

The il Leak

March 2023 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 60 Issue 3

The President Speaks:

Hi All,

March is on the way as I write this note, but that can change in a the blink of an eye.

It's still fun to look forward to see all the different aspects of fun the new season has to offer. Don Ross is hard at work planning for the tour season, lots of adventures for us to have.

March is going to have our flea market so let Craig Martin know if you can help out. Martha will be selling coffee and doughnuts so stop by and say hello.

Leaving Shaw's heading to the parking lot last night I had a little trouble finding my car I Have 2014 blue Town and Country. Lots of cars look alike no matter who makes them. You have to look at the logo to get it right. I look back to the time when all the cars sold were available in many different colors, options, and trim. Those were the days.

So keep warm and stay safe!,  see you in March. T T F N.



John Kerns

(ta-ta-for-now)



Sunshine

Sue Champagne

A sympathy card was sent to Bill Hurley for the passing of his mother. Our condolences go to Bill and his family.

If you know of a member who needs a little cheering up contact me. sdchampagne1931@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE - March 18, 2023
Barbara Tallone Celebration of Life
 Service to be held at the Sanctuary in Maynard, MA; time will be forthcoming.

Coming Events

(Tours Start at Wayland Town Center RT 20)

- Mar 5** MARCOM Flea Market Norton, MA (see page 5)
Mar 7 Regular Club Meeting
Mar 26 Winter Blah's Flea Market (see page 5)
Apr 4 Regular Club Meeting

Special Tour Planning Meeting:

To Be Announced in late February or early March.

TL = Tour Leader

Minuteman Model A

Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
 January, 2023

Income:

Advertising (Oil Leak ads)	150.00
Coffee Can	21.00
<u>Member Dues</u>	<u>405.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 576.00

Expense:

Flea Market Exp	183.13
Church Hall Rental	1160.00
Misc (Installation Cake)	24.99
Office Supplies	53.97
Oil Leak Printing	70.00
<u>Website Fee</u>	<u>248.88</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 1776.97

Net Income \$ -1200.97

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

MARCH 1988 35 YEARS AGO

270 Registrations were in for our 1988 National Meet in Sturbridge. A raffle prize of \$1,000 in merchandise has been offered by Lebaron-Bonney! Our Spring Auto Parts Auction was scheduled for Tuesday, at our May 5th Club Meeting. A 50 car challenge was issued for our summer picnic at the Clark's home in June, and, by the way, 51 cars showed up!!

MARCH 1998 25 YEARS AGO

It was announced that we would host our 4th Annual "Winter Blahs" "Swap and Sell" on March 29th. Among our guests at our February Meeting were Chet Wojcik, MAFCA's Advertising Director. Our Annual "Spring Safety Check" would be held on Saturday, April 25th at Jack and Jo's house in Sudbury.

MARCH 2008 15 YEARS AGO

Sixteen year old Matt Johnson, under the tutelage of Dick Stitt continued to make progress on his 1930 Coupe. We congratulated Matt on his focus and efforts and Dick for his guidance.

There was a great article/picture of a young soldier on furlough with his first Model A Ford, a 1930 Tudor. This photo, taken in 1941, was of Bucky Silverstone! It was mentioned in the 3/08 "Oil Leak" that the upcoming Board of Directors Meeting would be held at John Jacobson's Phillips 66 "Gas Station" behind his home in Wayland.

National Organizations: (If you are not a member of these great organizations please 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 \$50/year



Model A Ford Foundation (maffi.org)

and the Model A Ford Museum \$25/yr.

2023 Board of Directors

President - John Kerns k1ika@verizon.net

Vice President - Brad Johnson bradj54@comcast.net

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

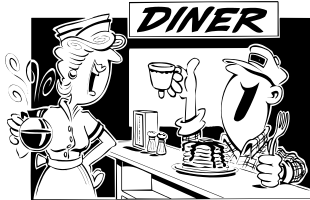
Vacant, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Harold Samuels, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

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

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 meet

every Wednesday around 8 AM. Why not join us there is always room for you.



WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Nan reports one new members this month.

Please welcome Peter McLaughlin of Westborough who owns a 1931 Coupe.

If you haven't already renewed your membership for 2023, please take the time to fill out the membership form \$20 dues to the club, as this will be your last newsletter.

2025 New England Meet Update



Co-Chairs Tom Zappala and Barbara McElhiney report that the search for the host hotel is moving along, but no final choice has been made.

The search for additional people to chair subcommittees that are essential to the success of the overall meet continues. A summary of these areas can be found in the survey that is in the November newsletter. Please contact Tom Zappala to offer your services. Let's work to make this one of the best NE Meets.



If we did all the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astonish ourselves.
Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club February 7, 2023

Location: Memorial Congregational Church Sudbury.

Tonight's meeting opened with Bob Mangan on the key-board leading the assembly in God Bless America. The encore for tonight was a song introduced to Bob by Gene Tallone called The Good Ole Days of the Model A.

President John Kerns then lead the assembled club members (33 in attendance) in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The business meeting kicked off at 7:37 pm.

Officers Reports:

John requested a motion to accept the Treasurers' Report as printed in the Oil Leak – MSP.

John then requested a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as printed in the Oil Leak – MSP.

VP Reports:

Brad had a long list of activities to report on;
MARCOM Flee Market – March 5th
Winter Blahs Flee Market – March 26th
Wings & Wheels - Fitchburg – April 30th
Wayside Inn Dinner – October 19th
Holiday Party @ The Point Grill – Dec 10th
Mark your calendars!

Brad also read MAFCA Thank You letters for memorial donations received in the names of:

Bob Wright
Barbara Tallone
Art and Pat Callen
Ann Freniere
Mazie Stitt

Brad also read a Thank you letter for the donation to MAFCA for the Model A Youth Scholarship Award.

The club has received a request for cars. They are looking to have 2 to 4 cars for display at a Gatsby Themed President's Ball on May 6th at the Woodland Country Club in Newton from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Contact Laurie Titus 617 527 1900 ext. 244 if interested.

Membership:

Nan reports that we have 1 new member in attendance tonight. Peter McLaughlin of Westboro, he has a 1931 Coupe which he just acquired in October. Welcome Peter!!!

Touring:

Don Ross passed out a list of currently planned events and is looking for a few more tour leaders to fill in some available dates. If you would like to lead an ice cream or dinner tour please contact Don. There are open dates in June, July, August, September and October.

National News:

MAFCA Museum Tour 7/16 to 7/21, will run from Indiana to Gilmore Museum and back to Indiana to the Auburn Museum.

MARC National Convention in Hamilton OH, host hotel is sold out but there are a number of other hotels in the area.

Old Business:

Doug Linden presented outgoing president Doug Farrell a token of appreciation for his three years of service as President. Doug L. built a beautiful table lamp made out of a Model A distributor with inscription of appreciation. (see page 7)

New Business:

The Annual Winter Blahs Swap Meet will be held Sunday March 26th at the Maynard Elks. This is the clubs 27th Annual Swap Meet. Craig reports good response from vendors, 22 of the 40 available spaces are taken so far. We are looking for volunteers to assist vendors in the loading and unloading process, vendors start showing up at 6:30AM and we are usually wrapped up by 11:30AM. We are also looking for donations for the Raffle Table, if you have any good Model A items you are not using and would like to donate to the raffle please contact Craig.

John thanked Harold Legge and himself for providing tonight's Refreshments.

Volunteers for next month's meeting are Jude Zeoli and Gary Hoyt.

Programs:

Doug Linden will show a short video on rebuilding a Model A vacuum wiper.

Running Board Commentary:

Bob Mangan being a coin collector led a short discussion on the penny. Of the four Model A years the most difficult penny to find is the 1931.

The Lincoln penny was first made in 1909.

Did you know that Canada no longer produces pennies!

Meeting was officially closed at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Gadbois

Secretary

MARCOM FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY- MARCH 5th, 2023

WINTER FLEA MARKET

AT HOLMES TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, 22 MYRTLE STREET, NORFOLK, MA.

FROM 7:30 AM TO 11:00 AM Admission \$3.00

MINUTEMAN 27TH WINTER BLAH'S FLEA MARKET



Sunday March 26, 2023

7:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Maynard Elks Lodge
34 Powder Mill Road (RT 62)

Maynard, MA 01754

Vendor Spaces: \$20.00

General Admission: \$3.00

Egyptian Fashion Influence



During the Model A era, travel to Egypt was promoted. Ever since King Tut's tomb was discovered the romance and mystery of the land of the pyramids and Nile River captivated people everywhere.

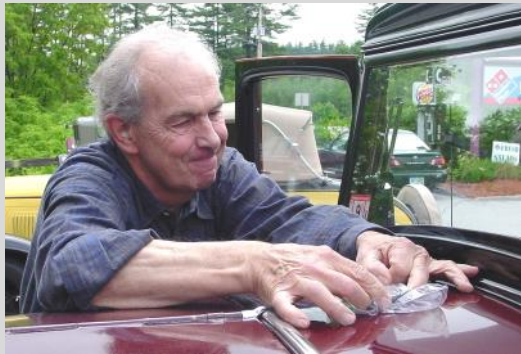
In the fashion world colors were influenced by the Egyptian theme – such as Nile green, which was commonly seen in dresses, undergarments and sleep wear. These images shown are from Model A era catalogs.

The shades of green were all described as Nile green, but there was always a little variation between manufacturers, kind of the same problem we now have matching Model A paint colors.



BOB WRIGHT AGE 82

Yet again we have lost another club member. Bob Wright passed away in September 2022, and it took time for the news of his passing to make it to us from Maine. Bob and his wife Janice were active mem-



ber for many years before moving to Maine. Bob enjoyed working/restoring his Model A's and he was especially proud of the Victoria he restored. It was a beauty. Bob was clever and made some nice accessories for his Model A's. BUT he also had a habit of "fixing" things before we would go on long trips. Some will recall with a big smile his spark plug incident. The picture of Bob shows him making a roadside gas cap repair as his original gas cap was last seen on the running board at the recent gas stop. Our condolences go to the entire Wright family.

INVENTIONS DURING THE MODEL A ERA

1928



BUBBLE GUM: **Walter E. Diemer** (January 8, 1904 –

January 8, 1998) was an American accountant, for Flier who, in 1928, invented bubble gum. Although an accountant by trade, Diemer liked to experiment with gum recipes in his spare time. In doing so, he accidentally stumbled upon a unique recipe. The gum was pink because it was the only food coloring in the factory, which is the reason most bubble gum today is pink. Flier began marketing the new gum as "Dubble Bubble." Diemer taught himself how to blow bubbles as a selling point for the gum, helping

to demonstrate how Dubble Bubble differed from all other chewing gums. Sold at the price of one cent a piece, sales of Dubble Bubble surpassed \$1.5 million in the first year. The original package also included a color comic strip. The business was sold in 2003 to Tootsie Roll Industries.



REESE'S PEANUT BUTTER

CUPS: In the early 1920s, H.B. Reese, an employee of The Hershey Company, started making candy in the basement of his Hershey home. When Reese created Peanut Butter Cups as part of an assortment of candies in 1928, the first generation of chocolate and peanut butter fans made the candy his bestselling item.

The Hershey Company supplied H.B. Reese with the chocolate coating for his candy and maintained a close relationship with him throughout his candy ventures. In 1956, his six sons took over the business and eventually sold it to The Hershey Company in 1963.

“Artie-Fact”

by “A”nonymous

Accused: “I was certainly not driving at 60 MPH in a built-up area! I wasn’t doing more than 40, in fact it was nearer 30. Now I come to think about it, I’d slow down to 20 at the time and...”



Judge: “Hold on a minute! You’d better stop before you back into someone!”

Garage Happenings

The winter months are a great time to get some of those Model A projects completed. There is always something that we need to address. # I mentioned at the meeting, I finally decided to get my vacuum wiper repaired. I sent it out and it works great. Hopefully I won’t have to use it.

Dave Libbey removed the head of his Model A engine. It was stuck, but he eventually got it off by removing almost all of the studs. He has it all back together



and running now. # Harold Legge is tracking down an annoying vibration in his coupe that seems to be engine rpm related. # Jack Stokinger recently replaced a broken front spring perch. This is definitely an unusual part to break on a Model A, but it did.

I’m sure others have projects underway as well and I hope you have success in getting the job done.



Doug L presents Doug F with a one-of-a-kind lamp made out of Model A parts in appreciation of Doug Farrell’s three years as President as we all had to deal with the impact of Covid.

THE MODEL A VACUUM WINDSHIELD WIPER

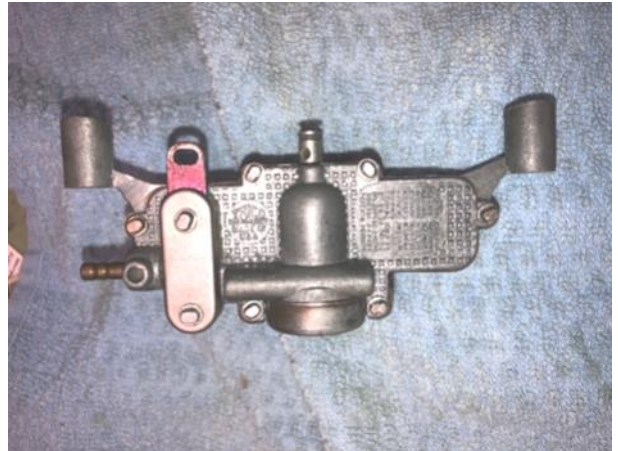
The Model A vacuum windshield wiper replaced the electric wiper starting in late 1929. My vacuum wiper hasn't been working for sometime and at Hershey last year I talked to Rob Ficken of Ficken Wiper Service in NY. He indicated that the wipers were made by the Trico company and the service replacement wiper motors for the Model A could be rebuilt. I have been using Rain-X for years, and it works great, but I figured it was time to get the wiper motor working again. I found information online on rebuilding the wiper, and I even had the wiper motor repair kit, but I elected to send it to Ficken to have it professionally rebuilt. I Mailed it to NY on a Wednesday and got the rebuilt wiper back the next Thursday. Very quick service and came back with a three year warranty.

I bench tested the wiper before putting it back on the Model A and it worked perfectly.

At the February meeting I showed a YouTube video that covered the rebuilding of the wiper, if you weren't at the meeting, click on this link to watch it. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hq4xw0z8M>

As I said, I decided to send the wiper out to be rebuilt.

I still hope it doesn't rain while on a tour, but at least I'll know the wiper is up to the task if it does.



Restoring the Vacuum Wiper

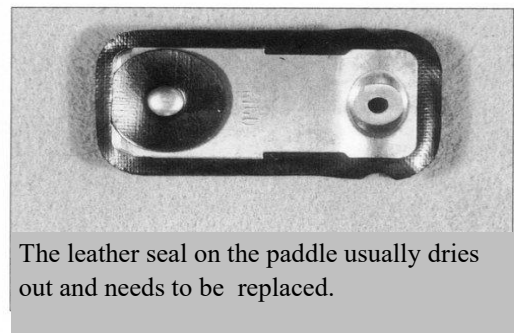
by Lorne Wilson, Edmonds, Washington

Wanting to restore my Trico vacuum wiper, I could not find any information anywhere. So, if you need to restore one, here is the information.

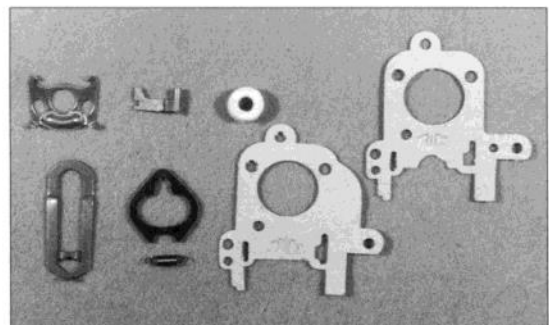
Buy a restoration kit. Then take the back off the motor. Take it apart and carefully lay out the parts in the order taken out. Take off top; if you have a special wrench available, it is easier. I used a small crescent wrench. Hone out inside where the paddle goes in. At each end of paddle, lubricate the ends with light oil. Insert paddle and work back and forth until it flows easily. Lay gaskets on, put top back on. On back put parts back in reverse order. Make sure air lines are good.

Happy "A"ing. Thanks to Bob Watson for his help.

This article from The Restorer Magazine.



The leather seal on the paddle usually dries out and needs to be replaced.





Don't miss an issue!
Time to renew your
MEMBERSHIP
Dues are Due
2023



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 _____

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 _____

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Online: <https://threadlogic.com/>
Or by phone: [800-347-1612](tel:800-347-1612)



Club Merchandise

If you are interested in purchasing club shirts or jackets, visit this website and check out their offerings. We have many new members who would like to purchase club apparel. You can pick any shirt or jacket with the club logo. If you bring a copy of what you would like to buy to the meeting, the club will place one order so the shipping will be free, if the order is over \$300.



idea of using a series of 5 or 6 short signs, each with a line or two of a clever rhyme or saying. Rather than quickly glancing at the signs as they would with most roadside billboards, motorists paid close attention to each of the distinctive red and white Burma-Shave signs so that they wouldn't miss the punch line at the end. The advertising was a great success, and Burma-Shave signs appeared alongside highways all across America. Burma-Shave sales peaked in the late 1940's and held steady for several years before gradually declining. In 1963, Burma-Shave was sold to Gillette, and by 1966 most of the signs were gone. Some of them ended up in museums, including the Smithsonian.

Not many people today will remember the old Burma-Shave roadside advertising signs, but they appeared alongside major U.S. highways for several decades from the 1920's into the 1960's. Burma-Shave was one of the first brushless shaving creams, introduced in 1925 by Allan Odell. Odell came up with the

Shaving Brushes

You'll soon see 'em

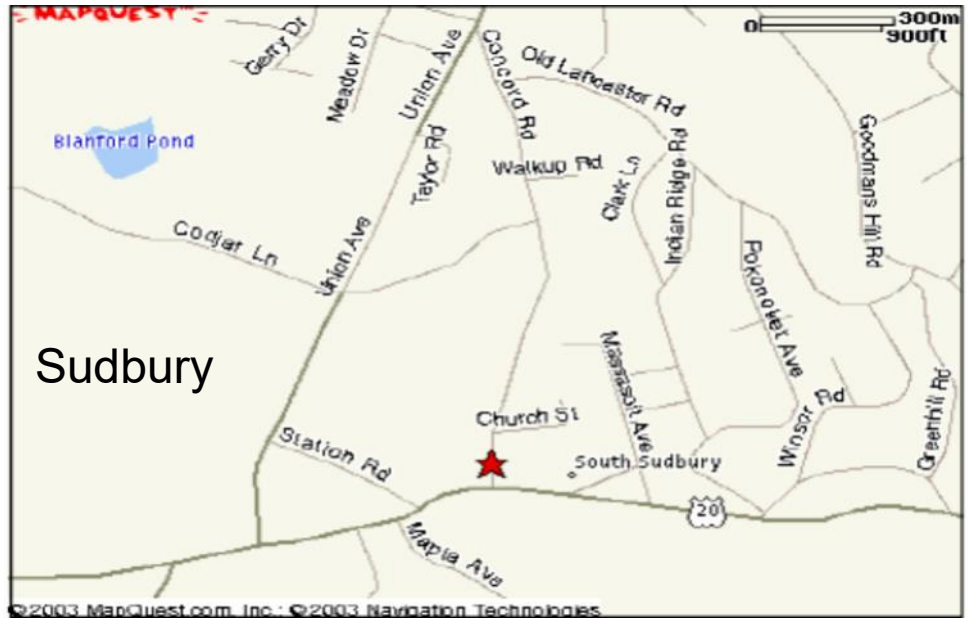
On the shelf

In some museum

Burma Shave (1930)

March

Our club Flea Market will be here before you know it and Craig will be asking for help to set-up the vendors as they arrive in the morning. If you haven't signed up to help see Craig at the meeting. Touring season is almost here and at the next meeting we will have a helpful short safety check video.



Our Monthly meetings are held 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 2023

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