

# The "A"nnouncer



July 2017

Newsletter of the Running  
Board "A's"

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/runningboardas/>

Volume 16

Number 7

# The Running Board “A’s” Officers

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**The Running Board “A’s” club is a Model “A” Ford touring club. We are a region of the Model A Restorers Club (MARC). MARC recommends that all region members become members of MARC. See <http://model-a-ford.org/> for more information.**



# From the President

**Wow, the summer solstice has just happened and it's almost the 4<sup>th</sup> of July! I guess time flies when you are having fun. It has been an action- packed Model A Ford season so far with lots more activities to come.**

**I hope everyone enjoyed the last “A”nnouncer as much as I did. The “Blood, Sweat & Babbit” article written by Tom Battle was very well done. It’s wonderful to see the technical skills being applied by our members in keeping our Model A Fords alive and well. Nice work Tom!**

**Bernadette and I had the pleasure of attending the “in-door” picnic at Tom Fritz’s house on June 17.**

**Due to the bad weather, only Tom F. brought his A! Chuck Saviske and I planned to caravan to Millington but the heavy rain forced us and everyone else to go modern instead. The trip was well worth it as usual! Tom and Debbie Daye hosted a great day once again.**

**Please remember to share your ideas for new events with everyone even if they are short notice.**

**See you soon,  
Bob**



\$

## Treasurer's Report

Balance as of May 23, 2017	\$849.72
Income	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00
Expenses	
Newsletter (Copies & Postage)	\$6.95
Total Expenses	\$6.95
Balance as of June 25, 2017	\$842.77

Respectfully Submitted

Margaret Hardy

\$

**On the Cover:** Members of the Running Board A's at the Delaware Valley Fire Company Spaghetti Dinner.

# Visit to the Henry Ford Museum Edison Institute

By Doug Pyatt

Photos by Doug Pyatt and Tom Battle

In the middle of this past May, Ed Battle, Tom Battle and I took a week-long trip to White Creek, Michigan for the purpose of running 1 ½" scale trains for several days. On our way we drove through Dearborn, MI for a planned visit to the Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. We ar-

rived early so we would have a full day at these co-located facilities.

The first thing I noticed about the museum is that it looks like Independence Hall in Philadelphia. The next thing is that it is a huge building that houses some of the largest man-made objects in the world. Lastly, this structure, housing hundreds of artifacts and exhibits, opened to the public in October of 1929.



How could Henry Ford pay for and build such a structure in 1929, the very year the stock market crashed? Easy, he was already a billionaire by this time. He not only already sold fifteen million Model T cars, but also made ships for the U.S. Navy, and produced military armaments during World War 1. Ford was an exceptionally knowledgeable and



imaginative person regarding the technology required to mass produce modern gas-powered vehicles and other mechanical devices.

Although he was mechanically gifted, he was very naïve about our nation's political system, and ignorant of the general history of our country. Due to his financial success, he felt that he could be President of the U.S., and started his political career by running for U.S. Senator in 1918. He lost, and had been negatively bashed by the Chicago Tribune. He filed suit, but was made to look foolish during his own testimony. Lawyers for the

Tribune were aware of Ford's lack of political, historical knowledge, and demonstrated this to the public. The jury, however, found in Ford's favor, but only awarded him six cents. Both sides claimed victory.

It is thought that this public demonstration of Ford's ignorance about history prompted him to build the Henry Ford Museum and Edi-





son Institute. Throughout the 20's and 30's Ford spent approximately thirty million of his own dollars to collect historical artifacts. Most of the exhibits are from around the United States, although some are from other countries.

Ford had the ability to obtain collections from Thomas Edison, Orville Wright and others because these men were still living and Henry knew them personally. He also searched the country for buildings and houses that would depict later 1800's to early 1900's. He would purchase them, have drawings made, and have the structure carefully disassembled. Then they were moved to Greenfield Village and carefully reassembled to make a complete period-correct town.

The town of Greenfield village is complete with industry, a public government center, entertainment, and houses. Of course, Model T Fords ferry visitors all over the place. Henry's own standard gauge railroad services the facility, delivering goods to the thriving village. This place is one of the best ways to spend a day that I have found in a long time. I expected to see more Model A's than were displayed, but then this facility was opened about the time Model A's were invented. Truly, an interesting man leaving behind a very interesting place.

## Model A Events this Month

The spaghetti dinner at the Del Val Firehouse was a nice affair with 7 Running Board A members in attendance. They included Ed and Peg Hardy, Doug Pyatt, Bobbi Sliker and Carl Weissman, and Diane and I.

I was not able to attend the picnic at Tom Fritz's house due to family commitments. I know it was raining pretty hard at the start of the picnic, so I think the whole affair was held inside. In spite of the weather, I'm sure Tom and Deb put on an excellent event as usual.



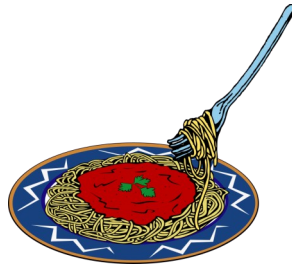
# *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

## *July*

### **Delaware Valley Fire House Spaghetti Dinner**

**Friday July 14, 2017 5:30 PM**

Come out and bring you car to support the Delaware Valley Fire Department on Headquarters Road in Erwinna PA and enjoy the company of your fellow Model A Club members. Dinners are \$10 each and include salad, main course, bread, wine, coffee and dessert. See you there.



**Picnic at Lee Stoudts Home  
6325 Stone Post Rd  
Bath PA**

**Contact Lee at 610-740-4431 for time  
date and other details**

# *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

## *Continued*

### *August*

**Saturday, August 5, 2016**  
**Das Awkscht Fescht**  
**Macungie PA**

We will meet at the WAWA on RT 663 in Quakertown at 9:00 AM and travel to the show together. You **MUST** be registered by July 1 to attend. Please contact Dave Allison at 610-847-2085 or at [dalliso@mail.ptd.net](mailto:dalliso@mail.ptd.net) if you plan to attend.



**Delaware Valley Fire House**  
**Spaghetti Dinner**  
**Friday August 11, 2017 5:30 PM**  
**See July listing for details.**

# *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

## *Continued*

**August 17 to 20**  
**Rough and Tumble**  
**Old Time Steam Show**  
**Kinzers PA**

Free indoor parking for Model A's. Contact Chuck Savitske at 610-573-4378 if you plan to attend.

**August 26 to 28**  
**Wheels of Time Hot Rod Show**  
**Macungie PA**

Contact Bob Outwater at 908-237-9322 if you would like more information or plan to attend

## *September*

**September 8-10 Hay Creek Festival**  
Morgantown PA. Contact Tom Burrell at (908) 334-1415 for more information.

**September 9-10 Belvidere Victorian Days**

Belvidere N.J. Contact Tom Burrell at (908) 334-1415 for more information.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Continued

**September 15 to 17**

### **61st Annual New England Meet, North Conway N.H.**

Go to <https://www.2017nemodelameet.com/>  
for more information and a registration form. Contact  
Tom Fritz at (908) 580-0502 for more information



### **Running Board A's Hudson, Essex, Terraplane New Jersey Live Steamers, Inc.**

The New Jersey Live Steamers, Inc. has invited Hudson and Model A car clubs to their facility at 266 Mountain Rd, Basking Ridge, NJ (this is your GPS address or Google earth). The date is September 24, 2017 with the rain date being September 30, 2017. The time is 11:00 AM to around 3:00 PM.

The purpose of this visit is for the train people to view the cars and for the car people to ride on scale trains that are 1 ½" to the foot. Plus, tour the facilities, and have lunch. Grilled hot dogs and hamburgers are available for purchase as well as chips and soft drinks. You are welcome to bring your own additional food for anyone not desiring the above fair.

This club is easy to get to with a Model A from PA or wherever, and involves no interstate highway travel. It takes me about an hour and a half from my home in PA with the "A". This event will also show us some other interesting cars that promise a very good exchange of ideas and stories. Let Doug know if you will come by email [gcdp@rcn.com](mailto:gcdp@rcn.com) or phone 610-974-9718.

# Cyclecar Rally in France

By John Leydon

*Editors Note: Running Board A's member John Leydon had the opportunity to be a co driver in a Cyclecar Rally in the western part of France in June. He was kind enough to share his experiences and some photos of the event. This is not **quite** a Model A event, but many of the cars in the rally were of the same vintage as our beloved Model A's. Below are some excerpts*

*from an email that John sent describing the event.*



You can imagine

what the sound was like in small towns with narrow cobbled streets. Fabulous! The cars





were almost all 1920-29 (Amilcars, Salmsons, MGs and Bugattis) ..... 70 cars in all including 55 Amilcars. The nationalities were French, Belgian, Dutch, Swiss, German, Brits and me. The course was mostly around Rochefort, La Rochelle, l'Île de Ré and Co-



gnac. The *Circle Pegasse* arranged typically expensive French feasts in one chateau or Michelin country inn after another, culminating in an end-of-rally roast of the Brits over Brexit. Then we all scattered to the





winds or to various summer homes with vows to do it all again next year ..... in Provence I think!



**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS**



**For Sale**

**New in box CAR COVER from Snyders**

**The cover fits any 1928 to 1931  
Model A Coupe**

**The cover is meant to be used as a dust  
cover and is not weather proof**

**Asking \$100**

**Contact Tom Burrell**

**Phone 908-334-1415**



**Membership Application  
For the Running Board "A's"**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$15.00 annually. Please make checks payable to:

**Running Board "A's"**

Mail to:

**Running Board "A's"**

**P.O. Box 9**

**Hilltown Pennsylvania 18927-9711**

If renewing, please underline any information that has changed

Running Board "A's"

PO Box 9

Hilltown PA. 18927-9721

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