

The il Leak

June 2017

Volume 54 Issue 6

The President Speaks:

My Fellow Minutemen,

This May will mark the 15th year I have been a Model A owner, and my 15th year as a Minuteman. I recall thinking that I was simply getting a car, but instead I found myself not with just a Model A, but with dozens of new friends.



I recall fondly my first breakdown, en route to Carlisle on a weekday evening, and how a team of Minuteman mechanics scrambled in the dark to get my phaeton going again - as my wife Lisa wondered, "What have we gotten into?" I laugh now, both at all the adventures I've had with my cars and how, amazingly enough, how I knew so many of you when you were 15 years younger. As was I. Where have the days gone?

At our last monthly meetings we've had great presentations on Distributors and Carburetors. I want to thank Lenny and Wayne for putting together these presentations; these are just two individuals among many club members who contribute much to our club and to the Model A community in general. Thank you, gentlemen.

We have a host of tours and events scheduled for June, including the first of our summer meetings - at Shirley and John Jacobson's home in Wayland. I look forward to seeing you there, and on the road again 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 me.

Coming Events

(Tours Start at Sudbury Grange unless noted)

- May 31:** 7:00 PM Ice Cream Tour, TL the Batstones
- June 4:** 10:00 AM Wellesley College Parade *
- June 7:** 7:00 PM Ice Cream Tour TL Dick Stitt
- June 14:** 7:00 PM Ice Cream – TL Harold Samuels
- June 17:** 11:45 AM Weird Lunch TL John Jacobson
- June 22:** 6:30 PM Minuteman Airport Dinner
- June 29:** 7:00 PM Ice Cream TL Tom Zappala

TL= Tour Leader * On your own, go directly to location.

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
Mar 22 thru Apr 30, 2017

Income

Transfer from savings	\$4,000.00
Flea Market	377.25
Flea Market Attendance	861.00
Flea Market Vendor Fee	200.00
Member Dues	287.00
Raffle (Club)	<u>19.00</u>
Total Income	\$5,744.25

Expense

Discretionary Fund *	\$3,000.00
Dues & Subscriptions	9.90
Office Supplies	200.81
Oil Leak Printing	80.00
Postage	250.00
Roster Printing & Postage	40.00
Tour Card Printing	<u>260.00</u>
Total Expense	\$3,840.71
Net Income/Expense	\$1,903.54

* Donations to MAFFI, Youth Restoration and Youth Scholarship

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Art Callan

June 1982 35 Years Ago

Main topic--Club Picnic at Clark's.
6 cars on weekend tour to Hudson Valley, NY, used 25 gallons of gas in 450 miles.

June 1991 25 Years Ago

Meeting at Batstone's in mosquitoville.
New member--Ed Croce.
Plans for August club picnic at Camp Virginia in Bolton.

June 2002 15 Years Ago

Pres Gene Ervin says Dolores has email to handle all Mman business.
Helen Johnson continues as "Sunshine Lady".
Mystery Tour by Peter MacDonald to Joseph's, Marlboro.
Tours to the Old Mill Westminster, Riley's Roast Beef, Hildene and Wellesley College Alum Parade, plus an ice cream or two.

ARTIE-FACTS

"Lord, the money we do spend on government-and it's not one bit better than the government we got for one-third the money twenty years ago." Will Rogers

AMAZING TWO-LETTER WORD:

How can the word "UP" mean so many things?
At a meeting, topics come UP.
Will some one put their hand UP to become our editor.
On Sunday, we dress UP.
Stores open UP in the morning and close UP at night.
What is the first thing you do in the morning and the last thing you do at night" **U P**

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

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Treasurer - Barbara McElhiney mcelhiney@rcn.com

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

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

Steering Committee

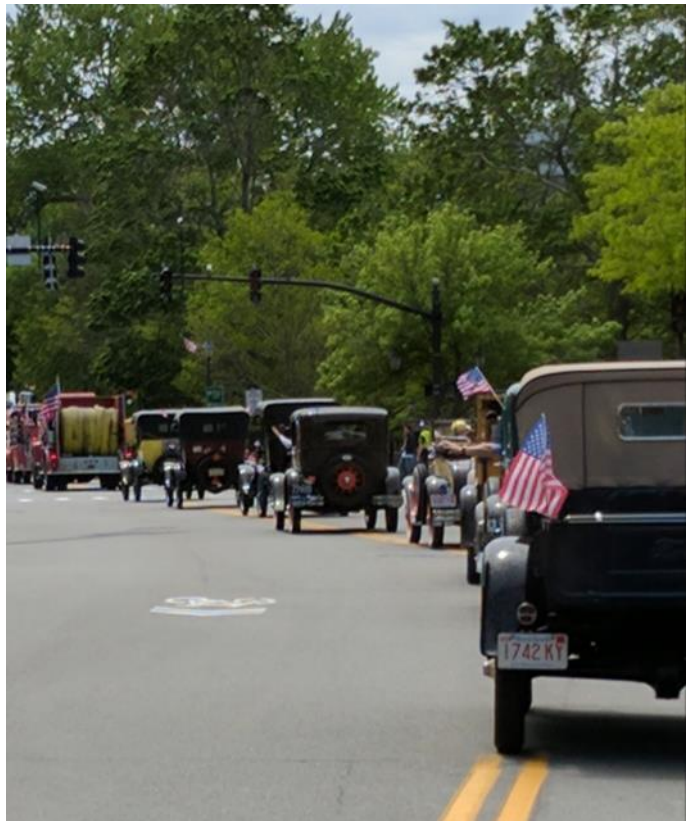
Jo Johnson, John Jacobson, Clyde Kelton, Doug Linden

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 May 21st was a perfect ten for the Wellesley Veteran Parade. Nice breeze, not too hot and it started right one time ! We had Model A's from group leader Dick O'Brien; Harold Legge; Rick Gadbois; Vin and Nicki DelMastro; Andy, Marilyn & Riley Adams; Don & Susan Ross. Jim and Ronnie Bodkin came in their Model T. Mike Miller and friend wowed the crowd in his Minor. Ralph Parks & Yvonne came with their white Comet convertible. There was a nice crowd of well wishers and no car issues. See you there next year.



Car Show

**Sunday June 25th Medfield on the Charles
Antique, Classic & Custom Car Show**

45 Hospital Rd, Medfield MA, located on the grounds of the former Medfield State Hospital. This is the relocated Elm Bank Car Show. More info and registration at: www.medfieldonthecharles.com

Secretary's Report

Minuteman Model 'A' Ford Club May 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes Memorial Congregational Church, Sudbury, MA

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM following a hearty rendition of God Bless America, with approximately 54 members in attendance. Tom happily reported the sighting of Model A's in the parking lot, tire kicking season was officially underway. Also in attendance was a 1935 Ford Model 48 pick-up truck. This was recently restored by Roger Harvey, what a beauty!!

Tom then acknowledged a visitor, soon to become a new member, Douglas Farrell of Burlington.

Tom then thanked Clyde Kelton and Nicky and Vin DelMastro for providing tonight's refreshments.

Officers Reports:

- Andy Adams requested a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as printed in the Oil Leak – MSP.
- No Treasurer's report today, an updated report will be provided next month.
- Oil leak - please send articles to Doug, include pictures if available.

Membership:

- Nan Linden signed up a new member at tonight's meeting Douglas Farrell of Burlington, Ma. He is the proud owner of a very nice 1931 Coupe.
- Nan has Club Rosters available if you didn't get one last month.

Touring:

- Dick O'Brien - upcoming tours.
 - * 5/3 – Ice Cream Tour – Dick O'Brien leader.
 - * 5/11 – Stephen Anthony's – Harold Legge leader.
 - * 5/13 – LaBelle Winery Tour and Brunch – leaves grange at 9:00AM – Larry Conley leader.
 - * 5/20 – Wellesley Town Parade – meet at Fire Station 12:30 PM
 - * 5/31 – Ice Cream Tour – Rich Batstone leader.
 - * 6/4 Wellesley College Parade – meet at the College 10:00AM.

- Doug Linden - July 15th will be the 39th Founders Day Car Show in Paris Hill ME. This is a great show and the only time of the year you can visit the Bob Bahre car collection – a great take!!

- Fall Weekend Tour to the Maine coast 10/20 to 10/22, mark your calendars.

Still looking for an Oil Leak Editor!!!

Old Business: None reported

New Business:

- Tom presented The MARC Award of Merit to Doug Linden as Editor of the Oil Leak.

Summer Meetings:

* June meeting 6/6 – will be held at the home of John and Shirley Jacobsen on Old Connecticut Path in Wayland. Make your own Ice Cream Sundaes will be the treat of the day! Bring chairs.

* This year the August meeting will be held on the 2nd Tuesday 8/8, at the home of Harold and Sally Legge on Brook Street in South Natick. Bring chairs.

* July meeting currently scheduled for the 4th still under development. A picnic following the Sudbury 4th of July parade to Great Brook Farm State Park is being considered. Update next month.

Programs:

- Tonight Wayne Champagne will lead a presentation on Carburetors.

Running Board Commentary:

- Doug provided an update on the Nashoba Valley Tech Model A engine rebuild project. On a recent visit to the school Doug and Andy Adams noticed that the engine did not have a bell housing and this would be a significant safety issue if the school plans on running the engine. The club is looking to find a bell housing to donate to the school.

**Business Meeting Adjourned at 8:14 PM
Respectfully submitted – Rick Gadbois**

Welcome New Members

- Doug Farrell (Susan)
16 Sunset Drive
Burlington, MA 01803
(1931 Coupe)

- Jack Tweed (Julie)
922 Summer Street
Marshfield, MA 02050
(1930 AA Dump Body)



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JUNE 23rd Mohegan Sun, CT

AUCTION



The Auction will be held from June 21 - 24, but some of our members are planning to go on the 23. Your chance to see a big time auction up close and personal.

TOUR REPORT



On May 6th, the A's visited with the seniors at Traditions of Wayland. Three A's (Rich/ Linda, Don/Sue, Rick G) and one T (Ronnie+Jim) arrived and by 2:30 the sun was out. We kicked tires with the elders for an hour then went inside for the festivities. The shrimp and mint juleps were terrific and a two-piece rock (ing-chair) band was fun.

The visit to Traditions was a fun time for all.



Model A's

Requested for Wedding

Rich & Linda Batstone's daughter, Amanda, is getting married on August 12th. Many of us remember her first tour in the Model A as an infant. My how time flies. Rich is looking for 6 or 7 Sedans for the wedding party, from the church in Northboro to the reception at Charter Oaks CC in Hudson. The trip to the reception would start around 3:45. After pictures, which will certainly feature a few with the Model A's, Rich & Linda will offer the drivers a dinner together at a nearby restaurant.

Please contact Rich or Linda at 978-875-3387 if you would like to help make their day even more special.

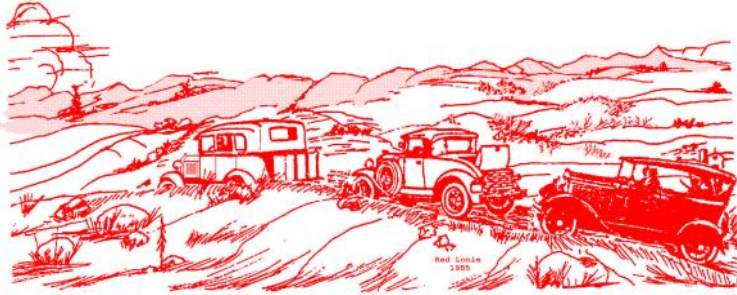
2017 NEW ENGLAND MEET North Conway, NH

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

www.2017nemodelameet.com/

You will find event information and the registration form. This will be a fun weekend, so make plans to attend.





TOUR REPORT

LeBell Winery

May 13, 2017 LeBelle Winery & Café Tour Tour Leader - Larry Conley

The weather was overcast and a little on the cool side, but no rain was in the forecast, so it was off to Amherst, NH. Nine Model A's made the trip to the winery, actually, there were two groups. Five from Sudbury and four from Southern NH, Methuen area. On the tour were the Samuels, Lindens, Conleys, Marshall/Roberson, Darsneys, Dick O'Brien, Don Ross, Bob Schenk, Ed Wlodyka/Evelyn. The Sudbury group had not traveled the roads to Amherst, NH in quite a while and were amazed at the growth in the area leading to the old Flea Market. I guess that's progress.

Arriving at the Winery, we visited the sales area and checked out the wines and did some taste testing of other local items, until we could be seated for our lunch. The menu was varied and all very tempting. We all managed to come up with a selection and I must say I heard nothing but good reviews of the meal. I know my open steak sandwich was excellent. Following this excellent lunch we were escorted through the winery by an excellent guide who explained the establishment of the winery and the process of making the wine itself. Much of the equipment was imported from Italy and very impressive with its engine turned steel tanks. The aging barrels are from France and they are used three times before being replaced. I was also surprised to hear that one vine produces enough grapes for one bottle of wine. Once given the overall operation some decided to do a little tasting of the end product.

The return trip was a little round about, but a pleasant drive non the less. We decided we needed an ice cream stop and Johnson's in Groton satisfied that craving. What better way to end a fine day.

Thanks to Larry Conley for setting up the tour and all those who participated.



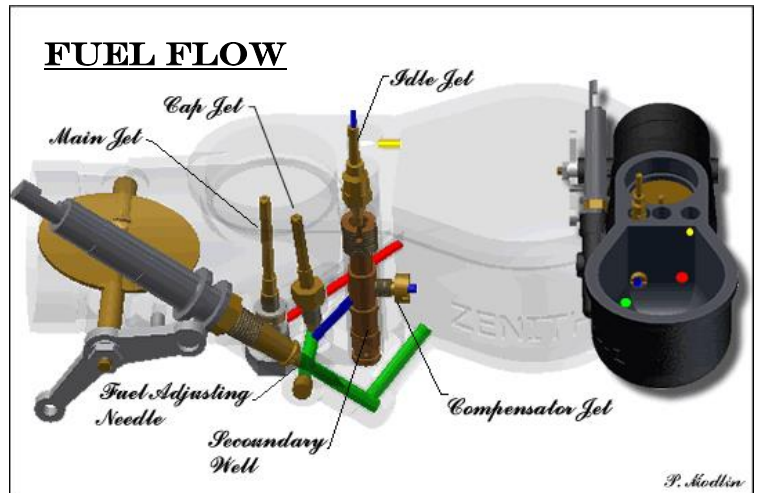
Tech Session - Zenith Carburetor Wayne Champagne

Illustrations from Model A Basics
<http://modelabasics.com/>

At the May meeting our Carb expert Wayne Champagne gave a great presentation on the Model A Zenith Carburetor and its many changes during its production. He also provided information on how the Zenith Carb operates, including detailed diagrams of the flow of fuel through it and areas where you need to pay particular attention when you restore it. To be specific there were 3 different Zenith carb designs: the Zenith 1, 2 and 3. And within those 3 types there were more than 30 variations during production. The Zenith carb is a very efficient design that took many iterations to get it right so the Model A engine could develop 40 HP. Henry also demanded that it be easy for the owner to maintain, hence his insistence that there be only one bolt holding it together. Another oddity is that some of the jet threads are metric. Yes metric, Zenith was a French company hence the metric threads.

Wayne says the key to good operation of a Zenith, is to clean all the tiny passages thoroughly. Make sure the jets are properly sized, even better is to flow test them. If you can find new old stock ones, those would be the best. The final area needing close attention is the setting of the gas float. Wayne says he turns the top of the carb upside down and measures the clearance between the housing and the float. He sets that distance to 5/8". Adding or subtracting gaskets under the float needle valve to obtain that reading. He also wants the float to be parallel with the housing, which may require some tweaking of the float hinge.

A big thank you goes to Wayne for his informative session.



TROUBLE SHOOTING



ON THE ROAD

By Rich Bowes

Today, when we take to the road, either in our Model “A’s” or in our modern cars, and we get hungry, we have many franchise restaurants, both sit-down and fast food establishments to choose from, including McDonalds, Burger King, Wendy’s, Pizza Hut, TJI Fridays, The 99, and many others. Many of these eateries are located along highways specifically to cater to the motoring public.



But back in the day, when our “A’s” were young, and their drivers and passengers got hungry while on the road, they’d have to find a roadside diner, a regular restaurant, or have had the foresight to pack a lunch.

That all began to change in 1929 when Howard Johnson opened a restaurant in Quincy MA. Johnson hoped to capitalize on the success he had had in previous years at his ice cream stands at Wollaston and another beaches around Massachusetts. His goal was to provide good food, with a home-made taste, at reasonable prices, and, of course, to continue to sell his 28 flavors of ice cream.

As time went by, Johnson observed that Americans were enjoying driving their automobiles more and more, and saw a way to cash in on that trend. He decided to sell franchises for Howard Johnson restaurants so they could be opened in many different places. This was one of the first such franchise enterprises in the US. The initial franchise Howard Johnson restaurant was opened in 1932 in Orleans MA, obviously to take advantage of the burgeoning tourist trade on Cape Cod.

The Howard Johnson company pioneered the concepts of standardized menus, uniforms for wait-staff, and a design for their restaurant buildings with

their iconic orange tiled roof, blue and white cupola and Simple Simon and the pie man weather vane.

When major turnpikes were built in Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, and eventually here in Massachusetts, Howard Johnson acquired the exclusive rights to open restaurants in the service plazas on those highways. Thus he was able to introduce many in the traveling public to such New England favorites as clam chowder, and fried clams - albeit of the strip-sans belly variety. (Which I must confess was my first ever taste of clams thanks to a Howard Johnson’s in Auburn MA. I have long since graduated to the real thing.)



When the US entered World War II, there were 200 Howard Johnson restaurants. In 1961, there were 605 - 264 company owned and 340 franchised. Sadly, today there are only 2 left, 1 in Bangor ME, and the other in Lake Placid NY.

However, I’m sure many of us still have fond memories of eating in, or working in a “HoJo’s”, or just enjoying our favorite among the 28 ice cream flavors. (Click here to refresh your memory as to what they were: <http://www.hojoland.com/pics.html>)



Nashoba Valley Tech School Update

I mentioned at the last club meeting that the engine project could use a bell housing. This was primarily to cover the exposed flywheel so fingers, clothes, etc., couldn't inadvertently get caught in the spinning flywheel. Thanks to Dick O'Brien for donating that part. Dick Stitt and I delivered the housing and a complete set of Restorer Magazines and Model A News to Brian Fillion, instructor overseeing the student project. In fact, there was so much stuff, we made the delivery in Dick's beautiful 51 Chevy Pick-up. Needless to say that was a big hit at the

school. Brian also revealed that he has decided to make the project to another level. He is going to buy a Model A frame and cowl section so the engine can be authentically displayed and the cowl can hold all the Model A wiring. The current "homemade" engine stand and "firewall" wasn't living up to the expectation of the kids and Brian. Who knows, maybe a body will be next .



Let's help MAFCA achieve their goal of 100k miles in a day. 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.

Jim's technical tip for May

by Jim Cannon, MAFCA Technical Director



"Most carburetor problems are electrical." In other words, when your Model A starts running poorly and you think you have a carburetor problem, first look at the ignition system. How old is your condenser, how good are your points, is the point gap correct? Are all of the connections between the coil, ignition switch and distributor clean and tight? If you have a wire inside your distributor between the lower plate and the upper plate, what condition is it in? Is the ignition switch making a good connection inside? These things are as common as carburetor problems, if not more so, to cause your engine to run poorly.

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Thanks to Andy Adams, another photo from the Wellesley Veteran's Parade.

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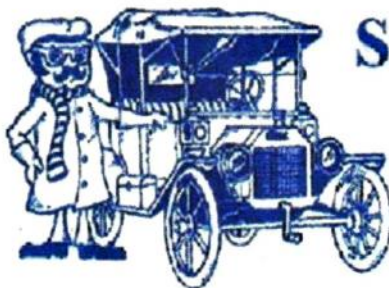
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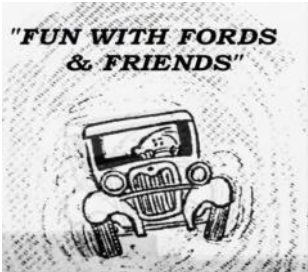
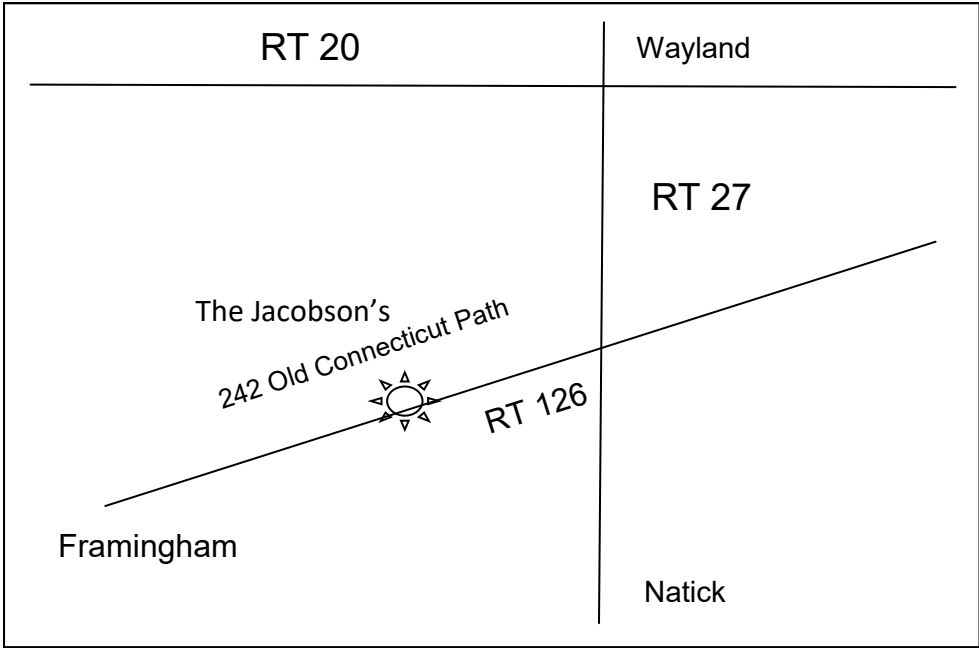
JUNE 2017

Please
Mail to:

Be sure to visit www.oilleak.org

REMINDER

The June meeting will be held at the home of John & Shirley Jacobson. John will open up his super sized garage for the monthly meeting. Tom has promised to keep the meeting short, so we can hang out and have some fun. Hope to see you there.



The June meeting will be held at the home of John & Shirley Jacobson at 242 Old Connecticut Path in Wayland. Tire kicking starts at 7:00 PM, but the driveway will be open for early arrivals. Join us for us for a short meeting and lots of conversation.