

The "A"nnouncer



August 2017

Newsletter of the Running
Board "A's"

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

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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

I recently took a look at some past issues of The “A”nnouncer, looking for some photos from our Gettysburg tour hosted by Dave and Diane Allison. Dick Bettle does a great job of maintaining our website as club Web Master.

What happened next was that I had been thinking about what I would write about in my next “From the President” column in the newsletter. It hit me; what were we doing ten years ago in our club. Above are a few pictures from the August 2007 “A”nnouncer taken at an

event hosted by Tom Fritz and Debbie Daye. That event included a great picnic and tour of the Raptor Trust. We recently enjoyed the 2017 picnic hosted by Tom and Debbie. This event has been happening every year; amazing how time flies.

A few observations from the August 2007 “A”nnouncer:

More hair

Less gray hair

Less weight

Lots of food

Model A Fords

Dave Allison is still the “A”nnouncer Editor (a life sentence)

New members, Dick and Bobbi Bettle

Tom Fritz’s coupe project in the same place as it is today

If you have a chance, take a little trip down memory lane and visit the website <http://clubs.hemmings.com/runningboardsas/> to see the August 2007 “A”nnouncer and all of our past newsletters. They are a treasure trove of adventures and plain old fun to look at.

We have some great events coming up soon including Das Awkscht Fescht in Macungie, PA on August 5.

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

See you soon,

Bob

First Ride in a Model A

Being a Grandpa has a lot of benefits, the biggest one being that you can spoil your grandkids rotten and then give them back to their parents.

For me one of the fun things that I have experienced lately is to have my grandkids take an interest in one of my hobbies that I really love, Model A's.

Son, Steven and daughter-in-law Karen along with grandkids Anna, age 7 and Owen, age 6, live in Southern California. For most of their lives the grandkids have only ridden in car seats in the middle of a 7 passenger mini van while their parents negotiate 10 lanes of traffic on the 405 freeway. They are kept safe surrounded by a cocoon of plastic and tons of metal, but they rarely even ride with a window open.

While on a recent trip back east to visit all their-grandparents, (Karen's parent's live in Collegeville PA), the grandkids started asking me about the old cars. I casually mentioned to their parents that I can't wait until they are old enough to take a ride in them with me. Since I only have lap belts in the front of both cars, I never tried to push the subject with their parents. To my surprise, they said the kids can go anytime!!!!!!

It only took a few minutes to load up my little buddy Owen in the Roadster. Mom was not going to be left behind for this event, so she hopped into the rumble seat and off we went. It's hard to tell in the picture on the front cover who has the bigger smile, me or Owen! We decided to use the car seat not only for a little extra protection, but also to put him up high enough to

see over the dash board and out the windshield. All three of us had a glorious ride. Owen really liked make the horn go Ahooga! With the wind blowing through his hair, he kept on saying “Go faster Grandpa”, but 35mph is plenty fast on the back roads of Tinicum.

When we came back, big sister Anna was not about to



be outdone by her little brother, so she hopped in the passenger seat and Dad slipped his 6'4" frame into the rumble seat. We took off again through the back roads of the township where they experienced no traffic and the sights, smells and sounds of rural Bucks County, still much the same as it was back in 1931 when the car was new. Anna's special treat was blowing the ahooga horn inside a covered bridge. I think by the end of the day, I had two new Model A fans.

Dave

An Afternoon At Chucks

By Ken Nygard

I spent a couple of hours at Chuck's the other day following a spur of the moment "What are you doing for lunch" phone call (me to him) after mowing the lawn up at church.

Following lunch with Chuck and Bob Griffith at Pleasant Valley, Chuck asked "So what are you doing this afternoon? I have a guy coming to pick up a Model A body and could use some help lifting it on the trailer." Having nothing better to do than mow my own lawn the answer was a quick "Nothing except mowing the lawn, I'll be happy to help."

So returning to Chuck's house, along with Bob G.



we uncovered the body, which was still attached to the frame. Along with a few vines and wasp

necks, we pushed it over to the shop and started



loosening
body bolts,
disconnecting a couple of linkages and wires and lowered the steering col-



umn. Being a novice, I did learn a few more things about the quirks and construction of an “A”. I’ve never been to Chucks and not come away with some new knowledge or experience! So, the new owner of this rusting hulk of a body arrives with trailer in tow and it is none other than Running Board A’s member Tom Battle, our own Babbitt bearing expert. With a little gentle persuasion the body was soon on the trailer and will become Tom’s next Model A project. I’m sure Tom will fill us in on those details as work gets under way.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

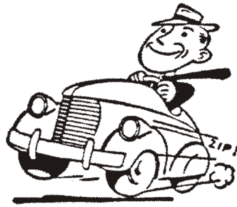
August

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. Your car MUST have been registered by July 1 to attend to enter the show field. Please contact Dave Allison at 610-847-2085 or at dalliso@mail.ptd.net if you plan to attend. Yes, there will be ice cream after the show!



Delaware Valley Fire House

Spaghetti Dinner

Friday August 11, 2017 5:30 PM

Come out and bring your 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.



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 9-10
Belvidere Victorian Days

We will go on Saturday September 9th, meeting at the town square at 10 am where the cars are parked. The cars are parked around the parameter of the town square with crafters and food vendors within the square. People wearing period clothing will be circulating thru out the area. There is a \$15 charge for entering your car in the car show on the square. Additional information and pictures are available at www.victorianbelvedere.com note; the information shown as of this writing is for the 2016 celebration. Contact Tom Burrell (908) 334 1415 if you plan to attend.

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

NEW!

Running Board A's Hudson, Essex, Terraplane New Jersey Live Steamers, Inc. September 24th, 2017

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 by email if you will come gcdp@rcn.com or phone 610-974-9718.

A Tale of Two Cities, Two Model A Ford Hot Rod Projects and Two Determined Builders

Story by Bob Outwater, photos by Bob Outwater and Chuck Savitske

THE PLOT THICKENS- CONTINUATION OF AN EPIC TALE

You may recall from the story this past spring of two Model A Ford hot rods being built by Bob Outwater and Chuck Savitske (The “A”nnouncer, April 2017). Over the last several months, both Bob and Chuck have been quietly adding the hours to their project builds. The usual summer activities, chores, car shows, Running Board As events and other obligations have not slowed the wheels of progress for our intrepid builders.

As you may remember, both Chuck and Bob’s latest hot rod creations involve the Model A Fords. In Chucks case, a ’28 Model A Ford Tudor serves as the base vehicle. Bob’s project started life as a ’30 Model A Ford pick-up truck.

Bob’s Project

Bob’s Model A pick-up truck now has been stretched 4 ½ inches to add much needed legroom and the pick-up bed shortened by the same amount to keep the proportions as close to the original look of the truck as possible. Since the last article, most body components have received a coat of epoxy primer.

With the heavy lifting involving body modification finished, Bob turned his attention to completing the chassis. The chassis process had started many months earlier with the



frame modification to accommodate the rear triangulated 4-link suspension. Having already rebuilt the Ford 9" axle assembly and transmission as well as fitting all other chassis components (engine/transmission, front suspension, steering, disc brakes/master cylinder and brake lines, motor mounts etc.), it was time for

painting the frame.

After disassembly, all welding was completed, the bare frame sand-blasted and powder painted. In the meantime the rebuilt and modified Ford 302 engine was ordered and received.



Although an effort was made to pre-fit all chassis components during construction, there were some frustrating moments trying to assemble the transmission flexplate with the correct torque converter and starter. I had to remind myself that even though I was using “new” drivetrain components, compared to the Model A Ford, they were still 30-40 plus years OLD.



Poor Bernadette had to endure my rants about Ford’s endless component changes over the years that caused many headaches.

Well, the chassis is all but done with final engine/ transmission installed under the watchful eyes and with the help of my dear spouse Bernadette.

Chuck’s Project

You may remember that Chuck’s project is a ’28 Model A Ford Tudor sedan that he planned to transform to a “sedan delivery truck” out of the two door sedan by fabricating a new door in the rear of the car from scratch. The concept is now a reality with the body transformation completed. Chuck has now disassembled the body to remove rust between panels.

Chuck decided to focus next on his Ford flatheadV8 engine



build. You may recall that it took many attempts to find a viable (not cracked) engine block, but one was eventually found and the machine work completed during the last few months. The engine components

were ordered (pistons, bearings, valves, cam, etc) and Chuck now has a fully assembled short block.

Chuck had his share of issues during the en-



gine building process including receipt of the wrong rear main bearing but the engine job is all but done.

Just watch the newsletter for updates on these projects or better yet, stop by to see

Bob and Chuck.

Model A Youth Restoration Award

The Model Youth Restoration Award is for eligible kids that are between the ages of 12 and 22 who are restoring a Model A. This award is available to both MARC and MAFCA members. In 2014 nine recipients received \$2,000 each in financial support for their project.

There is a unique problem for 2018. Funding has been provided for this award by MARC and MAFCA members as well as vendors and other contributors, but to date, there is only one eligible applicant for the 2018 award. It will be awarded at the MAFCA national convention, but they need applicants.

If you know of anyone restoring a Model A that meets the requirement, please let them know about this award. More information and an application can be found at

ModelARestorationAward.org



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS



1930 Model A

Closed Cab Pick-Up



Complete frame off restoration everything checked and gone over. Looks as good from the under carriage as it does on top. It is completely stock, but has a higher compression head. Many extras, runs and drives perfectly. Interested buyers can test drive and view the car by calling Doug Pyatt (610-974-9718). The car is garage kept in Bethlehem, PA., by Lehigh University.



**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:

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P.O. Box 9

Hilltown Pennsylvania 18927-9711

If renewing, please underline any information that has changed

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