

The Oil Leak

May 2017

Volume 54 Issue 5

The President Speaks:

My Fellow Minutemen,

It never ceases to surprise me when I push my foot down on the starter button on my Model A and it comes to life. You'd think that after all the miles I've driven, it wouldn't be such a big surprise . . .



I fired up my woody last weekend and had her out for a run around the neighborhood. In doing so, I started running through a mental checklist of the things I should be doing in the coming weeks, including checking the oil, coolant, tire pressure, lug nuts, brakes, tool kit, and spare parts. I thought about washing the windshield, getting out my grease gun, and finally, replacing those two worn spare tires I've had mounted my front fenders. In short, I was thinking of going through my maintenance and safety checklist - a self-guided Tour Clinic, so to speak.

I mention these things to remind myself that one of the keys to a well-running Model A is the proper care and maintenance. I plan to spend some time tinkering with my little woody wagon - and getting her ready for what I hope is yet another safe and trouble-free driving season.

I hope that as you are doing the same, you won't find any surprises - and if you do, you won't hesitate to call me or one of the dozens of doubtlessly more-qualified mechanics in the Minuteman Club. I look forward to all the tinkering, and to seeing you all on the road sometime soon.

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 Grace at Gdoyle95@aol.com

Coming Events

(Tours Start at Sudbury Grange unless noted)

- May 3:** 7:00 PM Ice Cream Tour, TL Dick O'Brien
May 10: Brimfield Flea Market *
May 11: 6:30 PM Dinner Tour, TL The Legges
May 13: 9:00 AM Bell Winery-Amherst NH, TL L. Conley
May 21: 12:30 PM Wellesley Parade*, TL Dick O'Brien
May 31: 7:00 PM Ice Cream Tour, TL The Batstones
June 4: 10:00 AM Wellesley College Parade *

TL= Tour Leader

* On your own, go directly to location.

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Art "back home" Callan

May 1982 35 years ago

Pres. Rudy Harwood announced the annual auction. (April meeting was snowed out!!)

Spring tour to Nashoba Valley Winery great success. (Someone remembered)

May 1992 25 years ago

Tech Talk - Peter Small - Ammeter Analysis

Don Bennett in the coffee line, not behind the counter.

Plans set for Run-Walk benefit for Concord Family Services and Wellesley College Alumnus Parade.

May 2002 15 years ago

Annual Tune-Up and Marathon Day well attended.

Plans set for Concord Orchestra. Tickets arranged by Wilma Johnson.

ARTIE-FACTS

An old man and woman were married for many years. Whenever there was a confrontation, yelling could be heard into the night. The old man would shout,

"When I die, I will dig my way up and out of the grave and come back and haunt you for the rest of your life".

When he died, his wife had a closed casket. After the burial, her neighbors asked, "Aren't you afraid that he may indeed be able to dig his way out of the grave and haunt you for the rest of your life". The wife said, "Let him dig. I had him buried upside down, and I know he won't ask for directions."



Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report

Mar 22 thru Apr 22, 2017

No Report Available at time of printing



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 - Cindy Mangan cynthialmangan@aol.com

Membership - Nan Linden 508-485-7575 met59A31@aol.com

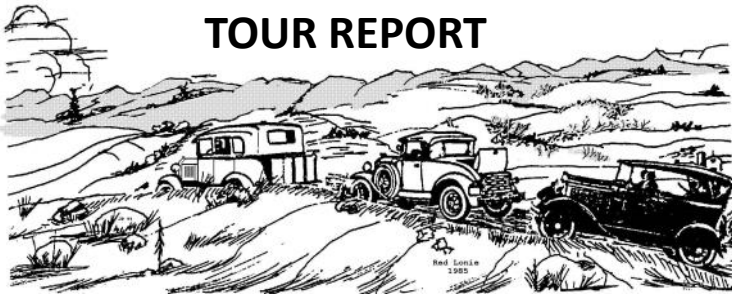
Editor - Pro Tem - Doug Linden douglinden@aol.com

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



TOUR REPORT

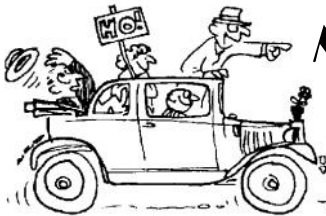
Sunday, April 2, 2017

POST OFFICE PUB BRUNCH North Grafton, MA

Tour Leaders: Ed & Joyce Croci

Due to Mother Nature still giving us Winter weather, our tour from the Grange was changed to meeting directly at the Post

Office Pub. The roads still had salt, sand and lots of puddles on them and we wouldn't want that on our A's. We had 21 people meeting us at the Pub including Wayne & Sue Champagne with their two granddaughters, Dick Graham, John & Shirley Jacobson, John & Martha Kerns, Doug & Nan Linden, Craig & Karen Martin, Bob & Corinne Simonelli, Ed Wloydka, Dick O'Brien, and Tony & Jude Zeoli. We were a little crowded, but we were right next to where the brunch was set up. Wonderful selection of food with omelets made to order and endless coffee and tea. As we were sitting at along table, it was hard to talk to everyone. Many conversations going on around the table. The weather turned out great and hope everyone had a good time.



Model A's For Sale

1928 Model A Roadster- Solid car, needs paint, rumble seat hinges.
Last registered 1999. Inside storage.

1931 Model A Pickup- Solid truck, inside storage, last registered 1989.
Dent in roof, needs work.

5 Used Model A Engines – Call **Don Rising at 978-771-0908** for pricing and a closer look.

Secretary's Report

Minuteman Model 'A' Ford Club April 4, 2017 Meeting Minutes Memorial Congregational Church, Sudbury, MA

Meeting was called to order at 7:38 PM with approximately 41 members in attendance.

Tom sadly reported that this was our 4th consecutive meeting with NO Model A's in the parking lot. Cheer up Tom the weather will cooperate soon.

Tom then acknowledged two visitors in attendance tonight: Doug Farrell and Tom Webster. Tom has three 1929's and has had Model A's since he was 16.

Officers Reports:

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

- Andy Adams then requested a motion to accept the Treasurers Report as printed in the Oil Leak – MSP

- Tom then thanked Dick Graham for providing a terrific looking cake for tonight's break. Refreshment volunteers for next month: Clyde Kelton and Vin DelMastro.

Membership:

- Nan Linden reported we have a new member. Rich and Susan Bowes of Cotuit, they have a 1930 Deluxe Roadster.

Touring:

- Dick O'Brien reported on two upcoming tours.

* 4/13 Thursday – Red Ginger – leaving the grange at 6:30 PM.

* 4/18 Tuesday – Ice Cream tour leaving grange at 7:00 PM.

- Tour Cards were distributed at the meeting. Tom thanked the tour directors for their effort in providing this handy resource.

Old Business:

- Doug reported on The 23rd Annual Winter Blahs Flea Market for Craig Martin. The weather was good, we had 26 vendors indoors and 4 outside. The number of patrons thru the gate

was less than normal but much better than last year. Many thanks to all the volunteers that helped out.

New Business:

- Wayne Champagne, the clubs mileage coordinator, handed out this years' awards from MARC.

* Don Ross – 5000 miles - Tudor Sedan

* Wayne Champagne – 10,000 miles on his Town Sedan.

* Bruce Marshall – 35,000 miles on the Coupe named Thelma.

* Dick Stitt – 40,000 miles Town Sedan.

Congratulations to all the award recipients and Happy Motoring in 2017 !!

If you would like to participate in the mileage program please see Wayne at next months meeting.

Programs:

- Tonight we will have a slide show called a 'Trip Down Memory Lane' featuring photos of current and past members.

- Next month Wayne Champagne will lead a talk on Carburetors.

Running Board Commentary:

- Doug provided an update on the Nashoba Valley Tech Model A engine rebuild project, expected completion date is end of April. Several Minuteman members provided some of the outstanding parts needed by the school. In addition the Minuteman Board of Directors approved the purchase of \$200 worth of parts to help complete the project. Doug will work on scheduling a trip to the school for interested members.

Business Meeting Adjourned at 8:04 PM

***Respectfully submitted –
Rick Gadbois - Secretary***

Welcome New Members

Kenneth Caron
1643 Trapelo Road
Waltham, MA 02451

John Bockoven
179 South Great Road
Lincoln, MA 01773
1928 Truck



Club Roster Available

Nan Linden prepared the new club Roster and had them available at the April Meeting. If you would like a copy of the Roster, see Nan at a meeting or contact her at met59a31@aol.com.

TOUR SCHEDULE

Email me (douglingen@aol.com) for a printable copy of the 2017 Tour Schedule

23rd Annual Winer Blah's Swap Meet

On March 26th, 2017 at 5:00am, John Pierce and Lenny & Peg Michalak were laying out the 28 vendor spaces. By 6:00am Grace Doyle & Martha Kerns had the coffee going and Rich Weintraub was delivering the donuts. Doug Linden had the signs up and at 7:30am Nan Linden, Jude Zeoli & Tom Zappala were collecting \$\$ from attendees. The weather was good and by 9:00 AM it was standing room only at the Elks. Lot's of automotive parts traded hands that morning and after the 10:30AM raffle drawing managed by Don Ross and Mike Doyle everyone loaded up and headed home for a nap. We had a lot of happy customers. Helpers include, Bob Gedney, Bob Norton, John Erb, Mike Doyle, Skip Dunham, Tom Zappala, Ed Wlodyka, Ed Croci & Tony Zeoli. Hope I did not forget anyone. See you next year.

Craig Martin - Flea Market Chairman

Some of the flea market shoppers looking over Wayne's goodies. Also, see related report on page 8.



TOUR REPORT

Red Ginger Tour April 13, 2017

Under a clear sky, 3 model A's left the Grange for a 15 minute ride to the Red Ginger Restaurant in Stow. We were met at the Restaurant by 1 Model A and an assortment of modern cars. 15 minute-people made the trip to the Red Ginger for a sit down dinner of assorted Asian dishes. We were all hungry by 7:30pm so there was lots of eating, drinking and Model A talk. Hope all the Model A headlights worked on the way home. Thanks for coming.

Craig Martin - Tour Leader



Nashoba ValleyTech Senior Project

The Minuteman club was recently contacted by Mr. Brian Fillion, instructor of the Advanced Manufacturing Department of Nashoba Valley Technical High School. Brian was looking for some expertise to help him guide his Senior students as they embarked on a project to rebuild a Model A engine as their Senior Project. Brian was hoping member/s would be able to answer questions and give him some insight on the project. Jack Stokinger and Doug Linden met with Brian and the students on our first visit and provided them with Les Andrews Model A Mechanics book as well as some parts catalogs. We also advised them on which of the two engine blocks to use and answer some general questions. On our next visit Dick Stitt, Len Michalak and Doug Linden came prepared to help out by donating some larger missing parts (Generator and Starter). We also found out that, although the Project was approved by the school, no funds were available for the project and that Brian was footing the bill out of his own pocket. It was then the club stepped up and decided to help. After all, what better way could we find to encourage the youth to get interested in the Model A hobby. We made a detailed list of all the parts needed to finish the project and went to Tam's buy them, which amounted to just over \$200. Thanks to other members, all the remaining parts were donated. Our third trip to the school was to bring the treasure trove of parts to the eager kids. Brian was anxious to get the kids to work on rebuilding the distributor and carburetor. We also went over plans for attaching the radiator, and a small dash board for the ignition switch, coil, ammeter and the gas tank. Brian was going to mount the small gas tank on the engine stand, that is until we told him it was a gravity feed system and had to be mounted higher than the carburetor. Oops! A small fact that non-Model Aers aren't familiar with. Other shops at the school are also involved. The Carpentry Shop made the engine stand frame, the Body Shop painted the engine and its parts. The last important part is the muffler, we aren't sure who's going to make that critical item. We can't wait to go back and help them get the engine started. Stay tuned for that report.



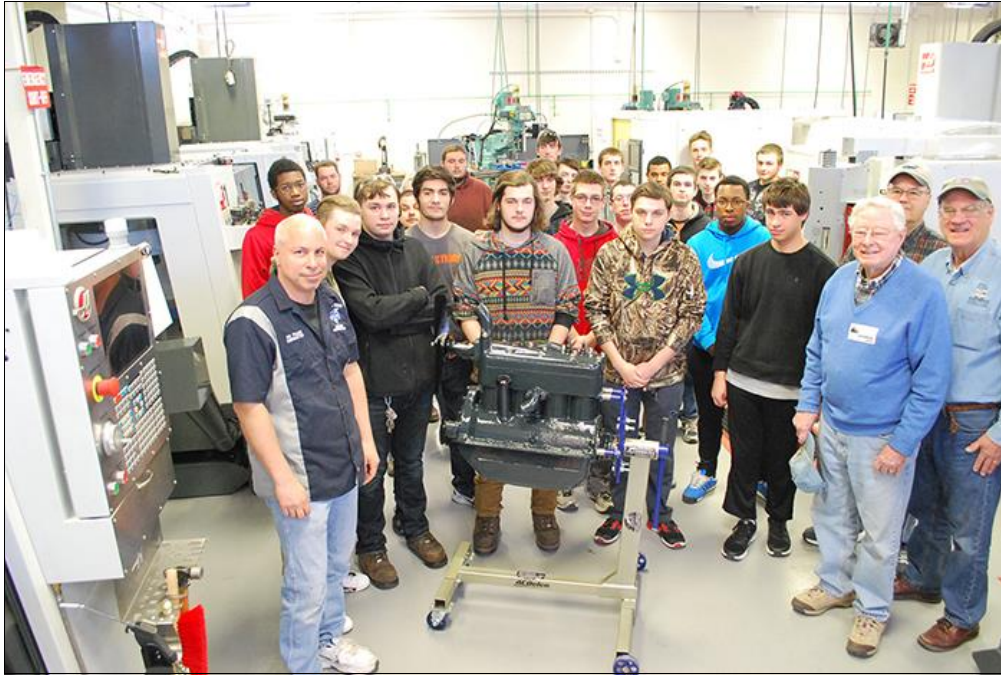
The engine is looking pretty good all painted



Len explaining the details of the engine

Some of the senior students who are working on the engine project.





Nashoba Tech Advanced Manufacturing instructor Brian Fillion, far left, students, instructors and members of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club gather around a 1929 Model A Ford engine that seniors in the program are restoring, with help from club members.



Members of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club present students in Nashoba Tech's Advanced Manufacturing program with parts they donated to the senior project of restoring a 1929 Model A Ford engine. From left are Michael Dawson (senior, Townsend), club members Doug Linden and Len Michalak, Ryan King (senior, Shirley) and club member Dick Stitt.

Special Thanks to our members who supported this project:

Jack Stokinger *

Doug Linden* (Generator,
Technical Books)

Wayne Champagne
(Spark Plugs)

Dick Stitt* (Starter)

Clyde Kelton (Carburetor,
Distributor, Fan)

Len Michalak* (Exhaust
parts)

John Sexton (Radiator)

Andy Adams (Generator)

* Technical Advisors

Brian Fillion expressed his gratitude to the entire club for its generosity by buying all the miscellaneous Model A engine parts to finish the project.

NEW ENGLAND MEET

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

www.2017nemodelameet.com/

You will find event information and the registration form. Sign up now to join the fun.



My First Winter Blahs Visit

By Rich Bowes

On Sunday, March 26, as a brand new member of the Minuteman Club, I attended my first Club event, the WINTER BLAHS FLEA MARKET, at the Maynard Elks.



As I drove into the parking lot, I immediately recognized the site as the former Alphonse's Powder Mill Restaurant, where my wife Suzi and I held our wedding reception in 1973.

Entering the main room, I was greeted by my friend Doug Linden, who advised that he was having a great day, having already sold many of the items he had brought to sell. We discussed this year's New England meet to be held in Conway NH, and MARC's national tour to be held in Gettysburg PA. Both of which Suzi and I are scheduled to attend.



As I wandered around the room, I met several members of the Club, and a few old friends from my former club. To my wife's delight, I resisted the urge to buy any of the very tempting items on display such as one of the many Zenith carburetors, or distributors. As she reminded me, I already have spares of each for our 1930 Deluxe Roadster..



In spite of my failure to buy anything, I hope all the sellers, buyers, and the Club had a successful (and profitable?) day.

I look forward to attending the Club's future events, and meeting many more "Minutemen".

100K in a Model A

Join the MAFCA Challenge



A challenge to our members

Let's drive 100K miles in one day

***Free to all MAFCA members
Between January 1 and October 31
You choose the day
You choose the route
You drive your Model A's***



Send reported mileage to: 100K@mafca.com

***For reporting form or more information visit us at:
<http://www.mafca.com/100kChallenge.html>***

Let's help MAFCA achieve this interesting goal. We can pick any tour to determine our mileage. If we keep track of the mileage and attendance during the season, I'm sure we will have one well attended tour that will really help to achieve this 100K miles driven in the Model A in one day.



**KENTUCKY
DERBY**

Saturday MAY 6th

Traditions of Wayland has once again invited members of the Minuteman Club to join them to celebrate the "Running of the Roses" on May 6th. 2:00 PM arrival to show off the Model A's then enjoy some Music, Food and Mint Julips. (I heard the Shrimp last year was xclnt)

Traditions of Wayland is located at:
10 Green Way (off RT 126/27) Wayland, MA 01778

Don Ross will lead this event.

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Factory photo - not Vin's car

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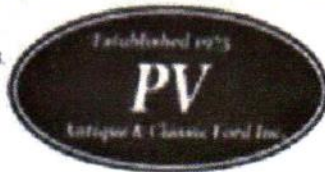
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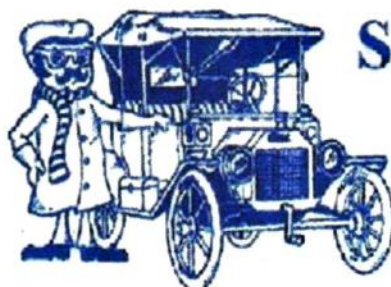


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MAY 2017

Please
Mail to:

Be sure to visit www.oilleak.org

REMINDER

The touring season is underway and it is nice to be able to driving the Model A's again. At the May meeting our own Wayne Champagne will be conducting a program on Model A Carburetors. This should be very informative.



Monthly Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the Month at the Memorial Congregational Church on Concord Rd in Sudbury. Meetings start at 7:30 PM, preceded by "Tire Kicking" at 7:00 PM.