The Oil Leak

November 2026 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 63 Issue 11

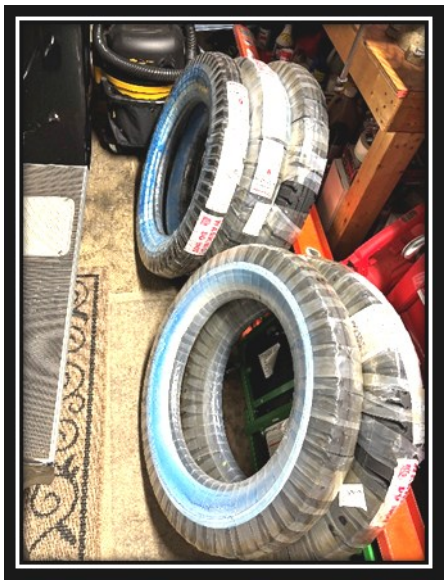
"The Steering Column"



November has arrived and we have been fortunate to have some great weather for getting out on the road in our Model A's. I for one have been taking advantage of being able to drive both Shirley the Coupe and Roberta the Fordor around metro west.

As November is the month of giving thanks, I would like to thank our Vice President Wayne Champagne and his first lady Susan for hosting the Wayside Inn Club Dinner. It was well attended and a good time was had by all.

I would also like to thank Darren Chapman for coming to my rescue before the October meeting. As most of you know, I was having a great day enjoying the sunny weather and I decided to take my coupe to the meeting. I experienced a blowout while turning onto Concord Street in Sudbury. I was lucky enough to have a spare hanging off the back of the coupe. My biggest issue was that my trusty jack was at home.



Knowing that my list of usual "life line" calls were in Hershey, PA, I had to walk down the street to send out a "mayday" e-mail to the club (spotty cell coverage). I knew someone at the Grange would be looking at their phone and get my e-mail for help. I was prepared to call AAA, but the club came to my rescue. Darren arrived with a floor jack and a light. We quickly changed out the tire and made it to the meeting a bit tardy, but successfully none the less.

After the meeting, I made it back home and reflected on the valuable lessons I learned while in the Boy Scouts about being prepared. Needless to say, l won't leave home in either one of the Model A's home ill-prepared again.

November's Meeting we will be voting to fill the position of Vice President as well as having the Club Auction. So don't forget to gather your car related items to be auctioned for the good of the club.



Let us not forget that we have a few more events coming up, Wright's Chicken Farm, A Frostbite Tour, and the Club Holiday Party to finish out the year.

I hope to see you out on the road, happy and healthy!!

~Peter



Sunshine

Sue Champagne

No cards needed to sent out last 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)

Nov 1 (Sun) 10 AM Wright's Chicken Farm *
Nov 4 (Wed) Club Meeting - AUCTION NIGHT
Nov 8 (Sat) 10 AM Frostbite Tour Old Mill Res *
Dec 6 (Sun) Noon Maynard Christmas Parade
Dec 13 (Sun) 12:30 Holiday Party (see page 5)

* **More Info on Page 7**

TL = Tour Leader

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
September, 2026

Income:	
Club Items Sold	20.00
Member Dues	95.00
Coffee Can (Sept Mtg)	7.00
Raffle	32.00
Total Income	$ 154.00
Expense:	
Mass Tax Filing Fee	18.50
Oil Leak Printing	80.00
Total Expenses	$ 98.50
Net Income	$ 55.50



MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

NOVEMBER 1991 35 YEARS AGO

Applause was in order for Len Michalak who took the President's Award at Hershey. Lennie will have to devote a special room in his house for all of his trophies. The Minuteman chapter's Holiday Christmas Party had been finalized. It was scheduled for Friday, December 6, 1991 at the Natick Officer's Club. Cocktails at 6:30 pm and dinner at 7:30. Menu: Prime Rib of Beef $22.25 or Baked Scrod $22.00.

NOVEMBER 2001 25 YEARS AGO

The 2001 Annual Holiday party was scheduled for Friday, December 7th. there will be Dining, Dancing, and a D.J. at the Marlboro Country Club. In addition to our monthly newsletter, "The Oil Leak", we also had a new interesting web site at www. oilleak.org. The Newsletter does not duplicate the web site but offers new information and insights. The sources compliment each other and pleasantly reflect the Club and its positive image.

NOVEMBER 2011 15 YEARS

The program this evening was a narrated slideshow presentation by Tom Zappala following his journey across the country the summer before in his Model A. Tom also brought a map with the route he followed outlined for everyone to see. Tuesday, November 1, 2011 was our new and improved Minuteman Model A Ford club Auction featuring Live and Silent Auction items.

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.

2026 Board of Directors

President - Peter McLaughlin *petermclaughlin1485@gmail.com*

Vice President - Wayne Champagne *wchampagne@verizon.net*

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 *douglinden@aol.com*

Steering Committee

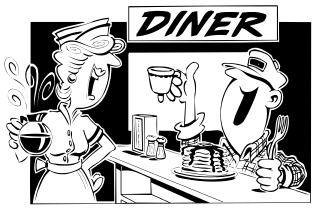
Harold Samuels, Brad Johnson, Tom Zappala, Doug Farrell, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

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. We meet every Wednesday around 7:15 AM. Why not join us there is always room for you.



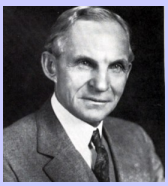
Welcome New Members

Nan reports no new members this month, maybe next month.



2027 CANDIDATES

- President - Wayne Champagne
- Vice Pres - Tom Zappala
- Treasurer - Barbara McElhiney
- Secretary - John Erb



"Beauty appeals to most people. Beauty begins in design. To me a good piece of machinery is beautiful.".
Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club October 7, 2026

Sudbury Grange, Sudbury, MA

The meeting was called to order by President Peter McLaughlin at 7:55 PM, with 23 people in attendance. Our president explained the delay as a flat tire/ no jack situation, and thanked Darren Chapman for rescuing him. After the Pledge of Allegiance President Peter called for the acceptance of the Treasurer's report and Secretary's report as printed in the Oil Leak. The reports were accepted as printed.

Peter reported that Nan Linden advised him of two new members: Ray Pagliarini from Arlington (he has a 1930 Huckster), and Melanie Andrews from Marblehead (she has a 1930 Roadster).

Don Ross presented the tour report for September, thanking Doug Farrell for leading the tour to C&L Frosty, Dick Krug for the apple picking tour to Carver Hill, and mentioning the members who attended the NE meet in Southbridge. For October, tours will be: lunch at Stephen Anthony's on Monday, 10/12, dinner at the Wayside Inn on Thursday, 10/15, and the Woburn Halloween parade on Sunday, 10/25.

President Peter noted that, because many members were in Hershey PA, there was no national news report this evening. He also informed attendees that the new Restoration Guidelines are out, and to contact Doug Linden for information.

Brad Johnson passed out our club's newly printed Model A Resources booklet. There was a round of applause for Brad's work to compile and produce this very useful club resource.

President Peter thanked Barbara McElhiney and Ben Chirco for the evening's refreshments, and said he will provide refreshments for our November meeting.

Larry Conley mentioned that PV Auto Parts from Wilmington MA, was purchased by Millworks in Milford NH. He noted that they have amazing modifications that look original, and that they still sell Model A parts.

Doug Scott introduced his student guest, Senior, Orion Haines, and invited members to his "Hands-On" class at Hopkinton High School, at 1:00 PM on October 27, where the students will be learning about and working on small engines. He hopes to have the students make connections between small engines and the A, as well as some seniors who are doing patent work and can provide some patent tie-ins. Ben Chirco is planning to be there, and Peter said he will also plan to attend.

President Peter stated that our 2027 slate of officers will include Tom Zappala for Vice President, while mentioning that John Erb will continue as Secretary, as well as Barbara McElhiney as Treasurer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM. Peter reminded everyone that our November meeting is the annual auction.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara McElhiney

Secretary - Pro Tem



MINUTEMAN MODEL A FORD CLUB EST. 1966

Minuteman Model A Club

Holiday Party

Sudbury Point Grill
120 Boston Post Road



December 13, 2026
12:30 - 4:30 PM

Includes:

Hors D'oeuvres, Salad, Buffet and Dessert.

$35.00 PP Member/Guest

$55.00 PP Non-members

TOYS FOR TOTS

Please Bring an unwrapped gift or gift card for Toy-for-Tots.

Holiday Party

Member Name: _____ **Amount: $** _____

Guest Name: _____ **Amount: $** _____

Non-Member Name: _____ **Amount: $** _____

Total: $ _____

Complete Form and make you check payable to
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233 Winter Street
Ashland, MA 01721



Time to renew your *MEMBERSHIP*

Dues are Due

2027



In order for us to keep our records up to date, **PLEASE** complete the form below and return with your check for **$25**. 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 _____

Please make check payable to: Minuteman Model A Ford Club and mail to

Minuteman Model A Club
P.O. Box 545
Sudbury, MA 01776

Hershey Report

For years a number of the club members have made annual trip to Hershey PA for the huge Flea Market. This year the group was treated to perfect weather. Anxious to hit the field we headed out early Tuesday morning and finished Thursday afternoon, after walking approximately 26 miles of flea market rows. Over the years the number of Model A only dealers has diminished, but there are still many Model A parts to be found, you just have to do more looking.

The treasures we found searching the fields each day were discussed back at the hotel during our "happy hour." This year we were joined by You-Tube celebrities Paul Shinn and his wife Tina aka "Model T" and Matteo Riordan (Youth Reporter) for this welcomed time to give our feet a rest. We all had a fun week and look forward to next year.

John with some new T tires





Paul Shinn and Matteo Riordan share flea market stories with the guys while Model T and Nan relax in the other room.

Tour Information

Nov 1 10:00 AM **Wright's Chicken Farm** tour is the annual final gathering of many area car clubs with a large display of cars. Dick O'Brien will lead tour. Price is $28.60 PP

Nov 11 10:00 AM **Old Mill Restaurant** "Frost Bite Tour" our final tour of the year. Meet at Wayland Center for a pleasant drive to Westminster and enjoy some great food and atmosphere. Order off the menu. Craig Martin = tour leader

CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What GMC model was the first 4-wheel-drive?
2. What year did the Model A Ford move the hand brake from the left of the steering wheel to next to the transmission shifter?
3. Name an auto-finance option.
4. Name a tire company that Harvey built.
5. Name an engine part associated with the valve train?
6. What auto company built the "Lark"?
7. Name the car that Elon Musk builds?
8. Name the canine related to the Mack truck.
9. Name an off-road type of tire.
10. Name the sporty Falcon.



Service Call



New member, Doug Scott, was concerned about the how his Model A was running and its drivability. He contact Wayne Champagne to see if he might be able diagnose some of these concerns. This gave the team of Wayne Champagne, Doug Linden, Brad Johnson and John Erb a reason to meet at Doug's home one Saturday to do some detective work. It didn't take long to determine the coil was wired in reverse and the timing was off. The reversed coil wiring gives a weaker spark which will impact engine operation. With those two items fixed and a little more fine tuning of the timing by Wayne the engine was running pretty good. However something was still not right. We took the cast iron fuel filter apart and found the screen to be almost completely plugged. With that dirt cleaned the engine was sounding much better. Wayne and Doug went for a test drive and upon return we examined the steering and front axle. This revealed that the king pins on both sides were worn pretty badly and will need to be replace.

As Doug indicated, these were all good projects to undertake during the winter months while the Model A is off the road.

It won't be long before the Model A's are put away for the winter months. I want to share some general things to do to safely store your Model A so it will be already next spring. *Credit Bob Bidondi Long Island club*

Short Term Model "A" Storage

- **Up to a year / over winter**

❑**Top-off gasoline**

❑**Optional: Add stabilizer**

❑**Shutoff gas & run engine until it stalls to empty carburetor**

❑**Increase tire pressure to 40 – 45 psig to resist flat spotting**

❑**Replenish spare tire pressure**

❑**Top-off coolant**

❑**Change motor oil**

❑**Connect battery tender**



APPLE PICKING TOUR

Submitted by Dick Krug

The apple picking tour was a success. Six A's left from the Grange and four more showed up at the orchard. This year we went to Carver Hill Orchard in Stow, and I would like to give recognition to the orchard as everything worked out perfectly. The sun gods smiled upon us as some folks picked apples while others did a bit of shopping at the county store. All enjoyed apple cider donuts and some friendly conversation. Six folks enjoyed a Chinese luncheon after the tour. A great time was had by all..











It's Auction night at the November Meeting

Please plan to bring items donate to the auction table such as car related parts or tools which are always popular. Other stuff is also welcome. This is always a fun event and it proceeds help defray other club activities. Please join us.

ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Eldorado
2. 1929 to end of production
3. Lease
4. Firestone Tire Co.
5. Rocker arm
6. Studebaker
7. Tesla
8. Bulldog
9. Mudders
10. The Sprint



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

2/21/24 IPO Market Open:	$10.00
10/12/26 Market Close:	$ 12.75
Dividends Paid:	$ 0.44

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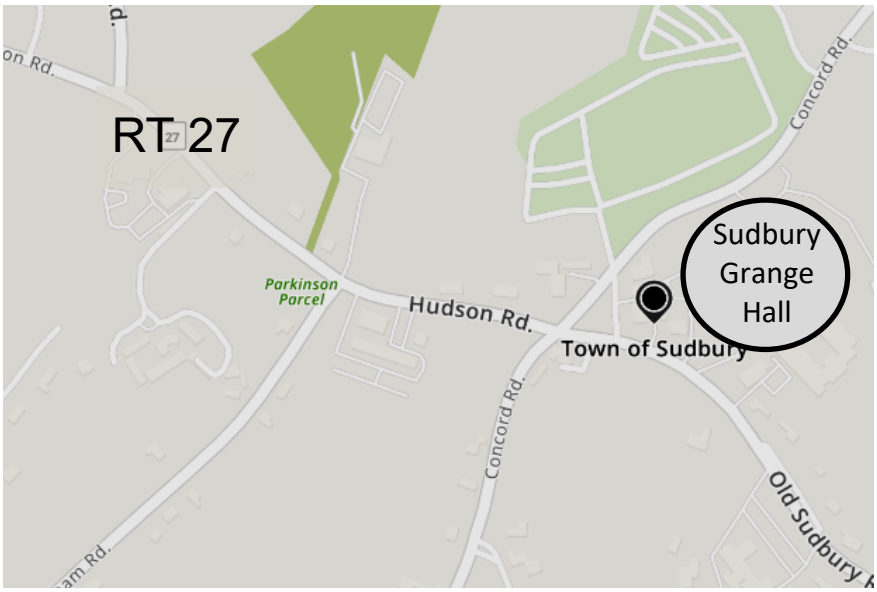
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November News

The November Meeting will feature two events. The first will be the election of officers for the 2027 year. The slate of candidates is listed on page 3.

The MAIN event will be our annual auction. Please look for items to donate to the cause. Auto items are best, but all items are welcome.

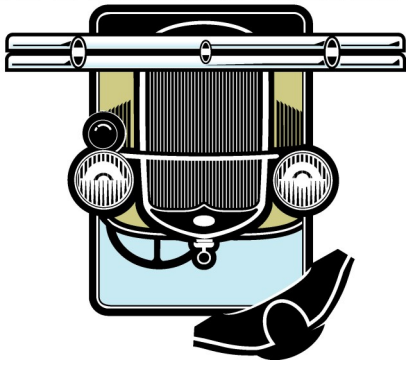
This is a major fund raiser for the club treasury.



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.

Visit www.oilleak.org or scan here ⇦

MINUTEMAN
MODEL "A" FORD
CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS



November 2026

Please Mail to:

Minuteman Model "A" Ford Club
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