

The il Leak

October 2025 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 62 Issue 10

The President Speaks:

Robyn and I have just returned home from the 68th Annual New England Meet co-chaired by Tom Zappala and Barbara McElhiney. Tom, Barbara and the team they put together spent countless hours planning and running this meet and certainly achieved spectacular results. Everything flowed smoothly throughout the event and all who attended from the New England region had kind words and cheers for both the content and the execution of each day's activities.

The list of club members on the New England Meet Committee is long, as is the list of members who assisted them. I wish to extend a personal thank you to all of you, and I also thank you on behalf of the entire club. Once again club members stepped up and the results exceeded expectations.

*Safe travels to those going to Hickory Corners for the upcoming MAFFI event.

*Keep checking your e-mail and the club calendar for tour updates.

*Remember to send in your reservations for our annual Wayside Inn Dinner - October 23.

*Plan to attend our upcoming monthly meeting.

Hope to see as many of you as possible on our tours and at our meetings.

As Spock would say "live long and prosper".



*Happy Motoring
Harold*



Sunshine

Sue Champagne

A Get Well Soon card was sent to Dick Stitt.

And a Sympathy card was sent to long time friend of the club Lou Zadra for the recent passing of his wife Rose.

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)

- Sept 30** 6:30PM Dinner Stephen Anthony's Legge's TL
Oct 1 Regular Club Meeting
Oct 4 9:00 AM Apple Picking Dick Krug TL
Oct 13 Noon Mel's Café Don Ross TL
Oct 23 6:30 PM Wayside Inn Dinner (See page 6)
Oct 26 Noon Woburn Halloween Parade (See page 3)
Nov 2 10:00AM Wright's Chicken Farm Dick O'B TL
Nov 5 Regular club meeting

TL = Tour Leader

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

OCTOBER 1990 35 YEARS AGO

Our December Holiday Party was scheduled to be held at The Natick Officers Club and a date had been set for December 7th, a Friday night. This night's slides were of the LeBaron Bonney operations in Amesbury. A pictorial tour of the plant with interesting historical highlights was presented. An invitation to visit Amesbury was included.

OCTOBER 2000 25 YEARS AGO

It was decided that The 2001 New England Meet would be hosted by The Minuteman Model A Ford Club, "so join the fun!". "Stay tuned for more details, but mark your calendars for September 21-24 of 2001 at the Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center in Westford, Massachusetts". This year we would hold a Silent Auction on November 2nd from 7:00-8:00pm. "Please bring any type of item, valuable junque that any of you might want to contribute!"

OCTOBER 2010 15 YEARS

The previous weekend, we had attended the 54th Annual New England Meet held in Sturbridge, MA. This meeting was hosted by the Western Massachusetts Model A Ford Restorers Club. The attendance was over 400 Model A enthusiasts. Art Callan reported on the progress of the MAFFI museum project and said that a board of trustees was now together and that a contract had been signed. Our club was recognized and presented with a plaque for it's \$5,000.00 club challenge.

Minuteman Model A

Ford Club

Treasurer's Report

August, 2025

Income:

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Member Dues | 80.00 |
| Raffle (club) | 54.00 |
| Total Income | \$134.00 |

Expense:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Ice Cream Social | 63.28 |
| Oil Leak Printing | 80.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 143.28 |

Net Income \$ - 9.28



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.

2025 Board of Directors

President - Harold Samuels hsamuels10@gmail.com

Vice President - Peter McLaughlin petermclaughlin1485@gmail.com

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 douglingen@aol.com

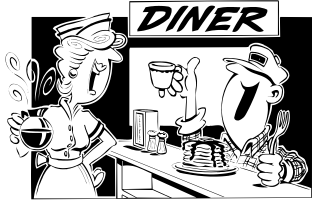
Steering Committee

Brad Johnson, Rich Batstone, Tom Zappala, Wayne Champagne, Jo Johnson - Emeritus

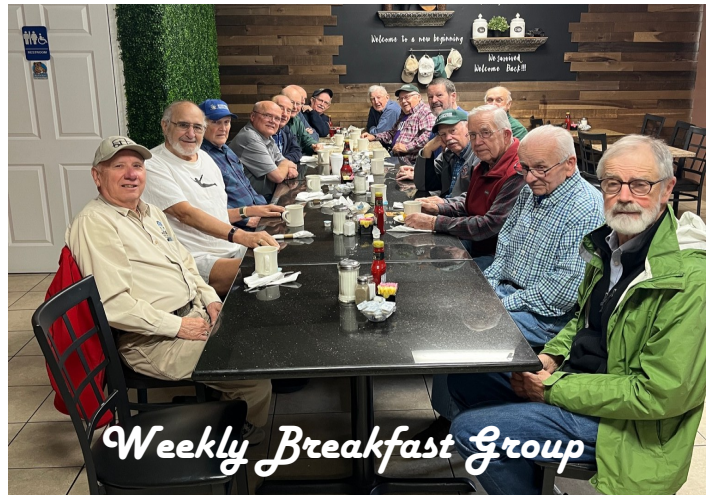
Tour Director: Don Ross 617-584-5245 dross02466@gmail.com

Sunshine: 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. ➔



Additional Event/Tour Info

Oct 13. - Lunch at Mel's is a great way to celebrate Columbus Day. Always great food. 310 Commonwealth Rd Wayland. Plan to attend.

Oct 23 - Our annual dinner at the historic Wayside Inn. Please see page 6 for details.

Oct 26 - Woburn Halloween parade is a big event. Lots of units, including our club. The parade is huge and fun to decorate your Model A. Meet at the starting point, Showcase Cinema Complex in Woburn at Noon.

New England Meet



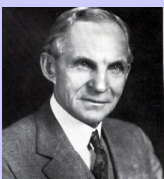
2026 Calendar

Exclusive Model A Ford Calendar

Extra copies of these calendars will be available at the October meeting.

The price for this exclusive calendar is

\$10.00



"It is not the employer who pays the wages. Employers only handle the money, it is the customer who pays the wages." Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club September 3, 2025

Sudbury Grange Hall, Sudbury, MA

President: Harold Samuels opened the meeting at 7:30 PM with the pledge of allegiance with 39 people attending. We then accepted the Secretary's report and the Treasurer's reports as printed in the Oil leak.

Vice president: Peter McLaughlin reported on a letter received from MARC that the Oil Leak and Doug Linden were given a newsletter award. He also reported that the October Wayside Inn dinner will be promoted by an upcoming email to the membership.

Membership: Nan Linden reported that we had a new member, Peter Graves of Salisbury, who has a 1931 Model A. She also mentioned that a past member Rick Andrews was at the meeting. Doug Linden told of the advancement of the club's newsletter during Rick's time as editor back in the mid 70's.

Tour Director: Don Ross reported on Tours. He mentioned the five tours in August and that the New England Meet would be September 12-14, Sept. 18 to Erb's home for ice cream, Sept. 27 to 88 Time machine in Hubbardston, and Dinner at Stephen Anthony's on the 30th.

National News: Doug Linden reported on National news. MAFFI will celebrate the reopening of the Model A museum's new addition on the 18th and 19th of September. He also mentioned that former member Gene Tallone is running for national office, and encouraged all MAFCA members to vote for Gene.

Old Business: President Samuels brought up the issue of raising the dues from \$20 to \$25 per year. After some discussion the vote was taken and overwhelmingly voted to raise the dues.

Doug Linden spoke about Youth activities. He mentioned our 17-year-old member Beau Barnes from Maine has been appointed to a MAFCA committee to stimulate youth participation in the hobby. The president is soliciting ideas to make meetings more interesting to young members.

New England: Tom Zappala spoke on the New Eng-

land Meet coming up on the 12 – 14 of September. He spoke of Long Island club coming on Thursday for a tour of the American Heritage Museum and then dinner at Fourth and Field at the Stow airport. Friday there would be a tour to Lexington and Concord historic sites and there will be events Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday morning. It was reported that there are 150 registrations, the clothing order for the meet has arrived and there are many raffle room donations. Nan Linden reported there are 279 attendees, 19 clubs, 31 trailers, 192 for dinner Friday, 245 for dinner Saturday, and 252 for breakfast Sunday. This Sunday, Harold Legge is offering his garage to stuff bags for the meet registrants. Tom finished his report by saying the meet program is being printed and there are many people to thank for the success of the meet planning.



Rich Batstone spoke on the Hubley Derby being held on Saturday at 3pm. There are rules of the derby available on the table.

New Business: Doug Linden spoke of the Wayside Inn's 31 Ford Fire Truck that members got running, but it needs to have new tires mounted. There was discussion of where the wheels could be taken for tire mounting. J&K tire in Hudson was mentioned as a good possibility.

Dick Krug announced there would be a 50/50 raffle after the adjournment.

The president thanked Peter and Barbara for the refreshments and asked for volunteers for the next meeting and Doug Farrall and Sue Hart volunteered.

A question from the floor of which kind of tire should be used on 16-inch rims – Bias ply or radials. The answer came – Radials for 16-inch rims.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Erb

Secretary

2025 New England Meet

Well, the 68th NE Meet is in the history book and it was a great success. A full report will be available in the next issue of the Oil Leak. I thought I would post a couple of pictures as a prelude to the full report.



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1929 Model A Roadster



Sadly selling my 1929 Standard Roadster. She's a beauty with a perfect LeBaron Bonney Top, interior and rumble seat. Color is Rose Beige with Seal Brown belting. Extras include a new set of wind wings and a motor meter. No dents, no rust and runs as good as it looks. Comes with one of our new club blankets in the rumble seat! **\$14,500**

Kit Tucker I can be reached by email at kittucker@icloud.com

1964 Thunderbird



Gary is selling his beautiful 1964 Thunderbird Coupe. Color is Seafoam Green with light green interior. Only 45K miles.

New Price \$17.5K Contact Gary Hoyt 508-655-0077

MINUTEMAN ANNUAL WAYSIDE INN DINNER

Thursday, October 23, 2025

Please join us for our annual dinner at the Wayside Inn.

Cocktails in the Tavern 6 pm

Dinner in the Ford Room 7pm

Reservation deadline is October 15, 2025

Complete this reservation form and make your
check payable to

"Minuteman Model A Ford Club"

Mail your check to:

Peter McLaughlin

13 O'Neil Drive, Westborough, MA 01581

MEMBER NAME: _____

SPOUSE-GUEST: _____

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| ROAST PRIME RIB OF BEEF | \$ 56.00 | X _____ = _____ | |
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| VEGETARIAN RAVIOLIS | \$ 44.00 | X _____ = _____ | |

Dinner includes, entree, salad, vegetable, potato, and desert.

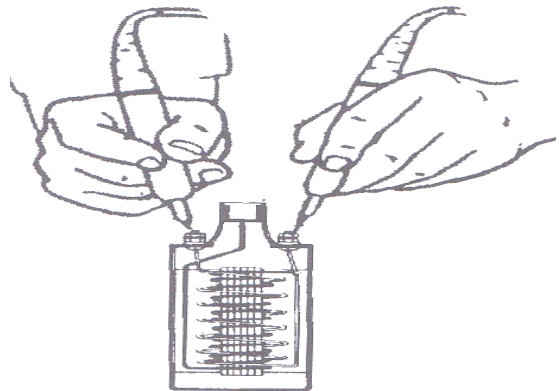
Price includes all taxes and gratuities.

Testing your Coil

During our recent tour to the Codman Estate one of the Model A's experienced a "no start" condition. After diagnosis it was determined the that coil had failed. The fact that the coil case was too hot to touch was a pretty good indication that something wasn't right. A new coil fixed the problem. So a question came up as to how can you test a coil to see if it is still useable. There are vintage ignition coil testers to test coils and condensers, but most of us don't have one of those in the garage. You can however use an OHM meter to take some basic measurements to give you a good idea. The following is a procedure from Les Andrews' Model A Ford Troubleshooting & Diagnostics (Blue) book.

Testing Coil

1. Turn ignition key OFF.
2. Remove high tension wire from center post on coil.
3. Remove black wire from (-) terminal on coil and remove red wire from (+) terminal on coil.
4. Using an ohmmeter (lowest scale), measure resistance from (+) coil terminal to (-) terminal.



1.7 Ohms

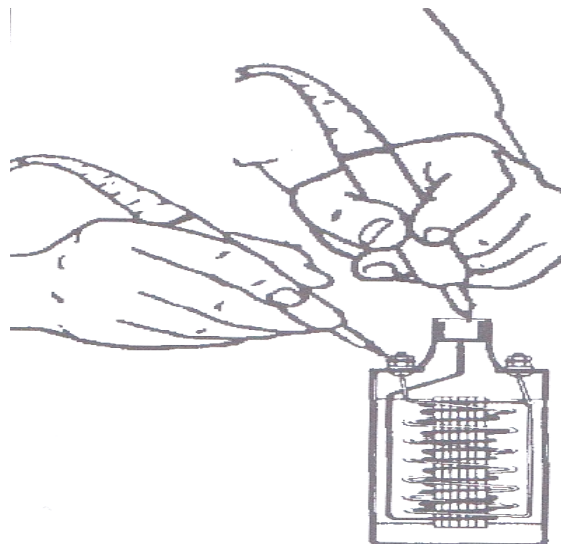
SHOULD MEASURE 1.6 ohms to 1.8 ohms

5. Set ohmmeter to 10K scale. Measure resistance from each coil terminal (+) and (-) , to the center (high tension) contact.

SHOULD MEASURE

6.7K ohms to 10K ohms

6. Measure resistance from each coil terminal (+) and (-), to the outer metal case of the coil.



6.7K-10K Ohms

SHOULD MEASURE Open circuit

CORRECTIVE ACTION

If tests 4 and 5 show a short or open reading, it indicates a defective coil. If test 5 shows any reading except open (infinity), the coil is defective. Replace coil.

Important dues Announcement

Based on the recommendations from the recent Minute-man Board of Directors meeting to raise the club's dues a noticed was placed in the August newsletter that this recommendation would be discussed and voted on at the September meeting.



President Samuels covered the reasons behind the need to increase the current dues of \$20 to \$25 for 2026 .

The members asked questions regarding expenses and even suggested we should set the dues to \$30. After more discussion a motion was made to increase the dues from \$20 to \$25.

The vote passed unanimously.

Welcome New Member

Nan reports

No

new members this month



"Artie - Fact"

By "A" nonymous

A cop pulls a guy over for suspected drunk driving. The cop opens the door and the driver falls out onto the asphalt. The cop says, "You're so drunk, you can't even walk!" The drunk says, "Yes I am, that's why I took my car!"



CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What symbol did Willys use for their 50th anniversary?
2. What is the meaning of T-D-C?
3. What year was the last Ford roadster built?
4. What Ford model was named for Henry Ford's estate?
5. What is a direction-finding jeep?
6. What was the 50's vacationing Oldsmobile?
7. What is a common door damage?
8. What was the classic Ford station wagon called?
9. What was a popular car-top cover?
10. What was a taxi "fare" item?



~ News From The Era ~ 20s – 30s: AUTO CAMPS, MOTOR COURTS, MOTELS

Auto camps are first

There was once a time when every roadside lodging was unique. At first, there were auto camps which were established in the 1920s as primitive municipal camp sites where travelers pitched their own tents and until the first travel trailers became available in the 1930s, auto tourists adapted their cars by adding beds, makeshift kitchens, and roof decks. As demand increased, for-profit commercial camps gradually displaced public campgrounds.



Then the rise: Motor courts spring up along roadsides

The next step up from the auto camp was the motor court (also called auto court), a primitive but permanent group of structures. These were the “mom-and-pop” motor courts that dotted every highway nationwide. They originated in the late 1920s and 1930s with primitive tourist cabins similar to the one below. These cabins offered the privacy and shelter lacking in the earlier auto camps.



In the 30s, tourist cabins and cottages were increasingly clustered together into larger motor courts. They featured enhanced amenities such as private showers, gas pumps, and lunch rooms.



Ford's Motor Court

The motel is born

When motor court owners realized they could save money by stringing together rooms into single integrated units... the motel was born.



Thanks to the Sullivan Trails Model A Club newsletter for this great article.

ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. A gold-plated W on the grill.
2. Top dead center. (a must for timing an engine)
3. 1937
4. Fairlane
5. Compass
6. Holliday
7. Dings
8. Country squire
9. Vinyl top_
10. coin or token meter



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

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| 2/21/24 IPO Market Open: | \$10.00 |
| 7/31/25 Market Close: | \$11.05 |
| Dividends Paid: | \$ 0.24 |

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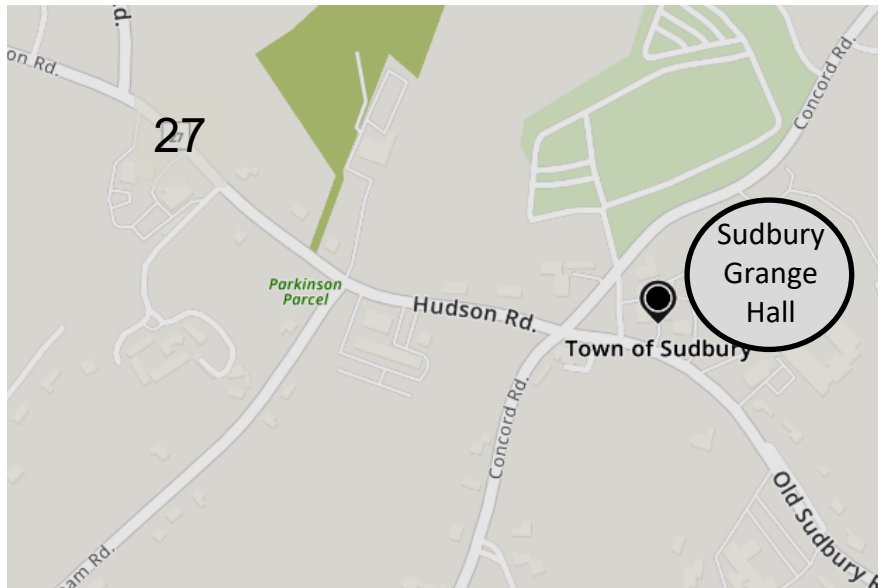


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October Meeting News

- We will get a report on the New England Meet from Tom & Barbara.
- Note:** We have extra copies of the exclusive Model A calendar that was giving to those registered for the Meet. These will be available at the next meeting for \$10.00.
- Start saving your parts and other stuff for the November Auction
- Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers for club positions!!



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.



or scan here

Visit www.oilleak.org



Please
Mail to:

October 2025

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