. Club picnic will be at Terry & Pat Sullivan's farm in Andover. Tom Zappala and Barb Tallone win awards at the Elm Bank Show.

### -----ARTIE FACT (by Housebound in FL)-----

FOR FATHER'S DAY:

*My father taught me the Circle of Life:*

*I brought you into this world, and I can take you out.*

*My father taught me how to Man Up:*

*Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about.*

*My father taught me about Humor:*

*When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me.*

*My father taught me Wisdom:*

*When you get to be my age, you'll understand.*



**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**

# Secretary's Report

**No June 2, 2020 Meeting**  
Nothing to Report and Stay well

## MEMBERS OUT & ABOUT IN THEIR MODEL A'S



Rich and Linda Batstone out for a Model A trip for food and Ice Cream while maintain social distancing and masks.



## Happy 100th Birthday Parade to Mary Brown of Sudbury



Members of club really came out to support the special 100th Birthday Parade for Sudbury resident Mary Brown. It was a nice thing to do but I also think the members were looking for a reason to get out in the Model A. It was so nice to see each other even if we were wearing masks.

## **2019 Board of Directors**

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

**Vice President** - Bob Mangan

**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**

Wayne Champagne, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Harold Samuels, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

**Tour Directors:** 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)



**REMINDER** - Please visit the club website at [OILLEAK.ORG](http://OILLEAK.ORG) for the latest announcements concerning the status of any club event. The rules for gathering are constantly changing and we will post any cancellations to our scheduled events. Thank You!

## **For Sale**

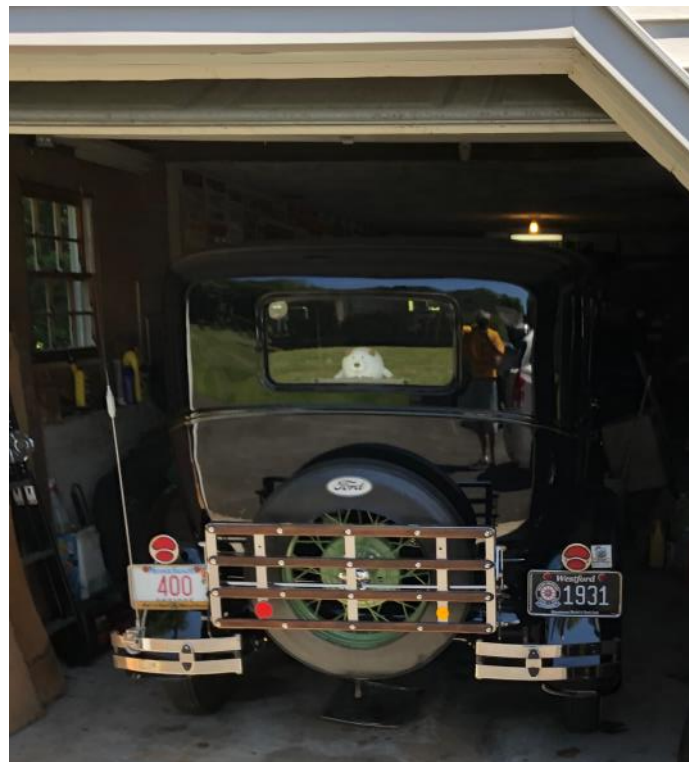
### **All Original 1930 Town Sedan**



This is an original Murray Town Sedan. Runs and looks great. Has all the little details that you want to see in an original/unrestored Model A.

Asking \$15,000

Contact Jon Randall 508-981-1741



It's unfortunate but this is where our Model A's have been spending tour season this year. I'm sure the "A"s would like to get out as much as we would.

Stay tuned things are starting to loosen up.



### Model A For Sale(still Available)

1930 Town Sedan is a very nice restoration with twin side mount tires, a trunk, and correct wood grain trim on the interior garnish moldings. The color is Chicle Drab and Copra Drab. The car comes with a great tool kit for display. Asking \$22,500

Contact Skip Dunham. Cell: #508-272-5400  
House: #508-316-3439.



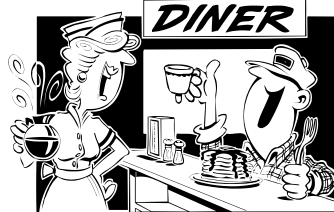
**POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
**Phase II is happening - Hopefully soon.**



### *Weekly Breakfast Group*



Doing anything on Wednesday morning? No. Well then, you are invited to join the group for breakfast 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. We arrive about 7:00AM. (see ad page 11)



**MINUTEMAN**  
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CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS

### **2020 Membership Form**

P.O. Box 545  
Sudbury, MA 01776  
Annual Dues \$20.00

First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Significant other: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive the newsletter via email? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Members of: MAFCA: \_\_\_\_\_ MARC: \_\_\_\_\_ MAFFI: \_\_\_\_\_

Model A Information: Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Body Style: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Minuteman Model A Club  
PO Box 545  
Sudbury, MA 01776

## **For Sale**

### **1931 Town Sedan**

1931 Ford Model A "Slant Windshield" 4-door Town Sedan.

This Model 160B is very desirable due to the slanted windshield and more importantly, the 160B uses structural steel inside the body instead of structural wood, which is used in the other 4-door sedans.

This car needs nothing and is an excellent touring Model A

Black body with period correct LeBarron Bonney tan "mohair" interior  
Exterior black paint is excellent; interior is excellent

Car looks, starts, runs, tracks, drives, and stops great!

Carburetor rebuilt by renowned professional Wayne Champagne

Great compression in all cylinders; re-gapping of all babbiting, new connecting rods and rings and honed cylinders performed about \$5K miles ago

Very quiet and stable riding Model A

Beautiful wood-graining inside, correct to the Model 160B Town Sedan

All new braking system: new cast iron drums, new backing plates, drum shoes, new emergency brake band, and new emergency brake pawl

Rebuilt brake cross-shaft with new bronze bushings

Includes the very rare Slant Window 160B interior windshield visors for both driver and passenger

Correct and correctly operating vacuum windshield wiper

New 19" Model A powder coated wheels (5) from Coker

New Stahl Sport radial Model A tires 5.00 x 19 (5 tires) from Coker

12-volt conversion, including correct 12v rebuilt starter

Mitchell Overdrive

New \$900 radiator from Berg's

Stainless steel radiator stone guard

Stainless steel trunk rack

Beautiful trunk with optional internal shelves and rain cover

Period-correct Revco water temp gauge

The correct-to-factory-spec and be muffle available (Aries)

"Hot-foot" muffler shield

Excellent original style chrome bumper

Excellent body, paint, very clean under-chassis, interior is excellent and correct.

Engine and engine compartment are very clean

Period correct metal radiator prop radiator cap accessory (not plastic)

All windows, knobs, latches, door locks, and interior light work perfectly

Outer door handles do not sag.

Perfect front end – car tracks perfectly

Tight and excellent front end – new king pins

Modern Tube shocks AND original working Model A shocks (as spare parts)

Spare distributor, spare carburetor, and spare speedometer

High-boy style air filter

LED and original tail lights

Quartz headlight conversion AND Bratton's best Model A Ford correct-to-spec headlight reflectors

Snyder 5.5 hi-compression head

Too many other options/improvements to mention.

Correct trunk (and rain cover) and stainless steel trunk rack – no rust or corrosion.

Many spare parts, accessories, all books and manuals.

Contact Pat Martone (pjmartone@icloud.com)

Asking Price \$25,000



Photo by Wayne C.



**Nicky Delmastro** was a long time member of the Minuteman club and was such a sweet lady. She and Vin loved to be part of the activities and you could always count on Nicky lending a hand. Nicky's illness kept her from participating in club events as I know she

would have liked. A few years ago they moved to GA to closer to their daughter and we were all sorry to see them move. We send our condolences to Vin and the family.



**Del MASTRO, Margaret** "Nicky" Of Carrollton, GA, formerly of Newton, MA, passed away on May 26, 2020 at the age of 75. In addition to her beloved husband of 53 years, Vincent Del Mastro, she leaves her children Susan Tisinger and her husband Richard of

Carrollton, GA, Mark Del Mastro of Newton, MA, and Matthew Del Mastro and his wife Rosanna (Arcuri) of Norfolk, VA, her grandchildren Andrew Tisinger, Katie Tisinger, Sophie Tisinger and Lena Del Mastro, her brothers Pete Nicholson (and his late wife Louise), David Nicholson (and his wife Becky), and Kevin Nicholson (and his wife Norma), and many nieces and nephews. Nicky was born on August 24, 1944 in Natick, MA, daughter of the late John and Margaret Nicholson. She graduated as a registered nurse from St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing in 1965. She married her love, Vincent, in 1966, and settled in Newton, MA, where she was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and friend. Caring for others was her life's passion, which made nursing the perfect profession for her. She later enjoyed a second career as a preschool teacher, where her special gift with children touched many lives. She was a faithful and active member of Corpus Christi Church in Auburndale, MA. Due to the pandemic, a private interment for immediate family will be held at Newton Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to [Alzheimer's Association](https://www.alz.org/donate), P.O. Box 96011, Washington, DC 20090-6011 [www.alz.org/donate](https://www.alz.org/donate)

## TECH TIP - TOO LATE

I was around 21 when buying my first A. I think I paid \$ 150 or so for a Tudor sedan. It had a broken right engine mount. When you applied the brake, the whole tranny would lift up about an inch before the brakes would work. To get thru inspection in Washington DC back then, their system was to check that all the brakes were working and with near the same pressure. A nearby shop jacked the engine up and welded part of a shovel to "fix" the broken mount! It passed. So my tip is to keep a broken shovel under your seat. You just never know.

Back then, you could buy a rebuilt short block from Sears for (as I recall) under 100 bucks. The block would have been cleaned and re-Babbitted. As they tore the blocks down, all the salvageable pistons and valves would be in a pile. This was well before Magni-fluxing the block was around so just a visual check. After boring the cylinders & grinding valve seats, they would go to the pile of parts and select a set of valves and pistons of the right diameter. These used piston's skirts would then be internally expanded to the specs of the original piston. What brought this to mind was recently seeing two collapsed pistons in a truck, and memories of a trip long ago to Maine when a piston collapsed in my Tudor.

Uncle Don

aka Don Freniere



Another delivery of New Model A's



## Passing of Richmond “Rich” Bell

*Ed Note: Rich Bell was not a members of the Minuteman club but was well know by many of our members. If you have been in the Model A hobby for a long time you know him from flea markets and Model A meets. Rich had a Model A Parts business and many of us bought parts from him. He was also an avid number plate collector and had a museum quality collection of them. I always enjoyed listening to his stories of his early Model A days. He will be missed.*

NORWICH, VT - Richmond Randolph Bell (95), beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, died peacefully in his sleep at his second home in Norwich, Vermont on June 14, 2020 of a rare and aggressive form of lymphoma. Rich was born

on March 22, 1925 in the birthing room in his family home in Wellfleet, Massachusetts, delivered by his father Dr. Clarence John Bell, who was the town doctor. Like his father, Rich was thought of fondly as “the heart and soul of Wellfleet.” His great character, calm demeanor, fairness to all and his service to his town and country were his hallmarks. He will be fondly remembered for his good-natured jokes, quick-witted puns and for regaling family and friends with vivid stories, often featuring youthful adventures and Wellfleet history. His love for and encyclopedic knowledge of antique Ford automobiles and license plates is as much a defining feature as his twinkling blue eyes. It was a treasured family tradition for Rich to drive his antique cars in Wellfleet Independence Day parades, loaded with his children, then later his grandchildren.

Rich’s love of Model A’s began at age 3, when his father took delivery of a new Model A Ford at 3 PM on September 7, 1928. Little Richmond would stand on the seat and hold on to the dashboard so he could look out the window while bouncing down the dirt roads. When he grew up he wanted one too, but his father made him wait until he was 12. Then, with \$10.00 (yes, ten) saved from delivering newspapers, he bought his first Model A in Chatham and paid .50 for delivery. For his 16th birthday, his father gave him a 1930 coupe with a rumble seat which he owned up until a few days before his death (pictured above). Many cherished family memories were made with that coupe.

At age 19, not long after his father died, Rich was drafted as a Private into the U. S. Army during World War II. He served in the 29th infantry Division that landed on Omaha Beach, Normandy in Operation Overlord. After 19 months he was discharged as a Corporal. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in ground operations in the Normandy campaign and 3 Purple Hearts for wounds received in combat in St. Lo and the Vire area, both in France, and Baesweiler, Germany. Last summer the Consulate General of France, in Boston, presented Rich with the prestigious French Legion of Honor, the highest French decoration awarded for service to France.

After years as an insurance investigator for Retail Credit Company, in the early 1970s Rich turned his antique car hobby into a mail order business called Vintage Ford Center, which he operated out of his father’s old doctor’s office on Main Street. He called himself a born merchant and playing “store” was a favorite childhood game. Customers would call and describe a funny sound their car was making, Rich would diagnose the ailment from the wheeze, clunk or hiss, and mail out the parts the same day. Customers often explained that they planned their summer vacations around a pilgrimage to Rich’s car parts store, to feed their hobby and drink in the lore.

Rich was past commander of the American Legion Post in Wellfleet. Like his father, he was a member of the Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank Board of Trustees for 40 years, and a member of the Board of Corporators for 20 years, retiring in the past few weeks. He was a member of the Nauset school committee, served on the town finance committee, the Republican town committee, and was the town election warden for many years.

In addition, Rich was a member of the Wellfleet Historical Society and a founding member of the Cape Cod Antique Car Club, as well as a member of the South Shore Antique Car Club, two Model A Restorer’s Clubs (in Norwich and Cape Cod) and the Automobile License Plate Collector’s Association.



## National News .....

It seems like it has been a long time since we have been able to get out in our Model A's and tour to new and exciting destinations. Actually, it has only been a few weeks. The end will come soon and we will be able to gather again to pursue our favor-ite pastime.

We have some really great news to share. Bob Kreipke, former Ford Motor Company historian and author of many books, in-cluding 2020's *The Ford Model A*, has agreed to be the Honorary Historian for our Model A Ford Club of America. We are de-lighted to have Bob join our family. You can look forward to reading articles from Bob in future issues of *The Restorer*. His insights and life-long interest in Ford products gives him a unique ability to help us all understand more about Model A histo-ry. Welcome, Bob. His new book is available on Amazon.com.



MAFCA has been working diligently on a new book about the Victoria Coupe model of Model A Fords. It is in the final stages of preparation and will be ready for ordering by mid- to late-June. It is an updated version of the original compilation of articles from *The Restorer* and the Victoria Association's *Bustle*. The new volume will include a list of Surviving Model A Ford 190-A Victoria Coupes and a table of Similarities and Differences for the 400-A, 190-A and the 180-A models. Those are the Convertible Sedan, the Victoria, and the Deluxe Phaeton. If you have an interest in Victoria's, this is a book you will want to have in your library.

I'm pleased to tell you that Chuck Christensen is back from his heart surgery and once again answering your technical ques-tions. During his absence, Jim Cannon filled in and we thank Jim for his help. Welcome back Chuck.



All the best, *Bill Truesdell* 2020 MAFCA National President

~~September 11-13, 2020~~



In case you haven't heard the NE Meet has been canceled and rescheduled for **Sept 2021**. More information will be forthcoming and if you have registered you will be receiving a check in the mail. If you had hotel reservation the host hotel rolled them to next year.



"Spruce Girls" standing on the beach wearing spruce veneer bathing suits, probably near Hoquiam, Washington. I wonder if those suits are considered a floatation device.



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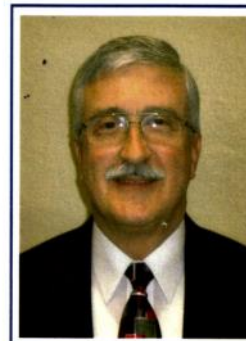
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**July 2020**

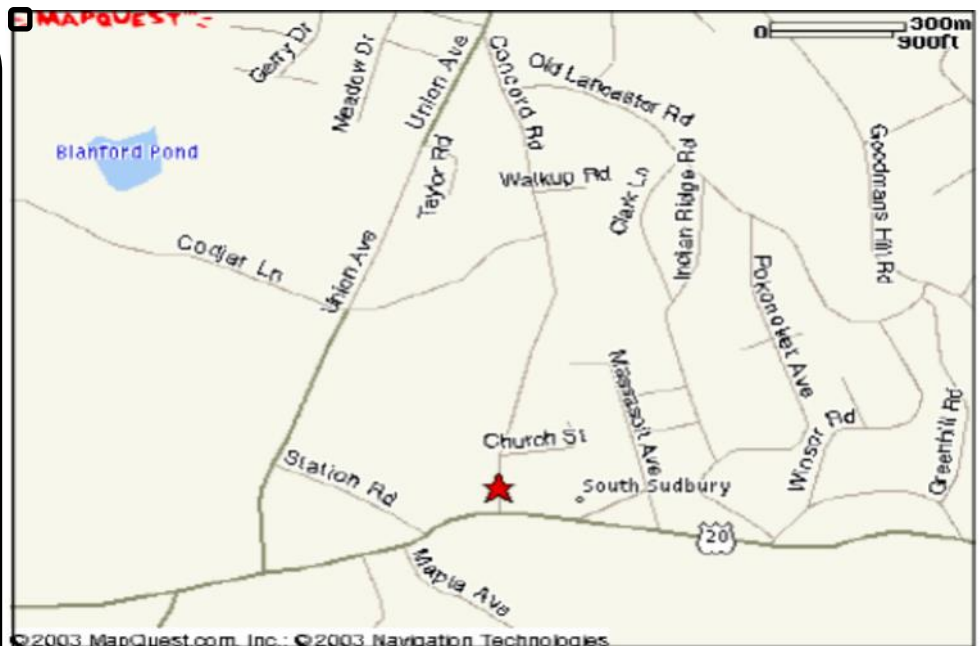
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**Be sure to visit [www.oilleak.org](http://www.oilleak.org)**

**July - Meeting Canceled**

Well the coronavirus continues to be a factor in our ability to get out and about in our Model A's. The Governor has moved us into Phase 2 of reopening the state, but how this relates to clubs activities and tours is still unknown.

The BOD decided that all events should be considered canceled until further notice. So check the Minuteman website or facebook page for the latest info on resumption of tours.



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.