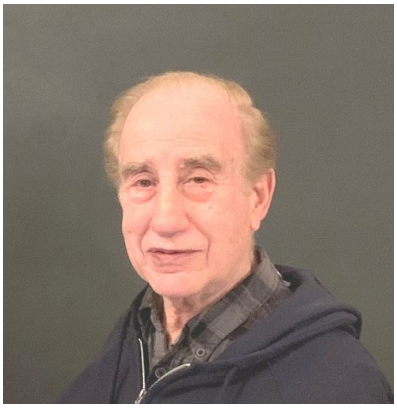
The Oil Leak

September 2025 Minuteman Model A Ford Club Vol 62 Issue 9

The President Speaks:



The summer season seems to be flying by faster than I can keep up with. We still have some great tours ahead, the New England Meet, fall club events, and for those participating, Model A days at the Gilmore Museum and the Hershey swap meet.

Thinking ahead, we are still hoping to finalize a date for the club to bring our cars to the Minuteman Vocational/Technical high school this fall to showcase our cars hopefully generate some excitement and interest to a new generation. We will be soliciting ideas for presenters and programs of interest from the membership at our monthly meetings and looking for a Fall/Winter technical workshop.

While there is still much left to do this year, it is not too soon to be thinking of club officer candidates for next year. A nominating committee was formed at the August meeting to recruit candidates to fill the open positions. It is especially important for newer members to consider volunteering to serve to bring fresh ideas and future stability and growth to the club. Please consider volunteering. As I have said in the past, you get far more than you give by serving as a club officer.

Each month at our meeting there is an agenda item for new business. Feel free to suggest a recommendation that you think the club might like to do, a place to visit, an event to be held, or a specific Model A related topic to be discussed. This is your club and should reflect your interests. Friends and guests are always welcome at our meetings and our long - time members are always happy to share knowledge and experience with those who are just starting out.

Looking forward to seeing you at as many of the upcoming events as possible. Have fun and enjoy the fall.

Happy Motoring

Harold

We Look Forward to your help during the Meet

Sunshine

Sue Champagne

A "Thinking of You" card was sent to Karen Martin and a "Get Well" card was sent to Dave Libbey.

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)

Aug 27 3-5 PM Kennedy Meadows Assisted Living*

Sept 3 Regular Club Meeting

Sept 6 9:00AM USS Constitution Tour *

Sept 27 10AM Time Machine Museum Sue Hart TL*

Sept 30 6:30PM Dinner Stephen Anthony's Harold Legge TL

TL = Tour Leader

* See Page 3

Minuteman Model A Ford Club

Treasurer's Report
July, 2025

Income:

Advertising	50.00
Coffee Can	11.00
Member Dues	20.00
Parades	1100.00
Raffle (club)	36.00
Total Income	$1217.00

Expense:

Dues & Subscriptions	25.00
Oil Leak Printing	80.00
Total Expenses	$ 105.00

Net Income $1112,00

MINUTEMAN HISTORY

by Dick O'Brien

SEPTEMBER 1990 35 YEARS AGO

Our guest speaker on "Tech Nite" was none other than the "Newton Knight", Bucky Silverstone. Bucky fielded the questions so fast that our Secretary gave up trying to write them down! It was determined that "Auction Nite" would be held on November 6th. Attic and cellar stock of *anything* saleable would be put on the block by "huckster" Phil Iorio.

SEPTEMBER 2000 25 YEARS AGO

Jack Stokinger would be having an "Inspection Day" at his home at an upcoming date to be determined. He was also considering having an overdrive seminar. Bucky Silverstone would give the overdrive presentation and build an overdrive during the seminar.
Clever signage:
1. Outside a muffler shop: "No appointment necessary! We'll hear you coming!"
2. At a car dealership: "The best way to get back on your feet -- miss a car payment!"
3. In a restaurant window: "Don't just stand there and be hungry! Come in and get fed up!"
4. In a non-smoking area: "If we see you smoking, we'll assume you're on fire and take appropriate action!"

SEPTEMBER 2010 15 YEARS

The Lindens and O'Briens were on their way back from Vancouver, British Columbia in their Model As. Bruce Marshall said, "I hope you have been following their blog. They will certainly have a few stories to tell when they return from their Model A trip of a Lifetime!"
Wayne Champagne received an award from MAFFI's President George Tynan awarded to all Minuteman Model A Ford Club Members for their generous "Minuteman Challenge" support in donations for the new Gilmore Museum in Hickory Corners, MI.

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 *douglinden@aol.com*

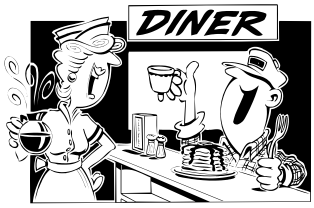
Steering Committee

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

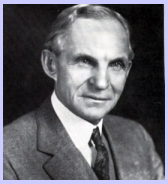
Aug 27: 3:00 PM Assisted Living display for the residents, always fun to show off the cars and bring back memories. Dinner will be available if you like.

Sept 6: Five Model A's have been approved for admittance to the Navy Yard. Other guests can attend but will have to park outside the grounds.

Sept 27: This is an opportunity to see vehicles and memorabilia from the "Back to the Future" movies. 100% of the entrance fee goes to Parkinsons Disease research through the Michael J Fox Foundation.

NE Meet Help

The Raffle room is asking members to donate scratch ticket for a Lottery Basket. Scratch tickets of any of the many games are welcome. Bring your donation to a club meetings and the tickets will get to Lisa Zappala - Raffle Chair.



"A market is never saturated with a good product, but is very quickly saturated with a bad one." Henry Ford

Secretary's Report

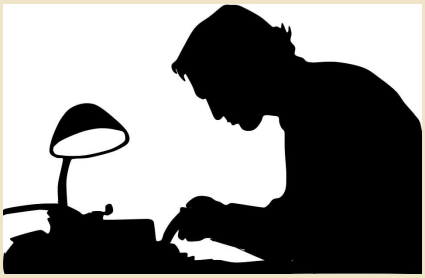
Minutes of the Minuteman Model A Ford Club August 6, 2025

Sudbury Grange Hall, Sudbury, MA

President: Harold Samuels called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM. There were 39 people in attendance. We began with the pledge of allegiance. He thanked all for coming and announced that the steering committee had met earlier in the evening. The secretary's report and the treasurer's reports were approved as printed in the Oil Leak.

Board of Directors Report: A proposal from the steering committee was discussed about raising the dues to $25 as the printing and postage of the newsletter cost more than the dues brought in. The suggestion will be printed in the Oil Leak and a vote will be taken at the next meeting about the dues.

2026 club Officers: Brad Johnson has agreed to serve on the nominating committee for next year's offices. Doug Linden and John Kerns agreed to also serve on the committee.



Vice President: Peter McLaughlin reported on the tours sent to him by Don Ross who could not attend. He reported on the tours for July and then the August tours with the first one – tonight's meeting with Ice Cream sundaes.

- August 9, there will be a tour to the Codman House in Lincoln. Bring a picnic lunch and tour the house followed by a stop for ice cream.
- August 12 would be a tour to Dairy Queen in Natick,
- August 16 would be a lunch at the Nashoba Winery in Bolton, MA
- August 23 would be movie night ("Flim Flam Man") at the home of the Kerns. The Kennedy Meadows assisted living tour needs to have the time adjusted. September 3rd will be the next club meeting and on
- September 6 there would be a tour to the Charlestown Navy Yard.
- The New England Meet will be September 12 -14, and some will be going to the Gilmore Museum after that.

Membership: Nan Linden reported two new members: John Dunning of Stow with a 1928 Tudor and Tom Chaput of Lexington with a 1930 Roadster. There were also two first time members attending the meeting.

New England Meet Update: Tom Zappala reported on the New England Meet coming up next month. The Boxboro Regency is the host hotel, and 19 clubs are attending with 136 already registered with more expected. Great events are planned, with tours and evening events and a grand tour to Kimball Farm in Lancaster. The raffle room is shaping up. Volunteers will be needed to serve as tour route guides and help with raffle and 50/50 ticket sales at the meet. A disc jockey and a Beatles tribute band are on board for the evening events. Tom also thanked vice chair Barbara McElhiney and others working on the event.

National News: Doug Linden mentioned the MAFCA awards banquet in December in Mobile, AL

Ben Chirca mentioned a car show in Medford and place fliers on the head table.

After the break there will be 50/50 raffle and ice cream sundaes will be available. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Erb

Secretary

Model A's (and other) For Sale

1928 Roadster Pickup

Older restoration of a Florida vehicle.
Recently cleaned and treated gas tanks.
New Distributor
Rebuilt Carburetor
New Timing Gear
$18,250
Call John Erb Bolton, MA 978-793-2253

1929 Model A Roadster

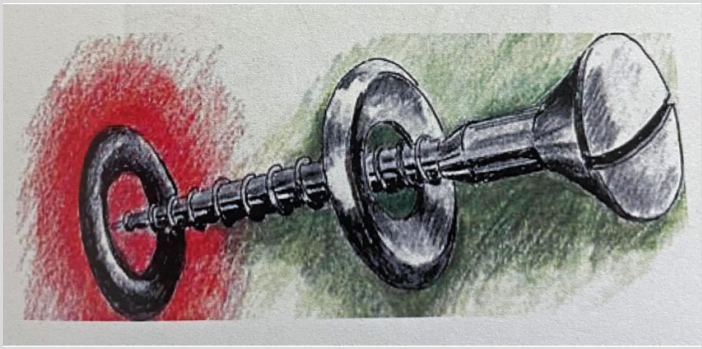
Sadly selling my 1929 Standard Roadster. She's a beauty with a perfect LeBaron Bonney Top, interior and rumble seat. Color is Rose Beige with Seal Brown belting. Extras include a new set of wind wings and a motor meter. No dents, no rust and runs as good as it looks. Comes with one of our new club blankets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



O-Ring to Protect Upholstery

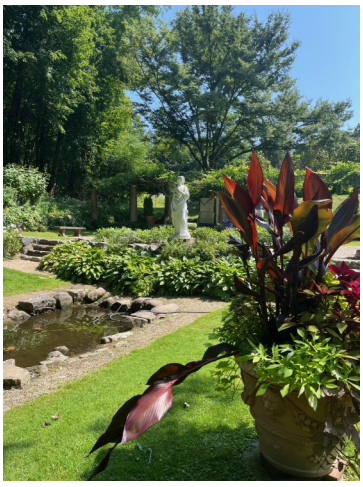
From The Restorer magazine:

Behind a finish washer for upholstery, use a #78 O-Ring under the washer as a backup to keep from cutting into the material.

Codman Estate Tour and Picnic

What a great day for a Model A tour. Eight Model A's enjoyed some quite back roads and a very bumpy wooden bridge and beautiful weather driving to the historic home which was originally built in 1740 by Chamber Russell. It was expanded extensively by his nephew John Codman in 1799 to the way we see it today. We were able to park the A's in the shade of some trees and spread out our chairs to enjoy the view of the house and grounds, and check out the sunken garden. Not much of a walk but enough for us to work up an appetite for our picnic lunch. Some of us planned to tour the home, but we got the word the 1 PM tour was sold out on line. No problem, we decided it was time for ice cream. BUT first we had to diagnose a "no start" problem on one of the A's. Turned out to be a fried coil. A new coil fixed that problem and it was off to Dairy Joy.

Thanks to all who attended and everyone enjoyed nice day of Model A'ing.



Nashoba Valley Winery Tour

What a great day to travel out to the Nashoba Winery on **Saturday the 16th**. The skies were blue with a few small wispy clouds and temperatures in the upper 80's. The turnout for this tour was spectacular as we had 15 Model A's attending. Some members chose to head directly from home to the Winery while nine Model A's departed from the Wayland Town Center. A big thank you to Nan and Doug Linden who provided the CB backup communications with the tour leaders, Sue and Wayne Champagne, to make sure everyone was together and running along fine. Once we arrived, we were quickly greeted by the very pleasant and helpful Winery staff who got everyone seated in our own section. The waitress assigned to our group quickly took beverage and lunch orders from everyone while we had time for great conversations. After lunch some chose to do a little shopping in the gift shop where there are many wine choices along with local distilled spirts and beers. While others stayed a little longer to take in the scenery before departing for home. Attending the tour were; Don Ross, Linda and Rich Batstone with Daughter, Amanda, along with her three children, Chuck O'Neil, Doug and Nan Linden, John Erb with Nancy, Barbara McEhliney, Len and Peg Michalak, Doug Farrell, Craig Martin, Harold Samuels, Jack and Karen LeDuc, and Dennis Porter. Submitted by tour leaders, Sue and Wayne Champagne.

Dairy Queen Ice Cream Tour

Larry and Jaque weren't going to let a little hot weather keep

them from getting their Dilly Bar at the local Dairy Queen. A warm night, Ice Cream and a chance to drive the Model A is always a good combination.

Yup Rich Batstone blowing out the ceremonial candle on his Birthday "Pan" Cake

Welcome New Member

Nan reports two new members:

Tom & Christina Chaput
78 Simonds Road
Lexington, MA 1930 Roadster

John & Elizabeth Dunning
570 Great Road
Stow, MA 1928 Tudor

Pete Graves
21 Ferry Rd
Salisbury, MA 1931 Town Sedan

"Artie - Fact"

By "A" nonymous

My boss came to the office today with a new Porsche.

Me: "What an amazing car"

My boss: "Absolutely! If you work really hard, and put lots of hours in and strive for excellence at all times, I should be able to get another one next year".

CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Name a front suspension part or a head honcho.
2. What city in Florida is the summer home of Henry Ford?
3. What became padded as an option for safety in the 50s.
4. What part attaches to the crankshaft?
5. What was the original Jeep created from?
6. What was banned as a fuel additive?
7. What auto company made the Patrician model?
8. What was once a tire need?
9. What are drag race tires called?
10. In the early years of automobile Gas engines beat out this other popular engine.

2025 New England Meet Hospitality Request

I am in charge of the Hospitality Room at the NE Regional Meet in September 2025 at the Boxborough Regency in Boxborough, MA. I am asking for volunteers to provide baked goods, individually wrapped snack items and to assist me in the Hospitality Room during open hours.

The Hospitality Room open hours are:

Thursday, September 11th	3:00 to 6:00 pm
Friday, September 12th	8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday, September 13th	3:00 to 4:30 pm

Please let me know if you would like to volunteer in the Room by choosing a date & time so I can add you to my list. Please bring your baked or individually wrapped snack item directly to the Boxborough Regency. Call me at 508-881-1595 or send me an email at sdchampagne1931@gmail.com to let me know what you are intending to do. Thank you for your assistance with my request. I look forward to hearing from you.

Susan Champagne

Sue Champagne could use your help staffing the Hospitality Room during the hours it is open. She would also be very happy accept your wrapped food donation to the Hospitality Room. Contact her at sdchampagne1931@gmail.com if you would like to help out.

Important dues Announcement

At the club's recent Board Meeting the subject of our expenses was discussed, and specifically the cost to produce our award winning newsletter. Given the recent printing and US Postage price increases our current dues of $20 doesn't cover the cost of the newsletter. It isn't just the newsletter, but other expenses the club underwrites have gone up as well. The club has trimmed budget items, probably the largest being the new meeting location, but balancing the annual budget is still very challenging.

In light of these increases the Board has recommended that we raise our annual club dues starting in **2026 to $25 per year.**

The Board wanted all members to receive advance notice of this proposed recommendation so it can be discussed and voted on at the September 3rd club meeting.

Just an added note. We currently mail close to 60 paper newsletters per month, and another 60 newsletter sent electronically. If more members switch to getting the newsletter electronically that would save the club some money and at the same time they would get the newsletter in color and earlier than the mailed copy, Something to think about if you currently get the paper copy.

BTW, the last time the dues was raised was in 1999, when it went from $10 - $20

ANSWERS TO CMARC TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Kingpin
2. City of Fort Myers
3. Dashboard
4. Flywheel
5. Bantam
6. lead
7. Packard
8. Tube
9. Slicks
10. Steam

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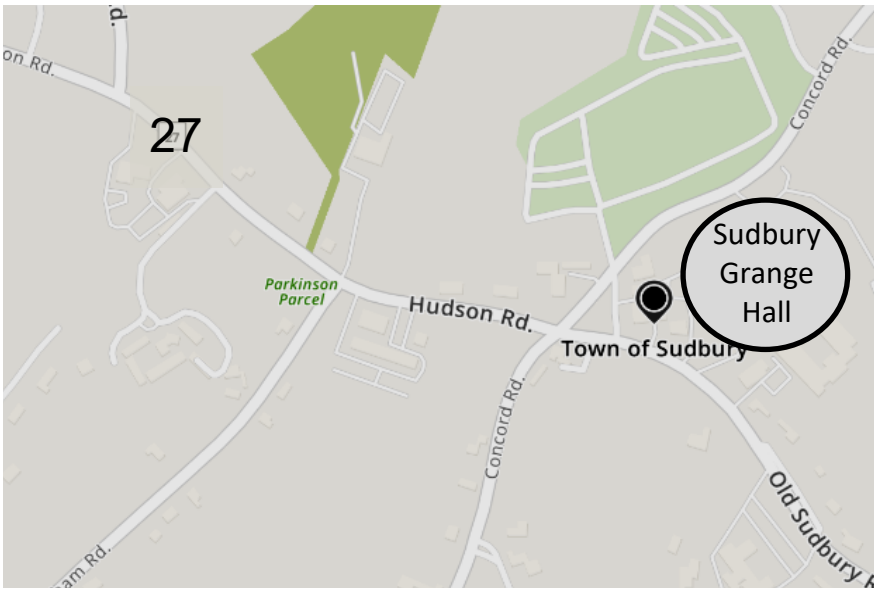
September Meeting News

The September Meeting will be our last chance to get all the details working out for the 2025 NE Meet activities. We will be looking for members to volunteer to help with parking Model A's and trailers on Thursday and Friday.

Also there will be the discussion on the proposed dues increase



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

September 2025

Please Mail to:

Minuteman Model "A" Ford Club
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