

The il Leak

May 2020 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Volume 57 Issue 5

[May Events Canceled see page 2](#)

The President Speaks:



Hi Club Members,

Hope all is well with our members, family's and friends. What a month it has been. I go from being upbeat and moving along with positive thoughts to lows of anxiety. It's not easy to just stay at home but it is for the common good of all. With that in mind we all push forward. This will end soon keep the positive thoughts going forward.

I hope some of you have been out riding in your cars. As I said last month it does make you real real good and everyone likes to see Model A's going down the rode. I did enjoy Bob Mangan's Easter ride video at Wayside Inn. Any members with interesting pictures or articles put them in the Email blast for all to enjoy.

As of this writing 4/16/20 not sure if any events will take place. We will let everyone know the status for May during the next 2 week's. May looks like a washout only time will tell. There is still June thru Dec with lots of activity.

No tours, no club meeting it has been a quiet April for the Minuteman Model A club.

Hope to see you soon!!



KEEP SMILING EVERY DAY

Doug Farrell



Sunshine

Sue Champagne
(sdchampagne1931@gmail.com)

No cards were sent out this month. We're glad to hear everyone is doing well and staying clear of Covid-19.

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

Coming Events

(Tours Start at Wayland Town Center RT 20)

~~May 2: Derby Day at Traditions~~

~~May 5: Regular Club Meeting~~

~~May 6: Heritage Breakfast Tour~~

~~May 17: Wellesley Veterans Parade~~

~~May 21: Steven Anthony's~~

~~May 30: Butterfly Tour~~

Our May events will be canceled. The Derby Days has been postponed until September. For latest changes check oilleak.org for any updates.

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
March, 2020

Income:

Advertising	150.00
Coffee Can	16.00
Flea Mkt Vendors	220.00
Member Dues	280.00
Raffle (club)	14.00
Total Income	\$ 680.00

Expense:

Summer Meeting deposit	1050.98
Total Expense	\$ 1050.98

Net Income \$-370.98



MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Art Callan

MAY 1985 35 YEARS AGO

Meeting at the Grange with 24 Model A's. Program: Aldie Johnson with slides and commentary on the restoration of his mail truck. Plans made for Sudbury Parade on July 4th.

MAY 1995 25 YEARS AGO

Guest speaker is Steve Pargeter: After Market Carbs. New member: Dick Krug. Plans for Hildene & Collings Mus. and Tailgate Pty. Club now has 34 videos available & hats, T's and banners for sale.

MAY 2005 15 YEARS AGO

Club meeting grows to 68 members. Wayne Champagne runs a great raffle. New logo caps and tour cards in color! Jack Stokinger receives a 40 year membership pin from MAFCA, the national club. Program: movie "Just Out of Reach" shown. Produced by Dave Willins with cars from Gene Bunce and John Pierce. Club fines of \$2 each to Gene and John.

-----ARTIE FACT (by Housebound in FL)----- EXPLAINING THE "ISMS"

Socialism: You have two cows. Give one cow to your neighbor.

Communism: You have two cows. Give both to the government and they may give you some milk.

Fascism: You have two cows. You give all of the milk to the government and the gov will sell it.

Nazism: You have two cows. The government shoot you and takes both cows.

Anarchism: You have two cows. Keep both cows, shoot the government agent and steal another cow.

Capitalism: You have two cows. Sell one, buy a bull.



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

Secretary's Report

No April 7, 2020 Meeting
Nothing to Report and Stay well

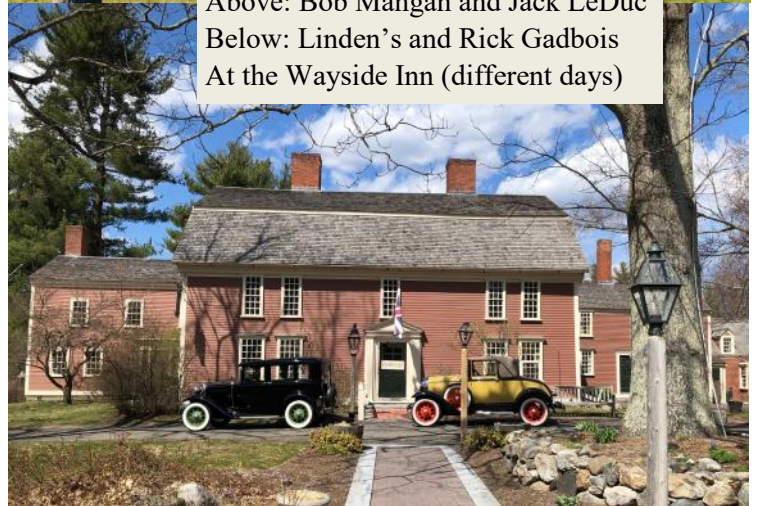
Well, we haven't had any club tours so far this year, but members have still found ways to get out and enjoy their Model A. Here are a few pictures of members enjoying their "A"s



Dick Krug chauffeuring
the Easter Bunny



Above: Bob Mangan and Jack LeDuc
Below: Linden's and Rick Gadbois
At the Wayside Inn (different days)



Bruce and Trish Marshall have the woody in South Carolina and enjoy exploring the local country roads. By the looks of it there is not much traffic.

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Sunshine: Sue Champagne *sdchampagne1931@gmail.com*

Newsletter Distribution: Sue Champagne *sdchampagne1931@gmail.com*



REMINDER - Please visit the club website at 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!

MAFFI NEWSLETTER MINUTE

April 2020

Did you get your commemorative pin from Model A Day 2019?

Each year for Model A Day we create a pin with our feature car. This year we had 2 pins, one with the Unrestored A-400 and another one of the Twenty Millionth Model A. Both of these pins are still available but the quantity is limited on the A-400. The cost for the A-400 pin is \$7.00 and the Twenty Millionth Model A is \$6.00. This includes postage and handling. It is more economical for us to mail out larger quantities of these (4 or more) so keep this in mind when you order them. We are happy to mail out single ones as well.

These make fun giveaways at your club meetings or a special little something for the Model A person in your life and it is a great way to support our Museum.

Please send a check made out to MAFFI enclosed with a list of what you would like to:

Suzan O'Neale

477 Beaver Pond Way

Mineral, VA 23117

Thank you again for your support of MAFFI





Model A For Sale

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.



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 7:15 AM. (see ad page 10)



MINUTEMAN
MODEL "A" FORD
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

Jim's technical tip

by Jim Cannon, MAFCA Technical Contributor

Preventing Moth Damage to Upholstery and Era Fashions

There are two kinds of moths that eat wool: Webbing Clothes Moths and Casemaking Clothes Moths. Most of the interior upholstery used on our closed cars is made of wool, as is a lot of vintage clothing. If they take up residency in your car or closet, moths can quickly eat large holes in the material before you know what happened. You can be alerted to their presence before you see the damage.



When your car is parked in the garage, hang a "clothes moth trap" on a small piece of coat hanger wire inside the car, or hang one in your closet near your vintage clothes. Check the trap regularly (at least monthly). There is a sticky strip inside the trap that is treated with moth-specific pheromones. If there is a male Webbing Clothes Moth (but not Casemaking Clothes Moths) in the area, they will go to the trap. (Do not use the traps sold for grain moths or pantry moths -- wrong pheromone.)

You can't rely on these traps to catch all of the moths, though, to eliminate the problem. You must do something to kill the moths in the car or on the clothes to stop the damage. First vacuum everything well to get rid of anything you can. I don't like to use insecticides, but you might find one that you like that will work.



If you can, park the car outside in direct sun all day with the windows rolled up, to get the interior temperature above 120F for 4 hours or more. Put clothes in the sun in a black plastic trash bag, sealed. (I do it all day for several days -- it can't hurt.) This will kill the larvae and adults, but may not kill all of the eggs, so you may need to treat again.

If hot weather is not available, you can also smother the moths by closing all of the windows and putting several pounds of dry ice in the car. The CO₂ from the dry ice will fill the car and smother the moths -- eggs, larvae and adults. Or put the dry ice in a sealed container or bag with era fashion clothes (don't let them touch the dry ice.). It takes about a week to kill everything, so leave it all closed up, then air it out well before you drive.

Mark how many moths are stuck in the trap after you treat the car or clothes and then continue to monitor for any new little critters. If you see them again, you need to treat again.

I hope this little tip helps you prevent damage to your car's upholstery and era fashions.

Have a Model A Day! Jim

A WORD FROM ABOVE ?

I'm beginning to think I've not been listening to God when He's talking to me about Model As. I have never had so much difficulty trying to get my A on the road. It's been over two years and I'm still not on the road! Such stupid goings on! I'm trying to put the original engine back in. The engines on a temporary rolling stand, not very stable. Just mounted the flywheel and went to a drawer to get a heavy mallet to set it. The front bumper fell on the deck, the engine toppled over on it, bending it & braking the directional light. It's been one dumb issue after the other, some from my being clumsy.

I think God's been telling me it's time to quit fooling around, after some 64 years, with Model As! I bought this coupe in a dark garage up next to a wall. Turned out it had a bent frame among other issues. Because I drive my A a lot, I pulled a decent engine & replaced it with one rebuilt by the 2nd best mechanic in the country. It had no power? Back to re-builder. Listened to it run nicely on a test stand. What I did not test was to see if cylinder # 1 was working, it sounded so good! Dropped it in, still no power! #s 2,3,4 working fine when shorting the plug wires. #1, nadda, but sounds good! Compression 60 lbs, swapped ignition, plugs, carburetor, coil, manifold, even my underwear. Pulled the head, valve cover, timing gear cover. Everything spot on. A knowledgeable friend checked it out, "well, I'd use 16 on the exhaust valve clearance". He saw no reason for the failure.

After hours of pondering, it would seem that there had to be some problem with the cam shaft. Had it been modified? But how do you get 60 lbs compression and 2,3 and 4 cylinders appear to work fine. Actually had it on the road and could not get it to run much on the flat, and really slugged on a hill. Did somebody rework that cam so that #

I would act as an air compressor? Over the years these engines have been used for many other purposes. They even used them in an airplane called a Piety Pole Air Camper. There are a couple that fly into a big aviation meet every year. I remember having read years ago of how to use a portion of an A engine as an air compressor, probably Mechanics Illustrated. Everything appears to look good, maybe somebody has seen this before and knows what the problem is. I'm dlfreniere@gmail.com or 603-229-2731.

Meanwhile, I'm gonna put the original engine back in (ran OK with a variety of distributors, etc.) if I don't kill myself in the process. I'm looking for a cam to have reworked by Snyder's for "touring". Am also looking for a good short block to change to insert bearings.

Ahhhh, I'm two years older and it's getting harder to get under the car. I was surprised that I could still lift the flywheel enough to mount it (before the engine fell over). Course not sure what my shoulders will be telling me tonight at bed time! Incidentally, if you take two old head studs and put a point on the ends to act as a guide, it makes it easier to mount that flywheel. Then let the engine flop over on your bumper!
Uncle Don

Editor's Note: Don Freniere is founding member of our club and was editor of the Oil Leak for many years, in fact he came up with the name Oil Leak. His stories of Model A'ing in those early days were so much fun to read. Don actually was a previous owner of my Model A. Thanks for the contribution Don and hopefully someone has the parts you are looking for.

Bob Mangan sent a picture of the custom facemask Cindy created for him. Looks pretty cool doesn't it.



April showers bring flooded roads



"So much for the map . . . Hand me the tide tables!"

Membership Roster 2020

Model A Ford Club of America



If you did not order a MAFCA membership Roster contact me as I have some.
\$16.00

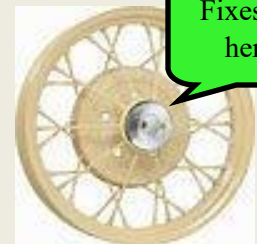
Model "A" Bulb Requirements

Type	Rating (cp)	Trade #
Headlamp	32/32	?
opt	52/32	?
Stop	21	1129
Tail/Cowl/Park	3	63
opt	6	81
Dome	3	63
opt	6	81
opt	15	209
Dash	3	63
opt	-	67*

*12 v bulb gives a dim light on dash.

Since I first made this list there are now LED options for the taillights and headlights that you might want to consider.. I have recently seen some LED bulbs that could be used to replace the #63 bulb.

Loose Hubcap—Fixes



- Apply a bead of silicone between cap and rim
A little Messy
OR
- Install rubber bands between hubcap and rim
OR
- Wrap string between hubcap and rim

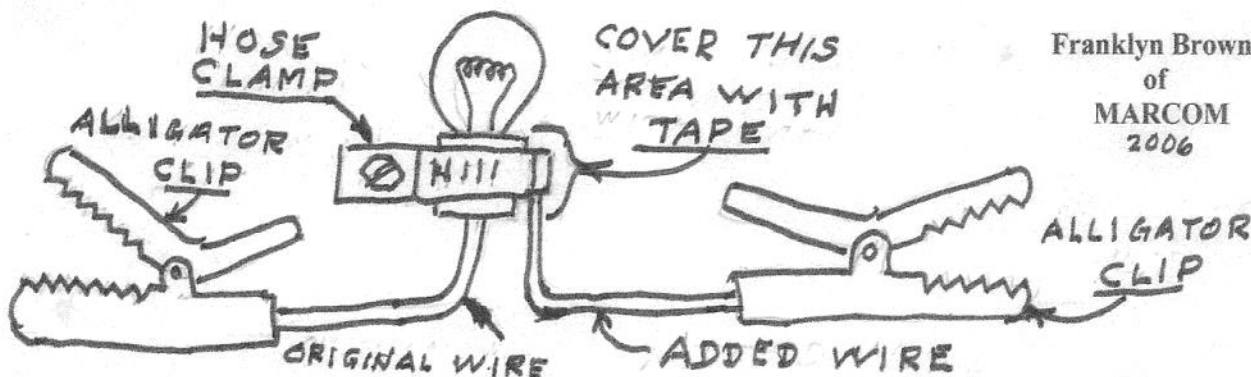
TEST A SIMPLE TIMING LIGHT AND ITS USE FOR A MODEL A FORD.

The light is made by using a small hose clamp to attach a wire to the outside of a standard "single-filament" light socket, attaching an "alligator" clip to the end of each wire, and installing a 6 volt bulb. Be sure to cover exposed metal with insulating tape. A special cam wrench is recommended.

- 1) Be sure ignition switch is "OFF". Leave Master Switch and/or Kill Switch (if installed) "ON".
- 2) "Retard" the spark lever on the steering column.
- 3) Remove the plastic distributor cap, rotor, and body. Removal of all spark plugs will make the finding of Top Dead Center (TDC) much easier. Clean and set the gaps to 0.035" at this time.
- 4) Use the fan to rotate the crankshaft (and thus the distributor shaft). Clean and adjust the ignition point gap to 0.018" to 0.022" (0.003" to 0.005" more for new points, they will "seat").
- 5) Use the fan to rotate the crankshaft, bring the No. 1 piston to TDC, using the timing pin in the usual manner. The slot in the cam should now be between the 4:00 and the 5:00 o'clock positions. If you haven't done so previously, clean the rim of the fan belt lower pulley and apply a small daub of white paint to the pulley rim, in the top-most area. This will help to make it easier to find TDC in the future by indicating when you are approaching TDC.
- 6) Loosen the cam screw. Steps 7, 8, 9, and 10 will help eliminate the backlash.
- 7) Using the special cam wrench, rotate the cam only, COUNTERCLOCKWISE, until the slot in the cam is in the 3:0'clock position.
- 8) Attach leads of the timing light to the SIDE connections of the coil. Polarity is not critical.
- 9) Turn ignition switch "ON". Timing light should NOT come "ON" (yet).
- 10) Using the special cam wrench, SLOWLY rotate the cam only CLOCKWISE. STOP when the timing light JUST comes "ON".
- 11) Hold the cam firmly in place with the special cam wrench and tighten the cam screw. Be sure the cam doesn't move as you tighten the cam screw.
- 12) Remove the timing light leads and be sure to turn the ignition switch "OFF".
- 13) Assemble all other parts, including installing the timing pin in its normal storage hole.
- 14) Gentlemen, start your engines (all others may walk).

Thanks to the late Franklyn Brown for writing his articles.

Franklyn Brown
of
MARCOM
2006



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May 2020

**Please
Mail to:**

Be sure to visit www.oilleak.org

May Meeting Canceled

Well the coronavirus continues and we still need to stay at home. At this time we are not sure when the Governor will start to allow small steps to get back to normal but it looks like it will be at least for the month of May. The BOD decided that events in May should be canceled. However circumstances change so check out the Minuteman website or facebook page for the latest info.



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.