

The il Leak

March 2022 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 59 Issue 3

The President Speaks:

March is upon us and I hope everyone is in good health and trying to enjoy the cold days. Spring is almost here.

At the Feb meeting we had a discussion about tours for the coming year. Don Ross has spent many hours working on the list of tours and dates. This is very well done and now Don needs volunteers to fill in the proposed list or add your own tour. Please Email Don to help him finish this years list.



This year's New England Model A Meet is in Mansfield Mass very close to home. It is September 16th thru 19th.. This is a very easy drive to be a part of a fun yearly event. Think about going for a day trip if you can't stay for the whole event!! *(editors note: see page 9 for hotel information)*

March 27th is the WINTER BLAH'S FLEA MARKET at the Maynard Elks. If you can help Craig Martin needs volunteers for that morning. This event is a great Fund raising time for the club and lots of fun. We should all help make this a big success after two years off do to you know what !!

Hope to see you at the March 1st Meeting.



KEEP SMILING EVERY DAY
Doug Farrell



Sunshine

Sue Champagne

The good news is no cards were sent out this month.

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)

- Mar 1** 7:30 PM Regular Club Meeting
- Mar 6** MARCOM Flea Market Holmes Transportation Norfolk, MA (see page 6)
- Mar 27** Minuteman Club Winter Blah's Flea Market Maynard Elks (see page 6)
- Apr 5** 7:30 PM Regular Club meeting
- Apr 24** V8 Flea Market Fitchburg Airport more info next month \$10/pp

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
January, 2022

Income:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Coffee Can | \$ 8.00 |
| Memorial Donations (JJ) | 465.00 |
| <u>Member Dues</u> | <u>200.00</u> |
| Total Income | \$ 673.00 |

Expense:

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Dues & Subscriptions | \$ 10.00 |
| Flea Mkt Expense | 175.25 |
| Oil Leak Printing | 70.00 |
| <u>Website Fee</u> | <u>263.88</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$ 515.13 |
| Net Income | \$ 157.87 |



MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

MARCH 1987 35 YEARS AGO

Great video shown at our March club meeting of the 1986 Lake Geneva Regional Meet. Twenty tours were scheduled on our 1987 tour schedule. The last Amherst, NH Flea Market was in September 1987. A "Help Wanted" sign-up sheet was passed around at our club meeting for the 1988 NE Meet for the following year!

MARCH 1997 25 YEARS AGO

Sixteen club members toured to Knight Engineering (Model A Engine Rebuilders) in Gloucester, MA. The 10,000 mile MARC distance award was presented to Fitz Stevens. The March "Winter Blahs" Flea Market vendor slots were totally sold out at Acton Ford thanks to Marlies Plaggonborg. There was an interesting large auto parts classified section in the March Oil Leak.

MARCH 2007 15 YEARS AGO

MARCOM brought back their annual Spring Flea Market. The new location was at the Holmes Bus Company in Norfolk, MA. 15 year old Matt Johnson was restoring his Model A Ford coupe, thanks to Dick Stitt's endorsement. A motion was made and passed to continue our membership of the Massachusetts Association of Auto Clubs.

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

See page 3

National Organizations:



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.

2022 Board of Directors

President - Doug Farrell dfarrell1416@gmail.com

Vice President - Wayne Champagne (pro tem)

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

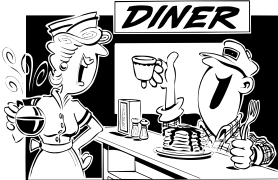
Vacant, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Harold Samuels, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

Tour Director: Don Ross 617-584-5245

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 have our vaccinations and the Big Apple staff follows Covid cleaning protocol. Why not join us there is always room for you.



WELCOME BACK MEMBER

No New Members This Month

ARTIE FACT by Art Callan

Ever wait at a stop light and the truck beside you has this noisy bump on the top-front of the trailer? He's trying to refrigerate his load for a supermarket. It's hard to believe that little gasoline powered one-lung compressor and air conditioner was designed in---1942--for trucks and trains. It saved lives during WWII, powering air conditioners for field hospitals to keep blood packs and other supplies from expiring. What a difference it made between warm beer and a nice cold Bud!



Have you sent in your dues for 2022?
If not this will be your last newsletter
go to page 7 fill out the form and mail
it back with your check. Thanks

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club February 1, 2022

Location: Memorial Congregational Church Sudbury.

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President, Doug Farrell, with 20 members in attendance. Doug then led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers Reports:

- Doug requested a motion to accept the Treasurers Report as printed in the Oil Leak. – MSP.
- Doug requested a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as printed in the Oil Leak. – MSP.

Membership:

- Nan Linden – No news to report
- New Member – Rob West, Waltham, has a Model A but it's not running.
- Dues are due, see membership form in the Oil Leak.

Touring:

- Don Ross – handed out “draft” copies of a tour list containing 13 tours. Trying to have 2 tours a month plus ice cream & dinner tours. Ice cream tours will start at 7:00 pm.

New Business:

- Shopkeeper Gary Hoyt has new hats for sale, a great new blue color this year. You can be sporting one for \$18.00!
- Winter Blahs Swap Meet – Craig – Getting responses back & a couple of checks. All set with the Maynard Elks. Looking for volunteers to assist with set up, break down and during the Meet.

Flyers available with location & announcement on the home page of the website as well.

-Doug Linden presented the Minuteman Club's Hard Luck trophy to Bob Mangan.

-Doug thanked Jude & Tony for providing tonight's refreshments.

- Next month's refreshments will be provided by Dick & Dawn.

-Wayne read off 9 memorials given to the Model A Ford Foundation on behalf of Club member's who have lost family members recently.

-Wayne announced there were MAFFI Newsletters and copies of the Club's Oil Leak available.

National News:

-Doug Linden talked about the MARC Convention in Morgantown, PA. The host hotel is full but there are many other hotels in a 10-mile radius.

-The New England Meet is in Mansfield, MA & the host hotel is now enVision Hotel formally the Holiday Inn.

Programs:

- Looking for future meeting topics for entertainment after the business meeting.

Business Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted –Susan Champagne

(On behalf of Rick **Gadbois**)

Castle Nuts & Cotter Pins

The example shown is a rear motor mount bolt, but this will work on any bolt where it is difficult to see the cotter pin hole with the castle nut installed. Scribe a line across the end of the bolt before assembly to help “line up” the castle nut for the darn cotter pin.

Credit: Dave Westenberger—Colonial Virginia Model A Club





Ryan Thibeault posted this picture of his Model A using tire chains.

Tire Chain History - August 23, 1904

Harry D. Weed of Canastota, New York, was issued U.S. Patent Number 768,495 for his "Grip-Tread for Pneumatic Tires," an innovation designed to help make driving safer in inclement winter weather or similarly adverse muddy road conditions. According to one of his great-grandsons, Weed came up with the idea for creating tire chains after seeing drivers wrap ropes and in some cases even vines around tires to increase traction on muddy, snowy, or icy roads.

Weed, who was working at the time for a Canastota-based machine shop that made such products as automobile engines, sought to develop a non-skid traction device that would be more durable in harsh driving conditions. He explained that his invention was meant to "provide a flexible and collapsible grip or tread composed entirely of chains linked together and applied to the sides and periphery of the tire and held in place solely by the

inflation of the tire, and which is reversible." The tire chain was wrapped around a partially deflated tire that could then be refilled with air after the hooks on either end of the tire chain were fastened.

In the same year in which he received his patent for the world's first tire chain, Weed established his own company to manufacture and sell the product. Over the next several years, the Weed Chain Tire Grip Company thrived as its tire chains steadily grew in popularity. In 1912, Weed sold both his patent and company to the American Chain and Cable Company in Detroit. He died in 1961 at the age of 89. (from; www.transportationhistory.org)

I remember stories the guys I worked with at the phone company telling about them weaving rope through and around the tires as make-shift chains to make it home during storms back when Model A's were daily drivers. Chains were used on Model A's for years and many a rear fender has the scars to prove it. The area of the rear fender where it attaches to the running board usually has some damage from flapping broken links. Of course back in the day that wasn't a concern.

#There is a good article on Model A Chains in the Jan/Feb 2010 issue of The Restorer magazine.

MARCOM FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY- MARCH 6th, 2022

The ANNUAL MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS

WINTER FLEA MARKET

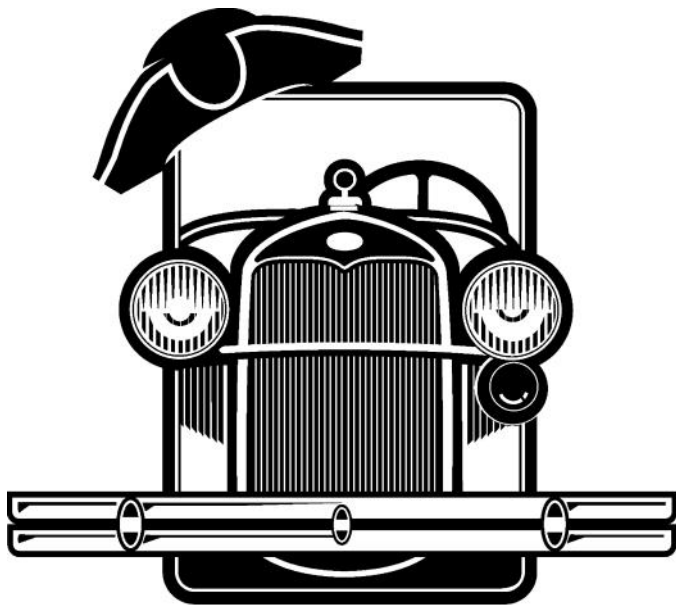
WILL BE HELD AT HOLMES TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, 22 MYRTLE STREET, NORFOLK, MA.
FROM 7:30 AM TO 11:00 AM

26th Annual

WINTER BLAH'S

Swap N' Sell

Sponsored by the Minuteman Model "A" Ford Club Sudbury, MA



MINUTEMAN
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Club of Massachusetts

Sunday, March 27, 2022
7:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: The Maynard Elks Lodge
34 Powdermill Road (RT. 62)
Maynard, MA 01754

Vendor Spaces: \$20.00

General Admission: \$3.00

Please send payment or inquiries to:

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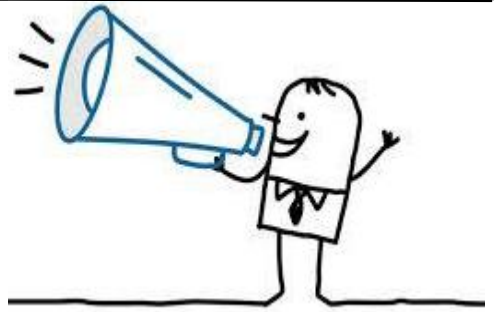
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#CONTACT CRAIG NOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE A VENDOR SPOT#



**The new year near!
Time to renew your
MEMBERSHIP**

***Dues are Due
2022***



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 _____ (cell) Telephone ____ - ____ - _____

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

Minuteman Model A Club

P.O. Box 545

Sudbury, MA 01776

If you were wondering how to determine the rear end gear ratio of your Model A is this Tiny Tip from a past issue of The Restorer magazine will easily let you figure out the ratio. Most Model A's have 3.78:1 but not all, just ask Jack.

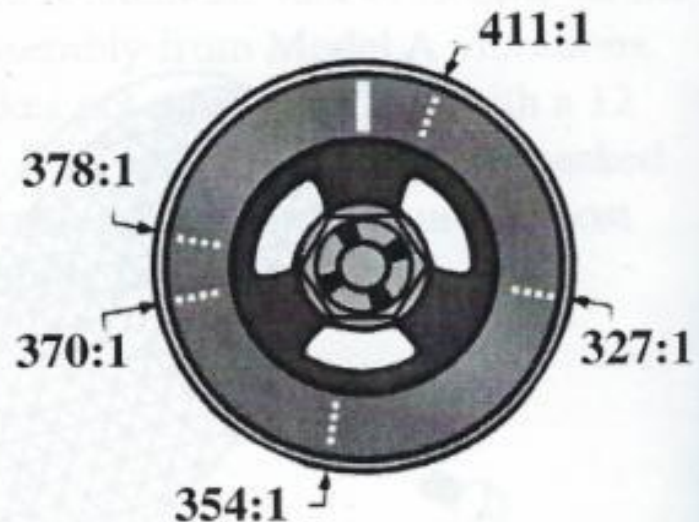
HOW TO DETERMINE YOUR REAR END RATIO

Here's one way to find out the ring and pinion ratio in your Model A. Park on a flat surface with several feet of clear space in front. Remove all four spark plugs. Put a chalk mark on a rear tire at 6 o'clock as shown. Mark the front of the crank pulley at 12 o'clock. With the help of a friend, and the transmission in high gear, push the vehicle forward and watch the mark on the crank pulley. Count the number of times the mark on the pulley reaches 12 o'clock and stop when the tire mark is at 6 o'clock again. Note the position of the mark on the crank pulley. The mark you made will be at approximately the area of your gear ratio as shown.



With 411:1, the crank pulley will have made 4 1/8 revolutions.

The crank pulley will have made three complete revolutions, then a little past 3/4 of a turn with a ratio of 3.78:1 (standard).



Submitted by Dan Ritt, Mt. Arab, Ohio

Illustrated by Dick Lewis, Lawrenceburg, Indiana

2022 NE Meet hotel information

Please be advised of the following update regarding the host hotel for the 2022 New England meet hosted by MARCOM: The Holiday Inn Mansfield/Foxboro has changed its affiliation from the Holiday Inn group to the, “enVision” group, effective January 1, 2022. Therefore, the new contact information is as follows and is applicable for any new or future reservations made on or after January 1, 2022. The Holiday Inn web site will no longer be active after December 31, 2021. Reservations must be made with Michelle Lemonis either via phone or email.

Michelle Lemonis, Director of Sales,
enVision Hotel Mansfield/Foxboro
Direct Phone: 508-594-4135

Email: mlemonis@envisionhotels.com Anyone holding reservations made with the Holiday Inn through December 31, 2021 remain valid and will be honored. Please advise your members accordingly. We currently have 97 rooms booked out of our block of 150 so it behooves anyone who wishes to attend this event and stay in the host hotel to make their reservation as soon as possible. Be sure to state that you are with the MARCOM Model A Ford group for our reduced rate of \$129 per night, valid for September 14, 2022 thru September 19, 2022. 781-771-6343 or email LJZADRA@COMCAST.NET if you have any questions.



Something tells me that neither of these micro cars were ready for prime time back in the day. With a top speed of 25 MPH I sure wouldn't be out on the roadways trying to drive around.

Hard Luck Trophy



The club's “prestigious” Hard Luck Trophy has found a new home. The trophy is awarded to a member who has encountered significant Model A difficulties during the past year. The potential candidates are reviewed and the recipient is chosen by an elite committee made up of mostly previous trophy winners. This year the award was present *In Absentia* to Bob Mangan. Bob's Model A problems all converged in 2021 which lead to having to get the engine rebuilt. In addition it was found that the transmission also had issues so that was shipped back to Mitchell for repair. Bob is a good sport and promises to take good care of the Rubber Chicken. BTW this is Bob's second time to be the caretaker of the trophy.

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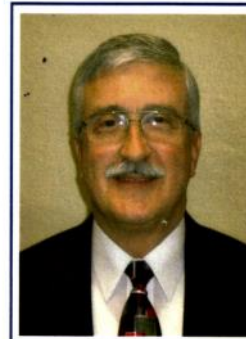
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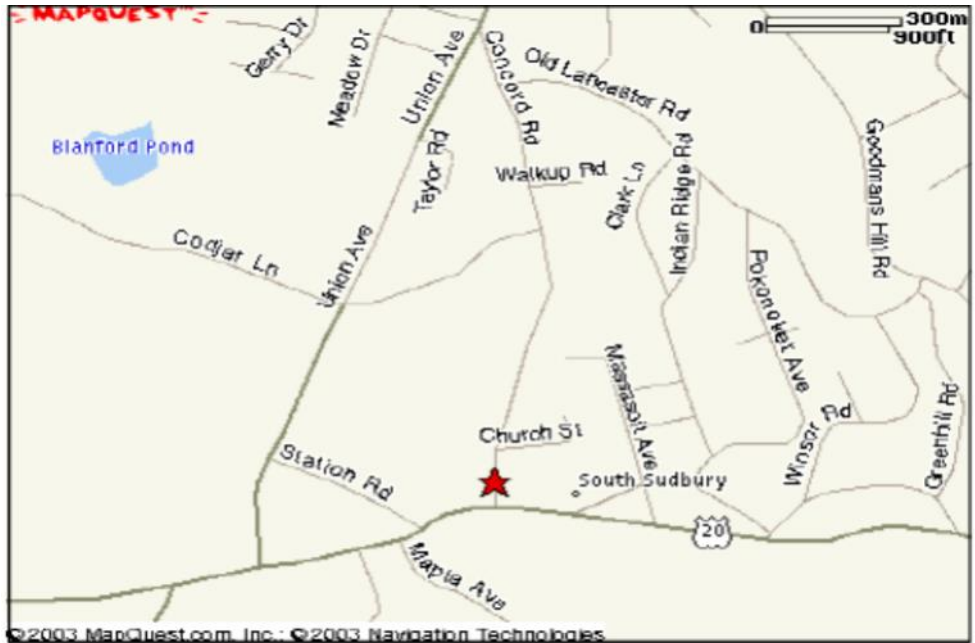


NOTICE

We look forward to you attending the March meeting. Craig Martin will be looking for more volunteers to help at the our flea market, so please make sure to see Craig Martin at the meeting.

If you haven't paid your dues, this will be your last newsletter. Don't delay, send your dues in know.

See you March 1st



Monthly Meetings have resumed 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:

March 2022

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