

The il Leak

July 2025 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 62 Issue 7

The President Speaks:

Touring season is now in full swing. The “April Showers” that have persisted through May and June have given us enough of a break to get through our schedule without testing how water-tight our cars are or dampening our spirit. The Wellesley Parade and the Wellesley College Parade were both well attended. The Framingham Bay State Auto Show was a great event showcasing some rare cars made in Massachusetts that I for one had never even heard of much less even seen in person. There were several of our club members exploring the extensive display of classic and unusual vehicles and enjoying walking the fields. Jim Rousseau brought two fire engines and an oil truck from his collection, and Dick Graham brought my favorite yellow and black Cadillac. All in all, a great car show.

Other club tours for June include Framingham Flag Day Parade, New Horizon and Benchmark events, and Wayland Community Concerts. Some of our members are headed off to the National Tour. The Samuels and the Batstones are displaying our Model A's at the Wayside Inn Roaring 20's Ball in support of our long standing relationship with the Inn. I have been rummaging through my closet to find suitable clothing to wear for the event. My children are convinced that I still have plenty of clothing in my closet from the 1960's, but have not been cruel enough to suggest that I have outfits from the 1920's.

More events are being planned for the Fall. Stay tuned for further updates. Our September New England Meet co-chairs, Tom Zappala and Barbara McElhiney still need your help with Raffle Room contributions and as volunteers. They and their committee have put in a great deal of effort to make the Meet a success and for all to enjoy.

Hope to see you all at the Grange for our monthly meetings and on tour. Stay active, stay well.



Happy Motoring
Harold



Sunshine

Sue Champagne

A get well soon card was sent to Anna Gadboise

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)


- July 2** Regular Club Meeting
- July 4** Noon Sudbury Parade (see page 3)
- July 11** 4PM Kimballs Ice Cream Lancaster D. Linden TL
- July 17** Hebert's Candy Cruise In R Batstone TL
- July 20** 1:30 PM Nat'l Ice Cream Day Tour W. Campaigne TL
- July 30** 4PM Epigram Brewery Tyngsboro, L Conely
- Aug 6** Regular Club Meeting

TL = Tour Leader

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report May, 2025

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Income: | |
| Coffee Can | 12.00 |
| Advertising (Oil Leak) | 25.00 |
| Raffle | 25.00 |
| Club Items Sold | 20.00 |
| Total Income | \$ 82.00 |
| Expense: | |
| Coffee Supplies | 17.98 |
| Misc (Tour Clinic food) | 202.00 |
| Oil Leak Printing | 80.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 299.98 |
| Net Income | \$ - 217.98 |



MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

JULY 1990 35 YEARS AGO

Mike Gulbankian hosted this monthly meeting and gave everyone a chance to see his machine shop with equipment small enough to press a bearing on a generator and large enough to press a city bus into a Coke can! Thirty five Club members in 18 Model As showed up. Mike Towle from Medway was introduced as a new member. He owns a AA Stakebody Truck. Jim True was working on his truck, so soon we would have two AA Trucks touring with us!

JULY 2000 25 YEARS AGO

The Minuteman Club Logo - the caricature of the Concord Minuteman- is the "Corporate Identity" of our Club. Although the logo was not copyrighted we wanted to have it used correctly without modification, discreetly and appropriately to help establish our "Corporate Image." Many thanks went to Harold and Sally Legge for providing their spacious new garage for our July meeting.

JULY 2010 15 YEARS

The monthly meeting was held at the Carleton-Willard Village in Bedford. You had to arrive early for the free ice cream bar! The residents of Carleton Village were looking forward to seeing the Model As. Starting July 16th, you were able to follow the adventures of Doug and Nan Linden and Dick and Barbara O'Brien as they wound their way across the USA in their Model As to the MAFCA Meet in Vancouver, B.C. All of our Club Members were able to ride in our virtual back seat as we travelled by visiting this website: <http://boston-to-alaska.blogspot.com>.

National Organizations: If you aren't a member of these three groups, we encourage you to join 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 \$35/yr.

2025 Board of Directors

President - Harold Samuels *hsamuels10@gmail.com*

Vice President - Peter McLaughlin *petermclaughlin1485@gmail.com*

Secretary - John Erb *john.erb@verizon.net*

Treasurer - Barbara McElhiney *mcelhiney@rcn.com*

Membership - Nan Linden 508-485-7575 *met59a31@aol.com*

Editor - Doug Linden *douglingen@aol.com*

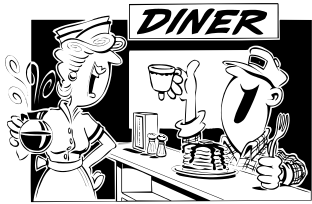
Steering Committee

Brad Johnson, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Wayne Champagne, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

Tour Director: Don Ross 617-584-5245 *dross02466@gmail.com*

Sunshine: 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. We meet every Wednesday

around 7:30 AM. Why not join us there is always room for you. →



Weekly Breakfast Group

Additional Event/Tour Info

July 4th Parade: This is a paid event for the club so a good turn out is encouraged. We line up at the Chiswick Park at **Noon** for a 1PM start. OYO to Chiswick Park

July 11: This is an early start time (**4PM**) so we can join the Cruise In and get some food/ice cream TL - Doug Linden

July 17: Hebert's Candy Mansion in Shrewsbury hosts a Cruise In on each Thursday. TL - Rich Batstone

July 20: Nat'L Ice Cream day Tour, Guess where we will be going. Wayne Champagne will be our leader. 1PM start time from Wayland Center plaza.

July 30: Brewery Tour

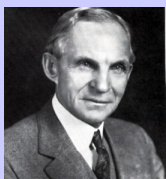
Flea Market Help

Craig Martin is stepping down as coordinator so the club is searching for someone to take over the reins for our 2026 event. Craig has volunteered to assist the new person(s) learn the ropes for what is needed to make this event happen.



The flea market is a major contributor to the club's operating budget, losing it would be a problem.

If you are interested in helping keep this event viable, please contact President Harold Samuels.



"If there is any one secret, it lies in the ability to get the other person's point of view and see things from that person's angle as well as your own."

Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club June 4, 2025

Sudbury Grange Hall, Sudbury, MA

President Harold Samuels opened the meeting at 7:30 with 30 people in attendance. He led us in the pledge of allegiance.

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

Vice president, Peter McLaughlin reported on correspondence. He reported a \$125 donation from Sorrento's for an ad in the N.E. Meet program. We also got an acknowledgement for a donation from us to MAFFI for a brick in memory of recently passed member Clyde Kelton. The brick will be installed before Model A Day at the Gilmore Museum on the third weekend of September. MAFFI also sent acknowledgement to Clyde's daughter. Donations from our club were acknowledged for donations sent in memory of Bob Griffin's daughter and Rick Gadbois's mother. He also announced the meet in Waterbury, VT August 8,9 and 10.

Membership, Nan Linden reported that there were no new members this month.

It was reminded that there were still license plate toppers for sale at the head table.

Tour Chair, Don Ross, reported on recent tours, thanked those who attended the two parades in Wellesley. Our attendance in the parades brought in \$800 to the club.

Future tours were then highlighted: **June 8** Bay State Motor Festival in Cushing Park. **June 14** Flag Day Parade, On **June 15** New Horizons wants cars to come as we have done in the past, **June 21** we are planning to go to Benchmark in Woburn, the National Meet will be in Gettysburg June 15 – 22, **June 19** a tour to Pizzi Farm in Waltham, **June 26** Wayland Community concert in Wayland Center, **July 2** is our next meeting and **July 4** is the Sudbury Parade.

National News Doug Linden reported on the MARC Convention in Gettysburg and the MAFCA Tour will go through VA, MD, and PA. He mentioned that in addition to the brick in honor of Clyde at the MAFFI museum, we donated enough money to purchase a "MY A" plaque for Clyde. We are just trying to locate a picture for the plaque.

The New England Meet we are hosting in September was addressed by chair Tom Zappala. We have 80 registrants and hope to double that by meet time, The host hotel rooms are sold out but we have the Westford Regency and Littleton Marriott for extra rooms. We're selling ads, collecting raffle items and planning tour routes. We have a Beatles tribute band on Saturday night and a DJ on Friday night. Volunteers will be needed for parking, registration, raffle room volunteers and people will be needed for the repair tent. Also added to the event will be the Hubley Derby and word is being spread to other Model A clubs. Food donations will be needed for the hospitality room and raffle tickets are needed for the raffle.

President Harold called for old business, and it was reassured that the money for the Wellesley parades will be forthcoming.

New Business, Doug Linden reported on bills in the legislature from the Mass. Assoc. of Car Clubs. There is a bill to eliminate duplicate plate numbers which would negatively impact the Year Of Manufacture (YOM) plates. There's a bill to allow restoration of YOM plates, and one to eliminate inspection for cars belonging to a recognized car club and are 45 years or older.

Coffee Pot Needs Nan Linden requested someone to make coffee for future meetings. Barbara McElhiney volunteered for the next meeting.

Refreshments this month were brought by Tom, Ben and Barbara and next month will be Doug Farrel, Don Ross and Craig Martin.

Before we adjourned for the 50/50 raffle, Doug Linden showed the ticket selling device built by member John Pierce and it was announced that Tour list copies and Oil Leak copies were available at the head table.

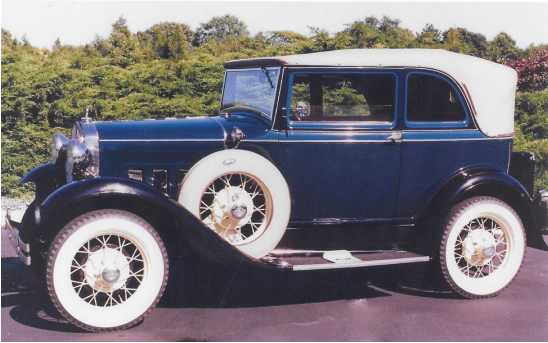


Respectfully Submitted,

John Erb

Secretary

Model A For Sale

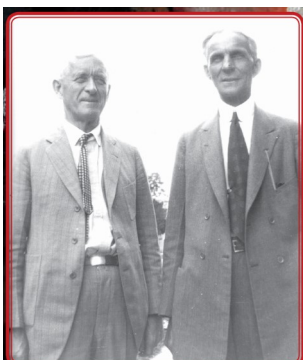


1931 Ford Model A400 Convertible Sedan

Older frame-up restoration. The upholstery, carpeting, and top were installed by LeBaron Bonney. and the top material was made to the exact specifications for the A400. Riviera Blue, Washington Blue, and Tacoma Cream, dual side-mount spares, Goodyear diamond tread white-wall tires and metal stems. Complete with a trunk, this car will be sold with Ford script tools, a spare radiator shell, and miscellaneous spare parts.

This car was featured in the October 1981 issue of Hemmings Motor News. The car was never trailered and was driven into its garage, covered with its custom cover, and left untouched for the past 15 years. For further information, please call Barbara Goldberg (401) 338-1368.

With Summer Grilling season coming up, do you know the history of Kingsford charcoal?



Edward Kingsford &
Henry Ford

Ford Motor Company sold more than one million Ford Model Ts in 1919. Each one used 100 board feet of wood for parts such as the frame, dashboard, steering wheel, and wheels. Because of the amount of wood needed, Henry Ford decided to produce his own supply. He enlisted the help of Edward G. Kingsford, a real estate agent and timber cruiser from Michigan, to locate a supply of wood. Kingsford's wife was a cousin of Ford.^[2] In the early 1920s, Ford acquired large timberland in Iron Mountain, Michigan, and built a sawmill and parts plant in a neighboring area which subsequently became Kingsford, Michigan. The mill and plants produced sufficient parts for the cars, but generated waste such as stumps, branches and



sawdust. Ford suggested that all wood scraps be processed into charcoal.^[3] A University of Oregon chemist, Orin Stafford, invented a method for making pillow-shaped lumps of fuel from sawdust and mill waste combined with tar and bound together with cornstarch. He called the lumps "charcoal briquettes."^[4] Thomas Edison designed the briquette factory adjacent to the sawmill and Kingsford ran it. Ford named the new business Ford Charcoal. It was a model of efficiency, producing 610 lb (280 kg) of briquettes for every ton of scrap wood. In the beginning, Ford's "briquettes" were sold only through Ford dealerships. The charcoal was marketed to meat and fish smokehouses, but demand soon exceeded supply.^[5]



By the mid-1930s, Ford was marketing "Picnic Kits" containing charcoal and portable grills, capitalizing on the link between motoring and outdoor adventure that his vagabond travels popularized. "Enjoy a modern picnic," the packages read, "Sizzling broiled meats, steaming coffee, toasted sandwiches." But it wasn't until after World War II that backyard barbecuing took off, thanks to suburban migration and increased marketing efforts. In 1951 an investment group bought Ford Charcoal and took over operations, renaming it Kingsford Charcoal in honor of Edward G. Kingsford and Kingsford, Michigan.

(Thanks to Pine Tree A's for the idea of this report.)

Wellesley College Alumni Parade

Each year the our club provides a unique service for the Wellsley College Reunion celebration by providing transportation to the ladies of the most senior classes. This year we had 9 Model A's present to take the ladies representing the classes of 1950, 1955 and 1960. The organizers of the event were thrilled to see the line up of Model A's and quickly got busy assigning the ladies to the vehicles. The ladies ranged in age from the late 80's thru late 90's and they all commented that they really enjoyed their ride in the Model A and celebrity status they received along the partage route. Thanks go to our drivers: Wayne Champagne, Peter McLaughlin, Jacques LeDuc, Jim Rousseau, Doug Linden, Doug Farrell, John Pierce, Al Mason and Tom Zappala.



Class Of 1950 Ladies



Class of 1955 Ladies



Parade Route is Lined with the younger classes

BAY STATE CAR SHOW

The Bay State Car show was a celebration of Automobiles and Motorcycles manufactured in MA. I never new their were so many vehicles made in the state and it was great to see examples of them on display along with 100's of vintage cars. The star of the show was the display of the 1924 Bay State which thought to be the only one that exist. The car was manufactured in Framingham by Richard Long . The RH Long company still exists and sell Cadillacs. It was good to see Minuteman members cars on display. I also thought it was interesting that with rare cars to photograph, one of the pictures the town of Framingham chose to put on their Fa-cebook page was Dick Graham's 1929 Cadillac. Congratulation Dick.



1903 Grout built in Orange, MA from 1900 to 1912. It was steam powered.



The 1924 Bay State Model 1



Dick's 1929 Cadillac

A 1914 Metz Special Speedster, just 1 of 300 produced. The bright Orange color and pin striping really stood out. Made in Waltham, MA

2025 Minuteman MEMBERSHIP Application Form

PLEASE complete the form and return with your check for \$20.

Membership: Renew - No Changes ____ ; Renew - Changes ____ ; New ____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Spouse/Significant Other Name _____ Model A : _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

email _____ Telephone _____ - _____ - _____

How would you like to receive your Newsletter: Electronically or US Mail (circle one)

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Welcome New Member

Nan reports no new member this month:




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“Artie - Fact”

By “A” nonymous

A traffic cop pulled alongside a speeding car on the motorway. Glancing into the car, he was astounded to see that the young lady, who was driving, was knitting.



Realizing that she was oblivious to his flashing lights and siren, the policeman wound down his window, turned on his loudspeaker, and yelled, ‘PULL OVER!’

‘NO’, the young lady yelled back, ‘It’s A SCARF!’

CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What are parts often referred to as NOS?
2. What was Henry Ford’s favorite Bird?
3. What is a form of exhaust restriction?
4. Name a founder of a car company in 1897.
5. Name the engine part that is either flat or hydraulic?
6. Name the Lincoln model that began in 1940.
7. What is a tire traction aid?
8. What was used to service a car before the hoist?
9. What is the name of Ford’s turbo engines.
- 10 Name a high-heat coating?





2025 New England Meet Hospitality Request



I am in charge of the Hospitality Room at the NE Regional Meet in September 2025 at the Boxborough Regency in Boxborough, MA. I am asking for volunteers to provide baked goods, individually wrapped snack items and to assist me in the Hospitality Room during open hours.

The Hospitality Room open hours are:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Thursday, September 11 th | 3:00 to 6:00 pm |
| Friday, September 12 | 8:30 am to 5:00 pm |
| Saturday, September 13 th | 3:00 to 4:30 pm |

Please let me know if you would like to volunteer in the Room by choosing a date & time so I can add you to my list. Please bring your baked or individually wrapped snack item directly to the Boxborough Regency. Call me at 508-881-1595 or send me an email at sdchampagne1931@gmail.com to let me know what you are intending to do. Thank you for your assistance with my request. I look forward to hearing from you.

Susan Champagne

TIPS FOR YOUR COOLING SYSTEM

From Doug and Herb's Tech seminar on Mar. 29, 2025 (Diablo A's)

- The fins on your radiator must be in good condition for maximum heat transfer.
- Most cooling system problems can be traced to a malfunctioning radiator.
- A good radiator shop can tell you if your radiator is worth rebuilding.
- Consider a 10 fin per inch replacement if you are re-coring or buying a new radiator.
- A lot of overflow tubes (remove the radiator cap and you will see it) are too short. It can be extended with a short piece of plastic tubing run almost to the top of the cap.
- Only add water or coolant when the engine is warm (water expands when it gets hot).
- If you have an original steel two-bladed or steel 4-bladed fan you should change it to an aluminum two-bladed fan or a plastic 6-bladed fan. The old ones have been known to fly apart and end up in your radiator or through your hood (this is not good!).
- Water pumps are easily rebuilt from kits from the major Model A parts suppliers.
- Some folks are going to "leak-less" water pumps which you can buy ready to go or you can rebuild yours that way.
- If you have a traditional water pump, be sure to use only "water pump" grease on the front bearing otherwise you will get chassis grease in your radiator which is no good.
- Cooling system additives are highly recommended. There are many choices, talk to your friends who are experienced.

ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. New Old Stock
2. The Quail (for its fast getaway)
3. Back Pressure
4. Ransome E. Olds
5. tappet
6. Continental
7. Studs
8. A garage pit
9. Ecoboost
10. Ceramic coating



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Mason Capital was founded by Model A member Al Mason (1931 Fodor)

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| 2/21/24 IPO Market Open: | \$10.00 |
| 3/31/25 Market Close: | \$10.52 |
| Dividends Paid: | \$ 0.18 |

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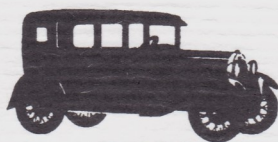
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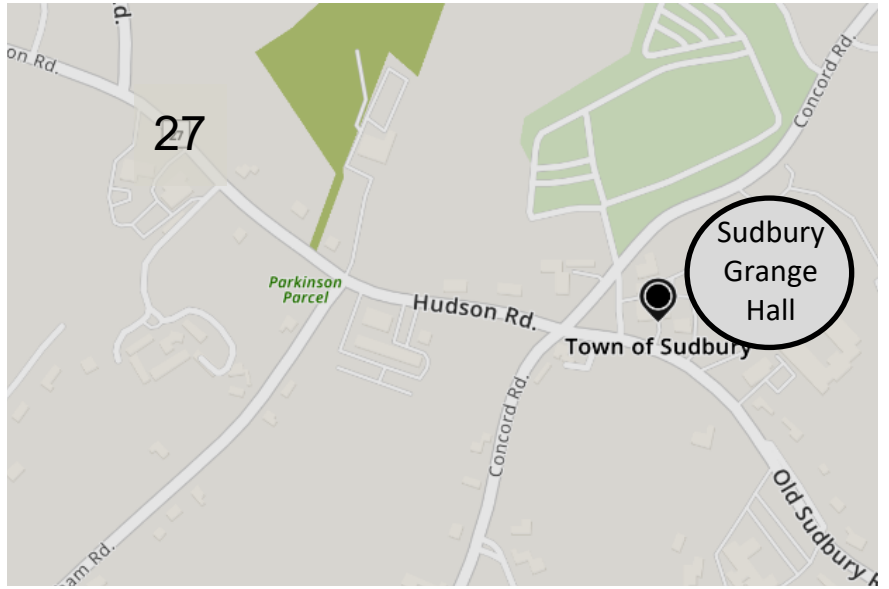
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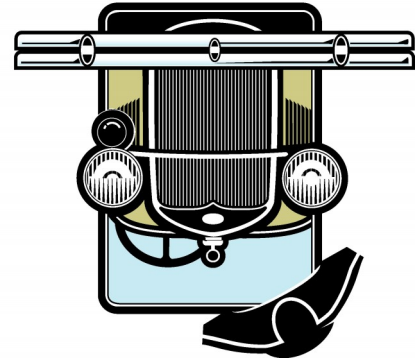
June Meeting News



Our meetings are held on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at the Sudbury Grange Hall, 326 Concord Rd in Sudbury. Meetings start at 7:30 PM.

Be Sure to visit www.oilleak.org

CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS
MODEL "A" FORD
MINUTEMAN



Please
Mail to:

JULY 2025

**Minuteman Model "A" Ford Club
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